



Jefferson Township High School Newsletter

Jefferson Pride



JTHS Happenings:

- College Fair
- Winter Guard Competition
- Eco-Fest
- Glammies
- Spring Musical

School Connection: *JTHS v. JTMS Souper Bowl of Caring Food Drive*

AND THE WINNERS ARE...THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP FOOD BANKS! At the end of January, both the JTHS and JTMS came together, in a two-week battle, to see who could collect the most food donations to benefit Jefferson Township through the Souper Bowl of Caring program.

The Souper Bowl of Caring organization empowers youth and unites communities during the Super Bowl season in an effort to help those in need. This year, we decided to take our collection town-wide and see what our students could accomplish. The Jefferson students were energized by this challenge and worked tirelessly to collect the most food and monetary donations possible. Ultimately, the JTMS students rose to the occasion and won bragging rights for collecting the most donations to help tackle hunger in our township.



The JTHS Project Kind Club, JTMS Student Council, and the Red Cross Club collaborated efforts to run the food drive project. Food was collected at the two schools and bins were placed in various community areas. The students also collected food and donations at a JTHS varsity boys' basketball game thanks to Athletic Director, Bill Koch and athletic secretary, Michele Grieves. The students also organized a dress-down day for all school staff members throughout the district.



All in all, the students and staff collected over 1,400 food items and over \$600 in cash donations. All proceeds were divided between the Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Lake Hopatcong and the Milton Methodist Church in Oak Ridge. Both churches house the town's food banks.

A special thank you goes to Karen VanderBok, advisor for the JTHS Project Kind Club, Jennifer Foley, advisor for the JTMS Red Cross Club, Terry Koontz, advisor for the JTMS Student Council and Pamela Graham from JTMS. A very special thank you is extended to Mrs. Howe, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Cooke, principal of JTMS and Dr. Plotts, principal of JTHS, as well as Mayor Wilsusen for supporting this worthwhile and valuable cause.



The JTHS Varsity Boys' Baseball Team during Spring Training in Fort Pierce, Florida.

English Connection: *Ms. Wnuk*

From Mrs. Lindstedt: These past few weeks in D17 have been filled to the brim with intense exploration and fact finding as both sophomores and juniors find themselves fully immersed in the Research Paper process. Students have examined numerous topics to include the effects of social media on young adults, how corporations influence the government and the connections between sleep and productivity. Students are nearing the end of this process that began with investigating claims through the application of numerous school databases and will culminate in a final explanatory essay. AP Language and Composition students have also been taking part in various analytical reading and writing strategies as they prepare for their practice exams.



JTHS graduate Brian Costello visited Mrs. Clarizio's Sports and Entertainment Journalism class to discuss his experiences as a sports writer for the NY Post.

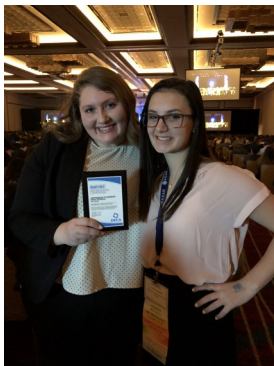
Business Department Connection: *Ms. Villa*

Media Center:

Students are using the 3D printer to solve problems throughout the school. Students printed a gear to repair a broken electric pencil sharpener and replacement parts for the John Wroblewski memorial by the Freedom Gym. All English classes are heavily into research using NoodleTools and database sources. Students in Mrs. Rice's French 3 Honors class are using the green screen to video "interviews".

Business:

Six DECA students earned spots at Nationals in Orlando, Florida for their promotional campaign, community service campaign, and membership campaign.



Students Alivia Catania and Jordan Morstatt at the DECA State Competition in Atlantic City.

The Stock Market Game: Senior Ritesh Trevedi is currently ranked 12th out of 804 schools in the northern region and 27th out of 1,978 schools in the state of NJ. The SIFMA Foundation's acclaimed The Stock Market Game™ program is an online simulation of the global capital markets that engages students grades 4-12 in the world of economics, investing and personal finance and prepares them for financially independent futures. More than 600,000 students take part every school year across all 50 states. The Stock Market Game has reached 17 million students since its inception in 1977.



JTHS students at the DECA State Competition in Atlantic City held March 4th-6th.

Math Connection: *Mr. Starita*

In various Mathematics courses, students continue to explore some very important career awareness and personal financial literacy topics. For example, in Mr. Fisher's Mathematics of Finance class, after covering sections on simple and compound interest, students are doing a project where they will be researching places to live and buy a home. This project helps to reveal just how large of a financial impact the cost of interest is. The same understandings and skills can also be applied to different types of loans, as well as, how compound interest can affect financial investments. In Mrs. Hu's Calculus Honors class, students have been investigating the applications of derivatives. Students have learned two important skills through the course material: modeling and problem solving. For instance, to solve optimization problems, they need to set up models based on real life scenarios, then find the optimal values by using derivatives in problems such as on minimizing cost or maximizing profit. As JTHS students prepare for college and/or a career, exploring such consequential topics regarding career awareness and personal financial literacy will surely prove to be useful and beneficial!

Exceptional Connection: *Ms. Fritzky*



Unified Track and Field has been off to a great start this year! For the months of September through February, buddies and athletes met monthly to complete different team building themed activities. In October, we saw who could dress their buddies up as mummies fast enough. November featured a Thanksgiving scavenger hunt and turkey feather relay, December



was themed about the holidays with a intense Pictionary game followed by karaoke, and February was a Valentine's Day activity featuring chocolate and candy. Starting this month, we held our weekly practices where our Buddies and Athletes have been meeting once a week to focus on shot put, long jump, javelin, and running relays all in preparation for our Unified Track Meets. At our last practice we changed things up a little bit and focused on our basketball skills because on March 19th, our Unified Team went to Mount Olive High School to play some friendly games of basketball! Our team looked forward to this and it was a great way to start our season with some fun and games. As soon as the weather improves we are going outside so we can get ready for our 3rd annual meet on Thursday, May 23 at 4PM occurring at Jefferson Twp. High School. Mark your calendars!!! Also, Unified Track is now on Twitter!!! Follow us at @JTHSUnified!

Social Studies Connection: *Mr. Papa*

From Ms. Perna: Our Honors and AP students at JTHS participated in the National History Day Competition at Kean University on the Ninth of March. The theme this year was "Triumph and Tragedy." The competition is a nationwide initiative to give our students the tools to engage in historical research that they find interesting. Students take on the role of a Historian as they delve into their self-guided research. All students completed an annotated bibliography and process paper outlining the steps they took in the research process and why they took them. Students then elected to complete a paper, documentary, website, performance, or exhibit showcasing all the hard work they did in putting together their research. Overall, it was a great start to bringing National History Day to JTHS and we cannot wait to compete next year!



Science Connection: *Mr. Hiben*

Science faculty are continuously making changes to their practice to meet the challenges of our science standards and better engage students in authentic learning. Around the building you will find students immersed in the following topics: plate tectonics (Earth Science), protein synthesis (Biology), the mole concept, reactions and percent yield (Chemistry), and lastly circular and rotational motion (Physics). Many lessons now begin with a phenomenon to explain, a research question or an engineering scenario that help change our courses from "learning about science" to "explaining the world using science". Very exciting!

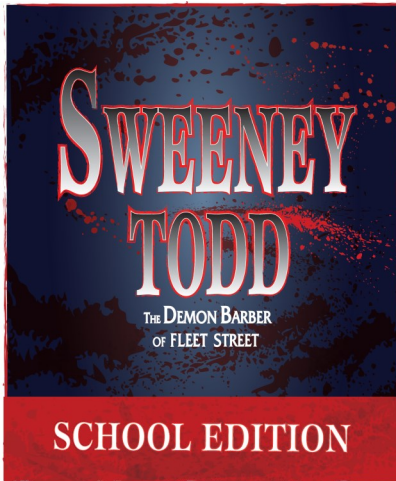
World Language, ESL, and Music Connection: *Mr. Sica*

From Madame Rice: JTHS French AP students participated for the first time in the annual Montclair State University film contest and were awarded honorable mention for their film "Écrasé en Tunisie". High school students throughout the state were asked to submit a short film highlighting various aspects of Francophone culture. The following students worked on the script and acted in the film: Eva Alexander, Patrick Flynn, Muskan Mantoo, Chirag Rana, Tanner Vrandenburg, and Yves Turgeon.



Sweeney Todd Coming to JTHS: *By Student Writer Briana Boone*

The JTHS students will present a live performance of Sweeney Todd the Musical on March 29, 30, and 31 in the high school auditorium.



Sweeney Todd is about a former barber who is determined to get revenge on the people who did him wrong. He goes crazy and he and his neighbor Mrs. Lovett clean the streets of London.

The Cast includes Casey Obaytek as Anthony, Hallie Schiavo as the Beggar Woman, Bill Wilson as Judge Turpin, Eric Wolos as The Beadle, Dana Miller as Johanna, Nick Smeilus as Tobias Ragg, John Demko as Pirelli, Patrick Flynn as Jonas Fogg, Andrew Cooper as the Bird Seller, Lindsey Tarsitano as Mrs. Lovett and Yves Turgeon as Sweeney Todd.

New Musical and Choral Director, Chad Flynn, said he chose the musical because he was a big fan of the movie and he loves how creative Stephen Sondheim is. He also said the “characters fit with the actors.”

When asking Ensemble members Isabella Juba, Payton Kazatsky, and Giovanna LaMonica which character would surprise the audience the most they said Tobias Ragg who is played by Nick Smeilus. The three agree. “I can’t give it away, I guess you have to come see the show to figure out why,” said LaMonica.

Athletic Connection: *Mr. Koch*

As the winter sports have officially ended, the Athletic Department would like to take a moment and recognize two of our athletes who committed to play at the next level. Emily Riccardi will be continuing her academic and athletic career at Ramapo College where she will also be playing Field Hockey for the Roadrunners. Nick Gencarelli will be continuing his academic and athletic career at Rider University and playing Soccer for the Broncs. Nicole Cuervo (Field Hockey) attending Bloomsburg University and Caroline Wolfe (Girls Lacrosse) attending Caldwell College were featured in the November edition of this media guide.

The JTHS Athletic Department hosts student signings for all 3 NCAA divisions and welcome family and friends to attend the events. We appreciate and value all of our athletes who make the commitment to play at the next level. Please contact Mr. Koch for information to schedule your signing at the high school. In May, we will host an Athletic Department group photograph in the Freedom Gym of all of our student-athletes. There will be formal information to follow.



Congratulations to Paul Monaco for being named the 2019 Pass It Along Scholar-Athlete award winner for JTHS. Paul participated in several service opportunities within the program and we would like to thank his sponsor, Sterling Financial Group, for their participation in the organization. The 2019 banquet was held at Perona Farms in Sparta.

Guidance Connection: Ms. Alkon

It is March scholarship madness! Nearly 40 local JTHS scholarships are now available for our senior students to apply to. Throughout the month, counselors have met with seniors in small groups to go over the application process and help students discover what scholarships they are eligible for. Counselors are hosting "Snacks and Apps: Scholarship Edition" during the lunch/academic block to offer assistance to students through April 4th. The majority of completed student applications must be returned to guidance by April 5th, unless otherwise noted on the application.

This month the counseling department hosted multiple college planning related events including the "Junior College Planning Night" and "Financial Aid Information Session" for 11th grade students and parents. On March 7th, many students attended the JTHS college fair where they had the opportunity to network with admissions counselors. College visits from Suffolk University, New Jersey City University, William Paterson University, and the University of Florida also took place throughout the month. Counselors have begun meeting individually with their 11th grade students to discuss their plans for after graduation. These plans include joining the workforce, taking a gap year, enlisting in the military, and attending a college/trade school.

Attendance Tip: Talking about the importance of going to school every day sets expectations and establishing routines helps with attendance.

Robotics:

Jefferson Township High School's very own Robotics Team, Falcon 2600, competed at the First Robotics competition hosted by Mt. Olive High School. There were many outstanding highlights from the team's excellent performance. Team Falcon 2600 advanced to the playoffs where they competed in a best out three match. Even though the team lost by one point in quarterfinals, our students executed a valiant effort and walked away from their performance with excitement for the next competition.



We're on the web! Visit us at www.jefftwp.org, follow us on Twitter @jthsfalcons & like us on Facebook.