



Jefferson Township High School Newsletter

Jefferson Pride

8th Annual AP District Honor Roll Recipient



JTHS Happenings:

- Jazz n' Chili
- Sweet Taste of Jefferson
- World Language Honor Society Induction



On May 18th, Jefferson Twp. Public Schools will be hosting a Freedom Walk to support our district-wide service learning project Operation Safehome.



Mrs. Garcia's ASL students participate in Deaf for a Day.

English Connection: Ms. Wnuk

**From Miss Voorhees:** 9th grade English Language Arts students have completed their Nonfiction Unit for the year. Students chose a nonfiction novel that told inspiring stories about heroism that stemmed from the 9/11 attacks, the impact of familial relationships during the Dominican Republican dictatorship in the 1960s, the investigation that led to the capture of Abraham Lincoln's assassin, and more. Students chose a research topic based on their choice text, and completed the research process that resulted in an informative writing piece. Students worked on finding and evaluating sources, creating claims supported by relevant and meaningful evidence, and putting together a cohesive paper that informs their readers. The power of choice produced successful and interesting results that allowed students to really understand the research process.

Moving into the fourth marking period, students will be studying Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Students will learn the power of language and reflect on the importance of studying Shakespeare's work. Students will also attend a performance of Romeo and Juliet at Pax Amicus theatre in Budd Lake. Wrapping up the year, English 9 students will demonstrate the skills they have learned with a novel of their choosing. We as teachers are proud of the growth we've seen in the freshman class, and look forward to seeing their transformation in all aspects of their personal and academic lives.

**From Mrs. Daken:** D14 has been happy to host a variety of visitors this month. 2009 graduate and author Sarah Jean Horwitz skyped with both the high school's book club and AP Language and Composition about the writing process, rhetorical choices, and



finding a voice for characters. Media Studies has started their 5 Minutes

With Media Studies sessions. Tattoo artist Ben Towers, Research physician and Ted Educator Melvin Sanicas, and 2015 graduate and videographer Madison McNabb have already joined us to discuss the impact of contemporary media on their careers. Media Studies looks forward to hosting a large variety of guest skypers as the year continues.



## Exceptional Connection: *Ms. Fritzky*



Jefferson Township School District has been working closely with DVRS for many years to assist students in transitioning from school to the workplace. This organization provides services to any individual with a physical, mental, cognitive, or other form of disability that has a substantial impediment to employment. Their services include career counseling; which encompasses counseling and guidance information and referrals, job search skills development, and placement services. The organization also provides supported employment through time-limited job coaching or a more intensive level of job coaching. DVRS will conduct evaluations to determine needs including assistive technology, medical, psychiatric, psychological, neurological, emotional and counseling needs, as well as whether physical support, therapy, or equipment is required. For those individuals who have financial needs,

DVRS provides both cost and no cost services. In addition, DVRS will help individuals access home modification services, mobility equipment, vehicle modifications, and arrange job accommodations. They provide college, driver and skills training as well as interpretation services and small business funding for qualifying individuals whose vocational goals is a small business or self-employment. For more information, call 862-397-5600 Option 4 or visit their website at: <https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/plan/foryou/disable/>

## Business Department Connection: *Ms. Villa*

**Business:** In Economics CP, the students are participating in the SIFMA Foundation's acclaimed The Stock Market Game™ program. This 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. Ashley Kish (junior) is currently in 9th place out of 998 schools in the northern region, and 18th out of 2,276 schools in the state, playing The Stock Market Game. In AP Economics, Ritesh Trevedi (senior) is currently in 10th place out of 998 schools in the northern region, and 19th out of 2,276 schools in the state, playing The Stock Market Game. Two FBLA students will be attending the FBLA National Conference at the end of June in San Antonio, TX. Junior, Patrick Flynn, will be competing in Economics and Junior, Alivia Catania, will be competing in Human Resource Management. DECA & FBLA are collecting donations to be used to create welcome home baskets for 3 JTHS alumni returning home from Afghanistan and their troop. DECA students will be traveling to Orlando Florida on April 27th for Nationals.



*Students representing JTHS at the DECA Competition in Orlando, Florida on April 27th.*

**Media center:** English classes were choosing their own book to read for the 4th unit. In the process of arranging interlibrary loans with the JTPL. Details to follow.

## Math Connection: *Mr. Starita*

In preparation for the NJSLA-Math, teachers are helping their students get ready to perform to the best of their ability. Teachers have been using student performance data to differentiate instruction, employing small-group and individualized student-centered activities, and practicing test-taking strategies for the various question types that they will encounter on the NJSLA-Math.

As the AP Exams quickly approach, AP Statistics students are working in groups to prepare a cumulative review of the curriculum. Each group has been given a specific portion of the curriculum in which they must highlight key concepts, vocabulary, and calculator instructions in order to present to the class. Students are also responsible for gathering example problems that best summarize each chapter. The end result of the project will be a "go-to-guide" for one condensed resource the students must know in order to best prepare for the examination.

## Guidance Connection: Mrs. Torkos

It is post-secondary planning time for our junior students. Counselors continue to have individual student meetings with our juniors to discuss post-secondary plans. Whether you plan on attending a two or four year college, attend a trade school, register for the military, or go right into the workforce the counseling department is here for you. We work on individualized planning for every student so we welcome you to take advantage of the resources we have to offer.

On April 2nd, the counseling department hosted a field trip to Kean University. Approximately 25 sophomore and junior students attended. Visiting colleges of interest is an extremely important factor in the college decision process. Visit the college websites for open house and general visit information.

Have your students participated in Snacks and Apps? Throughout the year the counseling department has been hosting Snacks and Apps events during student lunch/academic periods to assist with a variety of student needs. During the month of April our Snacks and Apps theme was all about scholarships. This gave students the opportunity to visit the counseling department and work with counselors on the scholarship application process while enjoying some yummy snacks.

The JTHS Counseling Department follows the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) Model for school counseling. What does this mean? The counselors are dedicated to academic, social/emotional, and post-secondary exploration and success. Along with a strong focus on academic and post-secondary planning we see students for a variety of personal/social issues. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports about 1.8 million children under the age of 18 as having anxiety disorders, such as: generalized anxiety, separation anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, social anxiety or panic disorder. With district, statewide, and national testing upon us, counselors work closely with students who suffer from anxiety. The counselors utilize many techniques to assist with different forms of anxiety such as mindfulness. We encourage students or anyone suffering from anxiety to consider utilizing these Apps: Breathe2Relax, Calm, and Happify, tools that are literally at our fingertips!

Remember attendance matters: School refusal can be debilitating and can lead to long-term negative consequences for students. Early identification and effective intervention can help increase a student's adaptive coping.

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

### American Sign Language:

ASL Level 1 students are learning colors, clothing and how to describe people from head to toe. Students will create a poster board or PowerPoint presentation with pictures of five famous people. Projects will include all of the non-manual grammatical elements learned this year in class. Students are now able to gloss basic sentence structures and create basic short narratives.

ASL Level 2 students are learning how to make formal, informal and command requests. They are practicing the non-manual grammatical principles associated with each type of request. Glossing abilities have expanded from basic sentence structure into paragraph narratives. Therefore, students receptive and expressive skills have naturally evolved as a result.

ASL Level 3 students are on the next to last stage of ASL Story-Telling– Poetry! Students are learning how to translate the emotions and text of a poem from English into ASL structure. Students must accurately convey both the words and the sentiment of the poem using imagery in ASL.

### World Languages:

New members were inducted into the American Sign Language Honor Society, the French Honor Society, and the Spanish Honor Society at the World Language National Honor Society Ceremony which was held on April 29th in the JTHS auditorium.



*Congratulations to all of the World Language Honor Society inductees.*

## Science Connection: Mr. Hiben

Welcome spring! All around the Science Department, students are hard at work. Biology students have been busy studying DNA and evolution, focusing heavily on empirical evidence. In Chemistry, students have been studying acids and bases, pressure and the mole concept. Down the hallway in physics, we have students studying periodic motion and mechanical waves, or linear momentum and collisions. We are moving at full speed since time quickly becomes a dwindling commodity at this point in the year, but our science faculty are certainly up for the challenge.

## Athletic Connection: Mr. Koch

Spring sports are in full swing and will be very active in county, conference, and state competitions throughout May.

The Boys Lacrosse team wrapped up another Pooley Division Championship, their 5th in a row, when they defeated Hackettstown 11-7. The Girls Lacrosse team sits at 5-0 in the conference with a conference title on the line when they take on Kittatinny at home.

Boys Volleyball is in contention for the first ever NJAC championship as they sit as a ranked team in the state.

Baseball and Softball will be active in their respective county tournaments. Stay tuned for updates.

Congratulations to Softball's Chelsea Bitondo on her 100th hit milestone as she accomplished this feat in Vernon on opening day.

Track & Field continues to be competitive and will host another home meet next week.

All of the Spring athletes completed a Triple-Impact Competitor workshop with the PCA on the first day of spring break. Our athletes continue to work hard developing skills that will develop better athletes and better people.



**We're on the web! Visit us at [www.jefftwp.org](http://www.jefftwp.org), follow us on Twitter @jthsfalcons & like us on Facebook.**