



JTHS Happenings:

- Return to Graduates on January 4.
- January Blood Drive.
- Dunks for Disabilities raised money for DPD.
- JTHS Hosted Debate
- Project Stay Gold hosted their awareness night.
- Marine Corps. Visit PE Classes.

Exchange Students Are On their Way!

The Jefferson Township High School is proud to announce the upcoming arrival of international students. There are 27 exchange students coming from China, and they will be visiting from January 31st, 2017 until February 8th, 2017. These students speak both English & Mandarin, and will be shadowing JTHS students. Jefferson is very excited to welcome these students to our hallways.

JTHS Welcomes "THE NERDS"

The High School is getting ready to rock. Student Council is proud to present "The Nerds" in concert on February 6th from 7-9 PM. The proceeds will benefit student council. If you are interested in tickets please contact Cara Schwimmer: cschwimmer@jefftwp.org.



Students in PE participate in USMC training.



Staff and Students Participate in the Red Cross Blood Drive

Science Connections

This month saw Earth Science and Astronomy faculty take their students into the StarLab, a portable planetarium. Students were able to view the cosmos in high definition under the expert instruction of their teacher. Pictured at the right, the StarLab is set up in our media center and can be easily built and broken down as needed. It can hold up to 25 students and be used not only with space science, but also with plate tectonics, the layers of the Earth and even cell biology. Faculty had received training earlier in the month and were very excited to try it out.



Students Enjoy The New Star Lab, a planetarium experience in our own Media Center!

World Language, ESL and Music Connection : ASL Students are Signing & Shining

American Sign Language

Level 1 American Sign Language students are learning how to discuss more than one person, place or thing. This includes comparing and contrasting. Students are working on how to produce the movements associated with these concepts (non-manual signals). They are also learning how to gloss longer English sentences into ASL. These sentences are much more detailed. As such, students are expanding their knowledge of glossing symbols.

Level 2 students are learning how to conduct and interpret Autobiographical conversations. The conversations include: Where they were born and raised, how to sign their address in ASL structure, how they commute to and from places, how to give directions (walking, driving, train & bus) in ASL structure, and the top cities they would like to travel to and why. Their glossing abilities have expanded from basic sentence structure into paragraph narratives. Receptive and expressive skills have naturally evolved as a result of this.

Level 3 students are learning the art of ASL Story-Telling. Foundational elements such as Role-Shifting are being demonstrated and produced in class. In ASL structure, students are practicing beginner level story-telling abilities using: Character Creation, Facial Expression, Eye Gaze, Role-Shifting, and Personification. The students' first assignment will be to create a "Silent ASL" story. Silent ASL means a story which uses less than 5 actual signs.

School Connections: Winter Guard

The Jefferson Township High School Winter Guard finished first place on January 28th in the Salisbury Twirlers Competition at Salisbury High School in Allentown, PA. The guard is currently ranked 1st out of 20 in the Tournament of Bands Competitions Circuit.



Athletics Connection

Both our Boys and Girls' Basketball teams are seeded in the upcoming Morris County Tournament. Girls are the second seed and boys received the eleventh seed.

Wrestling had a productive week with a big win over North Bergen as well as Morris Knolls. They are peaking at the right time for the very competitive Morris County Tournament this coming weekend.

Indoor Track, Swimming (Senior Night 1/24), Bowling, Skiing and Ice Hockey are in the middle of their seasons and all are very competitive. The Bowling Morris County Tournament is Thursday January 26 at Rockaway Lanes.

Lastly, if anyone was at our Boys' Basketball game this past Friday night vs. Sparta you enjoyed a great game. Our fans were enthusiastic and displayed great sportsmanship.



Students Participate in Dunks for Disabilities Basketball game, all proceeds benefit the DPD.

Fine and Studio Art, Related Arts & Social Studies

The Social Studies department participated in a National Archives presentation on Docs Teach. This online resource provides students and teachers with free access to thousands of primary source documents. In addition, the National Archives delivered a Bill of Rights display for our school community, which is currently displayed in the media center.

Project Stay Gold:

January is National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Our students are actively raising awareness throughout our school community to further educate our student population. Mrs. Brown and our students hosted an awareness night on January 20th.



Students pose in front of the new milling machine.

Industrial Arts:

Amanda Osburn is an alumni of JTHS and works for Fisher Unitech. She asked her company to donate a milling machine to our Robotics and Engineering programs. Fisher Unitech responded to Amanda's request and generously donated a milling machine which was delivered this week. Our Robotics Team 2600 will use this milling machine to prepare for their competitions in March.

School Connections: Habitat For Humanity

The Jefferson Township High School Morris Habitat Humanity Club received the Community Partner Award. They were thanked for their continued partnership through extraordinary volunteer efforts to help Habitat for Humanity provide homes for families in our community.



Students Lyndsi Cortese, Varsha Murthy, and Kalen Luciano earn awards for Habitat For Humanity.

Language Arts & Media Curriculum Connections

Marking Period 2 will wrap up January 27th. This month students are reading titles including, but not limited to *The Hobbit*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde*, and *Into the Wild*, as well as engaging in literature circles and socratic seminars in some classes. The curriculum challenges the students to read across fiction, nonfiction, and poetry to synthesize multiple texts from different genres that address the same themes. Students are responding to these challenging titles through rhetorical analysis, research papers, and standards based debates.

Jefferson Township High School hosted the first North Jersey English Language Arts Advanced Placement Summit. It was well attended with over 30 educators from over 15 different NJ schools. Teachers were given the opportunity to explore curriculum, exchange strategies and ideas, and collaborate on exam related concerns. Breakout sessions enabled teachers to work closely with teachers of the same course and discuss strategies for multiple choice and essay formats. It was the first time for a majority of the teachers present to be able to workshop with colleagues who teach the same course. Ideas were exchanged, strategies were shared, and many of the attendees left feeling confident in what they are already doing in the classroom, along with new ideas for implementation.

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Taylor Langan Displays Student Success at JTHS!

Article By: Amanda Ventre, Junior Student

Taylor Langan is a current junior at JTHS and is playing her third year on our school's varsity basketball team. Langan currently averages around 14 points per game and is a standout team player. Her hard work and dedication has paid off as she has recently verbally committed to attending the University of Delaware after high school.

It all started when Langan attended a summer camp at the university and the coaches noticed her abilities. Langan says that, at the camp, the coach came up to her and told her that she would "look good in a Delaware jersey." The university offered Langan this scholarship at the end of her sophomore year and continued to watch her progress in basketball as she came into her junior year. Not only was Langan recognized for her abilities on the court, but she was also recognized by the coaches because of "how she is as a person." Langan made the decision to attend the University of Delaware because she "loves the school" and is looking forward to attending the same school as her older siblings. Once committed, the coach claimed that Langan's commitment was "the best thing that happened to her all day." Langan's positive attitude and dedication to her practice have earned her this high achievement. JTHS wishes Langan the best of luck and anticipates many more great accomplishments in her future.

**Were on the web! Visit us at
www.jefftwp.org, follow us on
Twitter @jthsfalcons, & like us**

Exceptional Connection

Mrs. Vanderbok's class has been making and selling dog biscuits in the School Store. Please feel free to stop by at lunch to support the many programs that they are doing!

Mrs. Ciaraffo's Study Skills class hosted a debate, and assessed the competitors. She also hosted a cookie caper that used math concepts, organizational skills, and documentation to create, sample, and judge some wonderful cookies.

The Transition class visited Farleigh Dickenson University recently to tour the campus and meet with advocates who showed what the university offers in regards to assistance for Students with Disabilities. They also have been practicing their interviewing skills with one another in mock-interviews.

Jefferson has partnered with Sparta High School in presenting a Career/Transition Fair at Jefferson High School on February 16th from 6-8pm. Representatives from trade schools, small colleges, industry, and transition services will all be present.

