



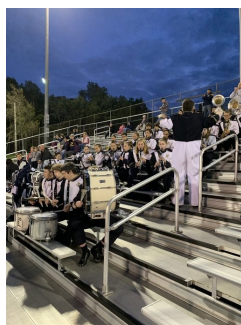
Jefferson Township High School Newsletter

Jefferson Pride



JTHS Happenings:

- Marching Band Competition
- Red Cross Blood Drive
- Mini College Fair
- Open House
- PDP Retreat
- Back-to-School Night



Falcon Football home opener

Back-to-School: Dr. Plotts

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the beautiful summer weather. The summer is flying by and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your children to Jefferson Township High School for the 2019-2020 school year. As the "Home of The Falcons" we look forward to seeing you at our Back-To-School Night on Wednesday, September 25th at 7:00 p.m.

The summer of 2019 will go down in history at JTHS. During the summer break, we have been working on many of the approved projects from the recently passed referendum. Six major projects were underway at the high school during the summer of 2019 break. 1) The band and high tech music rooms received new flooring. I have to say "it looks terrific!" 2) The high school is getting a new roof covering most of the building from the front to the back. 3) In the media center, a new Makerspace Innovation Lab has been enlarged and enhanced for optimal student use. We look forward to seeing the increased usage and creativity of our students in this area. 4) The wood shop received a new floor, paint, and tables. 5) We have 3 science classrooms that were completely gutted and done over. They will now be state of the art and aligned with Next Generation Science requirements. They are looking incredible!!! 6) The exterior of the building around those 3 science classrooms have received a face lift with new brick and stucco being applied to the exterior of the high school. I would like to thank the maintenance and custodial staffs for their flexibility in helping us complete these summer challenges.

Student safety and security is a paramount concern for everyone at Jefferson Township High School. We will continue with the same entrance procedures as last year and enter after 7:35 AM and until 2:15 PM by the guidance office entrance at door #3. With that being said, at the retention vestibule we will be using a visitor management system that will require you to present your driver's license or government issued I.D. Then, you will have a sticker printed out for you to wear that identifies that you are allowed in the building. Our security team will be there to assist you should you have any problems. This increased security measure should provide for a better and safer educational environment for all. Located at this door will be a bin for items being dropped off for students. The items will be retrieved by school personnel and delivered accordingly.

Jefferson Township High School invites you to participate in the high school auditorium seat sponsorship. Sponsor an auditorium seat, and have your generosity memorialized on a plaque in the hallway in front of the auditorium. Please complete the attached form and return it to the main office with payment if you are interested in sponsoring a seat.

Jefferson Township High School is excited to be continuing our growth and progress of the "The Academy for Environmental Studies." This is a joint venture between Jefferson Township Public Schools and the Morris County School of Technology, and will continue to provide students with scientific knowledge about the natural world while at the same time exploring the environmental, economic, and social aspects of these interactions and how they influence decision-making and policy. Upon graduation, students will have the foundation needed to pursue a degree in environmental studies in preparation for one of the growing numbers of environmental careers in resource management, engineering, business, non-profit work, law, conservation, or education. Each cohort is comprised of approximately fifteen students from all over Morris, Warren and Sussex County, as well as multiple students from Jefferson. This year in a collaborative partnership with Kean University our students will be able to conduct field based research at Jefferson's own Kean Universities Skyland's Campus. The campus is complete with dormitories, a pristine lake for research, and a recently built sky walk in the tree canopies. We are excited to continue working with Kean University and look forward to utilizing the incredible habitat that Jefferson Township provides for future scientific research.

Technology is a constant in the Jefferson Township School District. The high school will continue to implement a One-To-One Laptop Computer initiative where all students in grades 9-12 receive Lenovo Thinkpad and Chromebook laptops. Jefferson Township High is proud to continue to use Google and the Google Management Platform for all our student based instructional delivery. As more and more of our staff and students become Google certified, they are able to bring into our district cutting edge technological initiatives. We look forward to seeing how the Google Management Platform, having laptop computers for our students in a one-to-one format, and the utilization of the newly renovated Maker-Space will enhance our students' intellectual opportunities as we prepare global citizens for the 21st century.

The Jefferson Township High School Student Handbook has been updated and revised for the 2019-2020 school year. All of our summer mailing documents are accessible through the Realtime Parent Portal. The documents on the parent portal provide an abundance of information for you and your child so that you may have a terrific school year. The following change was made in the student handbook for next year: Only written notes will be accepted for early dismissal. The office will NOT accept phone calls, emails, and/or facsimile transmissions (faxes) for early dismissals.

The high school marking period and testing schedule is included in my letter for your reference. Please note the dates for quarterly exams, state testing dates, and final exams. Please keep in mind these dates are an integral part of your student's success in his/her educational program.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the summer staff for their outstanding efforts in making the opening of school a successful one. The work that has gone on all summer long is a credit to the outstanding staff that Jefferson has and we appreciate their tireless efforts!

I look forward to you and your child having a successful 2019-2020 school year. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the high school staff and myself for assistance throughout the school year.

Continued Success!

Timothy Plotts, Ed. D.

Principal

Red Cross Blood Drive: Ms. Cannarozzi and Ms. Oller

The American Red Cross Club hosted a blood drive on September 20th in the High School auditorium. With Hurricane Dorian hitting the Bahamas and the Carolina's, the Red Cross was hopeful for a great turn out! Their goal was to collect 38; Donors presented were 37, they had 15 first-time donors, 19 donors were deferred and the total pints collected was 30. Thank you everyone for your time, effort and hard work!



American Red Cross



Guidance Connection: College Fair

Awesome college fair! Thanks to all the reps who came and [@JTHSCounseling](#) for planning such an amazing event for our students! [#collegebound](#) [#startplanning](#). 65 colleges/universities were represented.

Science Connection: Mr. Hiben

Welcome back all science enthusiasts! Around the science department you will find faculty stressing the importance of lab safety and getting their classes ready to explore phenomena. We are definitely enjoying our newly renovated science labs!

Outside of the classroom we have some additional options for students who are passionate about science. Our Waksman Students Scholars Program is running once again this year. The program allows students to learn about genetics and partake in authentic research as they map the genome of Duckweed. Also, Science League (an academic science competition) will run once again with teams in all major areas (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, Earth Science). Get involved Falcons!



Students enjoying one of our newly renovated science labs.

English Language Arts Connection: Mrs. Schwimer

Mrs. Schwimer's classes have really hit the ground running! The students in the Fundamentals of Communication classes are preparing to present their Demonstration Speeches. They have covered everything from topic selection to organization and preparation. The students' presentations are going to be fascinating. The Advanced Communication's class has been researching dynamic public speakers and identifying what characteristics distinguish them from ordinary speakers. The students will be able to use this knowledge to enhance their own public speaking. The Principle of Dramatic Arts' class has already written authentic monologues in the first person personifying everyday objects. The creativity of these students is incredibly entertaining. If you ever find yourself in the M Wing, stop on by Mrs. Schwimer's class in M4. There is always something exciting going on!

Special Education Connection: Ms. Fritzky

The students in the Ms. Mason's English classes are studying the Elizabethan Age and the Globe Theatre. Students will take special interest in the change of the English language such as mixing old and new elements of language, originating words, and coining phrases. Students will identify and describe elements of a story including exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution, while identifying types of conflict and figurative language, all while citing evidence.

The students in Ms. Ciaraffo's math classes are working on various topics. In particular the Math of finance class is delving into understanding the difference between Gross and Net pay. Students are viewing check stubs that include hourly pay and overtime as well as comparing gross and net pay.

The Rise program has decided to donate to local organizations monthly through Jefferson Java! This month, we are taking donations for Eleventh Hour Rescue in exchange for free coffee vouchers. A commercial regarding this initiative was created donations will be accepted through September 27th for this cause.

PDP Connection: Mr. Flatierre and Ms. Wildermuth

PDP held their annual retreat on September 22-24 at Sacred Heart in Newton. PDP Leaders returned on Tuesday, 9/24 after an awesome leadership summit! Thank you all for your commitment to mentoring the freshmen at JTHS! [#falconpride](#) [#falconfamily](#)



Social Studies: Mr. Papa

Mr. Thompson is participating in a panel discussion at the Forum on Modern Slavery hosted by Seton Hall University. He will discuss the critical role of education to raise awareness about human trafficking in schools across the state.

Technology Education: Mr. Papa

Mr. Nicholas and his CAD students created the makerspace sign using the laser engraver to carve out each letter and image.



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Climate Strike

Our students peacefully demonstrated their right to assemble as they participated in the [#ClimateStrike](#) today. Meghan Craig gave a thoughtful & compelling address to the group!



Music Connection: Mr. Sica

The JTHS 2019 Golden Falcons Marching Band has been off to a great start. Their first home competition was Saturday, September 14th, in which they did a great job in representing the JTHS Falcons. They took time to prepare and perform at the 9/11 Memorial Service held at the Municipal Building. The Golden Falcons recently had their second competition on Saturday, September 21st at Northern Highlands High School. The group placed a solid second place in that competition. Looking forward in the season, they hope to continue with their high placement in the upcoming competitions at Roxbury, Hanover Park, and Chapter Ten Championships. They will also be entertaining the crowds during the home and away football games and the Sussex County Fireman's Parade in Franklin, NJ.



FBLA Connection:



I wanted to share some exciting news with you about the FBLA trip to Nationals this summer. Alivia Catania attended with Patrick Flynn and advisor Joyce Hulbert. Patrick earned a 3rd place win for Jefferson High School out of the entire nation! This is an extraordinary accomplishment. Great job everyone. The article is in the Jefferson Chronicle.

Athletics Connection: Mr. Koch



Welcome back Falcon Fans. It was a long summer without Athletics in full swing but we are happy to have all of our amazing Student-Athletes and fans back on campus.

We look forward to another exciting fall sports season and are already tremendously proud of our Student-Athletes for all of their hard work in the off-season, pre-season and first few weeks of competition.

A reminder that JTHS is now partners with the NFHS Network. This partnership allows all games to be broadcast LIVE on the NFHSnetwork.com website. All proceeds from Network subscriptions go to support all athletes here at JTHS. Games from the stadium as well as the Freedom Gym can be streamed live to your computer or mobile device.

The Falcons have been off to a fast start this fall posting some impressive wins from the gridiron, to the court, and into the trails.

Currently (as of 9/24);

Football remains undefeated (3-0) coming off an impressive victory in Mount Olive under the lights 28-21. The Falcons also earned W's against Hackettstown in week 1 and at home against High Point. Their next game is at Home today vs an undefeated Montville Mustang program.

Girls Soccer sits at 4-1-2 and have already earned a Morris County Tournament win against Dover at home last Saturday. Their other W's come against Newton, Hackettstown and Montville while earning a draw with Kinnelon and Kittatinny. The girls will travel to Whippany Park on Sunday for round 1 action.

Boys Soccer drew the 6th seed in the Morris County Tournament with a perfect 6-0 record. They open their tournament at home in the nest on Saturday against Mount Olive at 11am. The boys wins have come against some tough competition including NJ 19th ranked Hackettstown, Newton, Vernon, Kittatinny, High Point, and Walkkill.

Girls Volleyball continues to improve having most recently knocked off a very tough Paramus team. The team continues to rally in setting program records including winning two opening tournaments including the Warwick tournament as well as the inaugural Pequannock tournaments. Stay tuned for more from this program as they continue to climb the county and state ladder. Volleyball also will host a Halloween Spooktacular invitational in October.

Field Hockey remains competitive after losing key contributors to graduation last year. As they continue to rebuild they hold a 5-4 record and continue to make noise within the conference. Their wins thus far come against Lenape Valley, Sparta, Kittatinny, North Warren, and Pope John. They take the field next against Kittatinny on the 26th.

Cross Country hosted its lone home meet on the 24th. Thus far the running Falcon girls team sits at 1-2 while the boys are 2-1. The Falcons look to continue to grow a competitive program, bolster their roster, and compete within a tough conference and deep county.

Please follow all of our Fall programs on Twitter:

Football @JTwpFootball

Cheer @jths_cheer

Cross Country @JTHSXC

Boys Soccer @JTHSBoysSoccer

Girls Soccer @GirlsSoccerJTHS

Girls Volleyball @JTHSGirlsVball

Field Hockey @JTHSGirlsFH



Media Center: Connection Ms. Villa

The Makerspace is set up and ready to go. Students are able to use this space during lunch, academic, study hall, and independent study.

A new sign was created by industrial arts students in Mr. Nicholas' class.

Students can print to the copy machine in the back of the library using the printer 'Student Follow Me' and scanning their IDs.

(See Mrs. Aluotto if it's not working.)

All of the books have found their way back to the shelves.

Freshman orientations to the Media Center are being scheduled between 10/1-10/11.

Business Connection: Ms. Villa

FBLA and DECA are off and running. Students are planning for their first fundraiser events, community service projects and competitions. The Personal Finance students are enhancing their learning with a new online financial literacy program, honing in on authentic assignments. The Marketing students will be using a new simulation and learning the ins and outs of digital marketing as they apply to current trends.