

**Jefferson Township High School Newsletter** 

# **Jefferson Pride**















Jefferson Township High School 1010 Weldon Road Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

Phone: 973-697-3535 Fax: 973-208-8409 Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

This is the final JTHS Jefferson Pride newsletter for the 2019-2020 school year and it is bitter sweet. The bitter is that I will no longer be the high school principal as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank you all for four great years at JTHS. The relationships that were built and formed will continue for a lifetime. You welcomed me to the high school with opened arms I truly appreciate that. I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of our students and want to thank everyone for putting our kids first in the decisions we made. Our students have excelled and even with the Covid-19 Pandemic continued to meet and exceed expectations!

The sweet part is that in the four years I have been at JTHS we have accomplished an incredible amount of things. I could list them all but it would take several newsletters to do them all justice. Just know that all of the great things that were accomplished over the last four years were based on the "We not me" philosophy of getting things done. I hope that as a high school learning community you will continue to build on all the great things we started over the last four years.

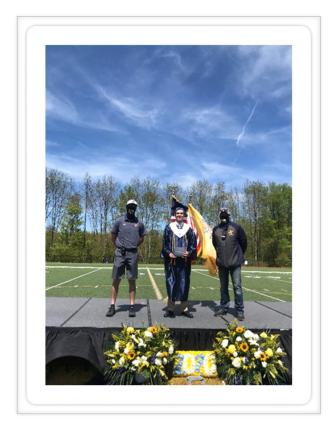
I will be going back to Milton and Cozy Lake Schools and I am again looking forward to the new challenges that will be presented to me and to continue building the great relationships with students, parents, and staff that were developed over many years. I want to wish all our students in the class of 2020 continued success and I can't wait to see what incredible things they do as they move on to their next phase of life.

Stay safe and well,

Tim Plotts, Ed. D. Principal Jefferson Township High School



# The Class of 2020







#### **JTHS Wave Parade Honors Class of 2020**

The teachers of Jefferson Township High School would not let the Class of 2020 go quietly or without recognition. On June 1, teachers decorated their cars and formed three lines in the high school parking lot to create the seniors' wave parades.

Three parades, each lead by members of Jefferson's Fire Departments, made their way through Jefferson Township to wave and celebrate each senior. The cars were adorned with balloons, inspiring and congratulatory messages, while horns honked, and teachers spread their good wishes.

There was joy all around as teachers were able to see each other again and see their students, as well as the students being able to see their teachers again.







# **The Wave Parade continues**







This says it all!



## World Language Connection: Mr. Sica

English as a Second Language: Ms. Kimberly Moss, ESL District Specialist

Our ESL 9-12 students have worked on several projects and have continued to develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills across the content areas. We took a virtual road trip and learned about the National Parks System and even completed a virtual trip to the moon to learn about the history of space travel. Our weekly use of Google Slides "journals" kept us focused with interesting topics in order to continue to refine our writing skills as well! Overall, we have had a variety of interdisciplinary experiences during this time frame that helped to enhance our language and literacy skills.

#### Mama Mia

Even though we could not bring you the spring musical Mama Mia, this musical mashup celebrates the cast's dedication to the show! Thank you to all the performers and Mr. Flynn for creating this showcase!

https://t.co/inweltz9Kv

#### Media Center: Ms. Villa

The Media Center is wrapping up the school year with some fun brain break activities to do over the summer. These will be posted to Google Classroom. Weekly Zoom calls will continue on Wednesdays at 11:30 and are open to all!

#### **Business: Ms. Villa**

Two students from the JTHS Chapter of FBLA placed in the State Business Competition. Olivia Oberman came in first place in New Jersey for Public Speaking and Jacob Wacker came in second for Sports and Entertainment Management. They just competed virtually for the National Leadership Experience and we hope to have the results in a few weeks. Congratulations to them both and good luck at the Nationals.

The Economics AP exam was administered and students are waiting on the results. Good luck to all that took the exam.

#### **Alcohol Awareness Month**

Isabella Kloss 1st Place Winner:

"To elect to be alcohol free means to have a respect for yourself, and to ensure that other people are safe. So many kids die every year from drinking at parties, and they become another number added to statistics. When someone is drunk and gets into a car, they're not only putting their life at stake, but so many others. Some might say "its only a little bit of alcohol, nothing can go wrong.", but it can because you aren't the only one at risk. My drive to do this poster was really based on bringing this up as an awareness. Getting on the road while you're drunk puts anyone else who is on the road at risk, people who have a family waiting for them to come home. There are so many bad consequences to drinking - it's not worth it!"

Allie Gesek
2nd Place Winner:

"Electing to be alcohol free means choosing a better life. There are many ways to have fun with your friends that does not involve alcohol. For my poster I wanted to promote the idea of natural highs which can be an alternative to drinking alcohol."

Madison Poulas
3rd Place Winner:

"To elect to be alcohol free means to make the active choice to stay sober. In this day and age, alcohol surrounds almost every part of life- whether in movies, TV shows, in restaurants, or being pressured by others, it's presence is nearly impossible to avoid. My motivation for this poster was to make it clear than when you drink, you choose to drink. Too many people have been subject to alcoholism or lost their lives due to alcohol to ignore that there is an issue, and almost an entirely avoidable one."

#### No Place for Hate

We are thrilled to officially designate Jefferson Township High School as a 2019-2020 No Place For Hate® School! We truly appreciate your school's commitment to creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. This year, you are one of over 1,800 schools across the country that successfully completed the program. Without you, No Place For Hate would not be possible. Thank you.

# **Good News**



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#### **Dear Principal Plotts:**

I wanted to take a moment to share some good news with you! Your former student, Kiera White, was recently recognized as one of the top graduating students at William Paterson University. Kiera majored in Athletic Training and completed the Social Sciences track of the Honors College by engaging in rigorous Honors coursework. Kiera completed an Honors thesis entitled, "Gait Patterns in Relation to Leg Length Discrepancies: A Randomized Control Study."

These accomplishments are a reflection of your high school's preparation of high achieving students and your support and commitment to higher education. Thank you for your leadership.

We hope you will continue to encourage your students to attend William Paterson University so we can build upon the strong foundation your high school provided, and continue to partner with you to help students further develop the skills they will need for an enriched and accomplished life.

Sincerely

Dr. Barbara Andrew, PhD
Dean, William Paterson University Honors College

## **Elevate A Cappella: Mr. Thompson**

I just wanted to share some news regarding Elevate A Cappella. We recently submitted an audition to be a part of a virtual Quarantine Competition which benefits Autism Awareness. Elevate was one of only eight groups selected to compete. The competition involves some of the best groups in the state of NJ and even an outstanding group from Michigan. Each group has to submit a video which will broadcast live on YouTube on June 26th. The winner is decided by the amount of donations to Autism Awareness each group garners during the live broadcast. 100% of the donations will go towards Autism Awareness.

## **World Language Connection: Mr. Sica**

Teacher of French Madame Neuschatz's 2Honors students have finished a mini-unit about French history and art. They will demonstrate what they have learned by reading a clue and finding an example of the historic era or art style among the art works in the Louvre. Students will interpret authentic web-sites, maps and articles, rely on their knowledge of history and art covered in the unit and navigate the museum to identify artwork that meets the details of the clue.



Authentic Materials to Interpret:

Louvre Website: <a href="https://www.louvre.fr/accueil">https://www.louvre.fr/accueil</a> Interactive Map: <a href="https://www.louvre.fr/plan">https://www.louvre.fr/plan</a>

See if you can decipher the sample clue below:

Nous savons que l'influence classique gréco-romain est evidente en plusieurs oeuvres d'art. L'un des plus célèbre est une statue de la déesse d'amour et beauté qui se trouve au Louvre. Elle a perdu quelques parties du corps mais elle est quand même l'une des sculptures la plus visitée du monde. Trouves la sculpture. Comment s'appelle-t-elle? Comment la statue est arrivée en France? En quelle partie du musée trouve-t-elle?



# Congratulations to the Class of 2020!