



Joliet Township High School

Empowering Students to Compete and Contribute



Annual Report

School Year 2015-2016

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This publication has been prepared for the purpose of assisting the community and parents in understanding District 204 programs and operations; challenges and growth; and finance. For more information about JTHS, visit www.jths.org.

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Dr. McCarthy's Welcome



Dear Partner in Education,

We proudly present the Joliet Township High School 2015-2016 Annual Report to provide insight into the programs and educational successes achieved during the previous academic year. Our District continually strives to provide the best education to our students.

Last year, Joliet Township High School introduced a new Strategic Plan for 2015-2020, which serves as a road map for all District initiatives and improvements. This year, we met again with a diverse group of stakeholders to open the Strategic Plan for updates to expand culturally responsive education and faculty/administrative diversity in order to close the achievement gap.

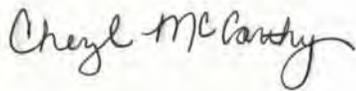
It is a great time to be a student at Joliet Township High School. In January of 2016, Joliet Central High School's state-of-the-art Student Center and galleria were successfully completed, providing an innovative educational environment for our students. Furthermore, our one-to-one technology initiative and blended learning courses empower and engage our students by eliminating the digital

divide and accommodating their varying learning styles. The JTHS Individualized Career Plan Implementation was also highlighted in a University of Illinois study, as JTHS faculty and staff strive to guide and support our students in their career exploration and preparation. As a result of the programs in place during the 2015-2016 school year, student academic successes and achievements are made possible.

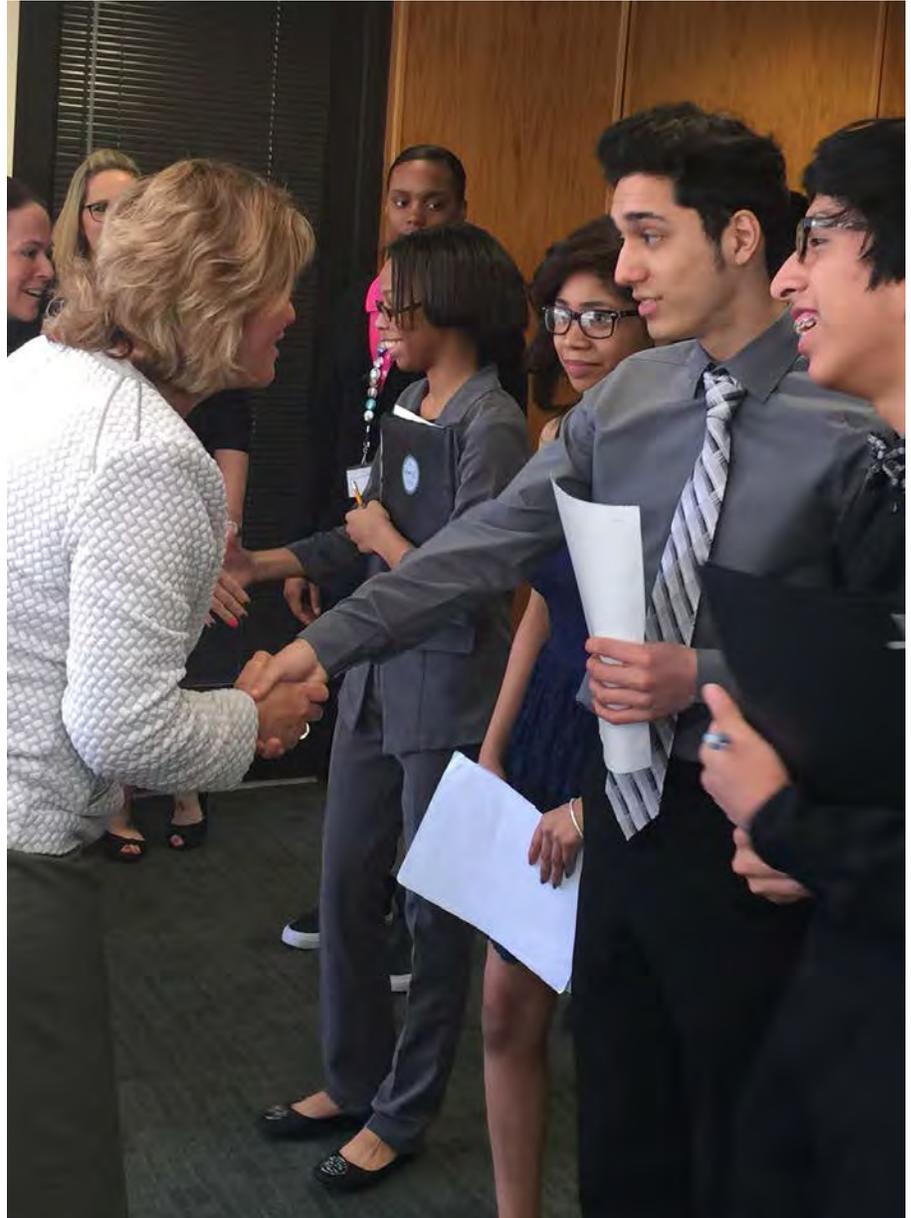
JTHS is dedicated to providing a rigorous and personalized education to each and every student. Within the pages of this report you will find stories of school pride, interdisciplinary partnerships, academy highlights, student achievements and more. Additional information can be found on our website.

As always, I am thankful to work in partnership with our Board of Education, parents, students, staff and the community to make the mission of Joliet Township High School a reality. Together, we will continue to make Joliet Township High School a school district of choice for our students and community. Thank you for supporting Joliet Township High School.

Sincerely,



Cheryl McCarthy, Ed.D.
Superintendent



Joliet Township High School Board of Education

Board of Education members are elected by residents within the school district's boundaries and serve four-year terms on a staggered basis. Among their many responsibilities, the Joliet Township High School Board of Education adopts policies and rules that govern the administration and operates in strict accordance with Illinois laws and Illinois State Board of Education regulations. Every day, JTHS students and our community benefit from the Board's dedication and commitment.



Joliet Township High School Board of Education Members

Jeff Pierson, President (Served since 2001); Tracy Spesia, Vice President (Served since 2011); Don Dickinson, Secretary (Served since 2011); Arlene Albert, Member (Served since 1981); R. Dale Evans, Member (Served since 2013); Tyler Marcum, Member (Served since 2013); David Skorupa, Member (Served since 2015)

Students Pictured: Eric Small, Jalen Jones, Tamara Snevely, and Cassandra Caceres.

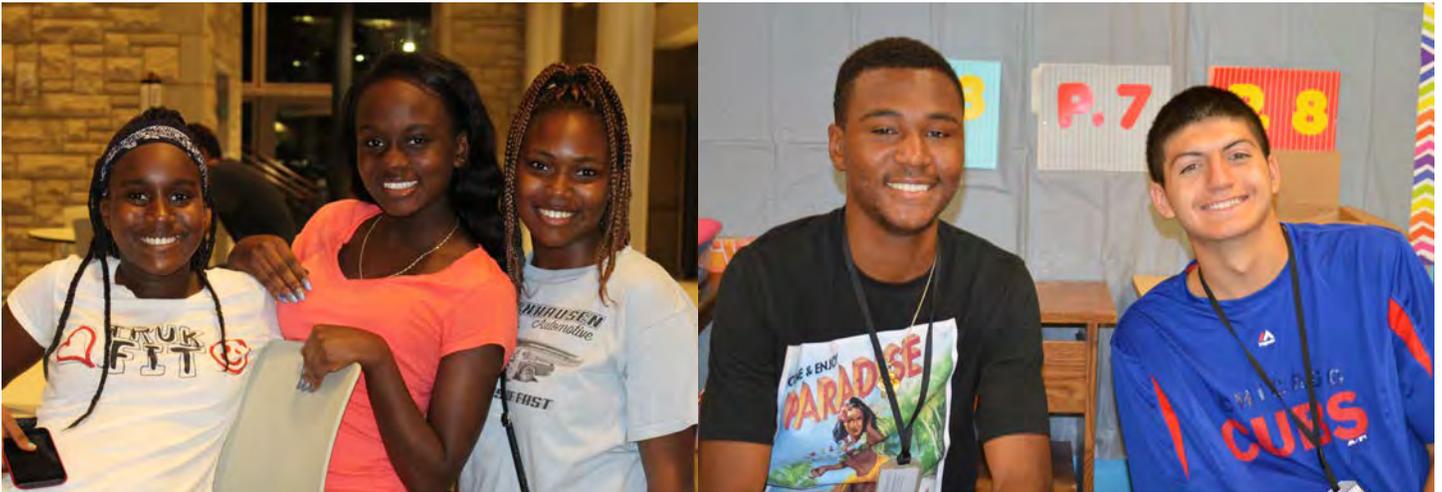
Board of Education Meeting Dates

Board of Education Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of the JTHS Administrative Center, located at 300 Caterpillar Drive in Joliet. For a complete listing of Board of Education meeting dates, please visit www.jths.org.

Board of Education Duties & Responsibilities

- Selection of the Superintendent of Schools
- Establishment of general policies for the school system
- Employment of school personnel upon recommendation of the superintendent
- Adoption of the annual budget and approval of all expenditures
- Informing the public of the needs and progress of the educational system
- Exercising the legislative power conferred or implied by legislature in administering school functions

All decisions made by the Joliet Township High School Board of Education are driven by the District's Strategic Plan to achieve our mission.



Joliet Township High School Mission

The mission of Joliet Township High School, a historically rich, unified and innovative learning community, is to empower every student to compete and contribute positively to our community and global society by providing a rigorous and personalized education through an academy environment.

Joint Board of Education Meeting

Achieving our Mission Together



On April 11, Joliet Township High School and five of its sender school districts made history by holding the first-ever Joint Board of Education Meeting.

The importance of this event should not be understated as it is a true indication of the ongoing collaboration that has taken place since the Leadership Alignment and Educational Planning (LEAP) team was established in 2009 to improve communication and align curriculum and programs. Through the LEAP partnership, sender school superintendents and administrators collaborate with JTHS on an ongoing basis, improving education for all of our youth.

Taking the LEAP collaboration to another level, the Joliet Township High School Board and Superintendent brought together their sender school boards and superintendents to discuss changes in school law and to learn first-hand information about each district. The information was presented by JTHS student ambassadors who attended each sender school district in elementary school or junior high. Their high school success is a testament to the strong educational systems in our communities.

"We achieve more when we focus our efforts and work together. To bring all superintendents and their boards together at the same table opens a line of communication that allows us to focus on providing the best education possible for all students. Although we are geographically located in different areas, it is clear we hold a common vision."

Jeff Pierson, Joliet Township High School Board of Education President



LEAP School District Collaborators

The following school districts work in partnership with Joliet Township High School to improve articulation, communication and improve education for our area-youth.

Elwood School District 203
Joliet Public Schools District 86
Laraway CCSD 70-C

Rockdale Elementary School District 84
Troy Elementary CCSD 30-C



Joliet Township High School Academies

Joliet Township High School academies prepare students for college and careers, while providing extensive support during the freshman year to ease the transition to high school.

Freshman Academy

All ninth graders begin their JTHS education in the Freshman Academy. This small learning community is structured to ensure the transition to high school is successful. Freshman students have an eight period day and begin school earlier than their upper-class peers. This provides time within the school day for academic support in literacy and math, or the opportunity to take an extra elective if support is not needed.

In addition to a rigorous academic curriculum, career exploration is woven into classroom lessons and delivered in advisory using the online Individualized Career Plan and Career Cruising platforms. This career exploration ensures that students are prepared to select one of the five JTHS Career Academies which they enter their sophomore year.

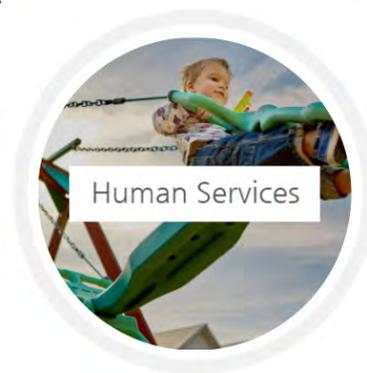
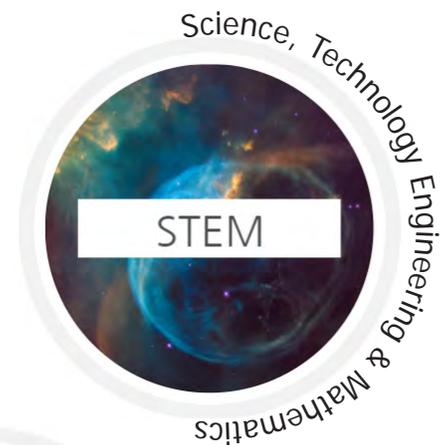


Joliet Township High School Career Academies

During the sophomore year, students enter the Career Academy that they selected. In the Joliet Township High School Career Academies, students receive an individualized education related to their career interests, and teams of teachers collaborate to prepare interdisciplinary learning opportunities that relate to each academy's theme. Students are provided with a rigorous and personalized curriculum that integrates course content and technology skills in alignment to the College and Career Readiness Standards.

Each Career Academy has unique and individualized Programs of Study, which are sequences of recommended courses that a student should take based on his or her career goal. Students also participate in a Job Shadowing Experience, which provides a personalized opportunity to experience career interests through hands-on interaction with professional employees. In these small learning environments, students can see the connection between content and career and never have to ask the age-old question, "How are we going to use this in real life?"

Career Academies



Robotics in Action

Joliet Cyborgs World Championship Competitors



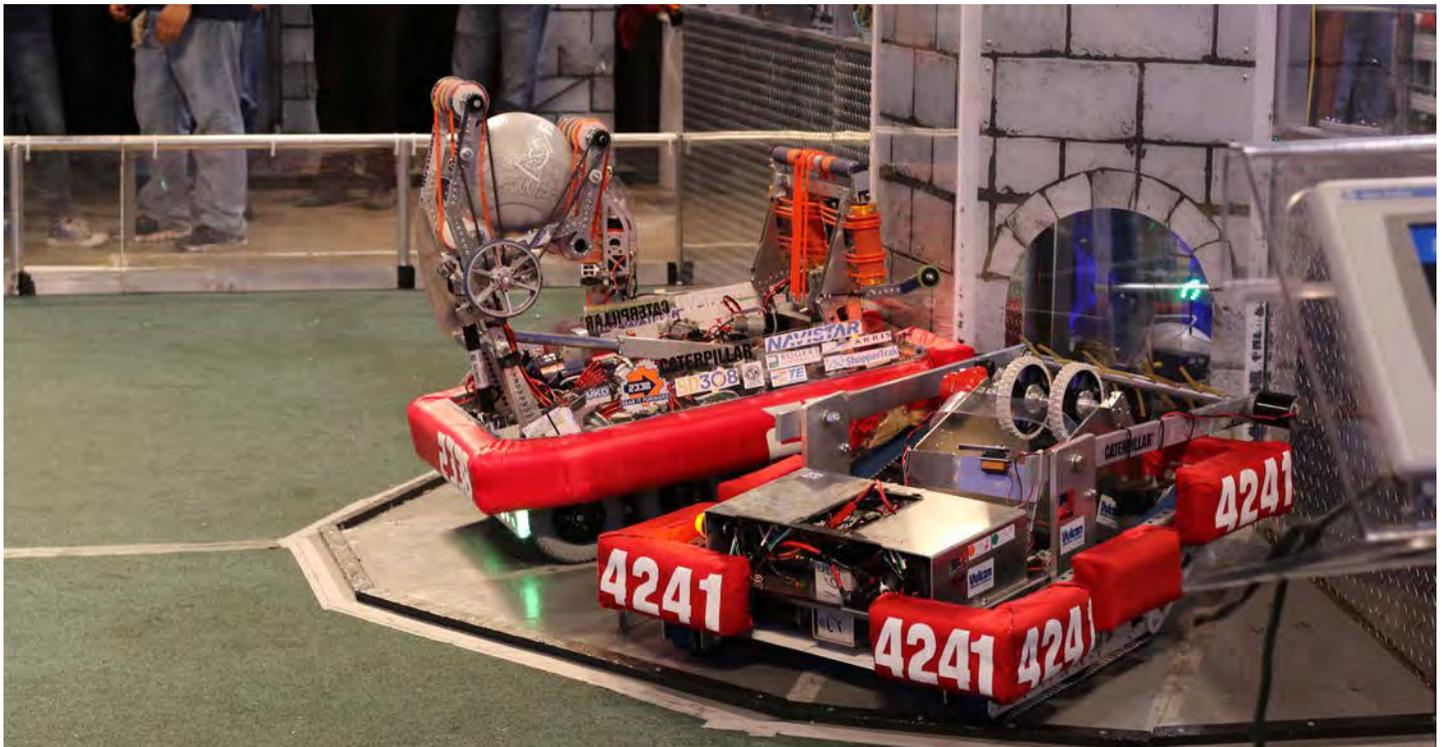
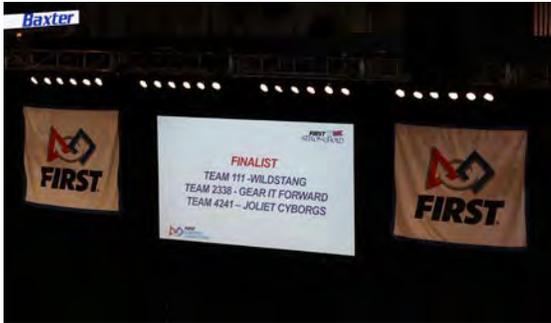
At Joliet Township High School, students gain extensive hands-on experience in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) through participation in the prestigious world-wide FIRST Robotics competition. Mentors from the business and technology industry work side-by-side with students to design and construct a robot that participates in four rounds of ultimate high-tech competition.

The 2015-2016 school year was one of great success for the Cyborgs Robotics Team as they qualified for the World Championship Competition, finishing 32 out of a field of 75 in the HOPPER Division and successfully winning 6 out of 10 matches over the course of two days. The HOPPER Division is known as one of the hardest divisions and is highly competitive.

The Joliet Cyborgs are a model for education and business partnerships that continually inspires JTHS students to reach within themselves and find solutions to problems they have never before encountered.

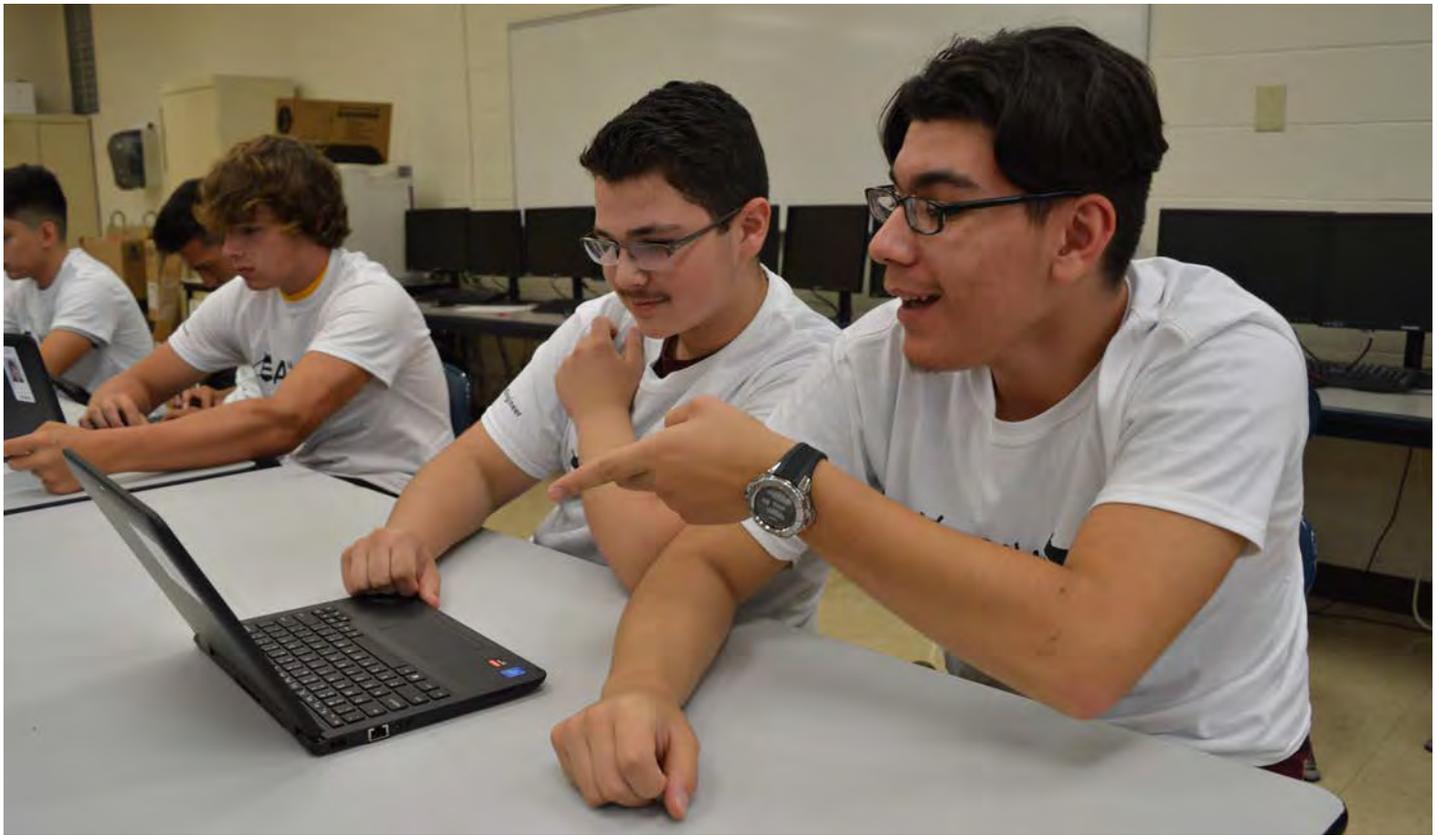
Get Involved

The JTHS Cyborgs Robotics Team is open to all JTHS students. Students who are interested in joining should contact Tom Connelly at tconnelly@jths.org.



Project Lead the Way

Be an Engineer



Joliet Township High School students in the STEM Academy have the opportunity to participate in the Project Lead The Way (PLTW) engineering program and its pre-engineering Program of Study. PLTW is the nation's leading provider of K-12 STEM programs, and offers world-class, activity, project, and problem-based curriculum. Through PLTW, quality teacher professional development, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate partners, help students develop the skills they need to be successful in post-secondary education and beyond.

The PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design (IED) class was offered at Joliet Central and Joliet West for the first time during the 2015-2016 academic year thanks to a grant from Cargill. This is the first class in a series of engineering courses that are part of the pre-engineering Program of Study offered at JTTHS.

PLTW teaches students to apply science, technology, engineering and math to solve complex, open-ended problems in a real world context. The program allows our students to clearly understand the engineering design process and apply that knowledge to find solutions to real world problems. It is the students who plan, develop, test and troubleshoot their own creations.

To take this real-world STEM education to another level, JTHS has teamed up with ExxonMobil engineers through a unique partnership know by the students as "Be an Engineer." Through the partnership, ExxonMobil engineers visit the PLTW classrooms and provide valuable insight related to the process engineers use to find solutions to complex real world problems. The engineers interact with individual students and discuss the processes the students utilize in designing and building their own creations. "We are providing a window of what's possible. We want to be helpful and hope to enhance the curriculum," said Tricia Simpson, Midwest Public Affairs Manager for ExxonMobil.

" This is an entirely separate curriculum than any other engineering course and it's neat to have access to this in high school because it means that I don't have to wait until college to learn the engineering process. "

Jack Lewis, PLTW student

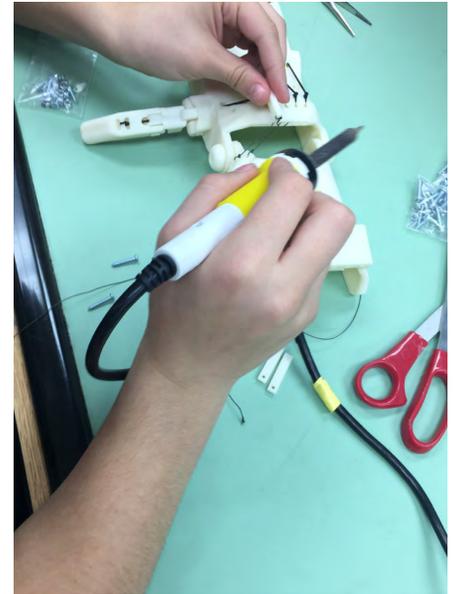


3D Printing

Technology in Action

Students at JTHS benefit daily from the state-of-the-art technology found within their classrooms. Just one example of technology integration can be found in the 3D Computer Animation, Tech CAD, Engineering Graphics, Architecture, and Advanced Drafting classes, where students use 3D printers and industry software to create models, animate them, and even apply realistic materials for rendering.

The classroom 3D printers allow the students' designs to come to life and open a door of possibilities that has extended beyond the classroom. Last year, students learned about a unique program that provides 3D printed prosthetics to children in need. As a result, students have designed and fabricated a prosthetic hand that will be donated to a child.



This is just one example of the hands-on application that state-of-the-art 3D classroom printers and software provide. Throughout the year, students use problem solving skills to create and test their designs. For example, efficiency and speed are put to the test when students create and race 3D printed cars.

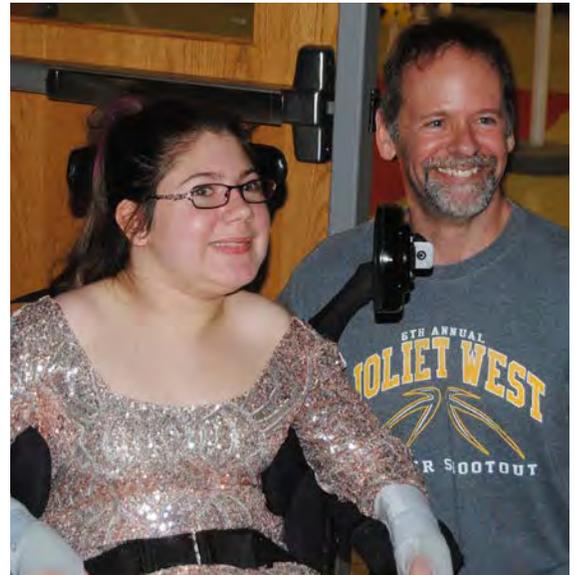
The possibilities are endless thanks to this innovative technology.

Special Populations Dance

Students Demonstrating Compassion & Care

The Health and Medicine and Human Services Academy Roundtable was once again very active in the community throughout the 2015-2016 school year. The club's mission is to create community service opportunities that promote the academies' themes of "Community Wellness" and "Civic Responsibility," and they do not disappoint.

Each year the Academy Roundtable hosts a Special Populations Dance where nearly 50 student volunteers transform the Joliet West cafeteria into a Hollywood-themed dinner dance for local agencies that serve individuals with special needs. Photography students participate by serving as the "paparazzi" as guests make their way down the red carpet before being treated to a pizza dinner and dessert. A DJ provides music and our students and their guests dance the night away.



Throughout the years, the dance has become a treasured event that our special populations look forward to every year. JTHS is proud to provide service, while teaching academy lessons and themes.



Curriculum & Instruction

1:1 Technology & Blended Learning

At Joliet Township High School, the one-to-one technology initiative provides every student with a network computer to use on a 24/7 basis for education anytime, anywhere. The technology has provided teachers with the tools to expand their instruction beyond the walls of the classroom through innovative lessons that provide authentic audiences.

One-to-one technology also allows Joliet Township High School to offer eleven blended learning classes. JTHS blended learning opportunities challenge and empower students to become active learners through a combination of face to face and online instruction. The decision to take a blended learning course is made in partnership with the parent, student and counselor with the understanding that the student must maintain a 75 percent class average or they must attend class every day.

This innovative classroom structure accommodates a variety of learning styles while exposing students to the online learning environments they are likely to experience in college and the workplace.



Blended Learning Physical Education Conditioning

Thinking outside of the box is what led to the development of the blended learning Physical Education Conditioning course at JTHS. All students taking this course are given a Fitbit Charge HR to track their daily fitness independently. Class time is reduced to two days a week as students take physical fitness into their own hands by ensuring they meet the daily aerobic requirements.

So far, student participants are thriving in this class and have reported a desire to continue tracking their daily fitness levels beyond the completion of the course.

JTHS Blended Learning Course Offerings

- AP English 4 Literature  U.S. History
- College Prep English 4  Chemistry
- College Prep English 3  Health
- Honors English 2  Food Fundamentals 1 & 2
- College Prep Government  Conditioning
- College Prep Economics 





EPAS Assessment System

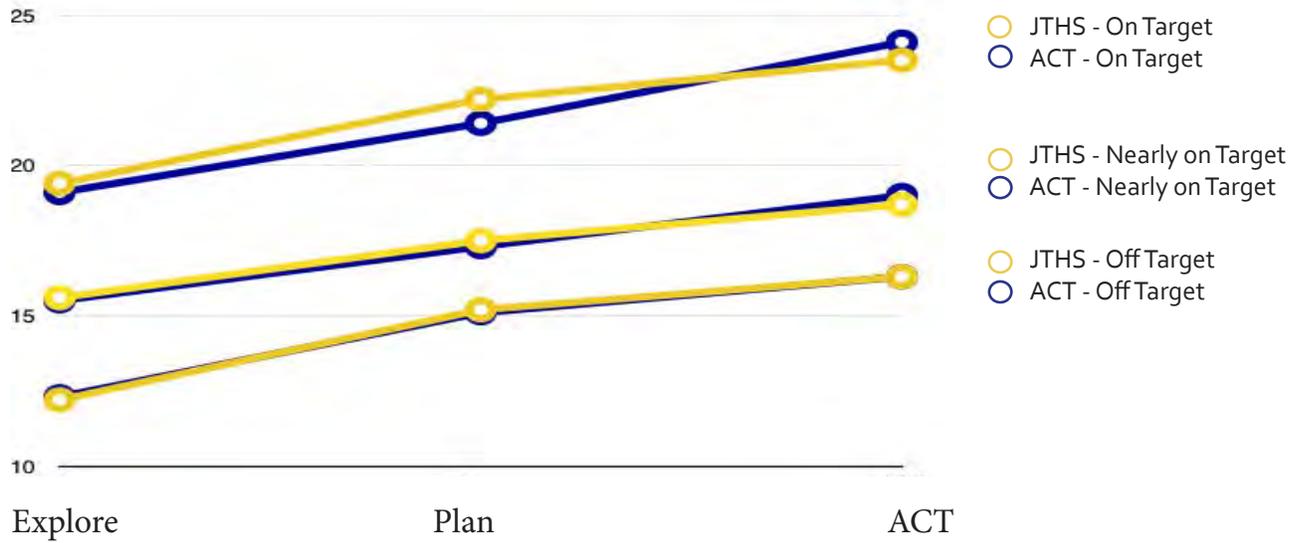
Measuring Student Improvement

Student improvement is a key indicator of our school district's success. To measure student improvement from one grade level to the next, Joliet Township High School uses the EPAS Assessment System. EPAS includes three assessments: EXPLORE, which is taken in the eighth and ninth grade; PLAN, which is taken during the tenth grade; and ACT, which is taken during the junior and or senior year.

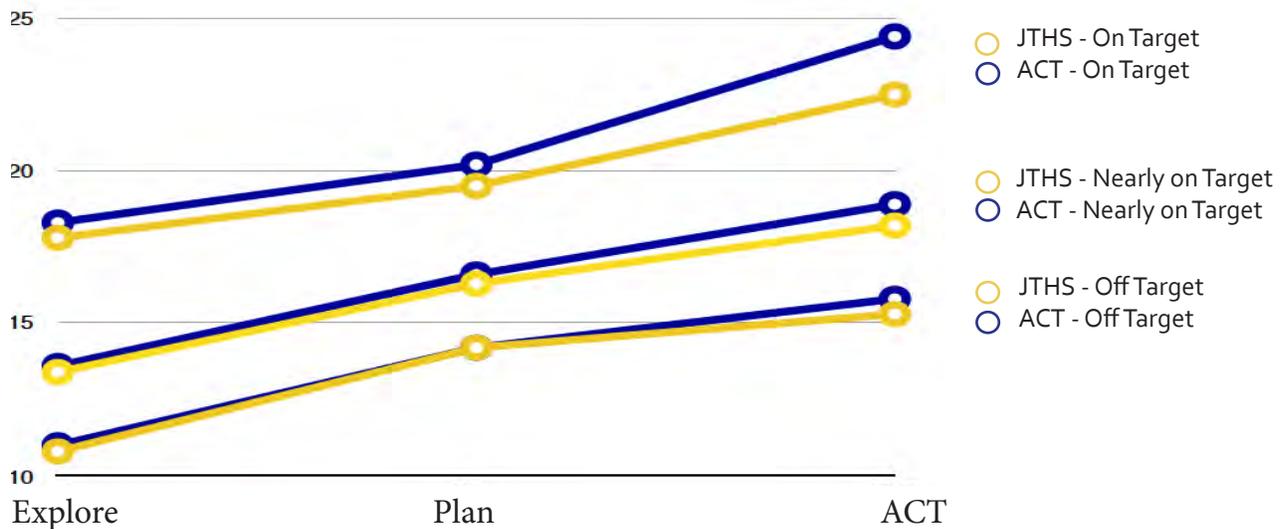
To gain a baseline measurement score, students are grouped into three categories established by ACT: "On Target," "Nearly On Target," and "Off Target."

The graphs on the next page illustrate District assessment growth for the Class of 2016.

Math Expected EPAS Growth



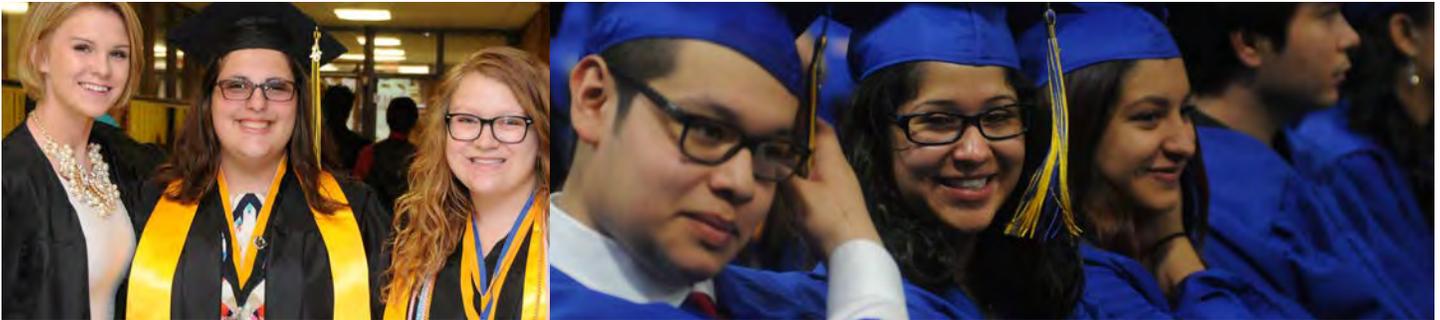
Reading Expected EPAS Growth



Advanced Placement Achievement

College Board Advanced Placement Scholars

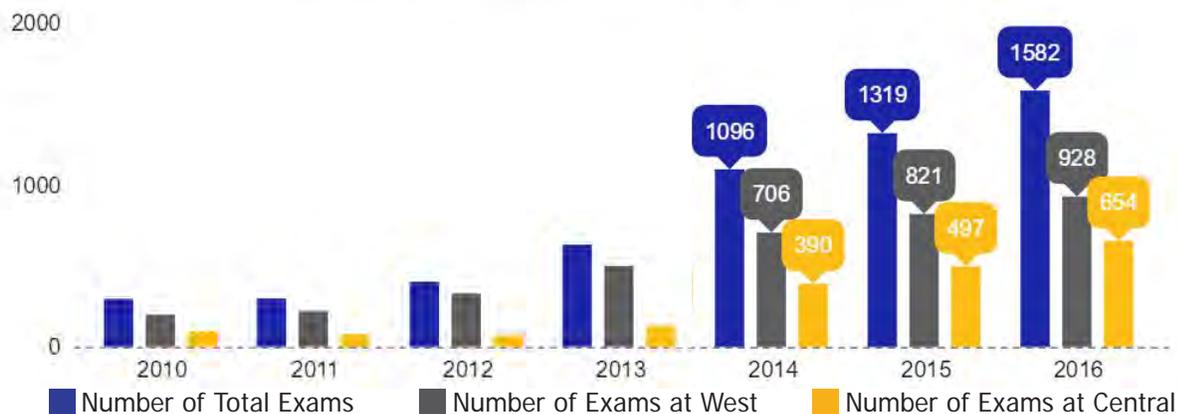
For the 2016 exam administration, 83 students were named College Board Advanced Placement Scholars for their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Exams. Of these scholars, one received the National Advanced Placement Scholar Award, 19 received the Advanced Placement Scholar with Honor Award, and 13 received the Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction Award.



Advanced Placement & Dual Credit Classes

At JTHS, students can earn college credit through a variety of Advanced Placement and Dual Credit Courses. Joliet Township High School currently offers 17 AP courses and 27 Dual Credit courses and has made remarkable gains over the past five years, increasing the number of students taking AP courses and exams by over 200 percent, while simultaneously increasing the amount of students scoring 3 or higher on the AP exam.

Advanced Placement Gains 2010-2016



Advanced Placement Support

AP Human Geography Crosstown Classic

Joliet Township High School students have the opportunity to take AP classes their freshman year by enrolling in AP Human Geography or AP Computer Science Principles. To support AP Human Geography students while studying for their first AP Exam, Joliet Central and West teachers hosted the first ever AP Human Geography Crosstown Classic, adding a unique twist to studying while bringing students from both campuses together.

Students from West were bused across town to Central Campus for an afternoon filled with fun, competitive review, game show competitions, a cranium game using Legos, and more. The goal of the event was to bring students together to provide a learning experience that would take some of the pressure off students as they prepared for the test.

"Our students are freshmen so they have never taken an AP exam. We could tell that our students were incredibly nervous in the months leading up to the exam. The Crosstown Classic helped them build confidence in themselves. It helped them realize that their hard work throughout the year paid off and that they know the material they need to be successful on the exam," said AP Teacher Erica Seffner.

"The Crosstown Classic was a huge success. Students reported feeling more confident walking into the exam, which was really one of our main goals for the event," said Seffner. "The energy in the room was unbelievable. I have never seen kids so excited to study and so excited to earn college credit."



Student Achievement

ACT Scores for the Class of 2016

The average ACT score for the top 10 percent of students who were tested in the class of 2016 was 28.3 percent. The top 20 percent of students who were tested in the class of 2016 had an average ACT score of 26.2 percent. JTHS has approximately 1,075 students who take the ACT test each year.

Illinois State Scholars

Eighty-six Joliet Township High School students from the graduating class of 2016 earned the distinction of Illinois State Scholar. The prestigious award is given annually by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC). Illinois State Scholars possess strong academic potential and are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and sixth semester class rank. State Scholars rank in the top ten percent of high school seniors, representing high schools across the state.



National Merit Scholarship Commended Students

Noah Dulski and Rebecca Hoff were named Commended Students for the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the competition by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition that recognizes and awards scholarships to high school seniors nationwide.



JTHS Individualized Career Plan Featured in University of Illinois Study

The JTHS Individualized Career Plan (ICP) was featured by the University of Illinois in a study published by the Pathways Resource Center where researchers took note of the unique way in which JTHS counselors use the ICP to assist students with career academy selection and course request management.

A living document that serves as an online student portfolio, the ICP is readily accessed by teachers, counselors and parents. Through the ICP students set academic learning objectives and performance goals as they examine their test results and grades.

JTHS counselors use the ICP to its fullest capacity to provide guidance to students as they choose academies and courses. For JTHS, recognition from the University of Illinois serves as an indicator of success when it comes to the Career Academies and student guidance.



**Individualized Learning Plans: Implementation
in Joliet Township High School District 204**
Joel R. Malin, Asia Fuller Hamilton, and Donald G. Hackmann

December 2015 PATHWAYS RESOURCE CENTER

In today's highly competitive labor market, fostering effective transitions for students from high school into college and careers is imperative (Symonds, Schwartz, & Ferguson, 2011). Accordingly, numerous policies and practices are aimed to improve students' college and career preparation. Against this backdrop, individualized learning plans (ILPs; also referred to as *personal (PLPs)*, *individual career (ICPs)*, or *student learning plans (SLPs)*) are increasingly viewed as a "lynchpin tool for linking the twin goals of college readiness and career readiness" (Solberg, Wills, Redmon, & Skaff, 2014, p. 1). ILPs are "a document and a process that students use—with support from school counselors, teachers, and parents—to define their career goals and postsecondary plans in order to inform the student's decisions about their courses and activities throughout high school" (National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth, n.p., 2015). Many districts have implemented ILPs as a way to support students as they make decisions regarding their career and postsecondary futures. Thirty-eight states to date are utilizing ILPs as a resource to support college and career readiness; 21 of these states require all students, beginning in the early middle school, to utilize ILP processes (Solberg et al., 2014). However, limited research exists to support their effectiveness in practice or to describe the conditions and processes underlying successful ILP rollout and implementation. Therefore, this research brief provides a description of the implementation of an ILP process in Joliet Township High School District 204.

adoption of certain reforms, often related to the effort to improve students' college and career readiness. Special focus is aimed toward those whose backgrounds suggest they may need more resources or individualized opportunities in order to achieve desired outcomes. Federal programs are—since the 1993 enactment of the Government Performance Results Act—subject to increased reporting and performance accountability requirements, some of which relate to transition planning and post-school attainment. The America Competes Act (P.L. 110-69), enacted in 2007, further expands reporting expectations and charges states with the responsibility of developing comprehensive, easily accessible P-16 data systems. As noted by Phelps et al., "The creation of data systems with the capacity to monitor the progress of individual learners is a major transformation in the education and workforce development communities" (p. 7).

Other defining features of ILPs include their considerable breadth and complexity. Fox (2014), for instance, identified 25 key components to a high quality ILP, which fit within five areas. It should be noted that different ILP models may emphasize different components; nevertheless, Bloom and Kissane (2011) identified numerous common characteristics of state ILPs. Among the most common characteristics are "an academic planner; identification of academic, career, and personal goals; a validated career exploration tool; a resume builder, and the ability to update annually" (p. 6). Fox (2014) also suggested that there can be three phases of the ILP process (exploring, planning, and transitioning) for students of different grade levels and four



Researchers from the University of Illinois took note of the Joliet Township High School ICP and featured its use in an academic study.

Community Connections

Cesar Chavez "Si Se Puede" Kermes - Celebrating a Legacy

Community and culture united during the "Si Se Puede" kermes celebration held in the Joliet Central High School Student Center. Over 1,000 students, parents, staff and community members attended this inaugural event honoring the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez.

In addition to community resource organizations, student clubs, food vendors, music, and cultural displays, the festival included an educational presentation depicting the life and accomplishments of Cesar Chavez, the prominent Latino-American Civil Rights Leader who coined the phrase "Si Se Puede" or "yes we can." The presentation featured student work, creative writing pieces and performances. A portrait of Cesar Chavez, donated to the school by Joliet Junior College Latino Outreach & Retention Specialist Martha Villegas Miranda, was presented during the ceremony.

"A special thanks goes to Ms. Villegas Miranda, Mr. Jeff Grimes and Ms. Aseneth Ruiz for spearheading these efforts to give our students and community a sense of pride in their heritage and inspiration for the future," said Curriculum Director Alberto Filipponi. "Joliet Central was proud to honor the legacy of the Latino community in the United States as well as that of working Americans."



NHS Tiny Tots Fun Fair

National Honors Society Gives Back



Each year, the Joliet West High School Honors Society gives back to the community by hosting the Tiny Tigers Fun Fair to raise money for children in need. The family-friendly event draws hundreds of children, parents, and community members who participate in a variety of games and activities that raise money for a good cause.

The latest 2015-2016 fun fair raised over \$5,000 for the Wish Upon a Star Foundation and the Pheland-McDermitt Foundation. Activities included a "Kid Zone" with games, a bounce house, dunk tank, and face-painting. To raise additional funds, the students organized a silent auction and a variety of raffles, which included donations from numerous local businesses.

The entire event is student-led and speaks volumes to the compassion our students demonstrate as they strive to make a difference in our local and global society.

Joliet Township High School Student Ambassadors

Annually, the top 10 senior girls and boys from Joliet Central and Joliet West High School are named Mr. and Ms. J & Alpha Omega finalists, a long-standing tradition that dates back to 1958. While in the past, this tradition signified a title only, these finalists now participate as student ambassadors who deliver a variety of presentations throughout the community.

The idea to expand the Mr. and Ms. J & Alpha Omega program came from Board of Education Member Arlene Albert who was amazed by the students' achievements. Ms. Albert felt that the whole community could benefit from hearing these students speak about their high school experience.

So in the 2014-2015 school year, the purpose of Mr. and Ms. J & Alpha Omega changed dramatically as students became ambassadors to the community, delivering presentations and community service upon request. As a result, the students are busier than ever, tutoring on Friday nights at Mt. Carmel Church, delivering presentations to service clubs such as Rotary, and serving as volunteers at community events such as the Fiesta En La Calle hosted by the Chamber of Commerce's Alianza.

JTHS student ambassadors are ready to serve the community. If you would like to schedule a presentation or know of a community service opportunity, please contact Kristine Schlismann, Director of Community and Alumni Relations at kschlismann@jths.org or (815) 727-6967.



Joliet Township High School Alumni Connections

When it comes to dedicated alumni, JTHS is second to none. As a testament to this love for their alma mater and the teachers who made an impact upon them, over sixty alumni gathered to wish Band Director Mike Fiske a surprise farewell as he embarked upon his retirement after 39 years of music education.

JTHS alumni told their stories of success that they attributed to the training and discipline they received as band members. After many tears and tales, the alumni performed together on the stage for one last final performance with their cherished Band Director.

"I hope I played a small role in what you became. I want all of you to be excellent musicians, have an excellent work ethic, and most important is the kind of people you become," Fiske said. "What's going on right now is great because you are my success at what I chose to do in my life."



Financial Excellence & Planning

With shrinking state and federal funding, Joliet Township High School has received the highest award bestowed upon school districts by the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO). Achieving the ASBO Certificate of Excellence in financial excellence did not happen on accident. The District carefully allocates all funds to ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely, providing an innovative and personalized education. Independent financial audits are conducted on an annual basis, which include financial forecasts that allow JTHS to look to the future based on internal and external factors.

“For over 30 years, JTHS has participated in the ASBO Certificate of Excellence to examine its financial reporting and accountability. This award is a true reflection of the District’s financial transparency and sound financial planning.”

Dr. Ilandus Hampton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services



Ilandus Hampton, Kristina Slawinski, Suzi Guerrero, Jen Kozlowski, Debbie Shelby, Nancy Tutko-Mangun, Amy Gomez, Donna Robinson, Kathy Hurley, Madeline Turner and Christopher Olson

JTHS Fiscal Responsibility

School districts in Illinois continue to see a decrease in state funding; however, educational services and programs at JTHS have not been affected or minimized due to this external financial factor. JTHS' sound financial planning is the key to maintaining stability. This sound planning is recognized on an annual basis when the district undergoes an independent audit conducted by an outside agency. JTHS has received financial recognition every year since 2013. This is the highest rating a school district can receive based on audit results.

Revenue Sources



Revenue sources and expenditures are balanced due to sound financial planning and conservative spending. For the past several years, JTHS has instituted a reduction in purchased services, supplies, and capital outlay expenditures to ensure fiscal stability. This proactive financial approach ensures that the education of our youth is protected and allows us to provide innovative educational opportunities and services.

- Local Property Taxes 79.5%
- State 14.7%
- Federal 5.8%

Expenditure Sources

- Salaries & Benefits 69%
- Purchased Services 9.2%
- Supplies and Materials 5.3%
- Capital Outlay 1%
- Bonds 10.2%
- Tuition 5.3%



Joliet Central High School Student Center Addition

Joliet Central High School's Student Center, a stunning 43,000 square foot addition to the campus, was successfully completed in January of 2016.

The state-of-the-art addition includes a new cafeteria, kitchen, student bookstore, technology help desk, security entrance, two presentation rooms, a galleria connection and an elevator to improve ADA accessibility.



Student Center Cafeteria

Built with the Community & Students at Heart

With both the community and students at heart, the Student Center cafeteria was designed with a flexible configuration that can accommodate a variety of events open to our community and students. The space can be arranged in an “auditorium style,” where seating can be set up around a portable stage or in a multitude of other ways depending upon the event.

The cafeteria, and the entire Student Center addition, have already served as a prime location for community events such as the Cesar Chavez Kermes, the African American Read In, as well as a variety of other events like the Women and Girls Health Expo sponsored by the National Hook-Up of Black Women in partnership with the Zonta Club of Joliet.





Galleria Connection & Collaboration Space

To connect the Student Center to the main campus, a galleria is attached to the east side of the school, closing Herkimer Street to southbound traffic.

The three-story galleria, supported by ornamental steel arches, replicates a Gothic vault effect with a soaring structure of tubular steel that defines a collaborative space for students where they can study, socialize and access student services. The student collaboration spaces provide more services to students in a 21st century learning environment.



Historical Preservation

Originally built in 1901, Joliet Central High School is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. While the entire Student Center construction project was built to meet the needs of a 21st century educational environment, the historical integrity of the 115-year-old building was preserved. With every addition to Joliet Central, the Board of Education and Central Archives Committee has worked with the architects and administration to ensure that the historic integrity of the building is preserved.

Throughout the Student Center project, architectural elements of the existing building were maintained, along with the school's historical designation, which included the incorporation of parapets and a limestone façade that retained the Collegiate Gothic appearance of the main building. A portion of the existing limestone façade underwent restoration, due to its prime location as the interior wall of the Galleria.

11th Annual Preservation Award

The Joliet City Council took note of Joliet Central's historic preservation and honored the school with the 11th Annual Preservation Award. Central Campus was selected for the award based on its "outstanding efforts made to maintain the integrity of the Joliet Central High School Campus as exhibited by the Joliet Central Fieldhouse and the Student Center & Galleria Additions."

Joliet Township High School Athletics

JWHS Competitive Girls Cheerleading & Bowling Win IHSA State Championship Titles



Within a whirlwind time-span of just two weeks, Joliet West High School won two State Championship Titles during the 2015-2016 school year.

The winning streak began when the Joliet West High School Varsity Cheerleaders took home the Championship Title with a first-place win in the large division at the IHSA State Competition in Bloomington-Normal on February 6. The team ended with a score of 94.7 in the finals, winning the large team title by 1.57 points over their competition.

Just one week after winning the State Cheerleading Title, the West Bowling Team came out on top with first-place finishes on both days of the competition. Joliet West's bowling averages were a remarkable 212.8 and 210, which secured the IHSA Championship Title.



The Joliet West High School 2016 State Championship Cheerleaders are: Hope Benavidez, Brynn Becker, Daniella Casillas Perez, Leah Combs, Lea Delattre, Tyeler Delrose, Sandra Egizio, Makayla Hurd, Brooklynn Johnson, Taylor Latta, Amina Lee, Isaiah McGowan, Jazmin Morales, Jessica Orr, Tia Roland, Lydia Schrock, Carolina Soto, Lexi Stariha, Taylor Styrzczula, Brandy Teague, Julia Todd, Kayla Walker and Brittney Wooldridge. Coaches are Amy DiForti and Becky Stortz.



The Joliet West High School 2016 State Champion Bowlers are: Taylor Bailey, Karlee Barton, Ashley Lindstrand, Melissa March, Emily Preece, Gracie Plese, Alexis Wagner, and Kaylee Zukovich. Coaches are Jeff Bailey and Larry Warwick.

State Qualifiers

JCHS Boys Cross Country: Team

JCHS Bass Fishing: Sean Cook, John Murphy, Aidan Walsh, Nathan Walsh, and Tommy Zobel

JWHS Boys Cross Country: Mario Scarcelli

JWHS Girls Bowling: Team

JWHS Cheerleading: Team

JWHS Girls Cross Country: Maddie Blaauw

JWHS Boys Tennis: Morgan Red

JWHS Girls Tennis: Eileen Carney

JWHS Wrestling: Darvell Flagg and Meekah Ben Isreal

JWHS Girls Track & Field: Shyasia Baker, Kristine Bourg, Melzina Johnson, and Brandy Teague

Regional Champions

JCHS Boys Basketball

JWHS Girls Volleyball

JWHS Boys Basketball



Sectional Champions

JWHS Boys Basketball

JTHS Girls Tennis, Eileen Carney

IHSA State Champions

JWHS Competitive Cheerleading

JWHS Girls Bowling

SWSC Blue Division Team Champions

JWHS Boys Soccer

JWHS Girls Bowling

Individual All-State Teams

JCHS Girls Soccer: Hayley Bazan

JWHS Girls Volleyball: Lauren Stefanski

JWHS Girls Bowling: Taylor Bailey

JWHS Girls Bowling: Gracie Plese



