



JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOLS



# ANNUAL REPORT

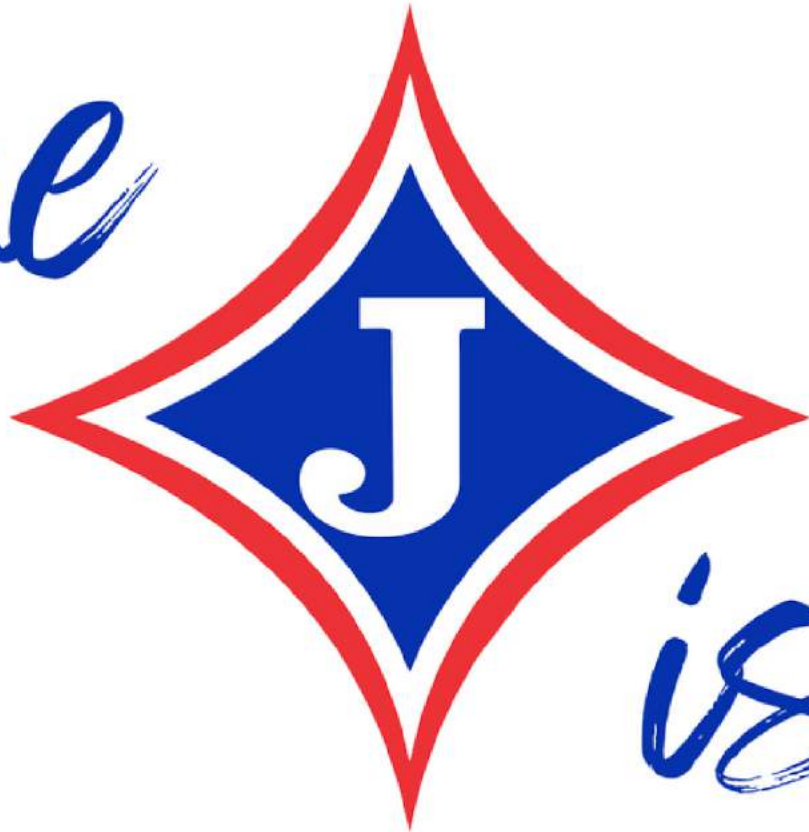
2022-2023

34

**HOME**

*is where*

*the*



*is.*



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# BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Jefferson City School System Board of Education is honored to serve the students, staff and community of Jefferson. As a Board, we are committed to providing educational opportunities and equitable experiences that support all students reaching their maximum potential. In keeping with the mission statement of the Jefferson City School System, *To Graduate Fully Functioning Adults*, we resolve to provide a highly qualified professional staff with a challenging, rigorous and relevant curriculum in a safe and orderly environment. The work we do as a Board of Education is centered first and foremost on doing what is best for our students. We are truly grateful for your willingness to partner with us in support of teaching and learning.

Thank you to our students, staff, parents and community members for sharing our vision for excellence. Jefferson is a special place that continues to attract many new families. The Board of Education is committed to providing state-of-the-art facilities and resources that promote the overall performance of students and staff. We recognize that strong, collaborative partnerships are essential to sustainable growth and continuous improvement. At Jefferson City Schools, we strive to never be satisfied with current levels of performance and keep the question of how we can get better at the forefront of our thinking.

We commend the students and staff for their hard work and dedication and are extremely proud of their accomplishments during the 2022-2023 school year. We are grateful for the opportunity to work collaboratively with the entire community to build excellence in students each and every day. Together, we can accomplish amazing things for the benefit of our students and staff!

Sincerely,  
*JCS Board of Education*



The Jefferson City School System has been in existence for almost 205 years, having a rich history and strong reputation built on excellence. Intentional planning and deliberate actions have led to long-term success. The exceptional work that is done in our schools begins with the visionary leadership of board members who are truly committed to doing what is best for students. Our system and school leaders and staff members are dedicated to providing the best educational services for the students enrolled in Jefferson City Schools.

From the moment children walk into our classrooms until they exit as high school graduates, it is our responsibility to implement challenging programs and equitable learning experiences that enable all students to achieve their full potential. Our academic focus is centered on high expectations and rigorous instruction to ensure maximum performance of all students. The Jefferson City School System continues to be one of the top-ranked school districts locally, regionally and statewide, which is the direct result of collaborative efforts on the part of students, staff, parents and community.

Please take some time to review the 2022-2023 Annual Report to learn more about the educational progress of our school system. Included in this document is an overview of state-mandated assessment results, college and career readiness data and demographic and budgetary information, along with accomplishments and notable achievements within the academics, athletics, arts and other extracurricular programs.

We will continue to uphold high standards for our students and staff. We will work diligently to strengthen the partnerships with our families in support of student learning. I am honored to serve our school system and community and appreciate your willingness to work alongside us in our continued pursuit of excellence!

Best,  
*Donna R. McMullan*  
*Superintendent*



# BOE ACHIEVEMENTS



Board members pictured left to right:  
Brantley Porter, Lisa Richmond, Board Chairman Ronnie Hopkins, Superintendent Donna McMullan,  
Treasurer Guy Dean Benson, Angela D'Zamko and Vice Chairman Willie Hughey

## JCS System's BOE Achieves 2022 GSBA Exemplary School Board Status

JCS is proud to share the achievement and status of the Georgia School Boards Association's (GSBA) 2022 **Exemplary School Board Recognition** for our school system. This is the sixth consecutive year JCS has achieved exemplary status. JCS BOE Chairman Ronnie Hopkins, along with Superintendent Dr. Donna McMullan and other board members, accepted the award at the 2022 Georgia School Boards Association conference last fall.

The recognition program is designed to showcase best practices in school governance and leadership. GSBA recognizes good school board governance to foster educational community cultures in order to advance student learning and achievement. The GSBA Board recognition program is a three-tiered program with "exemplary" being the highest level.

The JCS BOE also was recognized with the **2022 Leading Edge Award** at the conference. This unique achievement recognizes the innovative design and implementation of projects and programs throughout JCS that are having a significant and positive impact on students. JCS BOE received the award based on the Center for Early Learning initiative.

JCS previously was awarded and still holds the title of **Governance Team of the Year**. This prestigious award honors Georgia's top board/superintendent team that best demonstrates its commitment to maximizing student achievement and enhancing trust and support for public education in their community.



# ABOUT JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOLS



## Four Schools



Jefferson Elementary School, Grades PreK-2

Jefferson Academy, Grades 3 - 5

Jefferson Middle School, Grades 6-8

Jefferson High School, Grades 9-12

## Employees



**92%** Retention Rate

**324** Certified Employees

**155** Support Staff

**479** Total Employees

### Student Population

- 4,156 Total Enrollment
- 76.9% White
- 7.5% Black
- 9% Hispanic
- 4.3% Multiracial
- 2.1% English Learners
- 17.2% Gifted
- 13.1% Special Needs
- 22 Native Languages



## Technology



- Upgraded technology in all classrooms with interactive panels
- Continued support of the 1:1 student device initiative through a conservative replacement cycle
- Continued professional learning provided by digital learning specialist

- Launched school resource officer (SRO) program
- Upgraded wearable incident response technology
- Enhanced visitor management system
- Upgraded radio communications (with local agencies)
- Augmented entrance security

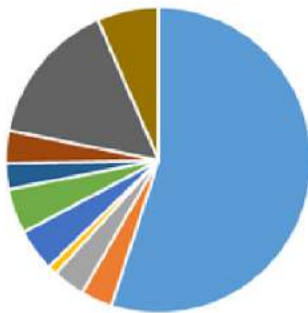


# FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

JCS ranks in the lowest 1% on Georgia school systems for expenditures per student for the past five years, and student achievement remains among the highest in the state.



## General Fund Expenditures



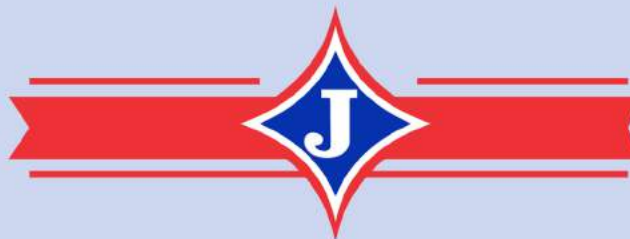
■ Instruction   ■ Pupil Services   ■ Inst. Improv.   ■ Media  
■ School Admin   ■ M&O   ■ Transportation   ■ School Food Service  
■ Capital Projects   ■ Debt Service

## General Fund Revenue

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| State Funds   | \$24,894,578 |
| Local Funds   | \$21,674,144 |
| Federal Funds | \$2,274,878  |
| SPLOST        | \$6,159,423  |
| Total Revenue | \$55,003,023 |

### Per \$1.00 Spent

\$0.75 Instructional  
\$0.06 Maintenance & Operations  
\$0.06 Administration/Insurance  
\$0.05 Instructional Improvement/  
Tech /Software  
\$0.04 Pupil Services  
\$0.04 Transportation



87% of Budget



=  
Salary  
&  
Benefits

## Millage Rate (2022)

One of the lowest in Northeast Georgia

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Jefferson | 14.549 |
| Jackson   | 16.576 |
| Commerce  | 16.928 |
| Barrow    | 17.881 |
| Oconee    | 15.500 |
| Gwinnett  | 19.200 |
| Clarke    | 18.800 |

## SPLOST Projects

JCS uses a voter-approved Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (Ed SPLOST) to fund capital expenditures such as school renovation and construction, classroom technology, safety equipment, school buses and debt reduction. The current Ed SPLOST was approved by the voters in 2021 and is providing for the following projects:

- classroom additions
- student/teacher technology devices
- early learning initiatives
- band equipment
- safety equipment
- buses



# JEFFERSON SCHOOL SYSTEM FOUNDATION



The Jefferson City School System has received tremendous support from the Jefferson School System Foundation since 1983. The Foundation is for the benefit of the school system with scholarships, special grants, supplements and other specific programs and projects. The Foundation partners with the North Georgia Community Foundation, which is recognized as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

**Provided \$12,339 in grants to schools**



**Awarded \$24,500 in scholarships to graduates in the Class of 2023**



## *REACH Scholarships*

- \$9,000 yearly commitment for REACH Georgia Scholarship
- Mentoring and scholarship program for promising students
- Awarded first three scholarship recipients this school year
- 100% funded by the Jefferson School System Foundation





# JHS CLASS OF 2023

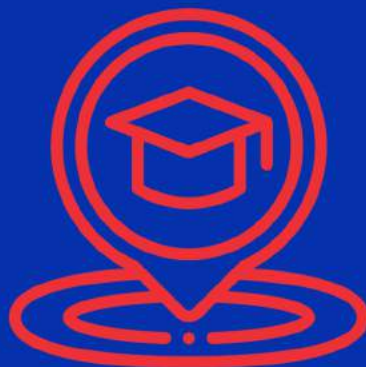


- **67%** of the graduating class of 2023 earned HOPE eligibility.
- **24%** of the total HOPE qualifiers earned the ZELL Miller Scholarship.



## The Class of 2023 has committed to the following colleges and universities:

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
ATHENS TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
BERRY COLLEGE  
BRENAU UNIVERSITY  
BREVARD COLLEGE  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN  
CLEMSON  
COLLEGE OF COASTAL GEORGIA  
EAST GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE  
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVEROSTY  
EMMANUEL COLLEGE  
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FURMAN UNIVERSITY  
GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY  
GEORGIA GWINNETT COLLEGE  
GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY



GWINNETT TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY  
LANIER TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
MERCER UNIVERSITY  
PIEDMONT UNIVERSITY  
SEWANEE UNIVERSITY  
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY  
TRUETT MCCONNELL UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH GEORGIA  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO  
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE -  
CHATTANOOGA  
UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA  
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY  
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE



# Teacher OF THE YEAR



**Congratulations to Ms. Lane Thomas, Jefferson City School System's Teacher of the Year! Ms. Lane's love for teaching and learning and devotion to students is contagious. She is a true champion for children and an asset to JCS.**



*Lane Thomas*  
Jefferson Academy  
JCS Teacher of the Year

The Jefferson City School System has premier teachers who demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence and are passionate about positively changing the lives of their students. We congratulate each of the 2022-2023 Teachers of the Year!

## 2022 -2023 Teachers of the Year

*Janet Fielding, JES*

*Lane Thomas, JA*

*Penny Cain, JMS*

*Molly McCarty, JHS*





# JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Legacy in Educational Excellence*



- #1 Best Public Elementary School (Grades PreK-2) in Jackson County according to Niche.com
- Title I Distinguished School
- National Blue Ribbon School
- Consistent implementation of PreK-2 rigorous, research-based curriculum, including Eureka Math, Heggerty, Jan Richardson Model of Guided Reading and Foundations
- Summer Jump Start Program
- BioSTEAM lessons and outdoor learning activities with educational visits to JCS wetlands



**Ms. Chrissy Joiner**  
Principal

706-367-8242

415 Hoschton Street  
Jefferson, GA 30549



# JEFFERSON ACADEMY

*Legacy in Educational Excellence*



- #1 Best Public Elementary School (Grades 3-5) in Jackson County according to Niche.com
- Title I Distinguished School
- 2022 GAESP District 2 School Bell Award Winner
- Implementation of 5th grade band and 4th/5th grade chorus programs
- Off-site learning experiences for 4th and 5th grade students: Tybee Island/Georgia Coast and Washington D.C.
- JCS book mobile launch throughout the community
- Soda bottle greenhouse project located at STEAM center



**Mr. Chris Whitworth**  
Principal

706-367-2300

99 Dragon Drive  
Jefferson, GA 30549



# JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Legacy in Educational Excellence*



- #1 Best Public Middle School in Jackson County according to Niche.com
- Academic Team placed in the Top 10 at state PAGE Academic Bowl
- National Blue Ribbon School
- National Parks Exploration in California
- 25 club options for extracurricular involvement
- 15 athletic opportunities
- Weather balloon launch and research study with Georgia Youth Science & Technology Centers (GYSTC)
- High standards of academic excellence and performance
- Award-winning fine arts program
- Distinctive outdoor classroom learning opportunities



Ms. Carol Ann Knight  
Principal



706-367-2882



100 Dragon Drive  
Jefferson, GA 30549



# JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

*Legacy in Educational Excellence*



96.6%  
Graduation  
Rate



- #1 Best Public High School in Jackson County according to Niche.com
- U.S. News & World Report National Best School
- AP Honor School recognitions
- WWII Europe Trip and National Parks Exploration in Hawaii
- FBLA Gold Chapter of the Year
- FFA Gold Chapter Award – National and State
- Three Governor's Honors Participants
- 8 Region Championships: Competition Cheer, Football, Girls Cross Country, Volleyball, Boys Tennis, Duals Wrestling and Traditional Wrestling
- JHS Miracle Club State Program of the Year
- AFJROTC National Champions in Exhibition and Drill Competitions (National Overall Division Runner-up)
- Literary Team Region Champions
- Michael Ballman Appointment to U.S. Air Force Academy
- Band selected to perform at GEMA



Mr. Rob McFerrin  
Principal

706-367-2881

575 Washington Street  
Jefferson, GA 30549



# ATHLETIC ACCOLADES

## FALL SPORTS

- Competition Cheerleading - Region Champions, 5th in State
- Girls Cross Country - Region Champions, 14th in State
- Boys Cross Country - Region Runner Up, 7th in State
- Football - Region Champions, State Playoffs
- Volleyball - Region Champions, State Final Four



## Jumbotron

The Jefferson Athletics Booster Club completed a capital campaign for a Jumbotron at Memorial Stadium. It was used for football, track, graduation and the JHS Beta Club's community movie night this year. Thank you to the many individuals, businesses and the Athletics Booster Club for your support with this project.



## SPRING SPORTS

- Baseball - State Playoffs
- Bass Fishing - 6th in State
- Girls Golf - 6th in State
- Boys Golf - 12th in State
- Girls Soccer - Region Runner Up, Sweet 16
- Boys Soccer - State Playoffs
- Girls Tennis - Region Runner Up, Sweet 16
- Boys Tennis - Region Champions, State Playoffs
- Girls Track & Field - Region Runner Up, 9th in State
- Boys Track & Field - Region Runner Up, 11th in State

## WINTER SPORTS

- Girls Basketball - Region Champions, State Playoffs
- Boys Basketball - Region Runner Up, State Playoffs
- Girls & Boys Swim & Dive - 8th in State
- Wrestling - Duals Region Champions, Traditional Region Champions, Duals State Champions & Traditional State Champions



Seventeen (17) students signed letters of intent to continue their athletic and academic careers at the college level.



# AIR FORCE JROTC



Jefferson High School's AFJROTC won the Southeast Regional Drill Competition on November 5th, 2022, placing first in the Armed and Unarmed Divisions. The team competed in the Air Force Nationals in Dayton, Ohio, on March 18th, 2023, winning National Championship titles in the Armed and Unarmed Exhibition competitions. They were also overall runner ups in the Armed and Unarmed Team Divisions.

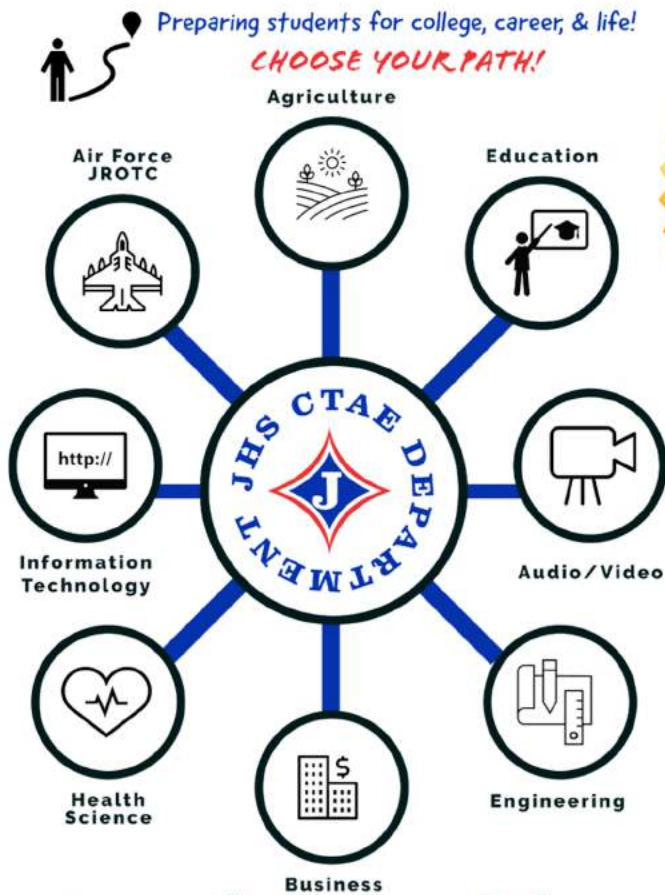
*National  
Champions*



Michael Ballman received appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO.



# SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

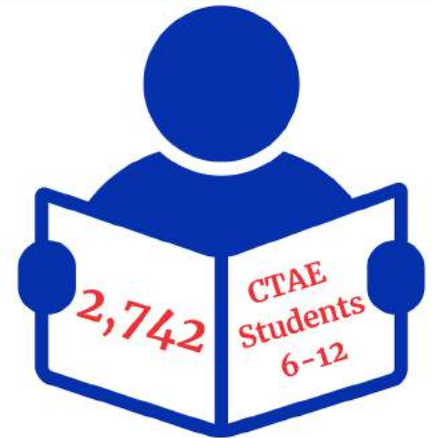


8 Career Clusters <-> 26 Pathways

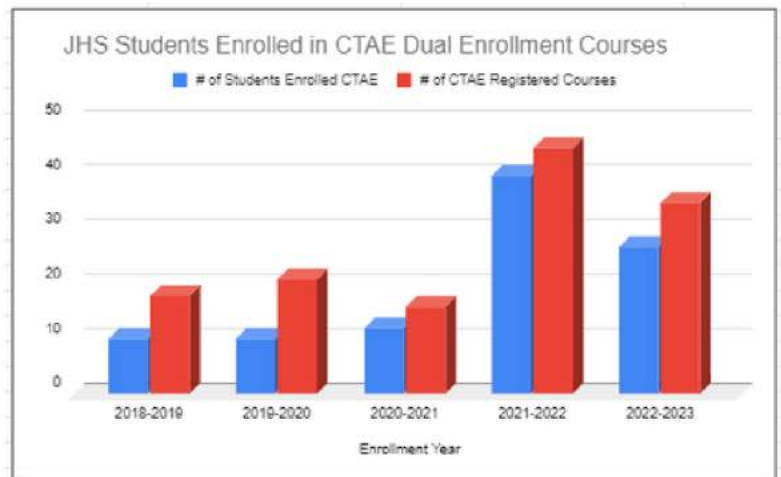


## BY THE NUMBERS

- 8 Career Clusters
- 26 Career Pathways
- 1 School-Based Enterprise
- 18 Middle & High School Teachers
- 5 CTAE Student Organizations
- 211 Industry Credentials



99.4% of CTAE pathway concentrators at JHS entered a post-program track in the workforce, military or post-secondary education.



99.4%  
Graduation  
Rate of CTAE  
Completers

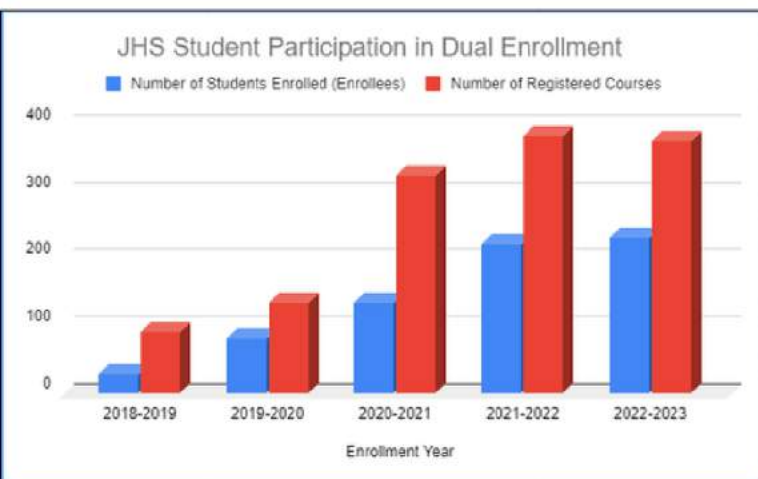




# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



Georgia Milestones EOG and EOC results exceed RESA and state averages for all subject area tests.



## Work-Based Learning

Over **138**  
WBL Students



Over **100**  
Business Partners



Over **\$364,638**  
Total Wages Earned





# OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

## Transportation

**1300 +** Bus Riders  
**16** Regular Routes  
**3** Special Needs Routes



## School Nutrition

**348,365** Total Lunches Served  
**151,723** Total Breakfasts Served  
**1935** Average Daily Breakfasts  
**843** Average Daily Lunches





# JMS EXPANSION

Jefferson Middle School will operate in newly constructed classrooms (9) beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, along with a state-of-the-art band room and new agriculture lab/classroom. JMS also added 60 new parking spaces as part of the Phase 1 expansion project.



## BOOK MOBILE LAUNCHED



- 20 Travel Days
- 16 Volunteers
- 629 Patrons
- 733 Books Circulated

The inaugural JCS Book Mobile ride commenced on Tuesday, May 30, with over 1,300 books on board. This bright, cheerful "library on wheels" traveled to local neighborhoods and other community locations throughout the summer. With books geared for students in PreK through fifth grade, the Book Mobile was available to all JCS students. Patrons could visit any location on the schedule to check out or return books.



# STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The 2022-2023 Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SAC) served dutifully throughout this past school year. Three students represented each grade from kindergarten to twelfth grade in the council's first year with the goal of enhancing the student experience at JCS.



# TEACHER ADVISORY COUNCIL



The Jefferson City School System's recent implementation of a Teacher Advisory Council allows teachers the opportunity to provide feedback on current processes and procedures as well as offer new ideas for more effective operations. The Teacher Advisory Council is comprised of each school's Teacher of the Year and two additional teachers.



# 2023 RETIREES

Jefferson City Schools recognized fourteen retirees for the 2022-2023 school year. We wish these incredible individuals a happy retirement and best wishes in their future endeavors.



Penny Cain  
JMS



Chuck Cook  
JHS



Jean Conner  
JA



Harry Cooper  
JHS



Mike Doolittle  
JHS

*Congratulations  
to our  
2023 Retirees*



Susan Fouche  
JES



David Hembree  
Transportation



Bridgett McCullough  
JMS



Lorie Roberts  
JES



Donna Shaw  
JHS



Donna Shope  
JES



Melanie Stoudenmire  
JES



Marion Stem  
JA



Jackie Thurmond  
JMS



# PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



Community partners are vital to the success of our school system and its operations. Without the support of our community partners, JCS would not be able to provide the level of educational excellence that we strive to provide. The contributions they make to our school system make a positive impact on the education of our students.





# JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOLS

*Exposure to Excellence Promotes Excellence*



**Readers' Choice**

*The Best of Jackson County*

**"Best Public School System"  
2023**

*Presented by  
The Jackson Herald*



**Connect with us on  
social media!**



**706-367-2880**



**jeffcityschools.org**



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345 Storey Lane  
Jefferson, GA 30549**



**@jeffcityschools**



**@Jeffersoncityschools**