

We Are Jasper

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Why Every Day Counts

DUBOIS COUNTY GRADUATE PROFILE

Empowering Your Next Step

REGISTRATION

For the 2024-2025 School Year



WHY EVERY DAY COUNTS

BY: DR. TRACY LOREY, GJCS SUPERINTENDENT

As we approach the 2024-2025 school year, it's essential to prepare for more than just new supplies. One of the most crucial aspects of a student's success in K-12 education is consistent school attendance. Regular attendance isn't just about showing up; it's about establishing habits that can lead to academic achievement and lifelong success. Student attendance at school every day matters and parents play a vital role to support their children in making the most of their educational opportunities.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Foundation for Learning

Each school day builds on the previous one, and missing even a single day can disrupt the learning process. *Concepts in subjects like math and reading are cumulative, meaning that understanding today's lesson relies on grasping yesterday's material.*

Higher Achievement

Studies consistently show a strong correlation between regular attendance and higher academic performance. *Students who attend school regularly are more likely to excel in their studies, participate in class, and complete their assignments on time.*

Skill Development

Beyond academics, regular attendance helps students develop essential skills such as time management, responsibility, and perseverance. *These skills are invaluable not only in school but also in future professional and personal endeavors.*

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL BENEFITS

Social Skills

School is not just a place for academic learning; it's also where children develop social skills. *Regular attendance allows students to form and maintain friendships, work in teams, and learn to navigate social situations.*

Emotional Stability

Consistency in attendance provides a stable routine, which is crucial for emotional well-being. *Children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel a sense of belonging and stability, which can reduce anxiety and improve overall mental health.*

Engagement and Participation

Being present at school enables students to engage fully in the classroom environment. *Participation in discussions, group work, and extracurricular activities enhances learning experiences and helps build confidence.*

WHY EVERY DAY COUNTS CONT.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

College and Career Readiness

Regular school attendance is a predictor of future success. *Colleges and employers look for individuals who demonstrate reliability and commitment—traits that are honed through consistent school attendance.*

Life Choices

Students who attend school regularly are less likely to engage in risky behaviors. *They are more likely to make positive life choices and are better equipped to pursue their goals and aspirations.*

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Set Expectations

Make attendance a priority in your household. Explain to your child why attending school every day is important and set clear expectations about attendance and punctuality.

Create Routines

Establish a consistent daily routine that includes a regular bedtime and morning schedule. This helps ensure that your child is well-rested and ready for school each day.

Monitor Attendance

Keep track of your child's attendance and communicate with their teachers. If you notice patterns of absenteeism, address them promptly and seek support if needed.

Encourage Engagement

Foster a positive attitude towards school by showing interest in your child's education. Discuss what they learned each day and encourage participation in school activities and events.

Address Barriers

Be aware of any barriers to regular attendance, such as health issues, transportation problems, or bullying. Work with the school to find solutions and provide your child with the necessary support.

Consistent school attendance is a key factor in your child's educational journey. By prioritizing attendance, you are setting the foundation for academic success, social development, and future achievements. Together, we can ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive in their educational environment.

Let's make this school year a great one!



Understanding Absences

Excused vs. Unexcused



EXCUSED

Parent/Guardian Notifies School on the Day of Absence

- Illness verified by a note from parent and/or physician up to 10 absences. Any absence for illness beyond 10 will require a note from a physician
- Illness verified by a note from a medical provider
- Recovery from an accident verified by a note from physician
- Death in the family

Pre-Arranged Excused Absences

- Professional Appointments (medical, dental, legal) when students return with an authorized dated statement
- Court Appearance
- Celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- Maternity
- Page for General Assembly
- Election Day Worker
- IN National Guard Active Duty
- Civil Air Patrol
- Military-connected Family
- Exhibiting/Participating in the State Fair

State of Indiana Attendance Expectation:

94%

(10 or fewer absences per year)

UNEXCUSED

Students should have ZERO Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absence is defined as any absence not covered under the definition of excused absence or an absence that has not been verified by a parent or guardian within 24 hours.

CONSEQUENCES

In addition to all building level provision in the student handbook:

If a student is having 5 days of unexcused absence within a 10-week period, a truancy prevention plan will be put in place for the student as required by law.

All absences are monitored, and disciplinary action may result.

Students reaching 10 unexcused absences or 18 absences for any reason will be referred to the Dubois County Prosecutor, the intake officer of the juvenile court of the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) and the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles if applicable.

DUBOIS COUNTY GRADUATE PROFILE: EMPOWERING YOUR NEXT STEP

**BY: DANA KUNZ, GJCS CAREER COUNSELOR AND
HUB19 CO-COORDINATOR**

Soft skills are crucial in the modern workforce as they enhance communication, collaboration, and overall productivity. These skills, such as effective communication, empathy, teamwork, and adaptability, enable employees to build strong relationships with colleagues and clients alike. In a dynamic and diverse workplace, soft skills facilitate smoother interactions, conflict resolution, and innovation. They are equally vital in leadership roles, where emotional intelligence and the ability to motivate and inspire others are essential. Ultimately, mastering soft skills not only fosters a positive work environment but also contributes significantly to personal and professional growth.

In response to feedback from Dubois County employers regarding deficiencies in soft skills among recent hires, Hub19, the Dubois County Career and Innovation Hub, convened a committee to address this issue comprehensively. Collaborating closely with educators and industry partners, the committee identified nine essential attributes expected of graduates. Subsequently, during the following summer, a group of nearly thirty educators came together to meticulously craft grade-level exemplars tailored to each of these identified attributes.

The nine identified attributes are as follows:

BALANCE: Self-manage by becoming self-aware and socially and emotionally healthy.

PREPARE: Learn and apply both academic content and personal finance skills and explore multiple career paths.

EXCEL: Commit to personal growth, a strong work ethic, and a drive to succeed and persevere.

CONTRIBUTE: Serve others.

COLLABORATE: Work as a responsible team member and build unity.

GRADUATE PROFILE CONT.

COMMUNICATE: Listen and share information to exchange ideas effectively.

DESIGN: Create, innovate, problem solve, and think critically.

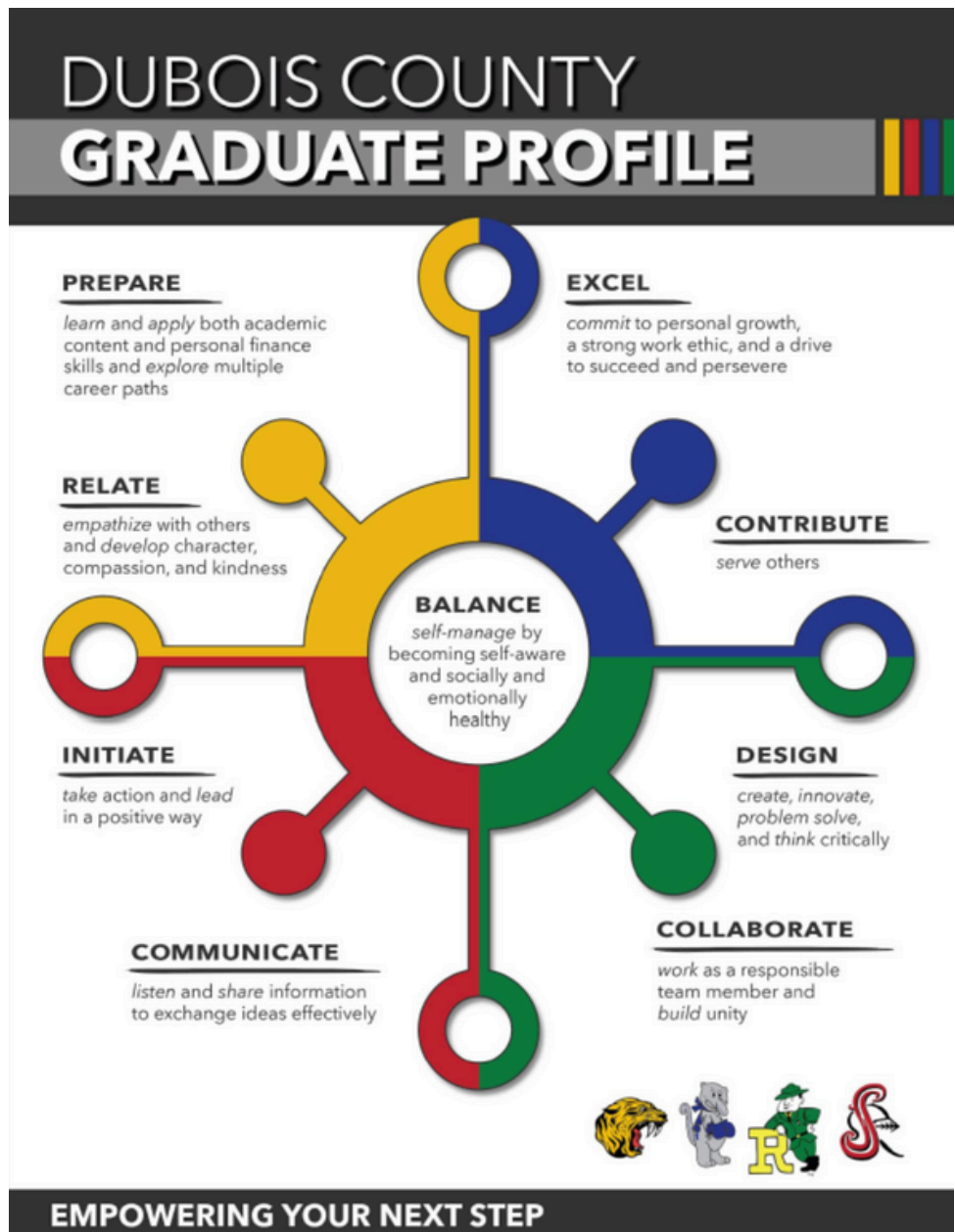
RELATE: Empathize with others and develop character, compassion and kindness.

INITIATE: Take action and lead positively.

In grades K-6, students are actively engaging with and developing a foundational understanding of the nine core attributes. They are learning the significance of these concepts and their relevance to future personal and professional achievements. Students in grades 7-12 at Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools are equipped with electronic portfolios, designed to showcase their academic achievements and personal growth. Both middle and high schools are collaborating to enhance students' portfolio management skills.

By documenting their experiences through hours logged, projects completed, and visual artifacts, students compile comprehensive "hyperportfolios." These portfolios serve as tangible evidence of their accomplishments and are shared via links for purposes such as scholarship applications, job opportunities, and college admissions. This initiative exemplifies Dubois County's commitment to preparing students to excel in their future endeavors, whether in employment, higher education enrollment, or enlistment in military service.

To learn more about the Dubois County Graduate Profile, [click here](#).



REGISTRATION INFORMATION



for the 2024-2025 school year

Get ready! Registration for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year opens on Monday, July 22, 2024. Keep your eyes peeled for registration links, which will be distributed through multiple channels: directly to families via email, on our social media platforms, and displayed on our website. These essential links will go live starting July 22, 2024. Should you require any assistance or have questions regarding registration, feel free to reach out to your student's school directly. For comprehensive back-to-school details, explore our dedicated webpage www.gjcs.k12.in.us/academics/back-to-school-2024-2025!

INFORMACIÓN PARA LA INSCRIPCIÓN



del año escolar 2024-2025

¡Estén atentos! La inscripción para el próximo año escolar 2024-2025 comienza el lunes 22 de julio de 2024. Presten atención a los enlaces de inscripción los cuales estarán disponibles de muchas maneras: por correo electrónico a las familias, en nuestras plataformas de redes sociales y en las páginas web de cada escuela. Estos enlaces esenciales estarán disponibles a partir del 22 de julio de 2024. Si necesita ayuda o tiene preguntas sobre el proceso de inscripción, no dude en comunicarse directamente con la escuela de su hijo/a. Para tener más detalles sobre la vuelta al cole, visite nuestra página web dedicada a ello www.gjcs.k12.in.us/academics/back-to-school-2024-2025.



ENROLL - ENLIST - EMPLOY

Jasper Middle and High School staff members guide students in grades 7-12 to choosing an appropriate path toward **Enrollment** in post-secondary education, **Enlistment** in one of the branches of the armed services, or **Employment** with an industry partner. Students utilize in their Preparing for College and Careers course and during homeroom a tool called Naviance. Naviance is a comprehensive college, career, and life readiness (CCLR) platform that helps middle and high school students discover their strengths, explore college and career interests, create actionable goals and find their best-fit path after high school. Counselors and teachers spend time with students dissecting their Naviance results to gain a better understanding and develop a future plan. Students also participate in the 7th Grade Reality Store, 8th Grade Career Cruise, 9th Grade Tour of Opportunity, 10th/11th Grade College Fair, 11th Grade Job Fair and 12th Grade Senior Decision Day. Our industry, military and post-secondary partners show up for these events to give students an education we can not provide inside our school walls regarding the opportunities available after graduation.



ENROLL: Molly Kissel

Molly plans to enroll at the University of Southern Indiana where she will major in Marketing.

"I chose to enroll because I wanted to further my education. Jasper High School helped me by making sure I had assignments done on time and helped me make sure what I was doing was correct for my future."

ENLIST: Joel Wuchner

Joel has enlisted in the United States Army. His job for the army will be military police.

"Jasper High School guided me and helped me choose my career path. I received helpful advice from teachers, staff members, and my guidance counselor."



EMPLOY: Angel Abarca

Angel is going to be working at Schroering Plumbing Heating & AC LLC while working on getting his plumbing license.

"Jasper High School helped me because it was a good environment and I was around good people to influence my decisions."

JMS Preparing Students for JHS

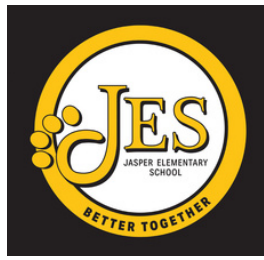


From elementary school to middle school to high school, it is important for each building to prepare students for their next level of education. Jasper Middle School makes it a priority to ensure that all students are being prepared for their new journey at Jasper High School.

Stella, an outstanding 8th grade student at Jasper Middle School, has taken advantage of the resources that JMS has to offer. She has taken multiple classes of the high school level such as Spanish I and Biology I Honors. Students taking high school level classes as an 8th grader not only prepare for them the workload that they will be receiving in high school, but also allows them to take advancement placed (AP) classes in high school. Stella has written how Jasper Middle School has helped her prepare for her next level of education.

“My name is Stella. I’m an 8th grader at Jasper Middle School. When looking into the future, there are many things to prepare for. However, I feel much more prepared after my 3 years at Jasper Middle School. Not only do I feel prepared for my classes, but I also feel ready for sports, extracurricular activities, and things outside of school. Though I know my high school classes, such as chemistry and geometry, won’t be easy, my teachers throughout the years have taught me well. Not only did they teach me the material, they taught me how to develop study habits and how to manage my time. Sports have encouraged me to go out of my comfort zone. They have taught me how to better cooperate with others and become a leader. Sports taught me the need for balance between playing and practicing. Finally, they helped me to grow, not only as a player but as a teammate and a friend. After participating in many clubs throughout middle school, I am extremely excited about all the new opportunities that await at JHS. I am excited to learn about all the extracurricular activities I can participate in. These activities can help me make new friends and help me in the future. Though I am sad to leave this school I’ve known for 3 years, I am looking forward to all the new opportunities that await in my next steps at the high school.”

Aside from classes, Jasper Middle School propels students in their leadership. Clubs and sports allow students to grow their confidence through teamwork, growth, and responsibility. ROOS (Respecting Ourselves and Other Students), for example, is a great example of a club at Jasper Middle School. ROOS sponsors various weeks throughout the year, such as Red Ribbon Week, to raise awareness for students to take a stand against drugs. They also participate in Toys for Tots, supplying students with school supplies at the beginning of the year, and much more. Members of ROOS are exceptional examples for their peers in how to respect and help others. Sports offered by Jasper Middle School are great opportunities for students to meet others, excel in their leadership abilities, and stay healthy.



THE TRANSITION FROM JES TO JMS

Transitioning from elementary school to middle school is a significant milestone that while exciting can also be filled with a lot of anxiety and uncertainty. Some of the new experiences that students look forward to are more independence, more freedom in choosing their classes, and making new friends.

As fifth graders, our students get to experience a small taste of what sixth grade students will experience. The fifth grade teachers at Jasper Elementary School departmentalize for subjects. Our students can switch classes and teachers daily. Although this is on a much smaller scale than at JMS, JES students get the feel for moving from class to class.

As the end of the year nears, there are special opportunities for our students to learn more about JMS. One of these opportunities is for Mrs. Flamion, the JMS School Social Worker, to visit JES to ease some of the anxiety of our students. While at JES, she meets with students and explains her role.

Our students are also given an opportunity to tour the Middle School. Being that we are located on the same campus, our students can walk with their classmates to JMS. During this tour, JMS staff members walk the students through the area where the sixth graders' classrooms are going to be. The students are also shown the inside of a locker. While they are there, Mr. Hubster meets with all the students and then gives them a synopsis of what a school day looks like, and discusses some of these freedoms.

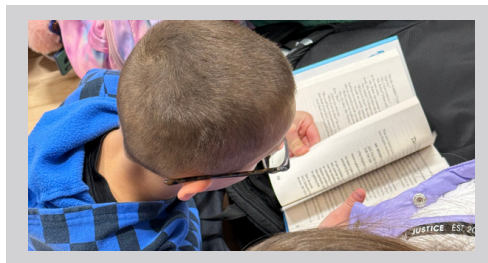
By staying focused, getting support when needed, and keeping a positive attitude and mindset, students can make the most out of their experiences at JMS and will have tremendous growth.



SECOND SEMESTER AT IRELAND ELEMENTARY

What an amazing second semester at Ireland Elementary School! The second semester was packed with so much learning and engaging activities all while being under renovation!

One exciting event at Ireland is One Book, One School! This is a unique program where our entire school listened and/or read the same book. *Wonder* was the book that was chosen because of its very important message of kindness and acceptance. PreK and Kindergarten received the picture book, and 1st-5th graders received the chapter book. It was an engaging and worthwhile family activity that better prepares children to be an effective leader. We ended the reading of *Wonder* by watching the movie together as a school!



This school year students and staff have learned to be extremely flexible and resilient as we lived through an entire year of construction/renovation! Classrooms and rooms have had to pack up and move in the middle of the school year to different rooms within the school. Ireland is so thankful for all the assistance and help from the crew here at Ireland and within our corporation that assisted with each move! When students return next school year, the rooms will be filled with new desks, chairs, and tables to complete the updates within each classroom!



It's always bittersweet to look back on the completed school year. So much hard work and dedication from all staff and students go into making each and every day successful. We wish our 5th graders good luck as they embark on a new chapter in their educational journeys at Jasper Middle School!

JASPER HIGH SCHOOL

Second Semester Highlights



Above: Mrs. Johnson's AP Spanish class baked Rosca de Reyes!



Above: Officer Knies taught a self defense class to Mrs. Maners and Mr. Jerger's Strength and Conditioning classes.



Above: As part of the Career PBL Unit, English 10 students had the opportunity to hear from a variety of different speakers, including two real estate agents, an insurance agent, and representatives from Masterbrand.

Right: 32 JHS Seniors were honored at the inaugural Dubois County Senior Decision Day.



Left: The JHS FFA hosted a petting zoo during National FFA Week for elementary school students.

Right: Mrs. Beier's Intro to Culinary classes participated in a 'Cupcake Wars' challenge that was judged by JHS Staff Members.



Left: AP World History students took part in a Treaty of Versailles simulation as delegates to determine how to end the First World War.

JASPER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Second Semester Highlights



Above: As part of their semester focused on Civics, 6th grade students had the opportunity to hear from a variety of different speakers, one of them being State Representative Shane Lindauer.

Below: 8th Grade students participated in the Dubois County Career Cruise.



Left: The JMS Fishing Club hosted an event at Old Town Lake in Ferdinand.



Above: JMS Performing Arts put on a great performance of Matilda Junior!

Below: 8th Grade students visited Jasper High School for Freshman Orientation.



Right: Students had artwork on display at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center for Youth Art Month.



Left: Ms. Eckerle was selected as a Teacher Amazon Wish List Winner by Masterbrand! She received a \$500 Amazon gift card to use on materials for her classroom.

JASPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Second Semester Highlights



Above: Officer Knies, Officer Lampert and Mr. Schipp taught Archery to the 5th grade classes.

Below: Kindergarten students participated in a reading activity lead by Amelia Capotosa with Get Your Teach On.



Right: Members of the Student Lighthouse Team accepted a Riley Red Wagon Plate on behalf of JES.



Right: The JES PTO treated staff to Smalley Coffee!



Left: Kindergarten students participated in the Kindergarten Health Fair, where they learned about good hygiene, eating healthy, being active and more!

Below: 1st and 2nd grade students put on a program called 'Beach Party', written and directed by Mrs. Mary Burke!



Left: JES hosted a Donation Drive for the Dubois County Humane Society to honor Lilah, the beloved library comfort dog. The amount of monetary donations was 410.00.



IRELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Second Semester Highlights



Above: Ireland Elementary Kindergarteners, 2nd Graders and 4th Graders put on a fantastic Irish Program!

Below: Tri Kappa put on a Covered Wagon Presentation for 4th Grade Students.



Above: Second Graders got to visit Jasper High School and plant marigolds with the FFA during National FFA Week.

Below: 4th Grade put on a Famous Hoosier Wax Museum.



Below: Spelling Bee participants listen to the rules as they prepare for the annual Spelling Bee.



Above: Amelia Capotosta with Get Your Teach On taught an informative writing lesson to a 3rd Grade Class.



Left: The first annual Ireland Elementary Art Show was a success!

School & Building Directory



Jasper Elementary School

(812) 556-3600

jes.gjcs.k12.in.us

3799 N Portersville Rd.
Jasper, IN 47546

School Day: 8am-3pm



Ireland Elementary School

(812) 482-7751

ies.gjcs.k12.in.us

2386 N. 500 W.
Jasper, IN 47546

School Day: 7:50am-2:50pm



Jasper Middle School

(812) 482-6454

jms.gjcs.k12.in.us

3600 Portersville Rd.
Jasper, IN 47546

School Day: 8am-3pm



Jasper High School

(812) 482-6050

jhs.gjcs.k12.in.us

1600 St. Charles St.
Jasper, IN 47546

School Day: 8am-3pm



Greater Jasper Consolidated School Corporation Central Office

(812) 482-1801

gjcs.k12.in.us

1520 St. Charles St, Jasper, IN 47546

Office Hours: 8am-4pm



Greater Jasper

CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

1520 Saint Charles Street, Jasper, IN 47546

IMPORTANT FIRST SEMESTER DATES



August 5 - Teacher Day



August 7 - First Day for Students



September 2 - Labor Day, No School



September 25 - Parent Teacher Conferences



October 2 - Parent Teacher Conferences



October 11 - End of 1st Quarter



October 14-18 - Fall Break, No School



November 1 - Professional Development Day, No School



November 27-29 - Thanksgiving Break, No School



December 20 - End of 1st Semester

We Are Jasper Magazine is published by the Greater Jasper Consolidated School Corporation and posted to our website.

Find us on social media and online at
www.gjcs.k12.in.us

