



School District of  
JEFFERSON

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

JULY 2025



Dear Community Members,

As we embrace the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, our district's mission, "**Empowering Futures Together**," captures our community's dedication to nurturing and cultivating every student in the School District of Jefferson.

This Community Newsletter provides an opportunity to keep you updated on the efforts and achievements happening within our schools every day. We believe that an informed community is an engaged community. Our collective commitment to education is evident in the accomplishments of our students, from consistently strong academic performance to competitive success across various extracurricular activities. Our **Points of Pride** are a testament to what a community invested in education can achieve.

Our mission is guided by our **Strategic Plan**, which outlines our long-term vision and priorities for student success. This roadmap ensures our efforts are focused and aligned with the evolving needs of our learners and the future workforce. Hand-in-hand with our strategic goals are our crucial **facility improvements**. Thanks to the successful 2022 referendum, we've made significant renovations and expansions within our District facilities. Highlights include our agriculture and technical education addition at the high school and major renovations at our elementary schools, which allow us to provide modern learning environments that match the ambition of our students and programs.

What makes all of this possible? It's the talent and dedication of our staff, the care and support of our parents, and the profound commitment of our community. You all help create an environment where our students can truly thrive. This fall, we proudly welcome the Class of 2038 as they begin their kindergarten journey. What we accomplish together in our District today will impact what our graduates can achieve more than a decade from now.

We firmly believe that **strong schools = strong communities, and vice versa**. The partnership between our schools and the Jefferson community is the bedrock of our success. To ensure everyone stays informed, we encourage you to connect with us through multiple channels. Beyond this newsletter, our **newly redesigned website** ([www.SDOJ.org](http://www.SDOJ.org)) is a wealth of information, alongside our active presence on social media and through our weekly online newsletter. Contact us to be added to our Friday Focus mailing list. Your engagement and continued support help us empower futures together so that all students can positively impact society. We look forward to a successful school year for our entire community.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Charles Urness, Ph.D.

## SDOJ SPOTLIGHT

CHECK OUT  
WHAT'S INSIDE



- District Points of Pride
- New Website Info
- Strategic Plan Info
- Online Registration Information
- Facility Project Updates
- Important Dates

## STAY INFORMED



**WEBSITE**  
[www.SDOJ.org](http://www.SDOJ.org)



**PHONE**  
1-920-675-1000



**FACEBOOK**  
[facebook.com/SDofJ](https://facebook.com/SDofJ)



**EMAIL**  
Find staff info at:  
[sdoj.org/district/staff-directory](http://sdoj.org/district/staff-directory)

JOIN OUR  
MAILING LIST!



Email [schmittv@sdoj.org](mailto:schmittv@sdoj.org) or call 920-675-1010 to be added to our community mailing list!



**STRONG SCHOOLS = STRONG COMMUNITIES**



# POINTS OF PRIDE



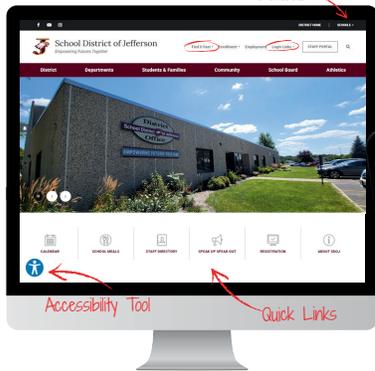
We are dedicated to **Empowering Futures Together**, fostering a strong sense of community, and ensuring the success of every student. Our commitment to excellence is reflected in numerous achievements and programs that highlight the collaborative efforts of our students, staff, families, and community.

- Sullivan Elementary named 2022 **National Blue Ribbon School**
- **18 AP course offerings** & 73 2024 Students with AP Exam scores of 3+
- Middle and Elementary Schools are **Playworks Partners**
- Named **Best Communities for Music Education** eight times
- Elementary & High School **Green and Healthy Schools Awards**
- **Youth Apprenticeship & Dual Credit** Opportunities
- **Community Service** & Outreach: Soaring to Service, Christmas Neighbors, Blood Drives, and Thanksgiving Dinner
- **Seal of Biliteracy**: One of the few schools authorized by the WI DPI to implement the Wisconsin Seal of Biliteracy program
- Community Partners: **Strong Schools = Strong Communities**

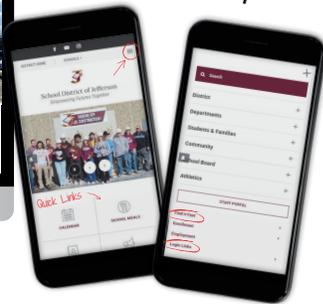
- Over 50 **student clubs & activities** District-wide
- **State & National Qualifiers**:
  - Battle of the Books, eSports, FBLA, FFA Judging, Forensics, HOSA, Jerry Awards, Math Meet, Math 24, WSMA Solo & Ensemble, One Act Play, SkillsUSA, Stock Market Games, & Southern Lakes Anthology
- 2024-25 **WIAA State Qualifiers**:
  - Cross Country, Girls Swim, Girls Tennis, Wrestling, Gymnastics, Softball, & Track
- **AVID Programs** at the Middle School and High School
- **ASE Certified** Automotive program
- Five **National Board Certified Teachers**
- 94.2% **Graduation Rate**- above state & national average



SDOJ.ORG



**NEW WEBSITE!**  
Mobile Friendly!



We are proud to debut our redesigned School District of Jefferson website, conveniently still at **sdoj.org**. This redesign reflects our commitment to transparent communication and community engagement and brings an updated look and feel, designed to be more user-friendly, mobile-friendly, and make it even easier for anyone to find the information they need. We've focused on providing updated tools, an easy-to-use platform, and an enhanced focus on accessibility for all individuals.

We encourage everyone to explore the new site and provide us with their feedback as we continue to refine this vital communication platform. Thank you for your patience as we work out any bugs we encounter during this transition. If you come across a broken link or other issues with the site, please email [schmittv@sdoj.org](mailto:schmittv@sdoj.org), and we will work to solve the issues.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

### 5-Year Objectives:

#### Foster Student Engagement & Learning

- Develop and implement high-leverage instructional practices that address opportunity gaps and support student growth.
- Foster a climate and culture for engagement, collaboration, and belonging.



#### Connect School & Community Through Partnerships

- Prioritize transparent communication that fosters trust within the community while engaging diverse groups and strengthening family voice.
- Promote meaningful relationships and dialogue between school and community to ensure access and representation.



#### Continuously Improve Services & Operations

- Align resources in a sustainable, responsible, and flexible manner to meet the evolving needs of the district and community.



#### Cultivate Staff Growth for Leadership & Retention

- Implement ongoing research-aligned professional learning to achieve desired student outcomes.
- Foster a climate and culture for engagement, collaboration, and belonging.





# 2025-26 ONLINE REGISTRATION



East Elementary • Sullivan Elementary • West Elementary • Jefferson Middle • Jefferson High

The online registration process must be completed for ALL district students annually and will be open between **July 21st and August 3rd, 2025**.

Families with returning students will verify the data on file for their student(s) and update if necessary. The registration form is accessed online through your PowerSchool Parent Portal (*not accessible via the Mobile App*). Registration contact information is below. Please reach out if you are in need of assistance.

Para traducción al español, comuníquese con la oficina del distrito al 920-675-1305. ¡traducción al español disponible en ambos días de ayuda!

## Back-to-School Hub



For more information including registration forms, supply lists, important dates, and more, visit our [back-to-school hub online!](#)

### Returning Student Verification

This process must be completed for ALL district students annually.

#### Who completes this?

- ★ Any student who ended the previous school year in our District.
- ★ Any student who is pre-enrolled for the upcoming school year.

### New Student Enrollment

#### Who completes this?

- ★ Students who are new to the District.
- ★ Families enrolling an additional student who has not attended the District.
- ★ Any student who did not end the previous school year in SDOJ.

## Registration Help

Our team is available to assist you via phone M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Attend one of our in-person registration help days for assistance with forms, logins, Wi-Fi and Chromebook access, translation, bus contracts, food service questions, and more!

### In-Person Help Days

(in the Jefferson High School Commons)

- **Thursday, July 24:**
  - 1:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, July 29:**
  - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



REGISTRATION CONTACTS	
<b>TANYA DWYER</b> District-wide Registrar Jefferson High School (920)675-1126	<b>STEPHANIE LEATH</b> Administrative Assistant Jefferson Middle School (920)675-1305 <i>Hablo Español</i>
<b>JOSIE SIMONSON</b> Data Management Specialist District Office (920)675-1061	<b>ANDREA BONOFGLIO</b> 4K/Special Ed Admin Assistant District Office (920)675-1043



## FACILITIES PROJECT UPDATES

Thanks to the incredible support of our community in passing the November 2022 Capital Referendum, we're thrilled to share progress on our facility improvement projects. These long-awaited updates are taking shape, enhancing safety, learning, and accessibility for our students and staff.

At the high school, our **remodeled and expanded Technology Education and Agriculture spaces** are complete. These state-of-the-art facilities offer incredible hands-on learning opportunities, preparing students for future careers.

We've also made major strides in **enhancing the safety and accessibility of our elementary schools**. All buildings now have secure entrances with visitor-friendly offices and ADA-accessible restrooms. This work has also included crucial asbestos abatement. At East, we're especially excited about the installation of a new 75+ year roof, windows, and an upgraded four-pipe HVAC system, which will provide a lasting learning environment for our students. At West, students are already enjoying a modernized library, creating a hub for reading and discovery. These are just a few of the many improvements your support has made possible.

We are deeply grateful for the community's investment in our schools and are excited to see the positive impact these projects will have on our students' educational experience for years to come.

Visit the **Framing our Future Facilities** page on our new website to learn about all of this exciting work.

[www.sdoj.org/district/facilities](http://www.sdoj.org/district/facilities)



**East Elementary**  
120 S Sanborn Ave,  
Jefferson, WI 53549  
(920) 675-1400

**West Elementary**  
900 W Milwaukee St,  
Jefferson, WI 53549  
(920) 675-1200

**Sullivan Elementary**  
618 Bakertown Rd,  
Sullivan, WI 53178  
(920) 675-1500

**Middle School**  
501 S Taft Ave,  
Jefferson, WI 53549  
(920) 675-1300

**High School**  
700 W Milwaukee St,  
Jefferson, WI 53549  
(920) 675-1100



School District of Jefferson  
206 South Taft Avenue  
Jefferson, WI 53549

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## NEW TO THE DISTRICT?

**WELCOME!**



Learn about SDOJ @ [about.sdoj.org](http://about.sdoj.org)

**Enroll Today!**

Enrollment is open for the 2025-2026 school year.

[sdoj.org/district/enrollment/annual-registration](http://sdoj.org/district/enrollment/annual-registration)

**ESPAÑOL?**



¿Necesita una traducción al español de este documento?

Contacto [leaths@sdoj.org](mailto:leaths@sdoj.org) o visita  
[sdoj.org/district/district-communication](http://sdoj.org/district/district-communication)

## EMPOWERING FUTURES TOGETHER



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

No School Days - Athletic Events - Performances - And More!

#### Online Registration Open:

July 21 - August 3

**Registration Help Days:**

July 24 (1:30 - 6:30 pm)

July 29 (10:00 am - 3:00 pm)

*More Registration Information Inside*



*Scan the QR code to view all SDOJ calendars*

#### Back-to-School Open House:

**Elementary August 28** (4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

**Middle School August 28** (5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

**High School Eagle Fest September 2** (3:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.)

#### First Days of School:

**September 2:** First day of school 4K-6th & 9th (No School for grades 7-8 or 10-12)

**September 3:** First day with ALL students

#### Homecoming Football Game:

October 3 (7:00 p.m. vs Whitewater)



206 S Taft Ave, Jefferson, WI 53549 | 920-675-1000 | [www.sdoj.org](http://www.sdoj.org)

The School District of Jefferson does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including gender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability (Protected Classes) in any of its student program and activities (as defined in Wis. Stat. § 118.13). The Board does not discriminate in the employment of administrative/professional/support staff on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex (including gender status, change of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity), pregnancy, creed or religion, genetic information, handicap or disability, marital status, citizenship status, veteran status, military service (as defined in 111.32, Wis. Stats.), ancestry, arrest record, conviction record, use or non-use of lawful products off the District's premises during non-working hours, declining to attend an employer-sponsored meeting or to participate in any communication with the employer about religious matters or political matters, or any other legally protected category in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. **Policy References: po2260/ po2260.01/ po1422/po3122/po4122**