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Officers

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WINTER 2025

POLAR BEAR PRIDE

Your Connection to the Jackson Local School District



Wishing You Happy Holidays!



Superintendent Chris DiLoreto: Inspired by Our Jackson Community



Each year at this time, I am reminded of the deep appreciation I have for serving our school community as your superintendent. As we move through the 2025-2026 school year, I continue to be inspired by the generosity, hard work, and resilience shown by our students, staff, and families. The character of our Jackson Local community remains one of our district's greatest strengths.

Already this year, our students have embraced service opportunities across the district – well ahead of our Senior Service Day in May when they will invest about 2,000 hours of volunteer work into our neighborhoods, senior center, parks, and more. In a meaningful community effort, groups including Student Council, Jackson School for the Arts, Jackson Academy for Global Studies, National Honors Society, and others worked together this fall to support local families. Through fundraising and donations, they provided clothing and gifts for 110 families, touching the lives of more than 500 individuals.



Jackson High students from National Honor Society, Student Council, JAGS and JSA volunteer time to put together gifts and baskets for Jackson families for the holidays. Student Council raised more than \$30,000 from the homecoming dance to provide these items for families at the holidays.

Our Student Council raised more than \$30,000 to fund this initiative, largely through the homecoming dance. It reflects months of planning and the dedication of our school staff and students. We are grateful for their commitment to serving others.

We are also thankful for the continued support of our Jackson community. Your investment in our schools allows us to provide exceptional learning opportunities for students while maintaining responsible fiscal practices. According to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's Cupp Report, Jackson Local Schools remains the most efficient district in administrative, instructional, and overall per-pupil spending among 20 comparable districts in Ohio.

This recognition speaks directly to our commitment to stewardship. Using resources wisely, planning carefully, and prioritizing students in every decision we make, ensures that we can maintain high-quality programming, protect classroom resources, and preserve the excellence that defines Jackson Local Schools. Our educational community's partnership is admired throughout the region – and it is one of the reasons Jackson Township remains one of Northeast Ohio's most desirable places to live, work, and raise a family.

ACADEMICS, ARTS, AND ATHLETIC PERFORMANCES

As we approach the midpoint of the 2025-2026 school year, our students have already showcased remarkable achievements in academics, the arts, and athletics.

We are proud to recognize several Jackson High School students who earned

distinction through the National Merit Scholarship Program. Brenna Charlick, Warner Parks, Manav Rawal, and Josh Walter have been named National Merit Semifinalists, and Edward Bentler, Ray Cho, Ellianna Spears, and Allison Theis have been recognized as National Merit Commended Students. Their achievements reflect the important combination of hard work, academic curiosity, and the strong support of our teachers, families, and community. These honors serve as an important reminder of the excellence that continues to flourish in Jackson Local Schools.

This fall, the Jackson School for the Arts staged an extraordinary production of The Phantom of the Opera in our beautiful Jackson Center for the Performing Arts. It was a perfect way to kick off the 25th anniversary year of the Jackson School for the Arts. Playing to sold-out audiences, this show included hundreds of students – performers, musicians, technicians, designers, and crew members – who together delivered a professional-quality production. Their dedication and artistry reflect the exceptional opportunities we strive to provide through arts education in Jackson Local Schools.

Our fall athletics season brought similar success. We extend congratulations to our girls soccer, volleyball (shown below), girls tennis, and boys and girls cross country teams for earning Federal League championships. Their accomplishments reflect the dedication of our student-athletes, the guidance of our coaches, and the support of our families. We also proudly celebrate our volleyball team for securing another district final championship and achieving an impressive Elite Eight finish. Their postseason run embodies the perseverance and excellence we see across our programs. Our boys and girls cross country teams delivered top 20 finishes at the state meet.



Members of the Jackson High School volleyball team meet one last time after finishing as runners-up in the Regional Finals (Elite Eight) to end the fall sports season.

As our winter sports season progresses – including boys and girls basketball, boys and girls bowling, boys and girls swimming and diving, wheelchair basketball, wrestling, gymnastics, and competitive cheer – we look forward to cheering on our Polar Bears in the months ahead.

In closing, I extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who contributes to making Jackson Local Schools a place where students thrive – our families, staff, and community partners. Thank you for your continued support. Together, we carry forward a tradition of excellence, opportunity, and Polar Bear Pride in Jackson Local Schools.

SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS
PRESIDENT
OUR STUDENT LEADERS

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026



SHIVAM PATEL

WHAT MAKES JHS SPECIAL?

Because of the multitude of opportunities available here. Students can explore their interests through academics, extracurriculars, and career techs. This diversity cultivates a unique body of knowledge found only at JHS, allowing every person to not only be exposed to others with the same passion but also to people who offer different perspectives. That, combined, can create a generation prepared to change the future.

FAMILY

My parents are Sejal and Danny Patel. I have two older sisters, Riddhi and Maya Patel.

SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS
VICE PRESIDENT
OUR STUDENT LEADERS

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026



LAUREL
BALCOM

WHAT MAKES JHS SPECIAL?

My favorite thing about JHS is the number of opportunities available to students. No matter the path a student is looking towards, there's always a plethora of resources and support within reach.

FAMILY

Mom: Jen Balcom
Dad: Joel Balcom
Siblings: Ella, Avery, and Sophie Balcom



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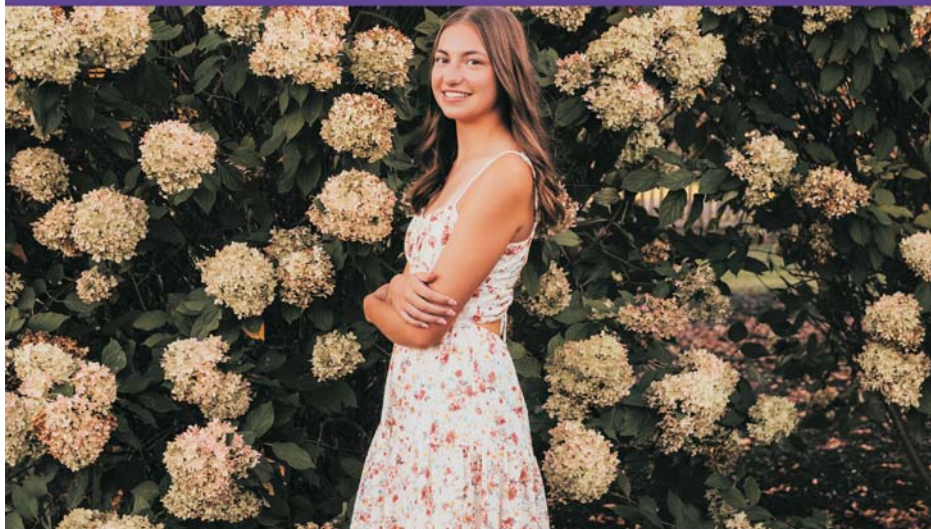
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OUR STUDENT LEADERS

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026



ALEXIS GIBBINS

WHAT MAKES JHS SPECIAL?

The people — the bonds I have formed and the encouragement I have received from my friends, teachers, and coaches — have helped me find myself and an overall sense of belonging. Their support and the vast opportunities available provide something for everyone, the ability to make the most of it, and to graduate ready for a new challenge.

FAMILY

My parents are Heather and Kurt Gibbins. I have a younger brother, Zac, a cat, Buckeye, and a dog, Chase.

SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS
SECRETARY
OUR STUDENT LEADERS

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026



EVE BALDERSON

WHAT MAKES JHS SPECIAL?

The environment and relationships our staff easily create with our students. Staff members here make it such a welcoming place for all students, ensuring their safety and support. There are so many opportunities for everyone to get to know each other and build that bond. The relationships built here are special and life-changing to all students in our building.

FAMILY

My parents are Beau and Jill Balderson. I have a younger sister, Chloe, who is a junior, and a younger brother, Brooks, who is in 6th grade.

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SECRETARY
OUR STUDENT LEADERS

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026



VALERIE
ROBERTS

WHAT MAKES JHS SPECIAL?

JHS is special because everyone has a place. No one is truly alone, and everyone can find an activity they enjoy. There is truly an opportunity for everyone to be an active participant and be engaged with their school community. Whether you are an athlete or a chess player, there is an outlet for you to share your talents.

FAMILY

My mom is Kim Roberts. I have a brother Tyler and two dogs, Tiger and Peanut.

SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS
TREASURER
OUR STUDENT LEADERS

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026



JAMESON HULL

WHAT MAKES JHS SPECIAL?

What makes it extraordinarily special is everyone is a Polar Bear. This year, I have seen a dramatic increase in participation in the Spirit Weeks. People are putting aside the friend group and niches and becoming a full-fledged Polar Bear. Being part of a school that takes school spirit seriously and allows the Student Council to do what it takes to increase it is a major gift.

FAMILY

Mom Gretchen, older brother Carter, twin brother Dylan and younger brother Blake as well as our dog Lola Jayne.



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Jackson Local scores in the top 10% of Ohio schools' academic achievement?



What We Have Done So Far...





Did You Know ...

Jackson High School has won state championships in boys basketball (2010, 2017), baseball (2014, 2017), and boys cross country (2023)



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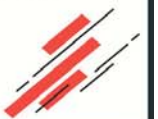
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found. Many of these children are not visible because they may not function in the community's mainstream, and many are preschoolers. Parents may not realize that programs and services are available through their school district or from agencies in their community.

If you are aware of a child who may need a special education program or services, contact Kathy Brand, Jackson Local School District's Special Programs Director, with any questions you may have regarding this notice at 330-830-8006

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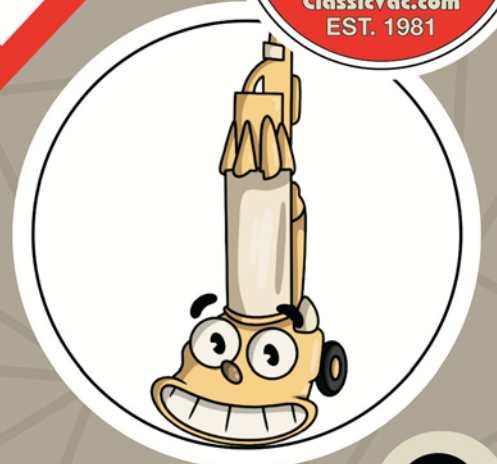
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