

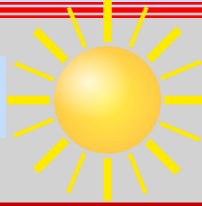
J.B. Martin Middle School

Principal ~ Steven Gutterrez Asst. Principals ~ Tricia Growl, Aubrey Hager, Chase Petit

May 2026



Principal's Message:



434 South Street
Paradis, La. 70080
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<http://www.stcharles.k12.la.us>

It is hard to believe that the 2025-2026 school year is coming to a close. Our students have had such a great year. Our 8th graders have been through three years in middle school, and we feel confident that their hard work has prepared them for high school and their future. There is a lot to be proud of for all of our students and staff.

As we end the year, we want our students to finish strong with their classes as well as the LEAP test. LEAP testing will take place May 4-8. Please ensure that your child arrives to school on time each day, is well rested with getting a good night's sleep, and is not checked out early.

As we wrap up the school year, I do want to take some time to thank all of our students, staff, and families for the past 10 years that I have had the privilege to serve as the principal at J.B. Martin Middle School. It has been an absolute honor to be able to serve such great kids and staff. I know JBM will be in great hands with Mr. Sean Dwyer coming on board as principal.

Sincerely,
Steven Gutterrez
Principal
J. B. Martin Middle School

VISION

JB Martin Middle School guarantees all students are working on or above grade level while promoting social-emotional well-being and fostering a culture of excellence, respect, dignity, and inclusion for all.

J.B.M. Mission Statement

Ensuring high levels of achievement for ALL

PARENT'S NEED TO KNOW . . .

Important Dates:

May 1 - JBM Choir Concert 6pm @ LPAC

May 4-8 – LEAP Testing Week

May 11-15 – Student Appreciation Week

May 15 – 8th Grade Day

May 19 – JBM Awards Ceremony 8:30am

AAA awards at 8:30am

Beta Inductions at 10:30am

May 20 – JBM End of the Year Fest

May 21 – Talent Show

May 21 – Last Day of School for Students

HAPPY SUMMER!



LIBRARY CLOSES

In an effort to collect all books before the end of the year, the library will no longer be checking out books. Please begin to return any books that are checked out and take care of any fines that you may owe. It's been a great year for reading, and we appreciate all of our patrons.



FRIDAY A/B SCHEDULE

May 1 – B-Day

May 8 – A-Day

May 15 – B-Day

District Credo

Our Core Business...

Teaching and Learning

Our Focus...

Continuous Improvement

Our Commitment...

Learning for Life

www.stcharles.k12.la.us

Teams, Administrators and Counselors

Here at JBM, we practice Teaming, where scholars at each grade level are placed on a Team. 6th Grade is split between Teams 1 and 2, 7th Grade between Teams 3 and 4, and 8th grade between Teams 5 and 6. Every scholar on a Team attends classes with that core group of teachers on the Team (ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies).

6th Grade = Tiffany Matthews (counselor) and Aubrey Hager (Assistant Principal)

7th Grade = Corinne Heffron (counselor) and Tricia Grawl (Assistant Principal)

8th Grade = Jenny Vial (counselor) and Chase Petit (Assistant Principal)

If you have any questions regarding your child, don't hesitate to contact one of these individuals or your child's teacher.

JBM Homepage

[To view the J.B. Martin Homepage please click this link](#)

Direct Links to grade level pages

6th Grade - [6th Grade Family Information Guide](#)

7th Grade - [7th Grade Family Information Guide](#)

8th Grade - [8th Grade Family Information Guide](#)

WHAT TO KNOW: SCHOOL MILLAGE RENEWAL ELECTION

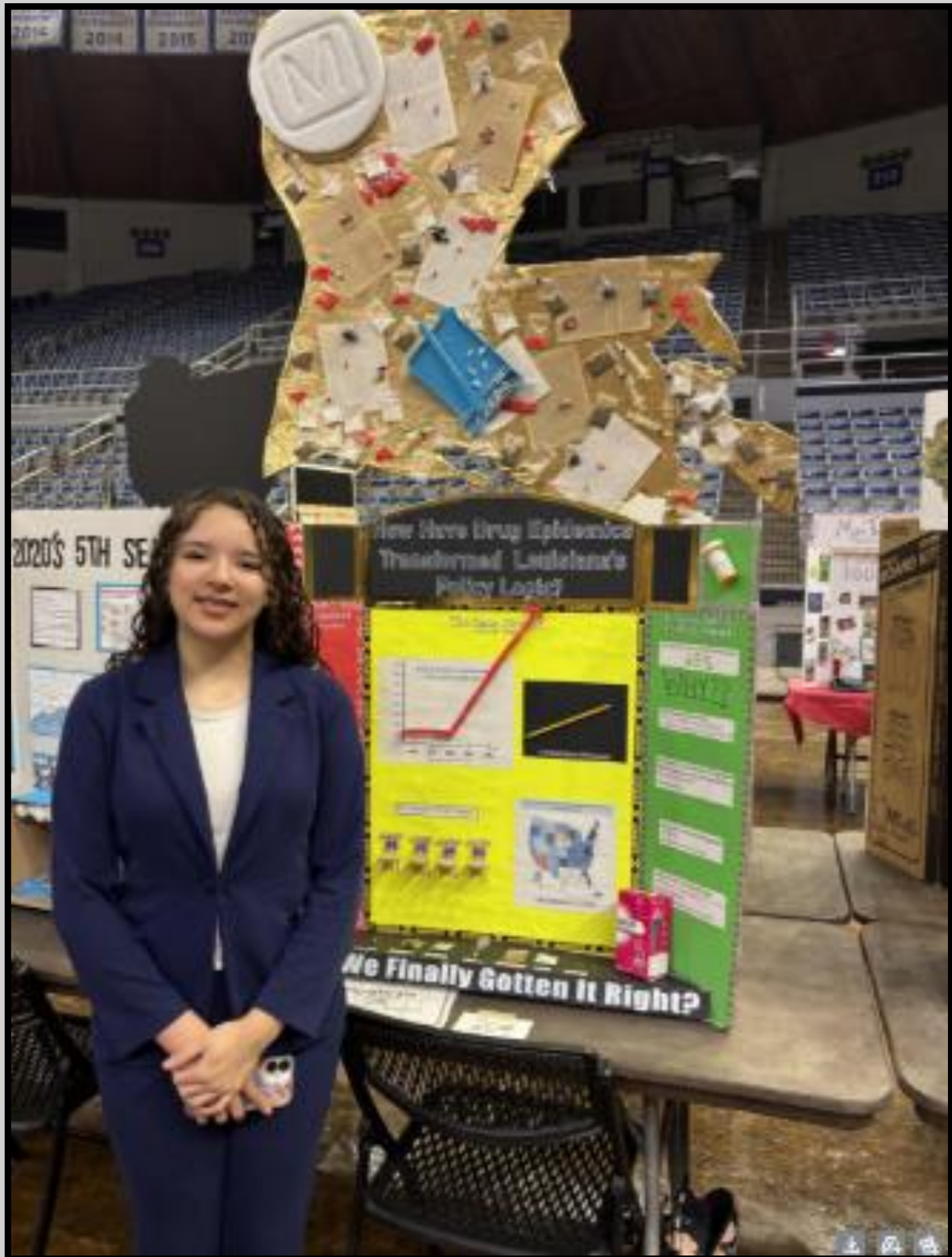
On May 16, voters in St. Charles Parish will consider renewing two existing school system millages. These are not new taxes, just a continuation of current funding that supports our local public schools. Notably, one of the renewals is proposed at a lower maximum rate than what is currently authorized.

These millages make up a significant portion of the district's budget (36%) and help pay for essential needs like teacher salaries, classroom resources, student programs, school safety, technology, and facility upkeep. In short, they help ensure students continue learning in safe, modern environments with strong academic opportunities and highly qualified educators.

Renewing this funding is key to maintaining the quality of education families expect and the success the district has achieved. For more information about the millages and what's on the ballot, visit wearescpss.org/renewals.

SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR WINNER

A big Cougar congratulations to Kenidee Miranda for placing 2nd in the State Social Studies Fair in the category of Louisiana History!!



Summer Programs 2026

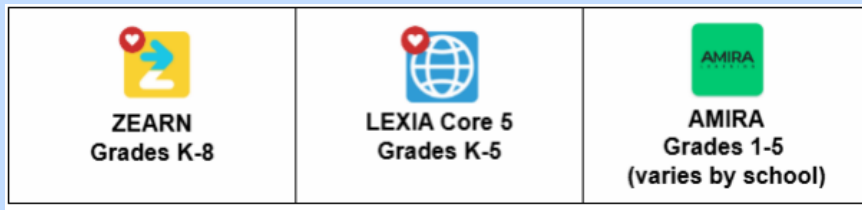
Grades 6-8:

St. Charles Parish Public Schools remain focused on ensuring every child is intentionally and strategically prepared for academic success.

- Students who were enrolled in Literacy Intervention using the Soliday system are encouraged to access Lexia Powerup and/or Amira throughout the summer to reinforce and strengthen skills. Please do not hesitate to reach out to an administrator at the school site with any questions.

How To Access Instructional Materials

1. Go to **Clever.com/in/SCPPS** This image will appear:
2. Click the “Log in with Google” button.
3. Enter the student’s school issued username and password.
4. Icons for all of the products the student has access to will be displayed.



Please do not hesitate to reach out to an administrator at the school site with any questions.

Promotion and Summer School

At the end of each school year, student promotion to the next grade is determined in accordance with the requirements of the St. Charles Parish Pupil Progression Plan (PPP). Students must pass Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies, and meet attendance requirements in order to pass for the year. For students who do not meet the PPP requirements, summer remediation or repeating the grade level may be required.

→ WHERE TO START ←

WHAT TO SAY WHEN SOMEONE TELLS YOU THEY'RE FINE, BUT THEY'RE NOT

Fine. Okay. Alright. We've all had someone tell us they were one of those things and known that it couldn't be further from the truth. Maybe it was the look on their face, the tone of their voice, or their body language that gave them away – or maybe you've noticed that they have been acting differently lately. Distress can show up in many ways.

Whether someone thinks they are doing a good job of masking their emotions, or they are obviously being sarcastic when they say that they're alright, it's normal to want to help in some way. While what you say will likely be different depending on how well you know the person, here are some ideas for things to say to create an environment that encourages someone to open up about what they're going through.

- "Are you sure? If you want to talk, let me know."
- "It seems like something is bothering you. I'm here to listen if you want to share."
- "I've been 'fine' before – I'm here if you want to talk about it."
- "Do you want to (get coffee/go to lunch/grab a bite/take a walk) later? I feel like we have a lot to catch up on."
- "That wasn't very convincing – I'm here if you want to chat."



SOMEONE IS OPENING UP TO YOU. NOW WHAT?

DO...

- Listen. Really listening means actively paying attention to the person who is speaking and resisting the urge to talk about personal experiences unless asked. This is hard for everyone, but practice helps!
- Ask if they've thought about what they might need to feel better. If they haven't, offer to support, listen, and talk it out with them. If they have, support them in following through with their needs.
- Make sure to keep things confidential, unless it is life threatening.
- Normalize. Assure the person you're talking to that having a mental health concern is common, and there are lots of resources to help them feel better.
- Prepare to follow up. It takes courage for someone to speak up about what is bothering them. Exchange contact information (if you don't have it already) and touch base in a few days to see how the person is feeling and if there is anything you can do to help. You may want to research some resources like websites, hotlines, text lines, and community organizations so you can be prepared to offer them if it seems appropriate.

DON'T...

- Tell them, "You shouldn't think that way." It can be difficult to have conversations about mental health concerns, and they may have worried about it for some time before talking to you.
- Use the word "crazy."
- Tell someone what they SHOULD do; instead, ask what they want you to help them with.
- Assume that they want your advice. Many times, people just want someone else to listen to them and help them feel less alone.
- Make comparisons. Telling someone "it could be worse" minimizes their experience and invalidates their feelings.
- Take on trying to fix all the person's problems. Offer help where appropriate, but don't get into a trap of trying to solve the problem, especially if it seems like a professional should be involved.

Visit mhanational.org for additional information and resources about how to support someone who is struggling with their mental health.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or chat at 988lifeline.org. You can also reach Crisis Text Line by texting HELLO to 741741.