

JEFFERSON



TOWNSHIP

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

2026 - 2027

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE

PRINCIPAL

Ms. Lauren Donohue

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dr. Andrea Padelsky

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Mr. Sirajj Ziyad



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER. EVERY DAY. EVERY CLASS. EVERY **FALCON**.



BY THE NUMBERS



847
STUDENTS



143
STAFF MEMBERS



5
GRADE LEVELS



1
TEAM

One Community. Limitless Potential.



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER. EVERY DAY. EVERY CLASS. EVERY **FALCON**.



NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Amanda Abbiate-Tirado *Spanish*



Anthony Argondizzo *6-8 Art*



Ralph Argondizzo *5th Grade*



Alison Chaplin *Special Education*



Zachary DaSilva *Special Education*



Elizabeth Garo *4 & 5 Art*



MacKenzie Oliver *School Counselor*



Becky Petrask *Secretary*



Keith Sehring *Mathematics*



Brooke Szarzynski *Special Education*



WELCOME TO OUR FLOCK

J T I S

ONE COMMUNITY | LIMITLESS POTENTIAL



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OUR VISION

JTIS MISSION STATEMENT

Jefferson Township Intermediate School strives to provide our students with relevant, rigorous, and diverse learning opportunities aimed at promoting high standards of personal and academic growth. Students are regarded as stewards of the school and are accountable in advocating for a positive school environment.

JTIS VISION STATEMENT

Jefferson Township Intermediate School will provide a safe, inclusive, stigma-free learning environment that cultivates high levels of academic achievement, inspires students to become positive and productive citizens, and encourages students to seek personal fulfillment.



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2026–2027 BUILDING LEVEL GOALS

Driving academic rigor, student regulation, and positive culture



GOAL 1

SOAR Framework & Intervention Plans

 Integrate the 5 tenets of the **SOAR Framework** into Tier 2 and Tier 3 NJTSS intervention plans.

 Target student goals for dysregulation, oppositional behaviors, and work refusal.

 Provide actionable teacher training for effective classroom-level intervention strategies.

GOAL 2

Restorative Practices School-Wide

 Expand professional learning on **Restorative Practices** across classrooms and building initiatives.

 Proactively repair harm observed from peer conflicts and HIB incidents.

 Cultivate an inclusive environment supporting emotional regulation and accountability.

GOAL 3

Standards-Based Common Assessments

 Develop **common summative assessments** targeted specifically to 4th and 5th grade teams.

 Unify instructional standards across consolidated elementary grades.

 Ensure a guaranteed and viable curriculum through calibrated teacher collaboration and assessment.



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Parental Feedback from 2025-2026



Top Improvement Priorities

4th Grade

- Offering Additional/Alternative **Recess Activities**
- **Improving Communication** Regarding School Logistics
- Expanding **Academic & Extracurricular Opportunities**
- Adding Grade-Level **Celebrations & Assemblies**
- Increasing **Recess Frequency / Unstructured Breaks**

5th Grade

- Expanding **Academic & Extracurricular Opportunities**
- **Improving Communication** Regarding School Logistics
- Offering Additional/Alternative **Recess Activities**
- Increasing **Recess Frequency / Unstructured Breaks**
- Adding Grade-Level **Celebrations & Assemblies**

Upper Grades

- More **Academic Support Opportunities**
- More Grade-Level **Social Events**
- Expanding **Extracurricular Offerings**
- Increasing **Opportunities for Student Leadership**



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7TH & 8TH GRADE BELL SCHEDULE

TIME	7 TH GRADE	8 TH GRADE
7:20 – 7:26	Homeroom	Homeroom
7:26 – 8:15	Period 1 (ELA)	Period 1
8:15 – 9:04	Period 2 (ELA)	Period 2
9:04 – 9:53	Period 3	Period 3
9:53 – 10:42	Period 4	Period 4
10:42 – 11:32	Lunch 10:42 – 11:07 Academic 11:07 – 11:32	Academic 10:42 – 11:07 Lunch 11:07 – 11:32
11:32 – 12:21	Period 6	Period 6
12:21 – 1:10	Period 7	Period 7
1:10 – 1:59	Period 8	Period 8
1:59 – 2:00	PM Homeroom	PM Homeroom



7TH & 8TH GRADE ARE DE-TEAMED AND DEPARTMENTALIZED.

Students have different teachers for each subject area.



7TH GRADE GET TWO BLOCKS OF ELA DAILY.

Period 1 and Period 2 are both dedicated to Language Arts.



Seventh and eighth grade students have **five core academic courses**: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and World Language.



Students in eighth grade take a full year of either **Spanish** or **French**.

Seventh grade students receive **Spanish** instruction one period per week.



Seventh and eighth grade students can choose **two half-year** elective courses or **one full-year** elective course.

HALF-YEAR ELECTIVES

- Art
- Forensics
- Computer Applications
- STEM
- Robotics
- Chorus

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES

- Band
- Chorus



A–B–C–D SCHEDULE ROTATION

Classes rotate on a 4-day cycle: **A, B, C, D**.

This means students have the same schedule each day, but their classes change based on the day (A, B, C, or D).



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6TH GRADE OVERVIEW

Grade 6

Homeroom: 8:05 - 8:12

8:12-8:57 Block 1

8:57-9:42 Block 2

9:42-10:27 Block 3

10:27-11:12 Block 4

11:12-11:57 Block 5

11:57-1:15 Block 6
Enrich 11:57-12:25
Lunch 12:25-12:50
W.I.N. 12:50-1:15

1:15-2:00 Block 7

2:00-2:45 Block 8



CORE ACADEMIC TEAMS

Sixth grade students are assigned to **core academic teams** (**Blue** or **Gold**) where they receive instruction in Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies.



4-DAY ROTATING SCHEDULE (A-B-C-D)

Students will follow a different daily schedule for each of the four days (**A**, **B**, **C**, **D**). However, the bell schedule (class start and end times) remains the same each day.



MARKING PERIOD ROTATIONS

Each marking period, sixth grade students will rotate through one of the following courses: **Art**, **Financial Literacy**, **Spanish** and **STEM**.



W.I.N. AND ENRICHMENT

Each day, students will participate in W.I.N. and Enrichment.

Students will use each of these blocks of time for enrichment activities or additional support.



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5TH GRADE OVERVIEW

Grade 5

Homeroom: 8:05 - 8:12

8:12-8:57 Block 1

8:57-9:42 Block 2

9:42-10:27 Block 3

10:27-11:12 Block 4

11:12-12:30 Block 5
Recess/FF 11:12-11:35
Lunch 11:35-12:00
W.I.N./Recess 12:00-12:30

12:30-1:15 Block 6

1:15-2:00 Block 7

2:00-2:45 Block 8



ACADEMIC BLOCKS

Fifth grade students have academic blocks over a four-day schedule (A, B, C, D) with **two-teacher teams**. Academic areas of study include English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science.



SPECIALS ROTATION

Students will rotate through **Music, Art, Spanish and Physical Education**.



FALCON FITNESS OR W.I.N. TIME

Each day, students will participate in either **Falcon Fitness** or **W.I.N.** ("What I Need"). W.I.N. is for **personalized support or enrichment** and explicitly designated for and tailored to each student's needs and interests.



A-B-C-D SCHEDULE ROTATION

Classes rotate on a 4-day cycle: **A, B, C, D**. A student's schedule is different on each of the four days, but the daily bell schedule (class start and end times) remains the same.



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4TH GRADE OVERVIEW



Grade 4

Homeroom: 8:05 - 8:12

8:12-8:57

Block 1

8:57-9:42

Block 2

9:42-10:27

Block 3

10:27-11:12

Block 4

11:12-11:57

Block 5

11:57-1:15

Lunch 12:00-12:25

W.I.N. 12:25-12:50

Recess 12:50-1:15

Block 6

1:15-2:00

Block 7

2:00-2:45

Block 8



FOURTH GRADE ACADEMIC BLOCKS

Fourth grade students complete academic blocks over a four-day schedule (A, B, C, D) to include English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science with a **single teacher**.



SPECIALS ROTATION

Students will rotate through blocks of **Music, Art, Spanish and Physical Education**.



W.I.N. TIME ("WHAT I NEED")

Each day, students will participate in W.I.N. ("What I Need"). This time is for **personalized support or enrichment** and explicitly designated for and tailored to each student's needs and interests.



A-B-C-D SCHEDULE ROTATION

Classes rotate on a 4-day cycle: **A, B, C, D**. A student's specific academic, specials, and W.I.N. time activities will be different on each of these 4 days. However, the overall daily bell schedule (class periods and start/end times) remains unchanged day to day.



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What's New?

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

5TH GRADE FALCON FITNESS

20 MINUTES DURING W.I.N.

Falcon Fitness is a 20-minute period during W.I.N. in the gym with our Physical Education teachers. It's your time to move, have fun, and build a healthier you!

20 MINUTES DURING W.I.N.
A quick, energizing break to get moving!

IN THE GYM
Led by our Physical Education teachers.

STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES
Safe, fun, and engaging activities for everyone.

FOCUS ON FITNESS & WELLNESS
Build strength, improve endurance, and support a healthy lifestyle.

BE YOUR BEST!
Develop habits that help you feel good, stay healthy, and perform your best every day.

BE ACTIVE. BE STRONG. BE A FALCON!

FALCONS

★ **GET MOVING. HAVE FUN. BE YOUR BEST.** ★

WELCOME TO THE HOUSE SYSTEM!

A vertical community for Grades 4-8.

OUR FALCON HOUSE SYSTEM.

BLUE PRIDE

GOLD PRIDE

JTOWN LEGENDS

SOARING FALCONS

THE FALCON NEST

FALCON FAMILY

REWARDS FOR WINNING HOUSE:

- PIZZA PARTY
- GAME DAY
- CAFETERIA COUPONS

HOW TO EARN POINTS:

- ATTENDANCE
- GRADES
- BEHAVIOR
- RECOGNITIONS

RECESS AT JTIS

Play. Connect. Recharge.

Recess is an important part of the school day!

4TH GRADE RECESS
25 minutes of recess daily
Based on directly after W.I.N. - giving discretion about increased time.

5TH GRADE RECESS
23 minutes on days paired with Falcon Fitness
30 minutes on all other days

FUN GAMES FOR THE BLACKTOP
New games to keep everyone active, engaged, and having fun!

- CHECKERS
- TARGET GAMES
- 4-SQUARE

MORE EQUIPMENT
We're adding more balls, jump ropes, hula hoops, and other fun equipment for everyone to enjoy!

SMARTPASS STANDARD HALL PASS

by Raptor Technologies

A SAFER, SMARTER WAY TO MANAGE MOVEMENT IN OUR SCHOOL

WHAT IS STANDARD HALL PASS?
Standard Hall Pass is a digital hall pass system within the Raptor platform that allows staff to manage student movement in real time.

It increases safety, accountability, and instructional time by creating a secure and efficient process for hall passes and student whereabouts.

HOW IT WORKS

- STAFF ISSUE**
Teachers or staff quickly create a digital hall pass for a student from any device.
- STUDENT USES PASS**
The student shows their pass and proceeds to their destination.
- DESTINATION CHECK-IN**
The student checks in at their destination by scanning a QR code or using a kiosk.
- REAL-TIME VISIBILITY**
Staff have real-time visibility into where students are and for how long.
- RETURN & CHECK-OUT**
The student checks out when returning, closing the loop and updating records automatically.

THE BENEFITS

- ENHANCED SAFETY**
Know where students are in real time and reduce unauthorized or unsupervised movement.
- INCREASED ACCOUNTABILITY**
Digital records provide transparency and help staff follow up when needed.
- IMPROVED EFFICIENCY**
Less time managing paper passes means more time focused on teaching and learning.
- SUPPORTS SCHOOL WIDE INITIATIVES**
Aligns with PBIS, safety protocols, and our commitment to a positive school climate.
- DATA & INSIGHTS**
Access reports to identify patterns, improve practices, and support decision making.
- PEACE OF MIND**
Parents and staff can feel confident knowing we're prioritizing student safety and well-being.

Together, we're creating a secure, organized and supportive learning environment for all students.

RAPTOR TECHNOLOGIES **SmartPass** Standard Hall Pass

FRESH SPACES

BRIGHTER DAYS!



PLAY
LEARN
GROW
TOGETHER



Recess
Happier
Healthier
Stronger



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER. EVERY DAY. EVERY CLASS. EVERY **FALCON**.

SAME SPACES

BRIGHTER OPPORTUNITIES



A PLACE
TO THINK
TO GROW
TO BELONG



OUR
SCHOOL.
OUR
COMMUNITY.
OUR
FALCONS.



MORE
THAN A
PLAYGROUND



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER. EVERY DAY. EVERY CLASS. EVERY **FALCON**.



PLAY TODAY

BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

STRONGER
FRIENDSHIPS
BRIGHTER DAYS



OUR
SCHOOL.
OUR
COMMUNITY.
OUR
FALCONS.



CREATIVE MINDS
KINDER HEARTS
BRIGHTER FUTURES



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER. EVERY DAY. EVERY CLASS. EVERY FALCON.



SAME SPACES

BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

CONNECTING
FRIENDS
BUILDING
COMMUNITY



OUR
SCHOOL.
OUR
COMMUNITY.
OUR
FALCONS.

NEW
OPPORTUNITIES
SAME GREAT
FALCONS



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER. EVERY DAY. EVERY CLASS. EVERY FALCON.





Jefferson Township Intermediate School Responsive Discipline Matrix



Yellow Behaviors Behaviors that should be addressed in the classroom	Orange Behaviors Behaviors that require communication with parents, counselors, CST and/or administration but should be addressed in the classroom	Red Behaviors Behaviors that are an immediate referral to assistant principal and/or principal
Minor Behavioral Infractions: → Low-level disruption or calling out → Being unprepared for class → Refusal to follow initial directions → Off-task behavior → Minor peer conflict ♦ Minor arguments or disagreements that do not involve any physical incident → Mild disrespect (tone, eye-rolling)	Moderate Behavioral Infractions: → Multiple or chronic yellow behaviors → Refusal or non-aggressive defiance → Moderate peer conflict (yelling, light physical contact) → Disruptions impacting the learning environment → Non-threatening inappropriate language → Leaving class without permission	Major Behavioral Infractions: → Multiple or chronic orange behaviors → Physical aggression or altercation → Intentional destruction of property → HIB/Bullying behaviors → Leaving school grounds → Threat to harm self or others (words, writings, drawings) → Stealing → Drug possession/use
Consequences: ☐ Nonverbal cues and proximity ☐ Private redirection and clarification ☐ Offer choices and problem-solve with student(s) ☐ Facilitate restorative conversations when appropriate ☐ Parent/Guardian communication	Consequences: ☐ Restorative conversations or mediation with school counselor, case manager or administration ☐ Temporary removal from activity ☐ Documentation of patterns and interventions ☐ Recess or lunch detention(s) ☐ After school detention(s) ☐ Documented parent/guardian communication	Consequences: ☐ Determined by administration



COMMUNICATION *at JTIS*

MULTIPLE WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED!



SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook for:

- School news & updates
- Event highlights
- Student & staff shout-outs
- Important reminders
- A look inside JTIS!

*Like. Follow.
Stay Connected!*



PARENT GOOGLE SITE

Your go-to hub for important information:

- School calendars
- Bell schedules
- Forms & documents
- Programs & resources
- Announcements

*Easy to find.
Easy to use.
Everything in one place!*



PARENT PORTAL

Stay informed with real-time access to:

- Attendance
- Grades
- Report Cards
- Student Schedules
- Important Alerts

*Log in regularly
to stay up to date!*



BLACKBOARD EMAILS & TEXTS

Receive important school communications directly to your inbox and phone:

- Urgent Alerts
- School Updates
- Event Reminders
- Emergency Notices

*Please be sure your
contact information
is up to date.*



GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Teachers use Google Classroom to:

- Share assignments
- Post materials & resources
- Communicate with students & families
- Provide feedback

*Check regularly and
turn on notifications!*



OTHER WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

We also communicate through:

- Phone Calls
- Classroom Newsletters
- School Website
- School Events
- And more!

*We're better
together!*



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NOTEWORTHY NEWS

FROM JTIS



7th Grade Stokes Trip



EDP Sign Ups



Matilda Jr



Chorus and Band



Gateways and Enrichment



Classroom Projects and Initiatives



**REAL LEARNING
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**



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THANK YOU!

FOR BEING PART OF OUR JTIS COMMUNITY!



ANY QUESTIONS?

Please refer to Principal Donohue.
Email: ldonohue@jefftwp.org

CONNECT WITH US!



@jefftwpintermediateschool

FOLLOW. LIKE. BE PART
OF OUR STORY!



Jefferson Township
Intermediate School

STAY CONNECTED.
SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING!



JTIS Parent-Student
Information Site
<https://sites.google.com/jefftwp.org/jtis2627/home>

EVERYTHING YOU NEED.
ALL IN ONE PLACE!



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