



Welcome Back Cats!

Newsletter
2019 - 2020 Issue 1

The 2019-20 school year is off and running and we have had a great start! We have a lot to celebrate and look forward to this year.

Our enrollment continues to be healthy. In a time when rural schools are seeing declining enrollment, Janesville has seen unprecedented growth in the past several years. When we certify our enrollment in the coming days we believe we will have 396.2 students. What is more exciting is what is happening in our early childhood. We began the school year with 67 preschoolers, which is 18 more than last year! Our total first day enrollment (pk-12) this year was 8 students higher than the first day of school in 2018-19.

The beginning of the school year marks the half way point of our construction project. While construction has caused disruption, we are excited at what our campus will look like by the end of the school year.

Area A, the elementary classrooms, are completed and being used by 2nd-3rd graders. There are some cosmetic things to the exterior that need to be completed, but the majority of the work is complete. The teachers have commented several times about how nice these new spaces are.

Area B, the middle school and preschool classrooms, will be completed by Christmas and ready for use after break. This will include three new middle school rooms and

two new preschool rooms.

Area C, the high school rooms and gym, will be complete in the spring. The weather has not been kind to area C which has delayed the completion date somewhat. However, we are able to see the outlines of the space, and are excited about what these additions will provide for our district once they are complete.



We are looking forward to another great year! Go Cats!

BJ Meaney
Superintendent/High School Principal

Dunkin' Donut Dynamic Student Awards

On a quarterly basis, Janesville CSD's secondary teachers will be nominating secondary students they "catch being good." Teachers will nominate students who are doing an exemplary job of modeling one of the four character strengths below:

- RESPECT
- EFFORT
- ATTITUDE
- PREPARATION

Award recipients and their parents, along with nominating teachers, will then be invited to attend an informal breakfast in their honor. Janesville CSD is grateful for the generosity and

support of the Cedar Falls Dunkin' Donuts. DD is donating donuts and coffee for these events. This is a project that is coordinated by the Janesville MS Student Lighthouse Team. LH Team members will assist as parent escorts, greeters, servers, and photographers.



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JANESVILLE CSD CHARACTER GROWTH CARD

*"Intelligence plus character. That is the goal of true education."
-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

| STRENGTH | DEFINITION, DO's & DON'Ts |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Attitude</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Our thoughts, feelings, & behaviors that reflect our state of mind. ◇ Be proactive. Take responsibility and focus on things you control. ◇ Have a growth mindset believing that with effort your future improves. ◇ Show enthusiasm & be an active participant. Inspire others with your mindset, energy, & behaviors. Display appropriate body language (sit up straight, no sleeping in class) ◇ Show an attitude of gratitude. Be kind to your peers and adults. ◇ Be positive & friendly. ◇ Understand that your attitude affects your altitude or what you're capable of achieving in life. |
| <p>Preparation</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Beginning with the end in mind, being on time, turning work in on time, attending, ready to learn. ◇ Coming to class prepared: notebook, writing utensils, textbook, folder for each class, computer charged. ◇ Utilize class time efficiently, & study outside class. BE RESPONSIBLE, line up work that you miss when gone (absence, WSR class, activity, etc). ◇ Showing grit by trying very hard when experiencing difficulty or failure. ◇ Using a planner to ensure getting things done by deadlines. |
| <p>Effort</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Being the best you can be. Working hard & producing quality work. ◇ Putting first things first. Having self-control. ◇ Being on task/paying attention. Put your phone away & avoid computer distractions, and display on-task behaviors. Focus & take notes. ◇ Get to work right away rather than procrastinating. ◇ Set learning goals for each class and work hard to achieve them. ◇ Finish what you start. Don't be lazy. ◇ Be curious and ask questions to clarify & deepen your understanding. |
| <p>Respect</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Treat your classmates, teachers, and property the way you want to be treated. Be polite to adults and peers. Be cooperative. ◇ Keep your temper in check and remain calm even when criticized/provoked. ◇ Display effective listening skills: eyes on speaker, voice off, hands/feet still, sit up straight. ◇ Seek first to understand, then to be understood. Respect the feelings of others and know when & how to include others. Think Win/Win. ◇ Respect class/school rules: hoodie down, no hats, phones away, no swearing. Use positive manners: please, thank you, excuse me, etc. |

Character Growth

WORK HARD • BE NICE

In a nutshell, these four words may sum up what we expect from our Janesville students. We believe that in order for our students to be successful, they need both a strong academic foundation and well-developed character strengths. In order to consistently emphasize & monitor the important values

that will allow our students to be successful, we have developed a Character Growth Card.

The Janesville Character Growth Card will provide an opportunity for teachers, parents, and students to have meaningful conversations around the development of character. We want to celebrate students who consistently do the right things and

help all students improve their character strengths in order to be the best they can be. The Janesville CSD model will focus on 4 main areas: Attitude, Effort, Preparation, & Respect. The behaviors provide a meaningful window into an individual's character and a roadmap for character growth – both for students as well as their teachers.



Students will earn character growth marks every 9 weeks that will appear on their report cards and transcripts. Similar to a four-point letter grade scale, Janesville will use the following 4-point scale to assess students' character growth in the areas of attitude, effort, preparation, & respect.

4 = DISTINGUISHED (91-100% of the time)

3 = PROFICIENT (67-90% of the time)

2 = DEVELOPING (34-66% of the time)

1 = EMERGING (0-33% of the time)

We are focusing on character strengths vs. character traits because a character trait is often seen as set in stone. Character strengths, on the other hand, can be nurtured and developed. We believe character strengths can be developed over time through practice and positive feedback. As parents, your role is crucial. Although academics are important, please help support our efforts by emphasizing the "other side" of the report card. As the list to the right clearly shows, there is no excuse to not WORK HARD & BE NICE!

10 THINGS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT

- ◇ Being on time
- ◇ Work Ethic
- ◇ Effort
- ◇ Being Coachable
- ◇ Body Language
- ◇ Doing Extra
- ◇ Energy
- ◇ Attitude
- ◇ Passion
- ◇ Being Prepared

Grow • Serve • Inspire

Janesville CSD has chosen to follow The Leader in Me program because we believe everyone has the ability to be a leader. Each person has unique strengths and can make a contribution in and out of school by sharing those strengths. Being a leader is not about being popular or holding a position; it's about using your strengths and encouraging others to use theirs!

The 7 Habits are the road map to become a leader. They are life skills you can use on the playground, in sports, with friends, at school, at home, and in your future. Each of the 7 Habits will help you grow, serve, and inspire today, tomorrow, and as an adult.

The 7 Habits

1. BE PROACTIVE

I am in charge of myself and am in control of my actions, attitudes, and moods. I am a responsible person even when no one is watching.

2. BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND

I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference as I am an important part of my learning community.

3. PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST

I work first, then play. I set priorities, make

a schedule, stay organized, and achieve my goals. I contribute to my school's mission and vision.

4. THINK WIN-WIN

I realize everyone can win. I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I look for ways to be a good citizen.

5. SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND, THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD

I listen to other people's ideas and feelings before I talk. I try to see things from their point of view and am confident in voicing my opinions too.

6. SYNERGIZE

I work well in groups and value other people's strengths and differences. I seek others' ideas to solve problems because I know together is better.

7. SHARPEN THE SAW

I take care of my mind, body, and spirit by creating balance in my life. I spend quality time with others and find meaningful ways to care for myself.

What is the staff up to?

Each Janesville teacher serves on an action team. The teams include family communication, student leadership, culture, physical environment, and professional learning. We are also participating in

book clubs to grow our knowledge in implementation of leadership to better serve and inspire our school community.

Leadership Essentials

Janesville CSD is excited to offer a program from the Ray Center of Character Education called Leadership Essentials. Our purpose is to provide this program in order to improve the leadership skills of our students. Whether you are an athlete, fine arts participant, club member, or part-time employee, Leadership Essentials will help you have a better understanding of what skills coaches, teachers, sponsors, and employers want their team members and leaders to have.

Janesville CSD will present a portion of Leadership Essentials at 5 different times during the 2019-20 school year.

Monday, August 19, 2019: 9 AM-11 AM in the school cafeteria; Overview of the program along with WSR Boys BB Coach Nate Steege as a speaker. We had Coach Steege, Fareway manager John Pentecost, and WSR band teacher, Jim Vowels speak to us on what coaches, sponsors, and employers look for in leaders.

Wednesday, September 25: 2:15-3:15 PM in Mr. Hovland's room: Goal Achievement

Wednesday, December 11, 2019: from 2:15-3:15 PM in Mr. Hovland's room: Attitude + Effort = Improvement



Wednesday, February 12, 2020: 2:15-3:15 PM in Mr. Hovland's room: Grow & Let Go (Growth Mindset & Perseverance)

Wednesday, April 15, 2020: 2:15-3:15 PM in Mr. Hovland's room: Integrity

Sessions will consist of guest speakers, short videos, discussions, activities, and treats! All HS students and any MS student planning to participate on the MS Student Lighthouse (Leadership) Team are welcome for any or all of the sessions. **Any student who attends all 5 sessions will receive a Leadership Essentials certificate at our Senior Awards Night in May. Students are welcome to attend ANY SESSION, even if they have not previously attended.**

Student Lighthouse

Our goal as a Leader in Me School is to continue to provide increased leadership opportunities for students, improve school

culture, and leverage academics. One change we made this year is to create student lighthouse teams in place of what has traditionally been Student Council. Students interested in joining a student lighthouse team completed applications and participated in an interview process. Middle and High School Lighthouse Teams have been established. This month we will establish an Elementary Lighthouse Team. Over the next few weeks, students in 3rd-5th grade will learn about this opportunity and apply and participate in the interview process if interested. The information included below will be shared with students in class meetings. Applications will require a parent signature.

Join the Student Lighthouse Team!

This leadership team will:

- ◇ Plan celebrations/assemblies
- ◇ Identify leadership roles needed in our school
- ◇ Plan and participate in community service projects

- ◇ Teach others about Leader in Me
- ◇ Identify ways to improve our school community

Family Communications

7 Habits of Highly Effective Families
by Stephen Covey

Habit 2: Begin with the end in mind

At JCSD, students and teachers are working on creating a personal and/or classroom mission statement. Families can take part in this process by creating a family mission statement. A mission statement helps create a clear, compelling vision of your family's destination and goals. We have included a link to help guide this process:

<https://tinyurl.com/familymission>



Leader in Me®

Parent Night

Want to know more about the Leader in Me?
We are excited to offer you the chance to hear from Dr. Melissa Reade, Leader Valley Director.

During this fast-paced time together, families will learn about the "why" behind Leader in Me in the Cedar Valley and what makes it so important at Janesville CSD. Families will also get a sneak peek into the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People that Janesville students are already learning about and explore how this ties to their academic achievement and character development!

Adults will gather in the lunchroom and child care for school age children will be provided in the elementary gym.



Athletics Update

Varsity Bound

The athletic department is partnering with a new app built by the same Iowa technology group that built Quik Stats Iowa and Tourney Machine; it's called Varsity Bound. In the app, you'll be able to see schedules, scores, rosters, game previews, game recaps, and box scores of every game.

What we like about this app is that it organizes the stuff we all need to know, like schedules and directions. But it also has rosters and team stats. When a coach or the school post a score, this is the first place you'll find it.

- ◇ Varsity Bound is Free to fans thanks to the athletic department.

- ◇ You can download it free on both the Android Market place in September and now on the Apple App Store.
- ◇ The app is also going to give us a way to communicate with you, so please allow for notifications.

Download the Varsity Bound App today and keep up with your favorite Wildcat Teams!

Winter Sports Meeting

We are getting towards the end of the fall sports season, so it's time to start getting prepared for the winter sports season. This year, we will be holding an All-Winter sports meeting and we are asking that all winter sports athletes and their parents attend. This meeting will give us a chance to get

information out that pertains to everyone, as well as give each coach a chance to break-out with their team and get any pre-season information to them that is needed.

A few reminders for participating in winter sports: All athletes must have an updated physical form turned into the office as well as the concussion in high school sports document signed by both the athlete and a parent. Athletes will not be allowed to participate until both of these are on file with the office. If you have turned these in for a fall sport, you should be up to date, but you can check with Mr. Monroe in the office if you are unsure.

The winter sports meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 3rd, 2019 at 5:30 pm** and shouldn't last more than an hour.

Librarian Notes

Book Fair -- Nov. 18-25

Our fall Book Fair will be Nov. 18-25. Due to space constraints during construction, the fall hours will be more limited than in previous years. Most likely it will be open from 8-8:45 a.m. each day and from 3:20-8 p.m. on the evenings of conferences. More definite details will be announced closer to those dates.

Youth and adult volunteers are needed at the following times for running Book Fair:

8-8:45 a.m. each school day Monday, Nov. 18-Monday, Nov. 25

3:30-8 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 21, and Monday, Nov. 25

You do not need to volunteer for the whole timeframe; any part of the given time window would be helpful!

Important Tid•Bits

Barnes & Noble

Community Day -- Dec. 14

On Saturday, Dec. 14, there will be a Community Day to support the school library at Barnes & Noble in Waterloo. If you shop there on that date, please tell your cashier that you are supporting the Janesville School Library so that we earn the credit! In previous years, we have had a gift wrapping table that has brought in about \$100 in addition to the store credit we earn.

Volunteers are needed to wrap presents at Barnes and Noble any time between 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Dec. 14. Both students and parents are welcome to volunteer, but please have an adult at the store with any elementary student volunteers.

If you are interested in supporting the school library by volunteering for Book Fair and/or for Community Day gift wrapping, please e-mail Mrs. Sandlin at meridith.sandlin@janesvilleschools.net. Thank you for supporting the school library!

YearBooks

2019 Yearbooks should be coming in from print before the end of the Fall Season for distribution. If you ordered a Yearbook, you (or your student) will be notified.

2020 Yearbooks are already on sale on the Jostens website:

<https://www.jostens.com/helpmenu/yearbookinfo/index.html>

On the Jostens site, scroll down to choose Janesville Junior Senior High, make sure the state column says Iowa, and place your order.

As our experience with the Jostens Yearbook Program goes, we hope to get better and better at our publication. If you take any photos during the current school year you think would make a great addition to our book, please send them to haley.parker@janesvilleschools.net

Thank you so much for your support!



Weather

As the weather continues to change please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the outdoor temperatures. The temperature in the school can fluctuate just like it does outside. Dressing in layers is a good idea this time of year.

It is a good time to prepare for colder temperatures. If the temperature is below 50 degrees students will be required to wear some type of coat, jacket or sweatshirt. When the temperature is above 50 degrees, we will not require a coat. Once it snows students must have snow pants and boots. Recess will be outside if the air temperature is above zero. Please contact the school if you have any questions!

2020 - 2021

Janesville Child Development Center

505 Barrick Rd. P.O. Box 478

Janesville, Iowa 50647

319-987-2631



Welcome to the Janesville Child Development Center!

For children 3 years of age by Sept. 15 and potty trained, there are two options:

- ◇ M, T, Th full day (8:10-3:15). They have preschool in the a.m. and extended care in the p.m.
- ◇ M, T, Th preschool only in the p.m. (12:00-3:15)

For children 4 years of age by Sept 15 and potty trained, there are two options:

- ◇ M-F full day (8:10-3:15). They have preschool in the a.m. and extended care in the p.m.
- ◇ M, T, TH preschool only (8:10-11:30)

The timeline for registration is:

Sept-May: Open to children in the Janesville School District, children currently enrolled, and any children who are open enrolled to the district.

May-June: Open to siblings of children currently or previously enrolled.

June 1: Open to everyone.

- ◇ The registration fee is \$45.00.

Please contact the school 987-2581 or the center 987-2631 if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you and your child.

- ◇ 3 Year Old Preschool (M, T, Th afternoons 12:00-3:15): \$120.00 a month
- ◇ 3 Year Old Preschool with extended care 8:15-3:15: \$240.00 a month
- ◇ 4 Year Old All Day Preschool 8:10-3:15: \$225.00 a month.
- ◇ 4 Year Old Preschool Only (8:10-11:30): Free
- ◇ The 4 year olds get a grant from the State for 10 free hours of preschool a week.

If childcare is needed between 6:45-8:05 a.m. and 3:15-5:30 p.m., we have a latch key program. You are charged a block rate for each hour the service is used. You will be given a bill at the end of the month. Ms. Horstman is the director of this program. Please contact her to be put on the wait list. Her email is: Kelly.horstman@janesvilleschools.net.

You will not be given a bill for preschool/extended care since you pay a set amount of nine equal payments (Sept.-May). The payments are due the first of each month with a late charge after the 10th.

Your preschool child is welcome to ride the bus within the district in the morning or home when school is dismissed at 3:15, provided there is space available.



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ERIC MICHAELS' MAGICIANS ACADEMY

Local Professional Magician Eric Michaels is proud to bring his Magicians Academy to the Janesville Public Library! This 5 Week Educational Class is perfect for those youngsters who are interested in magic or want to learn magic!

This class is designed to teach beginner-level magic tricks and foster creativity, showmanship, and confidence building. Each student receives their very own Limited Edition Magic Kit to keep! Eric takes the time to work with each student to make sure everyone understands the material and can successfully master the tricks presented!

Parents are invited to join us for the last 20 minutes of the last class for a special magic show presented by the students to showcase what they have learned!

For more information visit: www.EricMichaelsMagic.com

Class Dates

October 24th

October 31st

November 7th

November 14th

November 21st

Class Times

(4:30-5:30pm)

Special Magic Show
featuring the Students at
the end of the last class!

SIGN UP AT:

Janesville Public Library
227 Main Street
Janesville, IA
(319)987-2925

Target Ages: 8-15

Cost:
\$50 (Magic Kit Included)

