

Winter 2025

THE TROJAN PRESS





Jeff Punches
Superintendent

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE END OF THE YEAR

Dear East Jackson Community,

As we reach the last quarter of the school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we've accomplished together and share some exciting updates as we look ahead to the remainder of the year. This has been a year of growth, learning, and collaboration.

We began this year with a renewed focus on having fun at school, student well-being, and community engagement, and I'm pleased to report that we have made significant progress on these goals. Our students have shown resilience and perseverance, participating in extracurricular activities, and contributing positively to our school community.

Our teachers and staff have worked to engage students in meaningful ways and support each individual's learning journey. As we move forward, we remain focused on several key areas that will continue to shape our district's success:

1. Student Support and Mental Health: We recognize that the social and emotional well-being of our students is just as important as their academic growth. Our goal is to create a safe and inclusive environment where all students can thrive.

2. Academic Programming: We are committed to continuing the momentum in our classrooms. Our teachers continue to work on personalizing instruction, ensuring that each student receives the support they need to succeed. We are also enhancing our STEM, arts, and athletics programs, which provide students with opportunities to explore and grow in various fields.

3. Community Engagement: We are continuously working to strengthen the partnership between our schools and the community. I encourage you to stay involved, whether through attending events, volunteering, or participating in school activities. Your engagement tremendously impacts on the success of our students and schools.

There is much to look forward to in the second half of the school year. We have several exciting events planned, from sports competitions, end-of-the-year award ceremonies and graduation. Additionally, we are looking forward to the upcoming May 6th Bond Election, the MHSAA Track Regional hosted by East Jackson, our end of year student incentives and the May commencement events.

As we head towards the end of the school year, I am confident that we will continue to build on the successes we've seen so far. Together, we are providing our students with the foundation for a bright future. Thank you for your continued commitment to our district and for all you do to support our schools. Let's finish this year strong!

All the best,

Jeff M. Punches
Superintendent
East Jackson Community Schools

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HOME OF THE TROJANS

The East Jackson Community Schools is a positive, productive and successful learning community for all students.



Designed at Ray Printing Co., Jackson, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION



2025 School Board - Left to right Mickey Cromley, Adam Phelps, Mishele Wilkins, Jan Maino, Rachel Bean, Amy Boatright, and Kirk Warner

RECOGNITION OF PAST AND PRESENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

The District recognizes and expresses heartfelt gratitude to past and present School Board members for years of dedicated service to our district. Their commitment, thoughtful leadership, and unwavering support have contributed significantly to the success and growth of our schools, positively impacting the lives of countless students and families.

School Board members help shape the educational environment with important decisions that continue to benefit our community. Their legacy of vision, hard work, and valuable time spent volunteering for the betterment of the district is greatly appreciated and will always be remembered.

- | 10 or more years of service | 20 or more years of service | 30 or more years of service |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jan Maino | Mickey Cromley (29 Years) | Ken Straub |
| Karen Adkins | Dan Talmage | Mishele Wilkins |
| Ray Mierzwa | Bob Tylutki | |
| Andy Neuland | | |
| Dave Salisbury | | |
| Doug Scott | | |

If you or someone you know served on the East Jackson's Board of Education for 10 or more years and your name is not listed, please contact the superintendent's office so it can be verified and your name added to a service plaque.



Left to right 30+ Years - Mishele Wilkins, Ken Straub



Left to right 10+ years - Doug Scott, Karen Adkins, Jan Maino
20+ Years -Mickey Cromley

2025 Regular Meetings

April 14th	September 8th
May 12th	October 13th
June 9th	November 10th
July 14th	December 8th
August 11th	

Budget Hearing

June 23, 2025

Unless otherwise noted, Board meetings are on the second Monday of each month in the East Jackson Elementary Community Room located at 4340 Walz Rd. Jackson, starting at 6:00 p.m.



Superintendent Jeff Punches recognizes past and present Board members for their service to the district.



School Board Recognition Years of Service.



EAST JACKSON ELEMENTARY



Amy Blackledge
Elementary Principal



Jimmie Jones
Dean of Students

Greetings East Jackson Community,

We are thankful each day to share many fun and educational experiences with the students and staff here at EJE. We appreciate working together with the community, board members, youth league, and our PTCO to help organize those experiences.

In honor of School Board Appreciation in January, the EJE staff and PTCO provided the members of the Board with a dinner to enjoy after their January Board meeting. Students also made cards to celebrate and thank the board members for all that they do. We are so appreciative of everything that the members of the school board do to support our district.

The EJ Youth League organized an opportunity for students to participate in basketball. Those who joined a team had a great time and our 5th grade boys' team will be going to the state tournament. The youth league is now transitioning to softball and baseball season. Keep an eye on their Facebook page for details and the opportunity to sign up. Thank you to all parents and guardians who organize events, volunteer their time, and support their kids during these activities.

Our PTCO continues to meet monthly to plan and organize events that support students and staff. Most recently they have provided snacks for teachers during parent-teacher conferences. They are working hard to organize Family Dance and Family Game Night events for March. We hope all our families will be able to attend those events.

March is Reading Month and events are planned throughout the month including a couple of fun assemblies. Calendars went home with suggestions for activities that students can participate in at home along with reading logs to earn opportunities to win drawings, which include bikes. We will also have a few dress-up days. Friday folder notes and call out messages will go out to remind families of these events.

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, concerns, or positives you would like to share.

Go Trojans!

Mrs. Blackledge, Principal
Mr. Jones, Dean of Students

HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

Students in Ms. Cannons and Mrs. Mejia's classes traveled to five continents and twelve countries learning about holiday traditions. We focused mostly on the holidays occurring in December and January. Each student received a nutcracker bag to store all their travel materials and passports. Once we entered the country, students had a reading passage and comprehension questions to answer and then watched a 360-degree video, pretending we were there. Afterwards, students wrote a postcard home on their experience. We wrapped up our day of traveling by tasting authentic food from several countries.



←
After students "visited" Milan, Italy. They sampled two types of Panettoni which is an Italian sweet bread and fruitcake often enjoyed at Christmastime. It's no surprise that most students enjoyed the chocolate chip version over the fruitcake.

→
Students "visited" Lyon, France on December 9th for the Festival of Lights. This celebration begins on Dec. 8th and lasts for four days.



SO MUCH TO LEARN SO LITTLE TIME IN MS. VOGT'S 6TH GRADE CLASS

Wow! This year is going by so quickly. Sixth graders have been strengthening friendships, learning about different academic targets, making memories, and preparing for the big move to the secondary building. In math, students have tackled number forms, estimating strategies, decimal operations, prime factorization, greatest common factors, and least common multiples head on. We are looking forward to our next targets which include scientific notation, fraction operations, and ALGEBRA.

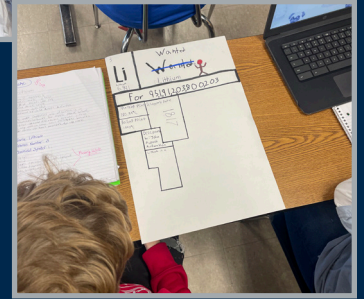
Cells, photosynthesis, and atoms have been our focus so far in science. The sixth graders have done an AMAZING job not only learning about these topics but truly understanding them. They created 3-D cell models and WANTED posters of an element of their choosing. We are looking forward to upcoming targets like balancing chemical equations and Kinetic/Potential Energy.

Geography has been a hot topic in Social Studies. After diving deep into the 5 themes of geography, students were able to create maps of their Imagination Nations and also choose a country and explain how the themes of geography are shown within it.

All these successes and more are making it possible for our sixth-grade team to be prepared for and excited about the rest of this quickly passing school year!



Sixth graders working on their Wanted Element posters for science.



EXCITEMENT IN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The 2024-25 school year has been full of new adventures for our Special Education Program. We welcomed two new teachers: Ms. Lockridge and Ms. Esham, who are a great addition to our program. This year our students have had the opportunity to learn inside the general education classrooms with lots of support. We have seen so many positive outcomes from this new approach and we are looking forward to many more years of helping our students here at EJ.



Miss. Lockridge



Mrs. Esham

MEET OUR STUDENT ADVOCATE

My name is Meghan Schinck and I am excited to be a part of the East Jackson family. I am the student advocate for elementary students, and I work alongside Jamie Langley, the social worker at the secondary school. I taught preschool for five years while I finished my Master of Early Education and in the spring, I am starting my Master of Social Work. This year, Mrs. Langley and I coordinated with several Jackson agencies to provide holiday meals and gifts to over 100 of our East Jackson Families. I look forward to the rest of this fantastic school year.



MEET ONE OF OUR SCHOOL NURSES

My name is Maddie, and I am one of the new school nurses that started just before Christmas break. On Mondays and Thursdays, I help at the elementary school with bandages, ice, mints and anything else students may need. I have been a registered nurse for 5 years and work at Henry Ford Jackson in the surgery department. I also worked in an elementary school as part of my training. I grew up in Jackson, lived in Grand Rapids for a few years and am happy to be back helping East Jackson community Schools. When I am not working, I love to spend time with my family, I have a young daughter who keeps me very busy. I also love to read; I love coffee; and love working with the kids. I am excited to be kept on my toes and kept laughing by the students while I am here! Thank you all for being so warm and welcoming!



Miss. Langley



2ND GRADE WITH MISS. JONES

This is my first year of teaching! I am a 2024 graduate of Eastern Michigan University where I studied elementary education. In my off time I coach middle school cheerleading at Lincoln Middle School, and I work as a camp counselor at the Meri Lou Murray Rec Center in the summer.

Our classroom has been using lots of different math manipulatives to help us learn math. We've used base 10 blocks to give us a hands-on approach to learning addition and subtraction as well as understanding place value and identifying what numbers look like. We are having a great year of learning; filled with laughter and fun. I am looking forward to the rest of the school year.



Second Grade Teacher Miss. Jones.



Second Graders using base 10 blocks in math.



MR. KENYON RETURNS TO EJE

Throughout my years at EJE, I have had the pleasure of building connections with families. East Jackson had become home for me and during my year away last year, I knew I had to return. This school year marks my 15th year in education, during which time I have taught second, third, fourth, and fifth grades. I am very fortunate to spend each day with my 3rd grade students and the staff at EJE, educating our future.

TITLE ONE STUDENTS ARE SUPER READERS

Kindergarten, First and Second grade Title One Reading students are making strides with their reading skills. They are all working hard to improve their reading levels.

Madilyn H. and Aleena Z. have been working extra hard and are super readers! Mrs. Smiley, Mrs. Westin and Ms. Waldron are so proud of these young ladies!



YOUNG FIVES/KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

This school year the Young Fives and Kindergarten team came together to create some new Holiday traditions. Miss Chapman, Mrs. Khadraoui, Mrs. Siedzik, and Miss Cook teamed up to host their classroom parties together in the cafeteria. The highlight of the celebration was the students' performance of Little Snowflake. Young Fives and Kindergarteners worked hard to learn the song and the dance moves in the weeks leading up to the celebration. Following their performance, students, family, and staff members enjoyed a trail mix bar, holiday storybooks, and coloring pages. The students had such a fun time with their friends and families!



EAST JACKSON SECONDARY SCHOOL



Joel Cook
Secondary Principal

Dear Trojan Family,

We had a fantastic start to the school year and a very successful first semester at EJSS. While we continue to place a strong emphasis on academic progress, we want to reiterate that our goal is also to equip all our students with essential life skills and a sense of personal responsibility. These traits are just as important as academic achievements, and we believe they form the foundation for future success—no matter which path our students choose. These skills include punctuality, making good eye contact, resolving conflict appropriately, and much more.

As we start the second semester, we remain focused on creating an environment where every student can thrive. In addition to academic growth, we emphasize character development by encouraging our students to demonstrate respect, empathy, and kindness towards one another. Inside the classroom, we continue to work on critical thinking, communication, conflict resolution, and other valuable skills that will serve our students well in whatever future they pursue.

Thank you to our dedicated staff and supportive families for helping make this school year a success. Let's continue working together to ensure that every student reaches their full potential.

Sincerely,

Joel Cook
EJSS Principal

CELEBRATE THE RHYTHM

The band program has been busy this year and growing. Our concert and symphony bands performed together as the Trojan Marching Band at five home football games, the homecoming pep assembly and the parade. The traditional Blue and White Concert in December started with a pancake breakfast serving over 125 parents and friends. The band also performed as a Pep Band at boys' and girls' varsity basketball games and the Snowfest Pep Assembly.

The beginning band performed for 1st grade classrooms in December with a variety of holiday tunes. The students joined the band playing bells and singing "Jingle Bells". Come support the band at one of our upcoming events. You can also support the students by donating any musical instrument you have at home that is not being played. Contact Mrs. Miller at either building or call 517-769-8982

Upcoming Dates:

- April 26, 2025, Sensational Seniors Spaghetti Supper & EJSS Spring Concert 2:00 p.m.
- May 20, 2025, EJE Beginning Band recruitment assembly 9:30 a.m.
- May 22, 2025, EJE Beginning Band playing for the senior walk at EJE
- May 23, 2025, EJSS Bands playing the processional at Commencement 7:00 pm



Members of the EJSS Pep Band playing during varsity basketball game



EJSS DEAN OF STUDENTS

My name is Skyler Stoker, and I have been involved in education since 2015. Before stepping into my current role, I taught social studies to students in grades 5-11. As a Jackson native, I am truly honored to give back to the community that shaped me. My goal is to support and guide our students in becoming the best versions of themselves. Outside of work, you'll often find me on the disc golf course, riding my BMX bike at skateparks, or spending quality time outdoors with my wife, Audra, and our two children, Niko and Charlotte.





NEW TEACHER IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Sean Harmon is delighted to be working in the English department here at East Jackson Secondary School. He has taught English, communications, drama & theater, and broadcasting/media for the last 25 years. Before becoming a teacher, he graduated with a BFA triple major in music, theater, and dance from WMU and worked as a professional performer for 15 years. He has done numerous Broadway tours and worked with The Second City in Toronto. When not acting, reading, running, or working with students, Sean can be found eating nachos. During pre- and post-nacho eating, Sean is probably working on home projects for his loving wife and children. If none of the above applies, you might find him at home deciding which plaid shirt accurately reflects his mood for the day.



Important Dates to Remember- Seniors Class of 2025

Sunday, April 6th	FAFSA due for Zapzone XL
Wednesday, April 9th	Zapzone XL Trip! (Seniors that completed FAFSA)
Saturday, April 19th	Junior/Senior Prom @ Jackson Symphony Orchestra 7:00-10:00
Wednesday, May 7th	Decision Day
Tuesday, May 13th	Top 10 Luncheon (Approx. 11:00-1:00)
Wed/Thurs. May 14th-15th	Senior Final Exams (if needed)
Friday, May 16th	Seniors Last Day!
Thursday, May 22nd	Cap and Gown Hand Out 8:30-9:00 @ EJSS Library 9:00-10:00 Seniors Honor Assembly Practice 10:30-11:00 Senior Walk at EJE (bus departs 10:15)
Friday, May 23rd	9:00-10:30 Senior Honor Assembly 11:00-12:00 Senior Graduation Practice 12:15-1:30 Senior Dinner (Catered) 7:00-8:00 Graduation 8:00pm-5:00am Project Safe Graduation (TBD)



SOCIAL WORKER AT EJSS

My name is Jamie Langley, and I am a social worker at the secondary building. I know that the winter months can be long, causing cabin fever, however all of our moods should start to brighten up once the days are longer and the sun starts shining regularly! If you or your student are experiencing any of the feelings below, please reach out for help!

- Sadness a majority of the time
- Extreme Tiredness
- Hopeless or worthless
- Thoughts of self-harm

Lifeways 24/ 7 number is 1 (800) 284-8288. You may also reach out to me for resources and support.

Jamie Langley
517-769-8935

ESPORTS SHINES AND KICKS OFF A NEW SEASON

East Jackson's Esports team had an outstanding Fall season under the guidance of our new coach, Mr. Spencer Edwards. We are proud to be part of the Michigan High School Esports Federation (MiHSEF), a free educator-run league that connects high school teams from across Michigan for intense competition.

During the Fall season, our team competed in two exciting titles: Rainbow Six Siege and Apex Legends. Our players showcased incredible skill and determination, ultimately earning second place at the State Finals in Apex Legends, which took place at the University of Michigan Flint in December.

As we begin the Spring season, we're taking on a new challenge with Fortnite Zone Wars, alongside Rainbow Six Siege once again. Our first match of the new season, East Jackson secured a dominant 2-0 victory over Grass Lake. Isaiah Jones led the way, showcasing our team's readiness for the challenges ahead!

We are excited about what the new season holds and look forward to more thrilling matches and, with the right determination, more trophies to come. Go Trojans!



EJSS A & B HONOR ROLL

 <p><u>Seventh Grade</u> Dazara Alford Noah Bean Kenneth Blaisdell** Serenity Lee Avery Crandall Brandon Griggs Jayden MacGuinness Sephora Praay Nicolas Ramirez Angelina Ramirez-Ramirez Amaya Rashed** Damien Spisich**</p>	 <p><u>Eighth Grade</u> Martin Bradley Kyleigh Cary Kalep Connel Vincent Covell** Elise Daly Olyvia Gales Kevin Ide Rachel McArthur** Kaiden Roberts Cullen Wilson</p>	 <p><u>Ninth Grade</u> Emmett Armstead Karson Farrell Kaidyn Gibson Chelsie Johnson Layla McClure** Declan Phelps Nora Scott**</p>
 <p><u>Tenth Grade</u> Nolan Cary ** Matthew Dullock Kayson Lovett Miana Marshall** Elizabeth Reinhard Cielo Shinn-Limon Damian Smith** Layla Stokely**</p>	 <p><u>Eleventh Grade</u> Jared Baker Nicholas Ballew Kilah Boatright** Jaysan Borhman Jazmin Contreras Cardenas Khloee Gettings Kambria Long Rylan Lowe Sofy McWilliams Kolee Sajdak** Amelia Scott** Taelynn Williams</p>	 <p><u>Twelfth Grade</u> Athena Bergman Julius Farrell Addison Hendricks Yvette Hernandez Mariah Kerley** Kiera Koker Douglas Lysher Savannah MacGuinness Priya Mericle Peyton Myers Nickalie Pratt Andrejs Puce** Isaiah Ramirez Nathan Ratliff Cameron Reinhard Edvarts Rumba** Jake Saunders Cali Weatherholt** McKenna Worthing</p>

****All A's**



MEET THE BLUE OPS ROBOTICS TEAM #4216

This year's robotics event theme is Reefscape. The goal of the game is to put "coral" on the "reef", take "algae" and put it in the "processor", and hang on a cage in the endgame. The coral is a foot long PVC pipe, and the algae is a 16-inch ball. The team decided to focus on scoring the "coral" because it was determined to be the best focus for the team.

The Blue Ops recently competed in St. Joseph, Michigan and finished with a working robot, which was a very good showing considering the level of competition and the size of EJ's team. The next event is at Columbia Central Schools.

Matches are two minutes and fifteen seconds long, with the first fifteen seconds being the Autonomous period which is when the robot performs solely on programming of certain tasks without driver involvement. The next two minutes are TeleOP which is when the driving team controls the robot. The Robotics team switched to a swerve drive train this year as it is one of the most popular drive trains due to maneuverability and speed that it allows the robot on the field.

The Drive Team consists of Mia Scott who does functions (controls the arm to place coral), Priya Mericle who drives the robot, and Mariah Kerley who is the human player (feeds the coral to the robot). The Build Team includes Athena Bergman, Heaven Page, and Travyn Coppernoll. Mentors are Steve Scott, Mike Ambs, and Angela Ambs and coaches are Stacey McMaken and Michael Mericle.



SNOWFEST 2025



*EJ Royalty!
Seniors Roberto Mireles
and Stacia Lovejoy are
crowned King and Queen
during Snowfest 2025.*



*Freshman Snowfest Representatives
Isaiah Jones and Chloe Hunter.*



*Sophomore Snowfest Representatives
E. Jhon Dougherty and Lizzie Reinhard.*



*Junior Snowfest Representatives
Anthony Armstead and Khloee Gettings.*



*Senior Snowfest Representatives
DeAngelo Alexander and Kennedy Goodwin.*



*Senior Snowfest Representatives
Edvarts Rumba and Addison Hendricks.*



*Senior Snowfest Representatives
Jeremiah Williams and Emma Stanton.*

*Senior Savannah
MacGuinness was so
fired up about Snowfest
that she busted out the
mascot outfit!*



*Junior KJ Olivier finishes
at the rim with a smooth
finger roll during the
Snowfest game.*



ATHLETICS



Joe Niehaus
Athletic Director

Trojan families,

As we wrap up winter sports for the year and gear up for our spring season, let's reflect on some of the accomplishments that our teams and student athletes experienced.

For the second straight year our wrestling program hosted an opening weekend girl wrestling tournament that is one of the largest girl's tournaments in the state of Michigan! On top of that, our girls wrestling coach, Brooklyn Slate, was awarded the girls Regional Coach of the Year award as well as the Division 3 Assistant Coach of the Year award for the boys' team. For girls' basketball, Mariah Kerley broke a school record for career points scored. Seniors Mariah Kerley, Priya Mericle, Addison Hendricks, Kennedy Goodwin, and Savannah MacGuinness leave the program with 57 career victories, multiple school record holders, and one cascades conference championship during their decorated careers. In bowling, Adam DeLano was the Cascades Conference Individual Conference Champion and also received All-State Honors!

As we head into the spring season, we are excited to see what our student athletes continue to accomplish! The sports schedules can be found on the school and MHSAA websites. Please follow the school website and Facebook page for schedule updates as we often have rescheduled events during the spring season. We look forward to seeing you at one of our spring events. Go Trojans!

Joe Niehaus
EJSS Athletic Director

7TH GRADE
BASKETBALL



7TH GRADE
BASKETBALL



8TH GRADE
BASKETBALL



8TH GRADE
BASKETBALL



MS
CHEERLEADING



MS
WRESTLING



East Jackson Community Schools





THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS ON A WONDERFUL WINTER SPORTS SEASON TO OUR STUDENT ATHLETES AND COACHES!



SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

V. TRACK

4/6	@ Clinton Invite	9:00 AM
4/12	@ Napoleon Invite	TBD
4/16	@ Leslie w/ Grass Lake	4:30 PM
4/23	@ Manchester	4:30 PM
4/26	@ Leslie Invite	TBD
4/30	Michigan Center	4:30 PM
5/3	@ Stockbridge Invite	TBD
5/7	Napoleon	TBD
5/10	Dome Classic	3:00 PM
5/21	Conference Meet @ EJ	3:00 PM

V. GOLF

4/18	@ Grass Lake Jamboree	10:00 AM
4/23	@ MC Jamboree	10:00 AM
4/26	@ Leslie Jamboree	TBD
5/3	@ Columbia Jamboree	8:30 AM
5/6	@ Homer Jamboree	TBD
5/8	EJ Invite	TBD
5/10	@ Western Invite	TBD
5/14	@ VCL Jamboree	TBD
5/16	@ MC Scramble	TBD
5/23	Cascades Conference	TBD
5/28	Regionals	TBD

V. BASEBALL

4/2	@ Concord	4:00 PM
4/4	Springport	4:00 PM
4/9	Lansing Eastern	4:00 PM
4/12	@ North Adams Jerome	4:00 PM
4/15	Grass Lake	4:00 PM
4/17	@ Grass Lake	4:00 PM
4/22	@ Leslie	4:00 PM
4/24	Leslie	4:00 PM
4/26	Stockbridge	4:00 PM
4/29	Manchester	4:00 PM
5/1	@ Manchester	4:00 PM
5/6	@ Michigan Center	4:00 PM
5/8	Michigan Center	4:00 PM
5/11	Dome Classic	9:00 AM
5/13	Napoleon	4:00 PM
5/15	@ Napoleon	4:00 PM
5/17	@ Litchfield	TBD
5/20	Crossover	4:00 PM
5/22	Crossover	4:00 PM
5/23	@ Addison @ Toledo	4:00 PM
5/28	Districts	4:00 PM

V. SOFTBALL

4/2	@ Concord	4:00 PM
4/4	Springport	4:00 PM
4/10	Hanover Horton	4:00 PM
4/15	Grass Lake	4:00 PM
4/17	@ Homer	4:00 PM
4/22	@ Leslie	4:00 PM
4/24	Vandercook Lake	4:00 PM
4/26	Stockbridge	4:00 PM
4/29	Manchester	4:00 PM
5/1	@ Columbia Central	4:00 PM
5/6	@ Michigan Center	4:00 PM
5/8	Jonesville	4:00 PM
5/11	Dome Classic	9:00 AM
5/13	Napoleon	4:00 PM
5/15	@ Addison	4:00 PM
5/17	@ Litchfield	4:00 PM
5/28	Districts	TBD

MS TRACK

4/15	@ Grass Lake	4:30 PM
4/22	Manchester	4:30 PM
4/25	Dome Relays	4:30 PM
4/29	@ Michigan Center	4:30 PM
5/1	@ Grass Lake Invite	4:30 PM
5/6	@ Napoleon	4:30 PM
5/8	@ Napoleon Invite	TBD



EAST JACKSON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOND INFORMATION

Our community will have the opportunity to vote on a bond proposal on the May 6, 2025, election ballot. If approved, it would provide \$12,340,000 for building & site improvements to address identified and ongoing facility needs. It will also extend the current millage for the entirety of the bond, resulting in a net zero mill increase from the current levy.

EAST JACKSON TROJANS

Zero mill increase from the current levy

Vote
May 6, 2025



School Bond Proposal Language

Shall East Jackson Community Schools, Jackson County, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Twelve Million Three Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$12,340,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, for the purpose of:

remodeling, including security improvements to, furnishing and refurbishing, and equipping and re-equipping school buildings; acquiring and installing instructional technology and instructional technology equipment for school buildings; purchasing school buses; and equipping, developing, and improving athletic facilities, driveways, parking areas, and sites?



About the Bond

The bond proposal is designed to make improvements to multiple areas in the district. All three district buildings will see upgrades that will improve safety, security and efficiency. In addition, the bond proposal will allow the school district to make updates to athletic facilities, replace student instructional technology and continue to improve our bus fleet. Also included in the bond are updates to the HVAC system including air conditioning in classrooms.



Voting Location and Hours

IN PERSON VOTING Vote in the location where you normally vote in local, state, and national elections. In person voting is open Tues., May 6th from 7am - 8pm.

Voter Registration

You may register to vote at a Secretary of State's office or local township Clerk's Office.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee Ballots will be available at your local township Clerk's Office beginning March 27th.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Follow the QR code to the school's website to learn more.



For Further Information, Please Contact:

Jeff Punches, Superintendent

Phone: (517) 764-2090

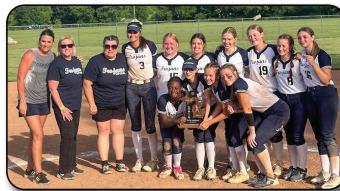
Email: jeff.punches@eastjacksonschools.org

EAST JACKSON Community Schools

2025 BOND INFORMATION
Vote by May 6, 2025
NO TAX RATE INCREASE FROM THE CURRENT LEVY



NO TAX RATE INCREASE | VOTE by MAY 6, 2025



Bond proceeds CANNOT be used for:

- Administration, professional or support staff benefits, salaries and/or wages
- Classroom textbooks or educational materials
- General operating expenses and maintenance

WHAT WILL THIS BOND ACCOMPLISH?

ELEMENTARY BUILDING

- Replace classroom locksets with security locksets
- Replace classroom glass sidelights with fire rated glass and safety film
- Replace 10,000 SF of vertical rib metal siding
- Replace auxiliary gym roof
- Replace high efficiency rooftop HVAC unit
- Replace plumbing fixtures
- Install new switches and technology cabling
- Install backup generator for food service and technology
- Install new well/tank/pump
- Upgrade staff parking lot
- Purchase new student technology and furniture

- Replace toilet room exhaust fans
- Replace plumbing fixtures
- Install air conditioning in 21 classrooms
- Replace auditorium lighting control system
- Install new switches and technology cabling
- Replace auditorium interior lights
- Upgrade electrical service
- Install backup generator for food service and technology
- Install new sound system for athletics and auditorium
- Install new clock/PA system
- Upgrade stage lighting system
- Add new septic/lift station
- Incorporate new landscaping stone/storm upgrades in courtyard
- Upgrade parking lot
- Upgrade bus parking
- Purchase new student technology and furniture

SECONDARY BUILDING

- Replace classroom locksets with security locksets
- Replace classroom sidelights with fire rated glass and safety film
- Install new masonry/flashing at auditorium lower and upper roof
- Replace gym floor
- Install new basketball hoops for auxiliary gym
- Install new vertical rib metal siding over existing block wall
- New flush metal panel siding over existing face brick
- Replace student lockers
- Renovate kitchen, including vent hoods, equipment and finishes
- Install new roof over cafeteria and 7th grade wing

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

- Replace entry doors for improved security
- Install new aluminum siding
- Replace 8" aluminum fascia
- Install new gutters and downspouts
- Replace aluminum soffit
- Upgrade oil separator and tank
- Install backup generator
- Purchase new office furniture

What does it cost me?

Since this is a no tax rate increase question, the tax rate would remain the same. The current levy is 7.0 mills and the proposed levy is 7.0 mills. If approved, the tax rate would remain the same.

Why now?

Our maintenance and custodial staff has done a great job maintaining our buildings using our operational budget, however, we cannot continue to fund large capital improvement projects out of our general fund budget without negatively affecting our current programs and our students. Safety, security, and efficiency of our buildings are of the utmost importance as we continue to build a successful learning environment.

NO INCREASE in existing millage rate

Current If bond passes



VOTE by MAY 6TH FROM 7AM - 8PM



EAST JACKSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL HOSTS SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY CARING DINNER

On December 11, 2024, East Jackson Community School had the pleasure of hosting our annual Community Caring Dinner. We were honored to welcome approximately 165 members of our community for an evening filled with delicious food, exciting prizes, and meaningful connections.

The event featured a lively coloring contest, where some of our young Trojans were able to showcase their creativity. Throughout the evening, community members had the chance to engage with board members, principals, and staff, fostering strong bonds between our school and the people who support us.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and contributed in making the evening such a success. Your presence and support are deeply appreciated!



2024-2025

EAST JACKSON DISTRICT CALENDAR

Mar. 21-28	No School Spring Break (Return to School March 31, 2025)
Apr. 18	No School Good Friday
May 5	No School (Students) Professional Development Day (Staff)
May 26	No School Memorial Day
June 6*	Half Day Last Day of School (Students) Records Day (Staff)

***Half day release times will be as follows:**
EJ Secondary School: 12:00 p.m. | EJ Elementary School: 1:00 p.m.



Home of the **TROJANS**

CONTACT US!

Administration Office

1404 N. Sutton Rd., Jackson, MI 49202
517-764-2090

EJ Secondary School

1566 N. Sutton Rd., Jackson, MI 49202
517-764-1700

EJ Elementary School

4340 Walz Rd., Jackson, MI 49201
517-764-1810

WAY Alternative School

345 N. Dettman Rd., Jackson, MI 49202
517-769-8770

Transportation

1404 N. Sutton Rd., Jackson, MI 49202
517-769-8806

Food Service

1566 N. Sutton Rd., Jackson, MI 49202
517-769-8958