

# The Hornet's Buzz

## Jackson Township Elementary

### A Note from the Principal

#### January 2020

Dear Parents:

We have had a great start to the second half of our school year! Students were excited as they arrived back at school on January 6th, and were eager to get started. We received our Federal Accountability score and it raised some concerns. Our performance scores were in line with other schools, but our attendance piece was not the greatest. We are accountable for student attendance. However, attendance is something that we cannot control. It is the responsibility of the parent to make sure their children are attending school. It is imperative that students be in school to receive the direct instruction needed to be successful. When students are absent, it hurts their education and it hurts our school. We appreciate your support.

We began administering the second round of NWEA testing on January 27<sup>th</sup>. We place a lot of value on this assessment as it provides real-time data showing us how much growth each student has made since the Fall NWEA testing session. Kindergarten, First, and Second grade students are assessed in Reading Fluency. All students are assessed in the areas of reading and math. Second grade through fifth grade are also assessed in the area of language. In addition, fourth grade students are assessed in the area of science. Results from this assessment will be shared with you in the coming weeks.

Winter is a great time to shut the TV off and sit down with your children and read to them. I encourage you to read at least twenty minutes per day to your child. Talk with your child about the story or have them re-tell it. If you have pre-school age children in the house, read to them as well - the earlier you start, the better. Have them point to and identify letters, numbers, pictures, colors, shapes, etc. Let them handle the book. I assure you that the time you spend reading to your children will have a huge pay off in their ability to be successful in school. ***You are your child's best teacher!***

Stay safe and warm!

BradEnnen

*JTE Principal*



**Proud to be a Hornet!!!**

## Benefits of Daily Attendance

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing her academic success.

By attending class regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with the daily lessons and assignments, and take quizzes and tests on time.

There are other benefits as well:

**Achievement:** Students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass reading and math assessments than students who don't attend school regularly.

**Opportunity:** For older students, being in school every day gives them a chance to learn more about college and scholarship opportunities, and to take the important exams they need to build a successful academic record.

**Exposure to the English language:** Regular school attendance can also help students who are learning English by giving them the chance to master the skills and information they need more quickly and accurately even in other subjects!

**Being part of the school community:** Just by being present at school, your child is learning how to be a good citizen by participating in the school community, learning valuable social skills, and developing a broader world view.

**The importance of education:** Your commitment to school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is a priority for your family, going to school every day is a critical part of educational success, and that it's important to take your responsibilities seriously including going to school.

### What you can do

As a parent or guardian, it is possible to plan ahead in order to limit your child's absences, make school attendance a priority, and help your child from falling behind if it is necessary to miss a day of school. You can do this in the following ways:

**Help your child get to school on time every day.** Babysitting, problems with a car or late bus, and the weather are not permissible reasons to miss school. Frequently coming to school late may also be noted on your child's permanent record, and will make it difficult for your child to stay caught up with the first lessons of each morning. Teach your child how to set and use an alarm clock, and keep the television turned off in the morning.

**Follow the school's guidelines and attendance policy, and report excused absences immediately.** At the beginning of the school year, review the school's rules and make sure you understand whom you need to call if your child is going to be absent.

**Check homework.** Check each night to see that your child understands and completes the day's homework assignments.

**Take an active role.** Stay involved with your child's daily experiences at school by asking how the school day went, and then listening carefully to what your child shares with you both the successes and struggles. Make it a point to meet your child's teacher and friends.

**Locate potential sources of anxiety.** If your child frequently appears upset or reluctant to go to school and cannot tell you why, schedule an appointment with his or her teacher or school counselor to talk about possible sources of the anxiety.

**Keep updated on school events and announcements.** Read the school documents that your child brings home and take note of important announcements and dates, such as back-to-school night and parent-teacher conferences.

**Try to limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness.** If possible, avoid scheduling doctor's appointments during the school day. Allow your child to stay home only in the case of contagious or severe illnesses.

Students who miss days, weeks, or months of school at a time will have a difficult time passing their courses and catching up to their peers. For older students, prolonged absences may make it very difficult to graduate from high school.

**Schedule family events with your child's school schedule in mind.** Plan holiday celebrations or family trips during weekends or school vacations. In the case of family emergencies or unexpected trips, talk to your child's teacher as far in advance as possible and set up a way that your child can work ahead or bring important homework on the trip.

**Plan ahead.** Encourage your child to prepare for the next school day by laying out clothes the night before and helping to fix lunches.

**Promote good health.** Make sure that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team or playtime outside.

**Create a restful environment.** Finally, make sure that your child can relax before bedtime by doing something quiet like reading rather than do something stimulating, like watching television. Ensure that your child gets enough quality sleep ideal amounts range from 8 to 12 hours. Getting enough sleep will help her get up on time, be refreshed in the morning, and feel ready for a full day of learning ahead!

By making your child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!

# Schedule of Events

Feb. 3-7	Book Fair
Feb. 12	eLearning Day—Students work from home
Feb. 15	Science Fair @ NHS
Feb. 17	President's Day—No School
Mar. 13	Spring Picture Day
Mar. 13	PTO Spring Carnival
Mar. 20	Spring Break Begins at the End of the Day
Mar. 30	Students Return to School

## January Birthdays

Hayden Archer	Xander Lewis
Jenna Archer	Destiny Matthews
Karma Bemis	Marleigh McLin
Cole Braswell	Abygail Modglin
Nathaniel Glidden	Kaydence Perdue
Abigail Goebel	EmmalynnRoe
Zachary Gray	Reed Sawyer
Gatlin Gunn	Alex Sebastian
Emery Hoover	Carter Webster
Evan Killion	Remington Wise

## January Enrollment

Kindergarten	56
First	48
Second	44
Third	50
Fourth	41
Fifth	<u>47</u>
Total	286

## Perfect Attendance Winners

Winners for the 2nd grading period perfect attendance gift cards are:  
Kinley Pair, Cole Braswell, Bentley Deer, Heath Yockey, Lucy Etling, and Reed Sawyer.



Congratulations and keep up the great work!!



## CHARACTER CORNER

Each week, your child will be introduced to a **Character Quality**, which is part of the JTE Character Education Program. *Parents are encouraged to discuss these qualities at home and suggest ways your child can model these qualities.* The qualities for February are:

Perseverance. Perseverance means working hard without giving up.

Thriftiness. Thriftiness means careful use of time, money, and other resources to avoid waste.

Creativity. Creativity means having imagination and inventiveness.

Impartiality. Impartiality means respecting the individual differences, views, and beliefs of other people.

## Food Drive 2019

The Student Council Christmas Food Drive was a big success yet again! There were 17 baskets given out. Thank you to everyone who donated items, helped sort the items, and the parents who packed the baskets. You are all greatly appreciated.

## Website and Facebook

Be sure to keep track of what is going on at JTE on Facebook at Jackson Township Elementary School, or our Website: <https://in02200674.schoolwires.net/Domain/1053>. We will post reminders and upcoming events on Facebook, so keep an eye out.