

**JENISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRESENTS**

**#ENGAGE**



**SPRING/SUMMER 2022**



# BAND SELECTED FOR MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

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Today was an exciting day for our Jenison High School Marching Band...we were selected as one of six high school bands from across the US to perform in the 2023 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. We are so proud of them!"

**Superintendent Brandon Graham**



**W**e had so much fun surprising our students and staff with the parade announcement on April 29!

Macy's officials joined JPS at the JCA to share the exciting news: the Jenison Marching Band was selected to perform at the **2023 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade**. They received a \$10,000 check from Macy's to kick off fundraising.



**937 likes, 175 comments, and 606 shares on Facebook**

Each year, the Macy's Parade Band Committee looks for bands that have the stage presence, musical and marching abilities to captivate millions of lives spectators and viewers nationwide, according to Macys.

"For decades, the Jenison Band has delivered ambitious, exciting performances beautifully designed to resonate with audiences across the country," said **Wesley Whatley, Macy's Parade creative producer**. "Macy's Band Selection Committee is proud to introduce these talented students to our

Thanksgiving audience for their well-deserved debut in the 2023 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade!"

The band will spend the coming months planning for their parade appear-

ance through rehearsals and creative fundraising.

Thank you to our JPS band leaders and to everyone in our community who continues to support excellence in our programs!

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*"The Macy's Parade is such a great tradition and for so many Americans, it really is a part of our family Thanksgiving celebrations. We are thrilled to have received the honor and privilege of representing our Jenison community in this spectacular event!"*

**High School Band Director David Zamborsky**



# CLASS OF 2022 LEAVES STRONG LEGACY

602 likes on Instagram

In front of a capacity crowd on May 26 at Kamstra Gymnasium, Jenison Public Schools celebrated the Class of 2022! Speakers shared how much the class had overcome, how much they had accomplished, and how much they had given back. Principal Michael Leiter encouraged the graduates to keep showing up. "I challenge you to

continue to show up for your classes, show up for your friends, show up for your families, and, most importantly, show up for yourself. The diploma you receive today is one example of you showing up for yourself," he said. "A high school diploma from Jenison High School is a major accomplishment and you should be proud."

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*Class of 2022, congratulations. Good luck. And remember that graduation is only the beginning.*

**Valedictorian  
Elizabeth Lee**



# JENISON TOP 10 HONORED AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON

339 likes on Instagram



**Jenison Senior High School** celebrated its Top 10 academic graduating seniors on May 25 during a special luncheon at Sunnybrook Country Club!

The Class of 2022 Top 10 are: **Ethan Brower, Hailey Clack, Jacob Gregg, Elizabeth Lee, Travis McKellar, Emma Millin, Elsie Norton, Luca Pham, Luke Tower, Jacob Vande Bunte, and Allison Westerbeek.**

**Principal Michael Leiter** shared a few words about each student and the teacher they invited to join them for the event.

Congrats Top 10 academic students!





# STUDENTS CELEBRATE SENIORS DURING WALK

296 likes on Facebook

Our graduating seniors returned to the elementary school they attended plus the junior high on May 26 during the annual Senior Walk! Students and teachers lined the hallways of the schools and cheered wildly for the seniors as they waved and gave high fives. Pictured here are seniors visiting Sandy Hill Elementary and Jenison Junior High that morning. Go seniors!





# ROSEWOOD TALENT SHOW WOWS THE AUDIENCE

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*Really talented students and such a great idea to perform at the end of the school year!*

**Fran Mckellar commented on the Facebook post**



**R**osewood Elementary hosted its annual Talent Show on June 1 and the student performances were outstanding! Students, teachers, staff, and families filled the school's gymnasium for the event. Up on stage, there were Disney impressions, break dancing performances, piano solos, singing, musical instruments, gymnastics, and so much more. Enjoy this [video](#) of the special event!

# BAUERWOOD BASH RETURNS WITH A FIRE TRUCK

148 likes on Facebook



With temperatures in the 80s on June 1, **Bauerwood Elementary** students cooled down in the best way possible: with a fire hose!

The Georgetown Township Fire Department visited the school for its end-of-the-year **Bauerwood Bash** and the kids couldn't get enough of the fire hose. After some training from the firefighters, even the teachers had a chance to join in the fun!

**Tanya Stoll** commented on our Facebook post: "Our grandson said this was the best part of his day!! He loved it! Thank you for providing all our grandkids at Bauerwood a fun day."





278 likes on Instagram



JPS celebrated the last day of school on June 2! **Jenison Junior High** hosted a giant tug-of-war competition in the fields behind the school to finish out the year. Staff took on students, boys faced off against girls, and sometimes it was a mix of everyone. There were so many laughs shared among students and staff throughout the activity. Fun idea Jenison Junior High!

## JUNIOR HIGH FINISHES YEAR WITH GIANT TUG-O-WAR







## EL PUENTE 5TH GRADERS ASSIST HAND2HAND



Fifth graders from **El Puente Elementary** put together 1,000 breakfast packs in May to help kids facing weekend hunger in West Michigan!

As they sang along to various pop songs in the new **Hand2Hand** headquarters in Jenison, our students worked together in groups to ensure all the items were added to bags and stacked together in boxes. Way to help fellow students in need, El Puente 5th graders!



## PROBABILITY FAIR MAKES LEARNING FUN

The **Jenison ACT Program** held one of its 3rd Grade Probability Funfairs at Pinewood School on May 12.

In **Julie Clark's** classroom, students in the weekly, academically-accelerated program displayed how they used the principles of probability in the games. Check out the video [here!](#)

Well done, ACT students!





311 likes on Instagram



## HS CLASS PARTNERS WITH BAUERWOOD TO RELEASE SALMON



Thanks to Zoom conversations throughout the school year, 2nd graders in **Sabrina Kind's** class at **Bauerwood Elementary** have watched the growth and development of salmon being raised in **Karina White's** AP environmental science class at **Jenison Senior High!**

The classes met for the first time in person on April 26 at **Grand River Park**. After introductions and instructions, the high school students helped the 2nd graders release the fish into the Grand River. Then they observed the salmon swimming away into the deeper waters of the river.

Enjoy a photo slideshow of the special collaboration [here!](#)





# JUNIOR HIGH STEM CLASSES PROGRAM DRONES

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*This is all done by them using programming skills they are learning in class.*

**Junior High STEM Teacher Candace Molenkamp**



**820 views on Facebook**



Students in **Candace Molenkamp's** STEM class at Jenison Junior High used their new programming skills to complete the "Health Care in the Himalayas Challenge" in late April! To finish each medical mission, they had to carefully pilot drones across the Junior High Media Center and land them within a clearly defined area. Students cheered wildly whenever they completed a mission. Enjoy this [video](#) of the hands-on learning!



## BOOSTERS INDUCT NEW HALL OF FAME MEMBERS



Jenison sports fans filled the Sunnybrook Country Club on May 6 for the **2022 Jenison Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet!** Ashley Johnson, Pete Trammell, Steve Brockelbank, Don Lancaster, and the 2007-2008 State Volleyball Champs were inducted during the special evening. Congratulations to the new inductees and thank you to everyone who supported our student-athletes!

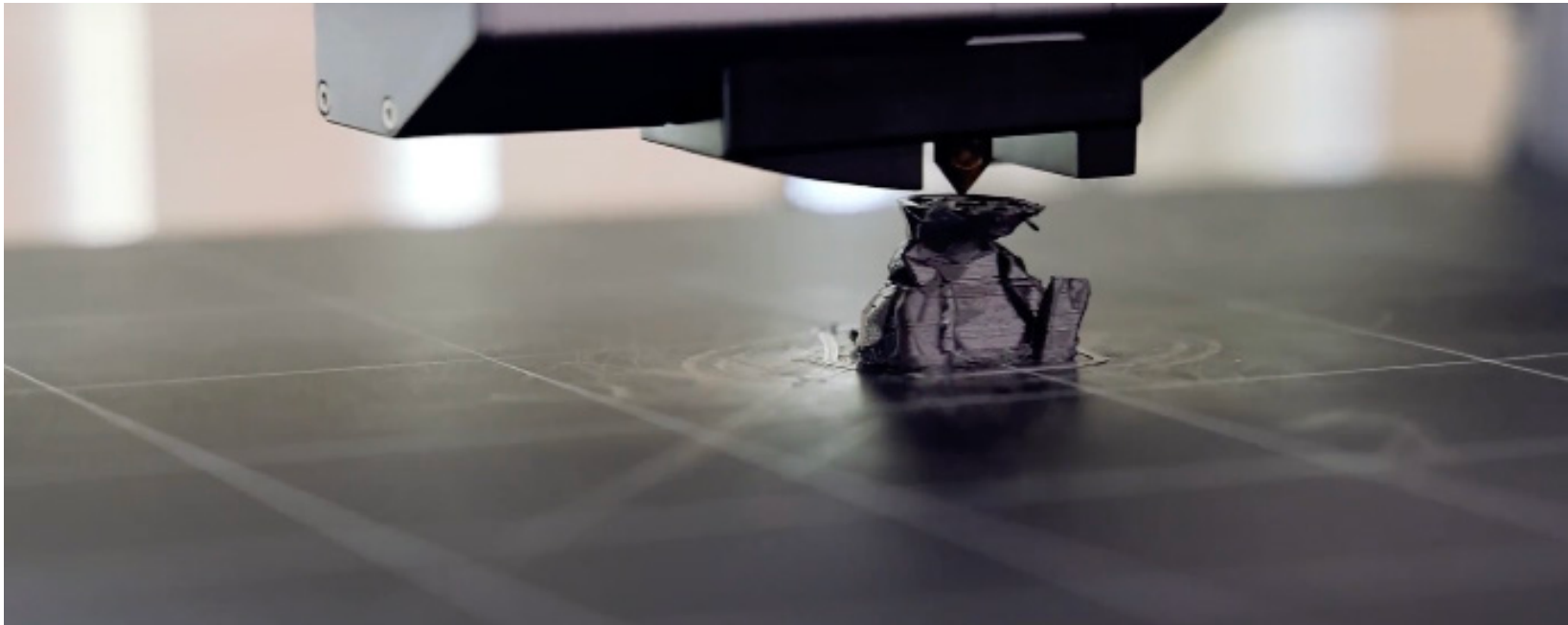


## SOFTBALL RAISES MONEY FOR CANCER

The Jenison softball team organized its first-ever **Strike Out Cancer Game** on May 12! For the event, they wore special uniforms and accepted donations for a local cancer center. The team played well that night, sweeping Hudsonville in the doubleheader. Way to give back to the community, Jenison softball team!



# STUDENTS USE 3D PRINTERS TO START BUSINESS



Joel Hunt's Entrepreneurship class at **Jenison Senior High** produced impressive work this spring!

One group in his class started **Cats Customs**, a business that sells custom keychains, dashboard figurines, and air fresheners. The students designed the keychains in software, prepared the materials necessary for the printer, sent them to the printer, and monitored the progress of the print job. Then they sold the products at Cats Corner in the high school and online.

The students also won this year's **Junior Achievement Pitch Day Challenge Award** of \$500 for their business creation. Enjoy this [video](#) that shows the entire process!



120 likes on Instagram





## THEATRE PERFORMS 'ANASTASIA: THE MUSICAL'



Elementary students across JPS enjoyed a sneak peek of Jenison High School's production of **"Anastasia: The Musical"** on March 22! They arrived by the busload at the **Jenison Center for the Arts** and quickly filled most of the auditorium. Then cast members performed highlights from the show. Check out the video from the special day [here](#). Impressive job cast and crew of "Anastasia: The Musical"!



## FORENSIC CLASS SOLVES 'CRIME'

The final exam in **Melanie Zuber's** Forensic Class is unique: students must solve a crime! The Jenison Senior High Teacher's Lounge became a "crime scene" filled with "evidence" the students had to collect. Zuber said the class teaches collaboration, teamwork, reading and science. "They are doing science, not just learning science," she said.





5,768 views on Twitter



Special thanks to Brittany Flowers from **WOOD-TV 8** for coming out to take a look at the new JPS multi-purpose facility.

Always great to have a Jenison grad back on campus! Looking forward to sharing more updates on this new state-of-the-art learning environment.

The WOOD-TV 8 story can be found [here](#) and our drone shots [here](#)!

# WOOD-TV 8 FEATURES NEW MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING





# SENIOR HIGH HONORED AS A TOP HIGH SCHOOL IN US



U.S. News announced in late April that Jenison Senior High School earned a national ranking in the top 40% of high schools, achieving the status as a **U.S. News Best High School!** The school also was ranked the No. 40 high school overall in the state of Michigan. Congrats Jenison Senior High staff and students on the prestigious recognition from a national publication!



# JPS NAMED ONE OF BEST COMMUNITIES FOR MUSIC ED



JPS has been honored with the **2022 Best Communities for Music Education** designation from the NAMM Foundation! It's thanks to moments like this [video](#) of second graders at Sandy Hill Elementary practicing with Music Teacher Jeanna Lamar. Incredible work music teachers and directors!

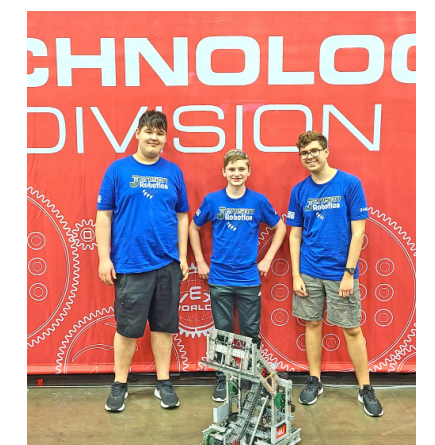




The **Jenison Senior High DECA** (opposite page) Team had a group of students compete at the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta in late April against 17,000 other students from around the world. While they didn't place in the top 20 in any events, their advisors were proud of their efforts!

**Jenison Robotics** teams competed at the Vex Robotics World Championship in Dallas in May! For the Junior High Teams, Red Wrenching Rebels finished 5th in their division, Chubby Bunnies finished 23rd in their division, and Still Pending finished 29th in their division. For the High School Teams, Pie = 4 finished 34th in their division and Close Enough finished 34th in their division. Great effort, Jenison Robotics!

## DECA, ROBOTICS COMPETE AT WORLD EVENTS





# GRANT PROVIDES NEW IPADS FOR JPS STAFF



Through a special federal grant, JPS was able to equip our teaching staff with new iPads to help enhance the use of technology in instruction. We had a great time in late March getting these to our teachers—we're excited to see what they can do with these new tools! After receiving her new iPad, Rosewood Elementary Teacher Kari Reynolds began projecting her writing workshop lessons with the device. She said the tool was a "gamechanger"!



# GALA HONORS STUDENTS LIVING THE WILDCAT WAY



Saturday evening the red carpet was rolled out as we honored students who went above and beyond in living out the character traits of the Wildcat Way. Raising up students of character is key at JPS and the inaugural Wildcat Way Gala emphasized that priority. Enjoy some of our favorite pictures from the wonderful evening!



442 likes on Instagram



## JENISON WILDCATS HOST NEW SPORTS MEDIA DAYS

This August we introduced the first-ever **Jenison Sports Media Days!** All the fall sports dropped by for fun photo sessions with their teams. Here are some of our favorite moments - both serious and hilarious - from the event! Make sure to follow Jenison Wildcats on Twitter and Instagram to see all the photos this fall season!





## STUDENT RESEARCH HELPS GRAND RAVINES



**C**urrent students and JPS grads volunteered their time this summer to gather data for a local long-term monitoring project! A collaboration between JPS, Ottawa County Parks and Recreation, and Grand Valley State University, the research will assess biodiversity at Grand Ravines Park. Way to give back to the community, students and grads!



## JPS WELCOMES TALENTED GROUP OF NEW STAFF



**A** special JPS welcome to all our new staff members this year! Aug. 8 was the first day of new staff training and more than 30 people - including a few JPS grads hired as teachers - gathered at the JCA to kick off the multi-week process. We look forward to watching you grow this year!



235 likes on Instagram



The JPS campuses were full of activity all summer thanks to special camps and programming! The Strength and Performance Camp featured intense drills at the football stadium. Curiosity Camp had students enjoying all types of creative activities. Theater Camp gave students the chance to practice singing, acting, and even improv!

**SUMMER  
CAMPS KEEP  
STUDENTS  
ACTIVE**

