



Jefferson Township High School

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Principal
Kevin Lipton

Assistant Principals
Michael Lonie
Andrea Padelisky

JTHS GOOD NEWS

November 2024

October Students of the Month –

Art – Matthew Leppard
Business – Kobi Holtzman
English – Lia Brennan
Health/PE - Gannah Alateek
Mathematics – Kaled Serrano

Music – Makenzie Huizenga-McCoach
Science – Gannah Alateek
Social Studies – Alexadra Koretzky
Technology – Payton Cilurso
Video Production – Mikayla Esposito
World Language - Izabella Baldyga

FALCON PRIDE Student Recognition Award for October –

Recipients: **MIKAYLA ESPOSITO, SILVANA MELONE, JUSTIN BRINCK**



All three of these students have demonstrated strong character and leadership in our school and community over the first few months of the school year, and have been recognized by staff members for their accomplishments.

Nominated by Mrs. Farris, Silvana goes out of her way to help others around her. According to Mrs. Farris, "Silvana is always helpful to everyone around her. Whenever I need someone to help me or another student with something, Silvana is the first to raise her hand and volunteer. She is selfless and would be a perfect choice

for the Falcon Pride Award."

Nominated by Mrs. von Essen, Mikayla has grown to become a leader both inside and outside of the classroom. According to Mrs. von Essen, "It has truly been a pleasure watching Mikayla grow into the very active student leader that she is today. She is one of the easiest students to teach. Not because

she is perfect, but because she is not. In French, she demonstrates an authentic style of writing, which is refreshing."

Nominated by Mr. Lonie, Justin is a compassionate student who goes out of his way to help others in our community. According to Mr. Lonie, "Justin consistently strives to do the right thing for others each and every day. He goes out of his way to share acts of kindness with others, and his advocacy for substance abuse prevention through the Youth Coalition sets an example for the community".

All three students will receive custom t-shirts, certificates, and a gift card to a local business in the community. Please congratulate all students when you see them!

Service Day –



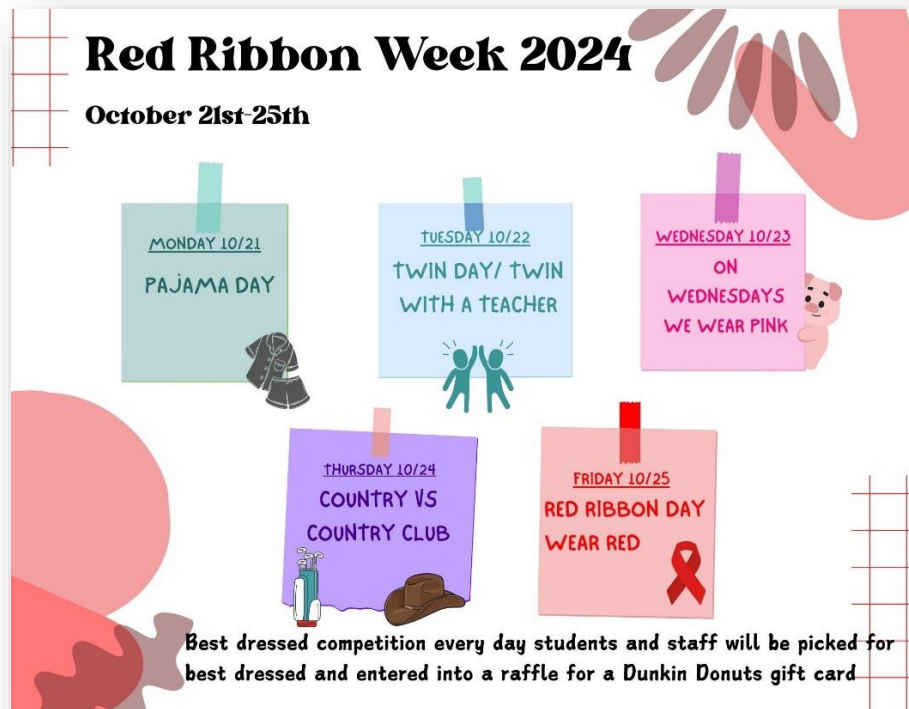
"On Tuesday, October 29, over thirty high school students collaborated with a group of middle school students at the high school's first Service Day of the year. Students made over 85 snack and water bags to benefit the less fortunate in Morris County. A special shout out to our Cross Country and Cheerleading teams for giving up practice time to attend!"

School Violence Awareness Week –



Red Ribbon Week – October 21-25

Competition every day for students and staff with a Door Decorating competition to end the week.



Guidance –

Snack and Apps with your Counselor –



Need help with your college applications?

Help is just around corner. Stop in the Media Center and see your counselor and enjoy some snacks!

Oct. 21-Nov. 1

National Honor Society –

The National Honor Society is collecting money for hurricane relief. The money will be donated to the American Red Cross, which is spearheading hurricane relief efforts in the southeastern US.

~ Mrs. Kula ~

Johnny's Ambassadors –

On October 24 students viewed an impactful assembly presented by Laura Stack from Johnny's Ambassadors. The objectives included, who was Johnny, then vs. now marijuana, why youth use marijuana, adolescent brain development, impacts of THC use on adolescents, risks of mental illness, psychosis, and suicide, as well as learning refusal skills. The goals of the assembly included reducing the intention to use marijuana, increasing the perception of harm, being able to refuse marijuana when offered by friends, and motivating teens who are already using to reconsider. The presentation was sponsored by Jefferson Township, Prevention is Key, and Never End the Fight.

On October 25 Freshman students viewed two presentations. The first presentation from Prevention is Key discussed the truth about using electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS). They covered ways to help support anti-vaping including mental health and healthy coping skills. The second was from NJ4S where students learned facts, statistics, and scenarios with an overarching message of normalization, fighting against stigma and making mental health and wellbeing a priority.

On October 25 Senior students also viewed a presentation from NJ4S which discussed both the pros and cons of social media usage. They went over healthy limits and safe practices in regard to using social media.

~ Mrs. Vesia ~

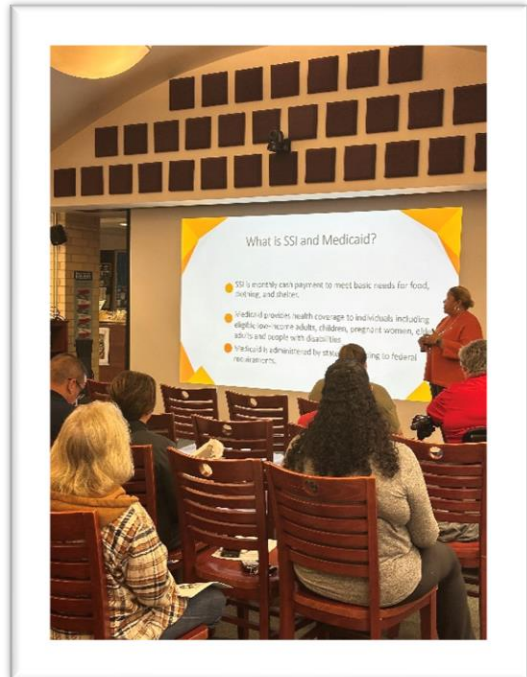
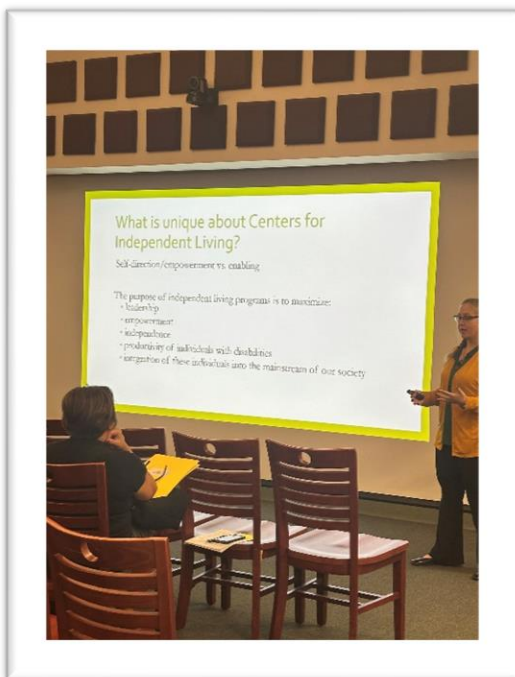
Transition Education –

On October 22nd we hosted an evening session on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid through The Arc of NJ for guardians looking to seek assistance. Topics that were discussed included:

- How to apply
- Why you need to do so
- Understanding how to access and utilize the required programs for adult services and support

We are excited to offer this opportunity to our community and help educate them on the services that are out there for individuals with disabilities.

On October 24th we hosted a STEP-UP evening session to speak with parents on the new program we are piloting this year with a selected group of students. DAWNcil has partnered with our school through a grant from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) to facilitate an employment skills focused curriculum called STEP-UP. Student Transition Empowerment Project – Unlimited Possibilities (STEP-UP) is a program created by DAWNcil, designed to comply with and provide pre-employment transition services to meet or exceed the requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Upon completion of the classroom-based curriculum students may be eligible for a six-week paid summer internship. We are excited to bring this program to our students and are looking forward to seeing a successful transition from high school to additional education, training or competitive integrated employment.



~ Mrs. Jahn ~

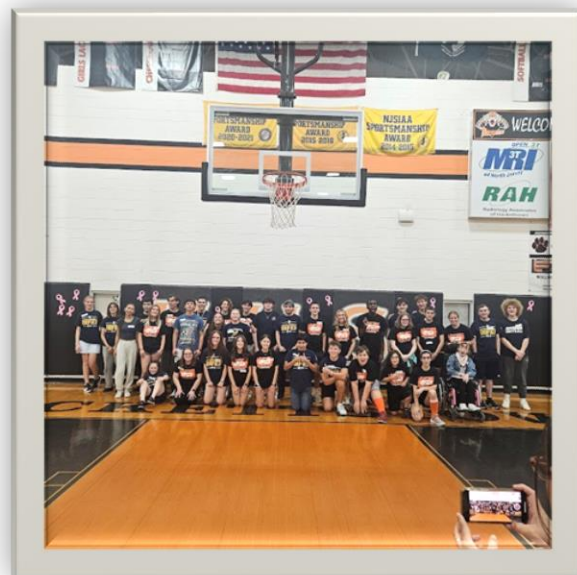
Spirit Week – October 28-November 1

Show your school spirit!



Unified Track –

The Unified Track team met with Hackettstown High School for an unforgettable afternoon of laughter and friendly competition



Holocaust Survivor Maud Dahme –



Maud Dahme, a Holocaust survivor, visited Jefferson Township High School to share her story yet again this year. Her published book, "*Chocolate, the Taste of Freedom*" tells her story of survival of the Holocaust and the lengths her family went to save her and her sister. Maud gives her talk with schools, universities, museums, and local organizations all across the country and we're lucky to be able to fit into her very busy schedule. She delivers a cautionary tale with hope for the future and how students can take action in their own schools and community to make positive change.

~ Mr. Boyle ~

Mark Your Calendar –

"Murder's in the Heir"

November 22-23, 7:00pm

November 24, 2:00pm

MURDER'S
in the HEIR

Youth Coalition –

"Our Youth Coalition students participated in **Red Ribbon Week** by placing 500 pinwheels on the front lawn of the high school. Each pinwheel represents 10 lives lost to underage alcohol usage. We thank them for their leadership and advocacy!"



Debate –



"A huge shout-out and congratulations to our Jefferson Debate Team for their victory on 11/1 at the Sparta tournament! They achieved a record of 7-1. Congrats to all team members and Coach Vandigriff!"

Jack-O-Lantern Walk –

JTHS art students participated in the annual Jack-O-Lantern Walk at Crystal Springs on Friday, October 25th. After doubling the number of pumpkins we participated with last year, Emma Sturtevant earned an honorable mention for her carved pumpkin of "Shrunken Head Bob".



~ Mrs. Wassmer ~

Happy



Halloween – What a Fun Day!



Veterans' Day –

Thanks to a generous PEP grant from the JTEA, the Jefferson Township High School Media Center hosted a successful Veterans Day program that was both educational and impactful. Fifteen veterans joined us to share their military experiences with students in history and English classes. History students had the opportunity to ask questions about the veterans' time in service, while English students made connections between the veterans' experiences and the themes in their current literature, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Things They Carried*. Nearly 300 students participated in the event, also creating thoughtful thank-you cards to be delivered to the American Legion. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event a meaningful success - especially our veterans.

