Winter 2023





NON-PROFIT ORG. **U.S. POSTAGE**PERMIT NO. 41

JACKSON, MI 49202

East Jackson Community Schools 1 404 N. Sutton Rd. Sackson, MI 49202



TABLE OF CONTENTS

East Jackson Elementary School	3
East Jackson Secondary School	7
Snowfest 2023	11
Fast lackson Athletics	12

Transportation 15

School Lunch Hero Day 15

Teacher Appreciation Week 15

District Calendar 1 6

HOME OF THE TROJANS

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



Designed & Manufactured at Ray Printing Co., Jackson, Michigan



COMING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

This year has been filled with excitement and student success. Without question, East Jackson is a thriving community of learners where students get the highest levels of support to achieve great things.

At East Jackson Elementary, we continue to celebrate student creativity, skill development, and physical development through our STEAM class, music class, and physical education. In addition to the academic skill development, all students get a chance to develop a sense of self by exploring in a creative, supportive environment. During the month of March, all students celebrate the wonders of

reading by our celebration of March is Reading month.

East Jackson Community Schools is proud to continue to grow and expand opportunities for students for college and career readiness. Our school offers a wide selection of electives to prepare students for their future, but maintain a small family-like atmosphere. There are over 40 different programs available through the Jackson Area Career Center that help to quickly launch students into their futures. Additionally, Early College opportunities continue to expand for high school students. Within our school, students can earn micro-credentials that are widely recognized in the manufacturing industry through our PRIME program. Our students also have a full range of art, leadership, and athletic opportunities to develop their sense of pride in the community.

Inside this edition of the Trojan Press, pictures share the story of how our district has been able to bring our community together. For daily updates on school successes and news, please consider following us on social media as we share our story on the platforms below.

Facebook: EastJacksonCommunitySchools

Twitter: @eastjacksoncs Instagram: @eastjacksoncs

It's time to take a fresh look at East Jackson--Great things are happening.

Go Trojans!

Steve Doerr Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Treasurer Mikey Cromley, Secretary Jan Maino, Trustee Misti Bell, President Ken Straub, Vice President Mishele Wilkins, Trustee Lisa Hendricks and Trustee Amy Boatright

Unless otherwise noted, the regular meetings of the East Jackson Community Schools Board of Education are held on the second Monday of each month in the East Jackson Elementary Community Room located at 4340 Walz Rd., Jackson, Michigan 49201

Board of Education Meeting Schedule

February 13, 2023 March 13, 2023 April 10, 2023 May 8, 2023 June 12, 2023 July 17, 2023 August 14, 2023 October 9, 2023 November 13, 2023 December 11, 2023





EAST JACKSON ELEMENTARY





Greetings East Jackson Community,

We have had a wonderful start to the year. It is hard to believe we are rounding out winter and coming into our spring events. The cyber-attack and Mother Nature reminded us about the life skills of flexibility, patience, and taking care of others.

This winter students have had fun sledding at recess and participating in different classroom activities. We hosted Kindergarten Round Up on March 15th and 21st and we are looking forward to having our future Trojans join us next fall. Fourth Graders went to YMCA Storer Camp March 14th through the 17th and as always, it was a fun week of learning for the students. Thank you to our PTCO for hosting the Mother-Son and Daddy-Daughter Dances. Last, but not least, students enjoyed the March Is Reading Month activities. It was wonderful to see so many families join us for the Morning Treats with Trojans events. Our theme this year was "Dog Days of Reading-Sniff Out a Good Book." Clifford the Big Red Dog even joined students to celebrate the month and celebrate reading.

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

Together We Thrive! Mrs. Hager & Mrs. Blackledge



TROJAN PRIDE CANDY-GRAM SALE!

For Valentine's Day, the EJE Trojan Pride Committee held a candy-gram sale. Students and staff were able to purchase a hand delivered Valentine's sucker and send a special message to anyone at school for 50 cents. The fun was not limited to school, candy-grams were also available to buy for loved ones at home.

The Trojan Pride Committee is committed to bringing fun and engaging opportunities to EJE. Trojan Pride is all about tightening our school community and increasing school spirit. The Trojan Pride Committee sold candy-grams over two days, and on the first day of the sale 528 candy-grams were sold and the following day an additional 304 were sold. It is exciting to see our students so excited about spreading kindness!

MRS. LUNA'S CLASS LOVES READING

6th grade students in Mrs. Luna's class have been enjoying reading the Dragon Masters series. They are on the 5th book and each book introduces a dragon with special powers. They have loved this series so much that we are ordering the next set. Seeing students love reading is wonderful!!



Third grade students visited the Michigan State Capitol and were able to see history in action. They learned about the three branches of government and the work that is done by lawmakers in our state. The classes were able to see both the House of Representatives and the Senate in session. Miss Knaggs' class was able to meet Senator Sue Shink and Mrs. Puhr's class met Representative Kathy Schmaltz. The students enjoyed sitting on the glass floor and seeing the hand painted stars 160 feet above them at the top of the dome. Some other highlights included sitting in the callor in both houses against the highlights included sitting in the gallery in both houses, seeing the Governor's office, and learning about Michigan's previous capitol buildings in Detroit and Lansing.

A GLIMPSE OF HISTORY



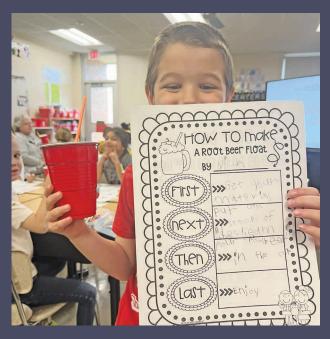






50TH DAY CELEBRATION

Miss Fleming's 2nd grade students celebrated the 50th day of school and had a chance to experience what life would be like in the 1950's. They enjoyed making and drinking delicious root beer floats, trying to blow bubbles in a bubble gum blowing contest, and also listening to music played on vinyl records. Miss Fleming's 2nd graders loved "Rockin' around the Clock".





LOWER ELEMENTARY TITLE I LITERACY

Mrs. Westin, our lower elementary instructional assistant, is shown here with two (2) first graders. They are working on long and short vowel sounds, stretching out words that they don't know and improving their reading levels. These students come to her room every day to work and become super readers.

Ms. Waldron, also a lower elementary instructional assistant, and Mrs. Smiley, our lower elementary Title I literacy coach, also work with lower elementary grade students on these same skills every day. They are so proud of all the students' hard work while working with them.



NEW FACE TO EJE

Hi! My name is Katie Morgan and I am a new social worker at EJE, primarily working with grades 3-6. I've had the privilege of meeting most of the kids and connecting with some parents. I am currently working toward my master's degree in social work, and plan to continue my career in the school setting. I feel very fortunate to spend time with the kids and staff at EJE every day. If you ever have any questions or concerns about your kiddos, I am more than happy to chat with you! I truly believe parents and staff operate as a team and share equally important moments with the students.







FIRST FULL YEAR

My name is Mrs. Holmquist and this is my first full year of teaching. For parents that do not yet know me, I am very happy to be working with your child and I am confident my educational background, experience, and passion for teaching will provide your child with a positive atmosphere for learning and growth. A little bit about me; during my free time I like to go horseback riding, I am a mother to a toddler boy and I have two favorite colors; purple and pink. In the classroom; we celebrated our 100th day of school and students laid out the 100 items they brought from home to see who's measured the longest. We had different snacks that we sorted and added up to 100 in groups of 10, we wrote out the numbers 1-100, and we counted up to 100 by ones, twos, fives, and tens.











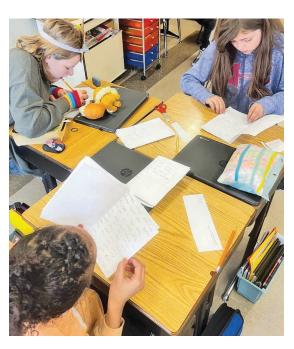


FAST AND FURIOUS IN FIFTH

Students in fifth grade aren't just writing fast and furious, they are talking about writing. Many days you can witness students sharing stories while they have "partner shares" about their writings. Additionally, the students will drift around the classroom enjoying their classmates' writings and often leave positive post-it notes on each other's stories.











WHY MUSIC?

Former US President Clinton said "I don't think I would have become President if it were not for my school music program!" While Jeff Raskin attributed, "If I had not studied music, there would be no Macintosh Computers today." Many studies about participating in music have concluded significant benefits for student growth, wellbeing, academic achievement and prosperity as an adult.

Mrs. Miller's elementary students participate in music every week. They are learning about musical instruments, different genres of music, cultures of music, how to analyze what they hear while also learning how to read and perform the language of music.

Our 6th grade beginning band students are learning a wind instrument of their choice. At the beginning of the second semester, students are also enjoying learning percussion instruments including the snare and bass drums, bells, and the suspended and crash cymbals. Students also have the opportunity to come to sectionals during their school day allowing them time to work together, get specific help from the director, or to play together as a small ensemble. The

students are supportive of each other, becoming leaders of the band and our school community, and are energized about their excellent progress they have already made as the beginning band. It is exciting to hear their growth and feel their enthusiasm as we look towards their future in the EJ Band program.

YOUNG FIVES LOVE TO READ AND WRITE!

In January we implemented the Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Workshops. During Reading Workshop students are showing their Super Powers to look, point, and Read Everything They Can! During Writing Workshop students are Star Writers and love to draw, write, illustrate stories and share with their friends. Young Fives have an extra year to shine and they are so excited to read and write in kindergarten next year.















EAST JACKSON SECONDARY SCHOO



During the holiday season our students at EJSS worked hard to give back to the community and were able to support families in need by giving out 38 dinners. A special thank you to Marshall Motors, MC Lions Club, and Our Lady of Fatima who graciously donated to help make this happen. Additionally, our students were involved with the local "Shop with a Hero" event. Mrs. Punches' Leadership students teamed up with a Hero to help an EJ elementary student choose gifts for their family members. Leadership students also helped put together baskets filled with a variety of items to support local families. Items for those baskets were donated by McGowan Electric, Summit Orthodontics, Hampton Funeral Home, MVP Sports, Sheets Family Dentistry, and EJ Athletic Boosters.

The middle school capped off the month of December with a bowling incentive at Suburban Lanes and a GOALS drawing. We have continued to reward students for attendance and behavior. In December, we hired Ms. Fleming to help with our PBIS needs, specifically focusing on student behaviors and tardiness. She has been a great addition to EJSS as she has shown great initiative and has made major improvements to our building. Together, with PBIS and our incentives, we have seen a decrease in negative behaviors and an increase in academic achievement for all of our middle school students.

In its first year as a class, Middle School Leadership has been involved in many school projects. The latest one, students spent time planning and decorating doors for Valentine's Day. This is a great way for students to build up their communication and collaboration skills, and teamwork. As we look towards warmer weather, April and May will be busy months at EJSS. MS students will have several incentive opportunities. The big ones remaining are bowling, the GOALs drawing and our biggest incentive yet, the Lugnuts game.

Upcoming events:

- MS Track starts April 10th
 8th Grade M-step/PSAT 8 testing in May
 Lugnuts baseball game on May 31st
 GOALS drawing on June 9th

Go Trojans!

Jeff Punches Middle School Principal

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Bravo to these awesome middle school students! They were each named Student of the Month this

October MS Student of the Month: Chelsie J. (7th

Chelsie is always a bright light in the classroom. She is positive, kind, and participates often without hesitation. Chelsie greets her teachers almost every day at some point! She is super helpful to her classmates and is a great addition to our MS leadership class. She was nominated by her leadership class teacher, Ms. Winterstein.

November MS Student of the Month: Danny T. (7th

Danny is a hard-working, conscientious student who focuses on his classwork and contributes positively to the school environment every day. We wish we had many more Danny Toomer's in our 7th grade classrooms. He was nominated by Ms. Knight and Mr. Hill.

December MS Student of the Month: Logan A. (8th Grade)

Logan is a very nice and respectful young man. He showed great improvement in his academics and closed out the first semester on a high note. Logan is a high-energy kid who is always ready to give you high five!







BOWLING INCENTIVE

EJMS would like to send a big thank you to Suburban Lanes for hosting us for our bowling incentive. This was a continues reward for great attendance and behavior. These incentives, along with our PBIS room have shown us an increase in academic achievement.





GOALS DRAWING

Middle Schools Students had their monthly GOALS drawing. These drawings are achieved by students who are rewarded with great attendance and behavior. It's always a great day to be a Trojan!







PBIS ROOM

In December, we welcomed Ms. Fleming to our team. Ms. Fleming focuses on our PBIS Room needs like tardiness and behaviors for our students. Not only have there been great strides in those areas, but the building as a whole. Ms. Fleming makes a great addition to our team at EJSS and continues to make our PBIS room an environment that welcomes everyone. Not only did we add on essential staff, but we made improvements to our PBIS room as well.

LEADERSHIP DOORS









TEAMING UP WITH A HERO

The middle school leadership teamed up with local hero's in the month of December to put together gift baskets filled with a variety of items to support local families. The leadership class could not have done this without the help of our local hero's and community members. A BIG thank you to those who contributed and allowed this to be a success for our leadership class.







East Jackson Middle School 2nd Marking Period Honor Roll

All A's
Chelsie Johnson
Layla McClure
Nora Scott
Emma Elmo
Landin Hendricks
Layla Stokely
Wyatt Wowianko

All A's/B's
Jordan Allain
Emmet Armstead
Nevaeh Patton
Aiden Potter
Karsyn Smith
Daniel Toomer
Lilly Beck
Nolan Cary
Ashton Crandall
Kaelie Gettings
Alex Jewell
Miana Marshall
Landon Richardson
Sierra Swallows





Dear Trojan Family,

It has been a tremendous start to the 2022-2023 school year at EJSS and we are continuing to make positive strides as we get deeper into the second semester. The past couple of years were significantly impacted by the Covid pandemic and I'm thrilled to say that this school year is the most "normal" it has felt in quite some time. While we continue to focus on the social emotional needs of our students we are once again able to offer classes that actively engage students and teach them critical thinking skills, as well as transferable skills that will benefit them greatly as adults. A perfect example of this is our "Senior Transitions" and "Interpersonal Communications" classes that were offered for the first time this year. These classes are specifically designed for seniors and the idea is for every student to leave our building "life ready." Whether they choose the vocational path or the higher education route, our students will have the communication and life skills necessary to be successful.

Another benefit from emerging out of the pandemic is our attendance appears to be far better than it has been in a long time. Absences and tardiness were down significantly in the first semester and as a result, we have seen grades continue to rise and behavioral issues continue to decline.

The first semester absolutely flew by and it will be Spring/Summer before we know it! I see great things happening in our building every single day and I am looking forward to seeing the progress that we continue to make during the second semester. As always, it is an honor and a privilege to be the principal at East Jackson Secondary School. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can ever be of assistance.

Joel Cook **High School Principal**

CLASS OF 2023 – DATES TO KNOW IN MAY/JUNE

May 6 Prom @ Hearts of the Lake Church, Brooklyn, 7-11 pm Saturday

Wednesday May 17 Top Ten Luncheon

Friday May 19 Seniors' last day of class

May 18-19 Senior Exams (optional, check with your teacher) Thurs/Fri.

Thursday

May 25 Senior Honors Assembly Practice @ 9:00 a.m.

Meet in Library- Bring Textbooks, Fees owed, Chromebooks/power cords to return

May 25 Senior Class Picture - Volleyball Gym - @ 10:30 a.m. Wear your Class of 2023 T-shirt Thursday

Friday

May 26 Senior Honor Assembly @ 9:00 a.m.
Report to HS Library @ 8:30 a.m.
Wear cap & gown for Senior Honor Assembly

Friday May 26 Commencement Ceremony practice 11:00-noon

May 26 Senior Dinner -TBA Friday

Friday

May 26 Commencement in gym @ 7:00 p.m.

Seniors report at 6:00 p.m. for a class picture in Volleyball Gym dressed in cap & gown.

Fri./Sat. May 26/27 Project Safe @ East Jackson SS.

Bus leaves for the bowling alley at 9:00 p.m. Parent pick up at EJ - students depart on May 27, 5:00 a.m.

Students may not drive themselves to this event.

Monday June 5 or 6 Senior Trip - TBD

At graduation, each student will receive two carnation flowers under their chair to give away during the commencement ceremony. There is no student cost for these. This is to recognize parents, grandparents or any others at a specific time during the ceremony. Any additional flowers you wish to give away at that time must be brought by you.

ATTENTION: You must make sure that...

- **ALL** textbooks are returned
- **ALL library fees are paid**
- 3. Sports uniforms are returned
- **Band uniforms are returned**
- ALL other outstanding fees are paid before May 15th

FINALLY: Participation in all these events is optional and is not a right given to all seniors. Administration may exclude seniors from any or all senior events for attendance or behavioral issues.



EJSS 1st Semester Honor Roll 2022-2023

All A's

Jared Baker Kilah Boatright Jaysan Borhman Rylan Lowe Gabby Podpora Amelia Scott Elisabeth Stripp Taelynn Williams Julius Farrell Matylda Krawiec Andrew Trudgen McKenna Worthing David Ambs Ella Scott Austin Tingley Caleb Weaver Jordan Wineland Gavin Zegarlowicz Maverick Cooper Aysia Eader Stephen Hertzfeld Caleb Kerley

All A's/B's

Khloee Gettings Ella Hemry Kambria Long Sofy McWilliams Ayden Miller Collin Parker Brian Rogers Kolee Saidak Breeann Town Aubrey Wheeler Justin Winget DeMarcus Worthy JayTawuan Gary Addison Hendricks Mariah Kerley Roberto Mireles Amaree Padgett Damien Pool Nickalie Pratt Nate Ratliff Cali Weatherholt Codey Bottoms

Halie Hunter Aaliyah Kelly William Kennedy Cordelia Lovett Javin Mericle **Dustin Poole** Claudia Pratt Colton Raffensberger Owen Swetland Jalyssa Wright Hayden Cook **Braedon Desy** Mallory Griffith Jacoby Jones Gabby Mathews Toni Moore **Devon Neely** Dylan Osborne Cooper Pelton Jordan Tripp Laura Vickers

LADIES HYGIENE PROGRAM

Thank you to Daisy Usher, Autumn Minix and Alexus Ramirez for initiating the ladies hygiene program at EJSS. We applied for and were awarded a Meijer grant to purchase personal hygiene items for all of the ladies bathrooms. Great idea ladies!



PRIME TIME AT EJSS

This year East Jackson Secondary School was extremely fortunate to receive a robust grant from SME PRIME (Partnership Response in Manufacturing Education). SME PRIME builds cost-effective and tailored manufacturing/engineering programs in high schools across the country. They provide equipment, curriculum, scholarships, and STEM-focused extra-curricular activities to students and teachers. EJSS Science teachers Beth Sanborn and Phillip Jordon have attended multiple trainings which equip them to certify our PRIME students in areas such as PMI (Precision Measurement), Mechatronics, 3D printing, etc. Local companies, such as Technique and LOMAR, actively partner with our PRIME class to provide materials, instruction, and guidance. PRIME students receive invaluable hands-on training on modern equipment. The goal is for students to have multiple certifications and be "job ready" by the time they graduate from EJSS.







SNOWFEST AT EJSS

Snowfest this year was incredible!
We were able to host a pep assembly where students and staff participated in games and getting everyone excited for the basketball game that evening. During halftime of the basketball game, our Snowfest court was able to be announced, as well as crowning our Senior King and Queen representatives, Noah Tobias and Addisyn Rudd. Thank you to everyone whom makes these events possible whom makes these events possible year after year!













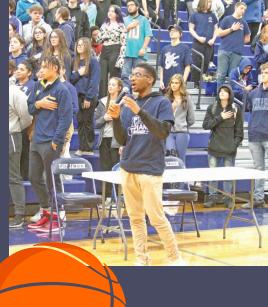
Sophomore Reps: Tae_vion Lammon and Emma Stanton Junior Reps: Gavin Zegarlowicz and Aliyah Warner Senior Reps: Braedon Desy,

Brenden Mullins, Bryce Fowler, Noah Tobias, Addisyn Rudd, Mallory

Griffith, Hayden Cook and Aysia Eader













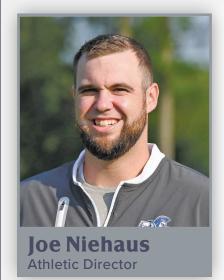


SHOP WITH A HERO

Every year EJSS students get the chance to help volunteer in our Shop with a Hero event. This event allows first responders to partner with the community and give the gift of giving to those around them. The event allows children to check off there holiday s hopping list for family members. Shop with a Hero creates the largest smiles and lasting memories every year to those whom participate. East Jackson is proud to participate in the Shop with a Hero event year after year!







It has been a great winter so far for Trojan Athletics!

Our girls' basketball team currently leads the race for the Cascades Conference Championship with only a few games left in the season. Meanwhile the boys' team is getting hot at the right time winning 7 of their last ten games before the postseason kicks off.

Our boys wrestling team won a team District Championship for the first time in over 10 years. There are also 5 individual boys and a few individual girls moving on to the wrestling Regional Championships for a chance to punch their ticket to the state tournament!

This winter we tried something new with our Snowfest game and had a Varsity Boys and Girls Double Header. It was a massive success as the gym was packed for both games and both teams came out victorious in hard fought games!

We look forward to continuing our athletic success in our spring sports! Practices begin on March 13th with competitions beginning in April when we return from Spring Break!

Go Trojans!

Joe Niehaus Athletic Director



On January 26, at the East Jackson Girls Varsity basketball game, the district honored Judy (Machnik) Devereaux, the first female varsity letter winner for East Jackson. Judy, a 1973 graduate, was formally recognized for her outstanding performance in Cross Country in 1972 after President Nixon signed into law Title IX. Judy Machnik was a trailblazer for female athletes who followed over the next 50 years.

GO TROJANS!







WINTER SPORTS TEAM PICTURES



MS CHEER



JV BOYS BASKETBALL



JV GIRLS BASKETBALL



BOYS BOWLING



GIRLS BOWLING



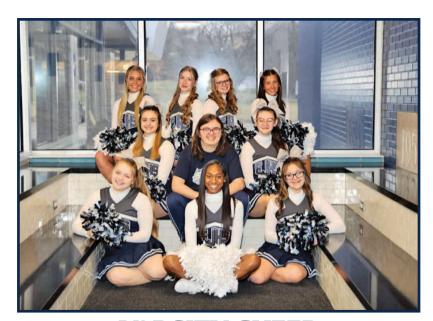
VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL



VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL



WRESTLING



VARSITY CHEER



On Friday, February 3rd, during halftime of the girls' varsity game, Kathie Tomaw was honored with her very own varsity jacket for outstanding service and dedication to East Jackson athletics. Kathie graduated in 1969, 3 years before the enactment of Title IX and never had a chance to earn a varsity letter. Kathie has spent over 40 years in the East Jackson School District. Congrats Kathie!



7

BUS RIDERS OF THE MONTH







Our Transportation Department would like to recognize our Bus Riders of the Month for September, October and November! September 2022: Shalena Blackwell, Noel Praay, Peyton Haskell, Clarence Cannon and Amari'onna Pussehl (Not Pictured) October 2022: Nella Stoddard, Rj Nichols, Leeland Richardson, Trenton Rogers, Acarie'onna Wagner-Beltran (Not Pictured) and Madilyn Harmon (Not Pictured) November 2022: Avery Crandall, Alivia Vieta, Dylan Vasquez-Sanchez, Brandon Sallows and Samantha Perkins

We're

Be A School Hero...

Drive A School Bus!

- * Paid Certified CDL Training
- * No Experience Necessary
- * Must be 21 years of age
- * Must have a clean driving record
- * Competitive Wages & Incentive
- * Must pass DMV/County/State/Federal Fingerprint Background check
- * Holidays, Weekends & Summers off

East Jackson Community Schools

Regina Hoskins | 517-769-8806 Send Resume to:

regina.hoskins@eastjacksonschools.org
To apply online go to:
www.eastjacksonschools.org



2.1.1

of Central Michigan

It's not just a number, it's a relationship.

No Matter What No Matter When

211 Is Here

How can we help?

FREE • CONFIDENTIAL • 24/7

Call 211

Text Your Zip Code to 898-211 Chat CentralMichigan211.org

Data and Messaging rates may apply.

If you or someone you know needs help with...















211 connects you with thousands of nonprofit and government resources in your area.

Call 211

Text Your Zip Code to 898-211 Chat CentralMichigan211.org

A proud partner of..

Capital Area United Way • LifeWays Community Mental Health • United Way of Jackson County • United Way of Monroe/Lenawee Counties • Livingston County United Way • United Way of Genesee County • Michigan Department of

Health and Human Services

Call 911 for Emergencies.

Outside our area? Call 966-561-2500



Remaining East Jackson Calendar Days

Mar. 24-31 No School

Spring Break (Return to school April 3rd)

Apr. 7 No School

Good Friday

May 29 No School

Memorial Day

June 9* Half Day

Last Day of School (Students)

Records Day (Staff)



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

EJ Elementary School

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

WAY Alternative School

345 N. Dettman Rd., Jackson, MI 49202

Transportation

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

Food Service

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