

# East Jordan Public Schools

"A Quality Center of Teaching & Learning"

[www.ejps.org](http://www.ejps.org)

Back to School  
Edition

August, 2009

## Attention New Families

New students may enroll at the Elementary, Middle and High School offices any weekday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Registration information is also available by calling the following numbers:

**Elementary School (536-7564) > Middle School (536-2823) > High School (536-2259)**

New students and families are encouraged to stop by the schools and a staff member will be happy to provide a tour of the respective school, and will also be available to answer any questions you may have concerning the enrollment process.

### *You're Invited . . .*

*All parents and students are invited to attend our  
Back-to-School Open Houses*



*Middle School Open House  
Wednesday, September 2  
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Matt Stevenson, Principal*



*High School Open House  
Wednesday, September 2  
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Tammy Jackson, Principal*



*Elementary School Open House  
Tuesday, September 8  
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Cal Prins, Principal*



**School Begins  
Wednesday,  
September 9**

***Full Day of School***

Middle School starts at 8:00 a.m.  
High School starts at 8:05 a.m.  
Elementary School starts at 8:15 a.m.

**Community Pool Offers  
\$1.00 Nights**

**Monday & Thursday  
for Family Swim  
6:30 - 7:30 pm**



For a complete pool schedule  
call 536-2250  
or visit [www.ejps.org/ourcommunity](http://www.ejps.org/ourcommunity)

**A** *mazing Support . . . East Jordan is a generous community . . . filled with people who have an interest in helping our schools. The Charlevoix County Community Foundation and The Malpass Foundation provide the funding for so many unique programs and opportunities for students. The volunteer members of the Music Boosters, Sports Boosters and the East Jordan Learning Alliance also provide so many things that, without their efforts, would be beyond the capacity of the schools to provide. Mix in all of the other volunteers, and you've got an "A" . . . for AMAZING programs!*



*East Jordan Schools . . . an "A" . . . for Amazing.*

## Breakfast/ Lunch Prices

### Elementary School

Breakfast	\$1.15
Lunch	\$1.80
Milk	\$0.50

### Middle School

Breakfast	\$1.15
Lunch	\$2.05
Milk	\$0.50

### High School

Breakfast	\$1.15
Lunch	\$2.05
Milk	\$0.50

Daily breakfast and lunch menus are available at [www.ejps.org/calendars](http://www.ejps.org/calendars). Free & reduced lunch application forms will be sent to all families and are also available at each building office.

## 2009-2010 - School Calendar

Wednesday, September 9	First Day of School	Full Day of School
Wednesday, November 4	No School	Full Day Staff Inservice
Wednesday, November 25	No School	Thanksgiving Break Begins
Monday, November 30	School Resumes	
Monday, December 21	No School	Christmas Break Begins
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Monday, January 4	School Resumes	
Friday, January 22	1/2 Day of School	
<i>Middle School Dismissed @ 11:20 am.&gt;High School Dismissed @ 11:30 am &gt;Elementary School Dismissed at 11:40 am</i>		
Monday, February 15	No School	Mid-Winter Break
Friday, March 5	No School	Staff Records Day
Friday, April 2	No School	Spring Break Begins
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Tuesday, April 13	School Resumes	
Friday, May 28	No School	Full Day Staff Inservice
Monday, May 31	No School	Memorial Day
Sunday, June 6	Commencement	Boswell Stadium @ 2 p.m.
Thursday, June 10	Last Day of School	
<i>Middle School Dismissed @ 11:20 am.&gt;High School Dismissed @ 11:30 am &gt;Elementary School Dismissed at 11:40 am</i>		

**A** *Amazing Kids . . . From the littlest learners to those preparing for college and careers, East Jordan Schools are all about the kids. Emerging readers and spelling bee'ers . . . practicing artists and musicians . . . budding engineers and computer whizzes . . . and everything in between! They're all part of the East Jordan school family and another reason that . . . you've got an "A" . . . for AMAZING kids.*



## Building & Site Fund Replaces Track

When Boswell Stadium opened in 1992, the facility was the finest sports and athletic complex anywhere in northwest Michigan. That remains true today, as the school district and the community continue to enjoy this amazing facility . . . a gift to all of us from The Malpass Foundation. Keeping the Stadium in great shape requires a lot of support, and EJPS receives that support from generous gifts to the Boswell Stadium Endowment Fund, which is permanently-endowed at the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, and from the Building & Site Sinking Fund, which was approved by school district voters in 2005. Irrigation and turf management expenses are paid for by the Endowment Fund, and major items, such as this summer's replacement of the all-weather track, are covered by the Building & Site Sinking Fund, which is set up specifically to handle short and long-term facility needs, and cannot be used for any other purpose. Since October of 1992, when the Stadium opened, runners and walkers of all ages have used the original (and then, state-of-the-art) latex track . . . a surface that was expected to last about 10-12 years. Today, 17 years later, that track finally wore out," and has been replaced with the latest state-of-the-art surface . . . constructed with polyurethane. The new surface is expected to last another 12-15 years, which should ensure that fitness enthusiasts and athletes will be "all set" at Boswell Stadium from now until 2021, and beyond!

## Attention: All Parents - Herbicide Treatment Notice

East Jordan Public Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management approach for pest control, employing non-chemical methods that include sanitation and exclusion to control pests. However, from time to time, a herbicide application may be necessary to control weeds. If you would like to be notified in advance of such applications, please contact Brian Olszewski, Director of Business & Operations at 536-0053 ext. 5402.

**A** *Amazing Facilities . . . East Jordan Schools features some of the finest facilities available to students in any school, anywhere. The Elementary, Middle and High Schools are the flagships of the fleet; clean, attractive and built to support learning. Add in Boswell Stadium, the Community Auditorium and the Community Pool . . . and you've got an "A" . . . for AMAZING facilities!*





# Thoughts on the Eve of a New School Year . . .

As I visited our school buildings last week, the signs that signal the start of another school year were evident everywhere. Supplies and materials for the coming year were being unpacked and stored away, and the finishing touches were being applied in our classrooms and corridors. Phones were ringing, copy machines were churning and the relative calm of summer was replaced with the kind of excitement and energy that always accompanies a new beginning.

The 2009-2010 school year promises to be another in a series of great years in our schools, with the district's academic and co-curricular programs once again taking center stage.

Last year, our schools continued to earn full accreditation under Michigan's "Education YES!" program, while each school also met all of the Federal "Annual Yearly Progress" benchmarks. The State and Federal accreditation programs are linked, in large part, to student performance on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) and Michigan Merit Exam (MME) tests. EJPS' quality accreditation record is a reflection of our students' competitive performance on these important academic measurements.

With more students performing well in the classroom, their goals with regard to further education are also expanding. Eighty percent of the members of the "Class of 2009" will be on their way to colleges, universities or trade schools in the next few weeks, and, like the rest of the student body, nearly 90% of our graduates have been active in one or more co-curricular programs in athletics and the dramatic or performing arts. Research shows that students that are involved in co-curricular programs generally perform better in the classroom . . . and East Jordan students are proving the accuracy of those studies!

While EJPS' academic and co-curricular programs continue to thrive, the school district's ability to continue to maintain all of our programs is challenged by ever-greater financial pressures. Like many of our households, the economy continues to cast a long shadow over our schools, a shadow that manifests itself in declining state support and declining enrollment. The school district has responded to that challenge again this year by making more than \$640,000 in budget cuts that reflect, in large part, additional staff reductions. Those reductions, when coupled with selective wage freezes and significant changes in employee health insurance plans/costs, will help EJPS navigate what is certain to be a "stormy" financial season that will likely see additional reductions in State funding even before the 2009-2010 school year begins in just a few weeks, and even greater reductions in funding in 2010-2011. In times like these, the importance of planning for the future has never been greater. Providing for the academic and co-curricular needs of our students in a period of declining financial resources is a big challenge. Fortunately for EJPS . . . the district's Strategic Planning process has been focused on this challenge for the better part of the last decade. In that process, teams of knowledgeable and committed school and community volunteers are assisting the school district as we plan for the future. Together, we will meet the challenge by finding new and innovative ways to "do more" with "less."

In any era, excellent schools have always been defined by a common set of criteria, including their ability to attract and keep students, their ability to develop and implement a vision for growth and change, their ability to earn and retain accreditation and their ability to operate in a fiscally responsible manner. Finally, they are defined by their ability to produce graduates that are capable of being successful in post-secondary education and in the workplace. And so, on this, the eve of a new school year . . . let's reaffirm, once again, that the job of creating such a school district is everyone's responsibility. It's the responsibility of every parent, every teacher, every school staff member and every citizen . . . and let's join together again this year . . . as a community of learners . . . to become ever more successful in this most noble of causes . . . the education of our children. See you at school!

**A** *Amazing Results . . . How about this? EJPS meets all of the requirements of Michigan's Education YES school monitoring process, and our students earn very competitive scores on the annual MEAP, MME and ACT exams. 80% of our graduates go on to post-secondary colleges, universities and trade schools, while 90% of our students are active in one or more co-curricular programs. It doesn't matter where you live (but we hope it's in the East Jordan school district) . . . you've got an "A" . . . for AMAZING results!*



 Kids' Club  
Daycare Program  
Educational and  
Fun!

Looking for a great before and after school daycare program? Then "Kids' Club" is just the thing for you!

Held each day at the Elementary School, "Kids' Club" offers quality care for school-age children (and 3 year olds, if they are potty trained) in a safe and positive environment. Daily activities include games, sports, crafts, homework time and more!

Kim Olstrom directs the "Kids' Club" program, which offers services beginning at 7:30 a.m. until the start of the school day, and from the end of school each day until 6:00 p.m. Daytime "Kids' Club" is a great option too, especially for students enrolled in half-day or alternate day pre-school programs! For more information about rates and registration, call the Elementary School Office at 536-7564. Join the club!



**A** *Amazing People . . . With a school family that includes 122 full and part-time employees, including 60 teachers (more than half of whom have earned an advanced degree), there's a lot of talent working with our students each day. Add in the hundreds of volunteer parents and community members and the organizations they represent . . . and you've got an "A" . . . for AMAZING people!*



# 2009 Fall Athletic Schedules

## Girls Volleyball

Aug. 22	Pellston Inv.	Away	8:30 am
Aug. 29	Inland Lakes Inv.	Away	8:30 am
Sept. 15	Harbor Springs	Away	7:30 pm
Sept. 17	Elk Rapids	Away	7:30 pm
Sept. 19	Charlevoix	Away	8:00 am
Sept. 22	Boyne City	Home	7:30 pm
Sept. 24	Charlevoix	Away	7:30 pm
Sept. 29	TC St. Francis	Home	7:30 pm
Oct. 1	Kalkaska	Home	7:30 pm
Oct. 6	Grayling	Away	7:30 pm
Oct. 8	Harbor Springs	Home	7:30 pm
Oct. 13	Elk Rapids	Home	7:30 pm
Oct. 15	Boyne City	Away	7:30 pm
Oct. 20	Charlevoix	Home	7:30 pm
Oct. 22	TC St. Francis	Away	7:30 pm
Oct. 24	Boyne City	Away	9:00 am
Oct. 27	Kalkaska	Away	7:30 pm
Oct. 29	Grayling	Home	7:30 pm

*Parents' Night*

## Boys Soccer

Aug. 25	Harbor Light	Home	5:00 pm
Aug. 26	Glen Lake	Home	5:00 pm
Aug. 31	Kalkaska	Home	5:00 pm
Sept. 8	Charlevoix	Home	5:00 pm
Sept. 9	Elk Rapids	Home	5:00 pm
Sept. 14	Grayling	Away	5:00 pm
Sept. 17	Boyne City	Away	5:00 pm
Sept. 21	Harbor Springs	Home	5:00 pm
Sept. 24	Kalkaska	Away	5:00 pm
Sept. 28	Harbor Light	Away	5:00 pm
Oct. 1	Charlevoix	Away	5:00 pm
Oct. 6	Elk Rapids JV	Away	5:00 pm
Oct. 8	Grayling	Home	5:00 pm
Oct. 12	Boyne City	Home	5:00 pm
Oct. 15	Harbor Springs	Away	5:00 pm
Oct. 19-24	Districts	TBA	

## Cross Country

Aug. 29	Central Lake	Away	11:00 am
Sept. 9	East Jordan	Home	4:00 pm
Sept. 12	Charlevoix	Away	9:30 pm
Sept. 16	Boyne City	Away	4:30 pm
Sept. 19	Ellsworth	Away	10:30 am
Sept. 26	Petoskey	Away	9:30 am
Oct. 1	Mancelona	Away	4:00 pm
Oct. 20	Conference Championship	Away	4:00 pm
Oct. 24	Elk Rapids	Away	9:00 am

## Fun for the Whole Family All Sports Pass

*Family Pass - \$150  
Individual Adult Pass - \$70  
Individual Student Pass - \$30*

To purchase an All-Sports pass, call ahead to the High School Office at 536-2259

*Good at all MS & HS home games during the 2009-2010 season, excluding MHSAA Tournaments*

This year, we will be providing Resident Seniors with a "Lifetime All-Sports Pass", if you would like this pass, please call ahead to the District Office at 536-3131 or the High School Office at 536-2259.

## JV Football

August 27	Glen Lake	Home	6:00 pm
Sept. 2	St. Ignace	Away	6:00 pm
Sept. 10	TC St. Francis	Home	6:00 pm
Sept. 17	Grayling	Away	6:00 pm
Sept. 24	Charlevoix	Away	6:00 pm
Oct. 1	Elk Rapids	Home	6:00 pm
Oct. 8	Boyne City	Away	6:00 pm
Oct. 15	Harbor Springs	Home	6:00 pm
Oct. 22	Kalkaska	Away	6:00 pm

*Parents' Night*

## Varsity Football

August 28	Glen Lake	Away	7:00 pm
Sept. 3	St. Ignace	Home	7:00 pm
Sept. 11	TC St. Francis	Away	7:00 pm
Sept. 18	Grayling	Home	7:00 pm
Sept. 25	Charlevoix	Home	7:00 pm
Oct. 2	Elk Rapids	Away	7:00 pm
Oct. 10	Boyne City	Home	3:00 pm
	<i>Homecoming</i>		
Oct. 17	Harbor Springs	Away	3:00 pm
Oct. 23	Kalkaska	Home	7:00 pm

*Parents' Night*



## 21st Century Fall Program Preview



The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant will continue to provide funding for the East Jordan Schools to expand after school academic and enrichment programs to Elementary School students. Deb Harm will be the site director for the East Jordan program this year. Programs will include literacy and math clubs, homework labs, as well as programs that focus on the arts and recreation.

EJPS will work with community partners for some of the program offerings. Those partners will include Raven Hill Discovery Center, the Jordan Valley District Library and the Jordan River Arts Council, among others.

Stayed tuned for more information about the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program at EJ Elementary . . . there will be a lot of cool things happening after school. Parents can expect program brochures to be sent home in "Friday Folders" in September.

**A** *mazing Programs . . . One size doesn't fit all. That's why EJPS has a focus on every child. Gifted and talented programs, the area's ONLY Math, Science & Technology Center, before and after school programs, summer school programs, incredible technologies, outstanding co-curricular programs in the dramatic and performing arts and a highly competitive athletic program. Put it all together . . . and you've got an "A" . . . for AMAZING programs!*

