

East Jordan Names Top Graduates ~ Class of 2011

East Jordan High School is proud to introduce the Valedictorian, Salutatorian and Medal of Academic Excellence recipients for the Class of 2011. The Valedictorian is Brianna Balogh with a 4.01 GPA (grade point average). The salutatorian is Molli Andor, who earned a 4.0 GPA. The Medal of Academic Excellence recipients have all earned a GPA of 3.75 or higher.



Brianna Balogh is the daughter of David Balogh. Brianna plans to pursue a degree in the Medical Health Profession at Lake Superior State University.



Molli Andor is the daughter of Ronald and Mari Andor. Molli plans to attend Michigan Technical University, studying Mechanical Engineering.

Medal of Academic Excellence Recipients



Brady Brennan is the daughter of Patrick and Karen Brennan. Brady will study Fashion Design at Parsons The New School for Design.



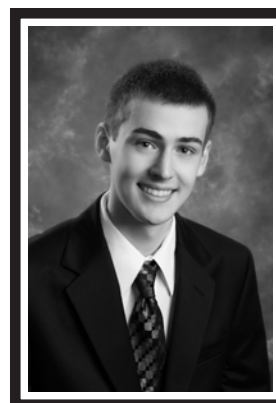
Sarah Jordan is the daughter of Jim and Ruby Jordan. Sarah plans to study Elementary Music Education at Bethel College.



Morgan Skop is the daughter of Mike and Deanna Skop. Morgan plans to study Elementary Education at Grand Valley State University.



Kourtney LaVanway is the daughter of Richard LaVanway. Kourtney will attend North Central Michigan College studying Early Childhood Education.



Derek Malpass is the son of Todd and Marilyn Malpass. Derek plans to study Marketing at Lake Superior State University.

SCHOOL CALENDAR REMINDERS

Friday, May 27
Monday, May 30
Sunday, June 5
Tuesday, June 7

No School
No School - Memorial Day
Commencement - 2:00 p.m.
Last Day of School - 1/2 Day



A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Community Members,

East Jordan community representatives, along with county-wide law enforcement officials, joined local school officials in conducting the first, in a series, of community meetings to examine adult and adolescent substance abuse and bullying trends within Charlevoix County. Emphasis was placed on the important role that a newly-established Blue Ribbon Community Project will play in making our community safer.

- √ The Blue Ribbon Community Project is concerned about the abuse of narcotics and illegal drugs in the East Jordan area.
- √ The Blue Ribbon Community Project has advocated a collective, regional response to the control and prevention of drug abuse and bullying.
- √ The Blue Ribbon Community Project is proving to be a major landmark in East Jordan's efforts toward regional collaboration in drug abuse prevention/ control and bullying prevention.

An immediate response to this declaration was the convening of our first meeting on February 24, 2011 where the Blue Ribbon Community Project was established to provide a forum for over eighty concerned East Jordan community members, educators, parents, and students to create healthy environments and to promote learning and lifetime success for our families and students.

This meeting consisted of five Advisory Teams who examined the following topics: Michigan Law & School Board Policy Awareness, Community Activities, Elementary School-Aged Children, Middle School-Aged Children, and High School-Aged Children. Collaboration is hard work; however, when collaboration is proactively outcome-driven, it can be an effective way to address community-based concerns. Collaborative efforts work best when they follow a logical series of process steps. Each Advisory Team then formulated recommendations in five major areas within their topic: Situation Statement (clearly defined the problem) ~ Concerns ~ Interventions ~ Obstacles ~ Solution Statement (long-range plan for improvement). The next steps include: Implementing the plan ~ Evaluating Outcomes ~ Repeating or re-adjusting interventions to meet long-range plan.

Responding to the need for more information to help East Jordan's adults and teens make improved decisions about risky behaviors, the Blue Ribbon Community Project will offer quarterly meetings in August, November, February and May, for interested parents and community members. All meetings will be held at the East Jordan Community Auditorium. Specific dates and times will be announced.

It is important for our community businesses and schools to begin seeing ourselves as more than just service providers, but as catalysts for problem solving. By looking at the systemic needs and capacities of our community, we can begin to create a collective vision for our future bigger than simply providing programs and services. Doing so requires us to think differently about how we invest resources and how we measure success. First and foremost it requires us to work together to realize a shared mission of social responsibility.

Sincerely,

Susan Wooden, Superintendent of Schools

Annual School Election Information

The annual school election will be held on **Tuesday, May 3, 2011**. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on election day.

In addition to the Headlee Restoration and the Technology & Bus Bond Proposal (see next page), the ballot will also include the election of a member to the Board of Education.

Ted Sherman is the sole candidate for a single seat available in the Board election.

If you Live in:

City of East Jordan, Echo, Jordan or Wilson Township

Eveline or South Arm Township

Vote at:

EJ Civic Center

South Arm Township Hall

Technology & Bus Bond Proposal . . . What You Need to Know

On Tuesday, May 3, 2011, East Jordan Public School District voters will be asked to approve a \$1.5 million technology and bus bond to **upgrade and replace the district's technical infrastructure and replace aging buses.**

This pending bond proposal is another example of the District's commitment to maximize financial resources while minimizing the burden to local taxpayers.

Timing is such that it is possible to present a comprehensive proposal **without increasing taxes to our constituency.**

In order for the district to continue to thrive, it is important to systematically address our technology and transportation needs; however, the district's operating funds are insufficient to make these investments. In addition, we firmly believe the positive financial impact of this bond to the East Jordan area will be beneficial in developing and building a stronger economy and community.

Major positive components of this bond include:

- This 6-year bond **REPLACES an expiring bond**, which was used to build the Middle School in 1995.
- There is **NO tax rate increase for East Jordan Patrons.**
- We estimate at least a **.10% tax rate REDUCTION** for East Jordan Patrons.
- Enhancement of technological infrastructure and methods of instructional delivery for ALL East Jordan students.
- Replaces only four of the most aged and high-cost buses with fuel efficient busses.



Headlee Ballot Proposal Information

Why is the Headlee Restoration needed?

- To maintain the full 18 mill levy on non-homestead property originally approved by voters in 1995 for a period of 20 years. There will be **NO COST INCREASE to HOMESTEAD (primary residence) PROPERTY OWNERS.** The 18 mill levy is reduced by Headlee when the value of non-homestead property in the school district increases at a rate higher than the rate of inflation.
- To replace the 2.25 mill Headlee Restoration proposal, which voters approved in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. This restoration expired on December 31, 2010.
- To allow EJPS to receive the full student foundation grant (currently \$7,316 per-student) from the State of Michigan.
- To **make sure that EJPS doesn't lose \$344,823 in operational revenues in 2011-2012**, an amount that will be lost if the measure isn't approved by voters.
- A vote is necessary to **ALLOW THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO CONTINUE TO COLLECT THE FULL 18 MILLS ORIGINALLY APPROVED BY VOTERS in 1995** on non-homestead properties such as apartment buildings, rental homes, vacation homes and commercial/industrial properties.

What is the proposal?

- At the May 3rd annual school election, school district voters will be asked to vote to restore up to 2.25 mills on non-homestead properties for a period of one (1) year. The ballot will identify this issue as a "Operating Millage Renewal Proposal."
- If approved by voters, the school district can, by law, levy only the portion of the 2.25 mills necessary to **restore** the millage rate to 18 mills on non-homestead property. Homestead property owners will continue to pay the 6 mill levy, and will not be affected by the proposal.
- EJPS levied 18.00 mills on non-homestead property in the school district in 2010-2011. If the proposal is approved by voters, the district will continue to levy 18.00 mills on non-homestead property in the district in 2011-2012.
- A successful vote will result in **NO INCREASE to homestead property owners.**

2011 - 2012 Kindergarten Registration

East Jordan Elementary School

Safe . . . Caring . . . Inviting



**Call 231-536-7564
to Sign Up for
Kindergarten Registration!**

Kindergarten Registration Dates

**Tuesday, April 19 from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 21 from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.**

We welcome all children who will be 5 years old on or before December 1, 2011.

Meet the Kindergarten teachers!

**Discover why EJ Elementary School is a great place to learn!
Receive materials to make your child's Kindergarten year successful!**

East Jordan Elementary School offers a wide range of programs and opportunities that make our school a great place to learn and grow!

**Five-day, Full-day Kindergarten
Several On-site Preschool Programs
Before & After School Day Care
Highly Qualified & Caring Teachers
Music, Art, Physical Education, Library & Computer Experiences**

Attention Parents . . . District Nurse Joins Our Staff



Michelle Coleson, RN

East Jordan Public Schools is proud to announce the implementation of the School Nurse Program in partnership with Charlevoix Area Hospital and supported by grants from the Charlevoix Area Hospital Foundation, the Charlevoix County Community Foundation and the Herbert and Grace Dow Foundation.

Michelle Coleson, RN, will have a multi-faceted role within the East Jordan Public School system, one that supports the physical, mental, emotional and social health of students and their success in the learning process. She will provide leadership and direction on the Coordinated Wellness Plan for staff and students. This will include committee work on health education and healthy food choices using the Michigan Model and the Michigan Health Education Standards.

As the school nurse, Michelle will oversee student medical issues while keeping an open dialog with parents. She will attend staff meetings and help to coordinate topics and resources with the school's health teachers. Education will be provided to staff to help them watch for health warning signs and assist the building secretaries in safe medication distribution. Michelle will participate in the PA226 committee that meets on a yearly basis to update and maintain the human growth and development curriculum. Additionally, in her role as the school nurse, she will maintain each school's medical records in a professional and confidential manner in accordance with state and federal regulations.

Michelle's email address is mcoleson@ejps.org; please feel free to contact her with any concerns. She will have an office at the Elementary School, however, she will be caring for students in all three buildings.

We are excited that the Charlevoix Area Hospital is able to provide this service to the students at East Jordan Public Schools.