

January 2017 BOE Briefs: Jerome Harrison School

- During the month of January and continuing throughout the spring, JHS teachers and administrators will be working with ACES consultants on becoming focused data teams and using data to identify problems of practice.
- JHS Art Teacher, Diane Remetta, presented an exhibition of her art work including “Summer River” on December 30 at Body Karma Studio in Clinton. The exhibition was a wonderful display of her artwork and talent and artwork was available for purchase.
- The JHS After School Enrichment Program began its second session on 1/10/17, following up on a very successful fall program. Events this semester include Hockey, Winter Club, Lego, Scientists, and other arts and crafts.
- JHS began its first after school reading support program “Reading is FUNdamental” on January 9. The program is led by Beth Parker and Diane Fitzgerald and offers reading support and instruction to identified students. The program will run through March and an additional session is planned for the spring.
- On Monday January 9th JHS student leadership members attended a state-wide elementary leadership conference at Sacred Heart University. Students attended with Colleen Stankewich and Beth Parker as well as parent volunteers. The students will share their learning with the school community later in the month.
- On 1/17/17 JHS representatives joined the district Tools for Schools workshop and training at NBIS as part of a district initiative to monitor and assess the health and air quality of schools.
- JHS students were treated to an author visit on 1/19/17. Emily Jenkins presented the craft of writing, illustrating, and telling a story. She shared her new book “A Greyhound, A Groundhog” as part of the presentation.
- In music, during the whole month of January, Grades K-2 will be celebrating the New Year and the winter season through singing, movement, and using instruments. The second half of the month will be spent working on music to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr., which will move into February for “Black History Month.” Preparation is also underway for the “Festival of the Arts” performance in March.
- The school climate team met during January to continue assessment and performance related to the KIND expectations, to plan our KIND assemblies, and to plan school-wide surveying regarding climate.
- JHS students will complete mid-year benchmarks during January using the computer-based I-Ready assessment system. These data will be reviewed by school and grade level teams to determine further intervention.
- All JHS teachers will participate in classroom walkthroughs and PLC discussions regarding school goals and high quality instruction and support for students on 1/25/17. The focus of this walkthrough will be on evidence of social emotional learning and support.
- The monthly JHS KIND Assembly will be held on 1/25/17 and the focus will be a school-wide Spelling Bee in accordance with Quinnipiac University and that National Spelling Bee.
- Throughout January math coach, Meg Peterson and literacy coach, Patti Darragh will be working with grade level teams and curriculum teams to continue to develop and revise content as well as redefine assessment methods in accordance with district and school curriculum and instruction expectations.
- The second annual JHS Wellness Fair is scheduled for 1/26/17 where grade level presentations and community member presentations will occur around the theme of wellness. We are expecting another wonderful event for students, parents, and the community building on the success of last year.
- On 1/27 student of the month winners were honored at a breakfast in the JHS café including parents and staff members; this continues to be a yearlong effort to celebrate successful students.