

THIS ISSUE

- Donor Thanks
- January Character Trait: "Self-Discipline"
- School Tax Levy at A Glance
- Featured School: East Elementary
 - Character Medals Awarded
 - First Graders Enjoy Feast
 - Computer Lab
 - "Kids Vote 2004" a Success
 - "Student of the Week" Program
 - "Super Poppers"
- Harassment Policy/Dates to Remember
- January Calendar of Events

School District

NEWS



JANUARY

2005

Published by the School District of Jefferson
www.jefferson.k12.wi.us

206 S. Taft Avenue, Jefferson, WI 53549
 (920) 675-1000

DONOR THANKS

by Michael Swartz, Superintendent

During 2004, the Jefferson Board of Education accepted a wide variety of donations with a combined total exceeding \$60,000! The district is very appreciative of the generosity of our donors, and a sincere "THANK YOU" is extended to the following individuals/organizations for their generosity over the past year:

- Council for the Performing Arts
- East Elementary P.T.O.
- Gaugert's Automotive
- Candy Heggie
- JAWS
- Jefferson Athletic Booster Club
- Jefferson County Police Association
- Jefferson FFA Alumni
- Jefferson Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3589 and Ladies Auxiliary
- Kiwanis Club
- Steve Landfried
- Steve Lewis
- McDonald's
- Jefferson Middle School PTO
- Jefferson High School Gymnastics
- Team & Mike Garrow
- Janelle Schmidt
- Shadow FAX
- Sullivan Elementary PATHS
- West Elementary P.A.T.H.
- Wisconsin Potter Supply
- Emily Yachinich

January Character Trait:

Self-Discipline

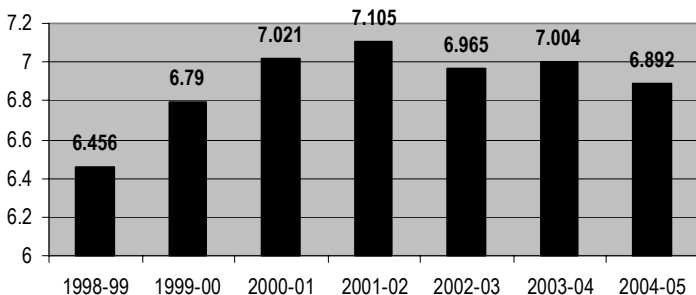
"Demonstrating hard work."

SCHOOL TAX LEVY AT A GLANCE

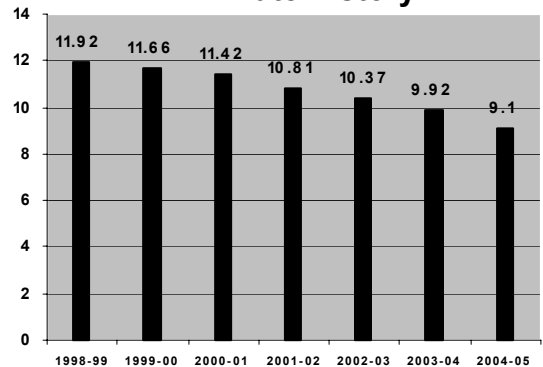
by Laura Peachey, Director of Business Services

School districts in Wisconsin work under a complicated formula involving state aid, student membership, and property values in order to determine how much they are allowed to tax each year. These factors affect each district differently. Across Wisconsin, school tax levies increased by 7.3% for 2004-2005, but as shown in the chart below the School District of Jefferson's tax levy is actually **lower** than it has been since the 1999-2000 school year.

Tax Levy (in millions)



Mill Rate History



The district's mill rate (per thousand dollars of property value) has declined each year since 1998-1999. From 2003-2004 to 2004-2005 the mill rate declined an additional \$0.82/thousand to its current rate of \$9.10. At its high point in 1992-93, the district's mill rate was \$19.71.

Senior Citizens' Lunch Days

Lunch for senior citizens is provided at the High School (675-1100) or Sullivan Elementary (675-1500). Please call the appropriate telephone number to notify the Student Nutrition staff of your interest to participate.

11:00 a.m.

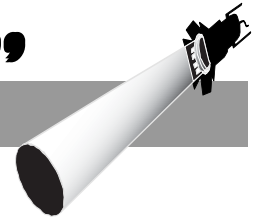
January 5:
January 19:

Sloppy Joe, Cauliflower with Cheese, Orange Wedges, Dessert
Special Menu to be Announced



**January's
Featured
School**

"In the Spotlight"

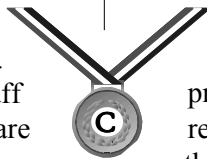


EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Character Medals Awarded

by Connie Pellmann, East Elementary Principal

In keeping with the district's "Character in Action" initiative, staff and students at East Elementary are taking the opportunity to nominate friends for character awards. By using a nomination form, staff members, as well as students, are able to recognize East Elementary family members for exemplifying a particular character trait. We recognize students and staff for the character trait of the month, as well as some other



traits like cooperation and kindness. The recipients are awarded a small, colorful plastic medal that can be worn on a key chain or necklace. Our students are proud, excited, and honored to receive these medals and wear them with pride. With each character trait designated by a different color, an

array of colors are visible in the halls as students proudly display their medals.

Through this recognition program we hope to further develop good character among our students and staff.



Abbey Anfang, second grader, receives her Character Award from Principal Connie Pellmann.

First Graders Enjoy Feast

by Kristi Schroeder and Joan Thostenson, First Grade Teachers



On November 23, all the first graders at East Elementary wrapped up their units on the Pilgrims and Native Americans with a Thanksgiving feast. Once again, the annual event was enjoyed by all. The meal included two roasted turkeys, mashed potatoes, corn, applesauce, carrots, cornbread muffins with honey, and pumpkin pie.

The students attended the feast dressed in clothing they had made themselves. Mrs. Thostenson's class came as the Pilgrims. The Pilgrim girl outfits included blue and white Pilgrim hats, white collars, and aprons, while Pilgrim boys wore black Pilgrim hats with gold buckles and white collars. Ms. Schroeder's class came as the Native Americans and their outfits consisted of headdresses and "animal skin" vests decorated with Native American symbols.

The first graders also experienced meal preparation by peeling the potatoes and carrots. They also helped make the pumpkin pies and cornbread muffins by using their math skills to measure the ingredients.

A hearty thanks is extended to all who helped make this feast a success. It could not have been done without you!

Computer Lab

*by Mary Ellen Sonnenberg,
Library/Media Specialist*

This past summer brought about a welcome change to East Elementary School's computer lab. The lab received 30 new Dell computers with flat screen monitors. These new machines have provided students with an exposure to software programs such as: Publisher, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Kidspiration, and Inspiration 6. Students have had an opportunity to work on various projects utilizing the new software as well as various websites. Both the software and the websites have strengthened students' math, science, and social studies skills.

It has been heartwarming to see the excitement and pride on the students' faces when they finished their projects.

“Kids Vote 2004” a Success

by Wendy Schneller, Grade 4 Teacher and Jacob Wichman, Grade 5 Teacher

East Elementary was actively involved in this year’s presidential election. The fourth and fifth grade students at East Elementary, under the direction of their teachers Mr. Wichman and Mrs. Schneller, conducted an all-school election.

Two teams of four students each were chosen to represent each presidential candidate. Once chosen, the two teams worked very hard preparing and researching their candidate. Additionally, they prepared posters and speeches to present to each grade level.

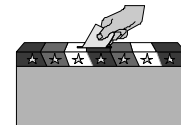
In preparation for the big event, the conference room was fully decorated with red, white, and blue. On election day, fourth and fifth grade helpers controlled the election poll, the counting of the ballots, and the distribution of pencils, bookmarks, and cookies to all students after they voted.

The ballots were counted and the results were in...East Elementary voted for President George W. Bush to continue in office with 178 votes compared to John Kerry’s 117.



Pictured above (left to right) are student voters Meghan Cummings and Lindsey Felth.

Kids Vote 2004 was a great learning experience for the entire school. A special thank you is extended to everyone who participated and for the flexibility of the staff!



“Student of the Week” Program

by Joan Thostenson, First Grade Teacher



Nick Gallitz, Grade 1, displays some of his favorite things—model end loaders.

Throughout the school year, the students in Mrs. Thostenson’s class are recognized as being “Top Banana.” During each student’s chosen week, many activities take place to make them feel extra special. Examples of the activities enjoyed include sharing pictures and information about themselves on the “Top Banana” bulletin board, bringing in their favorite book, filling the guessing jar with things for classmates to estimate how many it holds, or sharing their favorite things.

During Nick Gallitz’s “Top Banana” week in November, he shared with the class one of his favorite things—his dad brought in one of their front end loaders that they use in their business. Nick and his dad told the class about the machine and then they all got to climb up the ladder to see what the inside of the cab looked like. Nick also shared with the class some of his model end loaders that are similar to the one used by his dad.

A special thanks to Mr. Gallitz for bringing his end loader to school and to Nick for sharing his models!

“Super Poppers”

by Kathy Volk, Speech Clinician

Stop by East Elementary on the first Tuesday of each month and the wonderful aroma of freshly popped movie-style popcorn will greet you! If you follow your nose you will find “Super Poppers” hard at work filling popcorn orders for staff to enjoy during their morning break.

“Super Poppers,” a group of students working under the direction of Mrs. Volk and Mrs. Irish, take orders (25 cents per bag), pop the popcorn, fill the bags, and deliver as many as 30 bags

of popcorn to staff. They are responsible for all aspects of the business, including counting the money, budgeting for needed supplies, graphing sales, and filling orders.



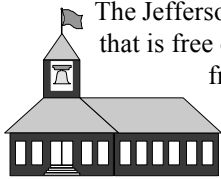
Pictured above are “Super Poppers” Martin Cano, Brandon Reed, McCoy Jaeckel, McKinly Jaeckel, and Josh Taft. Not pictured is Dakota Kelm.

This business venture has taught the students communication skills, cooperation, and responsibility.

District Harassment Policy

by Michael Swartz, Superintendent

The School District of Jefferson provides a safe work and school environment for students and staff. A safe work and school environment is free of verbal/non-verbal, physical, and sexual harassment and is free of intimidation or hostile/offensive behavior toward and between students and adults. Consequently, the district will not tolerate this type of behavior.



The Jefferson Board of Education supports a work and educational environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The Board's authority is derived from state laws that allow school boards to establish rules pertaining to student conduct to maintain a favorable academic atmosphere, Wisconsin fair employment laws, and student nondiscrimination laws. It is therefore the policy of the Board that employees, students, and others are prohibited from engaging in any form of harassment toward employees, students, or other persons in the school environment.

No employee, student, or other person in the school environment shall attempt to restrain, interfere with, coerce, discriminate against, take reprisal against, retaliate against, or submit to retribution a complainant(s), witness(es), target(s) of harassment, or person(s) participating in an investigation during or after the presentation, processing, or resolution of a complaint. Follow-up interviews shall occur in every case, regardless of the outcome, to ensure compliance with district policy. Such conduct will not be tolerated by the district.

Staff and students who violate this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or expulsion.

If you would like a complete copy of Policy ACA - Harassment, please contact Superintendent Mike Swartz at the District Office (920-675-1010).

January Calendar of Events

- 1 * **NO SCHOOL - New Year's Day**
- 3 * East, West, and Sullivan Elem.
Grade 5 Girls' Basketball Begins
* Sullivan PATHS Meeting, 3:15 p.m.,
Sullivan Cafeteria
* MS Girls' Basketball Begins
* MS Wrestling Begins
- 4 * G BB @ Fort
* Gymnastics (H) Waterford
* B Swimming @ Fort
* Wrestling @ Columbus
* MS PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m., MS
Cafeteria
- 6 * B BB (H) Westosha
- 7 * G BB (H) Whitewater
* Gymnastics (H) Elkhorn
- 8 * B Swimming @ Monona Grove
- 10 * Gymnastics (H) Waupun

- 10 * Financial Aid Presentation, 6:30 p.m.,
HS Auditorium
* HS Booster Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m.,
Room M1 @ HS
- 11 * B BB (H) Delavan-Darien
* B Swimming (H) Platteville & Elkhorn
* Wrestling @ Hustisford
* West PATHS Meeting, 6:30 p.m.,
at West Library
- 13 * G BB (H) Beaver Dam
* Wrestling @ Elkhorn
* East PTO Meeting, 3:15 p.m., at East
Library
* 7th G BB @ Milton; 8th (H)
* Grade 5 Band Concert, 7:00 p.m.,
HS Auditorium
- 14 * B BB @ Elkhorn
* Second Friday Count Date
- 15 * Gymnastics @ Whitewater
- 17 * 7th & 8th G BB @ J. Creek
- 18 * G BB @ Delavan-Darien
* Special Connections Group Meeting,
6:00 p.m., East Elem. Library

Dates to Remember

■ Intra-district Transfers

Elementary parents may request attendance for their child(ren) outside their elementary school attendance area for the upcoming school year. A written request must be filed with the Superintendent during the period of February 1 - May 30. A written response will take place within 30 days.

■ Open Enrollment

Application forms for the 2005-06 school year must be submitted to the nonresident school district between the dates of **February 7-25, 2005**.

■ Early Admissions

District residents are reminded of the requirements contained in Board Policy JEB as it relates to early admissions of students. Outlined in the policy are ten conditions and procedures for early admission.

It should be noted that a written request for early admission needs to be submitted to the Superintendent by the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) by no later than **March 1** of the year the child proposes to enter kindergarten or first grade.

- 18 * MS Wrestling (H) Watertown
- 20 * B BB @ Milton
* Wrestling (H) Delavan-Darien
* 7th G BB @ Watertown; 8th (H)
- 21 * G BB (H) Elkhorn
* End of Second Quarter
- 22 * Gymnastics @ Watertown
- 24 * **3-Hour Early Dismissal**
* Staff Development - P.M.
* **School Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.,
East Elem. Library**
- 25 * B BB (H) East Troy
* B Swimming (H) Milton
* 7th G BB @ L. Mills; 8th (H)
- 27 * G BB (H) Milton
* Gymnastics @ Westosha
* B Swimming @ Badger
* Wrestling @ East Troy
* 7th G BB (H) 8th @ Fort
- 28 * B BB @ Fort
* **District Newsletter in Advertiser**
- 29 * Wrestling JV Tournament @ Fort
* Gymnastics @ Elkhorn

January 10-14
Kindergarten Registration for
Sullivan, East, and West Elementary Schools
(register at appropriate school)