

THIS ISSUE

- December Character Trait: "Caring"
- "True to Life" Group to Speak
- Recycling Success Continues
- Featured School: High School
 - Greetings from JHS Principal
 - North Central Accreditation
 - JHS Students Assist with Election
 - Hispanic Career Fair
 - Save Those Caps
 - The Beat Goes On!
- December Calendar of Events

School District

NEWS



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December Character Trait: "Caring"

Showing understanding of others by treating them with kindness, compassion, generosity, and a forgiving spirit.

by Sandy Swartz, Character Education Volunteer Coordinator

The character trait that will be emphasized during the month of December is "Caring." To highlight this trait, random acts of kindness will be prevalent throughout the community during the month of December. It is our hope that these random acts of kindness will multiply as individuals are touched with a kind act.

For the first three Mondays in December, the Character Education initiative will be sponsoring free donuts and coffee for passersby at four locations throughout the City of Jefferson. In addition to this activity, there will be a symbol to place in your home or business window that will indicate you have received a random act of kindness and have "passed it on." Our goal is that by the end of the month, all homes/businesses in the community will have a symbol of kindness on display.

"True to Life" Group to Speak on Abstinence

by Donald Nolan, Director of Special Education and Pupil Services

During assemblies on December 2, grade 8-12 students will be provided an opportunity to hear "True To Life," and their message of abstinence before marriage. "True To Life" is a diverse group of six high school graduates, ages 17-21, who are funded by a state grant and travel the state to share their message of sexual abstinence, teen parenting, and reclaiming your abstinence.

Parents, mark your calendars for **Wednesday, December 1, 2004**, to join the True to Life team and hear their message firsthand. The parent assembly will begin at 7:00 p.m., and will be held in

the high school choir room (M32). This will be an excellent opportunity for parents to hear what their young adults will hear, and provide an opportunity to share ideas and concerns with others.

A 2003 survey of 1,000 teens by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy showed that 92% of teens surveyed said it is important that they receive a strong message from society that they abstain from sex. Don't miss this opportunity to join other parents as we try to guide our young people to make healthy choices in life. This event is open to parents of all children in the area.

Recycling Success Continues

*by Mary Ellen Taylor,
Recycling Coordinator*

Thank you to all who have been sending in used cell phones and empty inkjet and laser cartridges for the district's recycling program. Since the start of the program one year ago, the district has earned over \$2,100 from this initiative and kept a substantial amount of recyclable material from going into local landfills. The district has used the funds it has earned to purchase classroom and building recycling containers for paper, plastics, aluminum, and other recyclable materials. Students, staff, and community members are becoming increasingly aware of the district's recycling efforts. Recycling containers, rather than garbage containers, are needing to be emptied more regularly.

Please continue to support this program by saving your used cell phones and empty printer cartridges. These can be dropped off at any school building or at the District Office. Suggestions, comments or questions can be shared by contacting Mary Ellen at 920-675-1041. Together, we're making a difference.

Senior Citizens' Lunch Days

11:00 a.m.

December 1

Chickenburger
Tater Tots
Pears & Peas

December 15

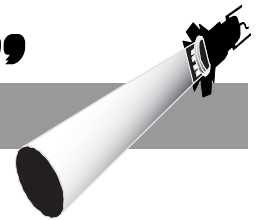
Salisbury Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans, Roll

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.



December's
Featured
School

"In the Spotlight"



JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

GREETINGS!

There are many ways to go about school improvement, but the key point is to constantly strive to make our schools better. Here at Jefferson High School we have chosen to be an accredited high school and follow the framework for school improvement provided by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. We have a proud tradition of being a NCA member since 1917.

Richard Lovett, Principal
Jefferson High School

One of six regional accrediting associations nationwide, NCA CASI accredits more than 9,000 schools, touching over five million students.

How does a school earn NCA CASI accreditation?

To be accredited, schools must:

- 1) *Meet NCA's high standards.* The standards address all aspects of schooling, ensuring that: students are taught by qualified teachers, class sizes are reasonable, the curriculum is sound and rigorous, student services and activity programs are plentiful, and schools are safe and financially stable.
- 2) *Implement a school improvement plan.* Schools must demonstrate continuous improvement. They must implement an improvement plan, based on data, that includes clear goals for raising the achievement of all students, and they must document growth in student performance.
- 3) *Host an external peer review team.* Schools must be evaluated by a team of professionals from outside the school—this is known as the external peer review team. The team engages the school in a healthy professional dialog about what the school personnel are doing and what more they could be doing to benefit students.

Each year, schools report on how they are meeting the standards. They also submit external team reports and documentation from their school

improvement efforts to NCA CASI. These materials are used in determining the accreditation status for each school.

What does accreditation mean to me?

It means that you can rest assured that your children are receiving a quality education.

It means that:

- Your children are taught by qualified teachers;
- Their classes are appropriately staffed;
- They are receiving a rich, diverse, and sound curriculum;
- They can participate in a wide array of student activities;
- They have access to a range of support services; and
- The school meets safety standards.

It means that the credits your children earn will be recognized by schools, colleges, and universities around the world.

It means that your children have access to specific sports programs, certain federal loans, various scholarships, and admission to colleges, technical schools, or military programs that require students to come from regionally accredited schools.

It means that your children are taught by faculty who are dedicated to assisting student achievement. A recent study of schools actively implementing NCA CASI's process showed that 79% achieved verifiable gains in student performance.



Parent Guide

What is accreditation?

Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools. The goal of accreditation is to evaluate, verify and improve each school's quality.

What is NCA CASI?

Founded in 1895, the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization that accredits public and private schools and school districts in 19 states, the Navajo Nation, and the Department of Defense Dependents' Schools overseas.

NCA CASI accreditation means that your school has opened its doors to review and validation from an organization that has over 100 years of experience in evaluating educational quality.

How can I get involved?

Become informed:

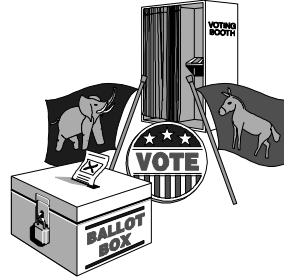
- Talk with your school principal about the school's accreditation and improvement efforts.

Volunteer:

- Volunteer to assist the school administration and faculty with their school improvement efforts. Ask your school principal and/or your children's teachers how and where you can be of greatest assistance.

JHS Students Assist City of Jefferson with Election

by Richard Lovett, Jefferson High School Principal



During the November 2 election, 12 Jefferson High School students served as registration officials for the City of Jefferson. Participating were: Jared Boltz, Melissa Salmon, Nicole Bleecker, Tyler King, Nicole Oschmann, Steve Miller, Rebecca Adams, Kristin Beccue, Jenny Spangler, Lauren Olson, Jen Zastrow, and Ross Lewis.

Demonstrating the character trait of "Citizenship," these students worked under the direction of Tanya Stewart, City of Jefferson Clerk/Treasurer.

The requirements for assisting with the voter registration process were that the students participate in specialized training by City of Jefferson staff, be at least 16 years of age, and have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.



Hispanic Career Fair



by Vicki Ruiz and
Emmanuel Martinez-Barradas

On October 15, 2004, 28 Latino students from Jefferson High School went to the University of Wisconsin-Madison to attend the 23rd Annual State of Wisconsin Hispanic Youth Career Fair. We were among 400 other Hispanic students from around the state of Wisconsin.

While at the Hispanic Youth Fair, we had the opportunity to listen to Hispanic leaders who told us about their accomplishments and how we can do whatever we put our minds to. Everyone was separated into specific groups according to their interests. In our group, we were made aware of the many opportunities that are available to us.

There are many opportunities out there; we just have to want them. Our futures are in our hands, and the many talented Hispanic leaders showed us that anything is possible if we give ourselves the chance to succeed.



El día 15 de Octubre 2004, veintiocho estudiantes latinos de Jefferson High School fueron a la Universidad de Wisconsin - Madison para atender el vigesimo tercero feria anual para la juventud hispano. Estábamos entre 400 otros estudiantes hispánicos de todas partes del estado de Wisconsin.

Nosotros, tuvimos la oportunidad de escuchar a líderes hispánicos. Nos dijeron de las cosas que han

logrado y nos dijeron que nosotros podemos hacer cualquier cosa que queremos. Estabamos separados en grupos específicos según nuestros intereses. En nuestros grupos nos dimos cuenta de todas las oportunidades que estan disponible a nosotros.

Hay muchas oportunidades para nosotros; nomas tenemos que desearlas. Nuestros futuros están en nuestras manos, y los talentosos líderes hispánicos nos demostraron que cualquier cosa es posible si nos damos la oportunidad de tener éxito.

Save Those Caps

by Lisa Spice, Science Teacher

Last year the Science Department at Jefferson High School was given an opportunity to raise funds to buy some much-needed equipment through Kemp's Give 'em Five milk cap program and Foremost Farms Kid\$, Cap\$ & Ca\$h program. Both



programs have specially marked milk caps or a proof of purchase symbol (POPS) that can earn our science department five cents per cap. This doesn't sound like much, but if a good number of our families save their milk caps or proof of purchase symbols and bring them to the school, we can potentially raise hundreds of dollars. Each member of the JHS science department is involved in collecting these caps or POPS. Each classroom has its own collection container to help keep

track of the individual class's progress. In the end, all the caps and POPS are pooled together and turned in for cash. Last year, over 4,000 caps were collected, totaling a little over \$200.

For more information on the Give Em Five program, please log on to www.kemps.com or for more information about Morning Glory's Kid\$, Cap\$ & Ca\$h log on to www.foremostfarms.com. For any other questions, please contact Lisa Spice at spicel@jefferson.k12.wi.us.

The Beat Goes On!

by Megan Halinski, Band Instructor

The Jefferson High School Band has closed their fall marching band season. As always, the students had yet another successful show. The band performed selections including *Spitfire*, *Big Noise from Winnetka*, and *Twistin' the Night Away*. The percussion section and flag squad were featured with *Russian Sailor's Dance*. Some recent releases were added as stand still features, including *Hey Ya* and *Crazy In Love*. The classic *Yes Indeed!* closed the show, featuring the trumpet section. Ashley Weissman was this year's drum major, and Caitlin Gibson and Jennifer Nilsestuen were this year's flag squad captains. The Outstanding Individual Marcher Award was given to Erin Catalani, and the Outstanding Marching Rank Awards were awarded to Rank 6: Matt Findlay, Mike Buroker, Tim Jacobson, Mike Redmond, and Peter Friederichs. Mark your calendars for the upcoming



holiday concert to be held on Monday December 13, at 7:00 p.m., in the High School auditorium. This concert will feature many holiday musical selections played by the concert band and symphonic band. Please join the students in their musical celebration of the season.

December Calendar of Events

- 2 * 3-Hour Early Dismissal
- * Wrestling (H) Milton
- * Sullivan P.A.T.H.S. Secret Santa Sales
- * East Grade 5 Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m., East Gym
- * 7th & 8th B BB (H) J. Creek
- 3 * G BB @ Elkhorn
- * Sullivan P.A.T.H.S. Secret Santa Sales
- 4 * Wrestling @ Cambridge
- 6 * Sullivan P.A.T.H.S. Mtg., 3:15 p.m., Sullivan Cafeteria
- * B BB @ Lake Mills

HS Progress Report Week (Dec. 6-10)

- 7 * East Grades 1-2 Holiday Program, 6:00 p.m., East Gym
- * MS PTO Mtg., 7:00 p.m., MS Cafeteria
- * 7th B BB (H); 8th @ Watertown
- 8 * B Swimming @ Whitewater

- 9 * B BB @ East Troy
- * Gymnastics @ Waupun
- * Wrestling (H) Fort
- * East Grades 3-4 Holiday Program, 6:00 p.m., East Gym
- * East P.T.O. Mtg., 3:15 p.m., East Library
- * 7th B BB (H); 8th @ L. Mills
- * MS Holiday Band & Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m., HS Auditorium
- 10 * G BB @ Milton
- 11 * Wrestling (H) JV Tournament
- 13 * G BB (H) Oregon
- * HS Winter Band/Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m., HS Auditorium
- * HS Booster Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Room M1 @ HS
- 14 * B BB (H) Fort
- * B Swimming (H) Delavan-Darien
- * East Kindergarten Holiday Program, 2:00 p.m., East Gym
- * West P.A.T.H.S. Mtg., 6:00 p.m., Libr.

- 14 * 7th B BB @ Fort; 8th (H)
- 15 * HS Choir Tour Day
- 16 * G BB (H) East Troy
- * Gymnastics @ Milton
- * Wrestling @ Whitewater
- * West Grade 5 Choral Presentation, 7:00 p.m., @ West
- * Sullivan Holiday Program, 7:00 p.m., HS Auditorium
- 17 * B BB @ Whitewater
- 20 * **School Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., HS Library**
- 21 * B BB (H) McFarland

Winter Break (Dec. 23-31)

- 25 * CHRISTMAS DAY
- 27 * G BB Badger Tournament @ Lake Geneva
- 28 * G BB Badger Tournament @ Lake Geneva
- 30 * B BB @ Lakeside
- 31 * **District Newsletter in Advertiser**