



Jefferson County Middle School

A Community of Students, Parents, and Staff

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<https://www.jcsd.k12.or.us/schools/jcms>

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Dear Jefferson County Middle School Families,

The year is off and running with the end of the first quarter approaching. We are excited about the opportunities that students are experiencing in the classroom, around the school, and in our extracurricular programs.

We believe a strong partnership between home and school is crucial for your child's success. You can support your child's learning and attendance by:

- Creating a consistent daily routine that includes a healthy balance of sleep, meals, and study time.
- Setting aside a quiet and organized space for homework and studying.
- Encouraging regular communication with teachers to stay informed about your child's progress.
- Reinforcing the importance of attending school regularly and arriving on time.
- Discussing school activities and showing genuine interest in your child's education.

Please check the JCMS website for events (athletics, socials, etc.) and updates.

As we prepare for the start of quarter two, we wanted to share some important information with you:

Parent Teacher Conferences

The school district will host conferences on Monday, October 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. JCMS will hold conferences in the commons and gym areas. Teachers will have sign-ups for 10-minute conferences. Additionally, we also ask that parents/guardians update their contact information with our office when they are here. This is an excellent opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers and get access to PowerSchool and ParentSquare if needed.

Tutoring

Tutoring will be in the JCMS library Tuesday through Thursday from 3:05 p.m. to 3:55 p.m. in the library.

Students who need extra help/time or computer access can use this time. Sign-up sheets are available in the office, as your student will need your permission to attend.

Grade Reports

Each Friday, your student will complete a self-evaluation grade report. Students will focus on current grades, what is going well, and what they need to work on or have more support. This is a great opportunity for families to discuss their student's academic progress. Students who return the report with your signature are entered in a drawing for prizes.

Clothing/Dress Code

With colder temperatures coming, students should have proper clothing for the elements. We also ask that you review the school dress code policy, provided in our student handbook, with your student to ensure that students are meeting the expectations.

Spirit Week, Scary Social, and Halloween Costumes

Spirit Week 10/23 to 10/27- School dress code must be followed on dress-up days.

- Tuesday 10/24 Pajama Day
- Wednesday 10/25 Sports Day
- Thursday 10/26 Twin Day
- Friday 10/27 Hawaiian Day

Scary Social

- JCMS will host this dance/social on Friday, October 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. Students can wear Halloween costumes as long as they meet the dress code.
- The event is only for JCMS students, costing \$3 for an individual or \$5 for a pair.
- Concession items will be available for students to purchase items.

- Once students enter the dance, we will encourage students to stay the entire time. However, if a student leaves the dance, they will not be allowed to re-enter the dance.
- Please pick your students up after the dance (8 p.m.)

Halloween Costumes

- On Halloween, students can wear costumes to school as long as they meet school dress code expectations and do not cover their faces.

Picture Retakes

Retakes are on October 25th between 8 a.m. and noon.

Athletics

During the fall season (VB, FB, and XC), JCMS had over 140 students participate in after-school athletics. Here are some upcoming events.

- October 30
 - First Boys BB practice (7 & 8 grade only). Athletes must have their athletic packet completed and turned in.
- November 1
 - Boys BB parent/guardian information night (schedules, coaches, etc.) @ 5:30 pm in the commons.
 - End of season FB, VB, and XC awards @ 6 pm in the commons
- December 14
 - End of season Boys BB awards @ 5:30 in the JCMS commons
- January 3
 - First Girls BB (7 & 8) and Wrestling(6-8) practices. Athletes must have their athletic packet completed and turned in.

School Resource Officers (SRO)

JCMS School District has partnered with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department to provide SRO service. Deputy Turner and Deputy Lane are the primary SROs at JCMS and are here to support students, staff, and families. As a vital part of our team, the Deputies focus on preventative procedures and practices to support student success. Additionally, they help to ensure that JCMS is a safe and respectful place for everyone.

Start times

Attending school and being on time is extremely important for student success. Please ensure you get your child to school on time and encourage them to be here as much as possible. Missing only 10 minutes a day would result in missing 50 minutes of instruction per week or one entire class, 450 minutes a quarter (9 class periods), and 1800 minutes a year (39 class periods).

- *Monday (late start) 9:30 a.m. to 2:54 p.m.*
 - Doors open at 9:10 am (breakfast served from 9:10 am - 9:25 am).
 - The first bell rings at 9:23 a.m. Classes begin at **9:30 a.m.**
 - The end of the school day is 2:54 p.m.
- *Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am to 2:54 pm*
 - Doors open at 7:40 am (breakfast served from 7:40 am - 7:55 am)
 - The first bell rings at 7:53 a.m. Class begins at **8:00 a.m.**
 - The end of the school day is 2:54 p.m.

School Wide expectations

JCMS encourages parents/guardians to discuss the following with their student(s). We need continued support to ensure JCMS is a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students.

- **Phones/Electronics:** This practice is going exceptionally well, and we thank you for your support. Students will be expected to keep phones/electronics off and away as soon as they arrive on campus and store them in their lockers during the school day.

The following are two areas where JCMS could use some additional support from families.

- **Physical/verbal aggression:** We are experiencing an uptick in students being aggressive with each other and, in several instances, leading to a physical altercation. JCMS has increased supervision and is providing lessons to students about being safe, responsible, and respectful.

- Vaping: Unfortunately, vapes seem easily obtained by students, and JCMS has seen a significant increase in usage and possession. While the SROs and JCMS staff constantly monitor the school for these items, we ask you to discuss vapes and other illegal substances with your student.

Thank you for your continued support of Jefferson County Middle School.

Dr. Brent Walsh, Principal, & Shannon Richards, Assistant Principal