



# J-HAWK JOURNAL

JESUP COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025

## APRIL/MAY ACTIVITIES:

**Monday, Apr. 21** – No School (PD)

**Sunday, Apr. 27** – 1:00-2:00 pm -  
FFA Banquet @ North Gym

**Tuesday, Apr. 29** – 5:30-7:30 pm -  
Elementary Spring Concert @ South Gym

**Thursday, May 1** – Dollars for Scholars

**Tuesday, May 6** – HS Spring Concert

**Thursday, May 8th** – 1:15 pm - Early Out

**Saturday, May 10** – 8:00 am -  
Large Group Contest

**Monday, May 12** – 6:00-7:00 pm - School  
Board Meeting @ EL/MS Media Center

**Thursday, May 15** – MS Pops Concert

**Sunday, May 18** – 2:00-3:00 pm -  
Commencement

**Monday, May 19** – College Planning &  
Financial Aid Night

**Monday, May 26** – NO SCHOOL  
(Memorial Day)

**Tuesday, May 27** – 6:30 pm - 8th Grade  
Promotion Celebration @ South Gym

**Friday, May 30** – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL  
Dismissal at 1:15 pm (End of 4th Qtr, 3rd Trim.)

**FOR ALL ATHLETIC EVENTS  
PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR**

**APRIL CALENDAR**

**ONLINE**

**MAY CALENDAR**

**ONLINE**

*All event dates and times  
are subject to change due  
to weather, illness or other  
unforeseen circumstances.*



## Renovations Underway at Jesup Baseball & Softball Complex

Renovation work is in full swing at the Jesup Baseball & Softball Complex. New backstops are being installed this season at Collett Field (Varsity Baseball), the Varsity Softball Field, and the SE Recreation Field. These upgrades will improve safety for players and fans alike.

The first phase of the project is expected to wrap up in early May, just in time for the start of the baseball and softball seasons. Coaches and players have adjusted their early practice schedules to allow the work to move forward. Additional improvements are scheduled for August, following the high school seasons and the annual Sandlot event.

As of April 10, the renovation committee has raised over \$870,000 toward the project. Fundraising efforts continue through grants and support from individuals and local businesses. To follow progress or learn how to contribute, visit the [Jesup Legacy Fund Facebook page](#).



## What's Cooking?

At school, there's always a meal ready to be served! Some mornings, it's tough to find the time to make sure your kids are eating a nutritious breakfast. On those days, why not send them to the School Breakfast Program?

Each meal meets federal nutritional guidelines and standards. Schools are required to provide a breakfast meal that includes fruit, whole-grain rich items, and low fat or fat free milk. Check your child's menu to see the variety of nutritious choices available at School Breakfast, or stop by to sample the food yourself.

# What Iowans Should know About Measles

Measles spreads easily and can be serious, especially for those who aren't vaccinated. It often starts with a high fever, cough, red eyes and small spots in the mouth. A few days later, a red rash spreads from the face down. Think you might have measles? Stay home and call your doctor – don't risk spreading it to others. Questions? Call Iowa Health and Human Services at 1-800-362-2736.



## What Iowans should know about Measles



### INITIAL SYMPTOMS

#### 7-21 days post exposure

- High fever (may spike to  $>104^{\circ}\text{F}$ )
- Cough
- Red eyes
- Runny nose
- Small bluish spots surrounded by red region on the inside of cheek



### RASH

#### 3-5 days after fever onset

A red, blotchy rash begins on the face at the hairline and progresses downward and outward towards the hands and feet.



### TRAVEL

#### 21 days before onset

- Have you traveled anywhere in the last 21 days where measles cases have been reported?
- Have you had contact with someone who has measles?



### MMR VACCINATION

The best way to prevent measles is to get vaccinated.



1 dose is **92-95%** effective against measles



2 doses are **97-99%** effective against measles

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE MEASLES



Call your health care provider and tell them you may have measles. They will give you instructions on how to be seen safely.



You should **not** sit in the waiting room or come through the main entrance because if you do have measles anyone in that area who is not vaccinated (like babies) will get sick.



Stay home until you see your health care provider.

**If you have questions about measles, call your local public health department or Iowa HHS at 1-800-362-2736**

This institution in an equal opportunity provider						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20/		22/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Muffin <b>LUNCH:</b> Breaded Chicken Patty w/ WG Bun - Corn - Toss Salad w/ LC Ranch - Frozen Fruit Slushie <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Combo Sub w/ WG Bun	23/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Breakfast Bar <b>LUNCH:</b> Turkey & Noodles - Dragon Punch Veggie Juice - Carrot Sticks w/ LC Ranch - Raisels <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun	24/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Pancake Sausage Stick <b>LUNCH:</b> Stuffed Crust Pizza - Shredded Romaine w/ LC Ranch - Cucumber Slices - Mixed Fruit Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Cheese Wrap	25/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Long John <b>LUNCH:</b> Mac & Cheese Bites - WG Chips - Baked Beans - Grape Tomatoes - Apple Slices <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham Turkey Cheese w/ WG Bun	26/
27/	28/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Fruit Frudel <b>LUNCH:</b> Sloppy Joe w/ WG Bun - Crinkle Cut Fries - Carrot Sticks w/ LC Ranch - Diced Strawberries <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham w/ WG Bun	29/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Mini Pancakes <b>LUNCH:</b> Breaded Corn Dog - Mixed Veggies - Cauliflower w/ LC Ranch - Pineapple Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Combo Sub w/ WG Bun	30/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Sausage Egg & Cheese Empanada <b>LUNCH:</b> Chicken Strips - Dinner Roll - Mashed Potatoes - Dragon Punch Veggie Juice - Applesauce Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun			

This institution in an equal opportunity provider		<div>May 2025</div>				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1% white milk, skim white milk, fat free chocolate milk offered for every meal.				1/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Yogurt Parfait <b>LUNCH:</b> Breaded Fish w/ WG Bun - Baked Beans - Cucumber Slices w/ LC Ranch - Raisels <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Cheese Wrap	2/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Churros <b>LUNCH:</b> Four Cheese Ravioli - Yogurt - Marinara - Fresh Broccoli w/ LC Ranch - Apple Slices - Frozen Yogurt <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham Turkey & Cheese w/ WG Bun	3/
4/	5/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Cinnamon Pretzel Stick <b>LUNCH:</b> Mac & Cheese - Soft Pretzel - Dragon Punch - Carrot Sticks w/ LC Ranch - Mixed Fruit Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham w/ WG Bun	6/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Sausage Egg Combo Link <b>LUNCH:</b> Walking Taco w/ WG Chips - Shredded Lettuce - Diced Tomato - Shredded Cheese - Apple Slices <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Combo Sub w/ WG Bun	7/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Egg & Cheese Bites <b>LUNCH:</b> Chicken Tetrazinni - Hashbrown Patty - Toss Salad w/ LC Ranch - Jello Fruit Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun	8/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Mini Donuts <b>LUNCH:</b> "Sack Lunch Style" Sandwich - WG Chips - Beef & Cheese Stick - Veggies & Fruit - WG Cookie <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Cheese Wrap	9/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Scrambled Eggs & Toast <b>LUNCH:</b> Hot Dog w/ WG Bun - Baked Beans - Grape Tomatoes w/ LC Ranch - Raisels - Sherbet <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham Turkey & Cheese w/ WG Bun	10/
11/	12/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Muffin <b>LUNCH:</b> Grilled Chicken w/ WG Bun - Steamed Carrots - Toss Salad w/ WG Bun - Apple Slices <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham w/ WG Bun	13/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> French Toast Sticks <b>LUNCH:</b> Chicken Quesadilla - Salsa - Celery Sticks w/ LC Ranch - Frozen Fruit Slushie <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Combo Sub w/ WG Bun	14/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Breakfast Pizza <b>LUNCH:</b> Popcorn Chicken - Mashed Potatoes - Cucumber Slices w/ LC Ranch - Diced Strawberries <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun	15/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Biscuits & Gravy <b>LUNCH:</b> Hot Ham & Cheese - Baked Beans - Dragon Punch - Applesauce <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Cheese Wrap	16/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Cinnamon Roll <b>LUNCH:</b> "Sack Lunch Style" Sandwich - WG Chips - Beef & Cheese Stick - Veggies & Fruit - WG Brookie <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham Turkey & Cheese w/ WG Bun	17/
18/	19/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Snackbread <b>LUNCH:</b> Hamburger w/ WG Bun - Smiley Fries - Tomato Slice - Jello Fruit Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham w/ WG Bun	20/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Mini Waffles <b>LUNCH:</b> Beef Taco Stick - Salsa - Toss Salad w/ LC Ranch - Diced Peaches Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Combo Sub w/ WG Bun	21/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Cheddar Cheese Omelet <b>LUNCH:</b> Chicken Nuggets - Corn - Dragon Punch - Mixed Fruit Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun	22/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Long John <b>LUNCH:</b> BBQ Rib w/ WG Bun - Baked Beans - Carrot Sticks w/ LC Ranch - Apple Slices <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Cheese Wrap	23/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Mc J-Hawk Breakfast Sandwich <b>LUNCH:</b> Stuffed Crust Pizza - Romaine - Cucumber Slices w/ LC Ranch - Raisels - Ice Cream <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun	24/
25/	<div></div>	27/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Breakfast Bar <b>LUNCH:</b> Crisпитos - Salsa - Fresh Broccoli w/ LC Ranch - Diced Strawberries <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Combo Sub w/ WG Bun	28/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Breakfast Bagel <b>LUNCH:</b> Pancake Sausage Stick w/ SF Syrup - Yogurt - Hashbrown Patty - Grape Tomatoes - Jello Juice Cup <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Ham & Cheese w/ WG Bun	29/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Mini Cinni <b>LUNCH:</b> Bratwurst w/ WG Bun - Baked Beans - Cucumber Slices w/ LC Ranch - Apple Slices <b>ALTERNATE:</b> Turkey Cheese Wrap	30/ <b>BREAKFAST:</b> Pop Tart <b>LUNCH:</b> "Sack Lunch Style" Sandwich - WG Chips - Beef & Cheese Stick - Fruit & Veggies - WG Cookie <b>ALTERNATE:</b> "COOK'S CHOICE"	31/

**BREAKFAST** options include cereal variety, oatmeal, toast, applesauce, fresh fruit, orange juice, apple juice, and grape juice

**SALAD BAR** offered for grades 5 - 12 daily. Items may include lettuce, fresh fruit and vegetables, canned fruits, diced egg, diced ham, pasta salad and yogurt

**\*\*MENUS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\***





## Family Movie Night Brings Fun to School

Families gathered at the elementary school recently for a fun-filled movie night featuring Dog Man. Laughter, snacks, and a great time were shared by all who attended. Hosting free, family-friendly events like this is something both our elementary staff and PTO are excited to offer. Keep an eye out – more events are on the way.



## Jesup Elementary Welcomes Future Students

Jesup Elementary recently hosted a successful round-up event for Preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten. Families had the chance to explore classrooms, meet staff and enjoy some fun activities. With great attendance and positive feedback, we're excited to welcome many new students next school year.



## Pennies for Pies Raises Over \$4,000 for Playground

Jesup Elementary's "Pennies for Pies for the Playground" fundraiser was a big success! Students brought in spare change to help support a new early childhood playground. The original goal was \$3,000 – but thanks to the generosity of students, families and staff, over \$4,000 was raised!

The 3rd grade team brought in the most money and earned a fun reward: a student got to throw a pie in their faces! Because the overall goal was crushed, Principal Brian Pottebaum also took a pie to the face. To top it off, 3rd grade students enjoyed a popsicle treat to celebrate. *Thank you to everyone who donated – and to those who still plan to.*







News From Our

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Jesup Elementary Students Are SOARRing!

At Jesup Elementary, students are recognized each week for showing SOARRing traits – being **S**afe, **O**pen-Minded, **A**ccountable, **R**espectful and **R**esponsible. These positive behaviors are celebrated across all grade levels.

**Congratulations to this week's SOARRing students:**



**Preschool:**  
Ellery Knutson and  
Isaac Sadler



**Pre-K:** Ryker Woiwod,  
Logan Olson and  
Kane Youngblut



**TK/Kindergarten:** Harlie  
Schmit, Everett Weber, Alex  
Morgan and Kamri Lamphier



**1st Grade:** Barrett Lentzkow,  
Ksennia Lupinosova and  
Tenley Christianson



**2nd Grade:** Ellarie Even, Jadyn  
Schwennen and Parkyr Derr



**3rd Grade:** Aiden Michels, Maribelle  
Sondag and Harper White



**4th Grade:** Jaqlyn O'Connor,  
Coralynn Reiersen and Layne Witt

## Jesup Elementary Nears Playground Fundraising Goal

Jesup Elementary is getting close to reaching its goal for a new Early Childhood playground. Thanks to the generous support of current sponsors, the project is well on its way – but a little more help is needed to bring it across the finish line.

The school is still welcoming additional sponsors to help make this much-needed playground a reality. To learn how you can contribute, reach out to the [Jesup Elementary PTO](#).





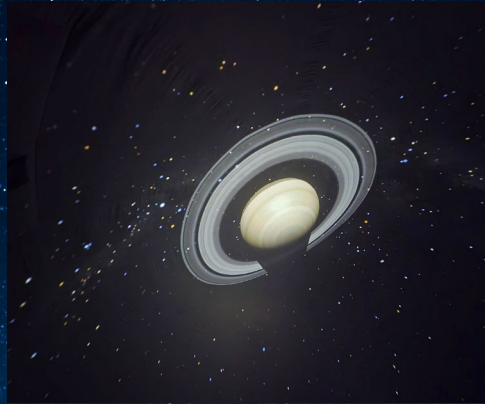


News From Our

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Star Lab Brings the Night Sky to School

Elementary students recently enjoyed a special visit from the mobile Star Lab. Mrs. Bird guided all K-4 classes through this exciting experience, sharing fun facts and stories about the stars and planets. It was a great way to bring science to life!



### Mark Your Calendar: Spring Concert Coming Soon

Jesup Elementary's TK-4 Spring Concert is coming up on Monday, April 29, at 5:30 p.m. Families are invited to come enjoy an evening of music and celebrate the hard work of our students. ***We hope to see you there.***



News From Our

## COMMUNITY REC.

### Summer Sports Update

Registration for all summer ball teams is now closed. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Brock Sabers** at [Bsabers@jesup.k12.ia.us](mailto:Bsabers@jesup.k12.ia.us).

Our 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade travel baseball teams have started their season and will be competing in The Cedar Valley Rec League during May and June. Additionally, we have two 3rd-4th grade softball teams and two 5th-6th grade softball teams also participating in the league, as well as in area and USSSA tournaments.

Looking ahead, we plan to offer summer basketball for kids entering 3rd-6th grades, with registration opening in May. We'll also soon open registration for transportation to swimming lessons in Fairbank. Stay tuned for more details.





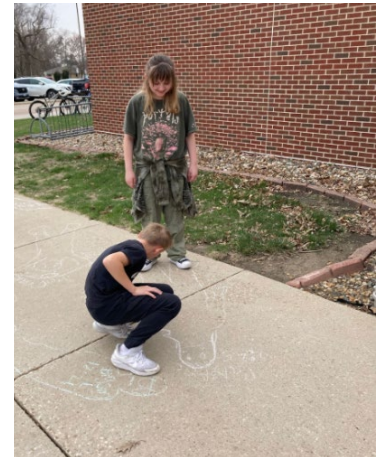


## Making Shadows

Written by Lillyan Even

The fifth graders went outside to observe shadows as part of their Science unit. We were looking at how the sun's angle affects the size or height of our shadows. We then drew our shadows with chalk on the sidewalk. The classes after ours also continued to draw their shadows.

We can now see that the shadows get the smallest around noon because the sun is directly over us. We also learned that when you are in front of the sun, you are blocking the sun's rays, which creates a shadow. This experiment was fun, and it helped us learn how shadows are formed.



## 5th Graders Shine in Music Concert

The fifth-grade students performed for the Middle School, families, and community members at the end of the school day. They shared what they've been working on over the past few months and did a great job. The audience enjoyed their performance, and the students sounded wonderful!



## Learning from Our History

Eighth graders in Mrs. Rott's ELA class are studying the Holocaust and recently took part in a powerful activity to help them understand the scale of the tragedy. They began by counting grains of rice – each one representing a life lost.

Stevye Arceneaux explained, *"We are doing a Holocaust unit right now, where we have learned that 6 million Jews were killed by the Nazi regime in Germany, led by Adolf Hitler. We counted pieces of rice to get a visual of 6 million people, to try to put it in perspective. The purpose was to get us to understand how serious this situation was... These people lost their lives to Nazis just because of who they were."*

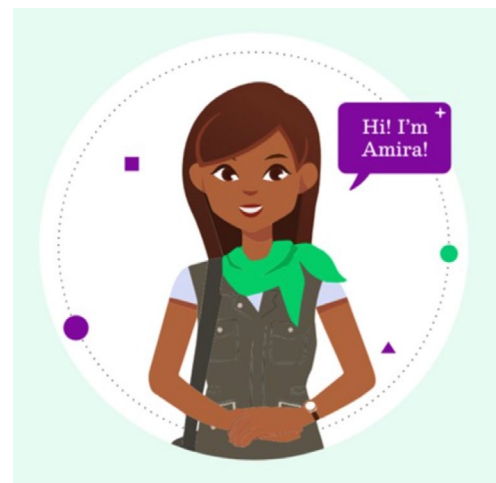
Oakley Brown added, *"This showed us that putting that number into perspective is impossible, and we can't lose count of one person, no matter how many there were."*



## Learning with Amira

Some 5th and 6th graders have been using a new online reading tool called Amira to practice their fluency and comprehension skills. Amira acts like a personal tutor, giving students lessons and practice based on their individual needs – even in a busy classroom.

The school is piloting the program, which is currently funded by the state, to see how well it supports student learning. If funding continues, students will be able to use Amira over the summer too, spending just 10 minutes a day to keep building their reading skills.







## A New Game to Play: Tchoukball

Middle school PE classes have been buzzing with energy thanks to a new game called Tchoukball. A mix between handball and volleyball, this fast-paced sport was created in the 1960s to keep the action going without direct contact between players.

Students have jumped right in, learning the rules and having a blast on the court. It's been a great way to stay active – and judging by how sweaty and tired they are after class, it's definitely doing the trick!



## You're Invited: 8th Grade Promotion Celebration

Families and friends are invited to join us as we celebrate our 8th grade students! The Promotion Celebration will take place on Tuesday, May 27 at 6:30 pm in the South Gym. We look forward to honoring this important milestone together.



## Great Job on ISASP Testing

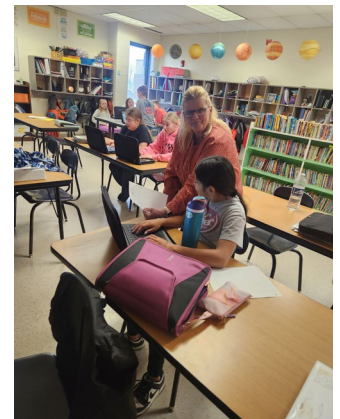
A big shoutout to our middle school students for their hard work during ISASP testing! We had excellent attendance – only two students were absent on the first day and just three on the second. Thank you to students and families for making the effort to be here and ready. Fewer make-up tests make the process smoother for everyone.

We're also proud of the effort students put in. Many took their time, stayed focused and gave thoughtful responses. Thanks for taking the tests seriously and doing your best.



## Thank you, Paraprofessionals

A special thank you goes out to our eight middle school paraprofessionals who make a big difference every day. They work tirelessly to support our students both in and out of the classroom, building trusting relationships that help students succeed and make progress. We appreciate all the hard work and dedication they bring to our school!

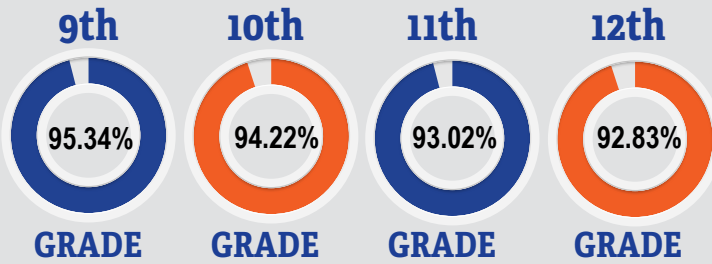


*Thank You*





As of April, 11, 2025, here's the latest attendance update for our high school students.



**Overall High School Attendance: 94.05%**

## Jesup Dollars for Scholars Celebrates 35 Years of Giving



Jesup High School's Dollars for Scholars program is marking a major milestone – 35 years of supporting graduating seniors! The celebration will take place on **Thursday, May 1 at 7:00 pm in the South Gym at Jesup Community School.**

Thanks to generous donors, especially Sparky Duroe, this year's scholarship total will reach an impressive \$100,000. Since it began in 1990, the program has awarded \$685,000 to help Jesup students with college expenses.

Seniors can apply easily through the Jesup High School website, with guidance from School Counselor Kristen Bauer. After earning a 2.5 GPA or higher during their first semester of college and sending in their transcript, students receive their scholarship check sent directly to their school. The program got its start in 1989-90 with a \$2,000 grant from the McElroy Trust, but the founding committee – Albert "Sparky" Duroe, Tom Youngblut, Kim Adams, Carol Ricklefs and Lee Triplett – raised \$12,000 that first year.

***Come celebrate this proud tradition of supporting Jesup students!***

## Students Shine at CTE Spring Showcase

On Wednesday, April 2, Jesup students took the spotlight during the CTE Spring Showcase. They shared what they've been learning in their Ag, Industrial Tech, Business and Family & Consumer Science (FCS) classes with members of the CTE Advisory Committee.

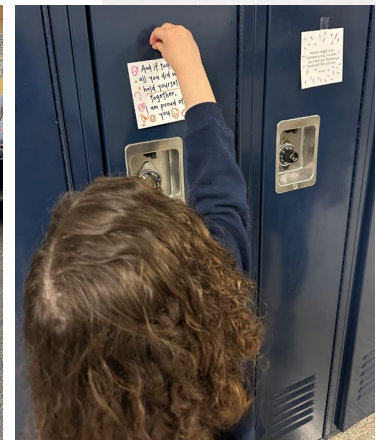
Students did an amazing job presenting, and we're proud of their hard work! Thank you to our committee members and Hawkeye Community College faculty for attending and offering valuable feedback.

## Hope Week Brings Positivity to Jesup High School

Hope Week at Jesup High School was a big success. Thanks to the Hope Squad and support from local donors – Fareway, Jesup Bible Fellowship, Kwik Star, Alive & Running Iowa and everyone who bought a fundraiser shirt – students enjoyed a week filled with uplifting activities focused on mental health and connection.

The week kicked off with a self-care assembly and donuts from Kwik Star to remind us to "donut give up!" Hope Squad members read books about emotions to elementary students and created positive affirmation petals. They also met with 8th graders to welcome future squad members. At the high school, students enjoyed "Hope Floats" root beer floats, SMACK cards with kind messages, plus giveaways like fidgets, sensory stickers, and mental health resources.

Hope Week was a great reminder that mental health matters – and that kindness and connection go a long way.



*Mental Health Matters!*



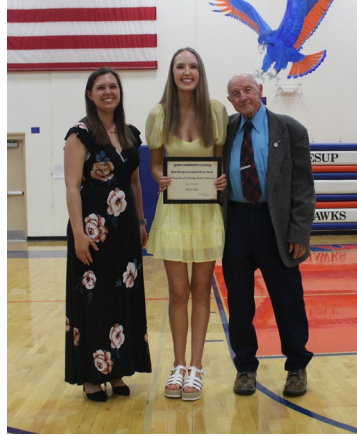
## Jesup High School Honors Outstanding Seniors

On Thursday, March 27, Jesup High School held its annual Academic Awards Ceremony in the South Gym. Each academic department recognized an outstanding senior for their achievements.

The awards are named after Jesup alumni or community members who have made a lasting impact in each subject area. These names remain on the awards for five years. This year marked the first time for a new group of namesakes, and it was inspiring to hear about their accomplishments. It's a great reminder that Jesup graduates can go on to do big things and make a difference in the world!



Academic Awards



Band



Business

## FFA State Convention & Iowa Degree Recognition

We recently took four students to the FFA State Convention at Iowa State University, where they explored a career and college fair focused on agriculture-related futures. They also heard from Dan Venteicher, the popular "Iowa Dairy Farmer" on social media, and attended various contests to see other schools in action.

The highlight of the trip was the recognition of senior Lydia Covington and junior Cece Mensching, who were awarded the prestigious FFA Iowa Degree. This is the highest honor a high school student can receive in FFA, based on meeting specific criteria and a successful application. Congratulations to Lydia and Cece for this impressive achievement!



## Students Attend Transition Fair at Hawkeye Community College

Several Jesup High School students who receive special education services recently attended a Transition Fair at Hawkeye Community College. The event was hosted by Central Rivers AEA Work Experience Coordinators.



Students took part in hands-on activities like budgeting and grocery shopping, then toured the college campus. They also had the chance to connect with community organizations and service providers who shared helpful information for planning life after high school.

