

2022-2023 Year In Review

THE SCHOOL REPORT



“Our schools are on the right path. These results are clear evidence. We’re not just recovering from the learning loss over the last several years. Our teachers are helping students reach their full potential. This is a huge momentum shift for JMCSS,” Superintendent Dr. Marlon King said.

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VOL. 1,
ISSUE 6



Come **WIN** with us!

LEVEL 5

District

12 Level 5 Schools
4 Level 4 Schools

JACKSON-MADISON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Moved from a Level 1 to
Level 5 District
Moved from Satisfactory to
Advancing
9 Reward Schools
(highest distinction)
12 (Level 5 Schools)
4 (Level 4 Schools)
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Increased ACT Score pg. 4

INCREASED GRADUATION RATE

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JMCS BOARD NAMED
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JMCSS receives Level 5 designation for significant academic growth 16 Jackson-Madison Co. schools celebrated for improvements in math and ELA Jackson-Madison County public school students made unprecedented improvements in math and English language arts (ELA) according to new TNReady data released by the Tennessee Department of Education. Additionally, JMCSS is outpacing the state average for growth in math for grades 3-8.

“These scores are a testament to the effort our teachers and students have been putting into their work and school. Our teachers are meeting students where they are and moving them forward,” Chief Accountability & Assessment Officer Catherine Korth said.

The Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) measures student growth year over year. Schools that earn a schoolwide composite score of 4 or 5 are making more growth than expected. These numbers signal that more than a year’s worth of growth was made during the past school year.

“A level five designation is extraordinary for any school. However, having more than a dozen schools show gains in foundational subjects like math and ELA is extremely rare. It’s simply unheard of for Jackson-Madison County. Our teachers and families deserve to pause and celebrate this achievement,” said Deputy Superintendent of Academics Dr. Vivian Williams.

A total of 12 JMCSS schools received Level 5 designations: Andrew Jackson, East, Isaac Lane, JCM-Early College, JCT, Madison Academic, North Parkway, Northeast, Pope, South, South Side, and Thelma Barker. Four schools received Level 4 designations: Alexander, Denmark, JCM Middle, and West Bemis.

“Our schools are on the right path. These results are clear evidence. We’re not just recovering from the learning loss over the last several years. Our teachers are helping students reach their full potential. This is a huge momentum shift for JMCSS,” Superintendent Dr. Marlon King said. Nine schools were designated Reward Schools by the TN Department of Education. Alexander, East, Isaac Lane, JCM-ECH, Madison Academic, Northeast, Pope, South and Thelma Barker.

INCREASED ACT SCORE

Over the last three years, 68 students in Jackson-Madison County Schools have scored a 30 or higher on the ACT (American College Test), with several of the students having multiple scores over 30.

The state average composite ACT score is 19.1 while the national average composite ACT score is 19.8. Scoring 30 or higher on the ACT is a remarkable achievement! Just this year alone,

29 students have made a contribution to that total with scores of 30 or above. Eleven new names were added to the list this spring after taking the test on Junior Day. Of the 2022-23 student test-takers, 7 scored a 34 or above. For a district that serves 7 high school populations with diverse student groups, this is a win!

Some individual schools, such as



***JCM-Early College High,
have seen even higher gains
in ACT scores.***

JCM-ECH leaped from 19.3 in 2021-22 to 20.57 in 2022-23 for a gain of 1.27 in just one year. Clearly, the students in this district deserve to be honored.

Superintendent King and our Board provided seniors in this group with new laptops. All ACT 30+ Club students received Black Card membership with free access to all district events (athletic, fine arts, etc) until their 20th birthday and exempts those not graduating this year from other student fees throughout their high school term.

Excellence in Education Award and JCM-ECH

Each year the Tennessee School Boards Association offers an award to a board of education that has an outstanding program operating within its district. The Jackson-Madison County School System is the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Education Program for Jackson Central-Merry Early College High School and was featured in TSBA's Journal magazine.

The JCM Early College High model is unique and one of only a few in the state. The opportunity it affords students to earn multiple levels of college credit that lead toward an associate degree or workforce certificate at no cost to families is exceptional. In five graduating classes, JCM ECH has had 136 students graduate with an associate degree - including 38 students in this past May.

The JCM ECH model has seen growth since its inception and has gained traction across the state with other districts wanting to replicate the model; the program would not have been possible without the full backing of the school board. Your support of this innovative program is what helps make them successful - and the state has taken notice. Congratulation Early College High and congratulations to our Jackson-Madison County School Board

Increased Graduation Rates

Our district's graduation rate increased to 90% - thanks in part to innovative supports like Parkview Preps bridge blended program; giving students a chance to catch up on credits if they've fallen behind. Additionally, on campus graduation coaches at each of our high schools have been a game changer for seniors.



CLASS OF 2023 SCHOLARSHIP TOTAL

Extraordinary efforts from the 766 graduating seniors from Jackson Academic STEAM Academy, JCM Early College High, JCM High, Liberty Tech, Madison Academic, North Side, and South Side have resulted in a districtwide scholarship total of \$20,140,785.00. At a time when the effectiveness of public education is questioned and under attack, the varied achievements of this senior class is a testament to the priceless service our teachers and schools provide to families in our community.

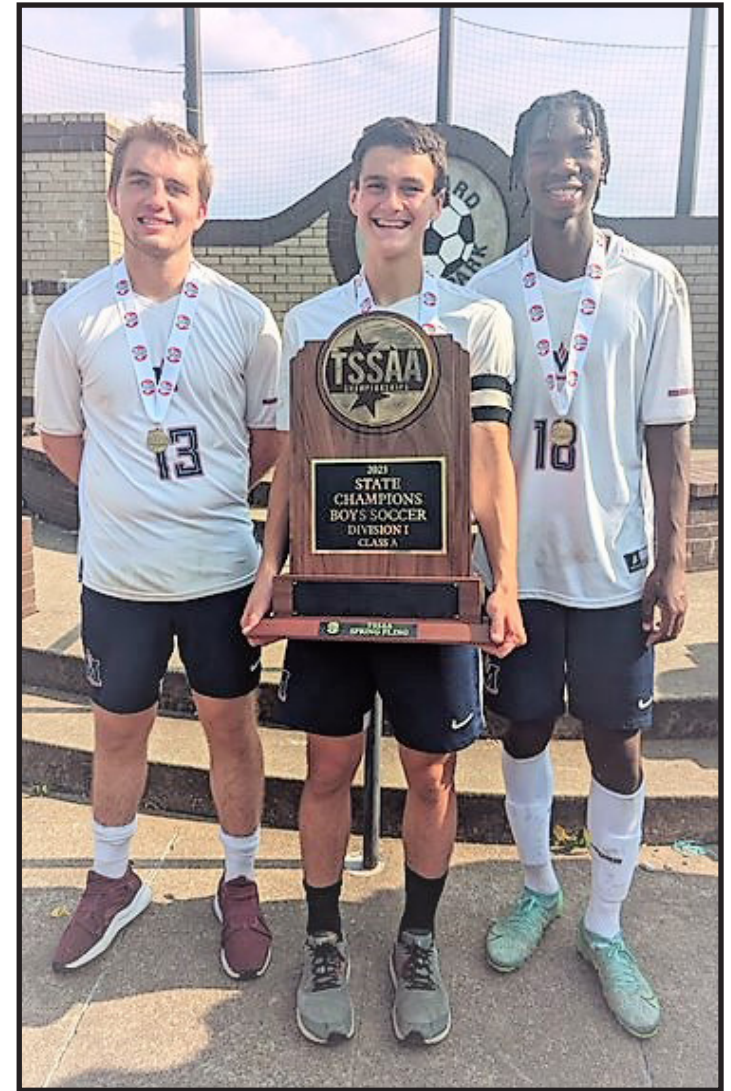


MADISON GOLD BALL CHAMPS

The Madison Academic boys soccer team defeated Alcoa in a double overtime thriller to claim the TSSAA Class A State Championship. Led by seniors Majdi Dardas, Steven Pjontek, Donovan Pruitte, Braden Nye and Kyle Korth, the Mustangs finished the year unbeaten with a record of 20-0-2. Sophomore goalie Roy Macias recorded an amazing defensive performance in the net while Donovan Pruitte finished his high school career with 106 goals scored.

These Mustangs will be rewarded with a Gold Ball Bash! Stay tuned. Whether it's academic, artistic or athletic, we celebrate student success.'

In track and field - Madison's Adolfo Mireles won the Class A state title in pole vault this year. Mireles won the Class A 300 meter hurdles state title in 2022.





SOUTH SIDE GOLD BALL CHAMPS

The South Side Lady Hawks won the first state title in program history back in March 11 with a 62-52 victory against Livingston Academy in the championship game of the girls' Class 3A state tournament. It was a perfect 34-and-oh season for the undefeated Lady Hawks. ***Meanwhile South Side's Ti'Mia Lawson was named Class 3A Miss Basketball-as well as MVP of the state tournament.***

Expanded athletic opportunities for middle school, elementary school After an exciting 8-game regular season and three-day post season tournament, the Eagles of East Elementary claimed the inaugural elementary boys basketball championship. The girls' side of the bracket was dominated by Alexander Elementary as the Warriors claimed the inaugural district wide elementary girls basketball championship.

This is only the beginning as our strategic plan for athletics includes expanding to elementary soccer. Meanwhile Northeast Middle School claimed the inaugural district wide middle school baseball season and tournament championship.

Be sure to access the Let's Talk platform on our website to share your questions and comments regarding extracurricular activities among our elementary schools. www.jmcss.org/letstalk

Districtwide Theater Productions



Hundreds of JMCSS students and families filled the Old Hickory Mall in April to take part in the JMCSS Spring Fine Arts Festival. Fifteen different schools across the district were spotlighted during this 2nd annual event. It was an opportunity for preK, elementary, middle, and high school students to share their talents with the community.

Plus...for the first time in over a decade, our middle and high school fine arts teachers hosted a districtwide production. Nearly 60 students participated in the JMCSS production of *The Little Mermaid*.

It was three incredible nights of singing, acting, and dancing on the stage at Liberty Technology High School.



Board named Board of Distinction

Members of our School Board participated in the annual Tennessee School Board Association Conference and Annual Convention in Nashville this past weekend. A number of innovative ideas and up-to-date procedures were learned through workshops and events led by high renowned speakers.

In addition to learning, our district was a recipient of the 2022 TSBA Award for Excellence in Education Program and JCM Early College High Principal Dr. Nathan Lewis was selected to present a session at the TSBA Conference! Take a bow, JMCSS. We're leading the way in Tennessee.

THE SCHOOL REPORT



Increased student enrollment

Nearly half of our schools (12) have experienced increased enrollment. Community Montessori, JCM Middle and High School, Andrew Jackson, Alexander, Arlington, and South have shown increased enrollment over the last 2 years. Pope, East, JCT and Liberty have shown increases this year.

Our average daily membership (enrollment) increased from last year. 11,732.2 in 2023 from 11,701.1 in 2022. Remember, these numbers do not include our PreK students. Inclusion of our PreK learners increases our 2023 enrollment to 12,553.



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Innovative High School \$10 million grant

The South Side Advanced Carpentry Innovation Institute is building a Solar-Powered Tiny House. The welding and automotive CTE programs at SSHS have also collaborated on this project.

The welding students have built the steel trailer which will pull our solar-powered tiny house. The trailer's estimated commercial value is \$30,000. Automotive students then assisted with wiring the trailer's brakes and getting the wheels on.

Powered by a grant from the Department of Innovation, Bob Gordon's students are in the final months of a year-long project to build a self-sufficient, solar-powered tiny house.

This project is one item in the Jackson-Madison County Schools: Innovation Impact Institutes and funded through the Tennessee Department of Education's Innovative High School Models program.

Through partnerships between JMCSS, community organizations and postsecondary institutions, the district is providing educational experiences for students through nontraditional schedules, learner-paced curriculum, and work-based learning opportunities.

GREENPOWER COMPETITION - pg 6

\$6.2 Million Investment In Employee Salaries

After engaging the Board of Education [BOE] and the County's Budget Committee, we have landed on a priority for this budget cycle. We will focus our efforts on personnel. Last year, we launched an Investment Plan for all employees.

This plan is designed to create a competitive salary schedule across the board. This year we are committed to raising salaries for our support staff significantly. We will continue to invest in our teacher and leader salaries as well. I am proposing a significant decrease in employees' insurance contributions.

For a very long time, my goal has been to have 100% of the employees' insurance paid, and I will continue to work to that end. With the impact of the pandemic on students and families, we launched a Social and Behavioral Department. This is a one-stop shop to assist families with wraparound services.

Believe it or not, homelessness is prevalent in our community, and this department has been relentless about serving these families as well as all families in our school system. For support, please reach out to the department at familysupport@jmcass.org. We are here to serve.

Thanks for your continued support of our public schools and this administration. I do not take this role lightly and am grateful for the opportunity to serve. As I say, we are not perfect and make mistakes; however, we try every day to do what is best for all. Thanks for your patience and advocacy for our staff and students.



Awarded a Reading 360 District Distinction

The Jackson-Madison County School System has been recognized by the TN Dept of Education as a Reading 360 District. This designation celebrates the hard work and emphasis on literacy instruction in this district. Reading 360, the state's comprehensive literacy initiative, recognizes districts that are committed to teacher training, leader support networks, and focused work on early literacy.

We would like to commend our Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Vivian Williams, as well as our Chief Academic Officers Kippi Jordan and Tiffany Spight for their work in leading our literacy efforts for JMCSS.



Annual JMCSS Gala raises \$100K

The Jackson-Madison County School System hosted its 2nd Annual JMCSS Gala at Union University in the Carl Grant Events Center on Thursday, April 20. The event is specifically geared toward business and community leaders to share the state of the schools and celebrate the district's successes. This year's sold-out Gala was a hit, drawing over \$200,000 in sponsorships. Leaders Credit Union was the Presenting Sponsor again this year while Jackson-Madison County Education Foundation and Georgia Pacific Dixie held the Cornerstone Sponsorships. Grammy award nominated singer-songwriter and Jackson native LOLO performed at the event. Historic investments in all employees through raises and bonuses, academic and achievement growth among a number of schools in state and national benchmarks, and capital improvements were among the items covered in the state of the schools address. The Gala was paid for through sponsorships placed in the JMCSS Special Projects Fund at West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation.

Districtwide Service Award to BGC of Jackson \$28K

Service trophy awarded to top fundraising schools

In an effort to provide service and support to one of Jackson's most impactful community nonprofits, schools in the Jackson-Madison County School System have raised more than \$27,000 for the Boys and Girls Club of Jackson. The funds came about through creative appeals and fundraising activities across our 26 schools and the district office.

"We have decided to sponsor an annual district wide service project through raising money for nonprofits. This year we chose the Boys & Girls Club because they serve a portion of our student population. We're pleased to be able to take some of the fundraising burden off of such an impactful community partner," said Melissa Spurgeon, JMCSS Chief of Staff. Among the most creative activities were Community Montessori's cone ball tournament that collected funds through the sale of concessions.

JCM Middle School hosted a pie-in-the face fundraiser. Students were able to throw whipped cream at teachers and administrators. Meanwhile it was a "sticky" situation at Nova PreK as the principal was duct taped to the wall. "So many of our students, district wide, benefit from programs and services provided by the Boys & Girls Club. This was a small act with a bigger purpose," said Principal Tisa Day, lead administrator at Nova PreK. Approximately 900 kids and teens are members of the Boys & Girls Club of Jackson. The club provides a safe, fun, environment for students to learn character & leadership, education, health & like skills, as well as participate in sports and recreation.

"We will participate in a district wide service project next year to benefit another community non-profit that works to benefit our children. Service is among our core values and helping the organizations that support our students and families just makes sense," Superintendent Dr. Marlon King said.

Governor's School

Ten students from Madison Academic have been selected for the prestigious Tennessee Governor's Schools. This is an intensive summer learning experience for gifted and talented students who are entering the 11th or 12th grade.

Selectees include -
Arts: Gracie Chattin, Calleigh Earl, Courtney Henley, Beth Myers, Delaney Uselton. Computational Physics : Caden Chan. Prospective Teachers: Zabdi Gutierrez. International Studies: Boran Aljafari. Science & Engineering: Colson Bailey. TN HERITAGE: William Ewing. Simply Amazing! #WINNING

All students attending Governor's Schools receive a scholarship, which covers the cost of tuition, housing, and meals.



Madison's Samuel Latham earns national recognition and \$1,000

Samuel Latham, a rising sophomore at Madison Academic High School, placed 3rd nationally at the National Microsoft Office Championship in Orlando, Florida on Wednesday, June 28. Samuel qualified for the event after earning the Microsoft Office state championship during the 2022-2023 school year. He earned a perfect score on the PowerPoint competition and the fastest completion time out of 7,500 students in Tennessee! Congratulations to Samuel and his Computer Applications teacher Mr. Garry Carroll.

GREENPOWER COMPETITION



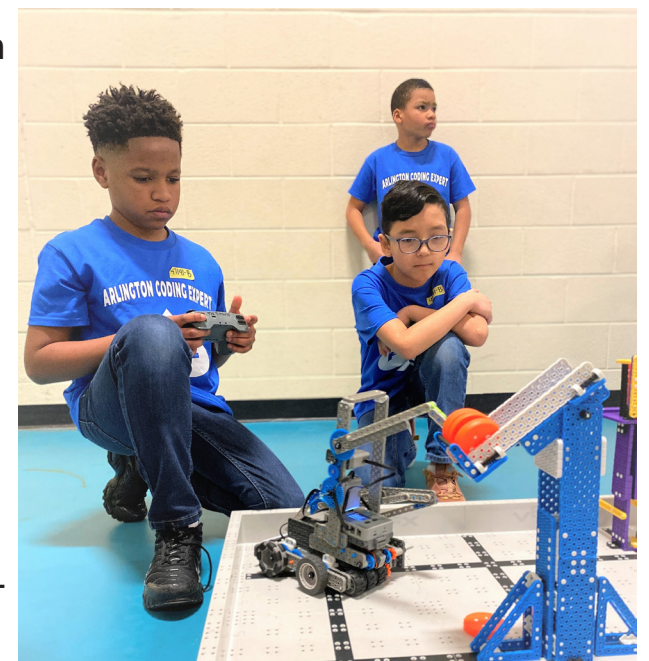
The second year of the Greenpower Electric Car initiative provided our high school students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The district's racing team competed at Talladega Superspeedway. Financial support from Toyota Tennessee will allow JMCSS to host a regional Greenpower competition in the fall.



Department of Innovation Success



Our district's Department of Innovation has provided exceptional opportunities for students in just one year of operation. In order to reach the next level, our Operations team is working in concert with Chief Innovation Officer Dr. Teresa McSweeney to make the historic Malesus School a central hub for Innovation activities this school year. Robotics, BioSTEM, Esports, and entrepreneurial workspaces for students are among the activities planned for this reimagined space. This endeavor will be another exciting reason to #ChooseUs





District expands Local Options & Opportunities Program with JEA Trio begins employment with Jackson Energy Authority

LOOP, the Jackson-Madison County School System's celebrated trade-based career pathway, has expanded to include one of the nation's most comprehensive public utilities. Jackson Energy Authority is the latest entity to partner with the district's Local Options and Opportunities Program (LOOP 3.0). JEA is providing training and employment to JMCSS students this semester.

"JMCSS and JEA have a shared vision of preparing for the future today. This partnership allows us to be better prepared for growth expected in our region and to assist with meeting approaching needs in our telecommunications services," said JEA President & CEO Monte Cooper.

Students participating in LOOP 3.0 complete academic work two days per week coupled with three days of training and work within JEA's Telecommunications Division. Students are also able to utilize online/virtual learning to provide the flexibility necessary for this non-traditional schedule.

"Our students are participating in a hands-on overview of the organization in various departments at JEA, so they're being exposed to a number of careers and marketable skills that they can build. Their long-term options are unlimited if they're willing to do the work," said Dr. Nathan Lewis, Career and Technical Education Director for JMCSS.

Between LOOP 1.0, LOOP 2.0 (West Tennessee Healthcare), and LOOP 3.0 (JEA), a total of 31 JMCSS high school students are participating in career building and job placement opportunities this semester.

"Whether it's early robotics and STEM opportunities at the elementary school level, or accelerated academic and career opportunities at our middle and high schools, JMCSS continues to provide families with a great return on investment," Superintendent Dr. Marlon King said. "We're excited about this latest partnership."



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