



# JHIS Prowler

August/September 2020

*Students Are The Primary Focus of the West Jefferson Hills School District...*

## Message From the Principals... **BE SMART, BE SAFE, WEAR YOUR MASKS!**

On behalf of the entire staff and faculty of **Jefferson Hills Intermediate School (JHIS)**, I would like to welcome everyone back for what is sure to be another exciting and rewarding school year. While the look and feel of school will certainly be different, our mission of keeping our students as the primary focus remains unwavering. With the continued support our community, our staff has worked tirelessly to prepare for this unique school year and welcome back the nearly 800 students that will grace our classroom, both through a hybrid model or remotely. As we have already experienced this week various barriers are likely to arise, however if we continue to remain focused on our mission and regularly collaborate, I am confident that we will collectively overcome any of the challenges. The focus of this newsletter will be to provide you with some primary information and resources that will help address the most pressing questions/concerns as we being the 20-21 school year. Please visit both the WJHSD website ([www.wjhsd.net](http://www.wjhsd.net)) and our school website at ([https://www.wjhsd.net/jeffersonintermediate\\_home.aspx](https://www.wjhsd.net/jeffersonintermediate_home.aspx)) for key pieces of information, including the Handbook, Schedules, Calendars, Mitigation Plans, JHIS Discipline Matrix, FAQs, Lunch Menus, Educational Plans, etc. Various key announcements and relevant communications, as well as student/staff/school highlights will also be broadcasted via our Twitter account (@JHIS\_wjhsd). Finally, weekly PTA emails and monthly newsletters will be sent electronically in an effort to keep everyone as informed as possible this school year.

JHIS has also welcomed several new staff members to our team this school year. Please join me in welcoming **Ms. Alexis Hutton (5th Grade); Ms. Angela Bell (5th Grade); Mr. Michael Murray (4th Grade); Ms. Joyous Demark (LTS for General Music); and Ms. Ellen McConnell (LTS - 4th Grade)**. We are all very excited about the additions of our newest team members and the collective contributions that they will afford our students, school, and community.

## Understanding the Hybrid / Day A-J Schedule

JHIS has implemented a Hybrid / Day A-J (10 Day) rotational system to assist all stakeholders with understanding the comprehensive instructional schedule. A monthly calendar (Hybrid A-J Rotation Days Calendar) is located under the "Resources" tab of our website and linked below. It is currently updated through the end of September. Additional weeks/months will be added as necessary.

[https://www.wjhsd.net/MenulItem/Hybrid\\_Day%20A-J%20Rotation%20Calendar%20AugSept.pdf](https://www.wjhsd.net/MenulItem/Hybrid_Day%20A-J%20Rotation%20Calendar%20AugSept.pdf)

While we understand that this system may cause some initial confusion, this rotational schedule accurately reflect students' schedules in Skyward. Below is an **EXAMPLE** of how this 10 day rotational will be implemented at JHIS. **STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE SAME ENCORE ON DAYS A/F; B/G; C/H; D/I; E/J**

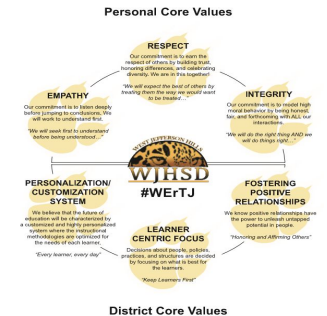
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| <b>Day A:</b> Phys. Ed. / Science            | <b>Day F:</b> Phys. Ed. / Writing            |
| <b>Day B:</b> Art and Innovation / Writing   | <b>Day G:</b> Art and Innovation / Science   |
| <b>Day C:</b> Music Ed. / Science            | <b>Day H:</b> Music Ed. / Writing            |
| <b>Day D:</b> Phys. Ed. / Writing            | <b>Day I:</b> Phys. Ed. / Science            |
| <b>Day E:</b> Media Café (Library) / Science | <b>Day J:</b> Media Café (Library) / Writing |



## Students' Daily Instructional Schedule (At-Home and In-School)

Whether "In-School" or "At-Home", JHIS students are expected to follow the same daily schedule. Students should be logged into their devices and **READY TO LEARN** for all periods/classes (Homeroom, Reading, Spelling/Grammar, Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies, Encore) to the greatest extent possible. Portions of the lessons will be live and interactive with the respective teachers throughout the day. If you are unable to attend at those times, students will have access recordings and complete the required work *prior* to the next instructional day. Teachers will be provided "student friendly" schedules and detailed procedures will be reviewed next week, however we have added a breakdown of the instructional schedule (Classroom Schedule by Period) on our website under "Resources" for your review and planning: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ysLUW8uATmBgACPrOIHyauU\\_AGTNjG\\_Dfh8i1-aXp/edit?ts=5f356cac#gid=869474814](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ysLUW8uATmBgACPrOIHyauU_AGTNjG_Dfh8i1-aXp/edit?ts=5f356cac#gid=869474814)

We understand that given the complexity of the schedule, it may be difficult to understand but will give you a starting point as you prepare. Instructional schedules can also be found on Skyward. We also understand that their will likely be various challenges associated with this model/recordings, etc. the first couple weeks. We ask for your patience as we go down these uncharted waters together. Again, this will be reviewed thoroughly with all students next week. Finally, implementing efficient attendance procedures for all students continues to be debated. Additional information related to attendance will be forthcoming.



## Upcoming Events (including Hybrid Groups for 1st 2 weeks)

- 31: DIGNITY Group (A-L) *Welcome Back Students*
- 1: RESPECT Group (M-Z)
- 2: DIGNITY *PTA Meeting (7 via Zoom)*
- 3: DIGNITY
- 4: RESPECT
- 7: *No School - Labor Day*
- 8: RESPECT *NWEA MAP Testing Begins*
- 9: RESPECT
- 10: DIGNITY
- 11: RESPECT *Bus Evacuation Drill*
- 24-25: Picture Days

## Transportation

Bussing information should be available via Skyward, however some information is still being updated given the complexity of the educational model and health/safety guidelines. Please review thoroughly. If you notice and discrepancies or have questions related to bussing, please contact the Bus Garage at 412-384-8810.

We kindly request that you strictly adhere to the established drop-off/pick-up procedures (located on website) in order to maintain the safety of our students during these times.

**Please DO NOT drive through the bus lane or park in front of the building.**