

JESUP COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



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Dear Jesup Community School Parents and Families,

Happy Friday everyone! Not a tremendous amount to share from this past week, but I will provide a few updates below. This week saw the installation of bleachers at our track and football field area. We installed a new set of visitor bleachers that are elevated and handicap accessible. The home bleachers have been remodeled to include a ramp, wider staircases with handrails, and a handicap ramp. This work should be finished by next Friday's home football game and provide a much improved spectator experience, especially those with accessibility needs. Finishing work is taking place around the softball and baseball fields as these areas are also now fully handicap accessible with concrete walkways throughout. New handicap accessible bleachers will be installed once the football/track area has been completed. Both of these projects were a part of Phase I of our Long Range Facility Plans and paid for through existing sales tax funds. Work continues with our Long Range Facility Committee in finalizing plans for Phases II and III which will be publicly released later this fall.

Recently our administrative team met with representatives of the Aspiring Allies community group around the topics of diversity and inclusion. Based on conversations last year, the district has made this a focus area as we started the school year. Kara Backes, one of our Connector Teachers, has been assigned this topic as an area to focus her work in supporting teachers in ensuring we have classrooms, curriculum, and teaching that addresses the topics of diversity and inclusion. Mrs. Backes has done a fabulous job starting this year in providing support to teachers at all grade levels. This is a very important topic for schools in ensuring that all students receive an education that meets their individual needs and addresses topics of diversity in an appropriate manner. We are excited to continue this work!

We will continue to report the number of COVID-19 cases we have each week as well as the county 7-day positivity rates. Currently as of today, we are down to **5 or fewer** positive cases. The 7-day positivity rate is **11%** for Buchanan County and **7%** for Black Hawk County.

We appreciate your continued support and patience with us as your school district. We are here to meet your children's needs both academically and in regards to their health and well-being. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please reach out through email, phone, or stopping by my office. Have a great weekend! #jhawkproud

Thank you and take care,
Nathan