

JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOLS

2023 - 2024

BACK TO SCHOOL

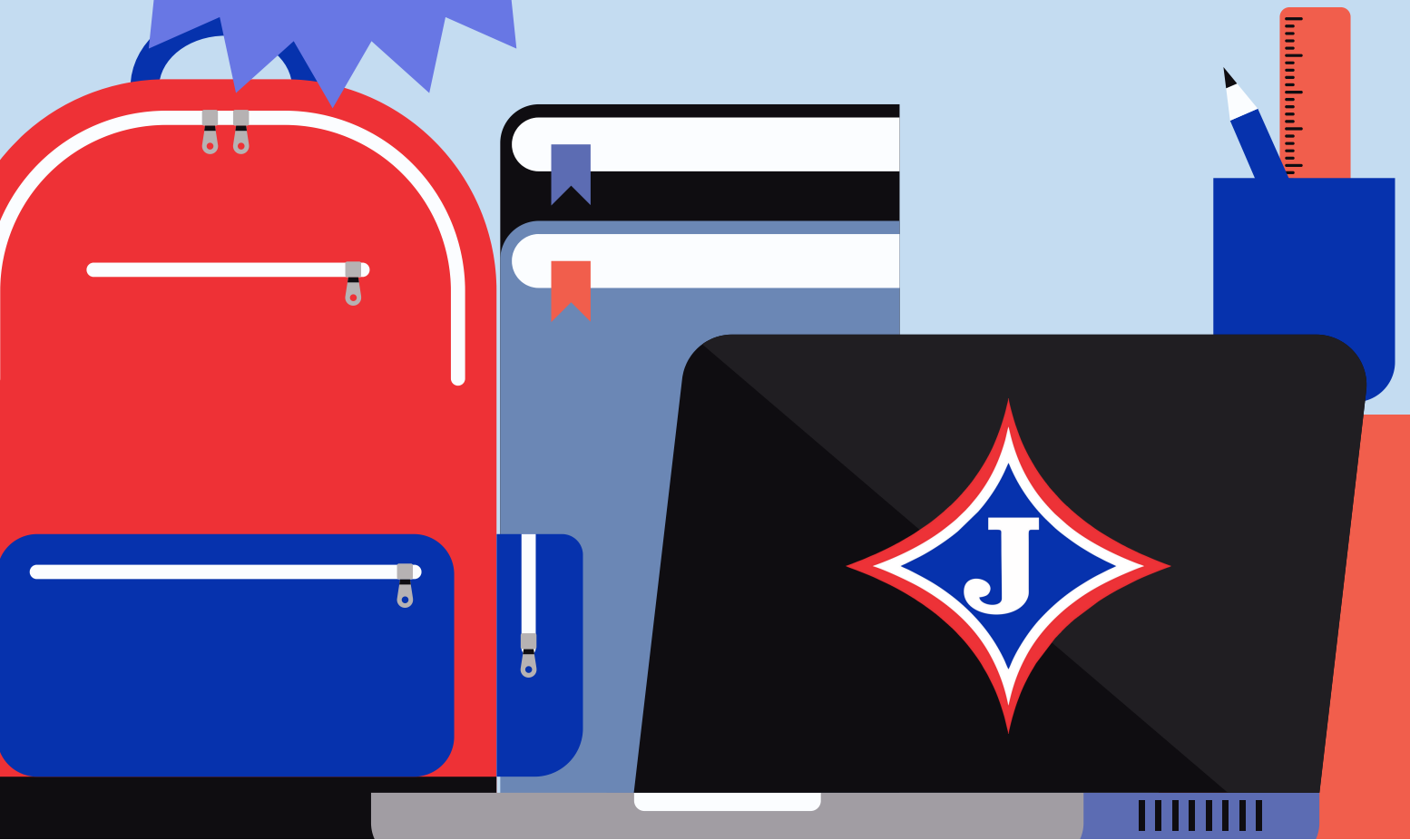
1st Day of School



706-367-2880

345 Storey Lane
Jefferson, GA 30549

www.jeffcityschools.org



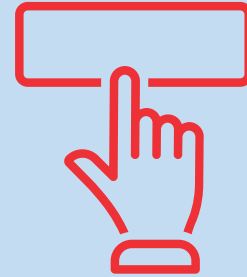
GEAR UP FOR 2023-2024

We are excited about the upcoming 2023-2024 school year and hope you are enjoying a safe and healthy summer! As you prepare for the start of school, we hope you find the information in this *Back to School Guide* helpful. Our staff looks forward to welcoming your child on Friday, July 28! Click [here](#) for the 2023-2024 academic school calendar.



STUDENT REGISTRATION

The deadline for completing online registration is Friday, July 21, for returning students. Please visit the [parent portal](#) to update each child's information to ensure a schedule is assigned by Open House. New students to JCS also should be registered by July 21. You can complete the new registration process by visiting the [JCS website](#) where you will find detailed instructions.



OPEN HOUSE

Open House for grades K -12 will be held on Wednesday, July 26. All students at JES, JA and JMS will have an opportunity to attend during assigned times. At JHS, all 9th graders and any new students should attend. Detailed information will be released from your child's school! Pre-K Open House will be held on Thursday, July 27.

Wednesday, July 26

JES

K - 8:00-10:00
1st - 10:30-12:30
2nd - 1:00-3:00

JA

3rd - 9:00-10:45
4th - 11:30-1:15
5th - 2:00-3:45

JMS

6th - 10:00-11:00
7th - 11:00-12:00
8th - 12:00-1:00

JHS

New to JCS & 9th
- 9:00-11:00

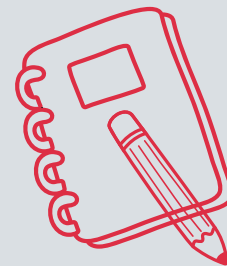
Pre-K Open House

Thursday, July 27, from 3:30 to 6:30

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School Supply Lists for Jefferson Elementary (PK-2), Jefferson Academy (3-5) and Jefferson Middle School (6-8) may be accessed [here](#). If you purchased a school supply kit for your child at JES, JA or JMS this past spring, the boxes will be available at Open House.

Jefferson High School supply lists vary by teacher and content area. Students will receive this information either at Open House (9th graders) or on the first day of school (grades 10-12).



OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENTS

The online tuition payment portal is now open.

All tuition payments must be paid through the parent portal by Friday, July 21. All **NEW** out-of-district families are required to attend a mandatory meeting on Monday, July 24, at 6:00 p.m. in the JHS Performing Arts Center.

DRESS FOR EXCELLENCE

We appreciate your cooperation and support of our dress code policy at each of our schools! Click below for each school's specific guidelines.

JES & JA Requirements

Students enrolled in grades PK-5 are required to wear school uniforms. Please note that JES and JA spiritwear dates may vary by school.

JMS & JHS Requirements

All students in grades 6-12 are expected to adhere to revised dress code requirements for the 2023-2024 school year.



SCHOOL NUTRITION

The USDA no longer provides free meals to students nationwide. For the 2023-2024 school year, families will either pay full price for meals or be determined eligible for free or reduced-price meal benefits.

Please complete a free/reduced lunch application through the [parent portal](#) to determine eligibility. (Click "More" and then click "Meal Benefits.") Paper applications are available at the front office of your child's school if preferred.

All meal payments must be made through the parent portal (Infinite Campus).

School menus, [meal prices](#) and other school nutrition information will be posted on the website and in the mobile app under the Parent Toolbox.

Director of School Nutrition
Savannah Hix, 706-367-2546
savannah.hix@jeffcityschools.org

IMMUNIZATIONS

For school enrollment, Georgia law requires for all students to have a valid, current Immunization Certificate, Form 3231, or a notarized statement of religious exemption form (Form 2206) on file at school. If you have questions regarding specific grade level requirements or exemptions, please contact your healthcare provider or local health department. Updated forms may be uploaded during online registration or submitted (hard copy) to the school nurse.

***7th Grade:** All 7th grade students (including new entrants and/or transfers into a Georgia school) need proof of an adolescent pertussis booster vaccination called Tdap and an adolescent meningococcal vaccination called MCV4.

***11th Grade:** Before the start of school, all 11th grade students (including new entrants and/or transfers into a Georgia school) must have proof of a booster dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine on or after their 16th birthday.

**If your child doesn't have health insurance or if vaccines aren't covered, call your local health department and ask about no-cost or low-cost vaccines.*

TRANSPORTATION

The bus routes for the 2023-2024 school year may be found [here](#). Please understand minor adjustments may be necessary based on student enrollment.

Please be sure to check this [link](#) on our website periodically for any updates.

Director of Transportation
Mark Weaver, 706-367-1787
mark.weaver@jeffcityschools.org



SUMMER READING

Has your high school child completed summer reading requirements?
Click [here](#) to access summer reading lists.

CONNECT WITH US

The Jefferson City School System is thrilled to partner with families to enhance student learning and maximize success. Here are some ways to connect through communication platforms used by our school system.

- **JCS Mobile App:** Download the free "Jefferson City Schools" app for quick and easy access to important information.
- **JCS Website:** Visit us regularly for updated news and information. **NOTE:** Our website will be getting a facelift in early September, so be on the lookout for a refreshed look!
- **Social Media:** Follow us on social media @JeffCitySchools (Facebook & Instagram).
- **Parent Portal:** Monitor attendance, grades, schedules and other available information. If you need support, please contact portal@jeffcityschools.org.
- **Mobile Notifications:** To receive notifications on your phone, download the Infinite Campus Parent mobile app (also known as the parent portal and different from the JCS mobile app).

JCS also communicates via text messages, phone calls and emails. These notifications include severe weather alerts, transportation delays, newsletters, school events, attendance notices and other important announcements. *Please make sure your email and phone number are accurate in the parent portal!*

Director of Communications
Teresa Stier, 706-367-2880
teresa.stier@jeffcityschools.org

JEFFERSON FOUNDATION

Interested in supporting and enhancing educational excellence in Jefferson City Schools? If so, we encourage you to make a contribution to the Jefferson School System Foundation.

The Jefferson City School System Foundation, chartered in 1983 as a tax-exempt 501-(C)(3) corporation and governed by a Board of Trustees, serves a vital role in support of teaching and learning. All contributions directly benefit students enrolled in our schools.

For more information on specific programs and projects, including scholarships and special grants, please contact Gina Dee Barker, Executive Director, at 706-367-4939 or gina.barker@jeffcityschools.org.



START & END TIMES

Jefferson Elementary School

7:35 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Jefferson Academy

7:25 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Jefferson Middle School

8:15 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.

Jefferson High School

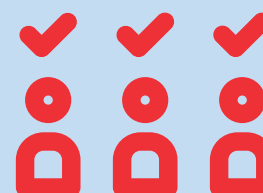
8:20 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS - YOU BELONG HERE

Every day a student attends school is an opportunity to learn, build relationships and access support. Regular attendance is vital for student success. When students attend regularly, they thrive and have an opportunity to achieve academically. Research shows that when students are chronically absent, they are less likely to read proficiently by third grade, achieve in middle school and graduate from high school.

Join us in making attendance a priority with your family this year!



SAFETY & SECURITY

Safety continues to be a top priority of Jefferson City Schools. Over the last several years, considerable investments have been made to make our schools as safe as possible, including the addition of School Resource Officers on our campuses.

We are grateful for the strong partnerships we have with local law enforcement agencies, including the Jefferson Police Department, Jefferson Fire Department, Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency, as well as with safety experts from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency.

A school is a place where all students and staff should feel safe and secure. We will continue to participate in weather-related and required safety drills throughout the school year. Rest assured, school safety and security will continue to be a constant focus for Jefferson City Schools as we strive to provide the highest quality educational services in the safest learning environment.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

We are excited to announce the completion of the JMS Phase I construction project, which includes 9 new classrooms, a band room and an agriculture classroom/lab.

The JMS Phase II project is scheduled to begin in late 2023 and will include 10 additional classrooms; CTAE labs (engineering, audiovisual/broadcast and health occupations); a redesigned main entrance; and the enhancement and expansion of existing classrooms, media center, gymnasium and cafeteria.

Future JCS Construction Projects:

- JHS - additional classrooms, upgraded CTAE labs, an upgraded JROTC facility plus college & career center/dual enrollment classrooms and additional parking
- JES - additional classroom wing to expand the Center for Early Learning
- BioSTEAM Center/JCS Wetlands - outdoor classroom and footbridge to increase opportunities for student use and community involvement



PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Parent engagement is an important component of a student's success in school. The Jefferson City School System values the contributions and involvement of parents/guardians in support of improved student learning. Your involvement truly helps improve attendance, behavior and academics. We encourage you to find ways to get involved in your child's school. Specific opportunities will be listed in the PK-12 student handbook, but you can also find ways to get involved at Open House.

You play a critical role in helping us build excellence in our students every day!



LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

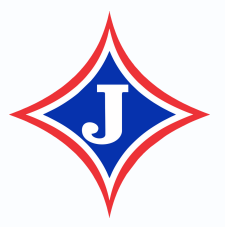
Exposure to Excellence Promotes Excellence

As a school system, it is our job to help your child reach his/her full potential. With state-of-the-art facilities, top-notch staff and extensive resources, the Jefferson City School System is a special place where Dragon Pride is strong! Belonging to the Jefferson City Schools System family means you are part of a legacy of educational excellence of over 200 years!

A Quick Note to Share with Your Child
Did you know that the Diamond "J" logo symbolizes excellence? When you wear the Jefferson logo, you are telling the world that you are committed to high expectations for yourself in all circumstances. A Dragon thrives, takes pride in being the best and expects to be a champion in and out of the classroom. **YOU ARE A DRAGON and ... YOU ARE WHERE YOU BELONG!**



SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION



JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY

Principal - Chrissy Joiner
chrissy.joiner@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Jessica Ferguson
jessica.ferguson@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Jodi Stephens
jodi.stephens@jeffcityschools.org

Director of Early Learning - Annette Beckwith
annette.beckwith@jeffcityschools.org

706-367-8242

415 Hoschton Street Jefferson, GA 30549

JEFFERSON MIDDLE

Principal - Carol Ann Knight
carolann.knight@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Brandon Vinson
brandon.vinson@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Adria Whitworth
adria.whitworth@jeffcityschools.org

706-367-2882

100 Dragon Drive Jefferson, GA 30549

JEFFERSON ACADEMY

Principal - Christopher Whitworth
christopher.whitworth@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Lori Alexander
lori.alexander@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Samantha Barrett
samantha.barrett@jeffcityschools.org

706-367-2300

99 Dragon Drive Jefferson, GA 30549

JEFFERSON HIGH

Principal - Rob McFerrin
rob.mcferrin@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Jenny Hardy
jenny.hardy@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Gibson Lowry
gibson.lowry@jeffcityschools.org

Assistant Principal - Bill Navas
bill.navas@jeffcityschools.org

706-367-2881

575 Washington Street Jefferson, GA 30549

SYSTEM CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Superintendent** - Dr. Donna McMullan, donna.mcmullan@jeffcityschools.org
- **Associate Superintendent** - Brian Moore, brian.moore@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Teaching and Learning** - Dr. Sherry Hix, sherry.hix@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Federal Programs & Assessment** - Tom Parker, tom.parker@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Finance** - Kim Navas, kim.navas@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of School Nutrition** - Savannah Hix, savannah.hix@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Special Education** - Trevor Metzger, trevor.metzger@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Technology** - Miranda Storey, miranda.storey@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Transportation** - Mark Weaver, mark.weaver@jeffcityschools.org
- **Director of Communications** - Teresa Stier, teresa.stier@jeffcityschools.org



Jefferson City Schools

345 Storey Lane

Jefferson, Georgia 30549

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706-367-2880

LOCAL BUSINESS PARTNERS

We are so fortunate to live in a community that is supportive of our schools! Our students excel as a result of partnerships with very generous local businesses and organizations. If your family owns a business or is involved in an organization that is looking for ways to partner with Jefferson City Schools, we'd love to talk! You may contact the principal of each school or for district-wide efforts, please contact Teresa Stier, Director of Communications, at teresa.stier@jeffcityschools.org.