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## JEFFERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS CONSIDERING WHETHER TO STICK WITH BLOCK SCHEDULE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

### Opinions are mixed among students, faculty and staff.

Hyphen Staff Report

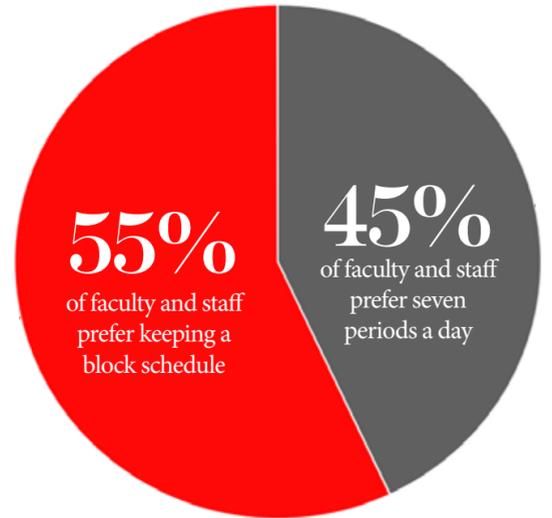
At the beginning of this school year, Jeffersonville High School implemented a block schedule as part of the school's efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19. According to Principal Pam Hall, "When we went to [block schedule] shortly before school started, the main reason was contact tracing and limiting exposures. The other was to limit movement."

Now, as Jeff High starts to plan ahead for life after COVID-19, the question arises: stay on a block schedule next school year or go back to "normal"?

Hall says the process of making that decision is underway, but it could take a while to make sure all perspectives are considered. Step one was sending a survey to faculty and staff. This occurred in early January. Of those who completed the survey, 55 percent said they prefer the block schedule and 45 percent said they prefer seven periods a day.

Next, Jeff High's administrators met with leaders from other high schools in the district. Those schools had also conducted surveys about whether to keep the block schedule.

The next step in the process is to meet with the building leadership team at Jeff High (a group of people who represents different departments and interests) to discuss the pros and cons of each option. The survey data is just one part of the puzzle. They must also consider the potential impact on student scheduling, lunch times, teachers' planning time and more.



Staff survey results provided by Jeffersonville High School

Whether Jeff High stays on block schedule or reverts to seven periods, Hall says the longer classes have been beneficial during this challenging year, and not just for contact tracing purposes. "We learned we need to slow down and make sure students have the skills to be successful."

What do readers of *The Hyphen* think? See your opinions on page 2.

*Continued on page 2*

## MATT BARKER'S GOAL: A "GREAT EXPERIENCE" FOR ATHLETES, FANS AND VISITORS

### The new athletic director has big plans for Jeffersonville High School.

Story by Emily Proctor

Athletics are a big part of student life at Jeff High, which means there has to be an athletics director to keep sports running smoothly. Recently someone new has come to the position, Matt Barker. Having prior experience in the GCCS corporation and plenty of familiarity in the athletic department, Barker is ready for any challenge that comes his way. "I'm enjoying it, it's a lot of work," he says, "I'm really just trying to do the right thing."

Barker has had a passion for coaching for most of his life, starting with his first coaching gig for a girls powder puff team as a junior in high school. He ended up coaching and teaching PE at Parkview Middle School, and after that Barker and his family moved to northern Indiana. He pursued his education and now has a bachelors from Valparaiso, a teaching license from Manchester, a masters in secondary education from IU Southeast and a masters in administration from Grand Canyon University. Having no plan to move,



Athletics Director Matt Barker  
Hyphen Staff Photo

Barker was looking into an administrative position at a nearby elementary school when he got a call from an old friend from Parkview, Pam Hall (now Principal at Jeff High). Knowing the love he had for coaching, she offered him a job as the Athletics Director. "I've always respected Pam. She was a really great leader. So I said let's do an interview and I'll let you know. I interviewed for it, I honestly, being a coach for 20 years, seeing the hours of work athletics directors put in, figured I didn't want to do that. But I interviewed and everything was kind of what I wanted to hear, so I accepted the position."

Jeff High can be a very intimidating place, but Barker feels right at home. He explains that although things can be quite hectic, the people around him are truly helpful. "I've found in the couple months I've been in this job, the athletics director world is very open to helping people out." When he first arrived during late October, Barker was informed that there was a little bit of financial strain in the athletics department. Naturally, he got right to work on this issue and a couple others, such as transportation. Barker makes sure to note that he puts emphasis on communication between coaches and student athletes. With the spring season quickly approaching, there is plenty more work to be done.

*Continued on page 2*

## JEFF HIGH MOVING WINTER HOMECOMING TO SPRING DUE TO COVID-19

### The decision ultimately came down to a vote - and students said they are willing to wait.

Hyphen Staff Report

On Thursday, Jan. 14, Jeffersonville High School announced the decision to postpone Homecoming until Spring. The decision was made based on the results of a survey to seniors on when they prefer to have Homecoming. Natalie Bronson, a Jeff High science teacher who was in charge of the survey, said she and Principal Pam Hall were surprised by the survey results being in favor of moving Homecoming.

They presented the option of moving Homecoming to the spring based on restrictions from COVID-19.

Currently, Clark County is in the "red zone" - a label the Indiana Department of Health gives to counties most affected by COVID-19, because of the circumstances, Homecoming would have been very different than during football season. "The difference is we were outside. We didn't have to worry about all that stuff," says Bronson.

Because of the circumstances, seniors opted to have Homecoming during baseball season, in hopes COVID-19 restrictions will be eased by then. Bronson had some concern with the spring Homecoming, citing that there are no sports in the Spring with a half-time.

Senior Kyle Guepe was indifferent to the choice saying, "It's not a big deal. When it happens doesn't matter as long as it happens."

Junior Justus Bowman, who was planning to run for homecoming in the Winter, still plans to do so despite the change. She believes it was the right decision to push Homecoming to Spring saying, "hopefully our cases will go down, and it will be safer for us all to participate and enjoy ourselves."

While most students and teachers seem indifferent or supportive of the change as long as they are able to have a homecoming, it is just another example of how COVID-19 has changed people's lives.

**"It's not a big deal. When it happens doesn't matter as long as it happens."**

**- Kyle Guepe, Senior**



## WINTER STORM RESULTS IN SIX MORE DAYS OF E-LEARNING

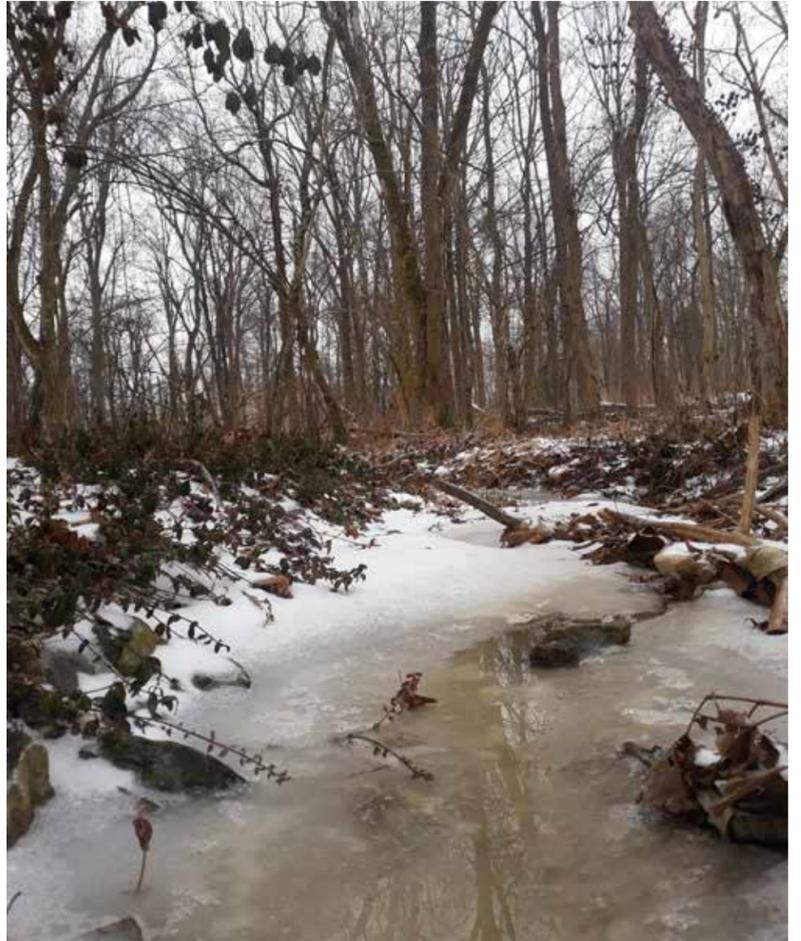
**After already missing several weeks of in-person instruction due to COVID-19, students are forced online again by two waves of wintry weather. As a result, Jeffersonville High School students have spent nearly half of the school year learning online.**

Hyphen Staff Report

When Greater Clark County Schools implemented e-learning days at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year, it was viewed as a tech-enabled way to keep students learning during winter weather, rather than closing school and using make-up days. Not long after, the e-learning option was put to work in a major way as COVID-19 required all students and staff to stay home starting in March 2020.

Since the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, Jeffersonville High School students have had e-learning nearly as much as they have been in person. Some of those days were district-wide e-learning days. Other days were e-learning for Jeffersonville High School only because of the high number of staff members out due to COVID-19 quarantine requirements.

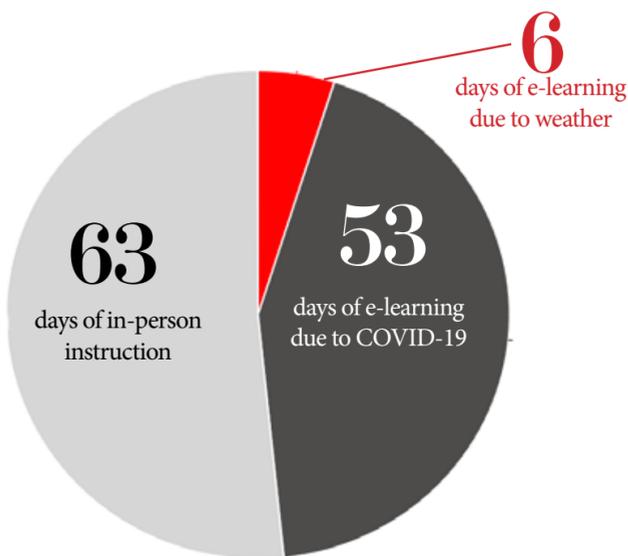
On top of that, two rounds of winter weather in mid-February pushed students to e-learning again. Traditional students finally returned to campus on Friday, February 19.



Ice and snow kept Jeff High students and staff at home from February 10-18, 2021.

Photo by Amber Walker

View more winter storm pictures at [TheHyphenNews.com](http://TheHyphenNews.com)



Source: Hyphen staff analysis of 2020-2021 school days as of Feb. 19, 2021

Continued from page 1

## READER VOICES: BLOCK SCHEDULES

**Should Jeff High go back to seven periods a day, or should it keep some type of block schedule? We asked you, our readers, what you think. Here are some of the responses:**

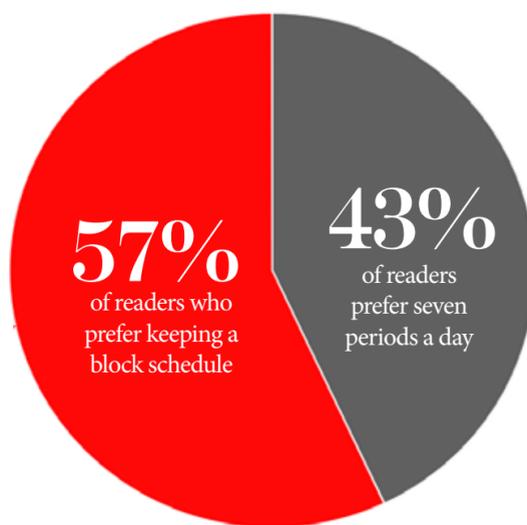
**“It’s easier to manage a block schedule because my work is spread out. Also, a block schedule is way less overwhelming.”**  
\_starlight\_bull\_ via Instagram

**“It’s a lot less stressful, in my opinion.”**  
along.07 via Instagram

**“Easier to manage work load, especially as an AP student.”**  
adrie.e\_ via Instagram

**“45 or 50 minutes is too short for hands-on classes like mine.”**  
Jim Spears, PLTW teacher

**“It gives the chance for the information to assimilate.”**  
Derrick Ledbetter, Speech and Theatre Teacher



Reader survey results from Instagram poll conducted in January 2021

**I prefer seven periods “so we aren’t sitting in the same place for over an hour and get to move around.”**  
bbg.erinnn via Instagram

**“85 minute classes are too long.”**  
audrey\_1026 via Instagram

**“[With the block schedule], it’s harder to focus in long periods and it’s hard to keep up with when things are due.”**  
\_.abby\_napperr.\_ via Instagram

**“For arts and world language classes, touching material daily is key to excellence.”**  
thomaslargentofficial via Instagram

**“When a student is absent, they essentially miss two class periods. [Also,] the 85 minute block is too long. Students have a hard time with staying on task.”**  
Deanna Owens, Prep for College and Careers teacher

## MATT BARKER’S GOAL: A “GREAT EXPERIENCE” FOR ATHLETES, FANS AND VISITORS

Working as an athletics director in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic is complicated at best. Barker expresses his dejection about the crack down on fans allowed at games. “It sounds weird, you only have 500 people, but it would have been much easier to let 4000 people in.” He elaborates on the importance of proper mask protocol and social distancing.

Current events aren’t all Barker is focusing on, though. He is also making plans for the future. He believes that an important part of bringing up a good athletics program is a comfortable atmosphere and well-kept equipment. “My goal is to make sure that when people come to Jeffersonville — whether you’re an official, an opposing player, opposing coach, a fan — that you come here and you have a great experience.” This summer he wants to clean up the basketball lobby before the next season

starts, and in the more distant future he hopes there will be turf on all of Jeff High’s fields and a new weight room. Barker isn’t only concerned with the aesthetics of our facilities; another concern of his is our hospitality. “When you get an email about how welcoming you were as a school, that’s a great feeling.”

Barker conveys that success isn’t all in the wins and losses. He values sportsmanship and the overall experience for student athletes. He feels the most important part of his new position is getting students ready for the world outside high school. Looking to give athletes team working and communication skills for future opportunities, he hopes that sports can be a well-needed escape for high schoolers.

## OPINION: TO BE CANCELED, OR NOT TO BE CANCELED

**The argument over political correctness on social media has reached its highest point yet.**

Opinion by Yousaf Quereshi

Dateline January 8, 2021: The outgoing President of the United States of America, Donald John Trump, is officially banned from his Twitter account...after being accused of inciting the insurrection which occurred at the Capitol just days earlier...where and when, thousands marched on the Capitol in objection to the certification of the electoral college. Politico among other news organizations termed it as a “coup attempt.” And of course, following the insurrection, Trump wasn’t just banned from Twitter. He was also banned from virtually every other major social media platform: Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitch, Reddit, YouTube and even Pinterest.

If the sitting President of the United States can be essentially shut off from social media, it demonstrates something creepily true: You can have 80 million followers, you can be leader of the free world, and EVEN YOU aren’t exempt from a full social media ban. The ban on Donald Trump is much larger than him as an individual alone. It touches on one of the most heated issues of our times: political correctness.

The definition of political correctness, according to Oxford, is “the avoidance, often considered as taken to extremes, of forms of expression or action that are perceived to exclude, marginalize, or insult groups of people who are socially disadvantaged or discriminated against.” And here comes the catch: While Donald Trump has been “politically incorrect” quite a few times, he’s often been left off the hook, but this time his words didn’t fit the definition of “political correctness.” His words incited “an insurrection,” according to these big tech giants. The controversy the bans bring is pretty explicit in terms of opening the debate for the new question: how far should political correctness go? So here, we’re going to take a look at the history of political correctness, the pro and con arguments supporting it and opposing it (respectively), and why this could have huge ripple effects on the ways you might use social media.

When the term “political correctness” came into common usage in the 1970s (when it was mentioned in a novel), it was really a term of ridicule relating to taboo subjects. The history of political correctness is really summed up by an article written by Richard Bernstein for the New York Times more than 30 years ago. In the article, Bernstein stated, “across the country the term p.c., as it is commonly abbreviated, is being heard more and more in debates over what should be taught at the universities.” In the same article, Bernstein explained, “The term ‘politically correct,’ with its suggestion of Stalinist orthodoxy, is spoken more with irony and disapproval than with reverence.”

At that time, if you were politically correct, it meant you were careful not to offend anyone or adopt opinions that may be dismal to other individuals. Colleges were termed as politically correct by conservatives. They accused colleges of “brainwashing” and “subjecting” their general opinions on students, leaving no room for open-minded and objective opinions. Of course, some (or many) of these opinions were in one way or another, offensive.

Today is a much different case. With the introduction of social media, people who didn’t like being “politically correct” gained an entire world wide web to surf upon. From here, it got bigger and bigger. Now anyone could be a conservative talk show host, you could share your opinion with all of your delight. You could now create profiles with different names and some profile pictures of deceased politicians and hawks, engaging in banter of all sorts.

These opinions aren’t just hidden in the dark outer reaches of the internet. They’re everywhere. I discovered this myself when using discord for coding. In various chats, individuals would be discussing why the holocaust was justified. I experimented, heading to disboard.org, (the place to get advertised discord server links), and I ended up



After social media accounts were restricted in the wake of the U.S. Capitol insurrection on January 6, Republican Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia wore a “Censored” mask while speaking on the floor of the House of Representatives. Hyphen Staff Photo

finding multiple discord servers of a Nazi background. It got worse. I even found a white supremacist discord server, riddled with memes supporting the KKK, and mentions of streaming “Birth of a Nation,” a 1915 silent-film which portrays the KKK as heroes. And guess what? The non-white population is termed as “an attack on society” and the remnant evil which remains. This is outrageously racist. Of course, the server was deleted not long after for promoting the alt-right conspiracy theory known as “QAnon.” But that’s just discord, a friendly app which lets you create servers for multiple topics and variations. Close it down in one place and it pops up in another, like an internet version of whack-a-mole.

In thousands of forums all the way to the corners of the internet, the alt-right lives. But what I’m mentioning only scratches the surface.

There’s no place for this in today’s society. These opinions are racially charged and one of the highest levels of harassment. People and companies who stand up against such opinions shouldn’t be chided for being “politically correct.” They should be lauded for their efforts. They should be commended for showing respect for other human beings. They should be held up as the voice of reason rather than the voice of hate.

**Hate speech is everywhere on the internet. “Close it down in one place and it pops up in another, like an internet version of whack-a-mole.”**

## THE QUOTATION MARK

**“Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated.”**

Civil rights leader Coretta Scott King

**“In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute.”**

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall

**In honor of Black History Month, The Hyphen staff compiled some of our favorite quotes about race in America.**

**“What gives me hope is a simple truism. Once we lose hope, we are guaranteed to lose. But if we ignore the odds and fight to create an antiracist world, then we give humanity a chance to one day survive, a chance to live in communion, a chance to be forever free.”**

Author Ibram X. Kendi in *How to Be an Antiracist*

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### OUR MISSION

The Jeffersonville High School newspaper, *The Hyphen*, strives to provide a voice for students and to inform the community through accurate, balanced and trustworthy content.



# FEATURES

## THE PANDEMIC AND MENTAL HEALTH

**A year into the pandemic, students are managing the mental health aspects of COVID-19.**

Story by Rachel Lowe

Let's be honest: COVID-19 is hard on everyone, but it's particularly hard on teenagers. It has affected every aspect of our lives. School is different, sports are different, work is different, friendships are different. The list goes on and on. As Pediatrician Rebekah Fenton said in a recent Washington Post column, "The teens of the pandemic are living through a significant and prolonged stress that most adults have never known."

Under the circumstances, it's not surprising that teens are struggling with mental health issues. As a result, other aspects of health are suffering. Dr. Fenton says that some of her teen patients "have gained or lost significant weight, in search of comfort or control. Some who had manageable levels of anxiety before the pandemic have worsening symptoms. Isolation precipitates depression or suicidal ideation. More than younger children, adolescents notice and are affected by their parents' emotions, including financial pressure."

You should take care of your mental health as much as you take care of your physical health. Mental health illnesses affect the ability to handle daily activities. This means that those who are having a harder time may experience panic attacks, start having a harder time focusing, start sleeping more, start having a hard time completing assignments which make cause in grades plummeting, start having trouble getting out of bed or taking showers and even more obstacles.

Studies around the world are already showing how teenagers' mental health is suffering during COVID-19, but we wanted to know how it is affecting you, our readers.

*The Hyphen* sent out a survey to a group of students that have chosen to remain anonymous. When asked how their mental health was before COVID-19,

80% said they were happy or in a good state of mind. Since the pandemic started, 60% of respondents said that their mental health has dropped or they are having a harder time. One student said, "Corona has affected my mental health by allowing me to have more extra time on my phone, which leads to being on social media, or anything relevant to that, which leads to comparing myself to others way too much. It has also caused me to overthink and worry about things I should not be."

This is a rough time for all of us. If you are struggling with mental health issues, please reach out. This is not something you should have to go through alone. Below are hotlines if you are not comfortable talking with a parent or counselor.

**"[The pandemic allows] me to have more extra time on my phone ... which leads to comparing myself to others way too much. It has also caused me to overthink and worry about things."**

**- Anonymous  
Jeff High student**

## MASKS: MORE TO THE STORY

**Students see pros and cons of wearing a face covering every day.**

Story by Lily Hughes

Whether it's due to legal requirements or personal preference, wearing a mask is commonplace since the start of COVID-19. According to the CDC website, COVID-19 is spread through water droplets that are released when people breathe, sneeze, cough, or talk. Masks can prevent this by blocking water droplets from reaching other people by trapping them on the inside of a person's mask. However, not everyone is wearing a mask. According to a survey posted on [www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com) only 93% of U.S. adults wear a mask when unable to social distance. This leaves 7% of US adults not wearing masks.

At Jeff High, everyone is required to wear a mask when they're not able to social distance. For the most part, students are adhering to the rules well — even when wearing a mask makes things difficult.

Victoria "Jade" Worrall, a junior at Jeffersonville High school says, "It's really hard to do things because I can't breathe." Also, Worrall says, "It fogs up my glasses and I can't see without taking them off... I have to take off my glasses whenever I go shopping." According to a New York Times article, fogging occurs because hot air gets trapped inside and escapes through the top of the mask. One solution is sealing the top of your mask with medical tape or athletic tape, which can prevent air from your breath getting through and fogging your glasses. They also recommend molding the top of your masks to fit your face properly.

Others say wearing a mask has caused breakouts — a problem dubbed "mascne" or "maskne" in the media. The problem is so commonplace that the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) has published a list called "9 Ways to Prevent Face Mask Skin Problems." Senior Michael Broadhead says, "I deal with it, but it's not as bad as I thought it would be." Senior Harmony Wayman says "I just wash the crap out of my face to prevent it." Regular cleaning is at the top of the AAD's tips for preventing mask acne. The organization also recommends choosing a mask that fits well, so you're less likely to touch your face, and has a "soft, natural, and breathable fabric, such as cotton, on the inside layer that rests against your skin." The AAD adds that you should "Avoid synthetic fabrics, such as nylon, polyester, and rayon on the layer that rests against your skin. These are more likely to irritate your skin and cause breakouts."

On the other hand, masks aren't always problematic. Many people have used them to further their style and outside appearance. "You can get cute masks and they look really nice on you." Worrall said. That's a bright spot — and a spot that has nothing to do with the dreaded mascne.



Senior Milo Shireman makes a fashion statement when wearing a mask at school. Photo by Paige Moore

## THE CHECKMARK

### SELF-CARE CHECKLIST

Story by Chloey Trinkle

Hey! How are you? This is just a friendly reminder that you, yes YOU, need to take care of yourself. COVID-19 has been hard, and now it is more important than ever to take care of yourself and your body. Use this checklist to make sure you are taking good care of your body and mind during this crazy time.

**✓ Drink enough water**  
According to [npr.org](http://npr.org), a study done by the Institute of Medicine shows that males need to drink more water than females, but that does not mean you can skip out on drinking plenty of H2O!

**✓ Eat 3 meals per day**  
A Harvard study suggests everyone should eat 3 separate meals within a day to help with things like weight loss and eliminating constant hunger, but try not to make it within a couple hours before sleeping. Your body needs conscious time to process the food you ingested!

**✓ Get enough sleep, consistently**  
You need to have a sleep schedule that stays the same each night to prevent fatigue. As cited from [sleepfoundation.org](http://sleepfoundation.org), teens and children require more sleep than adults and elderly, so try to get around 8-10 hours per night.

**What next? Take your reading a step further with these to-dos and tips from The Hyphen staff.**

- ✓ Cancel the negative self-talk**  
Are you aware that you try your best? Yes, it's true that failure hurts, but just know that being aware that your best is the most effort that you truly need. Your best is enough. You are enough.
- ✓ Get professional help if you need it**  
If your mental health is suffering, take advantage of these free mental health support resources:

**SAMHSA's National Helpline  
Call 1-800-662-4357**

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
Call 1-800-273-8255**

**Crisis Text Line  
Text "start" to 741-741**

# FEATURES



## IT'S THE LOOK OF THE CENTURY!

**Fashion choices at Jeff High are as diverse as the students.**

Story by November Shawler and Chloey Trinkle

Vintage, Cottagecore, aesthetics galore! All throughout Jeff High, there are plenty of students who have their own unique sense of style. Some of these students agreed to an interview to talk with us about how it all comes together.

**Senior Joryn Burns** says, "I love a good sweater, and some like to say I am serving 'grandma chic.'" Burns has an appreciation for styles that can go on either side of the style spectrum. "[It's] comfortable and I can dress it up or down. [They] make me look way more put together than I actually am." She adds, "I am always trying new outfit ideas and trying to perfect my dream aesthetic."

**Sophomore Tanner Michelle** says "my style is something I struggle to define! It's directly pulled from the music I listen to... In all honesty, I'm just a rocker chick." She also says her style truly reflects her personality and priorities. "In the most basic explanation I can give, it is who I am. Not only that, but through my attire, I can voice my beliefs and opinions. As a bisexual, feminist, activist [...] I use everything I can to create change and break the social norms!" She also thinks about the larger impact of her fashion choices -- for instance, by shopping at thrift stores rather than buying mass-produced fast fashion. "I am really big about climate change and our environment," she says. She finds her style comfortable and loves to wear it. "It can get a little cold, though, because I usually like to flaunt my femininity and show a little skin!"

**Sophomore Brecken Maddox** describes her style as "academic cottagecore." What does that mean? "People often describe my style as ranging from 'potato farmer' to 'hot zookeeper,' but I take that as a compliment." Jokingly, she adds, "I'd like to think that if I was to walk around at night, children would mistake me for a ghost." Maddox says, "Dressing this way makes me feel confident. It's a way to show myself as I really am rather than what people expect. I think that dressing nicely, and the way that I feel most represents me, is a form of self care." She finds her style comfortable and says that, "I'm more comfortable in a 70's suit than leggings and a t-shirt." Like Michelle, Maddox opts for second-hand finds. "Using true vintage clothing is a great way to avoid fast fashion. Shopping at vintage shops allows you to get well-made and long lasting clothes, unlike what most brands produce today which is made to last a year or so before falling apart."

**Junior Victoria "Jade" Worrall** describes her style as "Alternative, pastel goth, emo, fancy? I like to wear whatever speaks to me the most which is almost always alternative style." She adds that her style "brings me lots of joy and confidence, and I hope it inspires people to dress however they like." She thinks that "even if it is uncomfortable physically at times I still feel comfortable in it mentally [...] I like the freedom of expression it gives me."

**Senior Zoe Beavin** has a more old-fashioned approach to style. "I would call my style of clothing very retro/artistic, I love old clothing and remaking it into something else or just wearing it how it looks. Most of my clothing is music bands and some oversized sweaters that I extremely love." Beavin's fashion choices are inspired by a time before our generation. "I wear it because I love the clothing from the 1990s and I want my whole closet to look like I went in a time machine and this was all I brought back." Despite having a retro style, Beavin prioritizes comfort over all else. "My style is very comfortable, I can't get enough of oversized clothing and layered clothing. [...] There's just so much you can do with your clothing; you can protest a message, show off art, or promote a business. Clothing, I think, is very important to our culture. You can express your emotions all through just one shirt or even socks!"

**Junior Aiyana Scott** describes her style as "trendy/edgy/city vibe." She added, "I wear my clothes to make a statement or to stand out but I really like to look my best." Similar to Beavin, Scott makes comfort a priority. "All of my outfits are mostly based on comfort so that I can work in them, but what I like most about them is that they last long, like I can wear an old shirt and put it with something new and it comes out great."

**Junior Cooper Sanders** opts for a simple, but stylish look. "I really enjoy wearing clothing and items in a 1980s fashion. Usually, I wear that type of clothing in the winter with either a polo or flannel shirt." Sanders follows this up with, "It is just really nice to be able to wear what you're most comfortable with and not follow any trends." Most people choose to wear certain styles to impress or look good for others, but Sanders has a different approach: "I like that I am able to wear what I am most interested in and just wear it for myself. Also, I am a huge fan of the 1980s, so whenever I see something that resembles the fashion or whatever interests me, I am usually going to wear it without a doubt."

**Junior Kyndia Motley** finds it difficult to sum up her style in one word. "Honestly, I would call my style whatever I can come up with. Real talk, I just try to do my best to look as spicy as I can. Whether it's bummy, cute, casual, etc." She says that she wears it because "it's fun for me to just do me through what I wear. I like how I can control what I wear and how I wear it -- to an extent." Motley uses her style to express herself in more ways than one. "Depending on what I am wearing, reflects on my mood that day. I like how my outfit choices depict how I feel that day."

When someone chooses their sense of style, it may come from a multitude of different sources. It could come from a certain era of fashion in the past, a certain celebrity who wears certain styles of clothing, experimenting with old items of clothing and revamping them into something new, or even just seeing something from a store and developing your own style based on that. Whatever it may be, everyone has their own taste and it comes down to preference. In the end, it's all about expressing yourself.



1



2



3



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5



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7



8

1. Joryn Burns
2. and 3. Tanner Michelle
4. Jade Worrall
5. Zoe Beavin
6. Aiyana Scott
7. Kyndia Motley
8. Brecken Maddox

All photos submitted

## NEW X TWO: JEFF HIGH BASKETBALL REBOUNDS WITH NEW BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL COACHES

### Coach Melissa Voyles - Girls Basketball

Story by Max Fisher

Coach Melissa (Missy) Voyles took the head coaching job at Jeff High because it presented a great opportunity and a great challenge. Prior to coaching at Jeff, Voyles had coached at North Harrison. However, she wanted the chance to coach at a division 4A (the high school sports division for the largest schools) school like Jeff. She also saw the girls basketball team as a program with potential. "It's always a program that could really be dominant," she says.

Despite her optimism, there was a clear challenge for the Red Devils this year: injuries. Voyles said this season they had five ACL tears, one broken wrist, and two concussions. "I have never seen this many injuries," she says. Despite these challenges she has been pleased with the level of dedication her players have shown, saying, "They play hard every day. I can't fault them for that." With this dedication has come improvement, according to Voyles.

Going into the season in a tough conference, and after losing a lot of senior talent last year, Voyles says, "I knew it would be a big struggle win-or-loss wise." However, she credits her team's leadership and hard work with their success this year, specifically, she credited Neveah Bates (junior), Baily Gibson (senior), Ajia Estes (senior), Tatum McFarland (sophomore), and Sofia Reese (sophomore) with creating a contagious positive atmosphere on the team.

For the postseason, the goal was simple for Voyles. "I want to compete with Bedford." On Feb. 5, 2021, Jeffersonville fell to Bedford North Lawrence 62-36 in the Sectional Semi-final. Despite their season coming to an end, the Devils were able to keep the game within 10 points with the fourth-ranked Stars, until the fourth quarter.



Coach Voyles talks with the team during a timeout at the January 22 game against New Albany High School. Photo by Paige Moore



Coach Grantz calls a play during the February 9 match-up against Seymour High School. Photo by Emma Blacklock

### Coach Andrew Grantz - Boys Basketball

Story by Max Fisher

Coach Andrew Grantz says he took the boys basketball job at Jeff High for many reasons, including "the history, the tradition, and the fan support here at Jeff." Grantz also wanted to return to coaching in Indiana, and with the talent at Jeff High, he was excited at the opportunity to build the program.

For Grantz, the biggest difference between this job and his past coaching gigs is the community. "You know, Providence was a great place to be," he says, "but you know with a private school, you're pulling from all different directions." He feels that the closeness in the Jeff High community really sets the program apart, and unlike Fort Myers, Florida (where he was for a past coaching job), basketball is a bigger deal here in Indiana.

For Grantz, his pride in his team was on display after the first semester when he learned the team had a GPA of 3.4 (highest in program history according to Grantz). For him this accomplishment was important as a coach because "they're setting themselves up for life after basketball," he says.

Leading up to the season, with all the confusion about COVID-19, he says the goal was simple: "Let's just play games." He also felt that despite the loss of a talented senior class last year, the team would be strong.

Despite his optimism, he does feel one of the major challenges was Jeff's lack of a consistent feeder program. "Whenever I was younger there was the JYBL (Jeff Youth Basketball League), and if you look at the run Jeff had in the '90s, that happened right after JYBL started," Grantz says. He hopes to be able to tackle this problem, which he believes will really help the program as it has before.

Looking toward the end of the season, his goal for his team is simple: "We want to reach our full potential... if we do that or come close to that we have a chance to make a run in the postseason." Over the season, he says the team has "had flashes of it." But to reach his goal it's about "putting it all together at once."

## WRESTLERS BALANCE THE RISKS AND REWARDS OF COMPETING DURING COVID

### From practice routines to online school, team members have adapted to an unusual year.

Story by Cameron Allen

With the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the way we live our lives in many ways, one major thing it has affected is athletes and their sports. Some sports are not as affected as others such as cross country, where they can still run the same trails while being socially distant.

Other sports that are close contact such as wrestling have had to change their routines significantly to keep at their success. Junior Wrestler Dillon Mouser says their entire practice schedule has been altered compared to last year. "Last year, we used to be able to just switch partners. Now we have pods of 4 people, and we can't drill, lift, or practice with anyone outside of our pods. Typically we practice with only one person in our pod until it's time to wrestle each other for a live match."

Mouser says they also had to split up into separate rooms. "Stations 1 and 2 are mat 1, and 2 are in the same room but divided by a curtain. Station 3 is the weight room. Station 4 is mat 3, which we moved upstairs.



Wrestling team members gather around a teammate to offer support before a match at the December 5 meet. Photo by Paige Moore

Sixteen people on one mat, and obviously we wear our masks everywhere except for when we are on the mat, and every time we switch stations we sanitize."

Practice routines aren't just the only thing COVID-19 has affected. Varsity wrestler Evan Clayton decided to switch to online school to lessen his risk of exposure during wrestling season. "Online school makes it harder to get work done because you aren't in the classroom learning first hand and you lack the motivation you would normally have in class," Clayton says. "But it wasn't a hard decision knowing I can maintain my grades and not risk missing out on a big part of the season," he adds.

Over Christmas break, Clayton got quarantined, and not getting quarantined leading into sectionals was a big part of his decision. "I live fairly far from most of my family, but when I got quarantined over Christmas I was upset because I couldn't go see my grandma, and that was pretty hard for me." Clayton intends to stay in online school until he can finish up his season and the school quarter to learn the material easier and prepare for his AP tests.

The decision to participate in a team sport has affected some wrestlers at home also. Some athletes' relatives have health problems that would put them at risk if they contracted COVID-19.

Even before COVID-19, being an athlete required making tough trade-offs. For athletes this year, the stakes seem more significant and the choices more complicated -- but the drive to compete has not gone away.

**"Online school ... wasn't a hard decision knowing I can maintain my grades and not risk missing out on a big part of the season."**

**- Evan Clayton, Junior**

## WELCOMING ANOTHER CREATIVE MIND: MR. RIDINGS

**After teaching at Parkview Middle School, Corey Ridings adds a new element to Jeffersonville High School's art program.**

Story by Anna Hardin

Transitioning from a comfort zone can be a challenge, especially if it was for a long period of time. For Corey Ridings, former art teacher at Parkview Middle School, coming to Jeff High this year has been a new but good adjustment. After teaching at Parkview for 18 years, he decided to take the opportunity for a new change. As Mr. Ridings has said, "So far, so good." Boosting creativity around Jeff High might just be what we need.

Mr. Ridings had always wanted to coach Varsity basketball. He had played basketball growing up, and it was always something he planned to do. To be a coach of any sport you have to have a teaching license. This is what led him to art. He enjoyed coaching, but he wasn't committed like he should have been. "Gradually, about halfway through my teaching career ... I started to be more passionate about art and in the process less about coaching." At this point he knew that his initial future plan had changed direction.

His transition from teaching middle school students and then coming to Jeff High had been somewhat of an easy one. His reasons were, "I wanted to see what it was like to work with kids at a higher level," says Ridings. "I needed a change," he added.

He also enjoys working with students who have varying degrees of passion about art. "In middle school you've got a lot of kids that get art no matter what, and you still get that here a little bit. You have students who fall under the category of them getting art, and then you have the students who have no art background, and have to figure out a way to connect with them."

He also works with students who are more experienced. "When you get into painting and drawing in upper level classes, you generally are going to get students who are passionate about art." There is a constant flow of creativity. The colors draw people in, and captivate them. When there is

time put into something, and there is passion, it can create something of meaning. "I try to teach them things so that if they see me in 20 years, something I said meant something to them."

Regardless of what level students are at, Ridings says his priority is "quality over quantity." He explains, "My philosophy on teaching, especially with art, is it's not just about getting something done, turning it in and getting a grade. It's about mastering what the content is we are working on." This gives the students the opportunity to work on something until that skill is mastered. This takes time and dedication, especially if it's something you enjoy. You aren't tested on your ability to do something, it's more of the progression of your work and if there is improvement.



Art teacher Corey Ridings  
Hyphen Staff Photo

Ridings also looks for opportunities to boost creativity. In the past, he used meditation at the beginning of class to open the students' minds and really boost that creative side of the brain. He hasn't really seen an opening where that is needed for his high school students, so he's not quite sure if he'll bring that back. With the pandemic going on, he has focused more on how to communicate with students online and the way that each student approaches their art. All different, but all beautifully put together.

## THE EXCLAMATION POINT

### MUSIC: SONG MACHINE

Review by November Shawler

*Song Machine*, the newest album from British virtual band Gorillaz, begins with an interesting setup: the songs had a staggered release that eventually built up into an album. The album is a genre-busting blend of alternative, indie, electropop, and hip hop. Not only is it filled with music, but it also includes audio bites of the band talking about the songs.



With feature artists like Tony Allen, Elton John, Beck, St. Vincent and more, Gorillaz is back with an innovative and amazing album packed with memorable songs and new leaps in the fiction of 2D, Murdoc, Noodle and Russel's lives.

Visit [TheHyphenNews.com](http://TheHyphenNews.com) for more entertainment reviews, including staff reporter Yousaf Quereshi's take on *Cobra Kai* season 3.

### GAME: SOLITAIRE

Review by Rachel Lowe

When asking what game you pass your time with, would you say a fun game? Candy Crush or Pokemon Go? Would you say a game that makes you think? Sudoku or Word Cookies? Would you like a game that helps calm your mind? A game you can win 80 percent of the time? Well then, you need to play solitaire — one of the most popular games around the world.

Whether playing it with a normal deck of cards or playing it on your phone, you can not go wrong with playing solitaire. Microsoft has been a streaming provider for solitaire for almost 30 years. In 2012, Microsoft added a new collection to their service. A solitaire collection. This includes the top 5 solitaire games to make playing a lot easier. Since the collection was made, 242 million people have been plugged into this game, with over 33 billion games played each year.



How this game works is you want to make piles out of cards going from the King, Queen and so on switching colors. Once you have that you want to make piles of the same suits from ace, two and so on. Once you have made all four piles of the same suits, you have won the game.

This game is free on the app store on all phones, so what is stopping you from getting your new favorite game?



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