

# JACKSON COUNTY

## School District

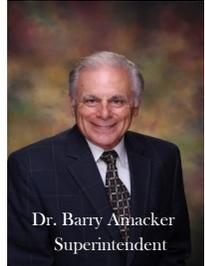
February 15, 2019



Raising the Standard

Greetings JACO Nation,

I've got some great news!! Madeline Lee, a senior at SMHS has received official word that she is a National Merit Finalist. Madeline is simply amazing and we are proud to have her as part of the Jackson County School District. Raising the Standard is what Madeline does best. Congrats!



Dr. Barry Amacker  
Superintendent

St. Martin WINGS students from Mrs. Bryant, Mrs. Hodgson, and Mrs. Payne's classes had an amazing opportunity to bake King Cakes with St. Martin High School's Mrs. Pate and her Culinary Arts students. They learned about the history of the Mardi Gras colors and why King Cakes are a part of Mardi Gras culture. What an incredible experience had by all. Thank you for sharing your passion, Mrs. Pate!

I'd also like to thank Home Depot, on behalf of the SM WINGS Department, for their donation of paint to be used in the kitchen being designed for their gifted students to utilize for culinary experiences.

Congrats to ECH's Micah O'Guin for being named All-District for boys basketball and to Elijah Newsome for earning Honorable Mention All-District. Also, VHS students Sydney Salter and Julianah Overstreet were selected to play in the Mississippi Coast All-Star Soccer Game. Sydney was named the Offensive MVP Player of the game. Great job!

SMH celebrated the success of several of their football and soccer players as they signed letters of intent to play sports at various colleges. Those receiving scholarships are Ricco Moore - PRCC, Norde White, Ethan Anderson and "Hamm" McGee - East MS CC, Brandon Cunningham - MS State, Franchot Canaan - Ottawa University, Kobe Evans, Nick Ross and Jayce Franklin - SW MS CC, Mileon Graham and Elijah Washington - Jones County JC, Kierra Sanchez - MGCCC, Jarod Wetzel - Coahoma CC, Shazim Williams - McPherson College. VHS Student, Austin Thomley, also signed to play football at Southwest Mississippi Community College. Congrats!

What a huge success the East Central Lower Elementary Blood Drive was. Their personal goal was to collect 60 units of blood but the Blood Center was able to surpass that by collecting 86 units of blood. Thanks to all who contributed to such a worthy cause.

SMHS boys basketball beat Ocean Springs High School to move forward in the district tournament. The girls' team also won and advance to the next round. ECH girls basketball also advances in the district tournament. Congrats and good luck to all our teams.

VanCleave Middle School loves to highlight students for their academic success and also for their positive behavior. Check out the pictures in the photo section of the newsletter for those students who were named Student of the Month and those who received positive office referrals. Fantastic! VanCleave High School had a great turn out for their meet the team last Saturday. Thanks to all those parents and community members who came out to support the team. I can't wait to see what the future holds for all our teams kicking off their season.

Baseball season begins this week and archery is now underway. Click [here](#) to view the district sports calendar and get on out there and support our students. Thanks for all you do! Dr. A.

To view photos of activities within the district, click [here](#).

**"Raising the Standard"**