



SUPERINTENDENT'S TIP OF THE HAT



—Feb. 5, 2026—

District, City, & Community Volunteers Team Up To Open Schools!

To ensure our schools could resume operations this week, Johnstown-Monroe students, athletes, coaches, administrators, maintenance crews, bus drivers, and PTO members, worked in tandem with community volunteers, Johnstown City personnel, Monroe Township Firefighters, Boy Scouts and many, many other community-minded helpers on Jan. 30. Working together, we successfully cleared neighborhood pathways across our school district.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

[WCMH](#)

[WBNS](#)

[WSYX](#)

[J-M Video](#)



We can all agree the start of the new calendar year has been an exceptionally challenging one because of harsh weather conditions. But the mission of educating our students continues. There is much to be proud of within the following pages. But memories and history were made on Thursday and Friday when our staff and students, supported by community volunteers, city workers and firefighters cleared neighborhood sidewalks so student education could resume Feb. 2. I couldn't be prouder of our students, our city and its citizens!

Global Scholars Project Focuses On Agriculture Education

JHS and Global Scholars student Lauren Heimerl organized an Ag Day event at JIS on Jan. 21, 2026. Please enjoy this short [VIDEO](#) during which Lauren describes her project, and her next steps.



JIS Students Embrace Recycling

JIS students are determined to help the planet by recycling within Johnstown-Monroe schools. With the support of Johnstown Intermediate School instructors Katie Shaffer and Holly Ruffle, the students recently met with Superintendent Dr. Philip H. Wagner, and Director of Operations Derick Busenburg, to discuss their goals of raising awareness within JIS and creating less waste.



The students include (from left) Braelyn Biller, Audrey Moore, Gabi Cervantes, Finley Leon, and Lucy Fling.

Students Excel At All-State Event

Johnstown students participated in the 2026 All-State Choir Program this past week at the OMEA Professional Development Conference in Columbus. Thursday, Jan. 29th, Gabriela Cervantes, 5th grade student at JIS, performed in the All-State Children's Chorus under the direction of Molly Park, elementary vocal and general music educator from Maryland. Gabriela was one of 138 elementary/intermediate-school-aged students to be selected in the whole state of Ohio to perform in this ensemble. On Friday, Jan. 30th, Brandon Callicoat (JHS sophomore) and Sydney Gernert (JHS junior) performed in the All-State High School Choir under the direction of Rollo Dilworth, choral composer, arranger, and professor/chair of Choral Music Education at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Both students were selected with 158 other high school students in the whole state of Ohio to perform in this ensemble. Johnstown schools had four students selected, including Kamden Sharp from JIS, to participate amongst these prestigious groups of singers based on their application and audition held in May 2025. The All-State Committee goes through hundreds of auditions and being selected is a huge honor and accomplishment! A special thank-you is owed to Reagan Koziel for nominating and preparing applications for our JIS students, as the application process begins a year in advance. Miss Judy Bennett, JIS Music Teacher, and Miss Brianna Warner, JHS Choir Director, are very proud of these students for their great job representing Johnstown. Congratulations to these students for a job well done!



Community Outreach: Annual “State of the Schools” Shared With Johnstown City Council

We were privileged to share our annual, “Johnstown-Monroe State of The Schools” presentation at the Tuesday, Jan. 20, Johnstown City Council meeting. You may view it [HERE](#).



Help Us Grow Our Team!

Johnstown-Monroe is hiring! View all available positions [HERE](#).



JOHNSTOWN-MONROE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

PTO Brings Harlem Wizards Back For Return Match



The Johnstown-Monroe PTO brought the Harlem Wizards back to town for a return game against Johnstown's hometown players in January. Please enjoy [these video highlights](#).



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