



# Thomas Jefferson Middle School

## *IB MYP December Newsletter*

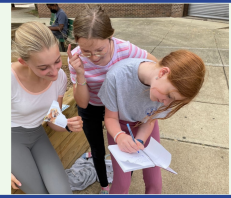
*Learning together to understand and improve ourselves, our futures, and our world.*



### Learner Profile Attribute of the Month: Knowledgeable

#### KNOWLEDGEABLE

We explore learning across every subject area. We learn about local and global issues.



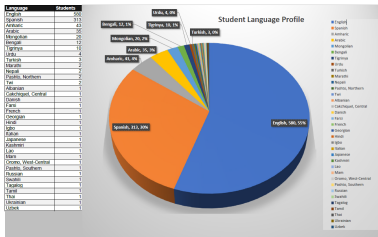
JEFFERSON MS LEARNER PROFILE

This December we focused on the learner attribute of being knowledgeable. This means we explore learning across every subject area in local and global contexts. Teachers are encouraged to make international connections whenever it is authentic and meaningful. Students are asked to transfer their learning to new and different contexts. [See the larger poster here.](#)

### Principal's Update

Season's Greetings TJMS parents and guardians! As we embrace the beauty of this season, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your unwavering support of your Yellow Jacket(s) and our school community. We put out a call to adopt TJMS families in need and you answered the call beyond our imagination. Your generosity is putting smiles on the faces of kids and minimizing stress often felt by parents/guardians during this time of the year. Your selflessness warms my heart and exemplifies why TJMS truly is the "Best of the Best". In the spirit of this holiday season, I want to extend my thanks to all of you for everything you do for our school. Have a safe and joyous holiday season!

### An IB Policy explained: Language



Our 2023-2023 Jefferson Language Policy includes the language profile of our students. The top five languages are 1) English, 2) Spanish, 3) Amharic, 4) Arabic, and 5) Mongolian again this year. We are a

multilingual school as a fact, right and resource. Language learning is a right in that students have a right to learn the language of their choice. It is a resource because students who can communicate in more than one language can better express themselves. [Full size image here.](#)

### SEL - Approaches to Learning - Self-Management

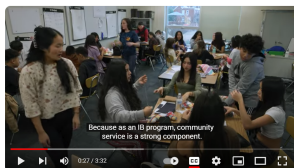


**Self-management** is the ability to manage one's emotions, thoughts, and behaviors effectively in different situations and to achieve goals and aspirations. This includes the capacities to delay gratification, manage stress, and feel motivation and agency to accomplish personal and collective goals. Learn more

about self-management at home by [watching this video](#) and read more about the importance of it [in this article](#).

Source: [pixabay.com](https://pixabay.com)

### Community Project: Investigation



Thomas Jefferson's 8th Grade Capstone Project

AETV

1.2M

4

Share

Our 8th graders are now completing their Community Project Investigation. This assignment involves students researching a community that they choose by looking at a Sustainable Development Goal Report, a local organization that is working to help the community, and a current event article. Then students should define a goal for how they can help. Next month students start planning to carry out their goal. [Watch the video of our Community Project Day of Action.](#)

### Service Learning - Hoodie Drive



With the cold weather now upon us, we want to help students in need by collecting hoodies. The Student Council Advisory will be helping facilitate this drive. Drop boxes will be placed in front of the library and the cafeteria. Many stores sell new hoodies for as little as \$8, and we can only accept new hoodies. Consider making a hoodie donation if you are able.

### Language and Literature Internal Standardization



Our 8th Grade English Language Arts teachers met to grade together three examples of student work. We looked at the criteria on the rubric and worked to find consensus on every score. Through focused conversations we clarified expectations and we were able to find a consistent way to score student essays.

### Student Council Advisory (SCA) Update



The SCA was very busy with hosting our first winter and distributing candy grams to all who wanted them. The Winter Dance was on December 19 right after school. The dance had about 300 students, two DJs with lights, and 50 boxes of pizza. We sold Candy Cane messages to about 250 students and staff, which were delivered during TA on Wednesday, December 20.