

Jesse Boyd Elementary School 2020-2021 ---At A Glance---

This year at JBE has been a year unlike any other. We have faced many challenges together and we have come through them together. We are very excited about the many things we have learned this year, and we are also looking very forward to what the future holds. While last year ended with somewhat nervous anticipation, this year ends with much hope for we will experience and how we will grow.

Coming into this school year, our staff decided that our school theme would, appropriately, be “The JBE Amazing Race.” Our tag line was “Onward JBE,” which was a large part of our work to move our students forward in many ways. We knew we would face many challenges and experience many triumphs together and so the choice of theme fit extremely well.

We began the year this year with many protocols in place that caused our school day to look quite different than before. We gathered data that would assist us growing our students as learners—this began with the iReady Fall Diagnostic in grades K-5 and through the use of Fountas and Pinnell’s Reading assessments. Our teachers also utilized our new Math curriculum to gather data on our students. Our staff determined that we had a need for greater growth in both Reading and Math. By the time our students completed the iReady Winter Diagnostic, 40% of our students had already met their Annual Typical Growth in Reading and 27% had done so in Math. Our Spring Diagnostic results are already showing even greater growth. JBE also lowered the percentage of students in Tier 3 in Math by almost half (23% to 12%) and by seven percent in Reading (19% to 12%).

During the 2020-2021 school year, our staff has looked at our areas of need and has begun to make adjustments so that the focus of our IB Primary Years Programme is on the areas of need—Reading and Math. Our staff is currently working on making the necessary adjustments to the IB Planners in order to most effectively meet the needs of our students in those areas.



JBE is working towards three major goals: (1) Becoming a model IB school, (2) Becoming a model Balanced Literacy school, and (3) Becoming a model technology integration school. The vision that drives our goals is that JBE is continually working towards the effective integration of those three areas so that the three are happening seamlessly.

JBE has continually strived to grow the culture that has existed here for many years—one that keeps our parents informed and includes all stakeholders as part of decision-making and program development and implementation. Our staff and leadership communicate constantly with our families through many means, such as Class Dojo, Facebook, Instagram, and many others. In a year when we have been unable to have visitors in our building, this has greatly assisted us in keeping our families informed and in touch with the special things occurring at JBE. In addition, meetings were held face-to-face, over the phone, and over Microsoft Teams. Our PTSO continually stayed connected and our School Improvement Council met once quarterly. JBE also utilized technology in order to hold many celebrations such as our special Coffeehouse assemblies (which were held once a month, our Veteran’s Day assembly, Holiday Extravaganza, and our Black History Month program.

Though many of our procedures changed quite a bit, such as remaining in classrooms most of the day (which included lunch) and with many safety protocols that are in place, our teachers and students have responded amazingly, and learning and growth continues and improves.

JBE certainly is the place to be, and we could not be prouder of how our community has rallied around our school during this exceptional year, of how our families have been so amazing, and of how our teachers, students, and staff have so bravely met the challenges we have faced.

