

# Alumni News



**Chase, J '11, at Princeton University in 2012. This summer he attended Georgetown.**

**Chase Dobbs, J '11** – Chase is a junior at University of Detroit Jesuit High School, following the rigorous college prep track. He also joined the wrestling team. Last summer, Chase was nominated to take an AP History program at Princeton University. This summer he visited Georgetown University where he participated in Congressional debate workshops in the Capitol. His travels have sparked an interest in attending Rutgers or Boston College.

## High School Graduations to Celebrate

**Jessie Lennon, XJ '09** – Marian High School (Second Honors, Varsity Soccer); Grand Valley State University, Psychology

**Amelia Stecker, J '09** – Royal Oak High School (Summa Cum Laude, NHS, Varsity Softball, *Noesis Magazine* Editor); Eastern Michigan University Honors College, Linguistics

**Julia Mohan, XJ '09** - Lamphere High School (Honors, Varsity Soccer); Saginaw Valley State University, Business

**Do You Have Alumni News to Share?**

**Contact Robin Pospisil at**  
[robin.pospisil@japhetschool.org](mailto:robin.pospisil@japhetschool.org)



**Joseph, J '03, and a preschooler work together on a garden project at our new home!**

## College Graduations to Celebrate

**Joseph Pospisil, J '03** – Oakland University, Bachelor of Arts in History (Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, College Republicans); continues to work at Big Rock Chophouse while applying to graduate schools and career positions

**Will Butler, XJ '05** – University of Michigan, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, minor in Global Media Studies (Sigma Chi Fraternity, College Democrats, wrote for *The Michigan Daily*); currently a fellow with the Michigan Talent Agenda, a non-profit organization dedicated to economic development in Michigan

**Kiersten Andersen, J '05** – Principia College, Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies, minors in Sociology and Anthropology (Volleyball: All-conference Honors, Conference Player-of-the-Week, Conference All-tournament Team, MVP, Captain); employed by Principia as post-graduate teaching intern and volleyball coach

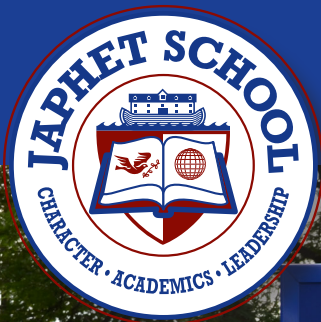
**Tucker Blake, J '05** - Albion College, Bachelor of Fine Arts (Tennis Captain, Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity); joined the U.S. Marines

SUMMER 2013 | [www.japhetschool.org](http://www.japhetschool.org) | 248 585-9150



**JAPHET SCHOOL**  
839 S. Crooks, Clawson, MI 48017





# JAPHET SCHOOL

AWARD-WINNING NATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHARACTER

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## Upcoming Events

**Back-to-School Night for Parents**  
September 19, 7-9 PM

**Teachers & Staff Attend AIMS Conference (No School)**  
October 7

**Fall Open House: Visit Our New Clawson Home!**  
October 13, 1-3 PM

**Gratitude Service**  
November 27, 11 AM

## Coming Home

Japhet School has been nurturing and preparing children for life since 1973, and we are excited to be celebrating our 40th year in a new location. The Board of Trustees and I are pleased to announce that Japhet's new home is:

**839 S. Crooks in Clawson, Michigan**

The building is located on approximately 2 ½ acres between 13 and 14 Mile Roads, at the corner of Crooks and Normandy. It has a grassy area with trees for outdoor play, and it was formerly the Oakland Branch of the YWCA. Inside there are several existing classrooms, a large gym, a specialists'

room, and a central courtyard. Renovations are updating and preparing the building to meet our needs.

**"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is a success."**  
— Henry Ford

Japhet has always been so much more than the walls that surround us. We are taking the essence of Japhet on this journey. We are taking our joy. We are taking our courage. We are taking our industry, and we are taking our gratitude. We will

begin 2013/2014 in a new space, but we will be coming home.

I am excited to share this journey and celebrate our 40th year with each of you!

— **Cathy Mohan**, Head of School



**Technology Advisor/PE Teacher Joe Mohan (second from left) hosted a foursome from Brother Rice High School.**

## **FORE the Kids – 2013 Golf Outing**

**We'd like to thank all participants, and especially our sponsors, who supported this year's golf outing for Japhet School! Golfers enjoyed a beautiful day at Western Golf & Country Club in Redford on June 24, including lunch, dinner, silent auction, and awards reception.**

**PVS Chemicals Inc. was the event sponsor, DENSO International America was our dinner sponsor, and Straightline Group was our lunch sponsor. We are grateful for their continued generous support.**

**You can stay up-to-date for plans for the 2014 outing by clicking on the "Golf Outing" link at [www.japhetschool.org](http://www.japhetschool.org).**

# **Board of Trustees Launches Capital Campaign**

You may have received an invitation in early August to join us on an exciting journey: Japhet's Journey Home.

This first-ever capital campaign for Japhet will help fund the purchase and renovation of our new school in Clawson. We are striving to raise \$1.5 million. Donating is easy: return the reply card that was enclosed in the mailing, or go to [www.japhetschool.org](http://www.japhetschool.org) and click on "Donate Now to Our Capital Campaign" to give via Paypal.

On behalf of our students, parents, faculty, and staff, Japhet School trustees thank you for considering a contribution to Japhet School.

## **Welcome, New Trustees**

Martha Moyer, Frank Edwards, and Jay Schmitt have been elected to serve for three school years beginning with 2013/2014.

Martha Moyer, a Japhet School alumni parent, has served as Chief Legal Officer for Dura Automotive Systems, a Tier 1 automotive supplier. Educated at Michigan State University and the University of Detroit School of Law, Martha has served on MSU's Alumni Board of Directors, on the board for Birmingham's Baldwin Public Library, and on several committees for Birmingham Public Schools.

Frank Edwards is a current Japhet School parent with two sons entering sixth and fourth grade. Educated at The University of Pennsylvania, Frank is Chairman of the Board of Directors and Vice-President of Nylube Products Company, LLC. He founded the 501(c)(3) charity, Instead of a Gift Inc., and he serves as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors at The Cranbrook Academy of Art and Museum.

Jay Schmitt is an experienced board member and re-joined in the spring. He signed on as treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee, roles to which he brings ample experience.

Moving forward, Julie Knaffla will continue as president, Mike Hedge as vice-president, and Ann Nicholson as secretary. Kent Commer, Terry Helgesen, Libby Palackdharry, Erik Golbiw, and Jan Rathburg complete the full Board of Trustees for 2013/2014. A brief biography of each trustee is on our web site.

The Japhet community joins the board in extending sincere gratitude to Cassandra Bing, Judy Gettel, and Natalie Wright for serving.

# 40 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING GRADUATES



(L-R) George, Justin, Amari, Mallory, Sabrina, and Ann.

## INTRODUCING THE CLASS OF 2013!

### AMARI MATHIS

Amari joined Japhet School in seventh grade. He is a quick thinker and a quick talker, full of joy and kindness. His patience with younger students would make him a wonderful teacher and mentor, and he says he'd like to be a lawyer. Amari's compassion was most evident on the mornings he shared our inspirational message of the day, especially in the way he helped younger students prepare to read their quotes. Amari's energy and enthusiasm are contagious! Amari plans to attend Principia Upper School in St. Louis, Missouri.

### SABRINA RIECK

Sabrina also joined Japhet as a seventh-grade student. She enjoys art and science, soccer, basketball, and skateboarding. Sabrina's best experiences at Japhet were the Leelanau Outdoor Center and being able to be herself and not be judged by others. She has insight into historical situations and understands an implicit message. Sabrina volunteers at the Hazel Park Animal Shelter where she shares her love of animals. She

hopes to be a veterinarian. Sabrina will attend Clawson High School and participate in its veterinary technician program.

### JUSTIN JOHNSON

This was Justin's third year at Japhet. He enjoys video games, baseball and football, and he is active in his church's ministry. His favorite subject is Global Studies, and he also enjoys writing poetry. In fact, Justin's teachers describe him as the poet of his class, both in his appreciation of the arts and in his written and oral expression. Justin is kind, capable, charming, courageous, and protective. He shines as a much-loved Pumpkin Patch buddy and recess playmate. Justin will attend Macomb Christian High School.

### ANN NELSON

Ann first visited Japhet in sixth grade with her younger sister Kate. Ann is clever, creative, funny, and considerate, and her parents say they are grateful for the way Ann is developing into a confident young adult. She enjoys reading, writing, snowboarding, and photography. Her

teachers compliment Ann's innate sense of the nuances in life which she shows in her understanding of metaphorical language, her acting, and her writing. Ann will attend Mercy High School next year.

### GEORGE BLAKE

George began attending Japhet as a daycare student. His two older brothers, Tucker and David, are Japhet alumni. George is full of curiosity. He has a warm sense of humor, is intuitive, and is thoughtful. George is a very open, truthful person. A Pumpkin Patch buddy of his says, "George makes little people laugh." George always has a hand to lend to others. His teachers describe him as kind and full of information about unusual topics. George enjoys tennis, golf, and playing guitar. George is planning to attend Oakland Christian School.

### MALLORY DEMETER

Mallory has been a Japhet student since she was 6 weeks old. Her brother Grant and sister Gillian also attended Japhet. Mallory is artistic, athletic, graceful and smart. Mallory enjoys gymnastics, singing, and spending time in Glen Arbor. Mallory's teachers describe her as funny, industrious, and creative. Mallory's family feels that Japhet has been her second home. They have loved watching her grow physically, morally, and emotionally in her lifetime at Japhet. Mallory plans to attend Mercy High School.

### GRIFFIN HOOPS, J'12,

was our alumnus speaker who shared how a Japhet upbringing supported his first year of high school at Arts Academy in the Woods.

**Judy Miller**, alumni parent and former trustee, was this year's commencement speaker. She took us on a 40-year journey of Japhet's legacy and reminded us that our mission is as relevant today as it was in 1973. Our 2013 graduating students now join Japhet's legacy, as we celebrate 40 years of nurturing and preparing students for life.