



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

September 30, 2015



**Kriss' Korner!**

Energizing Education is necessary in Jackson County because we need to improve student's reading scores and help set them up for a lifetime of success. Only 58.1% of Jackson County 3rd grades are reading at or above grade level. Ten percent aren't proficient at all while another 32% are partially proficient. When this isn't dealt with at a young age, it makes learning and getting an education even more difficult. At Jackson College, 40% of students are reading at a remedial level. As a result of these numbers, Energizing Education is essential in Jackson County. By committing 30 minutes twice a week, you can significantly change the trajectory of a child's life. When students hear what a good reader sounds like, have individualized support, and are provided with the right tools to learn, the results are significant. EE is grant and donor funded and in order to transform reading scores, we need the funding. Any amount is helpful and we are grateful for all that we receive. If you are interested in making a change for Jackson County please contact me at [kgiannetti@uwjackson.org](mailto:kgiannetti@uwjackson.org) for more information.

# Energizing Education

## Cascades Elementary School

### Energizing Education Starts the Year off at Cascades

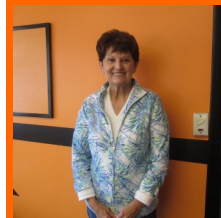
The hallways are shiny, teachers and staff have returned and we're all ready to get back into the grind of the school routine. After having a long summer off, while it may be a slow start getting used to the school day again, Energizing Education is ready and we were excited to walk through Cascade's doors. The Literacy Lounge is filled with books and supplies to create the best reading experience for both mentors and students. Although mentors won't officially return until early October, we're busy recruiting, training, and getting them ready to read with students.

It's always exciting to start our program at a new school, and that is especially true for Cascades. We have great relationships with Cascades staff and know they are just as excited as we are. For the first time this year, Energizing Education will have two schools invited to our monthly family nights. Cascades and Frost are considered one campus, and since Energizing Education is in both buildings, we will have combined nights. This will help young students become familiar with Frost, as that will be their next step. Next month will be Superhero themed and will encourage students to become Super Readers. We hope you're as excited as we are to watch this year as students take their reading to new levels and families become involved in literacy together. Connect with us on Facebook and our website to see more of what Energizing Education looks like in our schools.

### Welcome to the Cascades Literacy Lounge!



### Welcome Robyn!



Robyn is a Jackson native who attended Jackson College and received a Bachelor's Degree from Spring Arbor University. Her career includes teaching Preschool and Kindergarten in addition to being a trained Reading Recovery teacher.

She retired in 2010 but continued to work at Cascades School as a First Grade Enrichment and Early Elementary Intervention Specialist. Robyn is an avid reader and enjoys family time especially with her grandchildren. Robyn also enjoys walking, yoga, and baking. We're glad to have you with us this year as the Site Coordinator at both McCulloch and Cascades!



# October Mentor Training Calendar

Date	Time	Type	Location
October 2	2:30-4:30 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room A/B
October 9	2:00-4:00 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room A/B
October 15	9:00-11:00 am	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room D
October 22	9:00-11:00 am	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room C
October 30	2:00-4:00 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room A/B

**Contact Charlie at [energizingeducationjackson@gmail.com](mailto:energizingeducationjackson@gmail.com) to sign up**

Do you know what's so special about the month of September? It's National Literacy Month! Our Literacy Specialist, Asa Fleming does so much for us by partnering with all of our schools and making sure Site Coordinators are prepared to make lessons for students and that our students are tested. Read an excerpt from her story and click [here](#) to read the full blog.

## Asa Fleming talks National Literacy Month



I play the ukulele. The more I play the better I get and this is true of any activity and it is especially true of reading. Noted reading expert, Richard Allington, refers to this as "miles on the page."

There are many years of research and many studies that confirm the relationship between volume of reading and reading achievement. The more kids read, the better their comprehension.

The more kids read, the more powerful their vocabularies. In Energizing Education we are adding close to an hour a week for kids to add to their "miles on the page." Over the course of the school year this adds up to an extra 34 hours of reading in addition to what students do in their classrooms and at home. In the EE Literacy Lounge, the books that students read are carefully chosen by the site coordinator to ensure that no child who comes to read with our Mentors will struggle. The point of reading is to make meaning out of the words on the page and without the opportunity to talk about their reading, many children miss the link between reading and thinking, and simply become word readers. This is one of the most vital roles, among many, that our mentors play in the lives of our students. They are the caring adult who has the time to listen to what are students are thinking about the books that they read. Energizing Education provides opportunities to read, provides books that students can read successfully, and provides those caring adults who are there to listen.

Join us at Frost Elementary School for our first Frost/Cascades Family Night of the year on October 14th from 5:30-7:00 pm!



[Energizing Education](#)  
[Cascades Elementary](#)

Find out more!  
<http://energizingeducationjackson.org>  
or  
Energizing Education on Facebook

For volunteer information:  
Contact Charlie Miller  
[energizingeducationjackson@gmail.com](mailto:energizingeducationjackson@gmail.com)

To Donate:  
Contact Kriss Giannetti at  
[kgiannetti@uwjackson.org](mailto:kgiannetti@uwjackson.org)



You name it, Jackson District Library has it! The library is not just books – there are movies, music, video games and magazines available to check out from your local branch. The library also has e-books, e-audio books, e-magazines, downloadable music and streaming music, movies and TV shows.

One popular collection is the video game collection. Games for systems including Wii, Wii U, Xbox1, Xbox 360 and Playstation 2, 3 & 4 are available for checkout for 1 week. Check with your local branch or the library website, [www.myjdl.com](http://www.myjdl.com), for titles and availability. Hope to see you soon at one of our branches.

