



THE WEEKLY

Warrior

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

VOLUME V ISSUE III

August 11, 2023

JPII Welcomes 109 New Students for Orientation

On Thursday, August 10 John Paul II Catholic School welcomed 109 new students and their families to Orientation 2023. Following a brief presentation, students were sorted into their House where they will remain for their entire JPII career. Students then went through a very abbreviated Blue and Gold Day schedule to become acclimated to their new environment. JPII student ambassadors were present throughout the day to help guide and support our new Golden Warriors. Families were welcomed back at 11:30am for a "Learning Mass" celebrated by our school chaplain, Fr. Raphael Ghattas. Realizing many of our students are not Catholic, we use the learning mass as a way of both teaching them the four parts of the mass, as well as to make them more comfortable when we all attend together next Tuesday. The learning mass also helps to provide our Catholic students a reminder of the reason behind the mass sequence and prayers. After mass we all gathered together for a cookout. It was a great day and we thank our families for attending and making it that much more special.

We have a very interesting group of students from varied backgrounds joining us this year. Below is a statistical glimpse of the new students.

- Grade 6 – 20 students (6 female / 14 male)
- Grade 7 – 44 students (21 female / 23 male)
- Grade 8 – 12 students (7 female / 5 male)
- Grade 9 – 17 students (12 female / 5 male)
- Grade 10 – 6 students (4 female / 2 male)
- Grade 11 – 8 students (3 female / 5 male)
- Grade 12 – 2 students (2 female)
- Total – 109 students (55 female / 54 male)

This is the first year during my tenure at JPII where new girls have outnumbered the boys. When I arrived four years ago the total school ratio was 62% male and 38% female. In my experience having a more balanced gender ratio makes for a better school. One of our goals was to achieve this balance and I'm pleased to report we are well on our way.

Where are the new students coming from?

- St. Gregory the Great – 23
- Moving to the Area – 21 (see breakdown below)
- Local Public Schools – 15
- St. Peters – 10
- Riverview Charter School – 8
- St. Francis – 7
- Hilton Head Christian Academy – 6
- Holy Trinity Classical Christian – 5
- Beaufort Academy – 4
- Cross School – 4
- Homeschool – 2
- Royal Live Oaks – 1
- SC Connections – 1
- Heritage Academy – 1
- Thomas Heyward – 1

An interesting trend is that 21 students are transferring to JP II from other local private schools. What does that say about JP II?

Students are still moving in from around the country, and the globe for that matter.

- New Jersey – 6
- Columbia, SC – 3
- Michigan – 2
- Hawaii – 2
- Switzerland – 2
- New Mexico – 1
- Peru – 1
- Kentucky – 1
- Texas – 1
- North Carolina – 1
- New York – 1

Thank you to all of our families for choosing JP II. The total enrollment now tops 360!

What to Expect Next Week

- Day 1 of the school year officially kicks off for all students on **Monday, August 14.**
- It will be a Blue Day on the schedule meaning we will run Blocks A-B-C-D.
- Students may be dropped off starting at 7:45am and report to the Commons.
- All students must be in their 1st block class by 8:25am.
- If students do not have their computers yet, they may pick them up in the Commons on Monday starting at 8:00am or during their lunch period

- We will dismiss high school at 2:40.
- DOCS begins on Monday and all middle school students are required to report to DOCS. Dismissal for middle school will be at 3:25. DOCS is optional for high school.
- Buses depart JP11 at 3:35pm Monday – Thursday and 2:50pm on Friday.
- Middle school will be on the high school block schedule this year
- Students should be in the regular school uniform on Monday. If you are still waiting for uniform orders to arrive, please try to dress as close as possible. You can find information regarding the dress code and uniforms on the website.
- Tuesday will be a Mass day as it is celebrated as the Feast of the Assumption. We will run a modified Gold Day Mass Schedule. Students should be in mass uniform. Again, if you do not have this, please try to dress as close as possible. Ties for boys are on sale in the front office. We are also planning meetings with the administration for Tuesday.
- Wednesday (Blue) and Thursday (Gold) are regular school days
- Friday is now a delayed start schedule so we can conduct faculty meetings and professional development. Students may still be dropped off at 7:45am but must report to the modular classrooms #1-4, not the Commons. Buses will run at their regular times. All students must be in 1st block by 9:00am. Dismissal will be at 2:40pm on Friday.
- Friday is a House Day. We will run a newly designed House Schedule which will include an advisory period called the Warrior Way-In. It is considered a dress down day where students are in their house shirts/sweatshirts. There are still guidelines for House dress. Please consult the handbook.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Arrival

If you are dropping off your child in the morning, you may do so anytime starting after 7:45am, Monday to Friday. Please drop off in front of the school. On Friday the drop off is at the athletic center and students will enter into the modulars. You only need to drop off early if necessary to accommodate your schedule. All students must be in class by 8:25am, Monday-Thursday and 9:00am on Friday. Please be aware that traffic on 170 in the morning can be heavy, so leave plenty of time.

Dismissal

Dismissal Monday-Friday is at 2:40. We run our DOCS program afterschool from 2:45-3:25 on Monday-Thursday. There is no DOCS on Friday. Middle school students (grades 6-8) are required to attend DOCS. It is generally optional for a high school student unless a teacher requires their attendance.

Buses load in front of the school at 3:25 Monday-Thursday and 2:40 on Friday. Buses leave 10 minutes after the dismissal bell.

Parents picking up students afterschool will pick up in back of the school when the cones are deployed.

Bus Routes

2023-24 JPll Bus Routes (times subject to change)

Beaufort Routes

St. Peter's

70 Lady's Island Dr, Beaufort

Pick up and drop off in church parking lot

Pick up time @ 7:25am (depart for school @ 7:35am)

Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm

Drop off time @ 4:20pm

Friday depart from JPll @ 2:50pm

Drop off time @ 3:35pm

Shell Point (Parker's)

12 Savannah Hwy, Beaufort

Pick up and drop off in parking lot

Pick up time @ 7:50am

Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm

Drop off time @ 4:00pm

Friday depart from JPll @ 2:50pm

Drop off time @ 3:15pm

Hardeeville Routes

St. Anthony's

24110 Whyte Hardee Blvd, Hardeeville

Pick up and drop off in parking lot

Pick up time @ 7:20am (depart for Publix @ 7:30am)

Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm

Drop off time @ 4:00pm

Friday depart from JPll @ 2:50pm

Drop off time @ 3:15pm

Publix Super Market

2501 May River Xing, Bluffton

Pick up and drop off in the parking lot

Pick up time @ 7:50am
Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm
Drop off time @ 4:15pm
Friday depart from JPll @ 2:50pm
Drop off time @ 3:30pm

HHI Routes

Moss Creek

Pick up and drop-off behind Pulseology gym
1530 Fording Island Rd #111
Pick up time @ 7:10am
Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm
Drop off @ 4:25pm
Friday depart JPll @ 2:50pm
Drop off @ 3:40pm

St. Francis

45 Beach City Rd, HHI
Pick up and drop off by the gym
Pick up time @ 7:30am
Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm
Drop off @ 4:45pm
Friday depart from JPll @ 2:50pm
Drop off @ 4:00pm

St. Gregory the Great

38 St. Gregory Dr, Bluffton
Pick up & drop off in parking lot
Pick up time @ 8:00am
Monday-Thursday depart from JPll @ 3:35pm
Drop off @ 3:55pm
Friday depart from JPll @ 2:50pm
Drop off @ 3:10pm

Remind Code for all bus communication - Send a text to 81010 - Text this message @jpiibu

Project Update

The new security gate will be staffed on Monday but not fully operational. The construction fence will remain up, likely for the week of August 14 as crews finish work. Landscaping should be installed the week of August 21. We expect the gate and guardhouse will be fully operational that week.

The plan will be for all staff, student and parent cars to display a sticker so they do not need to stop at the gate. We will provide parents up to two stickers if needed. We plan to distribute parent stickers at **Back to School Night on August 23**. We will begin checking stickers on August 28.

From the Sports Desk

The Varsity Volleyball team hit the court last night for their first game of the season! The girls picked up where they left off last season defeating the Coastal Hurricanes 25-6, 25-7 and 25-9. Strong serving was the order of the night with the Warriors tallying 28 aces on the night, led by Karoline Rustad with 6 and JoJo Hill with 7. The hitters were busy as well with 15 kills on the night with Camryn Michael leading with 5 of her own. The girls will be heading to Colleton Prep on Saturday for the 2023 IP Builders Volleyball Tournament, and then have a busy week ahead as school begins. Warriors Volleyball will head to Savannah on Monday to face Veritas Academy and then a pair of home matches on Wednesday and Thursday hosting St. Andrews and Northwood Academy!!

Have a great opening everyone. We look forward to the best year yet in the history of JP II.

In His Purpose,



President

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www.johnpaul2school.org

