

THE BIGGEST

John Paul II
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Let yourselves be taken
over by the light of Christ,
and spread that light
wherever you are.
— Saint John Paul II



FALL
2023



ADMINISTRATION

John McCarthy
President

Heather Rembold
Principal

Robert Collar
Assistant Principal

Louise Sanders
Athletic Director

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jennifer Weniger, *Chair*

Josh Horton

Ross Kuykendall

Frank Oldham

Diane Reilly

Tom Skiba

Tracee Spencer

Monsignor Ronald Cellini

John McCarthy

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOHN MCCARTHY

As John Paul II Catholic School enters its second decade, I am reminded daily of the blessings bestowed upon us by the brave pioneers of the Beaufort Deanery who took on the daunting task of planning for and building a Catholic secondary school for our region. While the climb has been mighty steep at times, and we have not yet reached the mountaintop, the load has been made much lighter by the support of those pioneers and through our faith in God. As our patron saint famously said, "Rise, let us be on our way (Mark 14:42). Let us go forth full of trust in Christ. He will accompany us as we journey toward the goal that He alone knows."

We like to think of our school as the one you choose when you want to change your life...and change lives we did as evidenced by the graduating Class of 2023. All 37 were accepted to college while earning over \$4,000,000 in scholarships. We had many acceptances to new schools, such as Notre Dame and the United States Naval Academy, that has begun to put JP II on the radar of college admissions counselors across the country. More and more of our students are entering STEM fields of studies because of their high school experience. However, and most importantly, our students enter life with our SHIELD values (*Service, High Expectations, Innovation, Excellence, Leadership, Discipleship*) firmly implanted in their hearts and in their minds.

We are now faced with engaging a new generation of pioneers who will take our school from the little Catholic school that could to the very best educational opportunity for the students of Beaufort and Jasper County.

With eight modular classrooms on campus to accommodate an enrollment of over 360 students across grades 6-12, the time is now to grow into the school our founders envisioned us to be.

Four years ago an ambitious strategic plan was developed, and that plan has guided us to where we are today. We have planned for the construction of new facilities that will not only accommodate growth to 500 students but will create a school of innovation where our students will be on the cutting edge of STEAM curriculum in a faith-based educational environment. There will be nothing like it anywhere within 50 miles of here and will position JP II as the absolute best school, private or public, in the Lowcountry and beyond.

Phase I of campus expansion is well underway, with a new secure entrance, expanded parking and athletic fields, as well as upgrades to our security cameras and access control. We encourage everyone to visit our campus to see for yourself the transformation underway.

Phase II, the construction of the Innovation Center, has been designed and estimated in anticipation of a 2024 groundbreaking. In addition to the Innovation Center, we have designed a kitchen expansion to the school's current cafeteria to provide a much-needed food service program as well as an outdoor dining pavilion and classroom. With almost 50,000 square feet of new construction, the cost of Phase I and II is expected to top \$30,000,000.

We have begun approaching leadership donors based on past giving and through their generosity we are well on our way, but it will take the generosity of many at all levels of giving to

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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT JOHN MCCARTHY *(continued)*

make this necessity become a reality. The *Where Faith and Innovation Campaign* will launch this November as part of Discover Catholic Schools Week inviting everyone reading this magazine to partner with us to transform JPPI into the opportunity of a lifetime for this generation of children and those yet to follow. Great Catholic schools are needed now more than ever and your participation in this campaign will ensure our school can flourish until a sufficient number of alumni exist to carry the torch forward for the generations

to follow. There is no better investment you can make.

As I enter my 5th year at the helm of JPPI, my 25th year in school leadership, and my 39th year in education, I am humbly reminded why I am here, at this time and in this place. Through the power of prayer I was brought here and this is where I shall remain until the job is done. For it is in His purpose this work must be done, and I invite you to journey with us in that purpose toward the goal that He alone knows.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

“When done correctly, academic rigor is an invaluable teaching approach that helps children learn to think deeply, make meaning for themselves, and become aware of their own learning process. As a result, students gain a life skill that can lead both to academic success and a lifelong love of learning.” — greatschools.org article

The most invaluable tool to challenge our students to reach their individual potential is academic rigor. At JPPI, we offer 8 Pre-AP, a total of 22 Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and an AP Capstone Diploma.

The Pre-AP courses deliver grade-level appropriate instruction through focused course frameworks, instructional resources, learning checkpoints, and collaborative educator workshops.

The AP course offerings, which JPPI teachers have been trained and certified to teach, include classes in a variety of disciplines including English, math, science, computer science, history, and visual arts.

Our students also can earn an AP Capstone Diploma while at JPPI. This college-level program is based on two courses—AP Seminar and AP Research—that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP courses.

This past May, **107 JPPI students**, representing 53% of the 9-12 enrollment, took at least one Advanced Placement exam. The **total number of exams taken was 205**, with **65% of the scores on these exams averaging 3 or higher** out of a maximum score of 5.

“This is a wonderful commentary on the willingness of our students to take advantage of these rigorous courses,” said Principal Heather Rembold, “as well as the dedication of our hard-working AP teachers and our other educators who prepared our students. Thirty-five of our test-takers in May were recognized as AP Scholars (19) with Honor (9) and with Distinction (4), AP Seminar & Research Certificates (4), and AP Capstone Diplomas (3). We applaud their achievements.”



ACADEMICS

JPII 2023 Valedictorian Awarded Heritage Classic Scholarship

Congratulations to **Samantha Reilly**, our 2023 JPII valedictorian, who was awarded a four-year scholarship by the Heritage Classic Foundation Scholarship Committee. Every year, the Heritage Scholarships are awarded to 11 high school seniors who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, community service, and leadership skills. Samantha is only the second JPII student to earn this prestigious recognition. She is attending Auburn University in the fall majoring in aeronautical engineering.



Congratulations Scholarship Winners

JPII is proud to announce the very first 9th grade recipient of the Monsignor Cellini Scholarship and the winners of three other scholarships.

“For the first time ever, JPII is awarding four merit-based scholarships to rising 9th grade students,” said President John McCarthy. “We are pleased to announce that the 2023 winner of the inaugural Monsignor Cellini Scholarship, a recurring four-year \$5,000 award, is Marie Sophie Alvarez. Three other students, Aubrey Porada, Jackson Reilly, and Zachariah Reardon, have received a one-time \$2,500 scholarship for grade 9.”

Any current 8th grader as well as newly enrolled rising JPII 9th grade students were eligible. They are required to take the HSPT (High School Placement Test), write an essay, and sit for an interview.

“Congratulations to all four of these outstanding young men and women,” continued Mr. McCarthy. “Interesting that all four were JPII 8th graders when they received the award. This year we will have another round of rising 9th grade merit-based scholarship applications.”

Palmetto State Girls and Boys Delegates Named

JPII is proud to announce that three of our current seniors, **Kathleen Hammett, Lauren Weniger and Chris Orta**, were chosen as juniors for the 2023 candidates for the American Legion Palmetto Girls State and Boys State. “Our students were chosen to represent JPII based on their character, leadership skills, and a strong desire to be a part of Palmetto Girls and Boys State,” according to JPII Assistant Principal Heather Rembold. “The scholarship possibilities, as selected delegates, are extensive, and we are excited for Kathleen, Lauren, and Chris as future leadership opportunities become available!”



Thank you Letter

We recently received a letter from JPII alumni parent, Lisa Mazzeo, mother of Thomas Mazzeo '22.

“I just wanted to say THANK YOU to all the fabulous teachers at JPII who made sure Thomas was prepared for the academic rigors of Tufts. He made the Dean’s list as a varsity athlete on the Tufts sailing team. We appreciate everything you did to make sure Thomas received the academic, emotional, and spiritual preparation to succeed in college.”

ACADEMICS

NHS & NJHS Induction Ceremony

Congratulations to the newest inductees to the John Paul II Catholic School National Junior Honor Society and the National Honor Society! NJHS and NHS welcomed 49 new members.

During the induction ceremony Danielle Quat, of the Collaborative Organization of Services for Youth (COSY) in Beaufort County, was the guest speaker. She stressed to our students the importance of scholarships, collaboration, and service to their community.

INDUCTEES 2022-2023



2022-2023

AP STUDENT HONORS
2ND SEMESTER HONOR ROLL
AND
END OF YEAR AWARDS



Scan QR Code to see list of students.

Junior Class Career Day

“It was a great experience that helped me further my knowledge of a career in the field of engineering.”

Most high school career days entail a vast array of professionals telling students about their chosen field and holding a question-and-answer session. While JPII had conducted these kind of career days prior, this past year the junior class decided to hit the road and go to the jobs.

“For two years, we did virtual Career Fairs,” said Sister Mary Beth Kubera, JPII school counselor. “They were effective, but it did not give the chance for personal questions on the part of each student. We thought it would give students a reality check regarding what is entailed in particular careers...positive and negatives as well as connecting with one person in that field for internship purposes.”

The Class of 2024 branched out into the Lowcountry to get a sense of what jobs really are like on a daily basis. “They came away with a very real idea of what the careers were and what they needed to do academically in order to prepare,” commented Sister.



ACADEMICS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Social Studies Class Goes Around the World in 180 Days

JPII 7th graders took a geographical approach to studying different regions across the globe. The world-wide journey culminated with the students creating a poster gallery to demonstrate all they had learned about Korean history and culture. More than 20 posters were created by two social studies classes.

“We have explored different types of expression with information dating back thousands of years,” said Kim McNab, a JPII middle school social studies teacher. “This poster project by far seems to have inspired their creativity the most. It is great to abandon computers and get back to hand-drawn assignments that allow students to express themselves fully.”

The students had a few weeks to collect information and design their posters which were displayed in class. Then each student was given a clipboard and told to study their peers’ posters, evaluate the information, and constructively critique the material.



Taking a Trip to The Maritime Center

The 6th grade class took a field trip to The Maritime Center

where they learned the importance of oysters in the water ecosystem and how restocking the shells



back into the water is good for the environment.

“They also learned the importance of reusing and recycling for our environment and what can and can’t be recycled,” according to Sonia Merrick, middle school social studies teacher. “The students bagged oyster shells so they could be tossed back in the river for more oysters to grow on.”

The History and Art of Terracotta Army of Qin Shi Huang

JPII social studies teacher, Kim McNab, and art teacher, Jaime Roberts, recently joined forces on a project covering



the Terracotta Army of Qin Shi Huang with their 6th grade classes. During Ms. McNab’s history class, the students studied the first century emperor of China and then they recreated the third century BCE warriors using terracotta clay in Ms. Robert’s art class.

“Ms. McNab was having the group study the Terracotta Army of the first emperor of China, and we thought they could use some hands-on worktime,” according to Ms. Roberts. “We thought a collaboration between art and history would be a perfect way to engage the students and get them excited about the topic.”

Savannah Theater Trip

Sonia Merrick’s 8th grade English class boarded the JPII bus along with two parent chaperones to visit the Savannah Theatre to see the Encore production of short stories studied in class.

The Chamber Theatre performed *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *The Raven*, *The Necklace*, *The Monkey’s Paw*, and *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*. Afterward, the students enjoyed lunch before returning to school. The students were later assigned a comparative analysis between the performed narratives and the short stories read in class.



HIGHLIGHTS

JPII Celebrates Junior Ring Ceremony

The members of the JPII Class of 2024 brought in their class rings, a special piece of jewelry, or a rosary to be blessed at a special Ring Ceremony and Blessing during Mass with family, friends, and the school in attendance.



The students gathered for the traditional event which commemorates the transition to their senior year and as leaders of the school.

JPII Warriors for Life Ministry

Students from the JPII Warriors for Life Ministry participated in a march from St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church to the memorial for unborn children in the church cemetery. Our students were part of a wonderful prayer experience to recognize the dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death.

Warriors for Life is a new ministry at JPII, led on the student level by senior Olivia Klepesky. The group is small now, but mighty in its efforts to grow! You will be hearing more about the mission and activities of Warrior for Life in the future!



The Warrior Way

The Warrior Way is our school's effort to rediscover the foundation upon which John Paul II Catholic School was built. It is not a new program, but rather the opportunity to bring our SHIELD values front and center

Saint John Paul II said, "...your vocation answers the question, 'Why am I alive?'" Moreover, only when you're living out your vocation can you find fulfillment in this life. Your vocation, understood, embraced, and lived, is what makes you feel truly and fully alive."

At JPII, living our call, living out our vocation, is defined by the Warrior Way; it distinguishes the culture of our community. Each of us brings our own story, our own experience, and JPII is the chapter of our stories that we share; it's our community. It's more than simply a workplace or a school; it's praying, and worshiping, and laughing, and crying, and struggling, and overcoming, and having the opportunity to accompany one another...it's immersing ourselves in the beautiful blessing and awesome responsibility of tending to each other's soul.



HIGHLIGHTS



Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week 2023 was full of giving back to the community, gathering and praying together for an all-school rosary, celebrating the 10th anniversary of JPPII, and with lots of teens in the building, there is always creative fashion!

The week started off with a packed Open House followed by various themed days which included donning PJs, dressing like a millionaire, styling for the Billboard Top 10, and sporting Blue and Gold.

Every day throughout the week students, faculty and staff were encouraged to bring donations of snacks and school supplies for an area after-school program as well as monetary donations for March of Dimes. At the end of the week, the entire school came together for a 10th anniversary celebration pep rally.

Dreams Do Come True

Performing at the Kennedy Center, the home of the National Symphony Orchestra, is something that many professional musicians can only dream of. The College of Charleston made this fantasy a reality for many members of its orchestra, including JPPII alumna Emily Oldham '19, when they performed to a packed Kennedy Center.

The group, under the direction of Yuki Bekker, performed “Academic Festival Overture”, “Hungarian Dance” both by Johannes Brahms and “Charlestonia” written in tribute to the Holy City by Charleston-native Edmund Thornton Jenkins. Emily played 1st violin.

“Never would I have guessed I would perform at our nation’s most prestigious venue,” said Emily, gratefully. “I also participated in a master class with Col. Dennis M Layendecker, former commander and conductor of the United States Air Force Band and Orchestra. I will never forget this amazing experience!” Congratulations, Emily. We are all so proud of you!!!!



2023-2024 Student Leadership Council

Chris Orta, *President*

Lauren Weniger, *Vice President*

Cayce Graves, *Parliamentarian*

Kathleen Hammett, *Treasurer*

Caylin Gecy, *Head of Marketing*

Petra Grimes & Jackson Sanders, *Marketing*

Olivia Klepesky & Kelon Reynolds, *Student Co-Chaplains*

Madi Burke & Lili Termini, *Chief Ambassadors*



HIGHLIGHTS

JPII Celebrates Black History Month



Each February, JPII invites a speaker to visit the school in celebration of Black History Month. This year's speaker was Retired Army Captain Anthony B. Phillips.

Many thanks to Retired Captain Phillips who took time to visit JPII and speak to the senior and junior classes.

"I am here today because I am a believer," he told the students. "When I jumped into darkness, I knew I had my belief that God was going to

take care of me, but I had a fiduciary responsibility to my ranger brothers to take care of them as we jumped into combat – into darkness. You can make life fun," he continued. "Develop a decision-making process. The Army taught me to determine what you want the outcome to be. You can't copy someone else's work. You gotta be you. You gotta make up your mind early in life. Choose something you like."

A native of Sylvester, Georgia, Retired Captain Phillips enlisted in the United States Army and served four years before attending Albany State University where he was captain and quarterback of the ASU football team. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. He returned to the U.S. Army and received numerous awards including the Bronze Star for Valor during Desert Storm and, most recently, the Order of Saint Maurice given to Infantry Soldiers who distinguish themselves in service to our nation during and beyond their service life.

Retired Captain Phillips retired from military life after 22 years of service and became a full-time soldier in God's Army as well as a local developer. He presently serves the West Broad SDA Church as an Ordained

Elder (Associate Pastor) and established "Feed the Multitude," a community outreach program that feeds 3,400 families in Savannah annually.

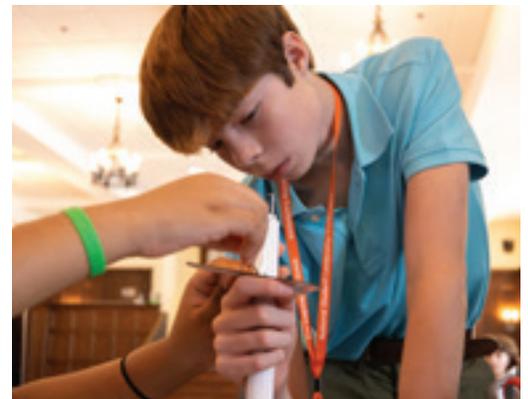


National Youth Leadership Forum

JPII is pleased to announce that over the summer, 7th grader Sam Marcinkoski was accepted into the National Student Leadership Foundation (NSLF) engineering program at Georgetown University.

NSLF, a non-profit, non-partisan, education organization, welcomed outstanding middle school and high school students from across the U.S. and around the world. The students get to explore their academic and career interests and develop essential leadership skills during exciting and interactive summer programs at the National Student Leadership Conference. Available sessions included Animal Science, Engineering, Medicine & Healthcare, and U.S. History & Government.

At NSLC, Sam participated in interactive, fast-paced, hands-on activities designed around engineering, learning about future academic and career possibilities, and took exciting trips and tours. He also took part in the leadership curriculum that is designed to build concrete leadership skills toward success, interactive lectures and small-group workshops that gave Sam an opportunity to build upon his strengths.



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

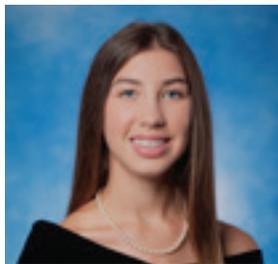
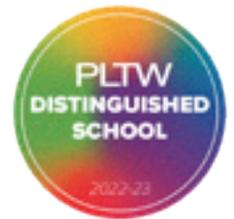
Project Lead The Way (PLTW) empowers students to develop essential STEM skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance. Through interdisciplinary activities and projects, JPII students embrace in-demand knowledge of computer science, engineering, and biomedical science for the roles and reality they will face in college and beyond. Learn about the wonderful PLTW opportunities on the following pages.

JPII Named a PLTW Distinguished School for STEM Curriculum and Career Readiness

John Paul II Catholic School has been recognized as a 2022-23 PLTW Distinguished School in both its high school and middle school programs. The PLTW Distinguished School recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs.

“We are proud to recognize John Paul II Catholic School for its commitment to providing students with exceptional educational experiences while ensuring equitable access to PLTW programs,” said Dr. David Dimmett, PLTW president and CEO. “We congratulate JPII on this achievement and celebrate the important work empowering students with the knowledge and skills to succeed, not only in STEM subjects, but also more generally in life and career.”

The JPII high school program is one of only 262 high schools across the U.S. to receive this honor by providing broad access to transformative learning experiences for students through PLTW’s pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical. Ten schools were awarded in SC, JPII being the only school in Jasper, Beaufort, and surrounding counties. The JPII PLTW middle school program is one of 212 middle schools nationwide to receive this honor by providing extensive learning experiences for students through PLTW Gateway. Only nine schools in South Carolina were granted the award.



PLTW Class of 2023 Students of Distinction

Sam Rembold and Samantha Reilley completed PLTW courses from 7-12th grade. Sam, Samantha, and Austin O’Quinn completed four courses in Computer Systems program of study.

Scholar’s Mate Leads to Checkmate!

The game of chess and computers have had a complex relationship dating back to the late 1940s when a Princeton-educated English mathematician and computer scientist introduced the first chess computer program. Consequently, novices, beginners, intermediate, grandmasters, and international masters have been vying for “checkmate” in computer-generated games of chess.

One such scholar at JPII has begun his own opening move on this very prestigious board of chess computer programming by developing his own chess engine for his Computer Science Principles (CSP) class final portfolio. JPII sophomore Jack Hannagan is a chess player with his sights on programming and gaming. “I decided to take CSP because I am very interested in programming and computer science in general,” he said. “I plan to pursue a career in game development or computer science, and this class was a very natural step toward that goal.”



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

JPII HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Computer Science Essentials

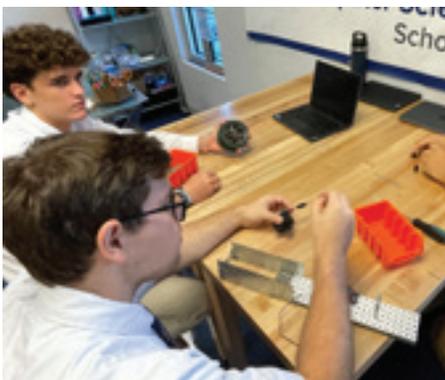
– introductory technology focusing on computer science, ethical innovation development, robotics, and web design

- Mobile app creation in App Inventor
- Programming self-driving vehicles
- Creation of a personal web page in HTML
- Introduction to python programming: online menu ordering

Computer Science Principles

– AP level computer science, explore computing devices, the internet, and cybersecurity, programming is focused on the Python language, develop a portfolio for submission to the College Board

- Using turtles for creative expression
- Encryption and password security
- Multi-factor authentication (GUIs and APIs)
- Data trends and transmission



Computer Science A – AP level

computer science, object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language, hands-on activities, projects, and problems that are reflective of real-world challenges

- Basic constructs: Numbers Riddle, Choose your Own Adventure, Mad Libs
- Iteration and classes: Consumer Review Lab, Game of Nim
- Arrays: Memory Game, Data Lab, Image App
- Inheritance and recursion: Celebrity Lab, Search and Sort

Cybersecurity

– exposure to digital and information security, encourages socially responsible choices and ethical behavior, take role of a cybersecurity expert in training with a virtual machine (National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework)

- Personal and system security: email, personal files, social networking
- Identify and mitigate various attack vectors, vulnerabilities, malware, or exploits
- Development of security incident response reports
- Career exploration in cryptography and digital forensics

Principles of Biomedical Science

– careers in medicine through practical activities and labs to explore different opportunities

- Document a crime scene
- Perform forensic analysis including blood typing and gel electrophoresis
- Dissect a pig's heart
- Practice medical skills including accident rescue, phlebotomy, and wound care

Honors Human Body Systems

– study of human anatomy and physiology, clinical medicine, and laboratory research, learn each body system and complete extensive research, perform dissections, and create models of organ systems on individual Manikens®

- Dissect sheep brains and hearts, pig kidneys, and cow eyes
- Evaluate skeletal remains for forensic identification
- Perform medical tests including spirometry and reflex analysis
- Prepare and test DNA samples using gel electrophoresis



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

JPII HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Engineering Essentials –

basics of all engineering disciplines, instant design challenges as teams

- Design layout of a warehouse
- Design and build a disaster relief supply box
- Create a system wide plan for city evacuation due to tsunami
- Learn about circuits, mechanical advantage, simple and compound machines
- Use ArcGIS programming to create story maps



Honors Principles of Engineering –

in-depth engineering/physics to learn more about specific engineering disciplines and engineers' project

- Design and build compound machines
- Build and test trusses
- Investigate materials and their properties
- Discuss ethical practices using case studies
- Learn about pneumatic and hydraulic systems
- Construct parallel and services circuits
- Use calculations to solve projectile motion problems

Honors Aerospace Engineering –

explore the fundamentals of flight in air and space through software simulations and hands-on experiences, discuss relevant careers and present related engineering fields to develop career interest

- Designing, building, and testing balsa wood gliders
- Piloting a variety of aircraft simulators
- Developing flight plans with FAA software
- Studying orbital mechanics, rocketry, and jet propulsion

Certified PLTW Teachers at JPII

Micah Heinz – Flight & Space

Cadra Rooney – DM, CSIM, AC, CSE, CSP, CSA, Cyber, PLTW Master Teacher

Anthony Rossillo – Energy & Environment, Medical Detectives

Andi Shaw – Flight & Space, EES, POE, Aero, PBS,

Alice Wood – Aero, HBS, PBS, Medical Detectives, Energy & Environment



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

JPII MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Design & Modeling – 6th grade, design process, technical drawing/sketches, solid modeling, and mathematical models

- Design and create a foot orthosis prototype from recyclable materials
- Create isometric and multiview drawings to design a skimmer
- Design a keychain and bird house in Tinkercad
- Use a dial caliper to measure and create a puzzle cube

Energy and the Environment

– 6th grade, challenges students to think about the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigate the impact of energy

- Build wind turbines using recycled materials
- Study heat transfer by building and testing penguin habitats
- Evaluate options for reducing energy consumption



Computer Science for Innovators & Makers

– 7th grade, use creativity to code microbits and develop physical computing devices

- Develop skills with algorithmic thinking, flowchart creating and debugging techniques
- Create a blinking message on the microbit
- Explore inputs and outputs to create a security device
- Use the design process to build and program a pet food dispenser, interactive art project, or nighttime safety device

Medical Detectives

– 7th grade, play role of real-life medical detectives, collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease, solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs

- Measure and interpret vital signs
- Dissect sheep brains
- Investigate disease outbreaks
- Conduct doctor/patient interviews to evaluate medical cases



App Creators – 8th grade, use innovative creativity to design and code mobile apps using App Inventor, projects focused on real-world solutions in engineering, biomed, and technology while students build their knowledge and understanding of program development

- Germ Guide (algorithms), Germ Fighter (variables), Bug Blasters (debugging)
- Build a Body, A Good Excuse, Move Fast (design process)
- Navigation (conditionals), Charades (lists), Disease Tracker (data storage)
- Fitness Challenge App (design process)

Flight & Space – 8th grade, learn the forces of flight, what is needed to survive in space, where to land, what to bring, and how to land safely

- Plan an aircraft flight from takeoff to landing, designate a crew and map out a flight plan
- Discuss systems used in outer space for life support
- Learn how being in space and space travel affects the human body
- Design and construct a “Mars Lander” that lands safely to protect the crew



ROBOTICS

AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

As the world grows increasingly complex, the need for individuals equipped with the knowledge and skills to tackle tough problems by gathering information, evaluating it, and presenting effective solutions continues to increase. Robotics is designed to teach teamwork, collaboration, time management, and communication. The JPII robotics team had a stellar year.

Team 61317M

- 2022 JPII IQ Warrior Challenge-Innovate Award
- River Ridge Academy Raiders Fall Rumble – Sportsmanship Award
- Rumble in The Nest IQ Event-Design Award
- Royal Knights VEX IQ Tournament – Design Award
- River Ridge Academy 3rd Annual Groundhog Tournament – Design Award
- Attended 2023 South Carolina VEX IQ Middle School State Championship
- Attended 2023 CREATE U.S. Open Robotics Championship, Council Bluffs



Team 61317X

- 2023 JPII IQ Warrior Challenge-Teamwork Champion Award
- Attended 2023 South Carolina VEX IQ Middle School State Championship



Team 61317W

- 2023 JPII IQ Warrior Challenge-Excellence Award
- River Ridge Academy 3rd Annual Groundhog Tournament – Sportsmanship Award
- Attended 2023 South Carolina VEX IQ Middle School State Championship



2022-2023 High School Team Members

- 61317D: Austin O'Quinn, William Rooney, Jack Hannagan, Michael Fitzgibbons
- 61317C: Jason Cohen, Matthew Yanachik, Quinn Doran

2022-2023 Middle School Team Members

- 61317M: Aubrey Porada, Marie Alvarez, Aanya Patel, Mitchell Ramos, Megan Fox
- 61317S: Russel Townes, Aiden Karrh, KP Santos, Tai Le, Will Patrick
- 61317W: Patrick Merrick, Antonella Ciotti, Griffin Spencer
- 61317X: Tripp Thiesen, Dominic Aiken, Sam Marcinkoski, Gavin Doran

JPII Model UN Gets Resolution Passed

The JPII Model UN team had a strong showing at the MUN Conference at Winthrop University. “Several of our students spoke throughout the General Assembly and in their committees,” said JPII history teacher and UN Model moderator, Bill Damude. “Our club experienced a first when we had a resolution pass through the Human Rights committee. I am very proud of our delegates and the job they did at the conference.” Model United Nations, also known as Model UN or MUN, is an extra-curricular activity in which students typically role play delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. Students have the opportunity to discuss and debate the current issues of the day from the perspective of their assigned country.



JPII DECA State Conference and Competition 2023

The DECA team found success at the February 2023 DECA State Career Development Conference and Competition in Charleston. Fifteen members competed and nine achieved top 10 status in their competition field. Most notably, Paige Weniger finished 3rd in the Restaurant and Food Service Management Series, Bodie Daniel finished 5th in the Marketing Communication Series, and Isabella Perez finished 5th in the Restaurant and Food Service Management Series.

OTHER TOP 10 FINISHERS

Principles of Marketing:

Chris Orta, Christian Tilton

Food Marketing Series:

Lauren Weniger, Julia Delgado

Public Speaking:

Kathleen Hammett

Principles of Finance:

Caleb Snyder

Principles of Business Management and Administration:

James Keefer, William Rooney

Entrepreneurship:

Aadi Patel

Food Marketing Series:

Trice McClure

Marketing Communication Series:

Sara Swanson

Principles of Marketing:

Kohl Woodham, Collin Anfinson

Apparel and Accessories Marketing Series:

Lauren Weniger



NEW TO JPII



Carl Boehm, English
Florida Atlantic University, BA English,
MA Teaching English and Creative
Writing, MA Science Fiction, Fantasy,
and Horror Literature
Years in Education: 21



Erin Brienza, PE & Health
Long Island University, BS Physical
Education, MS Elementary Education
SUNY Delhi, AS Applied Science
Years in Education: 7



**Emily Brown, Performing and
Vocal Arts**
North Park Univ., BM Vocal Performance
Cleveland Inst. of Music, MA Vocal
Performance
Years in Education: 4



**Evelyn G. Domínguez,
Foreign Language**
Sam Houston State University, BA
Criminal Justice, MA Spanish
Years in Education: 6



Lauren Gehm, Marian Center
Marist College, BA Psych. & Spec. Ed.
Gratz College, MS Brain Based Learning
Scranton Univ., MA Curriculum Dev.
Years in Education: 16



Micah Heinz, Science
University of Texas, BS Chemistry
Hillsdale College, BS Music
Years in Education: 3

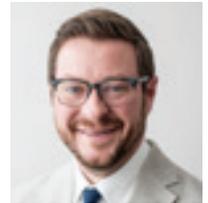


Ava Hill, Theology
Benedictine College, BA Secondary
Education, BA Theology
Years in Education: 1

JoEllen Jacobs, Fine Arts
Iowa State University,
BFA Graphic Design
Benedictine University, MA Education
Years in Education: 14



Zane Jernigan, Theology
University of Tennessee Knoxville,
BA Graphic Design
Years in Education: 1



Wendy Lacombe, English
St. Leo University, BA Secondary
English, BA Religious Education
The Citadel, MA Ed. Secondary
Supervision
Years in Education: 32



Jerry Lesage, Math
Central Michigan University,
BS Education
Nova Southeastern University, MA
Teaching & Learning
Years in Education: 25



Kara Miletic, English
Kean University, BA English/Education
with a minor in Psychology
Rider University, MA, Teacher
Leadership, Principal Concentration
Years in Education: 19



Shayne Milligan, Marian Center
Elon University, BA Sociology
Liberty Univ., MA Human Service Couns.
UNC-Charlotte, Graduate Teaching
Certificate, Special Education
Years in Education: 8



Anthony Rossillo, Science
Montclair State University, BA
Commercial Recreation and Tourism
St. Peter's University, MA Education
Years in Education: 15



FINE ARTS

JPII Spring Musical FIDDLER ON THE ROOF



Middle School Student Receives Top Entry for Peace Poster

Olivia Arcuri, a student in Ms. Jaime Roberts' art class, received a Top Entry Award in the annual Sun City Lions Club Peace Poster contest. Olivia was presented with a framed certificate and a \$50 check.

Olivia's artwork, along with the other posters from her peers, was voted on in an in-school contest to determine the winner submitted to the Lions Club. "Olivia has amazing talent," said Ms. Roberts. "She is proficient in art and is already at the high school level with her abilities. I see her continuing her art journey, as she has a great passion for it."

"Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity," according to the Lions Club website. The Sun City Lions Club contacted schools in Beaufort and Jasper counties asking for entries for the Peace Poster Contest, an international contest for ages 11, 12, and 13. For over three decades, Lions Clubs around the globe have been sponsoring this art contest in schools and youth groups.



GUIDANCE

Counseling Office: Maximizing Student Success in a Supportive Environment

The JPII Counseling Office and Student Support Services is a comprehensive and developmental program which includes academic, spiritual, social-emotional, and college counseling to assist students in navigating pre-adolescence and adolescence in grades 6-12. During one-on-one meetings with students, the counselors identify their gifts and challenges which assist in providing support and encouragement so they can learn and grow in a faith-based environment.

“Our team uses assessments and tools within the web-based Naviance program to help students identify preferred post-secondary choices and future careers,” according to Ms. Cara Buckland, the JPII director of school counseling. “Our combined 80 years of experience and service in a variety of Catholic schools help us provide a milieu in which students can flourish.”

The team is comprised of four counselors. Three school counselors are state certified and hold a master’s degree in school counseling. Mrs. Cara Buckland oversees the School Counseling and Student Support Team while advising all students in grades 11 and 12. Sister Mary Beth Kubera advises all students in grades 9 & 10 and Ms. Hayley Pina is dedicated to our middle school students. Mrs. Madelyn Bowman rounds out the team as our school social worker holding a master’s degree in social work and clinical licensure in South Carolina. She works collaboratively with school counselors and is available to all JPII students for individual counseling as needed.



The school’s professional memberships include: Palmetto State School Counselor Association, National Association of College Admission Counseling, and National Association of Social Workers.

Grade Level Counselors

Guidance Office

Middle School - Haley Pina
9th & 10th - Sister Mary Beth Kubera
11th & 12th – Cara Buckland
Social Emotional & Coordinator for Special Services - Madelyn Bowman

Marian Center

Middle School - Kim McNab
9th & 10th - Shayne Milligan
11th & 12th - Lauren Ghem

School Counseling Services

- Academic Advising
- Course Advisement/Scheduling
- Career Exploration and Planning
- College Counseling
- Rising Senior Night
- College Fair
- Scholarship Assistance
- Summer Coffee & College Talks
- Resume Writing Workshop
- Essay Writing Support
- Student Support Team for Students with Learning Differences.
- Parent/Teacher Liaison
- Small Group Counseling

School Social Work Services

- Individual Counseling
- Small Group Counseling
- Crisis Intervention
- Executive Functioning Lessons
- Administer Brief Mental Health Screeners as Needed
- Referrals to Mental Health Services as Needed
- Student Support Team Coordinator

GUIDANCE QR CODE



Visit the guidance website page for more information

RETREATS

Frequently in Scripture we hear Christ taking time away in silence to be with his Father (Mark 1:12, Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16). In imitation of Christ, retreats at JPII allow our students a chance to tune out the demands and distractions of daily life to focus on achieving a higher sense of self and truly a deeper and more intimate relationship with Our Lord.

With DISCIPLESHIP as the anchor of our SHIELD values, campus ministry focuses our mission on evangelizing our students. Retreats (except for the senior mission retreat) are led by our Acts29 Peer Ministry Team who discern the needs of each class and uniquely tailor each retreat to tend to that grade level's spiritual and social needs. Our annual class retreats give our students the opportunity to trust in God's grace and discover who they are through peer witness, the teachings of the Catholic church, Scripture, and the Sacraments.



9th Grade Retreat – The theme was “Faith over Fear” using Isaiah 41:10 “Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand” as their scriptural focus.

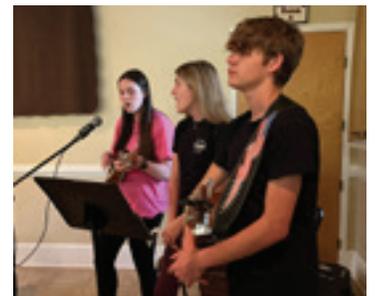
10th Grade Retreat – The theme was “Locked In,” focusing on the idea of taking ownership of your faith journey and becoming more connected and engaged. They used Jeremiah 29:13 as their scriptural focus, “when you look for me with all your heart, you will find me...”



Kairos Retreat for Junior Class

The junior class, along with seniors in our Acts29 Campus Ministry, participated in the annual Kairos Retreat. This three-day retreat is often transformational in the lives of our students and many return to school in a more purposeful and spiritual way.

Kairos, which means “the Lord’s time,” provides the members of our junior class with the opportunity to retreat from the worries of the world into a place and time during which they can look deeply into their relationships with God, friends, family, and community. Students take leave of the world’s time and enter the Lord’s time. This retreat is well-established in many Catholic high schools and has proven to be of great worth to numerous juniors over the past several years. The retreat team consists of seniors who experienced the retreat firsthand the previous year, faculty, and members from the greater community.



SPIRITUAL LIFE

Class of 2023 Senior Mission Trip

“Above all, let your love for one another be intense...As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” (1Peter 4:8, 10)

The members of the Class of 2023, along with chaperones, traveled to Vero Beach, FL, and experienced three wonderful service projects at Shining Light Gardens, the Environmental Learning Center, and Treasure Coast Food Bank. The group also enjoyed some amazing time to simply “BE” and relax and connect which was a beautiful way to finish out the school year and prepare for graduation festivities!

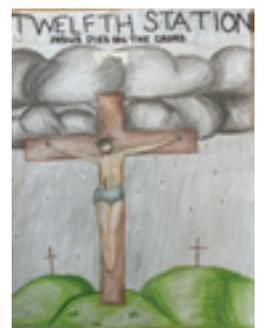
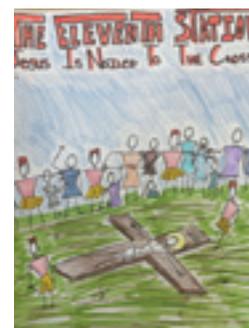
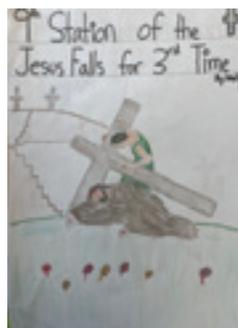


Stations of the Cross

The student body of JPPII came together the week prior to Easter to pray the Stations of the Cross in the athletic center.

“The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ’s last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of his last day, beginning with his condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini-pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ’s last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.”
– Catholic Online website

Station illustrations by JPPII middle school students in Ms. Karen Floyd’s theology classes.



JPII Hires New Football Coach

JPII is pleased to announce the hiring of Shayne Milligan as its new head football coach. Coach Milligan brings ten years of football coaching experience as well as six years of track and field coaching experience to JPII. He has spent the past four seasons at Concord (NC) High School as the varsity offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach and recruiting coordinator as well as the outdoor and indoor track and field head coach. Coach Milligan will serve as a full-time special education teacher in the Marian Center for Learning at JPII.



WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

Boys Tennis

The inaugural season for the boys' tennis team was a great success. "Our senior captain, Bodie Daniel, showed tremendous leadership with sideline talks and pre-match hype," said Coach Tracy Sklarin. "Our brother team of Angelo and Leo Iskandar had the most wins of the season. Landon Low started off the season winning sets in several matches and ended the season with two singles wins at line 4. Sullivan Homer played line 5 singles and played with three different partners at line 3 doubles ending the season with a remarkable comeback singles win. Ryan Jenkins, Nathan Lyle, and Nathan Bradford took turns at line 6 singles joining Sullivan at doubles with all three seeing major improvements on the court.

For its inaugural year the JPII boys tennis team saw tremendous growth and two team wins.

1st Team All-Region – Bodie Daniel

Team Members: Nathan Bradford, Nathan Lyle, Ryan Jenkins, and Landon Low, Sullivan Homer, Angelo Iskandar, Leo Iskandar, and Bodie Daniel



2023 Athlete of the Year Award



**JACKSON
OGDEN**



**EMILY
O'SULLIVAN**

Archery

Team Members:

Carson Holley, Jason Cohen, Nathan Bradford, Hannah Johnson, Matthew Yanachik, Emmett Callanan, and Anderson Dewig



WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

Wrestling

As region winners for the second straight year, the JPII wrestling team had an historic year!

Impressive stats:

- most dual matches in team history
- 33 dual meets, record 21-12
- 3rd in SCISA State for the first time
- seven individuals win 20+ matches, a school record
- 5 individual state placers: Peter Torinese champion (second year in a row), Kohl Woodham runner-up, Daniel Snyder and Jack Brock 3rd, and Jude Witkowski 4th

“With all these firsts and accolades, the thing that impressed me most with this year’s squad was the family atmosphere by the wrestlers and coaches,” said Coach Damude. “The team really enjoyed being around each other and cared for each other’s success on and off the mat.”

Team Members: Brian Orta, Gavin Byrne, Jack Brock, Daniel Seaglund, Kohl Woodham, Chris Orta, Brandyn Horton, William Rooney, Renzo Cedeno, Jacob Vortisch, Peter Torinese, Nick Rauch, Matei Porcelli, Javier Jimenez, Jeremiah Lopez, Archer Dewig, Jack Hannagan, Daniel Snyder, Carson Lonz, Jude Witkowski, Jase Reynolds, Patrick Merrick, Aadi Patel, Aiden Winslow, and Tripp Thiesen



Lifetime Service Award

JPII is pleased to announce that Bill Damude, head wrestling coach and history teacher, was inducted into the South Carolina chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Coach Damude was honored with the Lifetime Service Award in early April, recognizing his years of dedication to the development of leadership and citizenship to the youth throughout the sport of wrestling. With a collective 35 years of experience coaching young wrestlers at both Beaufort High and John Paul II, Coach Damude has amassed over 500 wins! The Lowcountry area is beyond proud of Coach Damude for his dedication and passion to the sport of wrestling; his knowledge and experience is well deserving of this Lifetime Service Award and honor. Congratulations, Coach!



WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

Basketball

Girls Varsity Basketball

“In every game and every practice these ladies fought like warriors to get better,” according to Coach Karen Floyd. “Their heart, dedication, and unselfish play led us to the second round of the state playoffs and a final record of 18-6. We are so proud of their accomplishments this season and are excited for the next. We are going to miss our two seniors Emily O’Sullivan, who’s an excellent passer and defender, and Ru’ Bennett who’s always been there to get the team hyped.”

Coach of the Year – Coach Karen Floyd

1st All Region Team – Emily O’Sullivan, Brady Mahoney

Team Members: Camryn Michael, Karoline Rustad, Ru’ Bennet, Lily Termini, Evelyn Melnick, Brady Mahoney, Emily O’Sullivan, Savannah Trott, Gracie Henderson, Lauren Majorkiewicz, and Cayce Graves



Basketball

Boys Varsity Basketball

“Three returning starters from the 2021-2022 team began the season unable to compete due to broken bones suffered during the football season,” said Coach Alan Lewis. “As they slowly returned to action, valuable experience was gained by younger players. The team, finally healthy and whole for the last week of the season, finished a challenging schedule with a record of 3-21, culminating with a 53-52 win over AAAA Northwood School on Senior Night.”

All-Region Honorable Mention – Christian Tilton

Team Members: Austin Floyd, Jackson Ogden, DJ Lewis, Christian Tilton, Finn Mahoney, Dante Aiken, Sebastian Slusne, Logan Cotter, Jackson Sanders, James Keefer, Matthew Carbone, and Andrew Boyden



ATHLETICS

WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

Basketball

Girls JV Basketball

Coach Debbie Retzer's band of seven merry girls had a great JV basketball season. The girls finished the season with a record of 13-2. Emma McKamey was captain and team leader. Hollis Melnick was the leading scorer and rebounder. Defense was the team's focus led by Trice McClure, Rachel Brenneman, Isabella Perez, Madison Burke, and Frances Calvert. Great job, Warriors!!!

Team Members: Madison Burke, Trice McClure, Hollis Melnick, Emma McKamey, Rachael Brenneman, Isabella Perez, and Frances Calvert



Basketball

Boys JV Basketball

"The JV boys basketball team wrapped up a successful season with the team improving both on and off the court," said Coach Daniel Kenny. "The team was led by team MVP Sean Phalen and SHIELD winner Stewart Misko. Merrick Baroni took home the Defensive Player of the Year award, while Sebastian Frickel won the Most Improved Award. Overall, it was a great season for the Golden Warriors!"

Team Members: Connor Brown, Garrett Heathcott, Zac Henderson, Sean Phalen, Angelo Iskandar, Brendan Gilroy, Stewart Misko, Blake Hubik, Merrick Baroni, James Hook, Ayden Kollstedt, and Sebastian Frickel



WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

Basketball

Girls MS Basketball

The middle school girls' basketball team capped off a great season by finishing in the top 6 in the state at the Diocesan Youth Tournament in Charleston. Ellie Heathcott led the team in scoring, averaging 10.5 ppg. "Our girls really exceeded expectations this season," Coach Brent Heathcott said. "We were young, but the girls played hard and improved throughout the season." Other leading players included Gabby Heathcott, Sofie Hannagan, Calleigh Gereghy, Alivia Ogden, and Emma Karrh.

Team Members: Keira Doran, Shae Chandler, Sofie Hannagan, Megan Fox, Gabby Heathcott, Annalise Litchfield, Ellie Heathcott, Zara Schweyer, Alivia Ogden, Ansley Reilley, Emma Karrh, and Calleigh Gereghy



Basketball

Boys MS Basketball

The middle school boys' basketball team finished the long season 19-8. "We finished the Dolphin Jam Tournament 2-1," said Coach John Williamson. "The first game was against Riverview which we won 50-38. In the finals, we played HHP and ended up losing by 4. We were happy that Alan Wolf made the all-tournament team, and we wrapped up the season in Charleston at the Diocese of Charleston basketball tournament."

Team Members: Luca Madhere, Jackson Reilley, Adrian Spencer-Simmons, Walker Patrick, Deuce Kerschbaum, Alan Wolf, Ricardo Angulo, Talon Putnam, Nicklaus Feltner, Leland Fripp, Zachary Moulton, Brayden Frickel, Matt Termini, Chase Cotter, and Aden Haskins



ATHLETICS

SPRING SPORTS WRAP UP

Varsity Softball

The softball team finished the regular season 10-4. Despite having a diverse schedule, the team scored 141 runs, stole 123 bases, collected 103 RBIs, and hit 7 home runs across the board. "For the first time in school history, we earned a spot in the State Tournament and battled into the semi-finals," said Head Coach Bri Sapienza.

Player of the Year - Shelby Pinski

All-Region Team - Tevi Mullen, Shelby Pinski

North-South All-Star Game - Shelby Pinski, Tevi Mullen

Team Members: Hannah Ketchledge, Caylin Gecy, Tevi Mullen, Rachael Brenneman, Cayce Graves, Maison Zeroll, Emily O'Sullivan, Lauren Majorkiewicz, Elle Borgan, Alexa Eaddy, Petra Grimes, Shelby Pinski, and Samantha Reilly



JV Softball

The JV girls' softball team achieved an undefeated season! The Lady Warriors went 12-0-2 and were led by the stellar pitching of Ellie Heathcott. Alivia Ogden, Megan Fox, Ellie Heathcott, Gabby Heathcott, and Saida Willis led the way offensively. "Our girls played great together and all of them got better as the season progressed," said Coach Brent Heathcott. "This group can do big things in the future."

Team Members: Murphy Miller, Kendall Roppelt, Alivia Ogden, Anya Patel, Jordan French, Ansley Reilley, Ellie Heathcott, Saida Willis, Camila Zimbron, Gabby Heathcott, and Megan Fox



SPRING SPORTS WRAP UP

Girls Varsity Soccer

The girls' varsity soccer team finished the season 11-4-3 in the semifinals of the playoffs. "The team was led in goals by Hollis Melnick and Ayla Reynolds. Our defense was a force led by Lauren Weniger, Julia Delgado, Brady Mahoney, and Abby Brock," said Coach Haley Pina. "TrinityGrace Maxwell collected 135 saves in the goal. The team continued to prove themselves, and with such a young team, the future is bright for the program. Our seniors, Julia Delgado, Emma Sauls, and Paige Weniger, led the team and we thank them for all they have contributed for the past four years."

1st All-Region - Hollis Melnick, Ayla Reynolds, Lauren Weniger.

All-Region Honorable Mention: TrinityGrace Maxwell, Evelyn Melnick, Paige Weniger, Brady Mahoney, Mila Baroni

Team Members: Abby Brock, Ayla Reynolds, Jayden Sylvester, Joseline Barreda, Sadie Moulton, Mila Baroni, Arden Lister, Miranda Moulton, Paige Weniger, Julia Delgado, Emma Sauls, Brady Mahoney, Lily Termini, Hollis Melnick, TrinityGrace Maxwell, Trice McClure, Evelyn Melnick, Lauren Weniger, Karsyn Kaminsky, Isabella Perez, and Savannah Trott

Boys Varsity Soccer – Region Champs

"The repeat Region 1 AAA champions Golden Warriors went an impressive 14-4-1 in regular season and 4-0 in SCISA Region 1 AAA – undefeated in region play for the second year in a row," said a delighted Coach Jason Fox. "Max Preps ranked the team #2 in SCISA AAA in SC, ending another incredible season for the Golden Warriors boys' soccer team!"

Player of the Year - Jackson Ogden

Coach of the Year - Josh Fox

1st Team All-Region: Jackson Ogden, Austin Floyd, Austin O'Quinn, Renzo Cedeno, Brennan McDermott, and Anthony Hill.

All-Region Honorable Mention - Sam Rembold, William Rooney.

SCISA North/South All-Star - Jackson Ogden, Austin Floyd

2023 Region Player of the Year – Jackson Ogden

Team Members: Blake Hubik, Jose Rayo, Renzo Cedeno, Jackson Sanders, Brennan McDermott, Tony Hill, Jackson Ogden, Austin Floyd, Peter Torinese, Larry Racey-Rubalcado, Jude Ryan, Austin O'Quinn, Kelon Reynolds, Andrew Gilmour, Francisco Sanchez, Christian Tilton, William Rooney, Finn Mahoney, Sam Rembold, Chris Orta, Sebastian Slusne, Brian Orta, and Daniel Hurtado



ATHLETICS

SPRING SPORTS WRAP UP

Girls MS Soccer

The MS girls went 7-2-3 on the season, highlighted by many players who had never played soccer. “Our offense was led by Gracie Buckland and Sydney Renner who provided the majority of the goals in the season,” said Coach Greg Renner. “Our goalkeeper, April Hurtado, allowed very few goals and had multiple saves in the PK shootout at the end of season tournament. Overall, a very positive experience. Go Warriors!”

Team Members: Camille Pope, Lauren Urquizu, Gracie Buckland, Emma Karrh, Azalea Slusne, Gelena Mejia Ramos, Calleigh Gereghty, Samantha Cordero, Finley Borgan, April Hurtado, Sydney Renner, Ava Stabak, Braden Rickenbach, Eileen O’Sullivan, and Vivian Calvert



Boys MS Soccer

The middle school boys soccer team became the #1 seed with a 8-1-3 record in the region through a lot of hard work, patience, perseverance, and dedication. “With a total of 25 goals scored amongst seven players and only 12 goals conceded, it showed that it required a team effort to pull off the tremendous achievement,” said Coach BJ Adeisa. “Ending the season as a finalist at a Lowcountry tournament showed how far the team has come.”

Team Members: Eddie Merrick, Jack James, Zach Mulieri, Liam Gilroy, William Clarke, Tripp Thiesen, William Patrick, Roman Bodziony, KP Santos, Rials Gault, Sean Phalen, Walker Patrick, Alan Wolf, Luca Madhere, Tommy Rembold, Aiden Karrh, and Cole Trott



ATHLETICS

SPRING SPORTS WRAP UP

Varsity Baseball

The varsity baseball team had a very successful season this year with a signature win against crosstown rival, HHCA. “The Warriors made an impact in the region both offensively and defensively,” said Coach Stephen Gaylets. “The offensive attack was led by Brandyn Horton, Stewart Misko, and Logan Cotter. Ross Putnam dominated in his junior year on the mound. Eighth graders Casey Rizzo, Talon Putnam, and Jackson Reilley contributed throughout the season. We look forward to a great season next year.”

1st Team All-Region: Archer Dewig, Garrett Heathcott
All-Region Honorable Mention: Ayden Kollstedt, Bryant Jolley.

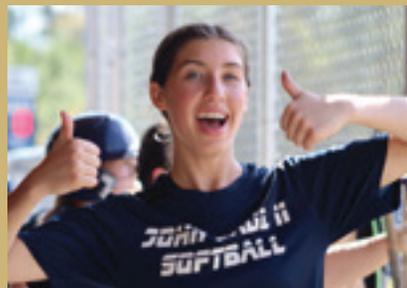
Team Members: Logan Cotter, Garrett Heathcott, Ayden Kollstedt, Jack Hannagan, Archer Dewig, Bryant Jolley, Stewart Misko, Nick Rauch, Hamrick Hurst, Casey Rizzo, Caleb Snyder, Brandyn Horton, Ross Putnam, Cooper Montgomery, Daniel Snyder, Jackson Reilley, and Talon Putnam



JV Baseball

The JPII middle school baseball team had an exciting 2023 season finishing with a regular season final record of 8-3. “Everyone on the team had multiple hits, drove in at least 3 runs, and was on base at least 8 times,” said Coach Jason Cotter. “We had multiple excellent pitching outings highlighted by a combined 7-inning no-hitter against Riverview.”

Team Members: Taylor Murphy, Jeremyah Evans, Zack Moulton, Chase Cotter, Casey Russo, Nick Feltner, Griffin Spencer, Talon Putnam, Jackson Reilley, Russ Spencer, and Matt Termini



ATHLETICS

SPRING SPORTS WRAP UP

Track & Field

Track and Field had a great season this year. “We had a total of 13 athletes attend States, where the 4x400 girls got 2nd place, Sebastian Frickel got 3rd in the 3200, and Zac Henderson got 3rd in the 800,” according to head coach, Jaime Roberts. “The team competed at several region meets, showing their grit against the larger public schools in the area. We also introduced javelin and hurdles this year to the program. The season was a great success, and with such a young group, we will have most of them back next year.”

Team Members: Matthew Yanachik, Nate Miller, Leo Iskandar, Jonathan Yanachik, Patrick Merrick, Dominic Aiken, Sam Marcinkoski, Brayden Frickel, Tim McGuire, Jude Witkowski, Blake Hubik, Rose Witkowski, Lili Lutheran, JoJo Hill, Cypress Daniel, Ava Stabak, Gracie Henderson, Alainna Hill, Trice McClure, Camryn Michael, Lily Termini, Sebastian Frickel, Brendan Gilroy, Zac Henderson, Cullen Amagliani, Jonah Mast, Ephrain Jimenez, James Hook, Ben Villalobos, Jason Cohen, Alec Yanachik, Keannen Hill, Jacob Vortisch, and Andrew Boyden



Boys Golf

The JPII varsity golf team finished in 7th place in the 3A State Tournament held at General Hacklers golf course in Conway, SC. “The season overall was a success considering how young the golf team is and the future it holds,” said Coach Mark Waninger. “In all eight matches, JPII did not finish lower than third in any match and was competitive due to their consistent scoring.”

Team Members: Sofie Hannagan, Brayden Frickel, Ryan George, Ethan Benedetto, Michael Fitzgibbons, Will Debrovner, Matthew Carbone, Dylan Folscroft, Adrian Spencer-Simmons, and Freddie Weniger



CLASS OF 2023



CLASS OF 2023



College & University Acceptances

Appalachian State University, Auburn University, Ave Maria University, Belmont Abbey College, The Catholic University of America, Charleston Southern University, College of Charleston, The Citadel Military College of South Carolina, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, Drexel University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida State University, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Furman University, George Mason University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia Southern University, High Point University, Lynn University, Marshall University, Mercer University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University at Raleigh, Nova Southeastern University, Oklahoma State University, Old Dominion University, Pennsylvania State University, Polk State College, Purdue University, Roanoke College, Rollins College, Savannah College of Art & Design, Seton Hall University, Technical College of the Lowcountry, University of Alabama Huntsville, University of Dayton, University of Delaware, University of Maryland, University of Miami, University of Mississippi, University of Notre Dame, University of South Carolina Beaufort, University of South Carolina Columbia, University of South Florida, The University of Tennessee, The University of Texas at Austin, The University of West Florida, United States Naval Academy, Valdosta State University, Virginia Military Institute, Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, Western Carolina University, Wingate University, Winthrop University, Wofford College, and Xavier University

BY THE NUMBERS

Palmetto Fellows – **\$131,800**

Life – **\$340,000**

Hope – **\$284,800**

Total number getting scholarships – **100%,
37 Members of the Class of 2023**

Total value of State Scholarships – **\$756,600**

Other Scholarships – **\$3,278,958**

Total Scholarships – \$4,031,558

Awards and Scholarships –
*Scan the QR code to the right
for a list of awards and scholarships*



DEVELOPMENT

GALA CELEBRATES THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

JPII celebrated the past, present, and future during its 10th Anniversary Denim & Diamonds Gala in March at Hewitt Oaks in Bluffton.

Many thanks to all those who came out to enjoy great company, delicious food, and a wonderful evening celebrating our school. A special shout out to those who made the evening possible: PTO president Tracee Spencer and her crew for decorating the venue, *Fiddler on the Roof* cast member, Kohl Woodham '23, for his musical solo, parent Brett Harrell's Block Creative Agency for an impressive capital campaign video, and our nine alumni for sharing their JPII experiences – Spencer Edwards '17, Dorian Nungaray '17, Evan Calabrese '18, Yndia Kessinger '19, McKenna Byrne '20, Abby Quinty '20, Colin Doering '20, Lissy Rembold '22, and Maddie Heathcott '22.

While all came together to honor the past 10 years since the JPII doors opened, we also gathered to toast the future and find out what that future will look like through the launching of the *Where Faith and Innovation Meet Campaign*.

To learn more about the *Where Faith and Innovation Meet Campaign* visit our website and/or contact Brian Quinty, JPII development director, at 843-645-3838.



CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

New Security Gate and Guardhouse Open

In the past two decades, the landscape of school safety has increased security measures and become a necessary component of everyday life in a school. At JP II we take school security very seriously and consider the safety of our students to be paramount. Students learn best when they are physically and emotionally safe.

With the rapid growth of our campus in the past three years, eight modular classrooms have been brought in to accommodate this growth. These modular units do not have the same security features as a new school building. At any given time, over 100 students are traversing campus to take classes in the modulares.

The need to provide stronger security measures at the entrance to our campus was identified as a critical need. That is why Phase I of the new Masterplan called for the construction of a new gate and guardhouse to control access to the campus. An armed security guard, similar to a school resource officer, is stationed at the guardhouse from 7am to 7pm on days when school is in session. Any vehicle entering the campus must have a sticker or be a pre-approved visitor to gain access. During the evening hours, the gates will be closed to traffic other than approved staff. In addition, all interior cameras are being upgraded and several new exterior ones added as part of the security plan. The gate and guardhouse also provide a beautiful, collegiate looking entrance to the JP II campus.



COMING THIS NOVEMBER

Announcing the

WHERE FAITH AND INNOVATION MEET CAMPAIGN

to benefit John Paul II Catholic School

Please consider supporting our school's mission and vision for the Warriors of today and tomorrow.

THE WARRIOR FUND

Provides annual support for tuition assistance keeping the school affordable for all, salaries and benefits to attract and retain the very best teachers, and program enhancements for a well-rounded student experience. Without the Warrior Fund we could not be the BEST Middle and High School in the Lowcountry.

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Provides immediate support to build the JP II of the FUTURE. This campaign will allow us to build a 45,000-sq-ft Innovation Center, increasing enrollment capacity to 500. This building will include a black box theater for the performing arts. Funds will also support a kitchen addition to the current school and new athletic facilities.

THE ENDOWMENT FOR JP II

Long-term sustainability requires an endowment into the millions. This will provide ongoing funding to offset future tuition increases helping keep the school affordable for all income levels, as well as ensure your capital investment in facilities is protected and maintained. Consider leaving a legacy in your estate planning.

Plan your gift now for the next 2 – 4 years. More information will be mailed during the week of November 12. We thank you for your past support in creating JP II and for the future transformation of our campus!

ADMISSIONS

OPEN HOUSE

JPII held its annual Open House to kick off Catholic Schools Week in January. With over 40 families in attendance, we held informational parent talks, conducted student-ambassador led tours, and hosted a Clubs & Activities Fair in the athletic center.

“It was wonderful to meet and see all the new families and future JPII students,” said Anne McClure, admissions coordinator. “Thank you to all our fantastic faculty and students for putting everything together.”

“My husband and I attended the Open House yesterday and were impressed with the academic and sports opportunities. The facilities are immaculate, and we feel that the values of the school mirror our own family’s values.”

“We attended the Open House today and were so impressed by what we saw and heard. (Our son) absolutely loved visiting JPII and talked about it all evening. I’m thrilled by this response because the thought of leaving (current school) has made him pretty uneasy...until today!”

“The Open House that you all put on this week was awesome! We learned so much and after seeing all of the great opportunities that you provide; we are overly impressed. Moreover, the staff and students were so nice.”

**NEXT
OPEN HOUSE
NOVEMBER 12,
2023**



MAYFEST JPII STYLE

JPII, along with 200 art and food fenders, participated in the annual Bluffton Mayfest in Historic Downtown Bluffton. Mayfest features local and regional arts and crafts, great music, and delectable local foods. Over 10,000 people attended the festival.

JPII sold recycled oyster shells that were hand-painted by our students who volunteered their time and artistic talents to create beautiful masterpieces. Over 150 were painted ahead of time and other shells were painted by request from customers at the festival.

“One of the best parts of Mayfest, besides meeting so many people, was taking old, unwanted oyster shells, cleaning and bleaching each one, and then painting them to create one-of-a-kind memorable pieces that the recipients will cherish for a lifetime,” said junior Trice McClure. The JPII booth was so popular and well-received at the event that we received an early invitation to have our tent and artwork again at Mayfest 2024.

The over \$400 proceeds from sales went to The Warrior Fund.

JPII PROFILE



EDUCATING
Students in
6TH-12TH
Grades

One of the
FASTEST growing
private schools in SC
Future **cutting-edge**
STEAM Innovation
Center Planned

▮ **22** ▮

AP Courses,
AP Capstone
Diploma Program

▮ **8** ▮

Pre-AP Courses

▮ **15** ▮

Project Lead the
Way Courses

Over

\$700k

in Tuition Assistance

& Scholarships



Weekly Mass,
Class Retreats
&
Service Projects

20

Varsity Sports fielding
35 Athletic Teams

14

Visual & Performing
Arts Courses

13

Student Clubs
& Organizations

2024-25 ENROLLMENT APPLICATION OPENS OCTOBER 1

All faiths welcome!

FUTURE CAMPUS

WHERE FAITH AND INNOVATION MEET

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR FUTURE



The new Masterplan for the campus, when fully executed, will position John Paul II Catholic School as having the finest private school facilities in Beaufort and Jasper counties. Starting in 2023, the plan will create a safe and secure campus, improve parking and traffic flow, create much-needed storage space, expand enrollment to 500 students, build out athletic facilities to provide a home playing field for most sports, and construct a chapel to serve as the cornerstone for our Catholic identity. The Plan will be implemented in four phases and completion will be contingent on funds raised.

PHASE I – A new security gate and guardhouse has been constructed (see page 35) and is now staffed with a trained security guard from 7am to 7pm on days when school is in session. The plan also calls for an upgrade to all security cameras on campus. Beginning this fall, a new 140-vehicle parking lot will be constructed on the site of the former multipurpose field behind the athletic center. This lot will serve as expanded student parking as well as provide much-needed event parking. The multipurpose field is being



FUTURE CAMPUS

moved to east of the baseball field and will serve as a new soccer field. Finally, Phase I includes a new maintenance service building and a full outdoor basketball court. The estimated **cost of Phase I is \$4 million** and includes the design costs for Phase II. Estimated completion date is **February 2024**.

PHASE II – The STEAM Innovation Center is scheduled to begin construction in the spring of 2024. This 45,000-square-foot building will serve primarily as the high school building and will have a capacity of 340 students. The current academic building will then become the middle school and administrative offices, increasing the overall capacity of JP II to 500 students. The Innovation Center will feature three state-of-the-art science labs, a makerspace, a large art studio, eight traditional classrooms, five small-group collaboration studios, a performing arts studio, and administrative office space. Anchoring one end of the building will be a large common area serving as a student center with a grand stair and café. The west end of the building will feature a black box theater accommodating seating for almost 300. Depending on fundraising success, plans also call for the construction of an outdoor dining pavilion and kitchen addition to the current school for full cafeteria food service. The **cost of**

Phase II is estimated between \$26 - \$28 million and is expected to be completed by **August 2025**.

Phase III is the buildout of the remaining athletic complex to include a multisport stadium with a track, a fieldhouse with restrooms, concessions, and locker rooms, six competition tennis courts with a spectator pavilion, a relocated softball field, space for other sports such as archery, and a cross country trail. The estimated **cost of Phase III is between \$8 - \$10 million** and the completion date is TBD.

Phase IV will complete the campus Masterplan with an on-campus chapel to serve as the cornerstone of our Catholic identity. The chapel will seat up to 600, allowing the entire school to worship together. Because the chapel has not been designed yet, the **cost is TBD**.







John Paul II Catholic School

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

FINANCIALS

FOR 2022-2023

True Cost to Educate Per Student
\$15,888



REVENUE

Tuition and Fees	\$ 4,656,620	
Less Financial Aid & Discounts	\$ (-1,220,206)	
Net Tuition	\$ 3,436,414	73%
Parish Subsidies	\$ 159,823	3%
Gifts and Grants	\$ 704,278	15%
Misc Income	\$ 446,216	9%
Total Revenue	\$ 4,746,730	100%
Subsidy from Diocese of Charleston	\$ 400,000	

*In the 2022-23 school year the Diocese of Charleston subsidized John Paul II Catholic School's operational deficit in the amount of \$400,000. Leadership's goal in the next 3 years is to eliminate operating deficits and the need for a subsidy.

EXPENSES

Salaries, Taxes and Benefits	\$ 2,868,700	58%
Instructional	\$ 345,160	7%
Administrative	\$ 333,292	7%
Extracurricular Activities	\$ 495,703	10%
Facilities	\$ 510,976	10%
Debt Service	\$ 232,089	5%
Capital Expenses	\$ 163,778	3%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,949,698	100%

Cost to Educate based on 332 \$ 14,909

The department of education supplied direct funding for additional classroom space, technology and support staff

\$ 325,207

True Cost To Educate \$ 15,888

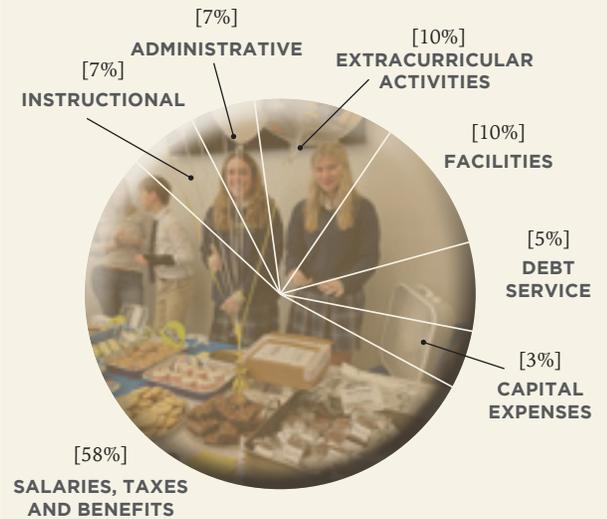
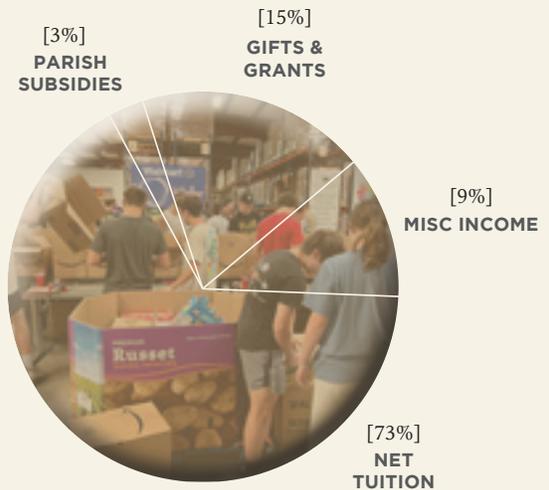
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Facility and Land Improvements	\$ 74,541
New Bus	\$ 89,237
Total Capital Expenditures	\$ 163,778

Financial reports included in this annual review are not the final audited statements.

REVENUE

EXPENSES



OUR STATS

AT A GLANCE FOR 2023-2024

ENROLLMENT REPORT

Total enrollment **361**

Current enrollment by grade:

6th.....	20	10th.....	54
7th.....	63	11th.....	59
8th.....	49	12th.....	47
9th.....	69		



DIVERSITY

54% male

46% female

non-Catholic **24%**

22%

African American,
Hispanic/Latino,
Asian & other
ethnicity

Testing Profile Class of 2023

ACT

Top 25% Composite: 27
Median: 21
Mean: 20

SAT

Top 25% Composite: 1320
Median: 1140
Mean: 1121

Advanced Placement

AP

107 Students
205 Exams
53% of 9-12th graders
took at least 1 AP Class
65% of the scores were
3 (out of 5) or higher

AP Scholars

35 students were named Scholars
by College Board:
19 Scholars
9 AP Scholars with Honor
4 AP Scholars with Distinction
4 AP Seminar & Research Certificate
3 AP Capstone Diplomas

Ways to Give

Scan the QR code for a list of options.



DONOR LIST

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

Where Faith and Innovation Meet: Leadership Level – \$25,000 or MORE

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\$10,000 AND ABOVE

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ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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Why We LOVE JP II...



The sports I'm involved in include tennis and track with the hopes of joining the wrestling team this year. What I really like about track and swimming is the excitement and support I get from my teammates while on the start line about to race. What I enjoyed about tennis was winning my matches and bringing home the victory. — *Leo Iskandar, Class of 2027*

I have often been asked what my favorite thing is about JP II and my answer has always been the community. As corny as it sounds, JP II really possesses a family-like environment. The teachers care about you as a person, not just a student, and that really is something special. I'm in my last of six years at JP II and I'm going to miss the people over anything else. — *Kathleen Hammett, Class of 2024*

I love the House system at JP II because it gives us a chance to get closer to people in other grades. All the Houses also support a charity and have events throughout the year to get the school involved. — *Miranda Moulton, Class of 2026*



I love the JP II House system. I like this because it gives me and my friends the opportunity to come together on Fridays and have some free time in school while having fun. — *Emma McKamey, Class of 2026*

Since I've been going to JP II since 7th grade, I've had many different teachers, taken many different classes, but the thing that has been the most consistent is that teachers have been very accommodating as well as promoting a classroom environment of respect. I can say with confidence that I have felt comfortable and welcomed to ask any questions I have about the material in a class even after class is already over. I have also made some amazing friends that I've had since I first got here, as well as some that have joined the school more recently. — *Benjamin Villalobos, Class of 2024*

One thing I love about John Paul II is the opportunity to play the sports I love. I am grateful to be a part of multiple athletic teams with amazing coaches and teammates that truly want me to succeed on and off the court or field. — *Camryn Michael, Class of 2025*

What I love about JP II is a question that is difficult to answer. I came from a school that didn't really care about a student's personal education and didn't have any honors classes; this caused me to be put in classes that were not challenging enough for me in 8th grade. My JP II teachers notice how hard I work in my classes and how much I care about my education and have given me work in order to prepare for advanced classes (like Mrs. Lentz when she was my Pre-Alg teacher). In short, I guess I love how much the teachers care. — *Ivan Vera, Class of 2026*



There is a culture within the athletic program where we have our fellow athletes back and strive for a common goal. We have fun and these sports bring us together. While athletics are tough, they teach us to grow into young adults who will serve the Lord. — *Daniel Snyder, Class of 2025*



Playing and practicing golf with my teammates is always the highlight of my day. We are incredibly lucky to have two of the best coaches and the opportunity to practice at two of the nicest courses in the area. Golfing with the team is a very relaxing, competitive, and exciting experience. — *Dylan Folscroft, Class of 2025*



JOHN PAUL II
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
4211 N Okatie Hwy
Ridgeland, SC 29936

www.johnpaul2school.org