



THE WEEKLY

Warrior

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

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State of the School Address is Sunday, November 12

Each year, I provide the opportunity for our school community to hear about our accomplishments, as well as share the vision of where the school is headed during the current school year and beyond. It is also during this address that I announce the tuition rates for the 2024-25 school year and important deadlines for enrollment and applying for tuition assistance. While we initially did this meeting in person, since Covid we have been conducting them virtually via Facebook. This provides a much better opportunity for all parents to tune in while at home. This years **State of the School Address will be Sunday, November 12 @ 4:00pm** following our annual Open House. We will share out the link next Friday for anyone interested in watching. The meeting typically lasts about 30 minutes and includes an opportunity for Q&A. All families will receive a letter in the mail the week of November 12 with information shared at the meeting.

Please Share the Open House Date with Potential Families

JPII has grown by 74% over the past four years. This is phenomenal growth for any school, and places us as one of the fastest growing private schools in South Carolina and one of the fastest growing Catholic Schools in the nation. Factoring growth at this same pace next year, we expect to enroll at least 400 students in the 2024-25 school year. With our current school building, in addition to the eight modular classrooms, we will be at capacity. A wait list is inevitable in some grades. That is why applying early is the best way for a student to earn a coveted spot for next year.

Word of mouth is absolutely our best marketing tool. Parents sharing their experience with others is one of the prime factors in our growth. If you know of a student out there who might benefit from a JPII Catholic education, please encourage them to attend **Open House on Sunday, November 12 @ 1:00pm**. There will be tours of the building, opportunities to interact with students, teachers, and current parents, and an activity fair showcasing our vast array of athletic and club opportunities. One lucky family will walk away with a \$1,000 tuition deposit but you must be present to win. So, even if a student has already committed to JPII for next year, there's a very good reason, actually 1,000 of them, to attend Open House.

Where Faith and Innovation Meet Campaign set to Launch

For the past year we have been talking about the Campus Masterplan Expansion Project to grow our school beyond 400. While 400 students is an amazing accomplishment, it is not the end goal. The vision for the JP11 of the next decade is an enrollment of between 500 and 540 students to ensure long-term financial viability. We believe this is the sweet spot between balancing our budget and remaining true to our small school feel. The construction of the 45,000 square foot Innovation Center will create a state-of-the-art standalone high school building that will be the absolute best educational facility in our region. It will, in fact, create two distinct schools on one campus. The middle school will primarily occupy the current building while the high school will be in the Innovation Center. So, in essence you will have a middle school of 200 and a high school of 320 all on one campus. Both schools will share the athletic center and black box theater and performing arts studio.

The cost to construct this building will be in excess of \$25,000,000. This project is not for the faint of heart! While the campaign to raise a significant portion of this cost is underway, it will take the lift of the entire school, parish, and greater community to make this vision become a reality. With groundbreaking scheduled for this spring to be able to open by August 2025, look for the launch of the *Where Faith and Innovation Meet* Campaign the week of November 12. All JP11 families, along with most of our donor base of over 2,000, will receive an invitation in the mail to participate. While our goal is 100% participation, the amount of your pledge is undefined. Some of our past donors will be provided a target amount based on giving history, while others will be invited to participate at any level. Whether it's \$10, \$100, \$10,000, or \$1,000,000, every contribution will make a difference. Help us put a shovel in the ground and build the JP11 of the future.

Included in the campaign is the annual Warrior Fund. For those new to JP11, the Warrior Fund helps us fund our tuition assistance program as well as grow school programs. Our school would not be the school that it is without the Warrior Fund. Several of our students would not be here and we would not have the amazing academic and extracurricular programs that are drawing new students to our school. So, the campaign letter will have a dual ask, with a portion going to the annual fund and a portion to the capital campaign. You get to choose the amount, to what purpose, the number of years, and the payment plan.

We understand many of our families are challenged just to afford the tuition to attend JP11. We appreciate you and know that our expectations are simply that you do what you can, nothing more, nothing less. An investment in JP11 now and in its future is one of the best investments you can make, for your child(ren) and for those yet to come. In the words of our patron saint, John Paul II...

"God's love does not impose burdens upon us that we cannot carry, nor make demands of us that we cannot fulfill. For whatever He asks of us, He provides the help that is needed."



From the Sports Desk

Cross Country: The John Paul II Catholic School Cross Country Teams excelled at the SCISA 3A Cross Country Championships! The teams demonstrated exceptional dedication and talent as they participated in the championships held at Heathwood Hall in Columbia, SC on October 28th. The boys team secured 1st place and the girls team finished as the Runner-Up. Throughout the season, these athletes put in tremendous effort and dedication to prepare for this championship, and their hard work was on full display during the event. Their outstanding performance on Saturday left their coaches and families in awe! In the boys' division, Zac Henderson took an impressive 4th place finish with a time of 17:24, Blake Hubik ran a 17:42 finishing in 5th place overall and Sebastian Frickel finished closely behind in 6th place with a time of 17:43. Matthew Yanachik and James Hook were our fourth and fifth scoring runners, playing a crucial role in securing the first-place victory for the boys' team. Matthew finished in 15th place running an 18:37 and James finished 22nd running a time of 18:56. Brayden Frickel and Jude Witkowski also delivered strong performances as our number 6 and 7 runners. The girls' team exhibited remarkable talent and determination as well. Freshman, Abby Brock earned an outstanding 2nd place finish in the girls' division running a time of 20:25, Senior, Brady Mahoney ran her personal best crossing the line in 7th place and a time of 20:57. Despite an unfortunate turn of events where Ayla Reynolds took a wrong turn, her determination and grit allowed her to secure a 16th place overall finish. Trice McClure achieved her personal best by shaving nearly two minutes off her time since the first meet of the year, finishing in 19th place and crossing the finish line in 22:45. Hollis Melnick contributed as the team's fifth scoring runner, helping the girls secure their well-deserved second-place finish. Hollis placed 24th and ran a 22:54. The performance of two of our senior athletes, Rose Witkowski and Gracie Henderson, our sixth and seventh runners, further added to the team's success. The entire John Paul II Catholic School community is exceptionally proud of these outstanding athletes and their remarkable accomplishments at the SCISA 3A Cross Country Championship. Their dedication and hard work serve as an inspiration to all, and their achievements are a testament to the school's commitment to excellence. Congratulations to all our runners for an outstanding finish to the season!

Swimming: Our JP II Golden Warriors Swim Team had an amazing 2023 season! We celebrated the success of returning and first-time swimmers at the SCISA State Championships! Varsity Swimming is a short season. We were disappointed to see it end, but we ended strong! Our season began with many new faces with various athletic abilities, from year-round swimmers to baseball players, cheerleaders, and tennis players. Occasionally, team members would point out the positive results they seemed to experience with their other sports after swimming in a meet. Swimming keeps you nimble!

Our Girl's Team was led by sophomore swimmer Riley McGoldrick, who currently holds the #2 position for the SCISA All-States Swim Team! Riley had two first-place finishes in the 200 Freestyle and 100 Butterfly. This is Riley's third year as a JP II Golden Warriors Swim Team member. Congratulations, Riley! Our Golden Warriors girls' team is ranked #4 for the SCISA 3A Division in the State – congratulations, girls team – you're all amazing!

Our Boys Team was led by senior swimmer Ross Putnam, finishing in the top 10 in his 50 Freestyle for the 3A Division in the State! Congratulations on this achievement, Ross – job well done! Our Golden Warriors boys team is ranked #8 for the SCISA 3A Division in the State – congratulations, boys team – you all had fantastic results!

At JP II, all our swimmers have contributed to an amazing season. We have established a great team tradition this year as we continue to grow. JP II is so proud of all the swimmers and families who have made this season happen! Coach Kristin

I would like to commend our entire athletic department for a great fall season. Mrs. Louise Sanders and Mr. Stephen Gaylets for their leadership, coaches for their dedication and commitment to excellence, athletes for your willingness to compete and support your teammates, and parents for your unwavering dedication and support. This has been the best sports season in my 5 years at JP II and I look forward to the great things to come. We truly *Played like Champions*.

Have a great weekend.

In His Purpose,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John C. McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light yellow rectangular background.

President

