

VOLUME V ISSUE XXIX

March 1, 2024

Enrollment Deposit is Due Today, March 1

Today marks the date when deposits are due to secure your spot for the 2024-25 school year. Returning deposits are \$500 per student and new students are required to deposit \$1,000. These deposits are non-refundable and are deducted from your 2024-25 tuition balance. Acceptance letters for students who applied for admission after January 15 will be mailed by March 15. Those students should deposit and enroll as soon as possible after receiving their acceptance to secure their spot.

With our school quickly running out of space, it's critical for all returning and new students to enroll as soon as possible. Below is an enrollment projection for next year. We base this projection off of 90% retention of current eligible students. Retention typically runs between 90% to 95%. New student totals represent the average of the last two years. Applications are currently running 5 ahead of last year at this time. Grades 6 and 8 are almost full, with limited availability in grades 7, 9, and 10. Don't delay, enroll today!

Enrollment Projections for 2024-25 (actual enrollment by grade may vary)

Grade	R%	Now	Retain	New	2024-25
6	93	22	Х	22	22
7	88	65	20	50	70
8	88	50	57	12	69
9	88	72	44	25	69
10	88	57	63	10	73
11	90	58	51	5	56
12	98	47	57	1	58
Total	90	371	292	125	417

Diocese of Charleston Catholic Schools Annual Report

The Diocese of Charleston has released their annual report on Catholic schools. We suggest all of our families read this report. It will provide you with the assurance that you are making a great investment in the education of your child(ren), and you will see some great pictures of some of our students.

To go to the full report, follow this link https://charlestondiocese.org/schools/



March 1, 2024

Dear Friends of Catholic Education,

It is with pride and excitement that we present the 2022-23 Annual Report highlighting the achievements, growth and service of the Diocese of Charleston Catholic schools from the 2022-23 school year. This report presents information organized through the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic and Elementary Schools (NSBECS): Catholic Identity, Academic Excellence, Governance and Leadership, and Operational Vitality.

I am pleased to report that our schools have experienced remarkable development. The health of our educational institutions is strong in each of the NSBECS pillars. This is due in no small part to the collective efforts of individuals who have generously contributed to and supported our thriving schools.

As we celebrate the successes of the past academic year, let us also express our gratitude to God for and his blessings. May these achievements inspire continued growth and excellence in the coming years.

To view the full report, visit https://charlestondiocese.org/schools/.

God bless.

William Ryan, Superintendent of Catholic Schools Secretary of Education

Help us Spread the Word about South Carolina's Voucher System

After many years of trying, the South Carolina Legislature finally passed a voucher system that allows qualified families to use \$6,000 in state funds towards private education, including faith-based schools. The Diocese of Charleston strongly advocated for this piece of legislation. Sadly, despite efforts to publicize this program, it appears that very few people have heard about it. So far only one applicant to JPII next year has applied and qualified. Time is running out. The window for applications closes on **March 15**.

To qualify for the Educational Scholarship Trust Fund (ESTF), a child must be currently enrolled in a South Carolina Public School. A family of four's income must not exceed the Federal Poverty Level by up to 200%. That's about \$60,000 per year. It's higher for a larger family. The income level will increase to 300% in 2025-26 and then 400% in 2026-27. Families that qualify now will continue to qualify as long as they remain within these income guidelines. This program has the potential to change a child's life.

Please help spread the word to any family you believe might qualify and who's child would make a positive contribution to the culture of our school.



Important Dates to Put on Your Calendar

March 4, No School – All Day Faculty In-Service

March 16, 8:45 – 11:45AM – Placement Test for New 7th and 8th Grade and HSPT for 9th

March 16, 7:30 – 9:00PM – Middle School Spring Fling Dance

March 16, 7:30 – 8:45PM – Middle School Parent Mixer at Southern Barrel in Bluffton

From the Sports Desk

Girls Varsity Basketball wrapped up its season and what a season it was! 18 – 8 and 3A State Runner – Up! TEAM FIRST MENTALITY... that's what brought our team success and why individual players were able to reach milestones. The title game was a tough match-up against HHCA (68-44). Our Warriors made it a very competitive game with strong performances from Brady Mahoney, Lily Termini, Evelyn Melnick and Lauren Majorkiewicz, but we ran out of gas which helped HHCA extend their lead in the 4th quarter. Despite the loss there were no letdowns and we gained valuable experience that can only come from playing in semi-finals and finals. I love that our seniors (Cayce Graves, Gracie Henderson, and Brady Mahoney) have come so far in four years. Their individual growth and team success speaks highly of their character and will to win. With the exciting young talent and leadership of our returning players, next season is definitely something to smile about.

Girls Middle School Basketball went to Greenville to participate in the Diocese of Charleston 2024 Youth Basketball Tournament. The girls had their first of five games Friday night at 8:15pm vs St. Mary Magdalene (Retterg). The girls were down at the half but managed to finish with their first win of the tournament by a score of 30-21. Saturday consisted of 2 games. The first game was at 9:05am matchup against St. Joseph's Catholic School. It was a battle to the finish, but the Warriors pulled it off to win it 25-24. They had their 3rd game immediately after at 11:15am against Christ Our King (Anderson). The Warriors started out strong, but tired legs got the best of them, while this was Christ Our Kings first game of the day. The Warriors battled until the end but lost 14-31. The girls ended up in the 6th seed (out of 14) and received a bye for the first game of the Silver Bracket. Sunday morning at 10:10am, the girls defeated Charleston Catholic School by a score of 25-24. This win put the Warriors into the Championship game where they would meet St. Mary Magdalene (Retterg) for the second time. The game went back and forth, with each team taking turns in the lead. Time wasn't on our side. The Warriors fell to St. Mary Magdalene by a score of 23-24. The girls have grown tremendously since the beginning of the season and ended with a record of 13-12.

Boys Middle School Basketball defeated Blessed Sacrament at the Diocese of Charleston Basketball Tournament by a score of 64-21. JPII dominated from the opening tip outscoring their opponents 24-3 in the first quarter. The Warriors had 11 of 12 players reach the scoring column led by Leiland Fripp with 17 and Chase Cotter with 14. Isaiah Hahn led the team with 6 rebounds.

Boys Middle School Basketball defeated a very talented St. Joseph's Catholic School by a score of 42-33. This was a very close game featuring 9 separate lead changes. With the score tied at 33, JPII scored the last 9 points of the game to seal the victory. The Warriors were again led in the scoring column by Leiland Fripp with 16 and Chase Cotter with 10. Russell Spencer and Zachary Moulton helped control the boards with 8 rebounds each.

Boys Middle School Basketball defeated Christ Our King by a score of 52-29. JPII was leading 16-15 in the second quarter when they went on a 16-point run to put the game out of reach. The Warriors again had 2 players in double figures with 9 players reaching the scoring column. Sam Marcinkoski contributed two 3 pointers to help the cause. Dominic Aiken led the team with 5 rebounds.

The Boys Middle School Basketball team earned the number one overall seed out of 15 teams at the Diocese of Charleston Basketball Tournament for the first time in school history. Unfortunately, it was not enough, as

they then fell in a rematch to St. Joseph's Catholic School by a score of 45-29. Leiland Fripp led the team with 10 points. Dominic Aiken had an excellent game, contributing 8 points and 4 rebounds. St. Joseph's would go on to win the championship with the Golden Warriors being the only team to defeat them on the weekend. JPII Boys Middle School Basketball finished the season with an excellent 25-4 record. The coaches could not be any prouder of all they accomplished this season.

Wrestling followed up their individual and team dual tourney postseason success in South Carolina with three wrestlers competing at the National Preps Regional Qualifier Tournament in Orlando, Florida. This was the first time the wrestling program competed at this level. Finishing in 4th place and as alternates to the National Preps Championship Tournament were Brian Orta (138 lbs.) and Jack Hannagan (150 lbs.). Daniel Snyder took 3rd place in the 132 lb. weight class. With his bronze medal finish, Snyder became the first wrestler in JPII history to qualify for the prestigious National Prep Championship Tournament held in Lehigh, Pennsylvania. This tourney features nationally ranked wrestlers from 14 states. In his competition at the National Prep Regional Qualifier Tournament, Snyder pinned a Georgia state champion he had previously lost to.



Varsity Baseball started their season on the road, taking an 8-4 win against Bridges Prep. Garrett Heathcott collected 3 hits in 3 at bats. Heathcott doubled in the second inning, singled in the fourth, and singled in the first. The Golden Warriors flipped the game on its head in the top of the fourth, scoring six runs of three hits. The biggest blow in the inning was a single by Stewart Misko after a 7-pitch at-bat that drove in two runs. Misko, Heathcott, and Jackson Reilley each drove in 2 runs for JPII. Logan Cotter collected two hits in two at-bats. Jack Hannagan and Dylan Gehm led the team with two bases on balls each. Our Warriors stole 6 bases throughout the game. The Warriors were sure handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Jackson Reilley had the most chances in the field with four. Next up for the Warriors, on the road against Patrick Henry Academy and then a HOME double header this Saturday at Noon.

Boys Golf participated in a regional match at the Golf Club at Hilton Head Lakes, hosted by Hilton Head Christian Academy (HHCA). Out of nine schools participating, JPII finished 3rd with a team score of 164, behind the first-place team HHCA (142) and second place Heritage Academy (147). The remaining teams were

Colleton Prep (190), Holy Trinity (192), Beaufort Academy (204), Bethesda Academy (205), Thomas Hayward Academy (208), and Cross (211). The Warriors were led by Dylan Folscroft 39, Will Debrovner 40, Ryan George 41, Adrain Simmons 44, and Michael Fitzgibbons 56. Congratulations to the team for another strong performance. Next week the Warriors will host their first of two home matches on Wednesday 3/6 at the Berkely Hall Club.

You are invited to the JPII Middle School Spring Fling Hollywood GLAM Saturday March 16 7:30-9:00pm JPII Athletic Center

Tickets must be purchased online by 12pm on Friday, March 15!

https://johnpaul2schoolorg.finalsite.com/athletics/tickets

The New Makerspace and Art Studio

Located on the first floor of the future Innovation Center, the makerspace and art studio, along with a connected large collaboration studio, will provide over 3,000 square feet of space for innovation, design and creativity. All JPII students will soon have the ability to interpret their traditional subject matter knowledge through art and design solutions to real world challenges. Overhead garage doors in both classrooms will allow learning to spill outdoors. Located in the Dr. Helen Ryan Science and Art Wing, art and design will be intentionally linked to science and engineering curriculum providing the opportunity for the left and the right side of the brain to be simultaneously developed. WOW!



Both of these classrooms are still available to be named for a gift of \$500,000 to the Where Faith and Innovation Meet Capital Campaign, however any gift, no matter how large or small, brings us one step closer to breaking ground. Pledges to our campaign are about to exceed \$6,000,000. If you are still considering making a pledge, please contact John McCarthy or Brian Quinty, or www.johnpaul2school.org

WHERE Faith and Innovation MEET [Learn, Lead and Serve]

Table of Gifts as of 2.28.24

\$ Amount	# Needed	# Received	\$ Amount	\$ Goal	% Goal
2,500,000	1	0	0	2,500,000	0
1,000,000	2	1	2,026,889	2,000,000	101%
500,000	8	3	1,500,000	4,000,000	38%
250,000	10	1	250,000	2,500,000	10%
100,000	10	8	800,000	1,000,000	80%
50,000	20	10	515,000	1,000,000	52%
25,000	40	17	468,000	1,000,000	47%
Under 25,000	Many	62	241,299	1,000,000	24%
		102	5,801,188	15,000,000	39%





Three months to Go...Let's Finish Warrior Strong!

During the month of March our Core Value will be **L**eadership. I consider this to be one of our two most important values, with the most important, **D**iscipleship, to follow in April. It's no coincidence that these values just happen to occur during the Lenten and Easter season.

Leadership comes in all different shapes and sizes. From those appointed to those who quietly, or not so quietly, lead by example. We have many opportunities to demonstrate leadership throughout the month of March, however I would like to point out two.

The first will occur on March 16 where all current middle schoolers, as well as future middle schoolers, will gather for a night of Hollywood Glam for the annual Middle School Spring Fling. While students are dancing the night away, parents are invited to gather with us at Southern Barrel in Bluffton for a new parent-current parent mixer. We hope all current and future middle school parents will join us for this community bonding event. Lead by example.

The second event will occur on March 21. This will be our first ever Day of Giving event. Our objective that day is to reach our Warrior Fund goal of \$200,000. We are at about \$125,000 now and will need another \$75,000 to help us meet our budgeted number. Where do these funds go, you ask? While tuition covers most of a JPII education, it does not cover everything we do to make our school experience the best it can be. Besides helping with tuition assistance, these funds go towards supporting student activities such as retreats, DECA, robotics, and drama, to name a few. As our enrollment has grown so has the cost to run all these extracurricular programs. For example, did you know that the cost of the Kairos Retreat and Senior Mission Trip combined is over \$40,000? To keep these programs intact for all future generations of Warriors we must continue to grow our Warrior Fund. Lead by giving. Support the Warrior Fund on the Day of Giving or anytime throughout the month of March.

Enjoy your four-day weekend.

Your Leader in Purpose,

John & Mc Casthy

President

