



VOLUME V ISSUE XXXX

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Introducing More New Hires Joining the JPII Team

We have added two more new hires and barring any summer defections, we have now completed our teaching staff for the 2024-25 school year.

Mrs. Allison Kizer will join JPII as a middle school English teacher. A native of Ohio and a graduate of Bowling Green University, Mrs. Kizer found herself heading south to Aiken, SC for her first teaching job right out of college. There she taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade ELA for the Aikin County Public Schools for the past six years. She was Aiken County's "First-Year" Teacher-of-the-Year in 2018-19. She was also the Leavelle McCampbell Middle School Teacher-of-the-Year in 2022-23. A soccer player at Medina (OH) High School and cheerleading coach in Aiken, Mrs. Kizer looks forward to working with our JPII student-athletes. She is relocating to Bluffton due to her husband's job transfer. Aiken's loss is JPII's gain.

Mr. Paul Brown, who has been substituting regularly during the second semester at JPII, will teach part-time high school math next year. Mr. Brown, the father of rising 10th grader Mayme, is a retired mechanical engineer. With 35 years of product design and professional management experience, Mr. Brown will bring a real world practical application to the mathematics classroom. A graduate of Michigan Tech with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Mr. Brown also holds a Master's degree from the Ohio State University.

Saying Good-Bye is Hard to Do

Just as we have welcomed so many talented new teachers to the JPII faculty, we also must say good-bye to some who will be moving on. Mr. Kevin Pastore (theology and campus ministry), Mrs. Sonia Merrick (middle school English and social studies), Mrs. Kara Miletic (middle school English), Mr. Carl Boehm (high school English), and Mr. Jerry Lesage (middle school math) are all moving on to new adventures, near and far. No matter how long your tenure at JPII was, we thank you for the impact you had on our school and its students. You will all be missed. Once a Warrior, always a Warrior.

JPII Cafeteria Renovation has been Approved

I am pleased to announce that we have received permission for the renovation of our Dining Commons into a new Grab-n-Go Café. This \$600,000+ upgrade will include the demolition of the existing catering kitchen and Mary's Market into a state-of-the-art food preparation facility, with all new dining furniture replicating some of what we will soon see in the Innovation Center, and an expanded patio seating area complete with a retractable sunshade structure. We are so excited to finally be able to serve healthy and delicious meals at JPII. Some students have already taste tested samples and have given most the Warrior Seal of Approval.

JPII Receives an Amazing Challenge Gift from Paul and MC McEvoy

We recently celebrated our capital campaign success with a luncheon with Bishop Jacques Fabre for our major donors. At the luncheon, Paul McEvoy stood up and offered a matching gift of up to \$500,000 to kickstart the final phase of the ***Where Faith and Innovation Meet*** Capital Campaign. With the end goal clearly in sight, now is the time to finish the job and get the Innovation Center out of the ground. In the first week of this challenge, we eclipsed the \$600,000 mark thanks in large part to a \$500,000 pledge by Drs. Cora and Eduardo Arellano. Because of their generosity, Paul and MC decided to increase their challenge to \$1,000,000. Incredible.

So, with a little more than \$350,000 to go to reach the \$1,000,000 matching gift, now is the time for those who have been sitting on the sidelines of this campaign to jump on board and get this building built! We need to reach the \$8,500,000 cash on hand mark to break ground. Now is our time. Please contact Brian Quinty at brian.quinty@johnpaul2school.org, or call him at (843) 645-3838 ext.149. to make a pledge. If you prefer to make a onetime donation online, please go to

www.johnpaul2school.org/support-jpii/where-faith-innovation-meet



I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid.

Vote for JPII as the Best School in the Lowcountry



For two years in a row JPII has secured the ranking as the Best middle school and high school, but somehow were beat out for BEST private school last year as we finished 2nd. How did that happen? We were just outvoted, it's that simple. So, it's time to start gearing up for the BEST campaign yet. **Voting begins on Monday, June 3 at 11:55am and lasts until Friday, June 21 at 5pm.** Each person can vote daily. Every student, staff member, parent, grandparent, relative, friend, and neighbor must pay attention and

VOTE each and every day. The school will send regular reminders for you to vote, however it's up to every JPII family to spread the news far and wide to **vote daily**.

Thanks for Another Great Year

Just when you think JPII can't possibly get any better, it does. I want to personally thank all our students, their families, and our staff who collectively make the JPII experience second to none. With all sorts of exciting projects on the horizon and incredible new teachers joining an already stellar faculty, our best is yet to come. This is the 40th and final Weekly Warrior of the 2023-24 school year. Look for the next newsletter coming to you on August 2nd. Meanwhile, I'm sure there will be plenty of communications coming out of the school office so be sure to check your email and social media regularly.

Summer office hours will be Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 2:00pm. The office will be closed on Friday. Regular office hours will resume August 5.

Have a great summer everyone and see you next year. That's a wrap.

In His Purpose,

John E McCarthy
President