



VOLUME VI ISSUE XV

November 8, 2024

Highlights from the State of the School Address

Last Monday was our 6th annual virtual State of the School Address. This address provides the opportunity for school leadership to update our community on JPII’s program, finances, and plans for the future. It also officially kicks off our reenrollment season for current students. While many of you tuned in live, the address was recorded and is on the JPII Facebook page for viewing at your convenience.

The first major highlight I would like to stress is our projected enrollment for next year and the likelihood of JPII being at capacity for the first time in its short history. With no plans for additional modular classrooms, we expect to hit our enrollment capacity in the 420’s. The exact number is dependent on enrollment by grade. Each year we prepare an enrollment projection for budgeting and planning purposes. This projection is based on three-year trend data incorporating year-to-year retention as well as new students. Each grade is calculated separately. As you can see below, the projection of 439 students will likely mean we will not have room for every student who wishes to attend. This assumes a retention rate of 90%, our three-year average.

Grade	Actual				Projected		
	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29
6	20	20	27	23	40	40	40
7	46	63	59	68	65	80	80
8	59	49	79	69	77	74	88
Total MS	125	132	165	160	182	194	208
9	67	69	56	90	81	89	86
10	56	54	72	55	75	76	83
11	49	59	61	74	58	77	78
12	37	47	55	60	73	58	75
Total HS	209	229	245	279	287	300	322
Total All	334	361	410	439	469	494	530

The Cost to Educate

We determine tuition each year based on the cost to educate model. That is determined by calculating a preliminary budget with assumptions. A preliminary budget is not a final one but rather a projection. The primary factors that influence cost to educate are inflationary pressures, currently running about 2.5%, compensation for faculty and staff, anticipated program costs, and debt service.

The projected cost to educate for the 2025-26 school year is \$17,320. This includes \$15,639 for operational costs and \$1,681 for debt service. We increased debt this year by \$3.2 million by completing Phase I of the campus expansion plan (guardhouse and security, parking lot, soccer field, storage building, and landscaping). We did not incur debt on the Commons renovation and patio, instead using cash from the capital campaign.

Therefore, based on the cost to educate, tuition for high school will be \$17,300 and for middle school will be \$15,300. The primary cost difference between middle and high schools is due to number of course offerings, staffing, and average class size. A family who is an active member of a Beaufort Deanery parish receives a \$1,500 discount off this tuition due to the subsidy we receive from the parish. Over 70% of our students are registered as Catholic. To soften this increase for families with multiple children, we increased the 2nd child discount from \$500 to \$750 and the 3rd child discount from \$500 to \$1,000. Bus transportation fees will remain as is. Over \$800,000 in tuition assistance and scholarships are available allowing us to meet the financial needs of families and keep the school affordable to a wide range of students.

Tuition Comps with Local Private Schools (2024-25 School Year)

School	Middle School	High School
Hilton Head Prep	\$24,190	\$24,650
Hilton Head Christian	\$17,825	\$18,525
JPII Non-Parishioner	\$14,500	\$16,500
Cross Schools	\$13,988	\$16,426
JPII Parishioner	\$13,000	\$15,000
Holy Trinity Classical Christian	\$14,600	\$14,600
Beaufort Academy	\$13,425	\$14,425
Average Tuition	\$15,933	\$17,160

When you compare JPII's tuition to other schools you realize the value of what you are getting. We have more academic offerings and more extracurricular activities than all these other schools. While our tuition is still expensive, it is below average. Our program is anything but below average.

Reenrollment is Now Open

In years past, the urgency to reenroll at JPII was nonexistent. We had the space to accommodate late enrollees. That space will likely be gone next year. Applications for next year are already trending higher than previous years. That means the demand is high and the supply will be low. We will not be able to enroll every student next year who wants a JPII education. An email was sent on Tuesday to alert you to the process, which is the same as in years past. A \$500 non-refundable per student deposit is required to secure your spot for next year. If you are receiving tuition assistance or scholarships, please submit that application (it must be

done each year) through FACTS. All of this must be done no later January 31. After that date we will begin accepting new students and awarding financial aid.

Student Activities

Welcome to the long weekend! Happy Veterans Day. We are looking forward to celebrating our Veterans at mass next week on Wednesday the 13th. Over the years, we have put together a slide show of photos honoring members of our community who are active duty, recently retired, long retired, or deceased service members/veterans. If you have a person you'd like to add to the honoring list, please forward the person's name, connection to a student at the school (relationship), branch of service, rank, years active, wars fought... etc. and a picture to kim.mcnab@johnpaul2school.org no later than Tuesday, November 12th in the afternoon. God Bless America and God Bless our Troops!

Rain, rain go away! Although our area has been in much need of rain, we are disappointed to have to move our Powderpuff semi-final game to next Friday, November 15th. The matchups will be Lisieux vs. Kolbe and Savio vs. Sebastian. Winners of each game will move forward to the Championship game on our 5th Annual Friendsgiving day, Friday, November 22nd.

Speaking of Friendsgiving, students will be able to enjoy a day of classes, the final game of Powderpuff football, and a Friendsgiving meal. Weather permitting, students will enjoy their turkey lunch, provided by the school, outside. Students are invited to bring picnic blankets should they like to sit on the lawn. Through House, students will be asked to make contributions of either desserts or money to help offset the cost of our meal. Information is being deployed through House Deans and Mentors as early as today and will be ongoing as we approach the day of fun.

- November 11th: Teacher in-service- NO SCHOOL- Happy Veteran's Day
- November 13th: Veteran's Day Mass
- November 15th: 2, 2lb bags of white rice due/per student. Extra day for Powderpuff practice or semi rain delay date.
- November 17th: Open House
- November 22nd: Friendsgiving, final day of Mercy Mission Food Drive, 1 jar of spaghetti sauce due/per student and Powderpuff final.
- December 5th: 9th grade retreat (St. Peter's)
- December 9th: Start of Christmas Spirit Week; last week before Finals!
- December 10th: Choir performs at Okatie Pines
- December 12th: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass; Lessons and Carols
- December 18th-20th: Semester Exams
- December 20th: Last day of Semester 1; Christmas break begins after exams
- January 6th: Semester 2 begins

Staff Changes

We have two members of the JP II Faculty who are leaving us this week. Mrs. Cadra Rooney, a technology education teacher, has accepted an administrative position with the Beaufort County Schools. We wish her well in this new adventure and thank her for her 7+ years at JP II. Mrs. Rooney was instrumental in building up both our PLTW program and robotics. She has left both programs in great shape for someone to come in and pick up where she left off. Also, Ms. Evelyn Dominguez, high school Spanish teacher, will be moving on after a little over one year. Both positions have been posted and we are currently interviewing candidates. We expect to hire for both very soon.

Upcoming Admissions Events

Our Admission Season for the 2025-26 school year has begun and applications are rolling in. With JP II expected to hit capacity quickly, we are encouraging all those interested to apply no later than January 31. With that in mind, if you know of a family that's considering enrolling, please give them a heads up to attend one of our Fall Admissions events listed below.

- November 10 at St. Francis By the Sea Catholic Church @ 9:00am and 10:30am
- November 17 Open House @ 1:00 – 3:00pm
- November 20 – Feeder Schools Visit JP II @ 9:00am (SGG/St. Peters 6th grades & St. Francis 8th grade)

In His Purpose,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John E. McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light yellow rectangular background.

John E McCarthy
President