



THE LIGHT

2023-24 | ANNUAL REPORT

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mission statement

*John Paul II Catholic School educates
students of all faiths in a caring,
Christ-centered environment.*

*We prepare students to be scholars
with a soul in accordance with the
traditions of the Catholic faith and
through the intentional commitment
to our core values of service, high
expectations, innovation, excellence,
leadership, and discipleship.*



*Let yourselves be taken over by
the light of Christ, and spread
that light wherever you are.*

— Saint John Paul II



SCHOOL LEADERSHIP | 2024 – 2025

- John McCarthy** *President*

Heather Rembold *Principal*

Robert Collar *Assistant Principal*

Stephen Gaylets *Dean of Students*

Louise Sanders *Athletic Director*
- Cara Buckland** *Director of Counseling*

Joseph Rivera *Campus Minister*

Kim McNab *Director of Student Life*

Fr. Rafael Ghattas *Chaplain*

ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Jennifer Weniger** *Chair*

Diane Reilly *Vice Chair*

Nicole Debrovner *Secretary*

Ross Kuykendahl

Heath Hill
- Tracee Spencer**

Case Spencer

Frank Oldham

Anthony Bastardi

Monsignor Ronald Cellini

A letter *from* the President

JOHN MCCARTHY

As I reflect on my fifth year leading John Paul II Catholic School, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we’ve shared. It feels like just yesterday when I stood before 200 students in our gym, announcing they could wear their “JP II Hoodies.” That simple moment sparked a wave of enthusiasm that has only intensified. Today, we proudly welcome over 400 students—our largest enrollment ever—underscoring the vibrancy of our Catholic school community.

JP II has become an academic magnet for students from all backgrounds, drawn to our rigorous curriculum within a safe, faith-centered environment. Our accolades reflect this success: we are honored as a Platinum Level Honor Roll School by College Board for our A.P. Program, a distinction achieved by only 6% of high schools in North America. Additionally, our middle and high school engineering, computer science, and biomedical programs have been recognized as Schools of Distinction by Project Lead the Way—an honor bestowed on just 1% of institutions nationwide. It’s no wonder students from both private and public schools across the Lowcountry are transferring to JP II, and gaining acceptance to an expanding list of prestigious colleges and universities.

While we celebrate these achievements, our commitment to inclusivity remains unwavering. JP II embraces students of all academic abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds. Thanks to the generosity of our community through the Warrior Fund and need-based scholarships, we are reaching more students than ever. Our diverse community now includes a 22% minority population, and nearly 20% of our students benefit from specialized support via our Marian Center for Learning, staffed by dedicated special educators. With four counselors ensuring the best counselor-to-student ratio in the area, every student is challenged and supported on their path to success.

Sustaining this level of excellence while keeping costs competitive is a challenge. Without a large alumni network, we rely on community support to fund our mission. The Warrior Fund, our annual giving program, is crucial for providing tuition assistance and exceptional co-curricular activities. I urge each of you to contribute, no matter the amount.

Our Where Faith and Innovation Capital Campaign is also gaining momentum as we approach the groundbreaking for our new Innovation Center. Having raised nearly 50% of our goal, we are excited about the impact this facility will have on future generations. If you are able, I invite you to lead us in this endeavor. Together, let’s continue building a legacy of excellence and faith at John Paul II Catholic School.





Eduardo & Ciora Arellano

Dr. Eduardo and Dr. Corazon Arellano have been invaluable supporters of John Paul II Catholic School since its inception. Their involvement dates back to the original capital campaign, and in 2015, they pledged \$50,000 towards the construction of our athletic center. Over the years, they have consistently supported the Warrior Fund, quietly making a significant impact on our school community.

When JP II announced the new capital campaign, their deep love for the Catholic faith, which includes a strong belief in the importance of Catholic education, was revealed when the Arellanos pledged \$100,000.

But their generosity did not stop there. After hearing about a matching challenge from Paul and MC McEvoy, the Arellanos reached out to inform us that they would be extending their pledge to an incredible \$500,000. Despite not having direct family ties to JP II, the Arellanos have consistently invested in our future and our mission.

With a young alumni base, JP II relies heavily on the support of dedicated community members like the Arellanos, whose gracious contributions bring us closer to realizing our vision for the school's future. We are a stronger school and community because of their unwavering support, and we are fortunate they are a part of our community.

“ We were raised in Catholic schools since the elementary level and had our medical education at University of Santo Thomas in Manila, Philippines, which is run by the Dominican Order of Fathers. Our children had their schooling at Marquette University and University of Notre Dame, so we strongly believed in maintaining the Catholic faith in the service of God.

After we moved to the Lowcountry, we watched the growth of St. Gregory's grade school and then JP II throughout the years. We really fell in love with the Catholic school system here. Through our friendship with Sister Canice, we learned about the various needs of each school and their progress. Since 2013, John Paul II has grown exponentially. We are so impressed by the academic achievements and high standards and acceptance rate to top-tier colleges and universities.

We are so thrilled with the expansion at JP II. The school will be here forever and make a large impact throughout Beaufort and Jasper County. We hope to make a difference— the students of today are our future leaders, scientists, innovators, curators, inventors, and Einsteins of tomorrow, and are honored to be part of this journey. ”

AP Program

JPII RECEIVES AP® SCHOOL HONOR ROLL PLATINUM AWARD

We are thrilled to announce that JPII has been named by College Board as an Advanced Placement Program (AP) School Honor Roll platinum designee. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on the path to college success.

“Platinum is the highest recognition level a school can achieve,” said JPII President John McCarthy. “It demonstrates our students are well prepared for rigorous college-level work at the top universities across this country.” Schools earn this recognition annually by developing an AP program that reflects a commitment to increasing college-going culture, providing opportunities for students to earn college credit, and maximizing college readiness. Only 6% of schools are recognized with the Platinum Award.

PRE-AP PROGRAM

Pre-AP courses deliver grade-level appropriate instruction through focused course frameworks, instructional resources, learning checkpoints, and collaborative educator workshops. JPII offers Pre-AP courses in English, Math, Science, History, and the Visual Arts.

Advanced Placement Courses have been approved for JPII delivery by the College Board:

Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC ,Chemistry, Chinese Language and Culture, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, Drawing, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, European History, Human Geography, Psychology, Research, Seminar, Spanish Language and Culture, Statistics, 2D Art / 3D Art, United States History, United States Government and Politics

AP CAPSTONE

This college-level program is based on two courses—AP Seminar and AP Research—that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP courses. Students who earn a score of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP exams of their choosing are eligible to earn the AP Capstone Diploma.

“Our list of students who are earning the AP Capstone Diploma each year continues to grow,” noted JPII Principal Heather Rembold. “College Board promotes the AP Capstone program as a powerful indicator of college readiness on a student’s transcript and helps students stand out to colleges in the application process. Our students who have been recognized with the AP Capstone Diploma develop key academic skills that they will use in other classes, college, and beyond. They are becoming self-confident, independent thinkers and problem solvers. We are so proud of the hard work that our students and teachers are putting in to earn this level of distinction.”

The 12 students who were recognized with the AP Capstone Diploma are:

Maura Clarke ('24)	Aadi Patel ('25)
Cayce Graves ('24)	Isabella Perez ('25)
Sophia Hayward ('24)	Karoline Rustad ('25)
Lili Lutheran ('25)	Sebastian Slusne ('25)
Kathryn McClure ('25)	Daniel Synder ('25)
Camryn Michael ('25)	Alec Yanachik ('24)

AP Program

THE MOST INVALUABLE TOOL TO CHALLENGE OUR STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR INDIVIDUAL POTENTIAL IS ACADEMIC RIGOR

At JPII, 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 JPII 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 JPII. This college-level program is based on two courses—AP Seminar and AP Research—that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP courses.

JPII has an incredibly impressive program from scope of courses offered to the number of offerings, according to JPII college counselor, Cara Buckland. “As a relatively small private school with resources not as plentiful as a public school, we have an impressive number of course offerings across all areas of our curriculum.

“The success of our program is contingent on the quality of instruction by our faculty coupled with the student and parent commitment to dedicating the necessary time to mastery of the material,” continued Mrs. Buckland. “Our most successful AP students put in time and effort far beyond the parameters of our school day, often utilizing online resources to supplement his/her learning in the classroom.”

In May 2024, 129 JPII students, representing 53% of the 9-12 enrollment, took at least one Advanced Placement exam. The total number of exams taken was 278, with 78% of the scores on these exams averaging 3 or higher

out of a maximum score of 5. Forty-nine of JPII test-takers in May were recognized as AP Scholars (33) with Honor (9) and with Distinction (7), AP Seminar & Research Certificates (5), and AP Capstone Diplomas (12).

SCHOOL SUMMARY

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total AP Students	83	79	91	107	129
Number of Exams	154	146	190	206	277
AP Students with Scores 3+	41	48	63	73	100
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+	49	61	69	68	78

PLTW

WHERE STEM CURRICULUM MEETS CAREER READINESS

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.

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

John Paul II Catholic School is proud to announce that for the second year in a row it has been recognized as a Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Distinguished School.

The award is in recognition of JPII providing broad access to transformative learning experiences for students through PLTW [Computer Science, Biomedical Science, Engineering]. PLTW is a national nonprofit organization that serves millions of PreK-12 students and teachers in over 12,200 schools across the U.S, aiming to make every student in every grade STEM successful.

JPII is one of 9 middle schools in SC and one of 218 middle schools in the U.S., and one of 11 high schools in SC and one of 291 high schools across the United States to be recognized with this honor. “Credit for this recognition must go to our well-trained and dedicated PLTW faculty led

by Mrs. Cadra Rooney who has helped grow the program from just a few courses at the middle and high school level to a highly-recognized program,” said JPII President John McCarthy. “Thank you to PLTW teachers Mrs. Andi Shaw, Mrs. Alice Wood, Mr. Luke Schatzle, and Mr. Anthony Rossillo. A special thank you must go to Mr. John Cooney and the residents of Spring Island who raised over \$300,000 five years ago to jump start the program. We would not be where we are without you.”

The PLTW Distinguished School recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs.

“It is awesome to see the growth of our PLTW courses,” said Mrs. Rooney, “the impact they have on our students’ engagement in learning, and their development as innovative problem solvers. The continued success of our students, post-secondary, is evident of the real-world skills acquired through these programs of study.”

JPII HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

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

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

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

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

Principles of Biomedical Science – careers in medicine through practical activities and labs to explore different opportunities

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®

Engineering Essentials – basics of all engineering disciplines, instant design challenges as teams

Honors Principles of Engineering – in-depth engineering/physics to learn more about specific engineering disciplines and engineers’ project

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



JPII MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

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

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

Computer Science for Innovators & Makers – 7th grade, use creativity to code microbits and develop physical computing devices

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

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

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

CERTIFIED PLTW TEACHERS AT JPII

Cadra Rooney – PLTW Master Teacher, Design & Modeling, Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, App Creators, Computer Science Essentials, Computer Science Principles, Computer Science A, Cybersecurity,

Andi Shaw – Flight & Space, Engineering Essentials, Principles of Engineering, Aerospace, Principles of Biomedical Science

Alice Wood – Aerospace, Human Body Systems, Principles of Biomedical Science, Medical Detectives, Energy & Environment

Joellen Jacobs – Design & Modeling

Anthony Rosillo – Energy & Environment, Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, Medical Detectives

Luke Schatzle – Engineering Essentials, Flight & Space

Nicole Schatzle – Flight & Space, Energy & Environment



SCHOLARSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Daughters of Charity

Sister Mary Beth Kubera arrived in the Lowcountry in 2020 and immediately reached out to JPPI to see if she could be of service to our growing school. Using her extensive background in Catholic school leadership, teaching, and counseling, Sr. Mary Beth immediately became the one and only school counselor at the time. However, equally significant is that Sr. Mary Beth was affiliated with the Daughters of Charity Province of St. Louise, a community of women who devote their lives to serving the poorest and most abandoned individuals in society. The Daughters operate the Mercy Mission in Hardeeville. Since 1997, the Daughters of Charity's Mission & Ministry Impact has provided financial resources to support their service to those in poverty, and since the 2020-21 school year, they have donated to fund scholarships, enhance technology, expand student support services in counseling and the Marian Center, and provide transportation. The Daughters will likely assist us with building the Innovation Center once our community proves we can raise the funds to get it underway. We are truly blessed to be affiliated with the Daughters of Charity.

“ Our mission of the Daughters of Charity is to serve Christ corporally and spiritually in the person of the poor, so providing scholarship monies for students needing financial assistance supports that mission. We place a priority on funding programs that work toward systemic change; education and equity, justice, and inclusion promote that kind of change. We hope to help create a school community that is diverse economically, academically, culturally, and socially by providing students who need tuition assistance with the opportunity to attend John Paul II Catholic School. These funds will help to give Black students and families access to quality education, a critical factor in breaking the cycle of economic disparity often caused by systemic racism. In past years, we have also assisted Hispanic families by supplementing the monies they receive through the St. Anthony Educational Fund.

When Sister Mary Beth was first missioned to the school, she was aware of the need for 25 computers for a new Visual Arts course, so, she wrote a grant to provide funding for that. Later other needs arose: a bus for the Hardeeville-Ridgeland area; additional counselors and counseling materials; special education teachers for grades 6-12; and professional development for teachers and counselors.

Now and in the future, the cost of tuition in Catholic schools will continue to rise. In order to effectively pass on the Catholic faith and provide a quality education, funds for tuition assistance will be vital. The investment is in people—people who will go on to be leaders with strong values, deep faith, and the knowledge of the importance of reaching out to those who need financial assistance to attend a Catholic school. ”

“Do not be afraid. Do not be satisfied with mediocrity. Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.”

— John Paul II

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES 2020-2024

American University	College of William and Mary	George Mason University	Marymount University	Pennsylvania State University, Brandywine Campus	Stonehill College	University of Kentucky	University of South Florida
Anderson University	Columbia College	Georgia Institute of Technology	Mercer University	Polk State College	Technical College of the Lowcountry	University of Maine	University of Tampa
Anna Maria College	Concordia University	Georgia Southern University	Monmouth University	Presbyterian College	Temple University	University of Maryland	University of Tennessee
Appalachian State University	Converse College	Grove City College	Montana State University	Providence College	Tufts University	University of Miami	University of Texas at Austin
Arizona State University	Drexel University	Hawaii Pacific University	Mount Saint Mary’s University	Queens University of Charlotte	Tulane University	University of Mississippi	University of Valley Forge
Auburn University	Duke University	High Point University	NASCAR Technical Institute	Randolph College	United States Naval Academy	University of North Carolina, Asheville	University of West Florida
Augusta University	Embry Riddle Aeronautical University	Hillsdale College	Newberry College	Rockhurst University	Universal Technical Institute	University of North Carolina, Charlotte	University of West Virginia
Ave Maria College	Fitchburg State University	Jacksonville University	North Carolina Central University	Rollins College	University of Alabama	University of North Carolina, Charlotte	Valdosta State University
Baylor University	Flagler College	James Madison University	North Carolina State University, Raleigh	Sacred Heart University	University of Alabama, Huntsville	University of North Carolina, Wilmington	Villanova University
Belmont Abbey College	Florida Atlantic University	John Cabot University	North Carolina Wesleyan College	Saint Andrew’s University	University of Central Florida	University of North Florida	Virginia Military Institute
Benedictine College	Florida Polytechnic University	Johnson & Wales University	North Greenville University	Saint John’s University	University of Colorado Boulder	University of Notre Dame	Virginia Tech
Bloomsburg University	Florida Southern College	Kansas State University	Nova Southeastern University	Saint Mary’s College of Maryland	University of Colorado Denver	University of Pittsburg	Wake Forest University
Brevard College	Florida State University	Kentucky Christian University	Ogeechee Technical Institute	Salve Regina University	University of Dallas in Formation at Holy Trinity Seminary	University of South Carolina	Western Carolina University
Carolina University	Fordham University	Knox College	Oklahoma State University	Samford University	University of Dayton	University of South Carolina, Aiken	Wingate University
Catholic University	Fort Lewis College	Lees-McRae College	Old Dominion University	Seton Hall University	University of Delaware	University of South Carolina, Upstate	Winthrop University
Charleston Southern University	Franciscan University of Steubenville	Louisiana State University	Ohio State University	Sewanee: The University of the South	University of Florida		Wofford University
The Citadel	Franklin Pierce University	Loyola University of Chicago	Pennsylvania State University, Main Campus	Spartanburg Methodist College	University of Georgia		Xavier University
Clemson University	Furman University	Loyola University of New Orleans		Spring Arbor University			
Coastal Carolina University	Gardner Webb University	Lynn University					
College of Charleston		Marshall University					
College of the Holy Cross							

Alumni Testimonials



BRAD CAMPBELL '24

JPII Wish founder through the JPII Senior Capstone Project, attends University of South Carolina

Helping others is the most rewarding thing a person can do. When I learned that over 400 children in SC were waiting for their wishes to be granted, I began creating JPII Wish during my junior year.

The program's two goals were to raise as much money as possible for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and to inspire JPII students to service. I was proud to help five-year-old cancer patient Lily Suddeth and her family, and proud of the JPII students who decided to find their call to service.

JPII Wish has allowed me to grow significantly by teaching me determination, leadership, and how to contribute to my community. Creating a program as intricate as a charity proved to be very difficult with numerous obstacles but taught me that determination is essential when trying to succeed.



CHRISTOPHER ORTA-CARRILLO '24

Attends University of Notre Dame

I am attending Notre Dame and believe God has put me on this path. I cannot wait to explore what He has in store for me. My parent always told me to "be the best," encouraging me to strive for greatness in the classroom, and I continuously push myself while taking the most challenging classes.

I never thought I would run for student leadership council president at JPII let alone win it. Having that opportunity meant a lot to me and my goal was always to make JPII a better place. The opportunity to speak at graduation was truly my greatest joy as I felt I had made my parents proud.

I am so very thankful for JPII. It is truly a special place where I was not only able to get a phenomenal education but was surrounded by an even more amazing community that became a family for me.

Alumni Testimonials



MOLLY REMBOLD '20

Working with FOCUS, a Catholic ministry organization, graduate of Clemson University

I have many things to be thankful for from my time at JPII, but most importantly, I am thankful to have had a Catholic high school to attend that my parents sacrificed so much to make a reality. Being blessed to have been surrounded by Catholic communities all my life from St. Peter's, to JPII, to Clemson, to FOCUS is such a gift.

I am so grateful for the early leadership opportunities I experienced as a member of JPII Acts 29 Peer Ministry. I use so many of those foundational skills in my everyday life as a campus missionary. And thanks to my strong Catholic values, I am confident in understanding my obligation to be a faithful citizen. To be able to set the foundation for a place like JPII that I have come to know as home is an experience like no other.



CHRISTIAN TILTON '24

JPII Male Athlete of the Year for 2024, attends Clemson University

My love for athletics began at an early age, with some of my fondest memories being the countless days spent playing basketball with my brother, always hoping that one day I would finally beat him. Sports gave me the opportunity to develop my abilities alongside a great group of people at JPII who eventually became family. The friendships and brotherhood we formed are bonds that will never fade. JPII athletics also played a crucial role in helping me build leadership and communication skills that have proven invaluable.

Being Catholic means living out my faith with Jesus Christ and striving to follow His example. At the heart of this is spreading love and positivity to everyone I encounter, while always being forgiving. I will never forget the love I have for JPII, and the love JPII has for me.

Athletics

2024 MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHRISTIAN TILTON '24

ATHLETIC TEAMS – Football, Basketball, Track & Field, Baseball, Soccer

AWARDS & ACCOLADES – Football All-State selection, LowCoSports Player of the Year, All-Region selection

“Christian is not only an amazing athlete in every sport he participates in, but he is even a better human being. Coaching a kid like Christian cannot only make you a better coach but also a better person. He shows great leadership skills and is always the kid setting the example of what being a good sport on and off the field is all about. Christian’s kindness and hard work is something that everyone on the team picks up on by the end of the year which only makes us more of a team. He is always leading by influence which is a great characteristic of a natural born leader. He was always the first one at practice and the last one to leave. His encouragement to his teammates as well as other players is something that should not go unnoticed. Win or lose he always kept a positive attitude and never gave up.

“Christian was not a soccer player when he came to try out for the first time. Of course, his natural athletic abilities of being extremely fast and strong, is very important in playing soccer. His footwork and passing skills needed a lot of work but that did not stop him from coming to every practice and every game during the season. He was the best athlete on the team but was sitting on the bench for the first six games of his junior season. After he was able to do the basics, he worked his way up to a starting defensive position on the team and was a starter his entire senior year. He was very humble and coachable, which can bring the best out of any athlete. Christian was a pleasure to coach, and I know he is going to do great things in the future. JPII soccer will surely miss him but he has left a legacy behind for everyone to follow.” — *Nate Stevely, JPII Boys Varsity Soccer Coach*



Athletics

2024 FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

BRADY MAHONEY '24

ATHLETIC TEAMS – Cross Country, Basketball, Soccer, Track & Field

AWARDS & ACCOLADES – 1,000 Pt. Milestone in Basketball, MVP recipient (6X), All-Region selection (7X), All-State selection (10X)

“I had the privilege of coaching Brady for all four years of high school, as she made the varsity team as a freshman. From the beginning, she set herself apart with her quiet determination, taking on any opponent regardless of their experience or talent. Her strongest performances often came in our toughest games, and her never-back-down, strive-to-be-the-best attitude was a driving force for the team.

“Brady’s self-motivation and coachability meant we could always rely on her to execute the game plan perfectly. Her leadership wasn’t limited to the court; she led by example in practice and the classroom, but she also spoke up in the locker room, inspiring her teammates to push themselves and study the game. This leadership helped create a competitive, committed environment that fueled our success.

“Despite chronic knee pain, which was perhaps her biggest challenge, Brady consistently found the strength and courage to push through, showing her resilience while being a constant challenge for our opponents.” — *Karen Floyd, JPII Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, JPII Theology Teacher*



2023-2024 GOLDEN WARRIOR TEAM TITLES SCISA CLASS 3A

State AAA Title – Boys Varsity Cross Country

Runners-Up AAA Title – Girls Varsity Cross Country, Girls Varsity Basketball, Boys Varsity Wrestling, Girls Varsity Soccer, Boys Track & Field



Paul & MC McEvoy

Paul and MC McEvoy are supporters of Catholic education. With no affiliation to JPPI other than it is Catholic, the McEvoy's initially donated \$100,000 to fund the startup of our campus expansion project. They also support two current JPPI students through Promise Scholarships. Once the Where Faith and Innovation Meet Capital Campaign was launched, they were early donors with another investment of \$500,000. Last May, at a campaign luncheon with Bishop Fabre-Jeune, Mr. McEvoy stood up and challenged those in attendance with a \$500,000 matching gift. When that match was met, the McEvoy's increased their challenge to \$1,000,000. We are that much closer to breaking ground on the Innovation Center because of Paul and MC McEvoy.

“ We became aware of JPPI by just driving by the school. A few years ago, we knocked on the door. We have been quite active in promoting Catholic education in various ways such as scholarships and capital improvements. There is an evangelical way of giving back that we are called to share our Catholic faith, and I do not know if there is a better way than supporting Catholic schools and providing students with scholarship aid.

At JPPI the academics are strong, and the school has already established itself as an opportunity in secondary education. If you care about the importance of providing a secure environment that is consistent in promoting your Christian/Catholic ideals, you are not going to do better. If that is important to you, this is a winning proposition.

We believe that Catholic education is critical especially in today's world where there is an incredible amount of distractions for kids, and adults as well. There are a lot of positive distractions that are fun and a lot of negative distractions that are very detrimental. You look at social media and the impact on teenagers, particularly teenage girls, it is just horrible. These examples of influences need to be controlled and in other environments the world can take over.

Spiritual grounding is important. Catholic schools provide a continuum of awareness and education of spiritual growth which is hard to affect in a secular environment. It is important to give kids the opportunity, particularly the disadvantaged, where they can enjoy a quality education but also the right environment where they can grow.”

Financials

REVENUE

Tuition and Fees	\$ 5,463,693	
Less Financial Aid & Discounts	\$(-1,419,064)	
Net Tuition	\$ 4,044,629	71%
Parish Subsidies	\$ 163,176	3%
Gifts and Grants	\$ 948,933	16%
Misc Income	\$ 555,277	10%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 5,712,015	100%
Subsidy from Diocese of Charleston	\$ 125,000	

EXPENSES

Salaries, Taxes and Benefits	\$ 3,653,504	60%
Instructional	\$ 385,888	6%
Administrative	\$ 399,930	7%
Extracurricular Activities	\$ 496,654	8%
Facilities*	\$ 773,160	13%
Debt Service	\$ 334,033	6%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 6,043,170	100%

*Includes leases for modular classrooms and buses

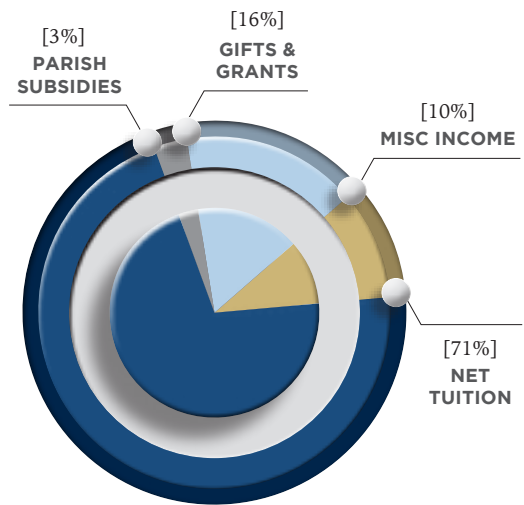
FUNDS RAISED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024

Boosters	\$85,255
Capital Campaign	\$2,596,581
Golf Tournament	\$14,550
Grants	\$160,570
Other Restricted	\$122,073
Scholarships	\$961,292
Warrior Fund	\$178,910
TOTAL FUNDS RAISED	\$ 4,119,231

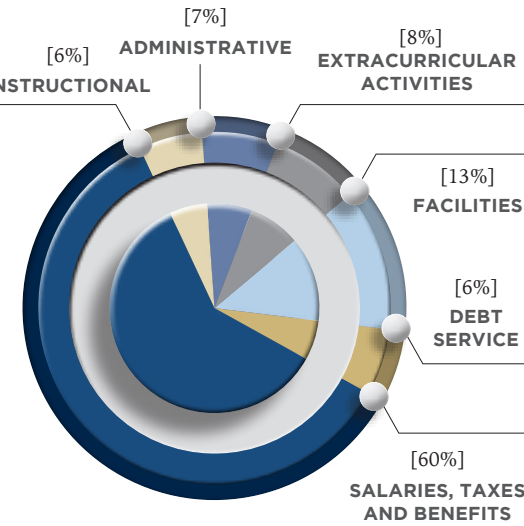
thank you for your generosity!

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

REVENUE



EXPENSES



Our Stats

ENROLLMENT REPORT

Total enrollment **410**

Current enrollment by grade:

6th	27	10th	72
7th	59	11th	61
8th	79	12th	55
9th	56		



Ways to Give

Scan the QR code for a list of options.



DIVERSITY

52% male

48% female

non-Catholic **27%**

22%

African American,
Hispanic/Latino,
Asian & other
ethnicity

Testing Profile Class of 2024

ACT

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

SAT

Top 25% Composite: 1350
Median: 1190
Mean: 1165

Advanced Placement

AP

129 Students
278 Exams
53% of 9-12th graders
took at least 1 AP Class
78% of the scores were
3 (out of 5) or higher

AP School Honor Roll
Platinum Award Designation

AP Scholars

49 students were named Scholars
by College Board:
33 Scholars
9 AP Scholars with Honor
7 AP Scholars with Distinction
5 AP Seminar
& Research Certificate
7 AP Capstone Diplomas





Helen Ryan

There may not be a JP II if it were not for the Golden Warriors number one cheerleader. In the early planning days, Helen was relentless in her support of the vision to build a Catholic high school in the Lowcountry. Her financial support, along with her background in education as the former principal of Hilton Head High School, helped to create the foundation upon which our school was built. More recently, her \$1,000,000 gift to the Bishop's Bicentennial Campaign was restricted for use by JP II. These funds were used to design the Innovation Center and help finance Phase I of the masterplan. Subsequently, Helen has invested an additional \$1,000,000 to the capital campaign and is now our lead donor. Besides construction, Helen has supported so many JP II causes, from the annual fund to scholarships. Two students current attend JP II because of Helen's support of the Promise Scholarship program.

“ I attended St. Joseph Catholic School in Meriden, Connecticut, for grades K-8. A Catholic high school, unfortunately, was not available at that time but I did attend Salve Regina University, in Newport, Rhode Island for college. Both of my children attended Catholic high schools: Georgetown Visitation and Georgetown Prep. The educational foundation they both received in high school created the foundation for continued academic excellence.

As a member of St. Francis by the Sea Catholic Church, I recognized there was not a next step for graduates of their parish grade school. Thus, my mission began to work with the Diocese of Charleston to build a Catholic high school in Beaufort County. I shared this goal with all the parishes and together with Ross Kuykendall, the land, design, and future of John Paul II became a reality.

It was a long and bumpy road leading to the groundbreaking in 2013; however, our planning and fundraising committees never lost sight of the ultimate goal. Our perseverance and commitment showed that by staying the course, we can create something very special for the students we serve and for the community. It was the students themselves who said faith is important. I am so appreciative of all the things our students have accomplished. All the staff, all the auxiliary workers, and all the volunteers together create a leadership team to make JP II the #1 school in the area.

Innovation is important to me because you just cannot exist with what you have, and that is why I am an avid supporter of JP II. If we don't think beyond what is in front of us then we won't move forward. Heather Rembold and John McCarthy are leading the staff and students in a very successful manner and the graduates and their parents alike are now proclaiming the praises for the education they have received at John Paul II, and I could not be happier.

”



JPII Scholarships

thank you to our scholarship donors who contributed \$961,292 in the past year to the JPII Scholarship Fund. More than 40 students were awarded scholarships this year, in addition to tuition assistance, ensuring a JPII education remains within the reach of all economic levels. Your generosity will change the trajectory of not only the lives of these students, but of generations to follow.

Msgr. Cellini Scholarship
Daughters of Charity Ministries
Ehmke Scholarship Fund
Fagon Scholarship Fund
Mr. & Mrs. James Flickinger
Folds of Honor
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Gleason
James Sheehan Scholarship

JPII Faculty & Staff Promise
Scholarship
Mr. & Mrs. Paul McEvoy
Ms. Mary Moran
Notre Dame Club of
Hilton Head
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Parks
Mr. & Brian & Dr. Susan Quilty

Mr. John Rohrs
Dr. Helen Ryan
St. Anthony Hardeeville
Scholarship Fund
St. Francis Center
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Silletti
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Tilton
Mr. & Mrs. Al Urbano



Dick & Sharon Stewart

Dick and Sharon Stewart frequently attend Sunday Mass at JPPI and have witnessed the growth of the campus over the years. Mr. Stewart owned eight acres of prime land adjacent to JPPI and the ACE property for longer than the school has been here. Over the years this piece of property has significantly increased in value, however the Stewarts, through their philanthropy, decided this property was of greater value to the growth of JPPI. By acquiring these eight acres, not only will JPPI gain land for future development, such as a chapel, but also places itself adjacent to the proposed relocation of S.C. Highway 462 providing the opportunity of a third access point.

“ We have been long-term supporters of education and have always valued education as a pathway to success. Sharon’s life is shaped by her commitment to learning, personal and spiritual growth, and service due in part to her 12 years of Catholic school education, and we hope more individuals will have their lives shaped by their experience at JPPI.

We hope the additional land will allow JPPI to expand its role as a center in family life and education in the area. The addition of a church and rectory at JPPI will invite our growing population in the area to develop a sense of belonging and community that includes students, their families, and all people. The engagement of students with multiple generations should benefit everyone.

We hope that JPPI will continue to grow in programs, enrollment, and community service. We are pleased to provide some resources for JPPI to continue its success. We think that at this time in history and in our society, the need for spiritual growth and faith-influenced education is very great. We are pleased to have been able to play a small part in providing for future generations the same opportunities that were available to us.

We respectfully request that each person seriously consider making an investment in JPPI. Great communities, families, and lives are shaped by many factors but without question, the environment each individual experience in grades 6th through 12th are among the most important and influential of our lives. At this time when so many forces seek to label and divide young people by focusing on differences, JPPI is providing a holistic approach to bringing students together with active, engaged education, academics, athletics, and more. Great communities do not happen by chance. They are created and nurtured by the institutions that influence the members of that community. JPPI is a great institution that deserves support. By investing in JPPI you can be confident that people and families who may never know your name will give thanks to you as they express gratitude for the role that JPPI is playing in their life. ”

Capital Campaign

WHERE FAITH AND INNOVATION MEET CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$16,500,000

We are entering the final stretch of our capital campaign, and the time to act is now! With \$8 million raised in cash and pledges to date, we are on the verge of an extraordinary accomplishment—the groundbreaking of the Innovation Center. This 48,000-square-foot facility will redefine educational excellence in the Lowcountry, replacing ten temporary modular classrooms and paving the way for our student body to grow to over 500.

To ensure we open our doors by August 2026, we must begin construction soon. The Diocese has committed to providing a construction loan, but we need a total of \$8.5 million in cash and an additional \$8 million pledged for 2025 and 2026 to make this vision a reality.

Now is the moment for the entire JP II community and our supporting parishes to rally together. Prayerfully consider your investment in this vital project and become a difference maker who will shape the future of education for generations to come! Let’s seize this opportunity to leave a lasting legacy... the best Catholic high school in South Carolina!

Will you be the Next Difference Maker?

the pathways to success

This completes Phase I of the Campus Masterplan. Besides the storage building, we built the new soccer field to make room for the parking lot, built an outdoor basketball court and relocated the volleyball court, added 6 additional modular classrooms, replaced the signage on campus, and built a security gate and front entrance. The cost of Phase I, which also included design and engineering costs for the Innovation Center, was a little over \$4,000,000.



TRANSFORM THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN THE LOWCOUNTRY

NAMING AND RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Thank you...

Innovation Center	1	\$ 5,000,000	
Black Box Theater	1	\$ 2,500,000	
Commons	1	\$ 1,000,000	Dr. Helen Ryan
Science and Art Wing	1	\$ 1,000,000	Dr. Helen Ryan
The Grand Stair	1	\$ 500,000	Mr. & Mrs. Paul McEvoy
Collaboration Café	1	\$ 500,000	
Student Work Gallery	1	\$ 500,000	
Science Classroom	3	\$ 500,000	Mr. & Mrs. Martin Gleason The Freissle Family Drs. Eduardo & Cora Arellano
Makerspace	1	\$ 500,000	
Art Studio	1	\$ 500,000	
Music Classroom	1	\$ 500,000	Mr. & Mrs. Paul McEvoy
2 nd Floor Classrooms	8	\$ 250,000	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Schmaltz Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Tilton Mr. & Mrs. Paul McEvoy (5 Remain)
Theater Control Booth	1	\$ 100,000	
Outdoor Stair	1	\$ 100,000	
Collaboration Studios	5	\$ 100,000	Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Weniger Mr. & Mrs. Heath Hill Mr. & Mrs. Ed Mitchell Mr. & Mrs. Tom Veldman Mr. & Mrs. Brian Eidt
Observation Deck	1	\$ 100,000	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph McDermott
Conference Room	1	\$ 100,000	Mr. & Mrs. George Buckland
Offices/Teacher Workroom	5	\$ 100,000	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gareau Mr. Douglas Tozur Mr. & Mrs. David Swanson Mr. & Mrs. John Debrovner (1 Remains)
Reception Area	1	\$ 100,000	

golden warriors



Leadership Gifts of \$25,000 - \$99,999 will be afforded recognition on the Campaign Wall of Honor that will be prominently and permanently displayed in the Innovation Center Commons along with the named donors above.

Capital Campaign

DONOR GIFTS

DONOR GIFTS \$25,000 – \$99,999

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Black	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Grassi	Mr. & Mrs. Hugh O’Kane
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hubik	Mr. & Mrs. Jack O’Sullivan
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Mr. & Mrs. Michael Burke	Mr. & Mrs. John Jolley	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shaw
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The Chatham Foundation	Ms. Catey Long & Mr. Hampton Long	Mr. Robert Siebold
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Mr. & Mrs. Jay Douglass	Mr. & Mrs. John McCarthy	Dr. & Mrs. Michael Termini
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Frankovic	Mr. & Mrs. Patrick McInerney	Mr. & Mrs. Al Urbano
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Grabias	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Montemurro	Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Waldron, Jr.

DONOR GIFTS UNDER \$24,999

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Ms. Lucille Bekampiss	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hahn	Mr. & Mrs. William Micksy	Mr. Gene Slivka
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Mr. & Mrs. Sean Fitzgerald	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Lauzan	Mr. & Mrs. Ross Sanders, Jr.	
Ms. Anne Garonzik	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Lewis	Mr. & Mrs. John Schauer	



The Masterplan

As the school has grown in enrollment, so has the need to increase parking, provide better traffic flow, address security needs, build out athletic facilities, and provide a dedicated place of worship.

Phase I of the plan is now complete with a new

140-vehicle parking lot constructed. To make room for this parking lot a new soccer field was placed to the east of the baseball field. Because JP2 is a campus and not just a singular school building, a security gate and guardhouse was added and is now manned by a security guard. A much-needed maintenance storage building, and outdoor

basketball court, are located on the northside of the parking lot. This phase also included the cost of designing the Innovation Center. The cost of Phase I was approximately \$4,000,000.

Phase II will see the construction of the Innovation Center on the current practice field to the left as you enter campus. This phase has actually already begun with the renovation of the existing Commons into a grab-n-go

style cafeteria allowing JP2 to finally have the ability to serve lunch to its growing student and staff population. As part of this phase, we will soon begin building another athletic field to replace the current practice field. The cost of Phase II is estimated to be \$26,000,000.

Phase III will enable our athletic campus to expand to meet the needs of our growing population and programs. Likely added in stages, the plan calls for a new multi-sport synthetic turf stadium with track, a concession and restroom building with storage, tennis courts, a new softball field, as well as lights, scoreboards,

and bleachers for all fields. An addition to the athletic center is also envisioned that will create a much-needed practice gymnasium, girls and boys locker rooms for high school students, storage space, and a large fitness center. As part of this plan the frontage road that parallels 170 will eventually be completed adding a second entrance at the east end of the campus. The cost of Phase III will be determined once conceptual design work is completed.

Phase IV is the construction of a chapel that will accommodate up to 800 people and serve not only the school but the growing Catholic population in our area. With the forecasted relocation of Route 462 directly to the west of the school, the potential exists to create a third secure access point to our campus helping to solve both external and internal traffic challenges. The cost of Phase IV is TBD.





Christy & Chris Tilton

Chris and Christy Tilton have been enthusiastic supporters of John Paul II Catholic School, both as parents and as donors. As the proud parents of two JPII graduates—Jessica, Class of 2022, now attending the University of South Carolina, and Christian, Class of 2024, currently at Clemson University—the Tiltons were a constant presence on campus. With both of their children heavily involved in sports, the Tiltons became regular and generous contributors to the Booster Club, and it is hard to recall an event where they weren’t in the stands, cheering their kids on.

In addition to their unwavering support of school activities, last year the Tiltons made a significant pledge of \$250,000 to the current capital campaign, demonstrating their belief in the future of JPII. They have consistently expressed how happy they are with the education their children received and the nurturing environment the school provided.

We are incredibly grateful to have had the Tilton family as part of our school community. Their generosity and commitment to JPII’s mission leave a lasting impact, and we are honored to have their children as part of our school’s rich history.

“ We both attended Catholic schools growing up and feel that the quality of education at these schools is second to none. Just as importantly, we believe that the focus on Catholic faith is paramount to children’s success when they leave home to go off to college and live on their own. The friendships we made at our own Catholic schools as well as our faith has stayed with us our entire lives. We also support our alma mater so that those schools will continue to thrive and provide a Catholic-based education to all who want to attend. Our most memorable experiences would have to be the lifelong friends we still have from our school days.

We believe that every child should have the opportunity to experience a Catholic education, and our hope is that our support can help make that happen. JPII helped to ground our children in a faith-based experience that went far beyond education. Our children and their friends are like family who love one another and look out for one another.

We want JPII to become the premier school in South Carolina. We hope to provide more opportunities for those who wish to attend because the education and faith development of children in today’s society is very important. We believe that JPII gave our children the foundation to excel in and out of the classroom. We hope that everyone in the surrounding communities will look to JPII as the answer to their children’s education and in turn will be compelled to help future generations have the same experience. We support the school to provide more children the opportunities that our children had at JPII. We grew closer and stronger in our faith while our children attended JPII and we want all families to have a chance to experience the same.

We believe as Catholics we have a duty to the children in our community to provide them with the best education possible and we believe that place is JPII.”

Warrior Fund

EVERY DOLLAR TOUCHES THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS

The Warrior Fund is the cornerstone of John Paul II Catholic School’s annual fundraising efforts, providing essential support that directly impacts the daily life of every student. This unrestricted fund allows us to cover areas that tuition alone cannot, from enhancing classroom technology and academic resources to supporting extracurricular activities and athletic programs. These vital contributions ensure that we can offer a well-rounded education that prepares our students for success in college and beyond.

Gifts to the Warrior Fund also help maintain our campus, ensuring that our facilities remain safe, comfortable, and conducive to learning. Whether it is upgrading security systems, improving athletic fields, or enhancing classroom environments, your generous donations enable us to create a thriving educational experience. In addition, the Warrior Fund helps provide need-based tuition assistance, making a Catholic education accessible to families who might otherwise be unable to afford it.

Every dollar raised through the Warrior Fund touches the lives of our students and faculty, ensuring that John Paul II Catholic School continues to grow and excel in its mission of faith, service, and academic excellence. Your support helps build a future of opportunity for all Warriors.



Pope John Paul
\$10,000 and above

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Cohen
Ms. Deborah Grant
Ms. Sarah Keller

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\$5,000 to \$9,999

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\$250 to \$499

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Ways to Give

Scan the QR code for a list of options.



Fred & Jennifer Weniger

Fred and Jennifer Weniger have been steadfast supporters of John Paul II Catholic School from the very beginning. Their generosity has been felt throughout our community, with contributions totaling over \$60,000 and a recent pledge of \$100,000 to the current capital campaign. Their commitment to Catholic education extends beyond JPII; they are also active givers to Saint Gregory the Great Catholic Church, strengthening their faith community.

Jennifer has served in leadership roles at JPII, contributing her time and input to various board posts to help in forming our Catholic identity, ensuring that the school remains deeply rooted in its spiritual mission. As proud parents of two JPII graduates, Paige '23 and Lauren '24', both who are currently attending the University of Notre Dame, and with Freddie currently a sophomore, the Wenigers have been integral members of our family, contributing to the growth and success of the school both as donors and active participants.

Their dedication to Catholic education and the future of JPII is truly appreciated, and it is families like the Wenigers that inspire us to continue our mission of faith and innovation.

“ We chose JPII for our children because we wanted them to receive the best education available in a more wholesome, Catholic environment than they would have found elsewhere. JPII has not only met but exceeded our expectations. The faculty truly knows and cares for each student, creating a nurturing environment that is hard to find.

Catholic values are incredibly important in our children’s education, and we know 100% that our two girls’ commitment to their faith going into college was influenced by JPII. The combination of academic rigor, spiritual formation, and extracurricular activities at JPII has been invaluable.

We believe it is essential to invest in Catholic education. If we do not step up to create intelligent, confident, Catholic leaders, who will? We cannot wait for someone else. What is more important?

To others considering an investment in JPII, we would say this: as Catholics in a postmodern world, we cannot passively drift along with society. We must actively work against the tide of negative influences. The more we can keep our children focused on our values and the reasons behind them, the better prepared they will be to navigate life’s challenges and lead others in faith. It is not enough to simply offer a Catholic education; we must also provide strong academic programs, facilities, sports, and extracurricular opportunities to attract and retain families. By doing so, we can reach more children, help them grow in their faith, and ultimately make a positive impact on the world. Supporting JPII gives our kids the best chance to succeed and share their faith, helping as many people as possible on their path to Heaven.

Supporting JPII is crucial, not just for the current students and families but for the future of our community and beyond. ”

Booster Club

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENT ATHLETES: FUND FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The John Paul II Catholic School Booster Club plays a vital role in supporting the success of our athletic programs and extracurricular activities. By rallying parents, alumni, and local businesses, the Booster Club raises funds that ensure our students have the resources they need to compete at their best. From purchasing new equipment and uniforms to funding transportation, to helping with our robotics program and sending our kids on retreats, the Booster Club helps provide the foundation for a well-rounded, competitive athletic experience.

Last year, thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, the Booster Club raised over \$70,000. These funds allowed us to make investments in our sports facilities, enhance coaching resources, and ensure that all our teams, from varsity to middle school, have access to the tools they need to excel both on and off the field. With your continued support, the Booster Club will remain a cornerstone of our athletic success, extracurricular activities, fostering school spirit and developing our students’ teamwork, discipline, and leadership skills.

Together, we are building champions—both in the classroom and on the field—and we thank you for your unwavering dedication to our Warriors.



THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT JPPII

Nolite Timere Sponsor

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our prayer

HEAVENLY FATHER,

***Bless all who enter this
school community***

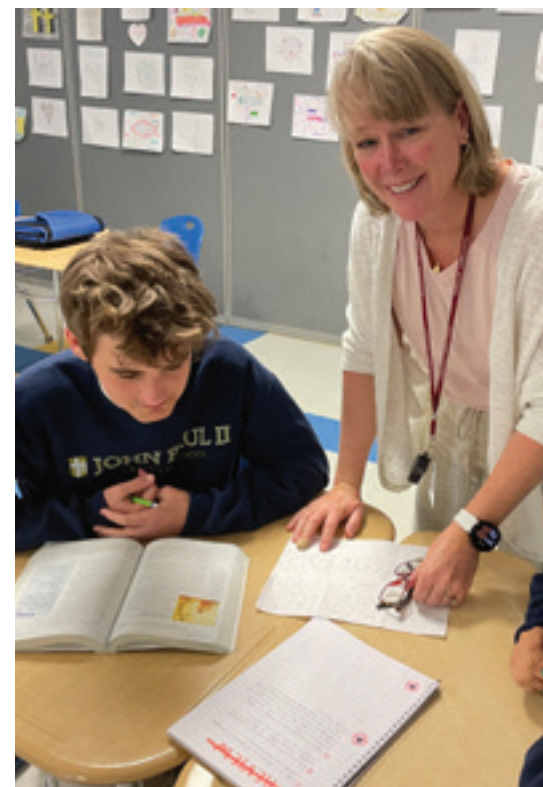
***And all who make it
possible.***

***Bestow on us the strength to
live as John Paul II lived,***

***as warriors in the
classroom, on the field, for
all people,***

and for Christ.

AMEN.



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