THE WARRIOR BOOST

FEBRUARY 2026

JPII BOOSTER CLUB NEWSLETTER

Dear John Paul II Catholic School Community,

We hope this message finds you ready to cheer on our Golden Warriors in the final weeks of our winter sports and into an exciting spring season and beyond!
The JPII Booster Club is thrilled to share a quick update on all the wonderful progress we've made together along with some fantastic things on the horizon. Your support makes such a huge difference, and we're so grateful for this amazing community!

Booster-Funded Highlights from Fall 2025
We've been busy making big impacts:

- New flooring for the future weightroom in the Jennings bld. Flooring was delivered 1/28/26.
- $10,000 toward the baseball batting cage for netting
- Additional lacrosse helmets and uniforms to prepare for first true varsity season.
- Brand-new varsity softball uniforms
- A tennis ball machine to help players perfect their game
- Half the cost of the Ranger ATV
- Plus many other essentials like training equipment, tents, a wrestling scoreboard, and a breakaway banner
- Concession Sales YTD = $46,000
- Takeover payouts to teams and clubs for working = $18,000

Exciting Booster-Funded Items for Spring 2026 (approved or in discussion)

- A brand-new grill for football concessions—perfect for all sports and school events!
- Support for 25 new football helmets (to replace expired ones), plus assistance in purchasing and refurbishing all 65 helmets
- New branded windscreens for the sporting fields as well as an additional set up bleachers for the new football/multi sport field under construction.
- Help purchase furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) for the new weight room. Complete design package being created complimentary from the equipment manufacturer.

Booster Elections – 2026 is an Election Year!
All current Booster board members' terms end May 31, 2026. Look for calls for volunteers starting in early March from our current/paid Booster Club members. If you're interested in helping lead the charge, applications will open soon after—then all current/paid Booster members will vote in early April. We'd love to see fresh energy and ideas join the team!

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A Special Update from Athletic Director Tom Smith

Dear JPII Families,
These are truly exciting times at JPII as the new school building construction will hopefully begin this summer and our athletic facilities and programs are surging forward too!

Facility Wins:

- A generous local developer donated over 100 truckloads of soil and laser grading for our campus football field—saving hundreds of thousands of dollars and accelerating our timeline by years! We're aiming to host some or all home football games on campus in fall 2026. (We'll renew the Hardeeville lease as a smart backup in case grass needs more time to grow.) If you or someone you know can help with funding field lights, please reach out to me. (Tom.smith@johnpaul2school.org)
- Another incredible donor funded new electricity lines to the future football field—setting us up for lighting on baseball, soccer, tennis courts, and more down the road. Installation is expected early summer!
- Yet another amazing sponsor provided funds for a top-notch scoreboard and one set of bleachers for the football field.
- The new baseball batting cages and press box are about 90% done and will be ready for our first home baseball game on March 2nd vs Camden Military!
- Construction for a new Softball batting cage is slated for mid February

From the Sporting Desk:
Our basketball teams are on fire!

- JV Girls: 12-3
- JV Boys: 14-3
- Varsity Girls: 15-4
- Varsity Boys: 17-6
- JV and Varsity Girls are the #1 seed headed into the Region Tournament

Both JV and varsity squads are positioning for strong runs in the state tournament starting February 20th.

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Wrestling wrapped up an impressive state duals run with a 15-12 record beating Beaudfort high for 3rd place in the tournament. The JPII Team finished 3rd place overall as a team in the State tournament, then the very next weekend Brain-Orta Carrillo and Jacob Vortisch both won individual State championships for their weight class. Look for the complete update of the team's success in an upcoming Presidents Newsletter.







Spring Sports Are Here!

Practices are underway for baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, track & field, golf, tennis, and sailing. We can't wait to see you out supporting our Golden Warriors this spring—your cheers make all the difference!

There are 4 soccer teams, MS/V boys & girls. Boys & girls V kick off on 2/24 at Patrick Henry. The girls have 4 returning seniors with a record of 13-5 overall and 10-4 region for the 2025 season (first season in 4A). The boys have 5 returning seniors with a record of 7-8 overall and 2-6 in region(3A). The boys' team is led by Coach Nate Stevely, and Karen Pimental will be the girls soccer head coach.

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Coach Milligan has let us know that he expects over 60 student athletes to come out for track and field this year. JPII will be looking to score some hardware as they attend the 10 track meets this spring season.

Baseball is excited to share that they will have a MS, JV, and Varsity team this year thanks to the newly installed batting cages allowing for more efficient practices. MS Coach: Jason Showalter, JV coachs: Matt Farris and Jason Cotter: Varsity Coachs: Steve Gaylets, Richard Jennings, & Hayden Jennings. There will also be several other volunteer assistant coaches assisting. Varsity baseball has 5 returning seniors and are looking to make the playoffs this year.

Lacrosse will officially have a Varsity team. Coach Dan Kenny and Erin Brienza will be growing and leading our JPII athletes.

Tony Pease and the boys golf team will be looking for a State Championship this year. 13 you men attended the golf interest meeting which is very exciting.

Tennis and sailing are also gearing up this spring and we are very excited about the prospects of all these athletes.

Go Golden Warriors!
Tom Smith

Randy Brown(VP), Lisa Cotter(S), Joe Hubik(T), and me(P), want to thank you for being such an incredible part of the JPII family and all of your support the last two years as we listened, learned, and hopefully did some good for our school. Together, we're building something special—stronger facilities, thriving programs, and unforgettable experiences for our students. Let's keep the momentum going! **Go Golden Warriors!**

With gratitude,
Case Spencer, Booster Club President