



Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR OCTOBER CALENDAR](#)

Principal's Office

Last week was a very busy week at PJP, and the fun continues this week! We celebrated the seniors of some of our athletic teams and finished with a celebration of our undefeated Volleyball Team. Panthers vs. Cancer was a great success this year. A great big thank you to Mrs. Tracey Rarich for organizing the night.

Tuesday, October 10th is our annual Golf Outing. Wednesday, our 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students take the PSAT electronically for the first time. Students not staying for Grandparents Day are dismissed when the test is complete around 11:30 AM. All students are strongly encouraged to participate in Grandparents Day, which is an afternoon to enjoy time with their grandparents, show them around PJP and enjoy lunch together.

Our Fall Open House is Thursday evening, October 12th from 5-7 PM. Thank you in advance to all the Student Ambassadors and parents who will dedicate their time to making our guests feel welcome.

The week of October 15th begins PJP Spirit Week!! Stay tuned for details from Student Council and Mrs. Honyara. Parent/Teacher Conferences take place via Zoom on Wednesday, October 18th from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Details will follow.

Thursday, October 19th is a day off for all students. The faculties of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will be gathering at Archbishop Ryan for a Professional Development Day.

School Ministry

Pennsylvania March For Life

On Monday, October 16th, PJP Students have the opportunity to join thousands of Pennsylvanians in Harrisburg for the PA March for Life. Permission forms are available [here](#). Please encourage your student to come march with us as we advocate for the dignity of all human life!



Tuition Office

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Application for the 2024-2025 school year will be open on October 1, 2023.

The application fee is \$30 and must be paid in order to submit. If you have any questions regarding the financial aid process, please feel free to reach out at ycarr@pjphs.org.

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE FACTS WEBSITE](#)

Student Affairs

Ambassadors

Any PJP in grades 10-12 is invited to join the PJP Ambassadors. PJP Ambassadors represent PJP at various events throughout the school year. The first meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10 in the Cafeteria. If you are interested, but are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Mrs. Honiara. Our first event is Open House on Thursday, October 12 from 5-8 PM.

Senior Picture Retakes

- By this time, students should have received their senior portrait proofs. If you have not, please let me know. Please follow the instructions provided regarding the choice of yearbook photo. You are required to choose a pose for the yearbook by October 23. If you do not choose one, the default pose will be used in the yearbook.
- Due to an error during retakes on September 25, some students were photographed without the graduation stole. Lifetouch will come out to retake the graduation gown pictures to be sure that it is correct. If you would like retakes, they will take place on Thursday, October 12. Please let me know ASAP if you require retakes so that I may schedule a time.

Student Council Elections for 9th Grade

Applications to run for Student Council Homeroom Representative were sent to Freshmen students and are due on Tuesday, October 10th. Any student that meets the requirements to run will also need parental permission. An email will be sent to parents of eligible students. Elections will take place on Friday, October 13th.

Student Services

Winter Uniform

All students must wear their winter uniforms beginning Monday, October 23rd, 2023.

Gentlemen must wear their white button down shirt and tie.

Ladies are required to wear a white banded button down blouse and navy blue opaque tights (free of rips or tears). New tights are available in the school store.

All students have the choice of wearing a sweater, or vest over their shirts. Seniors may wear their senior fleece.

Academic Affairs

PSAT

PSAT testing is taking place this coming Wednesday, October 11th. The testing process will be very different this year as it will be completely digital. Therefore, all 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students **MUST** bring their charged ChromeBook to school on Wednesday as well as their charger.



The test will be delivered through an app developed by the CollegeBoard called Bluebook.

The Bluebook app has been pushed to all PJP chromebooks, and it is important that your student TEST its functionality now to ensure that they do not encounter any issues on test day. To access Bluebook, your student will need to sign out of their Chromebook and launch the Bluebook app from the apps menu in the lower left corner of the screen. If your student does not see this app on their device, or it is not functionally properly please reach out to Mr. Hebert, Director of Technology at john.hebert@pjphs.org

Please take some time with your student this weekend to become familiar with this new testing format by watching one of these videos:

[Preparing for the PSAT 8/9](#)

[Preparing for the PSAT / NMSQT](#)

The PSAT is an important part of the high school experience. The 8/9 test is developed to gauge individual student skills and readiness for future college admission tests. As sophomores, students are exposed to more detailed questions and the test sets the foundation for the college readiness journey. Finally, when taken during the junior year, the PSAT also serves as the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship competition which can open the door to many scholarship and financial aid opportunities. Lastly, testing helps you and your student to identify areas for improvement to help navigate the college readiness journey and take valuable steps towards their future successes!

Dismissal on the 11th will be at 11:30 AM to allow students to participate in Grandparents' Day!

Panthers' Learning Center

Now that we are at the midpoint of Quarter 1 and are approaching Progress Reports, we encourage you to work with your student on creating an academic gameplan for the remainder of quarter one.

Here are some ideas for students to make the most of Progress Reports:

- Honestly reflect on the school year so far and what is working well and what needs adjusting.
- Check Schoology and PowerSchool daily to ensure assignments are submitted on time and correctly.
- Meet with individual teachers about grades and how to improve.
- Actively participate in class by asking questions and following along.
- Attend after school study sessions in the Panthers' Learning Center by [filling out this form](#).

Mr. Rogers is always available during the school day and after school to meet with students, review content material, promote study strategies, and assist in goal creation.



Guidance Office

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID-FASFA and CSS Profile

FAFSA:

Opens in December

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the application used to apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study, and loans. In addition, many states and colleges use your FAFSA information to determine your eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid.

The FAFSA has been updated, and hopefully, simplified. However, implementing those changes means students and families will not be able to apply for aid for the 2024-25 school year until December 2023. A

specific date has not been announced, but the Department of Education has been communicating with families who filed the FAFSA last year to make sure they know when the application will open. In addition, there may be at least three different deadlines you need to keep track of when you're filing the FAFSA: federal, state, and institution (college/university).

FAFSA is free.

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

CSS Profile:

Opens October 1st

In addition to the FAFSA, there are about 400 colleges and universities that require the completion of an additional financial aid form called the CSS Profile. The CSS Profile is used for consideration of any institutional aid that the college may be able to offer your student. Be sure the college requires the CSS profile prior to registration. Again, like the FAFSA, the CSS Profile has a variety of deadlines to consider. Your exact deadline depends on the specific college you're applying to.

There is a cost for the CSS Profile.

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>

**Be sure to attend College Financial Aid Night
on Tuesday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. (virtual) for more information!**
*(Please note, this presentation was originally scheduled for October 26th
but had to be changed to the November 7th date.)*

SENIORS-COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELORS VISITING PJP

Below is a list of colleges and universities that will be visiting PJP over the next two weeks. Senior students who are applying to any of the schools, as well as students exploring their college options, should sign-up to attend these visits. It is an opportunity for your student to meet the college admissions person who will read their application. To sign up for a visit, please have your student login to their Naviance account and register. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Shoemaker (kshoemaker@pjphs.org).

<u>College</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Allegheny College	Tue. October 10, 2023	9:45 AM
Champlain College	Tue. October 10, 2023	10:30 AM
Drexel University	Tue. October 10, 2023	12:00 PM
Lycoming College	Thu. October 12, 2023	9:45 AM
John Carroll University	Thu. October 12, 2023	10:30 AM
Millersville University of Pennsylvania	Thu. October 12, 2023	11:15 AM
Elizabethtown College	Thu. October 12, 2023	12:00 PM
Sacred Heart University	Fri. October 13, 2023	12:00 PM
Wells College	Mon. October 16, 2023	9:45 AM
Rider University	Mon. October 16, 2023	11:15 AM

Johnson & Wales University- Providence	Tue. October 17, 2023	10:30 AM
Roanoke College	Tue. October 17, 2023	11:15 AM
Norwich University	Tue. October 17, 2023	12:00 PM
Chestnut Hill College	Wed. October 18, 2023	10:30 AM
West Chester University of Pennsylvania	Wed. October 18, 2023	12:00 PM
Delaware Valley University	Fri. October 20, 2023	9:45 AM
La Salle University	Fri. October 20, 2023	12:00 PM

Upcoming Standardized Test Registrations

<u>Test</u>	<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration</u>
ACT	October 28th	September 22nd	October 6th
SAT	November 4th	October 6th	October 24th
SAT	December 2nd	November 2nd	November 21st
ACT	December 9th	November 3rd	November 17th

To Register:

SAT Registration - <https://mysat.collegeboard.org>

ACT Registration - www.act.org

SAVE THE DATE-COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID NIGHT (Virtual Presentation) Tuesday, November 7th at 6:30 PM

This year, we are fortunate to have Michael Burke from Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) hosting a webinar on financial aid for our families. This presentation provides an early understanding of the financial decisions students need to make concerning higher education. He will discuss higher education costs, the types of financial aid available, and how to apply for financial aid. Also, there have been changes to the FAFSA this year, so join in the presentation to learn all about them.

Registration details will be coming at a later date, when we get closer to the presentation

Athletics

Home Events

Monday, October 9th

JV Football vs Upper Merion- 3:45 PM

Volleyball vs Phoenixville- JV at 5:30 PM, Varsity 6:45 PM (Senior Night)

Tuesday, October 10th

Girls Soccer vs Upper Perkiomen- 3:45 PM (Varsity Only)

Thursday, October 12th

Field Hockey vs Upper Merion- 4:15 PM (Varsity Only)

Boys Soccer vs Upper Merion- 3:45 PM

Friday, October 13th

Girls Soccer vs Lansdale Catholic- 3:45 PM

Volleyball vs Boyertown- JV at 3:45 PM, Varsity at 4:45 PM

Christian Service Opportunity

There are two athletic options for Service hours through athletics.

The first is being a ball runner at boys and girls soccer games. Students would receive two hours of service for each game. To sign up follow this link: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4DAAAAA2AA2F94-game#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4DAAAAA2AA2F94-game#/)

The second opportunity is on Saturday, October 21st from 12-4 at the Spring Valley YMCA. The Special Olympics will be holding a competition and need students to help change plates on barbells for the athletes. There will be food provided after. If interested please reach out to Mark Brittingham at mark.brittingham@gmail.com for more information.

Concession Sign Ups

The PJPAC is looking for parents and student volunteers to help staff the concession stand during football and volleyball games. A student can use concession stand time towards their service hours requirements.

To sign up follow the following links:

Football: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AADA62AA7FF2-20231#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AADA62AA7FF2-20231#/)

Volleyball: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AADA62AA7FF2-20232#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AADA62AA7FF2-20232#/)

Fundraisers

Boys Basketball - PJP fan blankets. These are not sport specific and can be personalized. Follow the link to get yours. https://shop.shirtandink.com/pope_john_paul_II/shop/home. For questions, please contact Jenn Zavertnik at jenn.zavertnik@gmail.com.

Athletic Department - Free burger certificates for sale in the athletic office. Buy a certificate for \$10 good for a free burger and fries at Applebees from their handcrafted burger section (\$13+ value). Contact Tracey to get yours.

Health Suite

Health Screenings

Health Screenings are scheduled for Monday, Nov 20, 2023.

All students will be screened for Vision and Height/Weight. (Juniors also receive a Hearing screen).

If you do NOT want your student screened for any or all of the above, please look for an email from nurse@pjphs.org titled *Health Screening Waiver* (sent on 10/4/23). Please complete the Google Form linked in the message.

Thank you and stay well!
PJP Nurses

Have a great week!

181 Rittenhouse Road | Royersford, Pennsylvania 19468 | **PHONE:** (484) 975-6500 | **FAX:** (610) 792-3082 | pjphs.org

Pope John Paul II High School | 181 Rittenhouse Rd., Royersford, PA 19468

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