



# Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

## Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR NOVEMBER CALENDAR](#)

### President's Office

On behalf of the Office of Catholic Education at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the PJP Board of Directors of PJP, Mrs. Guyger and the rest of the administration, faculty and staff, I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you for your continued commitment to and belief in Catholic education.

### Principal's Office



Congratulations to the PJP Volleyball Team on their repeat State Championship! This is the first time in school history that a team has successfully defended their title and only the third team in any sport to win a state championship. To celebrate, there will be a Championship Holiday awarded on Thursday, December 7th.

It was a very busy weekend as our Football Team played Monsignor Bonner in their state competition. Although it was a very tough loss, we are very proud of the team for going further in their season than any other football team in school history.

Tonight is your last chance to support our very talented students in the Studio 38/Rhapsodies performance of SHOUT at 5PM. It will definitely entertain you and is a great way to begin the holiday season.

A reminder that tomorrow is a Dress Down Day to benefit CSC which will feed and support hundreds of families this year for the holidays. Tuesday we will bless the food for these families, continue our experience learning more about Fr. Bill Atkinson and complete some gratitude reflection. Dismissal on Tuesday is 10:30 am. There is no school for students on Wednesday. Classes resume on Monday.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!!

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## Academic Affairs



Report cards were sent home electronically by email on Friday afternoon.

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## Panthers' Learning Center

Now that Quarter 1 has concluded, students have a great opportunity to reflect on how they are doing in their courses. Some students may continue using their organizational and study strategies that served them well in Quarter 1, while others may try new ones.

Here are some tips on how to make the most of Quarter 2:

- Check Schoology, PowerSchool, and email regularly for grades and updates.
- Create flashcards out of index cards to study vocabulary and mathematical and scientific concepts.
- Create a study plan the moment a test or quiz is announced, and break up studying over multiple days.
- Communicate with teachers when assignments may be late or if students aren't sure what to do.
- Check-in with guidance counselors and Mr. Rogers often so they can assist with monitoring goals and continuous reflection.

The Panthers' Learning Center is open from 2:30-4:00 PM for students to study after school, and multiple teachers are present to support students.

Mr. Rogers is willing to meet with students to help them work toward their academic goals this year! He can be reached at [jrogers@pjphs.org](mailto:jrogers@pjphs.org).

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## Student Affairs

### Community Service Corps Thanksgiving Drive

Thank you to everyone that donated money in Theology classes and participated in the CSC Dress Down Day. We have collected over \$6000 and will provide Thanksgiving meals to over 100 local families, Christmas presents for 40 children in need, and provide funds for future service projects. Thank you to Mr. Dunn for coordinating this effort as CSC Moderator.

## ATTENTION ALL SENIOR PARENTS

Now is the time to submit your baby picture ad in the yearbook to celebrate your Senior!

Design your own ad by including a baby picture and message to be included in a special section of the yearbook. Please also share the information with other family members...you are welcome to include more than one ad with different pictures and messages.

For a limited time, the ads will be at a discount *act fast!* The discounted price of \$50 will end on November 30<sup>th</sup>. After that date, the ads will be \$75. Please see below for information on how to start!

Go online to [www.jostens.com/yearbookads](http://www.jostens.com/yearbookads), create an account or login, and use the yearbook ads designer to create your perfect ad. Payment is also online, and payment plans are available for orders over \$30.

Once you login or create an account, the process is pretty simple and the website will walk you through the creation of your ad... but if you have any problems, see below.

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS? Call Jostens customer service at 800.358.0800

General yearbook questions contact Maureen Gray at [mgray@pjphs.org](mailto:mgray@pjphs.org)

Thanks!

Mrs. Gray and the yearbook staff





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## Health Suite

Please remind your PJP Student to bring glasses / contact lenses to school on Monday for vision screenings.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving break!

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## Athletics

### 2024 Summer Camp Brochure

Attached here is a brochure that includes dates for sports camps that will take place this summer. The camps offer an opportunity for children of all ages to practice and improve their skills in different sports. The children will have the opportunity to practice on the same courts and fields that our amazing PJP sports teams play on. Please view the brochure and start considering these camps for your children this summer!

[Click here to view the brochure.](#)

### Winter Prayer Service and Parent Meeting

The Winter Prayer Service and parent meeting will take place on Monday, November 20th at 7:00PM. All winter student athletes and at least one parent should plan to attend. Individual team meetings will be held after the prayer service.

### Fall Uniform Return

Any Fall student athlete that still has not returned their uniform is considered late. Please return your uniform/equipment ASAP to avoid an academic hold and potential fine placed on your account. Uniforms can be returned to Tracey or Kyle in the Athletic Office.

### Fundraisers

#### Baseball:

**-Are you looking to get your PJP student some baseball gear for Christmas?** Look no further. Store closes Sunday 11/12. Visit the store by clicking [here](#).

#### Boys Basketball:

**-DEFEND THE DEN Merch!** Check out the new clothing line for the entire PJP community! These tanks, tees, long sleeves, and hoodies can be used to show your support for not only any sport, but also academic clubs, the debate club, Mathletes, etc. (FYI-- All cotton items are the same color and all performance items are the same color even though the images do not look like that on the website.) Items can be shipped directly to you. Proceeds from every item support the boys' basketball program. Any questions/concerns, please email Jenn Zavertnik at [jenn.zavertnik@gmail.com](mailto:jenn.zavertnik@gmail.com). Thanks for your support! GO PANTHERS!

[https://shop.shirtandink.com/pjp\\_gold\\_blooded/shop/home](https://shop.shirtandink.com/pjp_gold_blooded/shop/home)

**-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](https://shop.shirtandink.com/pope_john_paul_II/shop/home).

For questions, please contact Jenn Zavertnik at [jenn.zavertnik@gmail.com](mailto:jenn.zavertnik@gmail.com).

#### **Athletic Department:**

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

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## Guidance Office

### **SAVE THE DATE-PSAT Score Interpretation Night (Virtual) Tuesday, December 5th, at 6:30 PM**

PJP's School Counseling Office will host a virtual PSAT Score Interpretation Night on Tuesday, December 5th, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Information will be presented on how to interpret your student's scores and how to use these scores as your family begins to explore post-secondary education options. Link to follow. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Doreen Bell, College & Career Coordinator, at [dbell@pjphs.org](mailto:dbell@pjphs.org).

### **SENIORS-COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELORS VISITING PJP**

Below is a list of colleges and universities that will be visiting PJP. 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 Mrs. Doreen Bell at [dbell@pjphs.org](mailto:dbell@pjphs.org).

College	Date	Time
University of Mississippi	Tue. November 28th, 2023	12:00 PM
Montgomery County Community College	Fri. December 1, 2023	12:56 PM

### **Educational Enrichment Opportunities**

Below is a Google Doc link listing programs that PJP students can engage in that are offered by organizations and universities across the country. Many of the programs are competitive and have deadlines that need to be followed. There is more detailed information on the websites listed, including application processes and associated fees. Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Bell, College & Career Coordinator, at [dbell@pjphs.org](mailto:dbell@pjphs.org) or your child's school counselor.

[2023-24 Educational Enrichment Opportunities - Google Docs](#)

**Please bookmark this page and check back with it often, as we will be adding new experiences and opportunities to the list as we learn of them!**

## Scholarship Newsletter

Below is a Google Doc link listing scholarships that the PJP Guidance Department has learned of and wants to share with you. This page will be updated frequently, so please bookmark it and check back often to review and learn of any scholarships that your student may qualify for and/or have an interest in!

[Scholarship Newsletter - Google Docs](#)

## PHEAA Public Service Webinars

Great topics to prepare families for filing for Financial Aid and understanding the next steps! Funding for education can be confusing and repetition and continued learning about the process is key.

### Understanding the Offer Letter and Balances

**November 30, Thursday, 6:30pm**

**December 14, Thursday, Noon**

**December 19, Tuesday, 6:30pm**

The Offer letter, or Financing Plans, that you receive to provide an idea of the cost associated with attending post-secondary education can be confusing as each school formats their information differently. PHEAA, represented by Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray of PA Forward, will assist you in this 1 hour webinar, in understanding and navigating through the types of Aid that are listed, what you are being offered and identifying the balances and next steps needed so you can make knowledgeable and affordable decisions. Q&A interaction is encouraged!

### Covering the Gap: Pieces of the puzzle to help pay your education bill

**November 28, Tuesday, Noon**

Understanding education balances can be confusing and whether you're trying to address the costs or beginning to plan for higher education, this review is for you. Join PHEAA representatives Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray for a 1 hour webinar that will emphasize best practices (such as seeking grants and scholarships first), remind families about additional resources (such as payment plans), and review private/alternative loans as a last resort in the process of covering the Gap and keeping balances affordable. The discussion will also include the basics of credit, what factors impact a credit score, how can a credit score be improved and the effects on your borrowing capability.

### Financial Aid and Planning Q&A with PHEAA

**December 12, Tuesday, 6:30pm**

**December 21, Thursday, Noon**

Articles related to funding a higher education are in the news almost every day and it can lead even the most knowledgeable of us into information overload. Have you ever wanted to simply ask a few specific questions, yet couldn't find anyone to ask? Maybe you have questions about planning for college, finding the right school, applying for scholarships and for federal and state aid, understanding offer letters, competing loan applications, comparing federal loans to private loans, repaying/refinancing loans after graduation – etc. Join Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for a wide open one hour Q&A session. Ask your questions in an open forum or privately via chat. Hope to see you there!

[Register Here](#) (under PAFoward -more-)

*\*Please note these are not a PJP sponsored events\**

## SENIORS-College Acceptances and Scholarship & Grant Awards Please Submit to the Guidance Office

As seniors begin to receive college acceptances and scholarships & grant awards, please have your senior submit this good news to the Guidance Office! They can either make a copy of the acceptances or financial awards and drop it off to Mrs. Bell, Guidance Office Administrative Assistant, or they can take a screenshot / picture of it and email it to her at [dbell@pjphs.org](mailto:dbell@pjphs.org). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak with Mrs. Bell or your child's school counselor.

## PSAT Scores-Available November 16th

Per the College Board website, PSAT scores will be available on November 16th. To access scores, students can log into their College Board account, or they can also access their scores in the [BigFuture School mobile app](#) if they provided their mobile number during testing for access to the app. In addition, students can access free college and career planning resources through the BigFuture School mobile app or via their score report on College Board.

## Upcoming Standardized Test Registrations

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
SAT	December 2nd	November 2nd	November 21st
ACT	December 9th	November 3rd	November 17th

### To Register:

**SAT Registration - [SAT Registration – SAT Suite | College Board](#)**

**ACT Registration - [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)**

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## Tuition Office

### Archdiocesan Grants and Scholarships

Below is a link to several scholarships run by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for the upcoming school year (2024-2025) including one that provides assistance to current Archdiocesan employees either on the parish or grade school levels.

<https://www.aopcatholicschools.org/affording-our-schools/financial-aid>

### Tuition Accounts

We also wanted to send out a friendly reminder to please keep tuition accounts current. If you have any questions, concerns or feel as if a discussion needs to be had, please feel free to reach out to me at [ycarr@pjphs.org](mailto:ycarr@pjphs.org). We want to make sure that every student gets through the school year with no bumps in the road due to missed tuition payments.

### Financial Aid

**The Financial Aid Application for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. Pope John Paul II High School highly recommends ALL families fill out an application for financial aid.**

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](mailto:ycarr@pjphs.org).

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

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## Have a great week!

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