



Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR SEPTEMBER CALENDAR](#)

President's Office

Greetings PJP families. I hope you found time this summer to relax and engage in some family time. You know summer is coming to a close when the first PJP Weekly of the school year arrives. With the arrival of a new school year, we are very much looking forward to welcoming close to 750 students, including 212 freshman and 20 transfer students. As such, we are excited to watch all PJP students continue to develop into their best self and strive to live the gospel of life. It has been a very busy summer at PJP as a number of capital projects have been completed including the replacement of some sidewalks, the painting of the first floor of the building and the return of the technology office to its original home, an office next to the Guidance Offices. Here, students will have easier access to their technology needs, especially with its proximity to the cafeteria. Additionally this summer, PJP hosted a record number of potential future Golden Panthers who attended one of our summer camp programs. PJP is pleased to welcome Yvette Carr as our Tuition Officer, Kevin Kozeniewski as our School Minister and Kelly O'Shura as our Mental Health Counselor. Additionally, Rich Knowlton, who taught at Archbishop Carroll last year, will join the PJP Social Studies Department and Shlomo Shtuhl, who taught at Roman Catholic last year, will join the PJP Math Department.

Great Parent Participation Opportunity To Start The School Year

PJP is hosting the annual Heritage Golf Outing on October 10th at the Spring-Ford Country Club. This is one of only two special events PJP hosts annually to raise money for student financial assistance a need which continues to grow. To register click here: bit.ly/pjpgolf

Principal's Office

It is hard to believe that summer is over and the school year is about to begin!! We welcome back all our students and their families and extend a warm welcome to our families new to PJP!

I hope that our students have read our One Book, One School, *Green Bananas*, and we encourage our parents to read it too. We will continue to keep the message of Fr. Bill Atkinson alive throughout the school year through weekly prayer for his canonization and activities designed to promote community building and empathy. Fr. Bill relied on the strength of others, and this theme relates to what we do here everyday at PJP. We are a Catholic community, rooted in faith, that supports each other.

Academics Affairs



We are thrilled to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new Golden Panther families, and welcome back to all our returning families! We hope that you have all enjoyed a very peaceful and relaxing summer filled with fun and adventure. Though PJP is a very busy place during the summer, it is very quiet and we are all very much looking forward to the sound of your students laughing, learning and growing together. Please be sure that your student is prepared for the new academic year by completing their summer assignments and reading.



All parents have access to PowerSchool to keep track of your student's grades. Information on how to access the parent PowerSchool portal was sent to all new families with their student's roster on Monday, August 21. If you have any questions about your account or how to access it, please contact Mrs. Maureen Gray in the Office of Academic Affairs at mgray@pjphs.org

Panthers' Learning Center

Welcome back from the Panthers' Learning Center! Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Gray, Sister Regina, and Mrs. Eichelberger are excited to welcome our students back and support them on their academic journey this year.

The Panthers' Learning Center is the hub of academic support at Pope John Paul II High School, and this academic space is here to support all students as they work toward achieving their academic goals.

Resources Offered in the Panthers' Learning Center:

- National Honors Society tutoring
- Home of the [PAWS program](#) and [Panther Performance Class](#)
- Individual check-ins with students during the day to create goals and study plans
- Quiet study space from 7:00-7:40am, lunch periods, and from 2:30-4:00pm (sign up required; information will be sent soon)
- Organization and study skill support

As families prepare for a new school year, we encourage students to think about their organizational strategies and what supplies may be needed to support that particular strategy. Some students may benefit from color-coded notebooks and folders, while others may want to use multi-subject notebooks and accordion files. Having a game plan for the year will position all students for success!

If you have any questions about how the Panthers' Learning Center can support your student, please reach out to Mr. Joseph Rogers at jrogers@pjphs.org.

Student Affairs

Picture Day is Coming

Picture day for Grade 9 and new students will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

Picture day for Grade 10 & 11 will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2023.

All students are required to be in the winter dress code for pictures; ladies may wear knee highs instead of tights.

Visit mylifetouch.com

Enter your Picture Day ID **EVTMNM3TQ** (Must be typed, not copied)

Order your perfect package— and don't worry about returning anything on Picture Day!

New Student Orientation and Convocation

The New Student Orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. During this day, students will have an opportunity to meet new classmates, tour the building, obtain their chromebooks, and learn about PJP. The Class of 2027 and new students are asked to arrive at 2pm and meet in the Cafeteria. Parents of the Class of 2027 and new students are asked to arrive at 4pm and meet in the Auditorium. Pizza dinner will be served at 5pm, followed by a parent informational meeting at 6pm. The evening should end by 7pm.

Shop Panthers Gear



Athletics

Athletic Picture Day

Athletic Picture Day will be on Wednesday, August 30th. Teams were given picture forms, or you can preorder your pictures here; <https://vsnfoto.com/vsn-photography-products/>. Below is the schedule for the day.

Girls Soccer- 12:00 PM
Cross Country- 12:15 PM
Field Hockey- 12:30 PM
Cheer- 12:45 PM
Girls Tennis- 1:00 PM
Boys Soccer- 1:15 PM
Volleyball- 1:30 PM
Golf- 1:45 PM

Schedules

As we get into the season, there are a number of places to find athletic schedules. The first is the PJP website. Go to

PJPHS.org, then hover over Athletics and click on Calendar. The second place is <https://pjphsathletics.bigteams.com/>. The schedules here are the most up to date and are changed as the schedule changes with reschedules.

Athletic Transportation

Pope John Paul provides transportation to and from games. All student athletes must take the bus to and from competitions. Traveling as a team in wins and losses is very important to team culture.

Locker Room

Lockers will be assigned prior to the start of school. Please make sure your son or daughter is bringing a lock to lock their personal belongings in a locker throughout the day.

Fundraisers

Football Team- Discount Cards- Purchase a discount card for \$10 that can be used for a full year until July 31st at local businesses like Ann Marie's, Jay's Steaks, The Trappe Tavern, Java's Brewin and more. See any football player or coach to get yours.

Football Parents: Sneaker Drive- The team is collecting gently used sneakers that will then earn their team money. Contact Deb Bass at debbass@comcast.net for more information.

Wrestling: 1st Ever Corn Hole Tournament- Tournament will take place on Saturday, September 16th following the PJP Football Home Opener. Don't miss this event to claim prizes and of course the title of Corn Hole Tournament Champion! To register your team click here; <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=mop2eh>.

Boys Basketball: PJP Blankets- Get one of these blankets before the fall weather hits. There are two options to choose from and personalization is available. These are not sport specific, so perfect for everyone! 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- Buy a \$10 certificate that is good for a FREE burger from the Handcrafted Burger Section at Applebees (\$13+ value). Email Tracey at trarich@pjphs.org for information.

Student Services

PJP Communications

PJP utilizes School Messenger and Constant Contact to communicate emergency information and general announcements. It is important that your contact information remains up to date in our system.

If your phone number or email has changed please contact Mrs. Maureen Gray, mgray@pjphs.org to update. If your information has not changed be assured that the information is correct in our system.

Transportations

Transportation schedules for the 2022-2023 school year are established by each individual school district. Some school districts will post the schedules on their website, and others will send written communication by mail two weeks before the school year begins. If you are unaware of your student's bus schedule by August 30th, please contact Stephanie Rowland, Assistant Principal for Student Services, at srowland@pjphs.org.

In June, PJP provided each school district with a list of PJP students who require busing. If you did not complete a transportation form to arrange transportation for the 2022-2023 school year please [click here](#) for further instructions. If these forms have been submitted late, transportation at the start of the school year is not guaranteed.

Early Dismissals

There are several early dismissal days on our school calendar. All school districts provide transportation to school on early dismissal days, but not all school districts will provide transportation home.

We have provided an early dismissal transportation schedule under the Student Services, and Transportation abs of our website. [Click here](#) to see the transportation schedule.

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

To maintain the safety of our school community PJP has established student Drop-Off and Pick-Up procedures. Please review these procedures [here](#) prior to the start of the school year if you plan on driving students to and from school daily. Thank you in advance for following these protocols to keep our school community safe.

Parking Passes

For those students who wish to drive to school daily, a new parking permit must be purchased annually. The fee is \$50 and is charged to your FACTS account.

All sophomore, junior, and senior students were emailed a Google form on Monday, August 21st to register. Students interested in parking their car at school should complete the form by no later than Tuesday, August 29, 2023. Permits will be assigned in the order in which they are received. Parking space numbers will be shared with parents by email on Friday, September 1, 2023. .

Any student who gets their driver's license later in the school year and wishes to park at school is expected to purchase a parking permit. Students interested purchasing a parking pass later in the year may contact me by email at srowland@pjphs.org or in the Student Services Office. Cars not registered with the Student Services Office are subject to a fine or towing.

School Lunch Accounts

Lunch is available for all PJP students in the cafeteria. Students are permitted to pay in cash, however, if you are interested in signing up for a school lunch account please [click here](#) for additional details. You will need your child's student number to establish an account. Their six digit student number can be found next to their name in your FACTS account or on a student roster.

School Uniform

We are looking forward to our students returning in September looking their best from the first day of school to the last. If there are special circumstances where a student can not be in full uniform, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Rowland, assistant Principal for Student Services (srowland@pjphs.org) for a dress code pass.

Some uniform items are available in the school store year round for those that need them. Please see the list below.

Uniform Clothing Available in the School Store

Navy Opaque Knee-Highs \$6
Navy Opaque Tights \$10
Gym Gold T-Shirt \$10
Navy Ladies' Gym Shorts \$15
Navy Men's Gym Shorts \$16

Uniform Exchange

Thanks to the generosity of the PJP Community, PJP has a uniform exchange. The Student Services Office will continually accept gently used uniform items and uniform items will be available during the school day throughout the year.

School Supplies

Each individual teacher will specify the supplies their students will need for class. It is best to buy supplies after your student has met with their teachers. If you are looking to take advantage of Back to School sales, students will always need the basics: school bag, pens, pencils, pencil case, notebooks, etc.

School Locks

All students who are new to PJP will receive a school lock on the first day of the school year; this lock is to be used by the students for all four years. All locks placed on school lockers must be a school lock. Any student who does not have their school lock from last year must purchase a new one through the Student Services Office. The cost of a new lock is \$10 and will be charged through FACTS.

All school lock combinations are on file in the Student Services Office for those who do not remember their combination.

All students must have their school lock on their locker by Friday, September 15th. After that date, locks will be placed on student lockers not in use.

ID Cards

All students will be provided with two cards. One will be a student ID card with their photo specifying their class year. Students are expected to wear their student ID on a PJP lanyard as part of their school uniform. Grade 10 - 12 were all provided with a new lanyard last year. Freshman and transfer students will receive a lanyard at the beginning of this year.

The second card is a building access card that must be kept with their student ID. Grades 10 - 12 will have their access card returned to them at the beginning of the year. A \$30 replacement fee will be charged to the FACTS account for any student who did not turn in their access card at the end of the year.

ID's and access cards will be collected at the end of the school year and will be returned the following school year.

Students missing access cards must report it immediately. The fee for a replacement access card is \$30. The fee for the replacement of student ID's is \$5.

Before and After School Hours

All students will be provided with two cards. One will be a student ID card with their photo specifying their class year. Students are expected to wear their student ID on a PJP lanyard as part of their school uniform. Grade 10 - 12 were all provided with a new lanyard last year. Freshman and transfer students will receive a lanyard at the beginning of this year.

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Visitor Policy

PJP utilizes the Raptor Technologies Visitor Management System to screen visitors and identify them as a risk. Each visitor is required to present a driver's license upon entry. A visitor's badge will be printed for them to wear throughout the building.

Health Suite

From the School Nurse...

Below are a few reminders that may pertain to your student. Please note that *all health forms referenced are located on the PJP website* –Parents tab, select Health and Wellness. These forms are to be completed and signed by BOTH the parent/guardian and physician. Drop off of medications instructions are also listed below:

- If your student requires any medication during the school day: Please submit the medication along with the completed *Authorization for School Medication Administration form*. The medication must be in the original over-the-counter or pharmacy labeled bottle.
- If your student has a severe allergy requiring an EpiPen: Please submit the EpiPen(s) along with the completed and signed *Allergy Action Plan*. Please check the expiration date on your EpiPen and bring in its original container.
- Students with asthma: Please complete and submit the *Authorization for School Medication form* with inhaler, if your student needs to carry his/her own inhaler while at school, be sure that the bottom section of this form authorizing self carry is signed by parent/guardian and physician.
- Students with seizures: Please bring any required medication along with the completed and signed *Seizure Action Plan* to the nurse.

Instructions for Medication Drop Off to the Nurse:

1. Place the appropriate form and medication in a baggie marked with your student's name and grade. Please verify all medication expiration dates.
2. Email nurse@pjphs.org to schedule drop off arrangements.

Attention Parents/Guardians of the Class of 2025

The Pennsylvania Department of Health requires students to submit a physical examination by the beginning of Grade 11.

* If your student did not submit his/her 16 year physical with updated immunizations during sophomore year, please request it from your pediatrician as soon as possible.

* If your student has not yet had a 16 year well exam, please schedule an exam and use the Physical Exam form (located on the PJP website, under the 'Parents' tab, select 'Health and Wellness') to meet this requirement.

PIAA forms (the actual exam page with MD signature) dated after July 1, 2021, are acceptable, but you must send a copy to the PJP nurses along with updated vaccinations. We cannot access the trainer's forms, nor can she access ours. We apologize for any inconvenience.

* If you have not already done so, please have this medical information ready to be turned in at the start of the 2023-2024 school year. Forms can also be emailed to nurse@pjphs.org or mailed to the "attention of the school nurse" during the summer.

Thank you for your assistance in obtaining this state-mandated health information.

Guidance Office

SENIOR PARENTS- *Class of 2024 PARENT BRAG SHEET*

During the college application process, many colleges and/or scholarships require a Counselor Letter of Recommendation. The PJP School Counselors would love to hear from you about your senior student! Just complete the Parent Brag Sheet by Sunday, September 10th, if you have not so already. The Parent Brag Sheet is optional, but a parent/guardian's insight can provide invaluable information that is worth including in a Counselor Recommendation, conveying your child's unique qualities. This information will aid counselors in writing the individualized counselor letter of recommendation.

Please use the link below for Parent Brag Sheet and additional details:

<https://forms.gle/PSWbeZK16aHUWvGr7>

SENIOR PARENT COLLEGE APPLICATION NIGHT- Tuesday, September 19th (Zoom)

Ms. Shoemaker, PJP's College and Academic Resources Specialist, will be leading a virtual Senior Parent College Application Night on Tuesday, September 19th, at 6:30 PM. During this virtual event, parents will receive an overview of the college application process. Additional registration details will be forthcoming.

School Ministry

Office of School Ministry

Welcome back as we begin another year of fostering a profound relationship with God and nurturing our faith! Throughout the coming months, as we respond to the call of Jesus, know that the Ministry Office team is here with open hearts to support and accompany each student on their unique journey. United by the spirit of Pope Saint John Paul II, we eagerly anticipate walking alongside you as we collectively delve into the richness of our faith and spiritual connection. Please be assured of our continued prayers for each and every one of you!

Save the Date:

Freshman Family Communion Breakfast will be held on *Sunday, September 24th at 11:00am* in the Auditorium. All Freshman Families are encouraged to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to meet other Freshmen families over a delicious breakfast!

THE LENNY MARTELLI FOUNDATION PRESENTS

THE SECOND ANNUAL #ONESTEPCLOSER

MUSIC THERAPY NIGHT 2023

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ROYERSFORD, PA

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LEARN MORE AT MARTELLIFOUNDATION.ORG



Have a great week!

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