



Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE 2024-2025 CALENDAR](#)

Academic Affairs

It has been a great joy having our students back in the building for another exciting year at PJP! We met with all students to review the need to respect one another and look out for each other. We stressed the importance of making sure everyone feels welcome, supported and seen. Please speak with your student about having a positive attitude and reaching out to students who seem to have had trouble finding someone to connect with, especially at lunch. If students are concerned about one another, please encourage them to reach out to guidance, a favorite teacher or to make a report in Safe to Say.

As a reminder, we, with the support of our new Superintendent, will be strictly enforcing the cell phone policy we currently have in place which can be found in our handbook located on our website. Cell phones may be kept in backpacks or locked lockers. Cell phones may not be used in classrooms or hallways. Smart watches must be placed in backpacks when requested by teachers especially during testing. Students may not have AirPods or other listening devices in their ears while walking throughout the building. Cell phones, smart watches, or headphones being used in violation of the policy will be confiscated and demerits and a detention will be issued.

We appreciate your support of this policy as we try to create a welcoming space where students can learn without distractions and spend time talking with each other and supporting one another!

We also spoke to our students about adhering to the dress code and taking pride in their appearance. Dress code demerits will be issued for those in violation of the uniform policy. Skorts found to be shorter than one inch above the knee will need to be replaced.

As a reminder, Back to School night is Thursday from 6-8pm. Please make an effort to attend.

Academic Affairs



Back to School night is this coming Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Join us for an opportunity to walk through

your student's roster and meet each of their teachers. A representative from Montgomery County Community College will be in the Panthers' Learning Center, where students report for these asynchronous courses, to meet and speak with parents who may have questions about the Dual Enrollment classes their child is enrolled in.



Schoology or PowerSchool?

PJP utilizes two student management systems: Schoology and PowerSchool. While they are connected, they serve different functions for our students and faculty. PowerSchool is the gradebook of record, and the place to complete school forms, view attendance, and your student's schedule. Schoology is the Learning Management System, and is best used to view the most up-to-date grades and your student's course information and calendar.

PowerSchool account information was shared before the opening of school, and Schoology information were sent by e-mail this morning. If you have any questions or are having difficulty accessing either account, please contact Mrs. Maureen Gray at mgray@pjphs.org.

Panthers' Learning Center

Homework is an important part of the educational experience because it gives students an opportunity to practice concepts taught that day, promotes retention of material, and helps students develop time management skills. Many teachers offer students points for completing assignments on time and to the best of their abilities which can really help their grades throughout the year.

To help students be successful in their classes, it is best to:

- Use a planner, labeled Google Doc, or phone reminders to keep track of homework assignments.
- Double check the Schoology to-do list each day with family members.
- Communicate with teachers through email or in-person before class if students have questions or need extra help.
- Visit the Panthers' Learning Center after lunch or before/after school to complete assignments and receive support on assignment completion.
- If assignments are submitted late, students should email their teachers to let them know the assignment has been submitted.

Students are welcome to visit the Panthers' Learning Center throughout the day from 7:00-7:40am, during lunch periods after they are finished eating, and after school until 4:00pm for quiet study. The PLC team is also happy to meet with students anytime to support them in their daily work. For any questions about academic support, please contact Mr. Rogers at jrogers@pjphs.org.

Office of School Ministry

I hope your students had a great first week of school! Our theme for this school year, which your student learned about during our opening prayer service, is "Do Not Be Afraid to Be Saints!" This theme is inspired by our patron, Pope John Paul II, who encouraged the youth at World Youth Day to pray, assist the poor, and celebrate the sacraments.

This week we will be helping the students to not be afraid to be saints through Confessions. We have 25 priests joining us on Wednesday and Thursday so your son and daughter can have their confessions heard and receive the loving mercy of God!

MOMs Prayer Group

Calling all PJP Moms! Mary, as our guide, we come together to pray for our children. We invite you to join our MOMs Prayer group. Interested in leading the group or being a part of it? Sign up for our informational Zoom meeting on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00pm below.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR ZOOM MEETING](#)

Friday Adoration

All Parents are welcome to join us in prayer during Eucharistic Adoration every Friday. If you are interested in coming and spending an hour with Jesus, please sign up for available time slots below.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR AVAILABLE TIME SLOTS](#)

Know of our prayers, have a great week! St Teresa of Calcutta feast day was September 5th, may she intercede and bring all of our wants and needs to God!

Advancement Office

Heritage Golf Outing

We invite you to join us for our annual Heritage Golf Outing, a wonderful day of golf, camaraderie, and community, all in support of the John Paul Fund. Your participation in this event helps to enhance the educational experience for our students. Sign up today and be part of this impactful fundraiser!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

Savor the Flavor 2025

Interested in having a direct impact on the future of PJP? Join the Savor the Flavor 2025 Committee. We will be reworking our annual fundraising event to maximize our efforts and need YOUR HELP conceptualizing this event!

[CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT INTEREST FORM](#)

Student Services

Required School Forms

As we begin a new school year, we are excited to partner with you in your student's education. To ensure that we have all the necessary information to support your student, we kindly ask that you complete the required school forms for the 2024-2025 school year.

Customarily at the beginning of the school year, PJP students return from their first day of school with a packet of school forms to have signed by their parents. We are happy to inform you that the 2024-2025 school year forms will be completed electronically through PowerSchool. Forms include data updates, Archdiocesan Forms, and Pope John Paul II High School forms.

Both students and parents will be required to complete their own set of forms. Please review How to Complete Your Required Forms for further details. All 2024-2025 school forms must be completed by both students and parents by Friday, September 13, 2024.

In the event that you have trouble accessing the PowerSchool, please contact Mrs. Maureen Gray, mgray@pjphs.org, or Mrs. Megan Sullivan, msullivan@pjphs.org.

Included in the list of PJP forms is our Handbook Acknowledgment. A link to the 2024-2025 Student Handbook is included with the acknowledgment below. Modifications to the handbook were reviewed with students during their class meetings at the beginning of the school year.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these important forms. Your cooperation ensures that we can provide the best possible experience for your student this school year. Please review the list of Student Handbook Changes for 2024-2025 below. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to a successful year ahead and appreciate your continued support.

[CLICK HERE TO REVIEW HOW TO COMPLETE YOUR REQUIRED FORMS](#)

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE 2024-2025 STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

STUDENT HANDBOOK CHANGES FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

The following areas of the student handbook have been modified or added in the 2024-2025 Student Handbook. Please view our handbook to review the details. Our updated student handbook will be available on our school website under Student Services and with our electronic school forms on PowerSchool. Modifications will be reviewed with students during their class meetings at the beginning of the school year.

RELIGIOUS PROGRAM

- CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
 - Dual Enrollment
 - Panther Pathways
 - Semester Assessments

OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES

- CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES
- CONDUCT GRADE
 - Lying added as a violation. 5 demerits/1 after school detention
 - Cell phone policy added as a violation. 5 demerits/1 after school detention
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY
- UNIVERSAL SEARCH POLICY

RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY FOR TECHNOLOGY

CHROMEBOOK POLICY AND PROCEDURES

TUITION POLICY

- RATES
- FEES
- FACTS TUITION PAYMENT SCHEDULE
 - Families that sign-up for FACTS and make all payments electronically will receive a \$125 credit at the end of the school year.

Student Affairs

It's Time to Get Involved

Please check out the list of clubs and activities posted on the website under Student Affairs to see what PJP has to offer. We will be hosting an activities fair during Start with Hello Week, September 16-20.

Students looking to start a new club should contact Mrs. Honyara.

Here are some reasons to get involved:

- Improved Academic Performance
- Explore Interests and Create Broader Perspectives
- Higher Self-esteem
- Social Opportunities
- Productive Breaks
- Essential Life Skills
- Resumes

Alumni Office

Hall of Fame 2024

Please join us in celebrating the Legacy Hall of Fame Class of 2024 with a cocktail hour, butlered hors d'oeuvres, and beautiful induction ceremony starting at 6pm on Friday, December 13th.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

NexTrex Recycling Challenge

Dear families:

We are excited to announce that PJP II High School will be participating in the NexTrex Recycling Challenge, a fantastic initiative hosted by the Trex Company. Since 2006, Trex has been leading the way in educating the public on the importance of plastic film recycling through school and community programs and we are thrilled to be a part of it this year.

What is the NexTrex Recycling Challenge?

The NexTrex Recycling Challenge aims to promote the recycling of plastic films, a significant yet often overlooked component of our daily waste. Our challenge period runs until May 7, 2025. During this time, we will work together to collect and recycle a minimum of 1,000 pounds of plastic film. If we reach this goal our school will be rewarded with a beautiful Trex bench made from recycled materials.

How Can You Help?

We need your support to make this initiative a success. Here's how you can get involved:

1. **Collect Eligible Plastic Film:** Most polyethylene (PE) plastic film and bags, labeled as #2 or #4 are recyclable. Please ensure all plastic is clean, dry and free of food residue. While many types of plastic film are accepted, there are some exceptions. Please see the attached infographic for more details on what IS and IS NOT recyclable
2. **Drop-off Locations:** You can bring your collected plastic film to PJP; collection containers are located in the main foyer, Legacy atrium, and auditorium lobby.
3. **Spread the Word:** Encourage your friends, family, and community members to join us in this recycling effort. The more people involved, the greater our impact!

DO NOT INCLUDE THESE ITEMS IN NEXTREX® PROGRAMS



FROZEN
FOOD BAGS



CANDY BAR
WRAPPERS



CHIP
BAGS



NET OR MESH
PRODUCE BAGS



PET FOOD
BAGS

OR THESE

- ✗ Degradable/compostable bags or film packaging
- ✗ Pre-washed salad mix bags
- ✗ Hot dog or meat wrap packaging
- ✗ Six-pack rings
- ✗ PPE- Gloves, masks, or protective wear
- ✗ Pool covers
- ✗ Lamination film
- ✗ Silage and hay bags
- ✗ Vinyl shower curtains or tablecloths
- ✗ Bedding or linen packaging
- ✗ Shiny, crinkly films like floral wrap
- ✗ Backyard ice rinks

DON'T SEE YOUR ITEM ON THE LIST?

Try these tests to see if your plastic is acceptable or not.

See if the package will stretch when you pull it. If yes, it can be included. If it tears like paper, then please don't put in the bin.

Is the package shiny or does it make a crinkly/crunchy sound in your hand? If yes, do NOT recycle in the NexTrex® bin.



NexTrex



NexTrex.com 540-542-6930

Athletics

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 9th

Girls Soccer vs Norristown- 3:45 PM (V and JV at the same time)

Girls Tennis vs Upper Perk- 3:30 PM

Tuesday, September 10th

Boys Soccer vs Upper Merion- 3:45 PM (V and JV)

JV Golf vs Boyertown- 3:00 PM

Volleyball vs Methacton- JV 5:30 PM, V 6:45 PM

Thursday, September 12th

Field Hockey vs Phoenixville (The Proving Grounds)- 3:45 PM

JV Golf vs Owen J. Roberts- 3:00 PM

Volleyball vs Boyertown- JV 5:30 PM, V 6:45 PM

Transportation

As we enter the heart of the Fall season, please remember that PJP provides transportation to and from away games. All student athletes are required to take the bus with the team home and away. There are some exceptions to this however, they must be approved by the coach and athletic director.

Panthers versus Cancer

PJP Volleyball's annual Panthers vs Cancer game will be held on Tuesday, October 1st against Perkiomen Valley. Shirts are on sale now for \$20. All proceeds from shirt sales and gate the day of will be donated to the Bott Cancer Center at Holy Redeemer and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in memory of Rylee Monahan. Any student who buys this year's shirt will have a full dress down day on October 1st. The link to order shirts will close at Noon on Thursday, September 19th. Only minimal extras will be ordered.

[CLICK HERE TO BUY A SHIRT](#)

Interest Meeting

There will be an interest meeting for Softball on Tuesday, September 17th at 2:45 PM in the Student Commons. If you play a Fall sport and will be unable to attend please contact Coach Steve at softball@pjphs.org.

Concession Stand Signups

Now that athletics are in full swing, the concession stand will be open for volleyball and football games. Proceeds from the concession stand come right back to the athletic department and are used for Senior Flowers and a Senior gift for all Senior Student Athletes at the end of the school year. Students can sign up for shifts and get service hours. Please consider signing up for a shift.

[VOLLEYBALL SIGN UPS](#)

[FOOTBALL SIGN UPS](#)

Electronic Ticketing

PJP, as well as all other Archdiocesan High Schools, will be switching to electronic ticketing starting this Fall season. For Volleyball and Football there will no longer be any cash sales. All home games, including Football, will be \$6 per person. PJP students will still get free admission to events.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

Sportsmanship and Fan Behavior

As the new year of athletics begins please remember that even as fans we set the tone for how we are perceived in the league. Scream, yell, shout and cheer in support of your student athlete not against the other team or officials. There is a massive shortage of officials in most sports, so we need to do the best we can to not jeopardize officials choosing to officiate our games. They are humans, and many calls are subjective. There are going to be times they get it wrong, but we need to respect they are here when many others choose not to be.

Athletic Schedules

The site at the link below gets updated in real time, and you can subscribe to receive alerts when there are changes made to games. Varsity and JV schedules can be viewed here. Go to the sport you are interested in (it automatically defaults to varsity), look for the toggle menu for Varsity and JV, select JV from the menu and click switch teams.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE MOST UP TO DATE SCHEDULE](#)

Fundraisers

Football-Discount Cards

Football is selling their annual discount cards. The card is \$10 and gets you various discounts at local establishments. Some of the discounts can be applied at Anna Marie's, Hilltop, Java's Brewin, Qdoba, SV Sports, Sweet Aloha and more. For a card see any football player, parent, or coach. You can also contact Tracey at trarich@pjphs.org

Cheer-Ultimate Philly Sports Fan Raffle

Cheer is selling raffle tickets for \$20. Winner of the raffle will receive 2 tickets to every home Flyers, Sixers, Phillies, Union, Wings and Eagles game. That's 200 pairs of tickets. Second prize is a Phillies Spring Training trip for 4. If you are interested in purchasing a raffle ticket see any cheerleader, or contact Coach Erin at cheer@pjphs.org.

Parents Association

Interested in being a part of our PJP Parents Association? Send us an email and let us know so we can add you to our email list.

goldenpantherparents@pjphs.org

Unable to volunteer but would like to make a donation to the Parents Association? Please use this link and thank you. [LINK HERE](#)

Volunteers need their clearances up-to-date and on file in the main office. They can be sent to Heather Derecola: Heather.Derecola@pjphs.org

Need information on clearances? Check out our PJP webpage where information on clearances can be found under the parent tab. [LINK HERE](#)

At the end of September we will host a Zoom for anyone looking for more information about the Parents Association. A date for that is coming soon.

Panthers' Den

The PJPII Panthers' Den (school store) is now open during the students' lunch periods. Mrs. Lynch, who has run the store for many years, has retired. We wish her well!!

We now have an opportunity for our students to take ownership of the Panthers' Den with the help of the Student Affairs Office. The Panthers' Den sells candy, drinks and snacks as well as Spirit Wear.

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) will run the day to day operations of the store selling merchandise. They will elect a Store Manager, schedule shifts, and train volunteers. In the Spring, the Marketing and Accounting classes will have hands-on experience marketing the store items and taking inventory.

Gym Uniforms will be distributed in Physical Education classes and charged to the students FACTS accounts.

Seniors

Senior Fleece Sweaters will be distributed within the next two weeks. Students who were not able to pre-order a Fleece can order them in the Student Affairs Office by **Friday, September 13, 2024. The price is \$35 each.**

Guidance Office

SENIORS-COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELORS VISITING PJP

Beginning the week of September 16th, college admission representatives will begin visiting PJP through early November. 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. Bell, PJP's College and Career Coordinator, at dbell@pjphs.org.

COLLEGE	DATE	TIME
Saint Joseph's University	Mon. September 16, 2024	9:45 AM
West Virginia University	Mon. September 16, 2024	10:30 AM
DeSales University	Mon. September 16, 2024	11:15 AM
Bryant University	Mon. September 16, 2024	12:00 PM
Binghamton University	Tue. September 17, 2024	11:15 AM
Pennsylvania College of Technology	Wed. September 18, 2024	9:45 AM
James Madison University	Wed. September 18, 2024	10:30 AM
Elizabeth Town College	Wed. September 18, 2024	12:00 PM
Florida Southern College	Thu. September 19, 2024	9:45 AM
Duquesne University	Thu. September 19, 2024	10:30 AM
Stony Brook University	Thu. September 19, 2024	11:15 AM
Rider University	Thu. September 19, 2024	12:00 PM
Johns Hopkins University	Fri. September 20, 2024	9:45 AM
Susquehanna University	Fri. September 20, 2024	12:00 PM

SAT Registration for October Test

- **Test Date: 10/5/24**
- **Registration Deadline: 9/20/24**
- **To Register: www.collegeboard.org**

Have a great week!

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



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