



Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR SEPTEMBER CALENDAR](#)

President's Office

As many of you know, PJP School Minister Kozeniewski joined Archbishop Perez and so many others at World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal from August 1st through 6th. At the Archbishop's Day for Educators, held last week for all faculty and administrators from each of the fifteen secondary schools, he echoed a message that Pope Francis shared during his closing homily from World Youth Day. That message was: Shine, Listen, and Don't Be Afraid. To all members of the PJP community, especially each of our students, it is my hope that during this school year you Shine (with respect), Listen (to Jesus, to your parents, to your teachers, and to each other), and Don't Be Afraid (to seek the splendor of truth and strive to live the gospel of life).

PJP is a vibrant community of learners featuring students with many and a variety of gifts and talents. I look forward to watching each of our students shine inside and outside of the classroom during the 2023-24 school year. Go Golden Panthers!

Principal's Office

As we begin our first full week together, we would like to thank you for all the sacrifices you make in order to allow your student to attend PJP. We look forward to meeting you this Thursday at our first Back to School Night for the 2023-2024 school year!

Student Services

Required Forms for 2023-2024

All students have received a packet of forms requiring completion for the 2022-2023 academic year. **Additional Archdiocesan forms requiring your e-signature are on the Power School Portal. PowerSchool forms are not accessible on the phone app; you must complete them using a desktop or laptop.**

All forms must be completed and returned by Friday, September 15, 2023. Paper forms should be returned to your student's homeroom teacher. Returning these forms in a timely manner will assist us in updating our records. Information provided on these forms may be utilized in the event of an emergency, please provide all information legibly. We ask that these forms remain attached together, we will separate them when they are returned.

Academic Affairs



What a joy it was to have our students back in the building day by day this week. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming ALL of our students back as one united Golden Panther Family on Monday!

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT!

All parents are invited to join us on Thursday, September 14th where you will have the opportunity to walk through your student's schedule and meet each of his or her teachers. Homeroom will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. followed by 9 minute class periods. We look forward to seeing you then!

Studio 38

Upcoming Mandatory Meeting

There will be a brief mandatory meeting for parents of students in the Rhapsodies cast and crew on Thursday, September 14th at 8:15pm in the auditorium. One parent must attend.

Student Affairs

It's Time to Get Involved

Please check out the list of clubs and activities posted on the website under Student Affairs, [LINK](#), to see what PJP has to offer. We will be hosting an activities fair during Start with Hello Week, September 18-22. 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
-

Panthers' Learning Center

The first full week of the school year is ahead! The Panthers' Learning Center is here to support your students in their educational journey this year and beyond. To maintain a space conducive to learning and to promote academic success, students are reminded that phones, food, and drink are not permitted in the PLC, and ID cards (when available) must be worn at all times. The Panthers' Learning Center is also a quiet space. Demerits may be issued if these requests are not honored. We are confident that this will be a great school year.

Because students are taking 6-7 classes and have a lot of material to learn and manage, it is helpful for all students to use consistent note-taking strategies to help them remember and master academic content.

- Using either a single notebook, multi-subject notebook, or binder can help students keep their work organized.
- Including the date, lesson topic, and vocabulary words along with core topics explored during class can help students remember what took place in class.
- Outlining or Cornell notes are two note-taking styles that explore class material in concise and clear ways.
- Referring to notes when studying at home (or reviewing after lessons) can help students create clarifying questions they need to ask in class and identify what concepts they need to study further.
- It is always a good idea to compare notes with handouts and presentations posted on Schoology and to collaborate with classmates if they missed anything.

The Panthers' Learning Center is open from 2:30-4:00 PM for students to study after school, and students can request study time using this [form](#) at least one day in advance.

Panthers' Den

Panthers' Den Now Open

The PJP II Panthers' Den (school store) is now open during the students' lunch periods. We sell candy, drinks, and snacks, as well as Spirit Wear. The Panthers' Den is also headquarters for all gym uniforms. T-shirts-\$10, Ladies' Shorts-\$15, Men's Shorts-\$16. It is highly recommended to purchase more than one t-shirt since gym class is every day.

Seniors

Senior Fleece Sweaters are available to order in the Panthers' Den by Friday, September 15, 2023. The price is \$35 each. Please pickup an order form at lunch and return it with your payment-cash, check (payable to PJP II), or credit card by the deadline of the 15th. Apple Pay is not accepted.

Guidance Office

A Welcome Message From Your PJP School Counselors

It's a new school year and the PJP Guidance Office is so happy to welcome all of our new and returning Golden Panthers! It is so nice to see students back on campus this week, filling the hallways and classrooms. We hope you are ready for a successful and exciting 2023-2024 school year! If you or your child ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's School Counselor. The name of your child's School Counselor can be located in PowerSchool.

Upcoming College Standardized Test Registrations

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
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SAT	October 7th	September 7th	September 26th
ACT	October 28th	September 22nd	October 6th

To Register:

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

ACT Registration - www.act.org

**REGISTRATION FOR 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, discussing current admissions trends and the application process for PJP students. To register for this presentation, click the link below/

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/BWdSNen6ACb2sC3H9>

Please contact Ms. Shoemaker at kshoemaker@pjphs.org with any questions.

PHEAA Financial Aid Webinars

Great topics to start out the season for new seniors and upcoming classmates

**Searching for Scholarships and Affording the Balance
9/12 Tuesday Noon; 9/28 Thursday 6:30pm**

There are many ways to pay for education, and one important step is to search and apply for Scholarships. More free money equals less borrowing. This presentation will review the types of options available, along with tips on applying. It will also offer samples of fun scholarship options to get you started. We’ll then review what to do about the balances that might be left over in order to make affordable higher education decisions. Join Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray from Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for an hour of detailed information on this topic.

**Financial Aid Timeline – Know What to Do When
9/14 Thursday Noon; 9/26 Tuesday 6:30pm**

Follow Linda Pacewicz and Dan Wray of Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) as they guide you along the exciting (and sometimes bumpy) road to an affordable higher education. The journey will begin before high school and end in the land of education loan repayment – or maybe even education loan forgiveness. One thing is for certain: it’s never too early to start preparing for a successful higher education experience. This 1 hour presentation will provide the starting points and web resources - for effective research before, during and after your student makes postsecondary decisions. Knowing what to expect and to plan for it is the key. Failing to plan, is planning to fail!

**PA 529 and PHEAA Discuss Options to Cover the Gap
9/14 Thursday 6:30pm**

Please join Linda Pacewicz and Dan Wray of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) and special guest Ryan Buxton of the Pennsylvania Treasury (PA529.com) for this extremely informative webinar. Learn how to plan for financial success as you seek a postsecondary education, with an extra emphasis on saving via a 529 plan. This webinar also briefly covers best practices (such as seeking grants and scholarships first), the primary methods of keeping school related debt to a minimum, and additional resources (such as school-based tuition payment plans). The webinar discusses private/ alternative loans as a last resort. Lots of info here. Don’t miss it!

[Register Here](https://pheaa.org/virtual) or here: pheaa.org/virtual

**** Please note – these are not PJP sponsor events ****

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>

Athletics



Panthers Versus Cancer

PJP Volleyball's annual Panthers vs Cancer game will be held on Thursday, October 10th against Springfield. T-shirts for the event are on sale now through September 26th at Noon. Students who purchase this year's shirt are allowed to wear it to school on the day of the game. All proceeds from the t-shirts will go to the Bott Cancer Center at Holy Redeemer and Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania. Last year we donated over 12 thousand dollars. Purchase your shirt here; <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=9zJhuN>.

Transportation

PJP provides transportation to and from all competitions. All student athletes are required to ride the bus both ways. This small thing helps our student athletes create some of their best memories as well as create a team culture. There are exceptions to this, but must be approved by the athletic director and coach.

Heart Screening

Simon's Heart is offering a FREE heart screening at Norristown High School in memory of Mekhi Green and Quentin Darnell Watson III who died from undiagnosed heart conditions. This screening is intended for children 14-25 who have never had their hearts checked. To register follow the following link; [Heart Screening](#).

Fundraisers

Field Hockey- Car Wash at Limerick Sunoco across from Limerick Diner, Saturday 9/16 from 9am-1pm.

Football- The football team is selling \$10 discount cards for local restaurants. See any football player or coach for yours.

The football parents are collecting used sneakers for Got Sneakers. Contact Mrs. Bass for more information

at debbass0801@gmail.com.

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.

Home Events

Monday 9/11/2023

JV Football vs Berks Catholic- 3:45 PM

Volleyball vs Methacton- 6:45 PM

Tuesday 9/12/2023

Varsity Golf vs Phoenixville- 3:00 PM

Tennis vs Perkiomen Valley- 3:30 PM

Wednesday 9/20/2023

JV Golf vs Boyertown- 3:00 PM

Tennis vs Norristown- 3:30 PM

Girls Soccer vs Upper Merion- 3:45 PM

Thursday 9/21/2023

Field Hockey vs Dock- 5:00 PM

Volleyball vs Upper Perkiomen- 6:45 PM

Friday 9/22/2023

JV Golf vs Pottsgrove- 3:00 PM

Boys Soccer vs Pottsgrove- 3:45 PM

School Ministry

We are excited to begin the first full week of the school year! I want to express my deep gratitude for the warm welcome I've received. The Office of School Ministry has a variety of faith filled opportunities coming up and I hope your students can join us!

Freshman Family Communion Lunch

We are still accepting RSVPS for the Freshman Family Communion Lunch and hope that all of our Class of 2027 Families can join us to Celebrate the Eucharist at the Mass with Fr. Wilson, our School Chaplain, as our main Celebrant. Then afterwards we will celebrate at the table for lunch! **You can RSVP here:**

<https://forms.gle/3BSG44SnQUSUczg7>

Eucharistic Congress

Saturday, September 30th, 9:00am to 4:00pm at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to the Eucharistic Congress at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa! Students are encouraged to join us for an enriching experience of faith, fellowship, and renewal as we come together to celebrate the Eucharist. We leave from PJP at 8:00am. The Congress is free to attend, lunch is not provided, either bring lunch with you or purchase from the Shrine. Please RSVP to Mr. Koz by September 14th.



Eucharistic Congress

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**NATIONAL SHRINE
OF OUR LADY OF
CZESTOCHOWA**

SIGN UP WITH MR. KOZ
kkozeniewski@pjphs.org

 **NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival**

AbbeyFest

Join Mr. Koz and Mrs. Honyara on September 16th. We will eat lunch at Chick-fil-a then head to Daylesford Abbey to hear great music, celebrate the Mass with Archbishop Perez, then spend time with Jesus at a candlelight Adoration. Please RSVP to Mr. Koz by September 27th. Find out more about AbbeyFest here: <https://youtu.be/xIsJd9Ik2tU>

Morning Prayer and Muffins

Morning Prayer and Muffins start this Monday at 7:30am in the Chapel. Students are invited to join us everyday in the chapel to start their day off at PJP in prayer. Then we will have muffins to enjoy after!

Have a great week!

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