



Download the 2025-2026 Calendar

# Office of the President

I hope your child(ren) had a wonderful first and second day of school! I'm excited to watch them grow—especially academically and spiritually—as they continue becoming the best version of themselves throughout this school year.

Just two quick reminders:

- 1. All parents and guardians are invited to attend an information session on the **new PJP Strategic Plan**, which will take place in the auditorium at 5:00 PM on Thursday, September 11th, just prior to Back to School Night.
- 2. Be sure to stop by the table in the cafeteria to learn more about the EITC Program. While visiting your child(ren)'s homeroom, you'll also have the opportunity to view a short video about PJP's EITC program.

This program is one of the most important initiatives for ensuring the continued strength and sustainability of **Catholic education**. Your support and participation can make a

# **Principal's Office**

#### Follow-Up on the Continuous Improvement Survey

On June 30th, we shared a high-level summary of the results from the Continuous Improvement Survey via School Messenger. In that message, it was noted that the leadership team would carefully review the feedback over the summer and develop strategies to enhance consistency.

As promised, the administration met to reflect on the areas of concern with respect to discipline and the prevention of bullying and unsafe behavior. Based on this review, we are implementing the following measures:

#### **Uniform and Electronic Device Policy Enforcement**

To promote fairness and consistency, the following disciplinary procedures will be enforced:

- Uniform Policy: All students are expected to wear the school uniform properly.
  Homeroom dress code checks will take place during the week of September 8th to12th. Students out of dress code will receive a warning noted in their conduct record and they will have one week to make a correction in the event alterations need to be made. Parents will receive an automated email message through PowerSchool. After that week, no further warnings will be given. Students out of uniform will be subject to the consequences outlined in our student handbook.
- Cell Phones and Electronic Devices: Any violation of the school's cell
  phone/electronic device policy will result in demerits and detentions. Upon a third
  violation, the device will be confiscated and returned only to a parent or guardian
  at the end of the school day. This policy will apply to all subsequent violations as
  well.

#### **Commitment to Mutual Respect**

At PJP, we are deeply committed to cultivating a culture of mutual respect among students and staff:

- During freshman year, our Mental Health Coordinator visits all ninth-grade classrooms to discuss life skills related to healthy peer relationships and respectful behavior.
- The **Guidance Department** hosts annual assemblies for each grade level, addressing mental health, positive decision-making, and respectful interactions.

All **reports of bullying** are taken seriously and investigated promptly by administration. When concerns arise, we encourage students or parents to report them to a trusted adult in the building as soon as possible. Responses may include contacting parents, coaches, and teachers, along with appropriate disciplinary actions.

#### **Vaping and Tobacco Use Prevention**

Vaping and tobacco use—including products like Zyn—continue to be serious

concerns among teens nationwide. To help deter this behavior and keep our school safe:

- Vape detectors are installed throughout the building.
- A **new electronic hall pass monitoring system** will be introduced this year to help reduce unsupervised movement and inappropriate behavior.

As part of our commitment to supporting the health and well-being of all students, we will be holding presentations, and class discussions designed to educate our high school community about the dangers of vaping and other harmful substances. These sessions will include the use of outside resources and guest speakers who bring professional expertise and real-world experience to the topic. Our goal is to provide our community with accurate information, practical strategies, and strong support so students can make safe and healthy choices.

#### **Individual Circumstances**

We recognize that every situation is unique. While we strive to apply all policies consistently, the outcome of each incident will be based on the information available at the time. Please note that, despite our best efforts, staff are not able to monitor every student at all times during the day. Your understanding and support are appreciated.

We believe that these actions will help create a safer, more respectful, and more consistent school environment for all students. Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting our school community.

# **Office of School Ministry**

I hope you and your family had a wonderful first week of school! We were blessed to begin the year with prayer services for all classes, where we introduced our Office of School Ministry theme: **Totus Tuus**. This Latin phrase—"Totally Yours"—was the motto of Pope John Paul II and reminds us to give our whole selves to the Lord in our studies, friendships, prayer, and service.

This theme ties beautifully to our *One Book, One School* choice, *A Single Bead*. Just as one bead is part of a greater rosary, each of us is called to be part of something larger than ourselves. Living "Totus Tuus" means allowing every prayer, action, and relationship to bring us closer to Christ.

#### **Family Communion Lunch**

This year, we are excited to expand what was once our Freshman Family Communion Lunch into a celebration for our entire PJP community! All families are warmly invited to join us as we kick off Homecoming Week together on September 28th with Mass at 11:00 AM in the Auditorium, followed by a community lunch.

What began as a tradition to welcome our freshmen has grown into a beautiful opportunity for the whole school to gather in prayer, fellowship, and Panther pride as we celebrate the Source and Summit of our Faith. We hope you'll make plans to be with us for this special day!

#### Sign Up Today!

# Is your Daughter or Son interested in becoming Catholic or finishing their Sacraments?

Each year, PJP offers the OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) program for students who wish to enter more fully into the Catholic Church. If your son or daughter is interested, please see the attached letter for details and next steps.

#### Adoration at PJP - Parents Welcome!

We invite parents to sign up for an hour on Fridays to spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament here at PJP. Adoration is a beautiful way to pray for our students, support our school community, and be renewed in God's presence. What better gift can we give our children than our prayers?

# Adoration Sign Up

# **Academic Affairs**

What a wonderful short week it has been welcoming our newest Golden Panthers and familiar returning faces! With the Labor Day weekend behind us, we are excited to begin our first full week together.



Please be sure that your student has their fully charged chromebook with them to school each day. This week, all students will be taking their Benchmark Renaissance STAR Assessment in both ELA and Mathematics on their devices.

# **Panthers' Learning Center**



We are so excited that our students are back! 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. It is often the easiest grade students receive in high school and college courses as long as they follow all directions.

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. Some assignments aren't meant to be turned in on Schoology, but a reminder may be there for students to see.
- 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 with a pass, 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 <a href="mailto:irogers@piphs.org">irogers@piphs.org</a>.

# **Advancement Office**



Join us on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 6 pm for the Dedication and Blessing of the Pope John Paul II Business Institute!

Parents, students, community members, alumni, and local leaders are invited to attend.

Please **RSVP by September 12, 2025** to Heather Derecola at <a href="heather.derecola@piphs.org">heather.derecola@piphs.org</a>.



# The 12th Annual PJP Heritage Golf Outing is almost here!

Come TEE off the new school year with us on September 9th, 2025, at Spring Ford Country Club!

Whether you join as a golfer or a sponsor, your participation makes a difference. Proceeds benefit:

- Merit-based scholarships
- Facility enhancements
- Innovative academic programs
- General operational support

# SUPPORT CATHOLIC PUP EDUCATION WITH EITC!

Did you know that you can help make a Catholic education accessible to more students through Pennsylvania's Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program?

By simply redirecting your state taxes, you can provide scholarships to students in need at PJP, giving them the opportunity to receive a high-quality Catholic education.





VISIT PJPHS.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION!



# **Student Services**



#### **SCHOOL FORMS**

All 2026-2026 school forms must be completed by both students and parents by **Friday**, **September 12**, **2025**. Instructions were emailed to all families on Thursday, August 21, 2025.

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. We look forward to a successful year ahead and appreciate your continued support.

# **Student Affairs**

#### PICTURE INFORMATION

□ For all 9th, 10th, and 11th graders! On your first day, either Wednesday 9/3 or Thursday 9/4, your yearbook picture will be taken. Make sure you are in full winter uniform. If you want to order pictures use the link below with the code. If your child brings cash or check on that day there will be forms they can fill out. After their pictures are taken all orders must be placed online.

Picture Day Id: EVTCJ46BP

# Mylifetouch.com

#### **Senior Info**

Senior Fleeces will be available for order again until Wednesday September 10th, 2025. They should be here in time for winter uniform but please hold on to your sweaters until you have your fleece just in case they are running a little late. Use the below link to order

# Order Today!

# **Athletics**



### **Upcoming Sporting Events**

#### **Upcoming Events:**

#### Monday, September 8th

Boys Varsity Golf vs Boyertown- 3:00 PM (Bella Vista) Girls Golf at Spring-Ford- 3:00 PM (Linfield National) Girls Tennis at Upper Perkiomen- 3:30 PM JV Football vs Rustin- 3:45 PM Field Hockey vs Shanahan- 3:45 PM Varsity, JV to follow

#### Tuesday. September 9th

Boys JV Golf at Boyertown- 3:00 PM Field Hockey at Pottsgrove- 3:45 PM Varsity Only Boys Soccer at Upper Merion- 3:45 PM Girls Soccer at Norristown- 3:45 PM Volleyball at Methacton- 5:30 JV, Varsity to follow

#### Wednesday, September 10th

Girls Golf vs Boyertown- 2:30 PM (Twin Ponds) Boys Varsity Golf vs Owen J. Roberts 3:00 PM (Bella Vista) Girls Tennis vs Pottsgrove- 3:30 PM Cross Country at Upper Merion- 3:45 PM

#### Thursday, September 11th

Boys JV Golf at Owen J. Roberts- 3:00 PM Girls Golf at Phoenixville- 3:45 PM (Turtle Creek) Field Hockey at Phoenixville- 3:45 PM JV, Varsity to follow Girls Soccer vs Phoenixville- 3:45 PM Volleyball at Boyertown- 5:30 PM JV, Varsity to follow

#### Friday, September 12th

Boys Soccer vs Academy Park- 3:30 PM (Varsity Only) Girls Tennis vs LC- 3:30 PM Football vs Bishop Shanahan- 7:00 PM

#### **Panthers vs Cancer**

The annual Panthers vs Cancer game will be held on Wednesday, October 1st against Methacton. T-shirts are on sale now. To purchase a shirt click <a href="here">here</a>. T-shirts must be ordered by NOON on Friday 9/12. Any student who buys a t-shirt is allowed to dress down on Wednesday, October 1st. All proceeds from the t-shirts will be donated to the Bott Cancer Center, and CHOP in memory of Rylee Monahan.

Please make sure you order your shirt. There are only limited extras ordered as this is a fundraiser. Acceptiva will send a receipt when the order is completed. If you do not receive an email from Acceptiva then you did not complete the order.

#### **Interest Meetings**

Softball will be holding an interest meeting on Wednesday, September 10th at 2:45 PM in the Learning Center. Anyone interested in playing softball in the Spring should plan to attend.

#### **Support our Teams**

Football- Football is selling discount cards for \$10 each. The card, which is good until July 31st 2026, gets your discounts at local vendors. Some discounts include; 10% off at Anna Marie's, 10% off dine in food purchase at MaGerk's, \$1 off any drink purchase at Java's Brewin, 20% off in store purchase at Handels, and more. Contact Tracey at <a href="mailto:trarich@pjphs.org">trarich@pjphs.org</a> to purchase.

Girls Soccer- The team is selling chances at winning a gift card basket. The basket contains gift cards that total \$700 dollars. If you are interested in purchasing a chance

to win, reach out to Kathryn Kost, or any team member.





Support the 2025 PJPII Girls Soccer team! Enter to win a Gift Card Basket with an estimated value of \$700 in a variety of gift cards! Each entry costs \$20 for 3 raffle tickets.

Entries need to be received by Friday, September 26. We will announce the winner during our Senior Day activities on Monday, September 29 when the team faces off against Norristown! Please connect with a team member or venmo your \$20 entry to Kati @kathryn-kost-2 to purchase your chances to win. If you venmo directly, be sure to include your name and phone number for the entry!

# **Guidance Office**

#### WELCOME BACK FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

Welcome back to a brand-new school year at Pope John Paul II High School! We're so excited to work with your students, supporting their growth and celebrating their successes throughout the year. Please know we're always here if you need anything - don't hesitate to reach out!

- Mrs. Traywick, Director of Guidance
- Mrs. Millrood, MCIU School Counselor
- Mrs. Gray, PAWS Advisor
- Mrs. Houchins. Mental Health and Wellness Coordinator
- Mrs. Bell, College and Career Coordinator

#### SENIORS & JUNIORS - COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELORS VISITING PJP

Beginning the week of September 15th, college admission representatives will be visiting PJP through early November. These visits are a great opportunity for seniors applying to a school and juniors exploring their college options to connect directly with the admissions representative who will review their application.

Students can sign up by logging into their Naviance account and registering for the visits they'd like to attend. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Bell, PJP's College and Career Coordinator, at <a href="mailto:dbell@piphs.org">dbell@piphs.org</a>.

College	<u>Date</u>	Time
Drew University	Mon September 15, 2025	10:30 AM
La Salle University	Mon September 15, 2025	12:00 PM
Marywood University	Tue September 16, 2025	9:45 AM
Millersville University of Pennsylvania	Tue September 16, 2025	10:30 AM
Virginia Commonwealth University	Tue September 16, 2025	11:15 AM
Florida Southern College	Tue September 16, 2025	12:00 PM
University of New Haven	Wed September 17, 2025	9:45 AM
Cedar Crest College	Wed September 17, 2025	10:30 AM
York College of Pennsylvania	Wed September 17, 2025	11:15 AM
Chestnut Hill College	Wed September 17, 2025	12:00 PM
James Madison University	Thu September 18, 2025	9:45 AM
Franklin and Marshall College	Thu September 18, 2025	10:30 AM
Moravian University	Thu September 18, 2025	11:15 AM
The University of Alabama	Thu September 18, 2025	12:00 PM
College of Charleston	Fri September 19, 2025	10:30 AM
Saint Joseph's University	Fri September 19, 2025	12:00 PM

# COLLEGE STANDARDIZED TEST DATE & REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR NATIONAL TEST DAYS

SAT TESTING- Register at www.collegeboard.org

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
September 13, 2025	August 29, 2025	September 2, 2025
October 4, 2025	September 19, 2025	September 23, 2025
November 8, 2025	October 24, 2025	October 28, 2025
December 6, 2025	November 21, 2025	November 25, 2025
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026

#### ACT TESTING - Register at www.act.org

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
September 6, 2025	August 1, 2025	August 19, 2025
October 18, 2025	September 12, 2025	September 30, 2025
December 13, 2025	November 7, 2025	November 24, 2025
February 14, 2026	January 9, 2026	January 23, 2026
April 11, 2026	March 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
June 13, 2026	May 8, 2026	May 29, 2026
July 11, 2026	June 5, 2026	June 24, 2026

School Day Testing (for Juniors only) – PJP will offer the SAT School Day Test on April 16, 2025. Registration information for this test will be supplied to students in February.

# Have a Great Week!







Pope John Paul II HS | 181 Rittenhouse Rd | Royersford, PA 19468 US

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