



# Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

## Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

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

### Academic Affairs

## PAULIE'S POINT OF VIEW

FEELING PRETTY CHILL  
BECAUSE I FINISHED MY SUMMER  
READING AND  
COMPLETED THE KHAN  
ACADEMY GETTING READY FOR  
MATH SERIES.

CHECK WITH YOUR STUDENTS  
TO BE SURE THEY FINISHED  
THEIR SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS  
AND ARE READY FOR THEIR  
FIRST DAY!

2024-2025  
WE'VE GOT THIS!!



**WELCOME BACK!**

Happy New Year! Though we are very busy throughout the entire summer here in the Academic Affairs Office, it is very quiet and we truly miss our students: the sounds of their laughter in the cafeteria and corridors, the hum of learning in the classrooms, the cheers of excitement and encouragement from the fields bring us all joy as we open the doors to a new school year!

On Wednesday we will welcome ALL new students, and on Thursday, we look forward to all of our 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students returning. Friday will be the first day with all of our students in school at PJP.



RENAISSANCE  
**Star Math**<sup>®</sup>  
&  
RENAISSANCE  
**Star Reading**<sup>®</sup>

Baseline STAR Assessments will be taken in ELA and MATH classes during the first full week of school for all students. These standards based assessments serve as the baseline score for each child as he or she moves through the respective curriculum during the year.

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## Panthers' Learning Center

We are so excited to welcome our students back this week! The start of a new school year is a great opportunity to establish healthy academic habits and routes. These may include:

- Creating a study space at home where homework is completed at a designated time each day.
- Using an assignment planner, checklist, or labeled Google Doc to keep track of assignments and daily tasks.
- Double checking that all assignments are completed and submitted correctly.
- Reviewing grades on Schoology and PowerSchool regularly with family members.
- Checking school email every day to ensure students know all important information.

Students are welcome to visit the Panthers' Learning Center throughout the day from 7:00-7:40 am, 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 [atjrogers@pjphs.org](mailto:atjrogers@pjphs.org).

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## Office of School Ministry

As we said last week, we are going to cover the different clubs and retreats that School Ministry provides to accompany your student to a relationship with Christ.

### Clubs

**-Ministry Team:** The ministry team is our school's peer evangelism team. They assist with setting up and planning liturgies. They also help provide opportunities for their peers to come to know Christ through Bible Studies, Adoration Nights, and a whole lot more!

**-Respect Life Club:** This club promotes within the school community attitudes of respect for human life in all its stages. Students are welcomed to join the Respect for Life Club and participate in various activities.

**-Wojtyla Wilderness Club:** Named after Karol Wojtyla, the name Pope John Paul II was known by before his papacy, the Wojtyla Wilderness Club follows in the footsteps of Pope John Paul II by taking students into nature to pray and appreciate the beauty of God's creation. The club meets once a month from September to November and again from March to May.

**-Catholic Athletes for Christ:** A national group focused on serving Catholic athletes and spreading the Gospel through sports. At PJP, they meet monthly after school in the Campus Ministry Office. The group explores living the Catholic faith through sports themes. Meetings include videos, discussions, and Scripture readings. All are invited to join Team Jesus, with the shared goal of reaching heaven.

### Retrea

All Golden Panthers are required to attend a retreat each year, this time allows the students to set aside time to grow their relationship with God. The retreat dates are as follows:

- Freshman: September 24
- Sophomore: February 13
- Junior: April 8
- Seniors: Have an option to attend the Kairos Retreat, which many students say is a highlight of their 4 years at PJP. If they do not attend Kairos, they would attend the Senior 1 Day
  - Kairos:
    - November 15-18
    - January 17-20
    - March 10-13
  - Senior 1 Day: May 7

## Freshman Family Communion Lunch

**-Save the date: Sunday, September 29th at 11:00am.** All Freshman families are invited to celebrate the Eucharist as a class! Afterwards, enjoy fellowship and a great lunch! RSVP required and will be sent at a later date.

Next week we will provide information on Clubs and Retreats! It is going to be a great school year and know of our prayers for all PJP families!

<b>SERVICE TUESDAYS</b> ----- Join us monthly to experience where faith meets action. Additionally, earn hours that can contribute to fulfilling your Christian service hours!. ----- <b>Where: Student Commons</b> <b>When: 2:30 pm</b>	<b>Oct 15</b> Bring one of the following: Complete Pancake Mix Brown and Serve Sausage	<b>Feb 4</b> Bring one of the following: Loaf of Bread Jar of Peanut Butter Jar of Jelly
	<b>Nov 12</b> Bring one of the following: No-Boil Lasagna Sheets Jar of Tomato Sauce Bag of Shredded Mozzarella Cheese	<b>March 25</b> Bring an Old T-Shirt to use to make Dog Tug Toys for the local animal shelter.
	<b>Dec 3</b> Writing Cards to Senior Care Homes and VA Residents.	<b>April 15</b> Making Cards for local Parish Students who are receiving 1st Holy Communion
	<b>Sept 17</b> Bring one of the following: Loaf of Bread Jar of Peanut Butter Jar of Jelly	<b>Jan 14</b> Bring one of the following: Complete Pancake Mix Brown and Serve Sausage

Know of our prayers as we start this new school year! Do not be afraid to be saints and have a great week!

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## 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!

## Student Services

### Student Dress Code Reminders

We firmly believe that attention to personal appearance is an important part of the maturation process for young men and women. Besides wearing the official PJP uniform, all students will be reminded of the following additional dress code details:

- Extreme hairstyles or hair dyes are not permitted for any student, male or female.
- Gentlemen are not permitted to wear ponytails. For gentlemen, hair is to be clean and neat, may not fall below the shirt collar, and must not obstruct or cover their face or eyes.
- Males must be clean shaven. This includes mustaches and sideburns.
- Ladies' skirts can be no shorter than one inch above the knee.
- Body piercings and gauges are not permitted on any student. This includes piercing of the tongue, eyebrows, lips and/or nose.
- No visible tattoos are permitted on any student. Clothing must cover tattoos

### Transportation

Transportation schedules for the 2024-2025 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](mailto: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 2024-2025 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 tabs 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.** We kindly request that parents refrain from parking in our parking spaces for a student drop-off or pick-up because this delays the students, faculty, and staff assigned to the spaces from entering the building. In addition, we request that all drivers maintain a 15 mph speed limit as they travel through the lot. 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 \$75 and is charged to your FACTS account.

All sophomore, junior, and senior students and parents were emailed a Google form on Monday, August 19th to register. Students interested in parking their car at school should complete the form by no later than

Tuesday, August 27, 2024. Permits will be assigned in the order in which they are received. Parking space numbers will be shared with parents by email on Friday, August 30, 2024.

Students who get their driver's license later in the school year and wish to park at school are 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](mailto: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 Account

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 in their FACTS account by clicking on student from the menu on the left.

## 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](mailto:srowland@pjphs.org)) for a dress code pass.

## 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.

All returning PJP students must bring their lock to school upon their return in September.

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 13th. 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. 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

Students may begin arriving at school by 7:00 am. Between 7:00 am and 7:40 am all students must report directly to the cafeteria where they are moderated. After 7:40 am all students may report to their locker and homeroom.

Students are permitted to remain after school to visit teachers, participate in scheduled activities, or for transportation. If necessary, students remaining at school after dismissal must report to the Student Commons while waiting for their extra curricular activity to begin or when waiting for a ride home. All students must be picked up by 4 pm unless participating in an extracurricular activity that begins later.

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# Student Affairs

## Schedule for the Opening Days of School

- **Wednesday, September 4**
  - All new students to PJP - 9th grade and transfer students
  - Winter Uniform for portraits
- **Thursday, September 5**
  - Only grades 10, 11, 12 report
  - 10th & 11th grades wear Winter Uniform for portraits
- **Friday, September 6 -All students report**

All students are to report by 7:50 am on their respective day, and will be dismissed at 2:30 pm. Transfer students may report at 9:00am on Wednesday, September 4th for their onboarding day.

## Picture Day is Coming

Picture day for Grade 9 and new students will be held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024. Picture day for Grade 10 & 11 will be held on Thursday, September 5, 2024.

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



Pre-order today on  
[mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com)  
using your Student ID or  
Picture Day ID:  
**EVTHD93KF**

Order your perfect package— and don't worry about returning anything on Picture Day! Everyone will be photographed. If you do not purchase portraits now, your child will receive a proof of the portrait with ordering instructions.

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# Alumni Office

## Hall of Fame 2024

The Pope John Paul II Legacy Hall of Fame will take place on December 13th, 2024. This year's inductees are...

Lenny Martelli PJP '12

Christian Walker KK '09

Joseph Maccolini BKHS '70

John Welding, SPX & PJP Guidance Counselor

Father Joseph Murray, SPX & BKHS Principal & Educator

Sister Marie Kathleen Bonner, SPX Educator & Guidance Counselor

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](#)

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## Lunch Menu

We have received the following lunch menu for the month of September from Aramark, the vendor for all 15 secondary schools.



## Everyday Menu

## Weekly Specials

<b>Grill</b> Cheeseburger Crispy Chicken Nuggets Classic Grilled Cheese Crispy Homestyle French Fries Crispy Chicken Sandwich Spicy Chicken Sandwich Chicken Cheesesteak	<b>Sept 3rd-6th</b>	Feature Appetizer: Waffle Fries Grill Feature: Buffalo Chicken Cheesesteak Pizza Feature: White Pizza Deli Feature: Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap 🍏 Salad Feature: Chicken Cobb Salad Main Plate: BBQ Chicken Mac & Cheese Dessert Feature: Ice Cream Sandwich
<b>Pizzeria</b> Classic Cheese Pizza Buffalo Chicken Pizza Grab a slice of our hot & fresh Handmade pizza from our Pizzeria station. Also try our different Premium options featured weekly.	<b>Sept 9th-13th</b>	Feature Appetizer: Crispy Onion Rings Grill Feature: Western BBQ Burger Pizza Feature: Deluxe Pizza Deli Feature: Greek Chicken Pita 🍏 Salad Feature: Chicken Cobb Salad Main Plate: Beef Teriyaki Bowl Dessert Feature: Snickerdoodle Cookie
<b>Deli</b> Buffalo Chicken Wrap Chicken Caesar Wrap		
<b>Healthy Choices</b> 🍏 Chicken Caesar Salad Tossed Garden Salad Yogurt Parfait Veggie & Dip Cup Seasonal Fruit  Made-to-Order Salads, Sandwiches & Wraps Customize your own Deli Sandwich, Wrap, or Salad. Select your protein, select your cheese, and customize with Toppings and condiments of your choice.	<b>Sept 16th-20th</b>	Feature Appetizer: Southwest Chicken Eggroll Grill Feature: Hot Honey Chicken Sandwich Pizza Feature: Fajita Pizza Deli Feature: Jalapeño Chicken Flatbread 🍏 Salad Feature: Chicken Cobb Salad Main Plate: Taste of Italy Pasta Bar Dessert Feature: Strawberry & Cream Parfait
<b>Dessert</b> Chocolate Chip Cookie Sugar Cookie	<b>Sept 23rd-27th</b>	Feature Appetizer: Chicken & Veggie Gyoza Grill Feature: Southern BBQ Pork Biscuit Pizza Feature: Meat Lovers Deli Feature: Turkey Special Ciabatta 🍏 Salad Feature: Chicken Cobb Salad Main Plate: Mexican Street Tacos Dessert Feature: Cinnamon Churros
<b>Buffalo Wing Bar</b> Every Other Tuesday 	<b>Sept-Oct 30th-4th</b>	Feature Appetizer: Mozzarella Sticks Grill Feature: Korean Fried Chicken Sandwich Pizza Feature: BBQ Chicken Pizza Deli Feature: Santa Fe Turkey Wrap 🍏 Salad Feature: Chicken Cobb Salad Main Plate: Mediterranean Grill Plate Dessert Feature: Birthday Cake Slice

\*We do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex or handicap in employment practices or in administration of any of its education programs and activities in accordance with applicable federal statutes and regulations. EOE\* ALL MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

## Tuition Office

### Welcome Back

I hope you had an amazing summer and are all set for an exciting new school year!

**Great news—your tuition accounts are all up-to-date and good to go.** To make things even smoother, I highly recommend signing up for automatic withdrawals. It's a super easy way to avoid any late fees and stay on top of tuition payments without any stress.

Keeping your tuition current is really important, as it helps ensure your child can fully enjoy all the fun events, sports, activities, and everything else that makes school special.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm here to help! Let's stay connected and make this year amazing together.

## Athletics

### Upcoming Events



### **Tuesday, September 3rd**

Field Hockey vs Norristown- 3:45 PM (Varsity Only)

### **Wednesday, September 4th**

Girls Tennis vs Perkiomen Valley- 3:30 PM

Cross Country vs Phoenixville- 3:45 PM (Boys race 1st, followed by girls)

JV Golf vs Pottsgrove- 3:00 PM (Bella Vista)

### **Thursday, September 5th**

Girls Soccer vs Pottsgrove- 3:45 PM (Varsity first followed by JV)

### **Friday, September 6th**

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

### **Saturday, September 7th**

Football vs West Chester Rustin- 1:00 PM

## **Picture Day**

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 UP**

**FOOTBALL SIGN UP**

## **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](mailto:softball@pjphs.org).

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:cheer@pjphs.org).

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## Online Stor

Start your year off right with some Panthers gear!

[CLICK HERE TO SHOP OUR ONLINE STORE](#)

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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## Guidance Office

### **SENIORS-PJP Transcript Release**

Attention Seniors, this is a friendly reminder to submit your *Consent to Release Transcript & Letters of Recommendation Form*, if you have not done so already. This form was given to you last spring.

This signed form authorizes the Guidance Department to send your official transcript and letters of recommendation to all colleges and/or programs to which you have applied. These supporting application documents cannot be forwarded if a signed Consent to Release Form is not on file in the Guidance Office. Please note that standardized test scores (ACT, SAT, etc.) are NOT listed on a student transcript. It is the student's responsibility to send test scores to the colleges and universities to which they apply directly from

the testing agency.

Consent to Release Transcript & Recommendations

Please email your completed form to Mrs. Bell, PJP's College and Career Coordinator, at [dbell@pjphs.org](mailto:dbell@pjphs.org).

## SAT Registration for October Test

- **Test Date: 10/5/24**
- **Registration Deadline: 9/20/24**
- **To Register: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)**

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**Have a great week!**

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