



**New Family
Survival Guide
2019 – 2020**

SUMMER

Summer Reading Assignment

Your child must complete their Summer Reading assignment. He/she should complete the assignment during the summer and be prepared to discuss and be tested on the assignment during the first week of the academic year. Reading assignments include literary and spiritual works. The assignment will be available before the end of the academic year. This information will be available on the school's website under the Parents tab.

Summer Office Hours

The school office is open throughout the summer from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Monday - Thursday. Beginning August 12, our regular office hours are 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM.

Summer Christian Service

Your child may participate in summer Christian service experiences led by JP II's College Intern from The College of the Holy Cross. These optional experiences allow new students to get to know one another in a relaxed setting. Information will be provided in July.

New Student Orientation

Freshmen and transfer student orientation will take place on Wednesday, August 21 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM beginning in the cafeteria. All new students are asked to attend this orientation. They do not need to be in uniform on this day.

There will be a parent session from 4:00 – 5:00 PM and a new family cookout from 5:00 – 6:00 PM.

During this time, your child will discover what it takes to be successful at JP II HS. He/she will be in small groups led by student ambassadors. A review of procedures and policies will help your child with the "ins and outs" of JP II HS. During the day they will also have an opportunity to make their locker selection. The day provides an excellent opportunity to meet classmates and staff before school begins.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Guidance Office

There are two full-time Guidance Counselors serving JP II students.

Working in collaboration with our faculty and staff and in partnership with you, the Guidance Department serves to enhance the development of the academic, physical and spiritual lives of your child. The Guidance Department provides academic counseling and scheduling assistance as well as guides you and your child through the college search and application process with annual presentations, group workshops and individual meetings. One of the goals of Guidance is to foster an environment of respect for learning and intellectual accomplishment. Your child will be provided with appropriate support and resources to develop habits and skills in the areas of goal setting, integrity and diligence. For any questions, contact Mark Tanguay at mtanguay@jp.dfrcs.org or Maureen Hufnagle at mhufnagle@jp.dfrcs.org.

Health Office

It is required that all incoming freshmen have a complete physical exam prior to entering high school. The exam must have been completed within the past year. Please provide the school with a copy of this exam as well as a copy of immunization records as required by the Department of Public Health. Additionally, the **Family and Health Information Form** must be submitted to the Main Office before starting classes. This form can be found under the “Quick Links” tab followed by the “For Parents” tab on the school website.

The Health Office is open on New Student Orientation Day until 4:00 PM. Please deliver any medications your child may need for the school year on this day, as well as the medical form, if it was not sent to us during the summer.

If your child has a special health need or concern, you are asked to make an appointment with the school R.N. at a time that is convenient for you during the first week of school. Contact the Main Office to schedule this appointment at 508-862-6336 or email Maura Bresnahan at mbresnahan@jp.dfrcs.org.

Registrar’s Office

Contact Mrs. Margaret Keras at mkeras@jp.dfrcs.org or 508-862-6336 x249 should you have questions concerning billing or other tuition related issues.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

‘Meet the Faculty’ Mini-Class Night

You will have an opportunity to follow your son or daughter’s schedule, meet faculty, and learn about class requirements, procedures, and grading policies during this evening. Please bring your child’s schedule that night. ‘Meet the Faculty’ Mini-Class Night is scheduled for September 19.

ParentPlus Online Grade Reporting

ParentsPlus is a portal that allows parents to view grades. You will receive an email with log in information in September.

StudentPlus Online Grade Reporting

StudentPlus is a portal that allows students to view grades. Students will receive their log in information in September.

GPA

A student's grade point average (GPA) is generated from semester grades only, not quarter grades. Semester grades are determined as follows: first semester grades = first quarter grades 20%, second quarter grades 20%, mid-year final exam/project 10%; second semester grades = third quarter grades 20%, fourth quarter grades 20%, end-of-year final exam/project 10%.

Laptop Requirement

All students are required to have their own laptop, capable of internet access. Macs or PCs are acceptable. All textbooks must be able to be downloaded to this device. If you have a question about compatibility please call the school office.

Report Cards

Report cards will be emailed mid-November (1st quarter), late January (1st semester), mid-April (3rd quarter), and late June (final report card). Report cards may be held if a student has overdue fees or discipline issues. Interim grade reporting (half-way point of each quarter) will be communicated via the ParentPlus portal.

Semester Exams

Semester exams begin at 8:10 AM and end at 11:20 AM. Typically there are 2 exams each day. Exams are 90 minutes in length. Your child will be dismissed for the day at the conclusion of the second exam. First semester exams take place January 14 - 17. Second semester exams take place June 15. - 18

Textbooks

Families are responsible for purchasing students' textbooks. Please be advised that St. John Paul II High School no longer partners with a single online bookseller. Instead, an official school book list for all courses will be provided on the school website as well as in the Blue & Gold newsletter. This document will provide necessary information about any required editions and formats (hardcover, ebook) as well as hyperlinks and directions to possible vendors, including Pearson and Amazon. This system allows families to comparison shop across many storefronts to find the best price and shipping arrangement.

Many of our courses' textbooks are published by Pearson, and therefore it will be easiest for families to order those textbooks directly from the publisher; Pearson eBooks are browser-based and often include additional study aids through Pearson's proprietary "Mastering" and "Realize" platforms. For textbooks published by other companies, Amazon provides hardcover as well as ebook formats on a new (or used) purchase and rental basis, although the ebooks acquired through Amazon will require students to download the Kindle app on their laptop (the Kindle app is supported on many devices). Please note that all textbooks listed on the official school book list are requirements set by your child's teacher, and that your child will be expected to possess their textbooks for the first day of classes.

STUDENT LIFE

Activities Fair

During the first term of school, student activity representatives will be in the cafeteria to promote student activities and clubs. Your child will have a chance to join an activity/club at that time.

Christian Service Opportunities

Freshmen are required to perform two supervised Christian service experiences led by a JP II staff member. Summer opportunities will be made available and will be announced.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up & School Hours

You may drop-off your child after 7:00 AM each morning. Parents must enter campus using Pine Ave., drop-off at the rear entrances, and exit campus using High School Road. No drop-off or 'waiting' is permitted in the front circle. Pick-up begins after final dismissal and uses the rear entrances as well. Bus service from Barnstable Public Schools, Cape Cod Regional Transit and the Plymouth/Sagamore area (privately arranged by parents) is available. Please check www.sjp2hs.org>Parents>Transportation Options for more information.

Lunch Program

We have an on-line ordering and payment system that allows families to order lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Lunch is provided by Papa Gino's and D'Angelo's. Also available on Monday through Friday, are microwavable lunches, snacks, chips, ice cream and drinks. Ordering information can be found at www.sjp2hs.org>Parents>Lunch Ordering System.

Reach-Out Peer Mentor Program

Select JP11 upperclassmen will provide "mentoring" opportunities for your child during the school year. The Reach-Out program begins with Orientation in August and will continue periodically through June. The objective of the program is to assist your child to acclimate to high school life and become acquainted with JP11 HS customs, traditions, events, policies, and procedures.

Retreats

Your child is required to attend a one day retreat with his or her classmates. These retreats are held off-site and focus on becoming the person who God calls them to be. Mass is part of the retreat. Students receive permission forms prior to the retreat from their Theology teacher. The Campus Ministry Department will provide your family with a retreat schedule and description of the program in September.

School Pictures

Pictures will be taken for all freshmen, sophomores and juniors early in the school year. Pictures are taken by LifeTouch. Package prices and order forms will be made available in the main office and by email to each household. Please keep in mind the school policy of being neat and modest for their picture.

Spirit Week

One of the major social events of high school is Spirit Week. There are competitions during lunches and special dress days as well. The homecoming football game will be played that weekend with a dance in the evening. Dress is semi-formal but in keeping with the dress code for student events. Consult the school calendar for the dates, theme, and activities for Spirit Week.

Sports Parent Meeting

All parents of student-athletes are required to attend a meeting each season (fall, winter, spring) to review expectations, policies, and additional related matters with the athletic director and coaching staff. Dates and times of the meetings will be distributed before each season. The fall Sports Information Night is scheduled for August 12 at 6:00 P.M.

Sports Physicals and Medical Information

If your child is participating in an interscholastic sport, he or she must have a signed physical (within the past thirteen months) on file with the athletic director prior to his or her first practice. All families are required to sign up on Family ID, our on line athletic registration system, which includes the Medical Questionnaire and Concussion information paperwork. Physicals that lapse after practices have begun are no longer valid and must be updated in order to continue playing that season.

Sports Practice Dates

You will be given a pre-school opening practice schedule during the Sports Information Night, August 12, 6:00 PM. Practice and game schedules for each sport will be distributed by coaches at the end of this meeting.

Sports Practice Schedules

Interscholastic sports are an extension of the school day and are considered co-curricular in nature. Therefore, St. John Paul II High School student-athletes are expected to be present at all practices and games. Unexcused absences will result in a one-game suspension for a first offense. Please be mindful that teams do practice and play during school vacations and holidays.

Practice Attire (“Lion Gear”)

JPII Athletics promotes pride in school and proper attire at all times. As such, student-athletes who are participating in practices, games, weight room activities, or any other related athletic events, will be required to wear JPII gear at all times. Teams will also be required to wear JPII gear when traveling to away contests to maintain a consistent appearance that is acceptable to the school. Any violation of this rule may result in a student-athlete not being able to participate in that day’s events. Lion gear may be purchased at the JPII school store.

Uniforms

Please refer to the dress code policy included with this booklet. Donnelly’s is our ONLY approved uniform supplier. Students are expected to be in uniform on the first day of school.

School Store

Used uniforms, spirit wear, and athletic wear may be purchased at the school store. The store will be open on June 21, 8:00 - 10:00 AM, July 24, 11:00 - 2:00 PM and August 12, 4:30 - 6:00 PM.

COMMUNICATION

Blue & Gold Insider Newsletter (Weekly and Monthly)

The Blue & Gold Weekly Notification provides you with immediate happenings for the week ahead. The Blue & Gold Monthly Newsletter for current families is available online (www.sjp2hs.org/bluegold). Topics include: Head of School message, Campus Ministry, Guidance, Athletics, Fine Arts, Student Life, Student Accolades, Important Memos, and Calendar. **It is important that the school has your most up to date email address.**

Parent/Student Handbook

The Parent/Student Handbook details expectations, policies, and procedures. It can be found at www.sjp2hs.org>Parents>Publications and Forms>Parent Student Handbook.

Parent Organizations

If you're interested in serving as a parent group representative, please contact School President, Mr. Keavy.

School Website

The most up-to-date information on our school can be found at www.sjp2hs.org. The site includes family access for the school calendar, publications and forms, athletic schedules, and more.

Volunteering

There are numerous opportunities for parents to volunteer at St. John Paul II High School. In order to work as a volunteer, parents must submit to a CORI background check (provided by the school and Diocese) and workshop. Dates of the workshops will be announced through the Blue & Gold Weekly Notification.