

**JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**2025**

**2026**



**BUILDING MINDS, FORMING FAITH,  
CHANGING LIVES**

**9375 WINTON ROAD  
CINCINNATI, OH 45231**

**School Hours 8:40 AM – 3:30 PM**

**Telephone Numbers**

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Absence Line	728-3104
School Office	521-0860
Religious Education Office	728-3105
School Nurse	521-0774
Cafeteria	728-3109

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# Introduction & History

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Welcome to a brand new and exciting school year at John Paul II Catholic School. Our commitment is to follow in the footsteps of St. John Paul II by making JP II School a place where all students, parents, and staff are welcomed and become part of our family. JP II is a fully accredited Catholic elementary school serving students in preschool through eighth grade in Springfield Township and the surrounding neighborhoods. The school itself has been through many changes since it was established in 1962. At that time, the school was known as St. Bartholomew School and was staffed with four Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg and four lay teachers. By 1980, the school had grown to 751 students in grades one through eight, and was consolidated with St. Bartholomew, Corpus Christi and St. John Neumann Parishes. In 2006-2007, the school went through a reconsolidation which included new parishes of St. Bartholomew, St. Clare, St. James and Our Lady of the Rosary Parishes. Since the original consolidation in 1980, JP II is the longest consolidated school in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati serving over 450 students in PreK through grade eight.

John Paul II is governed by a school board. The board consists of the school principal, the pastor and three members of each affiliated parish and one non-parishioner member. The pastors of each affiliated parish family rotate yearly as designated pastor of the school.

Through the years, JP II has continued to expand the educational opportunities that meet the needs of the students in all grades. **The administration, teachers, and staff are committed to educating the whole child, spiritually, physically, emotionally, and intellectually in a Catholic centered environment. In a cooperative effort with parents, the individual abilities and God given talents of each student is challenged and nurtured.** We offer an enrichment program, a health clinic, counseling, speech and language therapist, Title 1 Reading instruction, teachers trained in Orton Gillingham, and intervention services.

This commitment to all learners has numerous benefits for all. It enables each child to grow in his/her relationship with God and others, to engage in hands-on experiences necessary to gain mastery of content material, and to develop effective work habits and leadership skills. Students can advance grade levels for math, engage in STEM activities through our enrichment program, be immersed in the Spanish language and culture, and be given accommodations as needed from a support team. The support team consists of the classroom teachers, Speech Pathologist, intervention specialists, school nurse, school psychologist, and a partnership with Ohio Valley Voices and Hamilton County Educational Service Center for occupational therapy and vision and mobility.

JP II offers many extra curricula activities, as well: band, choir, Power of the Pen, Magnified Giving (a philanthropy program), and athletics (Grades 3-8 basketball, volleyball, track, golf, softball & baseball). Through a myriad of opportunities and individual attention, our students are successful and well prepared for the rigor of high school.

It is our commitment to provide a well-rounded education for your children, but more importantly, it is our mission to continue the work you parents have begun by instilling in your children Catholic values and attitudes. "Jesus is the reason for this school. He is the ever-present teacher in all its classes, the model of its faculty, and the inspiration for its students." This message is lived in all of the classrooms and halls of JP II Catholic School.

## Our Mission

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Rooted in the message of Pope John Paul II, our students are empowered to make a difference through compassion, kindness, and confidence in their school and community. John Paul II Catholic School fosters active participation through academics tailored to meet the needs of the whole child. Prayer, worship and knowledge are integral pieces in forming Christ-like leaders prepared to serve others.

## Our Beliefs

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1. We believe that each student is a valued individual with unique spiritual, physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs and talents.
2. We believe that our classrooms are student centered to aid in educating the whole child so that all students can learn.
3. We believe that students will take ownership of their learning and believe in their own ability to complete tasks and reach goals.

4. We believe that students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process through an ongoing assessment program to effectively meet the changing needs of the students.
5. We believe that a commitment to continuous improvement is imperative in order for our school to continue to enable students to become confident, self-directed, lifelong learners.
6. We believe that the students, parents, teachers, administrators, and community share in the responsibility for advancing the school's mission.

## Organization

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JPII Catholic School is accredited by the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association (OCSAA).

JPII is a regional elementary school operated, supported, and directed by John Paul II Catholic School Board of Education representing St. Bartholomew, St. Clare, St. James, and Our Lady of the Rosary parishes, pursuant to the policies of the Archdiocesan and Area Commissions on Education. JPII is a grade school offering a pre-k through eighth grade Catholic academic program.

The Principal and/or School Board with the support of the pastor, retains the right to amend this parent/student handbook for just cause. Parents and students will be given prompt notification if changes are made.

No student may be excluded from John Paul II Catholic School solely because of race, color, national origin, or ancestry.

## Confidentiality

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John Paul II Catholic School ensures the privacy of each student and family. All student files (academic, attendance, health, and conduct) shall be maintained in a secured location in the main office and the school clinic. Each student's file is confidential and shall be available only to the appropriate school personnel and the child's parent or legal guardian. No information will be released from the school without the written approval of the child's parent as per the Release of Records Form.

## School Calendar

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The school calendar and schedule for classes and activities meet and exceed the minimum standards for Ohio elementary schools and the Archdiocesan Education Commission.

School Calendar can be found on the JPII App and Website.

## Right to Amend

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This handbook is not a binding contract on John Paul II Catholic School. Rather, it is a unilateral set of policies which students and families are expected to, and must, follow. The principal, or his/her appointee, with the support of the pastor, retains the right to amend this handbook at any time and for any reason. Parents, guardians, and students will be given notification if changes are made.

# Admission and Registration Policy

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JPII is established to serve primarily the membership of the above-mentioned parishes, especially the children of parishioners, who, through their active participation in their parish community, indicate that they desire to have their children trained in the Catholic faith as an extension of their home environment. This could also be applicable in instances of recent conversion or renewal of faith.

## General Admission Policies

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- A. John Paul II Catholic School admits students of any race, color, religion, sex, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to**

**students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national, and ethnic origin but follows the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.**

- B. JP II will not admit students entering the eighth grade unless he/she is an active parishioner of a member parish.
- C. It is understood that JP II must be beneficial to the child seeking admission. Families seeking admission for students in grades K-8 are to complete the following procedures:
  - 1. Families must agree to a probationary period of one semester which is contingent upon the student's academic progress, discipline, attendance, and meeting all financial obligations. **At this time, the admissions review committee (consisting of but not limited to the principal, classroom teachers, intervention specialist and psychologist) will determine if the student should be placed in a different grade in order for him/her to succeed or if the student's needs require a school other than John Paul II. The admissions review committee's determination will be final: if the parent does not support the decision, the parent will be asked to withdraw the student.**
  - 2. Submit a copy of a current report card and **records from the previous school prior to admission.**
  - 3. **Prospective new students will need to submitted diagnostic/standardized tests with registration application. The admissions review committee will review the results as well as the student's academic, behavioral, and other records to determine admissions and grade placement.**
  - 4. **Prospective new students must not have been dismissed or suspended from other schools for serious disciplinary infractions.**
  - 5. Report card, school records, and screening are necessary to assure that the child is placed in the best grade level considering his/her abilities. It is also to ascertain whether this is the proper setting for your child.
  - 6. **Prospective new students, in grades 5 through 7 must have an interview scheduled with the principal prior to acceptance.**
- D. It is understood that parents seeking the admission of their child(ren) to JP II are agreeable to following the regulations and policies of the school.
- E. Classroom limitations: All available classroom space will be utilized. The maximum number of classes that can be accommodated will be determined by the pastors, administration and School Board. In the event the need arises for the creation of another class and space is available, the following procedure will apply:
  - 1. No additional class for the following school year may be created after May 1 except by approval of the pastors, administration and School Board.
  - 2. The number of students in grades 1-8 is not to exceed 25. In any grade level where the student population will exceed the maximum students per class, an additional class may be established, provided the minimum student population per class is not less than 23.
  - 3. The number of students in kindergarten is limited to 20-23.
  - 4. If two or more extra classrooms are required, and space is not available for all desired classrooms, priority shall be given to the grade level with the largest student population.
- F. Admission and readmission are on an annual basis.

## Admission Requirements and Priorities

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### **A. Age Requirements**

In accordance with Section 3321.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, no child may be admitted to kindergarten or the first grade unless he/she is five or six years of age (respectively) on or before September 30 of the year of admittance. Children who become five or six before October 1 are "of age" for kindergarten and first grade, respectively. Children who become five or six between October 1 and January 1, inclusive, shall be considered as underage candidates for kindergarten and first grade, and may be admitted on a trial basis at the discretion of the administration. No children who turn six after January 1 will be admitted to first grade during the school year already in progress. No child shall be admitted to the first grade if he/she has not successfully completed kindergarten. No child may be admitted to kindergarten at JP II unless s/he is five years of age on or before September 30 of the year of admittance.

### **B. Priorities for Admission of Students (Grades K-7)**

- 1. It is our goal to maintain a fair balance between the member parishes of the regional school and to maintain an optimum enrollment in the school.

2. If there are more students than spaces in any grade level, it is intended that the pastors will meet and decide among themselves which students will be admitted. If a consensus is not reached, the following priority system will determine admission:
  - a. All students in good standing who were enrolled in the school during the previous school year.
  - b. Children of full-time certified or non-certified staff employed by the school.
  - c. New students whose parents are parishioners in good standing of one of the member parishes and who have a sibling presently enrolled at JP II.
  - d. New students whose parents are parishioners in good standing of one of the member parishes and who have had a sibling attend JP II in the past.
  - e. New students who have not previously attended the school but are parishioners in good standing of one of the member parishes.
  - f. Transferees from another parish who have become parishioners during the school year in which registration is being conducted and have been previously enrolled in a Catholic School and are now parishioners in good standing at one of the member parishes.
  - g. Transferees from another parish who have become parishioners during the year in which registration is being conducted and were not previously enrolled in a Catholic School and are now parishioners in a good standing of one of the member parishes.
  - h. New students or transferees who are not parishioners of any of the member parishes and who have/had a sibling enrolled at JP II.
  - i. New students or transferees who are not parishioners of any of the member parishes. New non-parishioner students are contingent on a space so as not to take a place from a parishioner student.
3. Enrollment will be examined at each grade level.

**C. Notice of Acceptance or Non-Acceptance**

1. Parents or guardians registering new student(s) for JP II, regardless of grade level, will be notified by the school of the acceptance or non-acceptance of their child(ren).
2. There will be a waiting list of students not admitted because of previously stated over-enrollment maintained during the year. Registrants on this priority list may be admitted during the school year if a vacancy occurs. Vacancies will be filled by an applicant at the highest priority level with the parish creating the vacancy getting the first opportunity to fill the opening. If that parish cannot fill the vacancy from that priority level, the spot will revert to the other parishes at that priority level in the same yearly rotating basis outlined in B.4 above.
3. Those persons on the waiting list seeking to enter JP II in the following year must re-register during the designated registration period.
4. Any students registered after the close of the announced registration period will be admitted, if space is available, in the order in which they register. If space is not available, they will be put on the waiting list in the order in which they register.

## Students with Learning Differences

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John Paul II Catholic School will evaluate on a case-by-case basis whether or not it can meet the needs of a child with a disability. If the school can make reasonable accommodations to meet the child's needs, then the child may be offered the opportunity to enroll.

John Paul II Catholic School is a provider of the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship through the state of Ohio. With the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program, our students are afforded a well-rounded, inclusive, and supportive program implemented through a support team. Students receive needed accommodations, modifications, and interventions within the classroom environment, as well as individual or small group sessions with licensed specialists on their individual goals as outlined on their IEPs. Progress reports are sent home quarterly in addition to the trimester report cards.

The support team, which includes the principal, teachers, special education providers, parents and when needed, the public school district personnel, review the IEP or the ISP and any other supporting documentation to determine if the school is able to provide the services needed.

The school must be provided with all of the records requested before a decision is made.

## Registration

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All registrations are provisional, that is, subject to the approval of the respective Pastor and the Principal.

### **Annual Registration**

Registrations will be accepted only during the year of entry into the school. Children from families already enrolled at JP II shall have first priority in registration and acceptance. Priority registration will begin on Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>. Open registration will begin on the Sunday of Catholic Schools Week (usually the last Sunday in January) at Open House. Registration will end February 28. New families registering will receive notification of enrollment on March 15.

### **Registration throughout the School Year**

Registrants seeking admission into JP II after the start of a new school year for reasons other than relocating must have a letter of recommendation from the principal of the student's former school indicating that the student is in good standing. Acceptance will also be at the discretion of the JP II administration and respective pastors. This is normally handled on a first come, first serve basis.

### **New Parishioner Registration Policy**

Any new family registering as a parishioner is entitled to register during the JP II new family registration period, regardless of their parish's policy on tuition payment.

### **Fees**

At the time of registration, a non-refundable registration fee is required to secure a child's space. Registration fee must be paid prior to acceptance. The fee (per family) is \$225 made payable to JP II. A portion of the registration fee is credited toward tuition.

## Waiting List

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In the event a waiting list is necessary, a child from one of the member parishes will remain on the waiting list for the following year in the same position and priority as long as the following conditions are met:

1. They remain parishioners in good standing.
2. They have registered on time.
3. They have pastor approval.

## Acceptance of Registration

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Admission to JP II Catholic School is not determined until all documents and forms, records from previous school(s) and registration fees are completed, returned to the school, and reviewed by the administration. If a student is applying for or has received a State of Ohio Scholarship (Jon Peterson Scholarship or EdChoice), all forms and documentation must be submitted prior to acceptance for admission.

Registration fees are not refundable.

Families will be notified of new and returning student registration dates, tuition and fees as these are determined by the school, affiliated parishes, and School Board.

## Accurate Information Statement

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Refusing to provide requested information to the school, or providing incomplete, or inaccurate information to the school, may result in the denial or revocation of admission and/or disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion.

# The School Day, Attendance, & Withdrawal

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## Schedule

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School day – 8:40 AM to 3:30 PM. School doors will be opened at 8:20 A.M. Children are to go immediately to their homerooms. **It is encouraged to have the students in their homerooms before 8:40 am in order for them to be ready to start their day.**

Recess – All children are expected to go outside for recess, weather permitting. Children should be dressed properly for outdoor recess. Children will play in the area designated for their grade level. No rough play is permitted.

If a parent wishes his/her child to be excused from recess, the request must be made in writing and state the reason the child is to be kept indoors. Since no child should be in the classroom by himself/herself, the child will stay in the cafeteria or outside the office until it is time to return to the classroom.

## Attendance

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Regular attendance at school is important to the academic development of the child and is required by state law. The following factors are considered reasonable excuses for time missed at school:

- Personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required)
- Recovery from an accident
- Illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
- Death in the family
- High School Shadow Days (3)

**Family vacations during the school year, are not excused absences and are highly discouraged as it adversely affects the child's academic progress.**

1. All students attending JP II are expected to participate in all curricular and extracurricular programs and activities during the regular school day.

If a child cannot participate in a routine manner:

- a. The parent or guardian must submit a written note each week to the child's homeroom teacher. If the duration is a long period of time, weekly notes may not be required at the discretion of the principal.
- b. A note from the doctor may be required under certain circumstances. The note must state the reason, specific limitations or restrictions, and the anticipated duration of the condition.
- c. It is the parent's or guardian's (not the teacher's or principal's) responsibility to be certain the child understands his/her limitations and heeds them.

2. As a precautionary measure, parents are asked to call the school before 9:30 to report a child's absence. This will clear the school of worry that an accident may have befallen the child on his/her way to school. If the absence is not reported, parents will be contacted at home or at work to verify the absence.

**CALL 728-3104 TO REPORT ABSENCES!!!  
This line is available 24 hours a day.**

3. JP II does not recognize perfect attendance with a reward.
4. **State law requires that a written excuse stating the reason for the absence, the date(s), and parent's signature is required when a child returns to the school after an absence.**



A physician's note is required after any contagious disease or for some extended absences. After five absences during the trimester, the school may require a written doctor's excuse. Students with excessive absences (**10 days in a month**) will be reported to the truancy officer for the district.

5. All absentee notices are kept on file by the teachers until the end of the year.
6. If a child arrives late for school, he/she must report to the office and present a note from his/her parent.
7. **Late arrivals, leaving and returning in the middle of the day, or early departures are considered "tardies". Accumulation of 10 unexcused tardies in a trimester will result in a detention or loss of recess depending on the grade level. A note from the physician is required for excused tardies.**
8. Students arriving after 12:00 or leaving at 12:00 and not returning to school will be counted 1/2 day absent.
9. If a student has missed more than 1/4 of the school days in any one report card period, grades may be withheld for that period.
10. No child will be dismissed from school during class hours without prior notification (verbal/written) by the parent. This request should be presented by the child to the homeroom teacher. Parents should then come to the office to pick up their child. You may not wait for your child outside the classroom.
11. No child will be dismissed before the end of the regular school day in order to participate in extracurricular activities such as scouts, sports, etc., unless, for some extraordinary reason, the principal gives permission.
12. The school cannot give permission for students to take a vacation during school time. It is the parent's decision to do so, no assignments will be given in advance for students being taken out of school for family vacations. Work will be made up following the same guidelines for absence and illness. The responsibility lies with the student to get missed assignments, turn them in on time, and arrange to make up tests.
13. The office will not fax homework and homework may not be faxed to school.
14. It is the policy of the school that all in-class and homework missed due to absence because of illness, medical treatment or appointments, or family emergencies must be completed within a reasonable length of time. The amount of time to complete these assignments is determined by the number of days absent. If absent 1 day, you have one day to make up the work. If absent 2 days, 2 days are given to make up the work, etc. Assignments will be put together for the students who are absent. **Books and assignments will be sent home with a designated student or may be picked up by a parent/guardian between 3:30 PM and 4:00 PM on the homework table outside the school office. It is not possible for these assignments to be picked up at an earlier time in the school day.**
15. The parents are asked to please try to make all doctor appointments after school hours, if possible. The school is not authorized to grant permission for frequent absences. However, if it is necessary to take a child out of school for an appointment, a written note must be submitted.
16. School personnel will keep a record of the number of times a child is absent and/or tardy. Students arriving 1< minutes after the start of the school day (up to 8:40 am) will be marked as tardy. Students who leave school before **3:25** are marked as tardy because of an early dismissal. These tardies are recorded on the report card. Excessive tardiness and/or excessive absenteeism will be brought to the attention of parents with the possibility that the local public school visiting teacher will be notified.
17. Attendance is mandatory for all students at yearly music concerts.

John Paul II Catholic School is a Catholic school that abides by the teachings and rules of the Catholic Church. Faith is integrated into all aspects of the school's activities. It would be inconsistent with the school's identity and mission to teach, promote, or encourage an understanding that is contrary to Catholic teachings. Thus, a student's expression of his/her gender, sexual identity, or sexuality that is inconsistent with the Catholic faith may be considered by John Paul II Catholic School when determining whether to admit or retain a student.

## Student Pregnancy

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The decision to admit or retain a student in the school who has become pregnant, or caused another student to become pregnant, will be made by the pastor and/or principal after all involved parties have been consulted. In each case, the decision will be made with the welfare of the student(s) involved, and the common good and welfare of all the students considered.

## Gender Identity

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In Catholic schools, all curricular and extra-curricular activity is rooted in and consistent with, the principles of Catholic doctrine. Catholic schools:

- Support students with gender dysphoria by treating them with sensitivity, respect, mercy, and compassion.
- Require that participation on school teams be according to biological sex.
- Require that names and pronouns be in accordance with the person's biological sex.
- Designate Catholic sex education, uniforms and gender appropriate dress, bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, and sleeping accommodations on trips according to biological sex.
- Maintain names in school records according to the student's biological sex.
- Provide reasonable accommodation to a private bathroom for use by any student who desires increased privacy.

In case of a specific request, consider in a compassionate way, on a case-by-case basis the physical and psychological needs of a student based on the following questions:

- What is the specific request of the student and/or parent?
- Is the request in keeping with the teaching of the Catholic Church?
- Is the school reasonably able to accommodate the request?

## Withdrawals or Change of Residence

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1. Should you change your place of residence, send your new address and telephone number to the office. If your childcare provider's address changes, inform JP II as well as your local school district's transportation office of this change.
2. A student may be asked to withdraw from JP II if the school cannot meet the student's instructional needs, if the student has not performed the required assignments, had excessive absences that impeded academic progress, or has neglected to participate in the education processes of the school. All tuition and fees owed must be paid.

Withdrawal of a student on a permanent basis is a formal procedure and should be completed by means of a letter to the principal indicating the official date of withdrawal. The new school office should send a written request to John Paul II for your child's records or an official withdrawal form may be signed at JP II at which time the records will be automatically sent. All fees must be paid before records will be sent to another school or district. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to obtain the student's report card and personal possessions on his/her last day of attendance.

3. Any school property, including, but not limited to, library books, novels, non-consumable text books, school owned ipads, etc. must be returned. Additionally, any and all outstanding financial obligations including, but not limited to, lunch fees and tuition must be met.

## Release of Records to High Schools

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Upon request JP II office will forward records to two high schools once records are complete. Any additional requests will require an addressed, postage-paid envelope.

**Release of Information to Archdiocese** - John Paul II Catholic School provides directory information to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for inclusion in a student database. The database will be made available to Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese. The high schools will provide information regarding their academic and co-curricular programs as well as dates and times for Open Houses, testing, etc. If you do not wish to have your child's information released to the Archdiocese, please send a written statement indicating such to the JP II school office.

## **Arrival, Dismissal, & Transportation Policies and Procedures**

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### **Bus Transportation**

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Bus transportation is provided for those who are eligible in Fairfield, Finneytown, Winton Woods, Mt. Healthy, and Northwest School Districts. Bus stops are determined by the public school district and are established to convenience, as much as possible, the child and family. Children will only be picked up or dropped off at official stops.

**It is the policy of public school transportation departments that students may only ride buses within the district of residence.**

Lists are kept on file at the Public Boards of Education of all students eligible for bus service in the district. JP II will notify the public school district of withdrawals, new enrollments, or changes of address.

All public school districts will notify families of transportation. This information is not provided by JP II.

If no one is at home when a child is dropped off after school, the child will be taken to the district bus compound. If no parent can be reached, for safety reasons the child will be taken to the local police station.

Bus transportation for half-day kindergartners is not guaranteed by public school districts serving JP II.

If parents of children who normally ride a bus intend to drive their children home at dismissal, the parents must send a note to the teacher stating the child(ren) will be driven home. If the teacher does not receive a note, the child will be dismissed by his/her normal mode of transportation.

### **Car Riders and Car Pools**

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**For the safety of our children, please follow these procedures:**

**Morning:** Enter the north driveway and proceed around the building. Students in grades K through 3 will exit cars in the front of the school and enter the building through the main entrance. Students in grade 6 will exit cars in the front of the school and enter the doors outside the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms to the right of the main school entrance.

Students in grades 4, 5, 7, and 8 will exit cars at the walkway by the pre-k entrance at the side of the school. These students will enter the building through the doors at the top of the steps. Use the Winton-Fleming Road exit.

**Afternoon:** All car riders are dismissed from the north exits. Park cars in the North parking lot. Please remain parked until the children are safely in their cars and the stop signs are removed. Exit by driving behind the school to the Winton-Fleming Road exit.

**Dismissal to After-School Activities:** All coaches, scout leaders, and other adult organizers should inform the office staff of the group they will be picking up. **The adult should immediately proceed to the hall outside the computer room and wait for their group.** Groups will not be called until the adult leader has left the lobby.

### **General Dismissal Policy**

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A child is not dismissed from school until his/her bus is called or until car riders or walkers are specifically called for dismissal. **If a student leaves before this time, he/she will be marked tardy.**

Walkers are dismissed first. We ask the parents of car riders to stay in the parking lot and not come into the office to pick up their children. If a child has the parent/guardian's permission to ride with another adult, a note granting such

permission must be given to the child's teacher.

**If a child who usually rides the bus wishes to walk or ride in a car, the parent/guardian must write a note granting such permission.**

Chaperones for field trips and school activities such as field day may indicate that their child/children will be car riders and write a note accordingly. Children will be dismissed from their homerooms at the normal dismissal time.

No child will be kept after school without a parent's knowledge and consent.

**Once students are dismissed, there will be no re-admittance to the building for forgotten items.**

## Walkers

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Walkers must observe safety regulations. Students are required to follow the directions of the school staff member at all times while leaving the school/parish campus.

## School Closings Before the Start of the School Day

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**Should school be closed or delayed due to inclement and hazardous weather conditions, parents and students will be notified through an automated call system**, radio and television announcements, or the school website/app. Any announcements concerning JP II will be made individually.

JP II will announce a **one/two-hour school delay** if safety dictates and/or the majority of our students would be affected by bus delays.

JP II school delays will be:

- 2 Hour Delay - School will begin at 10:50 AM.
- Students should arrive no earlier than 10:20 AM.
- The School will NOT be open prior to 10:20 AM.
- There will be no half day kindergarten.
- Lunch will NOT be served if there is a two-hour delay. Drinks and snacks will be sold as usual.

If the weather continues to deteriorate, it is possible that the delay will be changed into a school closing.

**If your child's bus district is not on a delay but JP II is**, you are responsible for providing transportation to school. **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD ON THE BUS**, as there will not be anyone here at school. If you are unable to arrange transportation, your child will be marked absent. (We must have an accurate count of students in the building for safety reasons.) This would, however, be considered an excused absence.

**If JP II is not delayed, but your bus district is delayed**, school will begin at 8:40. You may either transport your child/ren or send them on the delayed bus. In this instance, students will not be counted tardy, but they will be expected to make up missed work.

JP II will announce a **school closing** if safety dictates and/or the majority of our students would be without bus transportation.

## Emergency Early Dismissal

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Students at JP II live in various school districts around the area. On rare occasions, one or more of the school districts may decide to dismiss students before the end of the regular school day due to inclement weather. JP II has no input and is not consulted in that decision. When a school district decides upon an early dismissal, that school district automatically sends its buses to pick up JP II students from that school district. An automated message will be sent out to notify parents of this change. Unless we receive acceptable written instructions to the contrary, JP II has no choice but to dismiss its students who reside in those school districts, allow them to board the buses, and allow them to be taken home.

When a school district decides to have an early dismissal because of inclement weather, that decision is broadcasted on the radio, television, our website/app and an automated message will be sent to all parents. On days when it

appears possible that inclement weather may cause an early dismissal, parents must listen to the radio and television for information about the specific school district in which they reside. An automated message from JPll will be sent to all parents about this change. It is imperative that you listen to those messages in their entirety.

We require that each family develop written instructions for their children on what to do in the event of an unexpected early dismissal. Forms will be sent home for this purpose.

**If another type of emergency situation were to arise (i.e., fire, tornado, bomb threat, gas leak, etc.), JPll will seek and follow the advice of safety personnel such as the police and fire department. Parents must ensure that their home and business telephone numbers as provided to JPll are kept current. Failure to provide JPll with new or changed telephone numbers makes it impossible for JPll to notify you in case of an emergency.**

## Payment of Tuition & Fees

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Tuition is collected by the school for all students. The tuition can be paid in full before June 20<sup>th</sup> or in 10 monthly payments. The payment of tuition and fees will be reviewed at the end of each trimester. All fees and tuition must be paid before report cards will be given. In addition, access to Option C will be denied. **Tuition which is 2 months behind will result in the withdrawal of the student. In the case of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, all tuition and fees must be paid or the student will not be permitted to participate in the graduation celebration.** Fees include, but are not limited to fines incurred because of damage to textbooks, library fines, lunch money, and fees imposed when children are not picked up on time from detention or school activities. Records will not be transferred to another school until fees are paid and tuition is current. **Students will not be permitted to buy lunch once a family is behind more than \$30 in lunch fees.**

### Library

All children will be provided the opportunity to regularly make use of the library. In the event of lost or damaged books, the amount to be paid will be determined by school officials. Report cards will not be given to students with overdue books or fines owed the library.

## Academic Information

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### Academic Expectations

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Students at JPll are exposed to a challenging, well-rounded curriculum. In addition to core subjects, we also offer spiritual development through religion classes, service opportunities, and weekly liturgies, foreign language classes, fine arts, enrichment and intervention opportunities. Additional support services are available for students as needed.

### Curriculum

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The curriculum is child-centered. It endeavors in all areas of learning to develop the potential of each student to the utmost.

JPll follows the Graded Course of Study as mandated by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The curriculum is aligned with the State of Ohio Learning Standards. All content areas have standards that progress in complexity each year as student grow in proficiency of the standards.

### Grading Scale for Grades 4 through 8

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The purpose of assessing student work and performance through issuing a grade is to inform the student, the teacher and the family about the student's growth toward proficiency of the standard. Grades K-3 use the Standards Based Report Card, which is an Exiting Report Card. Students are not expected to be proficient in the standards until all the content is taught, which is by the end of the school year.

The following scales or grades are used:

K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades:

4: Consistently Demonstrates/Exceeds Proficiency

- 3: Frequently Demonstrates Proficiency
- 2: Progressing Toward Proficiency
- 1: Demonstrates Limited Progress Toward Proficiency

4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades:

- A: Superior or 93-100
- B: Very Good or 85-92
- C: Satisfactory or 77-84
- D: Below Average or 70-76
- F: Failing or below 70

## Academic Honor Roll Criteria (Grades 6 through 8)

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First Honors	3.5 grade average
Second Honors	3.0 grade average

All subjects are considered in the grade point average for honor roll and are given an assigned value according to the number of times per week the class meets. To be eligible for the honor roll, a student may not have a grade lower than a C-.

If a student receives three or more checks for personal development or has accumulated **10** or more points on the behavior card for the trimester, she/he is not eligible for the honor roll. One or more teachers may give these checks. The faculty and administration will determine the criteria for behavior at each grade level.

## Totus Tuus Award (Grades K through 8)

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Totus Tuus was Pope John Paul II's apostolic motto. It is a Latin phrase meaning "totally yours" or complete commitment to Christ. The Totus Tuus Award is presented each trimester to two students in each homeroom, kindergarten through eighth grade. These students are chosen for their commitment to living out the love of Christ through their curiosity about the Catholic faith, commitment to service, reverence during prayer, and respect for the dignity of each person. A student is eligible to receive the Totus Tuus Award once per school year.

## Effort Award (Grades K through 8)

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The Effort Award is given to a student(s) per homeroom each trimester in grades K through 8. The recipients of this award put forth their best effort in their studies, are humble in their success, and are willing to share their talents with others. A student is eligible to receive this award once per school year.

## Homework

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Homework is assigned as a means of giving practice, reinforcing concepts on the individual level, evaluating progress, and developing good study/work habits. These objectives are essential to our purpose. Homework does not necessarily mean traditional, written work. Students may be requested to review class notes, read, work on projects, or study for tests, etc.

Time of homework should be set aside after every school day. Students are assigned an amount of homework that is age appropriate for each grade. The amount of time spent on homework each evening will vary according to the ability of the student. However, the homework should be within the range of the student's ability and of such a nature that the student, not the parent or guardian, will do the work. If you think that your child is spending an excessive amount of time on homework every night, please talk to his/her teacher about your concerns.

Since students learn and accomplish assigned tasks at different rates, it is sometimes difficult to determine a specific time for homework assignments. The following is the recommended time for homework:

Grades 1, 2, 3	15 to 30 minutes
Grades 4, 5	45 to 60 minutes
Grades 6, 7, 8	60 to 75 minutes

All classroom assignments are expected to be submitted on time. If a student does not complete the work and return it to the teacher on time, it is considered a missing assignment. Not completing homework because of sports or extra-

curricular activities is not an acceptable reason for missing assignments. Teachers at each grade level will determine appropriate consequences for missing assignments and will give details about their homework policies to the parents at Open House.

## Promotion & Retention

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Promotion from one grade level to the next is dependent on the child's ability to successfully complete the course of study at his/her grade level. At the primary level, Grades 1-3, a pupil should be promoted if he/she has done satisfactory work in the language arts program, especially reading, and has given evidence of adequate social development.

At the fourth through eighth grade levels, a pupil should be promoted if he/she has done satisfactory work in Reading, Expression, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science.

If a student fails one or two core subjects, he/she is required to attend summer school or receive 30 hours of tutoring in each subject from a certified teacher, in addition to 15 hours of homework. Documentation of the teacher's certification and the fulfillment of the 30 hours of instruction and 15 hours of homework in each subject is required before the student is accepted the following year.

Retention at the same grade level for the following school year will be required of a student who has failed to complete the requirements at his or her grade level. If a child has an "F" average in more than two of the major subject areas, he/she will have to repeat the grade. If a seventh or eighth grader is retained, he/she may not return to JP II the following year.

\*Decisions concerning summer school and retention are to be made by the principal who will consult with the teacher or teachers concerned.

## Religious Education

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John Paul II Catholic School strives to enable students to develop a vital, personal relationship with God and to share the Gospels' realistic views of the human condition while affirming hope. Through the study of the Catholic faith, including our rich tradition, the school helps prepare students to celebrate God's love, proclaim God's message and live in accord with this message. For this reason, all students attend Mass and liturgies on the assigned days and are encouraged to participate in the liturgies and to take advantage of service opportunities as permitted.

All students at JP II are required to participate in Religion class. Academic grades are received based on class participation and retention of subject matter taught.

All students are expected to maintain proper behavior and respect during prayer and liturgies.

Instruction and preparation for the reception of the sacraments of Penance, Holy Communion, and Confirmation are provided at the parishes for the appropriate grade levels. The students will receive these sacraments at their respective parishes.

## Records Review

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Records Review Student records are private and accessible only to school administrators (including the principal), the teachers who are working with the student, and the students' parents/guardians who make official requests. Parents/guardians are asked to make a request for records in writing 24 hours in advance. An appointment shall be made to view the records the school retains for the student.

In the absence of a court order to the contrary, the school will provide the non-custodial parent with access to academic records and other school related information regarding the student. If there is a court order specifying that no information is to be given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of the court order.

## Reporting Pupil Progress

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JP II utilizes a variety of methods to apprise parents of their child's progress in school. It is our hope that the different

communications will help both the parent and teacher to provide for the needs of the child.

- *On-Line Grade Reporting* - Parents of students in grades 4 through 8 should access student grades on-line throughout the trimester. **It is the parent's responsibility to check grades on OptionC.**
- *Interim Reports* - Students in grades 1-3 will receive interim reports each trimester. Interim reports are not given to students in grades 4-8 as these reports are viewed on-line. **It is the parent's responsibility to check grades on OptionC.**
- *Trimester Report Cards* – Parents of students in grades K-8 will view report cards on-line through Option C. These reports will indicate progress and areas of needed improvement. Academic skills as well as growth in social and personal responsibility are reported. Much attention and importance should be given to the social and personal responsibility marks. The end of the year report card will be posted on-line.
- *Conferences* - Scheduled Parent/Teacher conferences are held after the first trimester. See calendar for conference dates. Reminders are emailed indicating the time schedule of the conference. During the conference, the child's progress and development will be reviewed and discussed. Parents are encouraged to contact the school for additional conferences with the classroom teacher(s), should the need arise.

A Cumulative Record is maintained on each student in the school. This record contains detailed information regarding the student's growth in academic skills, scores on standardized tests, and attendance. School authorities will furnish other schools with this data upon written request and with at least 24 hour notice. **Records will be mailed to the new school if tuition and fees are current.** Records will not be released to parents.

## Testing Program

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JPII follows Archdiocese of Cincinnati and State of Ohio mandated standardized testing. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati requires that the IREADY Test be administered annually. This is an assessment providing data on how students perform based on standards. The test provides valuable information on individual, class and school performance. The information provided in the results assists teachers in providing instruction to build upon students' strengths and to assist the teacher in providing support in those areas where it is needed.

Students receiving State of Ohio scholarships (Jon Peterson, EdChoice or EdChoice Expansion Scholarship) may be required to participate in additional state testing. Those mandated tests and grades are listed below.

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati also mandates that students in JPII School take the ARK Test of Religion. All students, regardless of religious affiliation take the test.

1. IREADY Grades K-7 – administered 3 times per year
2. ARK Test of Religion Grades 3 - 8
3. Students on Jon Peterson/EdChoice State Testing for Science Grades 5 & 8

## Textbooks

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With the exception of religion books and some workbooks, students use textbooks purchased through the state of Ohio Auxiliary Service Program. Proper care must be taken of all books; that is, they must be covered at all times and carried to and from school in bags of some durable material. Restitution must be made for damaged or lost books.

## Temporary Home Instruction

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Home instruction for children who are physically unable to attend school for an extended period may need to be provided through the local public school district. The student may need to enroll in the local public school to receive this instruction. Special consideration should be given on a case-by-case basis and in full consultation with parents/guardians, physician,



school administration, and other related parties.

## Withdrawal/Disenrollment for Academic Reasons

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A student may be asked to withdraw for academic reasons from JP II School if it has been determined the school cannot meet the student's instructional needs or if the student or parents/guardians have not cooperated with the academic team in the educational process of the school.

## Withdrawal/Disenrollment of Students Based Upon the Conduct of Parents/Guardians

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John Paul II Catholic School may require a parent/guardian to withdraw his/her child based on the conduct of the parent/guardian. This may occur if the conduct of a parent/guardian is threatening, hostile, chronically disrespectful, or disruptive to the educational process. In such cases, principals shall contact their assigned Regional Director before the withdrawal is implemented. In this event, the following procedure shall occur:

1. Written notice will be sent to the parent/guardian and student describing the reasons for the student's potential disenrollment.
2. A meeting (in-person, virtual, or by phone) will be held between school representatives, the parent/guardian, and, if appropriate, the student, prior to the disenrollment.
3. A summary report detailing the reasons for the disenrollment will be sent to the Superintendent of Schools.
4. A parent/guardian who believes his/her child has been disenrolled for insufficient reason has the right to appeal, in writing sent through US mail, to the Superintendent.

## Student Code of Conduct and Discipline

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### Goals of Discipline

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John Paul II Catholic School is a caring and supportive Catholic community, and as such, parents, teachers and classmates should expect to be treated in a Christian manner. All members of our community are expected to be respectful and polite to each other at any time and place.

JP II is committed to providing a safe, positive learning and working environment for everyone in the school community. Discipline means the systematic development and training of a child's physical, social, moral and spiritual capacities through guided instruction and controlled self-activity. It is the purpose of JP II to aid parents in the formation and education of Christian children. Discipline is not regimentation; neither does it imply the detailed surveillance of every action of each child.

The Student Code of Conduct and Discipline governs student activities at all times on or off school property when such student conduct is reasonably related to the health, safety, and welfare of students, or such conduct would unreasonably interrupt the educational processes of JP II. As part of the disciplinary procedure, administrators may speak with students without a parent/guardian being present. Discipline goals focus on fostering respect for all and recognizing the dignity of each person. The following code is not intended to place undue restrictions on the students, but rather to prescribe and encourage students to act in a proper manner.

JP II School reserves the right to require a student to participate in counseling/therapy as an ongoing means of remedying behavioral issues, or as a condition of returning to school at all. By signing this Handbook, all students and parents/guardians agree that they will provide whatever authorization is necessary for JP II School to speak with the counselor, therapist, or other mental health professional in such instances to ensure the students' behavioral issues have been or are being fully addressed. As with the method and extent of any disciplinary measures, JP II School reserves final judgement in these matters.

The code of conduct and rules stated in this handbook are not exhaustive. There may be inappropriate incidents that occur which are not stated here. In all disciplinary matters, administration and faculty reserve the right to apply disciplinary measures based on their professional and educational discretion. Additionally, please see the Conduct Disclaimer section below.

Whether in school, on the playground, or in Church, if disciplinary situations arise, the teacher and the student(s) involved will discuss the problem and plan to work toward a solution. If the seriousness or frequency of a problem warrants, the teacher will notify the principal and/or parents/guardians. If warranted, a meeting will be scheduled with the teacher, parents/guardians, and principal.

## Conduct In or Out of School

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Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct whenever they are involved in activities of the parish, school, or when they represent the school. Any violations of the Student Code of Conduct will be reported to the parents and may result in consequences issued by the school administration. JP II School reserves the right to impose discipline for unacceptable behavior that takes place off school grounds and outside school hours. The possession, use, distribution, or sale of illegal drugs or controlled substances, tobacco products, inhalants, alcoholic beverages, and/or instruments or objects capable of inflicting harm or used in a dangerous manner are not permitted.

## Responsibilities

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### **Student Responsibilities**

1. Come to class prepared – have necessary books, supplies, and assignments.
2. Fill in the homework notebook (Grades 3-5).
3. Exercise self-control and be accountable for his/her personal actions.
4. Know and observe all school and classroom rules.
5. Show respect for yourself, for others, and for others' property.

### **Parent/Guardian Responsibilities**

1. Encourage and support your child.
2. Be sure your child attends school daily and is on time.
3. Make sure your child is dressed appropriately.
4. Teach your child, by work and example, respect for the law, for school rules and regulations, and for the rights and property of others.
5. Encourage and support all school personnel.
6. Provide a time and a place for homework and assist when appropriate.
7. Read the homework notebook daily (Grades 1-5).
8. Assist your child in having the necessary materials for class.
9. Keep the lines of communication open with your child and with the school.

### **Teacher Responsibilities**

1. Be prepared for class.
2. Establish and maintain a challenging environment where all may learn and achieve.
3. Work with students to establish classroom rules.
4. Enforce school and classroom rules impartially and consistently.
5. Communicate child's progress and behavior to parent/guardian.

### **Administrator Responsibilities**

1. Work in collaboration with students, teachers, and parents/guardians to improve the school.
2. Support teachers and students in their efforts.
3. Provide instructional leadership.
4. Organize and supervise the work of teachers and staff.
5. Ensure adherence to JP II school policies.

## School Rules

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### **General School Rules**

1. **Walk in the hallways.**
2. **Speak softly in the hallways.**
3. Use appropriate language at all times.
4. Do not chew gum.
5. No selling of any items unless approved by administration.

#### **Cafeteria Rules**

1. Be courteous while moving through the lunch line.
2. Use appropriate table manners.
3. Eat your food only in the cafeteria.
4. Keep your hands to yourself and do not touch others' food.
5. Remain seated until dismissed.
6. Clean your place and leave in an orderly fashion.

#### **Playground Rules**

1. Stay in designated area.
2. Make proper use of the equipment.
3. Be concerned for the safety of others.
4. Play fairly.
5. Try to make sure everyone enjoys recess.

Teachers may remove inappropriate items from a student's possession for a period of time that may include the remainder of the school year. Any item confiscated by a school employee and not collected by the end of the school year will be donated to charity.

**Students may not bring to school electronic devices of any kind including but not limited to smartwatches, fitness trackers, or other smart jewelry that have the capability to receive or send texts or calls or have access to the internet are not permitted.** Students may not bring items such as CDs, tapes, toys (unless requested by the teacher), and aerosol cans to school. All items will be confiscated.

Cell phones are permitted at school, but **MUST be kept off and in the student's backpack**. Electronic devices and cell phones will be confiscated if seen, heard, or used at school. Parents are required to come to school to retrieve confiscated items.

As corrective measures are taken to ensure appropriate behavior in the classroom, it is critical that the staff, teachers and administration have the full support of the parents in an effort to ensure an environment that promotes access to education. Without this support, the efforts of the staff, teachers, and administration to maintain discipline will be severely hampered. If parents or guardians fail to accept corrective actions or discipline, the child may be asked to withdraw from JPIL.

## **Inspection/Searches of School Property**

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School authorities, in the interest of maintenance, health, and safety, reserves the right to inspect school property used by students and personal property when the administration suspects items or inappropriate activity prohibited by the school are in possession of the student. Desks, though assigned to students, are school property and may reasonably be inspected. Such items will be confiscated and if necessary appropriate action including disciplinary will be taken.

## **Probation for Transfer Students**

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As a condition for enrollment of any student new to John Paul II Catholic School, the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) agree that the student will be on a probationary status for the first trimester of attendance. During the probationary period, the student will:

- Achieve appropriate academic progress
- Comply with the discipline code of the school
- Attend school regularly and promptly
- Meet all financial obligations

At the conclusion of the probationary period, a meeting may be held with the admissions review committee and parent(s)/guardian(s) and a decision will be made regarding the student's enrollment. The decision made by the faculty and administration is binding and must be accepted by the parent(s)/guardian(s) on behalf of the student.

## Behavior Policies for Students in Grades K – 3

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The behavior policy varies per grade. Grades K – 3 uses a visual display of chips or colored cards to indicate levels of discipline; warning, notification to parents, missed time at recess, visit to the principal. Specific grade level behavior plans are provided by the teachers.

## Behavior Policy & Procedures for Students in Grades 4 – 8

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Every student will be issued a behavior card to be either stapled inside his/her homework notebook or in the front cover of their iPad. When an inappropriate behavior occurs, the supervising teacher or staff authority will issue points and mark the child's behavior card accordingly. Written or other consequences may be assigned along with points. Parents are encouraged to check this behavior card regularly. **This card is cumulative through the trimester.**

### 1-4 Point

#### Violations

- A. Gum/Food
- B. Uniform violation
- C. Lack of cooperation
- D. Not following classroom rules
- E. Excessive talking
- F. Inappropriate language
- G. Inappropriate behavior
- H. Not on task
- I. Failure to bring materials to class
- J. Failure to produce behavior card (3 pts.)

### 5 Point

#### Violations - Detention

- K. Disrespect/defiance/lying
- L. Profanity
- M. Damage to property
- N. Encouraging/cheering fighting
- O. Copying/providing answers to assignments

- P. Possession of cell phone

### 10 Point Violations - Detention

- P. Endangering others/self
- Q. Blatant refusal to follow directions
- R. Misuse of the internet or computer
- S. Misuse of school equipment
- T. **Use** of cell phone during school hours
- U. Cheating on tests or plagiarism including use of AI

### 15 Point Violations - Suspension

- V. Forgery – signing parent's name
- W. Fighting
- X. Verbal or written harassment
- Y. Leaving school grounds

### 20 Point Violations – Suspension or Expulsion

- AA. Bullying (a repeated unwanted and aggressive behavior toward another person)/Cyber Bullying/Racial Comments
- BB. Verbal or written threat
- CC. Vandalism
- DD. Theft
- EE. Physical Assault

**Step One:** When a student accrues 3 points in a trimester, a conduct slip will be issued. The first conduct slip is a warning. The parent must sign the conduct slip, and the student must return it to the office by the next day to avoid further consequences.

**Step Two:** When a student accrues 5 points in a trimester, a detention will be issued. Notification of the detention will be written on a conduct slip that must be signed and returned by the due date to avoid further consequences. Detention is held on Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 pm in the school building. **Parents are expected to pick the student up on time to the front doors.**

**Step Three:** When a student accrues 10 points in a trimester, a 2<sup>nd</sup> detention will be issued. The same procedures outlined in Step Two will be enforced. Honor Roll is forfeited for that trimester.

\*Students in the junior high will not be permitted to attend the next 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance.

**Step Four:** When a student accrues 15 points in a trimester, the student will serve a suspension. Students must turn in all assignments upon return to school. Missing assignments from the suspended days will count as a zero. Tests will be administered the day the student returns. Honor Roll is forfeited for that trimester. A conduct, indicating the number of points accrued and a warning to the student, will be sent home to parents. This conduct must be signed and returned to school the next day. A parent/student conference will be required with teachers and the administrator. A behavior plan will be implemented.

\*Students in the junior high will not be permitted to attend the next 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance.

A student who is suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in SBAA athletics or extra-curricular activities during such suspension. The suspended student will not be allowed to begin participating in athletics or extra-curricular activities until the date that he/she is eligible to start school after the suspension.

\*Students in the junior high will not be permitted to attend the next 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance.

**Step Five:** When a student accrues 20 points in a trimester a two-day suspension will be served. Students must turn in all assignments upon return to school. Missing assignments from the suspended days will count as a zero. Tests will be administered the day the student returns. Honor Roll is forfeited for that trimester. A parent/student conference will be required with teachers and the administrator. The behavior plan will be reviewed during the meeting.

A student who is suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in SBAA athletics or extra-curricular activities during such suspension. The suspended student will not be allowed to begin participating in athletics or extra-curricular activities until the date that he/she is eligible to start school after the suspension.

\*Students in the junior high will not be permitted to attend the next 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance.

**Step Six:** When a student accrues 30 points in a trimester or 50 points in a year, the student will be expelled from school.

## Out of School Suspension & Expulsion

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In certain situations that are extreme or not provided for in the point system, the administrator may find it necessary to issue an out of school suspension. The administrator will determine the terms of and the length of the out of school suspension and notify the parents. It is the responsibility of the student to gather assignments that he/she will miss during the suspension. All assignments will be due the day the student returns. Missing assignments will count as a zero. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the assignments and complete the work within a specific amount of time determined by the administrator.

A student who is suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in SBAA athletics or extra-curricular activities during such suspension. The suspended student will not be allowed to begin participating in athletics or extra-curricular activities until the date that he/she is eligible to start school after the suspension.

Procedures to be followed in cases of suspension and expulsion - in cases where a student is suspended, the following procedures will be followed:

- Written notification will be sent to the parent/guardian and the student stating the reason for the suspension. The notification will also include the length of time of the suspension.
- A meeting (in-person, virtual, or by phone) will be held between school representatives, a parent/guardian, and, if appropriate, the student before or during the suspension. If immediate removal of the student is required, then the meeting (in-person, virtual, or by phone) will be scheduled as soon as practical.
- When a student's behavior is threatening, physically endangers her/him or others, or causes serious disruption to the school or the educational process, he/she may be removed immediately, and the above requirements will be fulfilled as soon as practical.

In cases where a student is expelled, the following procedures will be followed:

- At the discretion of the principal, the advice of a psychologist, physician, social worker, counselor, or other appropriate persons may be sought.
- Written notice will be sent to the parent/guardian and student describing the reasons for the student's removal and proposed expulsion.
- A meeting (in-person, virtual, or by phone) will be held between school representatives, the parent/guardian, and, if appropriate, the student, prior to the expulsion.

- A report detailing the reasons for the expulsion will be sent to the Superintendent of Schools.
- A parent/guardian who believes his/her child has been expelled for insufficient reason has the right to appeal, in writing sent through US mail, to the Superintendent.

Search And Seizure JPII School reserves the right to search and inspect school property used by students at any time. JPII School also reserves the right to search and inspect personal property when the administration

- (1) suspects items prohibited by the school are in a student's possession;
- (2) suspects a student may be engaged in conduct in violation of the school's policies and procedures.

Such items may be confiscated and appropriate action, including disciplinary action, may be taken.

## Expulsion

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### Definition

A student is removed from the school community.

### Offenses Resulting in Immediate Expulsion

A student is liable to immediate expulsion from school for the following reasons:

1. Possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, JUUL, Blu, VUSE, etc. on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.
2. Possession, use, or sale of drugs, including over the counter, prescription, and/or illicit drugs, or other hallucinogenic substances, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.
3. Physical assault or verbal harassment of any student, member of the staff, or other person in authority.
4. Possession of firearms, knives, explosives, or other dangerous objects and any facsimiles thereof.
5. Arson.
6. A threat to bring harm to another person – bomb threat, threat of killing.
7. Gross misconduct.
8. Any other reason determined by the administration.

### Procedures to follow in case of expulsion:

1. The case will be discussed with relevant staff, parents, and pastor.
2. The parents and student will meet with an administrator.
3. Written notice will be sent to the parents stating the reasons for the student's expulsion.
4. The student's withdrawal/expulsion will be reported to the Attendance Department of the student's local school district.
5. A report will be sent to the Archdiocese Superintendent of Schools on each student dismissed from John Paul II Catholic School.

The principal is the final recourse in all disciplinary situations and may waive or impose a disciplinary action for just cause. Notification will be given in writing to the parents of the disciplined student.

A student who is expelled from school will cease to participate in athletics or extra-curricular activities.

## Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy

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It is the policy of JPII School that any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying is expressly forbidden. The Parish and School's internet and computer system and equipment may not be used to engage in harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The "Student Responsible Use of Technology" form must be signed by each student and on file with the School. The School reserves the right to impose discipline for harassing, intimidating, bullying, and other inappropriate behavior that takes place off School grounds and outside School hours.

Staff at our school will do the following things to prevent bullying and help children feel safe at school:

- Closely supervise students in all areas of the school and playground.
- Watch for signs of bullying and stop it when it happens.
- Respond quickly and sensitively to bullying reports.

- Take seriously parents' concerns about bullying.

Students at our school will do the following things to prevent bullying:

- Treat each other respectfully.
- Refuse to bully others. Refuse to let others be bullied.
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied.
- Try to include everyone in play.
- Report bullying to an adult.

When an incident of suspected bullying is presented the following will occur:

- Use of the previously stated definition to determine if bullying is occurring
- Protect the child/victim's anonymity
- If it is found to be bullying, the administration and/or appointed designee will conduct an investigation. The strategies of the investigation may include, but not limited to: interviews with victims, collection of anecdotal data, parent/school discussions.
- Develop strategies to protect the child from additional bullying and/or retaliation.
- Assign consequences for bullying and/or retaliation based on the school discipline code.

It is the school's objective to have a united effort; school and home, staff and student to address and resolve incidents of suspected bullying in school. The administration's intent is to have a clear line of communication so as to develop strategies that work towards solving incidents of bullying and creating a culture rooted in Gospel values.

It is the policy of John Paul II Catholic School (the "School") that any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, regardless of where, how, or when it takes place, is expressly forbidden.

The School's internet and computer system may not be used to engage in harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The "Student Responsible Use of Technology" form must be signed by each student and on file with the School.

The School reserves the right to impose discipline for harassing, intimidating, bullying, and other inappropriate behavior that takes place off School grounds and outside School hours.

### **Definition of Terms**

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular or other telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device. "Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means either of the following:

- Any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the behavior both:
  - o Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and
  - o Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student.
- Violence within a dating relationship.
- "Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" also means electronically transmitted acts i.e., by Internet, social media/network, blog, cell phone, personal digital assistance (PDA), wireless hand-held device, or other electronic communication device, that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the behavior both:
  - o Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and
  - o Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and
  - o Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student.

In evaluating whether conduct constitutes harassment, intimidation, or bullying, special attention should be paid to the words chosen and the actions taken, whether such conduct occurred in front of others or was communicated to others, how the offender interacted with the victim, and the motivation, either admitted or appropriately inferred. What may constitute harassment, intimidation, or bullying in one circumstance might not constitute such in another. As in all disciplinary matters, the School will make this determination utilizing its professional and educational discretion and judgment. Types of Conduct Harassment, intimidation, and bullying can include many different behaviors including, but not limited to, overt intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate another student.

Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include:

- Engaging in unsolicited and offensive or insulting behavior;
- Physical violence and/or attacks;
- Threats, taunts, and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
- Extortion, damage, or stealing of money and/or possessions;
- Exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors; and
- Repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies, computers, cell phones, other electronic devices, the Internet, online websites, blogs, or social media/networks (also known as “cyber-bullying”). Examples of cyber-bullying include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - o Posting slurs on the Internet, websites, blogs, or social media/networks;
  - o Sending abusive or threatening instant messages, text messages, emails, or other communications through the Internet, websites, blogs, or social media/networks;
  - o Taking embarrassing photographs of students and posting them online or otherwise distributing them;
  - and o Using the Internet, websites, blogs, social media/networks, or electronic communication devices to impersonate another individual or circulate gossip or rumors to other students.

## **Complaints**

### **1. Formal Complaints**

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such written reports shall be reasonably specific including persons involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of the suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and the names of any potential witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any School staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the principal or his/her designee.

### **2. Informal Complaints**

Students and/or their parents/guardians may make informal complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, School administrator, or other School personnel. Such informal complaints shall be reasonably specific as to the actions giving rise to the suspicion of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, including persons involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of the prohibited behavior, and the names of any potential witnesses. A School staff member or administrator who receives an informal complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the above information. This written report by the School staff member and/or administrator shall be promptly forwarded to the principal or his/her designee.

### **3. Anonymous Complaints**

Students who make informal complaints as set forth above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the School staff member or administrator who receives the complaint. The anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action will be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the concept of fairness to the student alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

## **School Personnel Responsibilities**

### **Teachers and Other School Staff**

- i. Teachers and other School staff who witness acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, as defined above, shall promptly notify the principal or his/her designee of the event observed, and shall promptly document the events witnessed. Teachers and other School staff who receive student or parent reports of suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying shall promptly notify the principal or his/her designee of such reports. If the report is a formal, written complaint, such complaint shall be forwarded promptly to the principal or his/her designee. If the report is an informal complaint by a student that is received by a teacher or other staff member, he or she shall document the informal complaint and promptly forward it to the principal or his/her designee.
- ii. In addition to addressing both informal and formal complaints, School personnel are encouraged to address the issue of harassment, intimidation, and bullying in other interactions with students.



School personnel may find opportunities to educate students about harassment, intimidation, or bullying and help eliminate such prohibited behaviors through class discussions, counseling, and reinforcement of socially appropriate behavior. School personnel should intervene promptly whenever they observe student conduct that has the purpose or effect of ridiculing, humiliating, or intimidating another student or individual, even if such conduct does not meet the formal definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying set forth above.

### **Administrator Responsibilities**

#### **Investigation**

1. The principal or his/her designee shall be promptly notified of any formal or informal complaint of suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Under the direction of the principal or his/her designee, all such complaints shall be investigated promptly. The principal or his/her designee shall document the investigation, including any conversations with the alleged offender, victim, students, or other witnesses. Written statements may also be obtained from these individuals.
2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, when a student making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint (with or without discussing it with the alleged offender), subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

#### **Response**

3. Verified acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying shall result in an intervention by the principal or his/her designee. The intention of such intervention is to ensure that the prohibition against harassment, intimidation, and bullying is enforced, with the goal that any such prohibited behavior will end.
4. When acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying are verified and a disciplinary response is warranted, students are subject to the full range of disciplinary consequences, including suspension and expulsion. Anonymous complaints that are not otherwise verified, however, shall not be the basis for disciplinary action.
5. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying behavior can take many forms and can vary dramatically in seriousness and impact on the victim and other students. Accordingly, there is no one prescribed response or discipline to verified acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The forms of discipline listed in this Handbook are guidelines, and the School may use other disciplinary measures as the situation warrants. The decision whether to impose discipline and, if so, to what extent, is left to the professional and educational discretion of the principal or his/her designee.
6. Once harassment, intimidation, or bullying has been verified, the principal or his/her designee should monitor the situation to determine whether there have been additional incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or retaliation from the offender or other parties. Additionally, the principal or his/her designee may inform School personnel of the incident and instruct them to monitor the victim and the offender for indications of harassing, intimidating, bullying, or retaliatory behavior. School personnel are to intervene when prohibited behaviors are witnessed.

#### **Reporting**

7. **Report to the Parent or Guardian of the Offender**
  - a. If after investigation, an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a specific student is verified, the principal or his/her designee shall notify the Offender's parent/guardian of that finding. The parent/guardian shall also be notified of any disciplinary consequences imposed against that student.
8. **Report to the Parent or Guardian of the Victim**
  - a. If after investigation, an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a specific student is verified, the principal or his/her designee shall notify the victim's parent/guardian of such finding.
9. **Police and Child Protective Services**

- a. Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement, and suspected child abuse will be reported to law enforcement and/or Child Protective Services, consistent with the Archdiocese Decree on Child Protection and Ohio law. All School personnel must cooperate with investigations by outside agencies.

All School personnel must cooperate with investigations by outside agencies. Conduct Disclaimer No discipline issued pursuant to any handbook shall bind the School to issue the same, or even comparable, discipline to other students in the future. Nor will any form or extent of discipline be construed as a precedent for how discipline will be imposed moving forward. Rather, the School reserves sole judgment and discretion in disciplining students based on the circumstances of each incident, including but not limited to the respective age(s) of the student(s) involved, the student(s)' perceived maturity level, the conduct at issue, the student(s)' attitude and degree of cooperation, the student(s)' disciplinary history, and any other aggravating or mitigating circumstances the School deems relevant. Nothing in this Handbook limits or otherwise constrains the School's authority, discretion, judgment, or responsibility in any student disciplinary matters.

#### **4. Miscellaneous**

No discipline issued pursuant to any Handbook shall bind the School to issue the same, or even comparable, discipline to other students in the future. Nor will any form or extent of discipline be construed as a precedent for how discipline will be imposed moving forward. Rather, the School reserves sole judgment and discretion in disciplining students based on the particular circumstances of each incident, including but not limited to the respective age(s) of the student(s) involved, the student(s)' perceived maturity level, the conduct at issue, the student(s)' attitude and degree of cooperation, the student(s)' disciplinary history, and any other aggravating or mitigating circumstances the School deems present. Nothing in this section, or anywhere else in this Handbook, limits or otherwise constrains the School's authority, discretion, judgment, or responsibility in any student disciplinary matters.

## Bus Conduct: Student Regulations

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The need for strict adherence to school bus discipline is critical. Children causing a disturbance are actually putting themselves, the other children, and the driver in a very dangerous position. When riding a school bus, students shall:

1. Be expected to walk a reasonable distance to the bus stop.
2. Arrive at the bus stop five minutes before the scheduled pick-up time; the drivers will not wait for students to walk from their homes to the bus.
3. Behave at the school bus stop in an orderly manner, not threatening life, limb, or property of any individual.
4. Load in an orderly matter and go directly to *assigned* seats. Students must remain seated, keeping aisle and exits clear.
5. Respect the driver and be aware that he/she is in charge at all times and must be obeyed promptly.
6. Be courteous; no profane language or gestures will be tolerated.
7. Keep noise on the bus to a minimum. Classroom behavior is expected.
8. Not be in violation of safety procedures, i.e., proper street crossing procedures, no fighting, pushing, shoving, or tripping.
9. Be aware that Ohio State Law prohibits eating, drinking, chewing gum, or the use of tobacco products on the bus.
10. Not be destructive to the interior/exterior of the bus and take an active role in litter control inside the bus.
11. No objects, toys, or pencils/pens may be in hands while on the bus.
12. Not throw or pass objects on, out of, or into the bus.
13. Not put objects or body parts outside of bus windows.

14. Carry on the bus only objects that can be held in the laps. Animals of any kind are not permitted. Large objects and school projects may need to be transported by parents.
15. Ride only their regularly assigned route. Students will board and disembark only at their designated stops.
16. Have written permission, from their parent or guardian and signed by the school administrator, if they wish to leave the bus at a stop other than their normal stop.
17. Go directly to their bus upon dismissal from school and go directly home when they leave the bus.
18. Use the emergency door only in an emergency situation or as directed by the driver.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE RULES WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND THE STUDENT MAY LOSE BUS RIDING PRIVILEGES. RIDING A BUS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.**

### **Disciplinary Action**

In the event that disciplinary action is required, JPII will comply with the local public school district's transportation policies with regards to bus service and discipline.

## Sexual Harassment Policy

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Students who engage in sexual harassment on school premises or off school premises at a school-sponsored activity will be subject to appropriate discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Sexual harassment is any activity of a sexual nature that is unwanted or unwelcome, including but not limited to, unwanted sexual touching, patting, verbal/written comments of a sexual nature, sexual name-calling, pressure to engage in sexual activity, repeated propositions, and unwanted body contact.

The school's normal disciplinary procedures will be followed in determining the appropriate consequence for the sexual harassment. In the event the administration recommends suspension or expulsion as a result of the conduct, due process will be afforded to the student in accordance with the school's suspension/expulsion procedures. Any student who believes he/she is being sexually harassed needs to report such behavior to a parent, teacher, or the principal immediately.

## Violent or Threatening Behavior

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Threats of physical violence or emotional intimidation, **including but not limited to posts on all social media platforms**, will not be tolerated at JPII. Students exhibiting any behavior considered threatening, overly intimidating, or violent in nature will be subject to immediate disciplinary action. Disciplinary action is at the discretion of the administration. Indefinite suspension or expulsion may result as a consequence to such behavior. Any student falsely reporting a threat of violence, for the purpose of harming another student, will be subjected to a minimum one-day suspension from JPII. Any student who makes a bomb threat to school or a school activity may be expelled.

## Uniform Dress Code

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The JPII uniform dress code has been instituted as a symbol of pride in our school and as a way of demonstrating self-discipline and respect among our students.

### General Guidelines

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- Clothing must not be ripped or torn.
- Clothing must be clean.
- Baggy or oversized clothing is not permitted.
- All pants and shorts must be worn at the waist at all times.
- Students may not draw or write on their bodies or clothing.
- The administration will make the final determination as to the appropriateness of any uniform or fad item.

## Consequences for Dress Code Violations

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Consequences for being out of uniform will follow the discipline policies of the school and will be enforced by the faculty, staff, and administration of the school. At the discretion of the administration, students who fail to comply with the dress code may be required to call home for proper clothing.

### Dress Code for Grades K-8

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#### **Belts**

**All students in grades 3-8 must wear solid black, brown, tan, or navy belts** with their pants or shorts. Belt must have a plain buckle. No decorative buckles will be permitted. Belt loops may not be cut off of pants or shorts.

#### **Hair**

Hair should be neat, clean, combed and not hang below the eyebrows or in the face. **Boys' hair must be above the bottom of the shirt collar. Hair must not be dyed unnatural colors such as but not limited to pink, purple, blue, etc.** Extreme haircuts and hairstyles are not permitted, such as but not limited to shaved designs, mohawks, or feathers. The school administration reserves the right to determine hair style acceptability.

Boys must be clean-shaven at all times.

#### **Jewelry**

**One watch that is NOT a smartwatch or fitness tracker may be worn. Smartwatches, fitness trackers, or other smart jewelry that have the capability to receive or send texts or calls or have access to the internet are not permitted.**

One ring and one religious medal (no larger than one inch) may be worn.

Girls may wear one pair of small post earrings (1/2 inch in diameter or smaller) on their ear lobes. No loop or gauge style earrings permitted.

Boys may not wear earrings.

**No other jewelry such as but not limited to body piercing, ear wraps, bracelets, wrist or hair bands, or nonprescription glasses are permitted to be worn.** Inappropriate jewelry will be confiscated.

#### **Jumpers**

Plaid jumpers (not skirts) may be worn by girls in grades kindergarten through four. Jumpers must be no shorter than three inches from the crease in the back of the knee. **Shorts should be worn under jumpers at all times. The shorts should not be visible below the jumper.** Skirts in the JPll plaid can be purchased through Lands End Uniform Company.

#### **Make-Up**

No make-up is permitted. Artificial nails are not permitted.

#### **Name Tags**

All students must wear nametags placed approximately two inches from the shirt collar. Nametags will be kept in the classrooms overnight. Nametags may not be defaced. Students who lose or damage their nametags must pay to replace them at a cost of \$3.00. **Name tags must be replaced within two days of losing the name tag. There will be a charge of \$.25 for replacement of a clip. Lanyards are not permissible for Grades 1-8.**

#### **Pants**

Navy twill or corduroy, straight leg, uniform pants with set-in pockets (no denim, no polyester/knit, no jeans) may be worn. No cargo-type pockets are permitted. No flared legs, split hems or **skinny style pants** are permitted. Students in grades 6-8 may wear khaki pants that follow the uniform guidelines.

#### **Shirts**

**Plain white or navy knit polo shirt with the JPll logo is to be worn by boys in grades K-8 and girls in grades 5-8. All shirts must be appropriate size. Long or short sleeves are permitted. Shirts with the JPll logo can be purchased through Lands End Uniform Company.**

Girls in grades K-4 will wear solid (no logo) navy or white shirt under the jumper.

**Any undershirt or t-shirt must be white.** Writing is not permitted on these shirts. Long sleeved shirts may be worn under short sleeved shirts. Only the top button may be open on all shirts. All shirts must be tucked in, not folded under.

### Shoes

**Shoes must be worn and fastened properly at all times. Shoes must have closed toes and closed heels. No clogs, sandals, boots, or shoes with heels may be worn. Shoes with wheels are not allowed in the building.** Boots may be worn to school **only when it is snowing.** The students will change from boots to appropriate shoes when entering the classroom.

### Shorts

Uniform shorts may be worn all year. All students may wear navy uniform shorts. No cargo-type pockets are permitted. Shorts may be no shorter than three inches above the crease in the back of the knee. Students in grades 6-8 may wear khaki shorts that follow the uniform guidelines. No leggings or tights will be permitted to be worn under the shorts. If shorts are worn during the colder months, students will be expected to participate with remainder of classmates without exceptions due to attire.

### Skirts

Plaid skirts (not jumpers) may be worn by girls in grades five through eight. Skirts must be no shorter than three inches from the crease in the back of the knee. **Shorts should be worn under skirts at all times. The shorts should not be visible below the skirts.** Skirts in the JP11 plaid can be purchased through Lands End Uniform Company.

### Socks/Leggings

One pair of socks of **solid white, black, or navy (no stripe on the back of the sock; a small athletic insignia is permissible in white, black or navy)** must be worn and be visible above the shoe. Leg covering under the skirt or jumper must be **ankle length leggings** or tights of solid white, black, or navy. Pajama bottoms or sweat pants under a skirt/jumper may not be worn at school.

### Spirit Wear

Several spirit wear shirts may be worn as part of the daily uniform. The blue or white oxford cloth dress shirt in long or short sleeves is permitted. The knit, front placket shirt with collar in navy or white is permitted in long or short sleeves. Navy blue or gray crew neck school sweatshirts or fleece with the school logo (JP11) may be worn and ordered from Spirit Wear.

Hooded sweatshirts are not permitted to be worn during the school day.

Eighth graders may wear their class shirts on designated days.

JP11 spirit wear t-shirts may be worn with a uniform bottom on *Spirit Wear Days* and **other designated days as determined by the administration**, not regular school days.

### Sweaters

Solid navy or white cardigan sweater without a logo may be worn.

## Out of Uniform Days

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Students must dress appropriately on out of uniform days. Shorts must be no shorter than three inches from the crease in the back of the knee. Tops must cover the midsection at all times. No cut-offs, tank tops, sleeveless shirts, and/or inappropriate clothing are allowed. Pants must be worn at the waist at all times. **Girls in grades 5 through 8 may wear leggings as long as a tunic style shirt which covers the rear end is worn. Clothing should not have any holes or tears.** Messages and pictures found on clothing must be in accordance with the philosophy of JP11CS. The dress code for hair, jewelry, shoes and make-up must be followed.

## Health & Safety

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### Wellness Policy

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This policy is a part of a larger holistic, multi-faceted approach meant to instill health promotion and illness prevention behaviors in JP11 students. In recent years there has been growing concern related to the drastic increase in the number of children with mental health concerns, auto-immune disorders, food allergies, dental care, decreased physical activity, and obesity along with related health risks. It is a known fact that healthier kids perform better on tests, are more focused in class, behave better, are absent less and have higher self-esteem.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has also taken this more “holistic” approach in their policy recommendations. They have implemented “The Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model” which focuses on the child at the center of the model and requires the collaborative efforts of the school and the community for overall health and well-being. It is an excellent way to look at the student growth and development related to the forces at home, school, and the community. If the forces are positive, then the student will have improved learning and improved health.

John Paul II Catholic School believes that the goal of a school program is to create a total school environment that is conducive to nutrition education, healthy eating, physical activity and positive mental health, thus ensuring that the school community will become more aware of, provide resources for, and engage in healthy practices both physical and mental wellness.

A. Nutrition Education and Healthy Eating:

- School will implement the health objectives relating to diet, nutrition and exercise as stated in the 2024 Archdiocesan Graded Course of Study for Health.
- Nutrition guidelines, MyPlate guidelines, suggestions for healthy food choices and/or other message related to health and nutrition will be posted in or near the school cafeteria and throughout the school.
- School lunch periods will be scheduled to provide nourishment within a reasonable time frame from the start of the school day.
- Recess or snack breaks will be scheduled for students as needed to maintain energy levels.
- Nutrition guidelines for all foods served in the cafeteria will be posted online and available as provided by Milford Food Services.

The lunch program, managed by Milford Food Services, will follow nutritional guidelines established by Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Development, Office of Child Nutrition Services. for all foods and beverages available to students.

- School will continue to follow the state and federal guidelines and procedures for reimbursement for school lunch or special milk programs.
- No soda or candy machines may operate in the building. Soda may not be used in any school celebrations or in the cafeteria.
- Drinking fountains and/or water coolers will be available in every building and students will be permitted to carry water bottles.
- The school encourages the use of non-food rewards for student behavior and to minimize sugary treats for classroom celebrations (i.e., PTO lunch rewards) and school wide functions such as the Walk-A-Thon and Fun and Field Day. No homemade or bakery treats are allowed, and store-bought treats must be in original package with ingredient list.
- Classroom parties and birthdays will be “food free,” allowing non-food activities and/or personal healthy snacks each student brought from home.
- The school further encourages parents to provide healthy snacks.
- Teachers will be offered training in nutrition as needed, and in physical activities conducive to learning and appropriate for classrooms.

B. Physical Activity:

- All students will participate in the school's physical education program.
- Physical education programs will implement the objectives of the 2015 Archdiocesan Graded Course of Study for Physical Education.
- All classes will have access to recess according to the school's schedule.
- Students will be encouraged to participate in school and community sports programs, and to be physically active outside of school.

C. Mental Health:

- School Counselor three days a week onsite.
- Utilization a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports to teach and reinforce positive behaviors, which can positively impact mental health. It involves developing clear expectations for behavior, providing positive reinforcement, and using data-driven strategies to address challenging behaviors. This framework can help create a more predictable and supportive environment for all students, including those with mental health needs.
- Connecting with Community Resources such as Fernside to support students going through a grieving process.

D. Plan for measuring implementation of the local wellness policy.

- School chooses the following options for monitoring the success of the local wellness program:  
School may survey students and/or parents on eating choices and behavior and physical activity outside of school.
- Surveys could be done annually or as pre-and post-activities during one school year.
- Some physical education classes have students regularly monitor heart rate as part of their physical fitness programs.
- This information could be part of the evaluation.

- The local wellness committee should revisit the wellness policy annually to revise, update, or amend the policy as needed. The “bottom line” is the overall health and well-being of the students.

## Accident Insurance

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Student Accident Insurance may be available for parents/guardians to file a claim for accidents involving a child that occurred during a school-related activity. This insurance is intended to cover costs not covered by your primary health insurance carrier. Please check with the school nurse for details on how to file.

## Child Protection Policy

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JPII follows all Archdiocese of Cincinnati mandates and all local and state regulations regarding reporting suspected child abuse or neglect. All staff who are licensed by the state of Ohio are considered mandated reporters of suspected child abuse.

Any adult who volunteers or works with students is required to participate in the Archdiocesan Child Protection Training. This training is provided through the various parishes. Contact the Coordinator of Religious Education to schedule.

**All volunteers (including but not limited to Room Parents, chaperones, etc.) must take the Archdiocesan Safe Parish Training and register on Selection.com. To ensure a consistent learning atmosphere, we cannot allow non-school age children to accompany parents when they volunteer (lunch room, classroom, and fieldtrips).**

## Health & Safety (Grades K-8)

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Under the direction of the School Nurse, maintenance of a complete health record will be provided for each child. JPII complies with the minimum immunization requirements set forth by R.C. 3313.67 and 3313.671. Although JPII complies with those minimum immunization requirements, it also retains discretion to enforce stricter requirements at any time, for instance, by requiring vaccination even over a guardian’s conscience or religious conviction objection or by revoking a previous exception.

**Any child who is not in compliance with the immunizations that are required by law will not be admitted to school. New students are required to submit proof of immunizations no later than the 14<sup>th</sup> day of school.**

Sections 3313.67, 3313.671 of the Ohio Revised Code set forth mandated immunizations required for preschool through grade twelve. The State of Ohio requires the parent/guardian provide this information no later than the **fourteenth day of school attendance**. The following are the current Ohio Department of Health immunization requirements for attendance:

- DTap/DT/Tdap/Td (4-5 doses depending on age given; booster dose prior to 7<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Polio (3-4 doses depending on age given)
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) (2 doses)
- Hepatitis B (3 doses)
- Varicella (chicken pox) (1-2 doses depending on age)
- MCV4 (Meningococcal) (1 dose prior to 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

Throughout the year, the nurse will conduct screening programs such as vision (grades K, 1, 3, 5 & 7) and hearing (K, 1, 3, & 5). If the parent does not wish for their child to be screened for any of the screenings, they must notify the school nurse in writing.

When a child does become ill or has an accident at school, the child is sent to the school clinic. If the illness or accident warrants it, the child’s parents are notified. No child will leave the school without specific parental permission, however, parents must transport or make arrangements for transporting a child who is sick or injured.

Because of unexpected illness and accidents, emergency phone numbers and emergency medical authorization must be on record at school. This is done by completing and returning the emergency forms sent home at the beginning of each school year. The school nurse and the main office should be notified of and change of emergency contact information and authorization during the school year. These forms are of critical importance as they provide for the student if he/she would require emergency care and/or emergency hospitalization.

The school will follow the required actions for communicable disease exclusion, control and reporting as directed and outlined on the Ohio Department of Health Communicable Disease Chart and the Hamilton County Public Health Department. On returning to school after an illness caused by a communicable disease, a child must present a release or "return to school" note from the doctor.

The decision to keep a child home from school when you think they might be sick is not always easy. The accordance with school policy, the following guidelines have been provided for your convenience:

- Fever: If a child has a fever (100.0 F or greater) the child must remain at home until he or she has been fever free for a **FULL 24 HOURS WITHOUT A FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION** such as Tylenol (Acetaminophen) or Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil). If a child is found to have a temperature greater than 100.0F while at school, he/she will need to be dismissed from school.
- **If a child has a fever (100.0 F or greater) while at school, the child will be removed from the classroom and parents must pick up the child within 30 minutes from notification by the school. The child may not return to school the following day and must be fever free 24 hours without a fever reducing medication.**
- Vomiting and Diarrhea: A child should remain at home until he or she has been without any episodes or vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours. If a child has an episode of vomiting or three or more episodes of diarrhea at school, he/she will be dismissed from school.
- Cold Symptoms: If a child has thick and green drainage, a persistent or productive cough, the child should remain at home. Please consider consulting a physician under these circumstances.
- Pink-eye (Conjunctivitis): Redness or swelling of the white of the eye, burning, itching, crusting of eyelids, or discharge from the eye(s) are symptoms of conjunctivitis which is very contagious. If child has these symptoms, he/she should remain at home until he/she has seen the doctor and has been on medication for 24 hours.
- Rashes: Skin rashes of unknown origin must be evaluated by a physician before a child is sent to school. A doctor's note stating that the rash is not contagious should be sent with the student upon return to school.
- Sore throat: If a child has a persistent or severe sore throat, he/she should remain at home. Please consider consulting a physician if there is fever, white patches on the tonsils, swollen sore glands, headache or stomachache as these may indicate a possible strep infection. If a child is found to have strep throat, he/she should remain at home until 24 hours after starting an effective antibiotic.
- Head Lice: If a child has head lice, he/she may not return to school until all live lice and nits are removed from Hair. If a child is found to have head lice while at school, his/her parents will be contacted and he/she will be sent home from school. On the first day back to school, the child should come to the school clinic to be cleared for return prior to reporting to class.
- **If a child is not feeling well in the morning**, please do not send him or her to school especially during the flu season.

If you have any questions or concerns about these guidelines or health and safety policies, please contact the nurse in the school clinic at 521-0774.

Other guidelines will be implemented in cases of pandemics or health outbreaks in accordance with the Ohio Department of Health and Hamilton County Department of Health. Parents will be notified of guidelines through the JPll communication system at the time of outbreak.

## Medicine

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Administration of Medication John Paul II Catholic School follows the following Archdiocese of Cincinnati mandate and Section 3313.713 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding administering medication to students. Administering Medications to Students (O.R.C. 3313.713)

Most medication can and should be given at home. Stock medication is not kept in the school health clinic for routine use. The providing of medical care to students is the responsibility of the parents and will not be assumed by the school. Whenever it is absolutely necessary that medication be given to the student during the school day the following will apply:

- The school nurse, or designated school personnel, who has completed a drug administration training program, conducted by a licensed professional, may administer medication (prescription and over the counter) upon proper completion of a signed medical authorization form.
- According to school policy and the State of Ohio law, **all medications** require the written consent of the parent/legal guardian and a doctor's order before any medication can be given at school. This includes **both prescription and over-the-counter medication** such as (Tylenol, Motrin, skin creams, ointments, eye drops, etc).



- A copy of the “Administration of Medication” form is available below and may be printed off. It is also available on the app and in the school clinic. If your child needs medication at school, take this form to their physician and have it filled out and bring to the school clinic. Please make sure that the form is filled out completely and both the physician and parent/legal guardian signs the form before it is sent to school with the medication.
- The physician’s order and parent written request is valid for 1 school year. A new order and request must be obtained at the beginning of each school year.
- For any change in dosage or time a medication needs to be given, etc., a new physician’s order needs to be provided.
- In accordance with Ohio law (ORC 3313.713), the physician’s order must include the following information:
  - The name and address of the student
  - The school/class in which the student is enrolled
  - The times or intervals at which each dosage is to be administered
  - The date the administration of the drug is to begin
  - The date the administration of the drug is to cease
  - Any severe reactions that should be reported to the MD and a phone number at which the prescriber can be reached in an emergency.
  - Special administration or storage instructions of the drug
- **All prescription medications must be in the original container** and have an affixed pharmacy label including the student’s name, name of the medication, dosage, rout of administration and time of administration.
- **All over-the-counter medications must be in the original container** labeled with the student’s name and have an expiration date.
- Medication in plastic baggies or other non-original containers will not be administered.
- The school **will not** administer expired medications.
- Students may not carry and administer medication with the exception of an inhaler, an Epi- pen or diabetes medication. In the case of an inhaler, Epi-Pen or diabetes medication, the school must have proper written documentation from a physician on file.
- Medications will not be stored over the summer. Parents will need to notify the nurse in regards to the transfer of medication from school to home. Any medications left in the school clinic at close of business on the last day of school will be destroyed. **To reach the nurse directly, call 521-0774.**
- If you feel your child needs these medications and you do not have a doctor’s order, you can come to the school and give them to your child.
- **Students found carrying medications without a doctor’s order will be considered to be in violation of the policy and appropriate disciplinary action will occur.** Please understand this is a serious situation and every effort needs to be made to ensure the safety of your child as well as the safety of other children.
- **Cough drops:** Most cough drops contain menthol as an active ingredient. Students may bring cough drops to school with a note from a parent and the cough drops will be dispensed by the classroom teacher or school nurse. Students should only bring enough cough drops for 1-2 days at a time.

## Diabetic Care Policy

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John Paul II Catholic School complies with Section 3313.7112 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding diabetes care. John Paul II Catholic School is committed to ensuring students who have diabetes receive appropriate and needed diabetes care in accordance with an order signed by the students’ treating physician.

Such care must include the following:

1. Checking and recording blood glucose levels and ketone levels or assisting the student with checking and recording these levels;
2. Responding to blood glucose levels that are outside of the student’s target range;
3. In the case of severe hypoglycemia, administering glucagon and other emergency treatments as prescribed;
4. Administering insulin or assisting the student in self-administering insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
5. Providing oral diabetes medications;
6. Understanding recommended schedules and food intake for meals and snacks in order to calculate medication dosages pursuant to the order of the student’s treating physician;
7. Following the treating physician’s instructions regarding meals, snacks, and physical activity;
8. Administering diabetes medication, as long as the administration is performed by a school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a school employee who is trained in diabetes care under Section 3313.7112(E) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Within 14 days of receiving an order signed by the treating physician of a student with diabetes, the school shall inform

the student's parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of the student that the student may be entitled to a school accommodation plan regarding the student's diabetes.

### **School Administration of Diabetes Medications**

Diabetes medication may be administered by a school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a school employee who is trained in diabetes care under Section 3313.7112(E) of the Ohio Revised Code and so long as all of the following are satisfied:

- 1) The school receives a written request, signed by the student's parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of the student, that the drug be administered to the student.
- 2) The school receives a statement, signed by the prescriber, which includes all of the following information:
  - a) The name and address of the student;
  - b) The school and class in which the student is enrolled;
  - c) The name of the drug and the dosage to be administered;
  - d) The times or intervals at which each dosage of the drug is to be administered;
  - e) The date the administration of the drug is to begin;
  - f) The date the administration of the drug is to cease;
  - g) Any severe adverse reactions that should be reported to the prescriber and one or more phone numbers at which the prescriber can be reached in an emergency; and
  - h) Any special instructions for administration of the drug, including sterile conditions and storage.
- 3) The parent, legal guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student agrees to submit a revised statement signed by the prescriber to the school if any of the information provided by the prescriber pursuant to section (2) above changes.
- 4) The person authorized by the school to administer the drug receives a copy of the statements referenced in section (2) and (3) above.
- 5) The drug is received by the person authorized to administer the drug to the student for whom the drug is prescribed in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescriber or a licensed pharmacist.
- 6) Any and all other procedures required by the school are followed.

If a drug is administered to a student, the school shall acquire and retain copies of the written requests required by section (1) above and the statements required by sections (2) and (3) above. Additionally, the school shall ensure that by the next school day following the receipt of any statement required by sections (2) and (3) above, a copy is given to the person authorized to administer drugs to the student for whom the statement has been received. Diabetes medication that is to be administered at school shall be kept in an easily accessible location.

Parents, legal guardians, and/or other persons having care or charge of the student with diabetes are responsible for providing the needed medication and supplies (including but not limited to foods for treating low blood glucose) for the student.

### **Student Administration of Diabetes Medications**

On written request of the parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of a student and authorization by the student's treating physician, a student with diabetes shall be permitted during regular school hours and school-sponsored activities to attend to the care and management of his/her diabetes in accordance with the order issued by the student's treating physician so long as that physician determines that the student is capable of performing diabetes care tasks. The student shall be permitted to perform diabetes care tasks in a classroom, in any area of the school or school grounds, and at any school-related activity, and to possess on his/herself at all times all necessary supplies and equipment to perform these tasks. If the student or the parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of the student so requests, the student shall have access to a private area for performing diabetes care tasks.

If the student performs any diabetes care tasks or uses medical equipment for purposes other than his/her own care, the school may revoke the student's permission to attend to the care and management of the student's diabetes.

### **Non-Restriction Disclaimer**

The school shall not restrict a student who has diabetes from attending the school on the basis that the student has diabetes, that the school does not have a full-time school nurse, or that the school does not have an employee trained in diabetes care. The school shall not require or pressure a parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of a student to provide diabetes care for the student with diabetes at school or school-related activities.

### **Policy on Student Use of Marijuana**

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John Paul II Catholic School is committed to providing the most optimal educational environment for all of its students. Drug abuse is a significant problem throughout our society, and it can have devastating consequences, particularly on

young people.

John Paul II Catholic School maintains a policy of zero tolerance for students' use of marijuana, in particular due to its continued criminalization under federal law. Therefore, any student who uses, possesses, sells, distributes, purchases, or is under the influence of marijuana may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. For purposes of clarity, this policy applies in all respects and with equal force regardless of whether a student holds a prescription or recommendation from a health care provider and regardless of a student's status as a medical marijuana cardholder under Chapter 3796 of the Ohio Revised Code. A positive drug test for marijuana will be treated the same as a positive test for any other illegal or controlled substance.

## Seizure Care Policy

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According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), about 456,000 U.S. children 17 years and younger have active epilepsy. John Paul II supports students with seizure disorders by providing staff members with information about seizure management and developing seizure action plans for students.

Epilepsy is a broad term used to describe a brain disorder that causes a seizure. There are several different types of seizures, and students often can experience more than one type. Seizures can range from generalized seizures that affect both sides of the brain to focal seizures that affect just one area of the brain. Signs and symptoms of seizures vary by type of seizure.

Per the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, effective Oct. 3, 2023, Ohio Law (Sarah's Law) requires a school nurse, or another district or school employee if the district or school does not have a school nurse, to create an individualized seizure action plan for each student enrolled who has an active seizure disorder diagnosis. John Paul II Catholic School complies with Ohio's Sarah's Law for Seizure Safe Schools for students experiencing seizures with the diagnosis epilepsy. The nurse or Principal will create and maintain individualized seizure action plans. The action plan will be developed in collaboration with each student's parent or guardian.

The individualized seizure action plan should have the following components:

- A written request, signed by the student's parent or guardian, to have seizure disorder prescriptions administered to the student; and
- A written statement from the student's treating practitioner providing information on each drug prescribed to the student for a seizure disorder.
- The written action plan will also be accompanied by a written administration of medication order for any medications to be stored at school as outlined in the school's medication policy per Ohio Law.

The school nurse or Principal will notify all school employees and volunteers who regularly interact with the student in writing of the existence and content of the seizure action plan, coordinate seizure disorder care at JPIICS and ensure all staff who interact with the student receive necessary training. Each student's seizure action plan will be renewed at the beginning of each school year and will be maintained in the school nurse's office or principal's office. John Paul II will train school employees in accordance with Ohio Law to ensure that at least one employee, in addition to the school nurse will receive training on the implementation of seizure action plans every two years. This training program should not exceed one hour and should qualify for professional development activity for the renewal of educator licenses. In addition, every employee must complete a minimum of one hour training on seizure disorders within 90 days of employment.

The training will include the following:

- Recognition of seizures (signs and symptoms)
- Emergency action and treatment for a student exhibiting the symptoms of a seizure
- Administration of emergency medication for seizure disorders.

## Sunscreen Policy

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In accordance with ORC 3313.713 (HB 49, eff. 9/29/2017): JPIICS has adopted the following policy in the case that a parent determines that their child should require the application of sunscreen during school hours and/or school events. The parent/guardian should send written permission for his/her child to possess and self-apply non-prescription sunscreen while at school during a specified field trip, or event (ie Fun and Field Day, Walk-a-thon). The note should include that a student is able to safely apply (how, when and frequency of reapplication). Parents should also instruct their child/children that he/she will not be allowed to share sunscreen, which the parent(s) have provided, with any other students. Siblings are allowed to share the same sunscreen and should be listed on the written permission. The sunscreen bottle needs to be labeled with the student/family name and placed in a bag with the written permission. It is recommended that one child in the family be designated to be responsible for the sunscreen throughout the day. The sunscreen will be sent home at the end of the day.

Should a student require more frequent or regular application of a topical sunscreen (ie in addition to field trips or special outdoor school events) while at school the parent must contact the student's teacher, school nurse, and/or Principal. A long-term plan for sunscreen application and proper storage will be discussed and implemented. Also, if a student requires prescription sunscreen, then a doctor's order will be required and will be stored as any other prescription medication per Ohio law and school policy.

## Food Allergy Policy

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### I. Purpose

JPIICS is committed to the safety and health of all students and employees. In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sec. 3313.719, the purpose of this policy is to:

- Provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students with food allergies
- Reduce the likelihood of severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reactions
- Ensure a rapid and effective response in the case of a severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reaction
- Protect the right of food allergic students to participate in all school activities.

Education and planning is the key to establishing and maintaining a safe school environment for all students. The management of student allergies is a coordinated and collaborative approach among the parents/guardians, the student and the school.

While the policy and guidelines focus on food allergies, treatment of anaphylaxis (life-threatening allergic reaction) is the same whether it is caused by insect sting, latex or other allergen. Management of anaphylaxis caused by an allergen other than food may require additional planning and actions on the part of all involved.

### II. Multi-Disciplinary Team Approach to Anaphylaxis Management

The management of students with life-threatening allergies should be a collaborative effort between a core team including the school nurse, parents/guardians and student's physician/healthcare provider. The school team may also include but is not limited to:

- Administrative representative
- Food Service director/staff
- Teacher (including special subject teachers-i.e. art, music, computer, P.E., etc)
- School psychologist and /or counselor
- Custodian
- Other support staff and aides
- Student with food allergies (as is age appropriate)

### III. Management

The team should focus on management activities on the following areas: Prevention, Management of Allergic Reactions, Response to Emergencies, Special situations in and out of the classroom, including but not limited to: classroom parties, science, art and mathematics projects, and field trips.

#### 1. Family's Responsibility

- a. Notify the school administrator/nurse/teacher and child nutrition director (when necessary) of the child's allergies prior to entrance into school and annually thereafter.
- b. Provide necessary health provider order and/or physicians medical statement concluded from allergy testing.
- c. Work with the school team to develop a plan that accommodates the individual child's needs throughout the school including in the classroom, in the cafeteria, in after school sponsored activities, during school sponsored activities and on the school bus, as well as an Individualized Health Care Plan (IHP) and Emergency Action Plan (EAP) developed by the school nurse.
- d. Provide written medical documentation, instructions, and medications as directed by a health care provider, using the Individualized Health Care Plan and Intervention Guide. Include a photo of the child on the written form.
- e. Provide properly labeled medications and replace medications after use or upon expiration.
- f. Educate the child in the self-management of his/her food allergy including:
  - Recognizing a safe and unsafe allergens
  - Identifying strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe allergens
  - Recognizing symptoms of allergic reactions
  - Alerting an adult they may be having an allergy-related reaction
  - Reading food labels (age appropriate) and/or be aware of environmental triggers
  - Never sharing personal items including food, eating utensils, medication, etc.

- Review intervention guides with the school staff, the child's health care provider, and the child (if age appropriate) after a reaction has occurred.
  - Provide emergency contact information and update as needed.
  - Notify school if allergic reaction occurs outside of school.
- 2. Student's Responsibility** (as age appropriate)
    - a. Should be proactive in the care and management of their allergies and reactions based on their developmental level.
    - b. Should **always LOOK** at the food being served.
    - c. Should **not trade** food with others.
    - d. Should **not eat anything with unknown ingredients or known to contain any allergen.**
    - e. Should **notify an adult immediately** if they eat something they believe may contain the food to which they are allergic.
    - f. Should **not share** food, beverages, personal items, medications, etc.
    - g. Know **signs and symptoms** of their allergic reaction
    - h. Be responsible to manage, carry, and know self-administration techniques of epinephrine auto-injector, if permitted by licensed prescriber and parent/guardian.
    - i. To notify an adult if they are being picked on or threatened related by other students as it relates to their food allergy.
  - 3. School's Administrative Responsibility**
    - a. Be knowledgeable about and follow applicable federal laws including American Disabilities Act (ADA), Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and any state laws or district policies that apply.
    - b. Review the health records submitted by parents and health care providers for **allergy testing results correlating with proper medical orders and statements addressing the individualized student.**
    - c. Assure that all staff who interact with the student on a regular basis has been educated to allergens and can recognize symptoms, knows what to do in an emergency, and works with other school staff to eliminate the use of food allergens in the allergic student's meals, educational tools, arts and crafts projects, or incentives according to the student's IHP and EAP.
    - d. Coordinate with the school nurse to be sure medications are appropriately stored, and **keep student's prescribed epinephrine available.** Emergency medications should always be kept in an easily accessible secure location central to designated school personnel. **Students should be allowed to carry their own epinephrine, if age appropriate, after approval from the student's health care provider, parent and nurse.**
    - e. Assure the rights of students without allergies are respected to avoid reverse discrimination. Include allergic students in school activities. Students should not be excluded from school activities solely based on their allergy nor should students without allergies be discriminated against.
    - f. **Early recognition of symptoms** and prompt interventions of the ordered treatment are vital to student survival during anaphylactic shock. Ensure that there are at least 2 to 3 staff members available who are properly trained to administer medications during the school day regardless of time or location.
    - g. **Review intervention guides** with the school staff, the child's health care provider, and the child (if age appropriate) after a reaction has occurred.
    - h. Discuss field trips with the family of the allergic child to decide appropriate strategies for managing the allergy. Administrators and teachers should notify the school nurse well in advance of scheduled field trips in order to allow adequate time for preparation to address student-specific special needs with respect to severe allergy.
    - i. **Follow federal/state/district laws and regulations** regarding sharing medical information about the student.
    - j. Take threats or harassment against an allergic child seriously.
    - k. **Educate** students not to share food, beverages, personal items, medications, etc.

#### IV. Communication

- 1. Parents-Parents**
  - a. Parents of allergic children may send a letter to other parents explaining/discussing their child's allergy. (This should be done through each child's teacher).
- 2. Parents-Staff**
  - a. Each parent or the nurse may discuss food allergies with the child's teacher(s) (including those teaching, PE, art, music), librarian, computer, cafeteria workers and others with access to the child. Parents should meet with the nurse to discuss physicians ordered emergency procedures.
  - b. All additional office personnel, custodians and staff will be informed of plan by school nurse via in-service sessions.
  - c. All substitutes will report to the school nurse as needed for information on food allergic students, and to review the emergency plan in the sub folder.
  - d. Each parent is responsible for updating his/her child's medical information when necessary.
  - e. Staff must contact parents regarding projects and plans which could affect allergic children.
- 3. Staff-Staff**
  - a. All neighboring classroom teaching staff and office personnel should be informed if substitute is present.
  - b. All staff will be informed should emergency occur in school. Plan reviewed and critiqued after incident. All changes put in writing by school nurse and reviewed by staff again. Teaching staff encouraged to communicate about projects and plans which could affect allergic children.

## V. Staff Training

Note: Every adult having access to allergic child must be trained to identify and react to an emergency according to the JPII Food Allergy Program and parental instructions as outlined in each child's IHP and EAP.

### 1. Classroom Teachers and Aides

- a. Meet with parents of each allergic child in classroom prior to the first day of school as required by parents.
- b. Learn from parents:
  - Identification of allergens and "suspicious" foods.
  - Recognize symptoms and reaction of child.
  - Initiate therapy according to IHP/EAP (form provided by school).

### 2. Substitute Teachers

- a. IHP and EAP given in writing and specific Epi-Pen review given by nurse.

### 3. School Nurse

- a. School nurse will work with principal to ensure that all adult employees with access to allergic children are aware of the JPII Food Allergy Program and emergency procedures.
- b. All school staff should be able to consult with the school nurse at all times during the school day at 521-0774.
- c. The nurse will communicate openly and honestly with parents of food-allergic children and work closely with parents to insure a safe environment for the children.
- d. Before the beginning of school year, school nurse will:
  - Post laminated signs outside classroom if requested by parents
  - Make sure all applicable teachers have emergency medications, IHP/EAP, and understand emergency procedures.
  - Provide awareness notice for school newsletter.

### 4. Additional Teaching and Office Staff

- a. Emergency training provided by school nurse.
- b. Aware of Red IHP and EAP binder which is readily available to anyone having contact with allergic children. The folder will contain each child's IHP and EAP.

### 5. Lunchroom/Food Service Workers

- a. Lunchroom staff will review Food Allergy Program and read/understand procedures.
- b. Volunteers will not assist students in opening foods at student tables.

### 6. Transportation.

- a. Transportation is not provided by JPIICS. Parents should contact school bus transportation and inform home school district of student's food allergies.

### 7. Maintenance

- a. Meet with school nurse regarding cleaning procedures-food messes cleaned promptly, dangers of cross-contamination discussed.

## VI Preventative Measures

### 1. Classroom

- a. Laminated signs posted outside classroom if parent request.
- b. Teacher to be aware of Epi-Pen location/s with instruction.
- c. Food items are not permitted in classroom holiday parties or birthdays. Any food items brought into the classroom are not to be given to allergic child unless approved by child's parent. Child has no contact with ANY questionable item until permission from parent granted. **ALLERGIC CHILD'S MOTTO: When in doubt, do without!**
- d. No projects using food child is allergic to are permitted.
- e. No nut containers used to store materials.

### 2. EpiPen Locations

- a. Clinic-Individual pens and non-designated Epi-pens for undiagnosed allergies
- b. Cafeteria-Non-designated Epi-pens for undiagnosed allergies and as requested by parents.
- c. Other EpiPens located as noted on IHP as requested by parents.

### 3. Food Service

The cafeteria is currently operated by Milford Nutrition Service. Policies from Milford will be followed in JPII's cafeteria as applicable to ensure the safety of our students. The following have been implemented:

- a. Milford Food Allergy Management Plan.
- b. Dietary Note signed by a medical provider to be submitted to Milford Nutrition Services via the nurse. The information will be entered into their system and the cashier will be alerted when a student comes through the line with a documented food allergy. This will allow substitutions for safe food as applicable per Federal law.
- c. In order to remove any dietary note must be completed by a parent or guardian and submitted to Milford Nutrition Services via the nurse.

Additional (JPII Specific) Food Service measures in place:

- a. Peanut butter is purchased in single serving closed containers to prevent cross contamination in preparing food.
- b. Food allergy Folder with IHP/EAP of every child with food allergy will be easily accessible to all kitchen and cafeteria staff.

- c. Pictures of children with food allergies at JPIICS are posted with allergen information. This information is visible for cafeteria staff.
- d. Poster addressing anaphylaxis will be conspicuously posted.
- 4. Additional considerations**
- a. Children leave class with teacher knowledge. Absence monitored.
- b. Food allergic children will be monitored more carefully when outside food items are brought to the classroom for parties, etc..
- c. Parents should provide “safe snacks” for child to have available in the classroom if needed.
- d. Hand washing encouraged after snack and lunch.
- e. Age-appropriate book will be read to students in class with allergic peers.
- 5. Lunchroom Precautions**

The parents of anaphylactic children are responsible for informing the school staff of all precautions to be taken at lunchtime. The following measures are currently in place:

- a. With the permission of parents, the student will bring a placemat from home or will get paper placemat from holder.
- b. Student may sit at the end of the table or laminated signs posted for allergen free tables if parent request.
- c. No food sharing or touching anyone else’s food is allowed.
- d. Parents of children wishing to purchase lunch should check with Food Service Supervisor regarding menu choices and ingredient lists.
- e. Only people who can assist students opening lunches/packages is Principal, Maintenance, and cafeteria staff.

## Emergency Response Plan

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**This is a general plan for treatment of anaphylaxis. This plan must be tailored to each individual student. This plan uses information adapted from Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan (FARE,2017). JPIICS must give precedence to individual physician’s orders in the administration of all emergency procedures.**

### 1. School

#### a. Identification of emergency

Child reports or teacher/adult staff notices signs of allergic reaction:

- **MOUTH/NOSE:** Itching and swelling of lips, tongue or mouth
- **THROAT:** Itching and/or sense of tightness in throat, hoarseness and cough
- **HEART:** Thready pulse, loss of consciousness
- **GUT:** Nausea, vomiting, discomfort, diarrhea
- **SKIN:** Hives, redness
- **LUNGS:** Shortness of breath, wheezing, cough
- **GENERAL:** Lethargy, weakness, anxiety, confusion

#### b. Action

- Teacher or supervising adult reviews and follows IHP/EAP
- Administer EpiPen if warranted per IHP/EAP and available.
- If not indicated, call office at first suspicion of a reaction, stating “\_\_\_\_\_ (student) is having a reaction.” Bring EpiPen and/or Benadryl if applicable. Student, if able will come to the clinic escorted by an adult or nurse will go to student.
- Administer Benadryl and/or inhaler if ordered/indicated.
- **Call 911.** Stay with child and watch until EMS, nurse arrives.
- Next door teacher/adult or aide to assist with other children.

#### c. Office Staff/Principal

- School secretary/Principal notifies parents.
- Lay flat, raise legs and keep warm. If difficulty breathing or vomiting, sit them up or lie on their side.
- Stay with child until EMS arrives and go with him/her to Emergency Room, if parents are unavailable.

#### d. Teacher returns to students and reassures them that classmate is being cared for appropriately.

#### e. A child who has had an allergic reaction, however minor it may appear, will be sent home with a parent/guardian for the remainder of the school day.

### 2. Field Trip

- a. Nurse call ahead and informs host of special needs, if applicable. Emergency needs assessed and parents informed if any risk perceived.
- b. All medication and IHP/EAP is to accompany child on field trips. (Staff will keep. Remember Epi-Pen is temperature sensitive. Do not leave in a hot car/bus).
- c. Phone available to teacher at all times to contact emergency personnel.
- d. Location of nearest hospital or emergency care facility noted before field trip begins.

After registration for upcoming year, parents of incoming food-allergic children are contacted and given current JPIICS Food Allergy Program. Emergency plans and considerations will be discussed prior to entrance to school. Question about this program may contact the nurse at 521-0774.

## Food Allergies and Anaphylaxis Checklist for Parents

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### 1. Things to do

- a. Contact school nurse at 521-0774 before school starts.
- b. Request a meeting with the school nurse.
- c. Know how you can help the transition to another teacher and/or school.

### 2. Items to Provide

- a. Diagnosis from physician or healthcare provider. (If anaphylaxis is suspected, this needs to be documented on the form.)
- b. Medication authorization forms with physician's treatment plan for an allergic reaction. Make sure physician notes the exact steps to be followed i.e. Epi-pen followed by Benadryl. Remember to include if anaphylaxis is suspected. **Use separate forms for each medication.**
- c. All medications must have a pharmacy label. Note all expiration dates on medication and let the clinic know if they will expire during the school year. Mark the date on your calendar.
- d. Provide a bag of alternate snacks or treats to be used in the classroom.

### 3. Request from the school

- a. Schools Food Allergy Program
- b. Training plans for all personnel
- c. Written Emergency Action Plans/Individualized Health Plan (EAP/IHP). Parents need to sign these forms. Epi-pen locations should be stated on the plans.
- d. Make sure medications and EAP's go with student on field trips.
- e. Kindergarteners be in-serviced on the topic.

### 4. Tips and suggestions

Consider volunteering to be the room parent and/or field trip chaperone. Talk with teachers about parties and their rooms.

- a. As you discover new information, please share this with your nurse and other parents.
- b. We strongly recommend that parents of food allergic students go on field trips.
- c. Review the emergency plans and do's and don'ts with your child.
- d. Pay close attention to special events at the school. **Read school newsletters carefully.**
- e. Make sure we have current phone numbers where you can be reached. If possible carry a cell phone at all times.
- f. Get a Medical Alert bracelet or ID for you child

### 5. Contacts

- a. Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE)  
Toll-Free: 1-800-929-4040  
Main: (703) 691-3179  
Fax: (703) 691-2713  
Website: www.foodallergy.org
- b. FAAST (Food Allergy Awareness, Support and Training)  
www.faastcincinnati.org  
Email address: FAASTCincy.org

## Tuberculosis Screening

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The following policy is based on requirements from the Hamilton County Public Health TB Control Unit in accordance with Ohio Revised Codes 3313.71 and 3701.13 and Ohio Administrative Code 3701-15-02.

1. The following students/staff must provide documented evidence of having a negative TB test within 90 days of their first day of employment or enrollment in the school:
  - All foreign-born, newly enrolled students who have been in the USA for 5 years or less.
  - All foreign-born, newly hired staff that have been in the USA for 5 years or less.
2. The TB test that is required must be either a Mantoux Test 5 TU PPD (skin test) or a QuantiFERON blood test.
3. Students in the process of completing the TB testing may begin attendance or employment for no more than 30 days as long as they **do not** have TB symptoms as verified by a licensed physician or nurse.
4. If the TB skin test or blood test is positive, the person may remain in the school, but must provide proof of the following within 90 days of their first day of attendance or employment



with the school:

- a normal chest x-ray
- verification from a physician of the absence of communicable tuberculosis

**Please note: A positive skin test does not indicate active TB disease.** Only those persons who display signs and symptoms of active TB disease, with or without a positive skin test, will be removed from school.

5. Any person with either: (1) a documented history of tuberculosis, or (2) a positive PPD or blood test and a normal chest x-ray, must provide documented proof of the absence of TB symptoms, as determined by symptom screening by a licensed physician or nurse. **Repeated chest x-rays are not required in the absence of symptoms of tuberculosis.**
6. Retesting is not required unless the person returns to a high-risk country for at least one week in a non-tourist capacity. A "non-tourist capacity" is defined as:
  - a mission trip
  - staying with family/friends in a private residence
  - spending most of the travel time in a home of facility where the residents of the foreign country live

Any **currently enrolled student** who travels **at any time** to a high-risk country, as defined by the World Health Organization\* Global TB Control, in a non-tourist capacity for 1 week or more, must provide documented evidence of having a negative skin test or blood test in no less than 60 days but no more than 90 days after their return from travel.

\*For a complete, up-to-date list of the "high-risk" countries as defined by the World Health Organization Global TB Control, please contact your school nurse.

## Child Abuse Policy

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John Paul II Catholic School follows all Archdiocese of Cincinnati mandates and Section 2151.421 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding reporting suspected child abuse or neglect.

1. All suspected instances of child abuse or neglect shall be reported by a licensed staff member to a designated governmental agency for investigation and action as may be appropriate. Procedures for reporting such instances and information relevant to identifying victims shall be made available to all certified personnel and school employees.
2. If the alleged child abuser is a member of the extended school staff, all such incidents shall be reported to the Archdiocesan authorities as well. This report shall be made to the Archdiocesan Director of Educational Services, or his designee. If the individual is a cleric or religious, the Director for Educational Services shall notify the Chancellor and/or religious superior.

## Fire & Tornado

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Drills will be held at regular intervals, as required by law. These are an important safety precaution. It is essential that when the first signal is given everyone follow directions promptly. Directions will be given in each room at the beginning of the year and posted in a visible place. We ask that all adults who are in the building at the time of a drill follow the safety rules.

## Lock Down

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If conditions warrant a lock down that would possibly effect dismissal time, the automated phone messaging system will be activated and notification will be made on the JPII website/app and through local media. Do not attempt to remove your child from school during this time.

## Shelter in Place

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If the school is ordered to shelter-in-place by authorities, parents will NOT be permitted to pick up their child for any reason until the "all clear" is given.

## Ohio Law Regarding Missing Children

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Sec. 3313.672. A pupil at the time of his/her arrival into a public or non-public school shall present to the person in charge of admission any records given him/her by the elementary or secondary school he/she most recently attended and a certification of birth issued pursuant to section 3705.05 of the revised code or a comparable certificate or certification issued pursuant to the statutes of another state, territory, possession, or nation. Within twenty-four hours of the pupil's entry into school, a school official shall request the pupil's official records from the elementary or secondary school he most recently attended. If the school the pupil claims to have most recently attended indicates that it has no records of the pupil's attendance or the records are not received within fourteen days of the date of request, or if the pupil does not present a certification of birth or possession, or nation, the principal or chief administrative officer of the school shall notify the law enforcement agency having JURISDICTION in the area where the pupil resides of this fact and of the possibility that the pupil may be a missing child, as this term is defined in Section 2901.30 of the Revised Code.

For the purpose of this section, records mean Vital Statistics information such as name, address, place and date of birth, gender, and grade placement. It is not required that grades or credits be sent if, for some reason, they should be withheld. The purpose of sending the official record is to verify that the pupil was previously enrolled.

JPII will also implement the following:

1. If the principal is notified by school personnel that a missing child is attending JPII, the principal will immediately give notice of this fact to the department of education and the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in the area where the missing child resides.
2. The administrators or secretaries of JPII shall provide access to the student's records to a law enforcement officer who indicates that he/she is conducting an investigation and that the student is or may be a missing child, as defined in Section 2901.30 of the Revised Code.
3. Each year JPII will include a wallet size photograph of each child in his/her school records so that a current photograph of each child is kept on record.
4. JPII will periodically provide a fingerprinting program for students in the school and their brothers and sisters. No student or minor shall be required to participate. Written parental consent is required. Fingerprinting shall be done by law enforcement agencies and cards are to be given to parents. When the fingerprinting program is held, it will be for the sole purpose of providing a means to aid the location or identification of a missing child. It shall be developed in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies.

## Smoke-Free Building Policy

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It is state law that JPII is a smoke free building during and after school hours.

## General Information Policy

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### Cafeteria Policy & Procedures

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John Paul II Catholic School participates in the U.S.D.A.'s hot lunch program and offers a Class A Hot Lunch. Cafeteria Menus are posted on the JPII App each month. Milk, juice, and snacks are also available to students who pack their lunch. **Soft drinks/carbonated drinks (in any container) and fast food are not permitted in the cafeteria.**

Free and reduced-price lunches are available to families who qualify. Application forms are sent home at the beginning of each school year and are available upon request throughout the year. All information supplied on the application is kept strictly confidential.

Every family is required to have 5 prepaid emergency lunches for their children for instances of forgotten, lost, or damaged lunches. The cafeteria manager may refuse to supply lunch if lunch fees are not paid.

Information and prepaid lunch options are sent home in the beginning of the school year. If necessary, an increase in cost may be established by the Food Service Manager. Written notification will be given.

The cafeteria manager may require cash or a money order if checks are returned for non-payment due to insufficient funds.

### **Students owing cafeteria fees will not be given a report card.**

There is to be no eating or drinking during school hours except in the cafeteria unless permission is granted by the principal for a special occasion.

Students must wait to enter the cafeteria until given a signal by a cafeteria staff member. Hot lunch buyers go directly to the right along the wall to the serving area. Packers go to the left to purchase drinks or directly to tables.

- Show respect in words and actions to everyone in the cafeteria: teachers, cafeteria staff, volunteers, and fellow students.
- Walk at all times in the cafeteria.
- Talk in a quiet, conversational voice to students sitting close.
- Never touch another student's food.
- Keep hands and feet to one's self and to not disturb others.
- Report spills of any kind to an adult in the cafeteria.
- Avoid wasting food.
- Eat all food before leaving the table. No food may be taken to the playground or classroom for consumption.
- Remain seated until dismissed by a cafeteria monitor.
- Leave a clean place at the table. Pick up what is dropped and dispose of all trash.

## Challenges to Instructional Materials

If informal discussions fail to resolve a complaint about materials being used in the instructional program, the following formal procedure is observed:

1. All complaints to staff members shall be reported immediately to the building principal, including those received by telephone, letter, or personal discussion.
2. The principal appoints a review committee consisting of two representative classroom teachers, a librarian, Board member and a parent.
3. Materials subject to complaint need not be removed from use pending committee study and final action of the Board unless so directed by the principal.
4. The committee will review the material in question and form opinions based on the material as a whole and not passages taken out of context. The committee shall review the challenged material and make a written report of its findings within three weeks of its appointment. The committee may recommend that the questioned material be (1) retained without reservation, (2) retained with reservation or restrictions on its use, or (3) not retained.
5. The teacher and any other person involved in the selection or use of the material will also have an opportunity to address the committee. The committee may, in addition, call other staff and community members, as it deems necessary.

## Custody Policy

Non-custodial parents have the right to information regarding student's progress unless a current court order states otherwise. JPII School requires a copy of the current official, signed, and dated court document that indicates custody, visitation, and educational rights.

## Field Trips

Field trips that have been planned by any teacher are an important part of a child's instruction in a particular area of knowledge or experience and children are expected to attend. A permission slip releasing the school from liability signed by the parents or legal guardians and returned to the teacher is required. Permission slips will be provided by the school. This slip must be returned before any student is permitted to take part in a field trip. For liability reasons younger children may not accompany chaperones on any field trip. **Field trip chaperones must be a parent or guardian.**

Field trips are privileges afforded to students; no student has an absolute right to a field trip. Children who

consistently neglect their schoolwork and/or are consistent discipline problems will not be permitted to accompany their classes on field trips. Parents will be notified. **These children must come to school on the day of the field trip.**

**8th Grade Behavior Policy for Washington DC: It is imperative that all students can be trusted to exhibit self-control and respectful behaviors during the year leading up to the trip. Major infractions of the school's behavior code or too many minor infractions will disqualify your student from being able to attend. Twenty-five points or one suspension during the 8th grade year leading up to the trip will result in your child not participating in this trip. If this is the case for your child, you will not get a refund on your trip unless you have purchased the insurance.**

In situations when private cars are used to transport children, seat belts must be available for each child in that car.

## Guidelines for the Care and Use of the JP II School Building and KAC

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The following are policies governing the use of the building in general:

1. In order to use JP II school building, contact St. Bartholomew Parish at 522.3680.
2. Do not unlock any more doors than necessary.
3. DO NOT PROP DOORS OPEN.
4. DO not turn on any more lights than are necessary for safety and adequate use of space. Follow directions on the switch boxes in order to know which switches to turn on/off and which switches to leave on at all times.
5. JP II has a smoke-free policy. NO smoking may take place anywhere in the building.
6. Each function is responsible for setting up the room(s) to their specifications. Room(s) should be returned to their original state upon departure.
7. If your function will require extra time to set up or clean up, please contact the parish office.
8. Anything attached to walls should be affixed with masking tape only, so that paint will not pull off walls.
9. If something is broken or not working properly, please notify the parish office as soon as possible.
10. Thermostats should not be touched or adjusted for any reason. If there is an emergency, contact the Parish at 522.3680.
11. Emergency cleanup supplies will be in the janitor's closet located on the main floor near the restrooms.
12. Upon leaving the building:
  - a. Check ALL rooms on the level you used to make sure the lights are off, toilets are flushed, water is not running and everything is in order.
  - b. If food was served, please empty trash containers and put refuse in dumpster located behind the KAC to avoid drawing bugs.
  - c. All outside doors should be checked and locked.

### Special Rules Governing the Cafeteria

1. The serving area and/or kitchen should be left in the same condition you found it.
2. No organization should use the stove, oven, freezer, or refrigerator unless prior arrangements have been made with the cafeteria manager.
3. There should be no leftovers remaining after any function. All food and utensils should be taken home by members of the organization that sponsored the event.
4. Special attention should be paid to turning on and off lights in the cafeteria since some switches remain on to keep refrigerators and freezers running.
5. Set tables and chairs back in place according to marks on the floor and according to the diagram on the kitchen wall.
6. Organizations should provide their own paper products and trash bags. All garbage must be taken to the dumpster.

## High School Recruitment

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John Paul II Catholic School has designated the following information as directory information: student name, student address, home phone number, grade level, gender, and parent e-mail.

This information will be released for students in Grades Five through Eight to the Archdiocesan School Office for distribution to Catholic high schools in the archdiocese, **unless** the parent/guardian submits a Request to Restrict Directory Information form to the school office **prior to May 31 of each year**.

Parents who wish to restrict directory information should realize that their students will not receive information regarding high school enrollment, information events, and testing. This information is available from the individual high schools.

### **High School Shadowing Days**

The shadowing experience affords the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students an opportunity to experience first-hand the life and culture of a specific high school. An 8<sup>th</sup> grader who wishes to take advantage of the shadowing experience must adhere to specific protocols:

- 1) **No more than three days** should be used for shadowing.
- 2) It is strongly encouraged the shadowing day take place when JP II is not in session
- 3) If the shadowing experience must take place on a JP II school day, the parent must submit in **writing the date for approval by the principal and classroom teacher two weeks prior to the visit**.

## **Parent Cooperation as Condition of Enrollment**

JP II maintains the right to refuse admission or terminate enrollment if parent or guardian exhibits through behavior, spoken or written communication that the parent/guardian no longer supports the school rules, staff or administration.

If a student, or his/her parent/guardian, behaves in ways that hinders the school from pursuing its mission, objectives, or disciplinary norms, the administration may determine that JP II School is not the appropriate educational environment for that child and the child may be disenrolled. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Lack of respect for the school's/parish's mission, programs, and activities.
- Lack of respect for school/parish employees; hindering them from discharging their duties.
- Lack of respect for school/parish property.

## **Parties, Birthdays & Healthy Treats**

Classroom parties are permitted for special occasions in grades K thru 8 at the discretion of the homeroom teacher. In creating a healthy and safe environment for all of our students, food items are not permitted for parties or birthday treats.

**Parties & Birthday treats** that are non-food items are permitted.

### **Examples of non-food items such as but not limited to:**

- Pencils
- Stickers
- colorful erasers
- gel pens
- sidewalk chalk
- mini bubbles
- glow sticks
- **Donate** a birthday book, puzzle, game to the classroom or library

**Gift exchanges** among students are not permitted.

Private **party invitations** must be mailed from home.

## **Phone Calls**

At certain times it will be necessary for you to speak with your child's teacher, and we encourage this. **ALL MESSAGES FOR TEACHERS WILL BE HANDLED THROUGH THE SCHOOL OFFICE.**

**Students may not be allowed to use the phone or cell phones during school hours for items left at home, change in after school plans, lunch, etc. Students will not be taken out of class to talk to parents on the phone. Messages will be relayed to the student at an appropriate time.**

**Please avoid calling school at dismissal, 3:15 to 3:45. There is a lot of activity at this time.**

## Use of Student Pictures/Information

Pictures or videos of students may be used on the school website, school social media platforms, JPIL app, newsletters and/or community publications in order to share information about JPIL. Student's identifiable information, ie: their last name etc. will not be shared in any of these publications. A social media/publicity waiver is required to be signed by every student's parent/guardian at the start of each school year providing the school permission to use student pictures/videos.

## Social Media

JPIL School reserves the right to refuse admission or remove from enrollment any parent/guardian or student who posts unapproved or inappropriate photos or statements pertaining to the school, its faculty, administration, or students, or school events.

## Technology

Use of the internet at JPIL School is guided by the principles stated in the Archdiocesan Responsible Use of Technology Agreement. A copy of this document will be sent home for parent's/guardian's signature before a student can use the internet at school. While JPIL School attempts to filter internet traffic at school for the purpose of safeguarding staff and students, nothing is full-proof. It is always the responsibility of the user to comply with JPIL School policies and the Archdiocesan Responsible Use of Technology Agreement. Further, the parent/guardian and student are solely responsible for internet usage outside of school, even if on a school-issued computer or other device.

## Responsible Use of Technology Policy

All schools must have on file a signed Responsible Use of Technology Policy – User Agreement Form for any Student\* and/or adult (administrators, faculty and staff members, parents, volunteers, and other school-affiliated adults) using a school's technology resources, school's Internet account, school-sponsored account, or personal account to access the Internet. All Internet access and use of other electronic communication technology is strictly limited to educational purposes. Students (including those 18 and over) are not allowed to access personal accounts from school. School personnel (administrators, faculty and staff members) are allowed to access personal accounts at school but are subject to responsible use provisions herein. Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati adhere to the Children's Internet Protection Act. Individual schools may be further governed by the policies of the Instructional Technology Centers or other Internet Service Providers. The school has the right to access to any electronic devices on school property. All information received or sent from school property remains the property of the school and is not considered confidential. The school reserves the right to investigate the download history of all school computers. There shall be no reasonable expectation of privacy.

\*The term student applies to any individual enrolled in the school regardless of age.

### **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY**

The school shall provide access to technological resources, including Internet, for educational purposes only. The school shall also provide training for students and teachers in the appropriate use of online behavior, interaction online on social networking sites, cyber-bullying awareness and reporting of misuse of technology. The school shall take measures to provide for the safety and security of minors, supervise and monitor student access to all technological resources provided by the school, and guard against the access of objectionable material, in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act and the Archdiocesan Decree on Child Protection. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors are forbidden.

### **USER RESPONSIBILITY**

The user shall access the school's technological resources for educational purposes only. Each user is responsible for information that is sent and received under his/her personal and/or school Internet account. Passwords are to be guarded and not displayed nor shared with others. The user must strictly adhere to copyright laws. In addition,

unethical and/or illegal uses of electronic devices will not be allowed. Unauthorized access, including hacking or use of another person's account, is strictly forbidden. The user agrees not to bypass the school firewall, nor to harm or alter school property. The user agrees not to pirate, nor to submit, publish, and/or display any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, racially offensive or otherwise illegal material, on or off school property; nor shall the user encourage the use, sale, or distribution of controlled substances. Any use in violation of any local, state, or federal law is prohibited and is a breach of the terms and conditions of responsible use. Also, any commercial use is strictly forbidden.

### **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

The school may take disciplinary action against school personnel, including students, who violate the Responsible Use of Technology Policy or other school or archdiocesan policies by means of inappropriate use of technology. Disciplinary action may also be taken against those who use telecommunication devices to cause mental or physical distress to other members of the school community, whether these incidents take place on or off the school property. Disciplinary action taken by school authorities may include revocation of access to technological resources, suspension, expulsion, and/or possible legal action.

### **CONSENT FOR ONLINE/REMOTE LEARNING**

As part of the Responsible Use of Technology Policy, parents/guardians further agree as follows:

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exist and evolve, "remote" and/or "distance" learning (hereinafter referred to as "Remote Learning") may at some point be required, either for the entire school or for a specific student or group of students. In such cases, the school may livestream and/or record a class to allow any student who is absent due to COVID-19 to continue to observe, and participate in, the class as much as reasonably practicable. Although the school will attempt to focus the camera and/or recording device on the respective teacher, aide, and/or instructional materials being utilized during instruction, there will be times when a specific student or students appears on the video. Parent/Guardian hereby consents and agrees that: (1) such Remote Learning is permissible; and (2) his/her child may appear in videos being livestreamed and/or recorded as part of that Remote Learning.

Furthermore, Parent/Guardian promises and agrees not to record, disseminate, publish, or share any livestreamed or recorded video of such Remote Learning to anyone outside of student's immediate family. To the extent any Remote Learning videos are created and recorded, Parent/Guardian promises and agrees to permanently delete such recording following his/her child's observation of, and/or participation in, that particular class session.

## **Student Use of AI**

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### **A. Responsible Uses of AI for Students**

With their educator's permission, students may be permitted to utilize AI for the following purposes:

- **Aiding Creativity:** Students can harness generative AI to spark creativity across diverse subjects, including writing, visual arts, and music composition. Students should not use AI to replace their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- **Collaboration:** Generative AI tools can assist students in group projects by contributing concepts, supplying research support, and identifying relationships between varied information.
- **Content Creation and Enhancement:** AI can help generate personalized study materials, summaries, quizzes and visual aids, and can assist students with organizing their thoughts and content.
- **Tutoring:** AI-powered virtual teaching assistants may provide support, answer questions, help with homework, and supplement classroom instruction.

Students and their parents/guardians should recognize the risks and limitations associated with newly developed technologies like AI. For example, information contained in AI tools may be unreliable or inaccurate. Additionally, students should not enter personally identifiable, private, confidential, or proprietary information into AI models or tools.

### **B. Prohibited Uses of AI for Students**

Below are the prohibited uses of AI tools:

- **Inappropriate Use:** Using AI tools to engage in bullying, harassing, intimidating, or other inappropriate behavior is strictly prohibited. Students are expected to use AI solely for educational purposes, upholding values of respect, inclusivity, and academic integrity at all times.
- **Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are prohibited from copying any source, including generative AI, without prior approval and adequate documentation. Students are prohibited from submitting AI-generated work as their original work. Any AI-generated content used in assignments must be appropriately cited. AI tools may be used for brainstorming or preliminary research, but using AI to generate answers or complete assignments without proper citation or passing off AI-generated content as one's own is considered plagiarism. School policies will continue to be enforced.
- **Unauthorized Use:** Educators will clarify if, when, and how AI tools may be used in their classrooms.

Students may not use AI without advance approval from their teacher. Students are expected to review AI-generated content before using it.

- **Noncompliance with Other Policies:** The use of AI technology must comply with all Archdiocese and school policies including, but not limited to, academic integrity policies and student codes of conduct. Students and their parents/guardians are responsible for familiarizing themselves with these policies and ensure compliance.

## iPad Acceptable Use Policy for Grades 5-8

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iPads are provided to students in grades 5-8. The policies regarding the use of the iPads are separate from this handbook. Before the iPads are distributed a copy of the policies are given to the parent and student to read and sign. Upon receipt of signed agreement and iPad is issued to the student who take full responsibility for the care and use of the device. All signed agreements are kept in the school office.

## Theft or Loss of Personal Property

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JPII School shall not be directly or indirectly liable for theft or loss of any personal property of students on school grounds or at school-sponsored functions. Should a student choose to bring personal belongings to school or to a school-sponsored function, the student, not JPII School, is personally and solely responsible for ensuring that his/her belongings are properly secured. Students are discouraged from bringing valuable belongings to school or to a school sponsored function. Valuable belongings include cash, expensive electronic or digital equipment, expensive clothing, attire, jewelry, etc. Should students choose to bring such items to school or to a school-sponsored function, they do so at their own risk. Parents/guardians should take steps to ensure that any valuable items are appropriately insured. When appropriate, JPII School will report to authorities and prosecute all thefts or vandalism to property.

## Visiting the School & Picking Your Child Up From School

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**ALL VISITORS AND PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO STOP AT THE OFFICE AND SIGN IN UPON ENTERING THE SCHOOL BUILDING.**

If your child must leave school early, please send a note of explanation to the teacher. Parents must come to the office and the child will be called to the office. No child will be released to a relative or friend without parental permission. Parents are not permitted unannounced visits to their child's classroom during the day. Parents are not permitted to sit in their child's class to observe due to the distraction this presents to the other students.

## Weekly Newsletter

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In an effort to simplify communication between you and the school, we have instituted a **weekly** JPII App posting which contains the newsletter and fliers.

## School Board & PTO

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### John Paul II Catholic School Board

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The principal is the chief administrator of the school.

The primary function of the School Board is to set policy for the school operations and to promote implementation of said policies. Working in close collaboration with the school administrative head, the board shall develop policies that will enable the school to accomplish its goals and objectives.

The Board conducts monthly meetings that are open to parents and other interested parishioners. The meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. Parents or other interested parishioners may request to have topics placed on the agenda.

Such requests should be given to a board member prior to the meeting. These topics will be brought before the Board and will be given limited time for presentation.



See the Student Directory for current members and phone numbers.

### **Procedure for Bringing Matters to the School Board's Attention**

Adopted September 2008.

School families and parishioners are welcomed at school board meetings and given opportunity to voice their thoughts to the Board.

The procedure outlined below is designed to assist both guests and Board members by ensuring that matters are addressed to the appropriate parties and that those involved have adequate information to begin a dialogue.

A visitor who would like to address the Board should submit his/her request a minimum of one week in advance. The request should include the individual's name and a brief summary of the topic(s) s/he would like to address. Guests who would like to speak on weighty or complex matters should include a fuller submission. Requests may be submitted in writing, to the school, c/o Board Communications Chair, or via email to SchoolBoard@JPIICS.org.

The Board retains the right to:

- request additional information before determining the next step,
- redirect requests to other individuals who are better positioned to handle the matter,
- defer a speaker until the next meeting so that the Board has time to gather additional information/input and/or to address more pressing matters,
- move the matter to mediation instead of or in addition to discussion at a Board meeting. Members of the mediation team are determined on a case- by-case basis.

The Communications Chair will contact those who have submitted a request to let them know how the Board has decided to respond. Those whose requests are appropriate to bring before the Board will be asked to speak during the "visitor comments" portion of the meeting agenda.

## **John Paul II Catholic School PTO**

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The purpose of the Parent-Teacher Organization is to foster a partnership between parents and teachers at John Paul II Catholic School, the goal of which is to provide a quality education to the students.

PTO meetings are generally held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the school library. All parents are welcome to attend.

## **Procedure for Problem Resolution**

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### **Purpose**

The following procedure will enable Board Members to deal effectively with complaints. It is the philosophy of the Board that all such complaints be handled promptly, at the lowest possible level within the school structure.

### **Problem Resolution Procedure for Parents/Guardians to Follow**

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#### **What is an issue subject to resolution?**

A claim that there has been a serious violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of policy or procedure. Personnel issues are not issues for resolution, as they would conflict with the employer/supervisor/employee relationship.

#### **Who can present an issue for resolution?**

Each parent/guardian shall have the right to present an issue for resolution in accordance with these procedures.

#### **Ethics on Resolution**

- a. Every effort shall be made to resolve each issue for resolution at the lowest level.
- b. A parent/guardian who follows these resolution procedures will not suffer any deliberate repercussions by school personnel.
- c. The failure of a parent/guardian to act on an issue for resolution within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal and an administrator's failure to give a decision within the time limits shall permit the parent/guardian to proceed to the next step. The time limits at any level, however, may be extended by mutual written agreement.

- d. An atmosphere of mutual respect and common courtesy is to be maintained. Each level of the resolution process is an effort of both parties to seek an acceptable resolution/solution to the problem.
- e. Conferences/meetings under this procedure shall be conducted at a time and place agreed upon by those involved.
- f. Other than to offer advice on following procedure, a member of the Board may only become involved with the resolution process with the written authorization of the officers of the Board.

### **Levels of Procedures**

#### **Level One**

Within one calendar week of the experience of the conflict, the parent/guardian will present a written report for conference to the teacher indicating the specific nature of the issue and a remedy request. At the conference the parent/guardian and teacher will discuss the conflict. One calendar week from the teacher's receipt of the written request is the time limitation period for disposition of the issue for resolution at level one.

#### **Level Two**

If the issue for resolution cannot be resolved at Level One, the parent/guardian shall submit the specific issue for resolution in writing and the specific remedy requested to the principal. The parent/guardian, teacher, and principal shall meet to attempt to work toward a mutually agreeable solution. A written response by the principal to the parent/guardian at the third step must be written within one calendar week of the meeting.

#### **Level Three**

If the issue for resolution cannot be resolved at Level Two, the parent/guardian should submit the specific issue for resolution in writing and the specific remedy to the Board of Education President. The parent/guardian, teacher, principal, and Board of Education President shall meet to attempt to work toward a mutually agreeable solution. A written response by the School Board President to the parent/guardian must be made within one calendar week of the meeting.

#### **Level Four**

If the issue for resolution cannot be resolved at Level Three, the parent/ guardian, teacher, principal, Board president, and the juridic pastor shall meet within one calendar week to work toward a mutually agreeable solution. A joint written response to the parent/guardian (issuant) by the principal and Board president with agreement of the Pastor must be made within one calendar week of the meeting. The decision in this response is final. If it becomes evident that there is not a genuine interest in resolving the issue for resolution by the parent/guardian or there is failure to abide by the decision, the school will refund the balance of any unearned tuition and remove the child(ren) from the school.

#### **Addendum A**

If the issue for resolution is against an administrative decision of policy or procedure in the student handbook, levels one and two shall remain the same with the substitution of "administrator" for "teacher". Levels Three and Four shall remain, with the substitution of "administrator" for "teacher and principal". Approved 6/18/92.

# Appendices

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All forms are located and signed through Final Forms.

Appendix A	<a href="#">Accident Injury Form</a>
Appendix B	<a href="#">Archdiocesan Policy for Youth Activities/Permission Form</a>
Appendix C	<a href="#">Asthma Inhaler Form for Self-administration</a>
Appendix D	<a href="#">Decree on Child Protection</a>
Appendix E	<a href="#">Emergency Medical Authorization Form</a>
Appendix F	<a href="#">Parent/Guardian Authorization for Student Possession and Use of an Epinephrine Autoinjector</a>
Appendix G	<a href="#">Parent/Guardian Request for Administration of Medication</a>
Appendix H	<a href="#">Physician Request for Administration of Medication</a>
Appendix I	<a href="#">Prescriber Authorization for Student Possession and Use of an Epinephrine Autoinjector</a>
Appendix J	<a href="#">Responsible Use of Technology</a>
Appendix K	<a href="#">School Calendar</a>
Appendix L	<a href="#">Social Media Policy Form</a>
Appendix M	<a href="#">Media Release Form</a>
Appendix N	<a href="#">Volunteer Confidentiality Form</a>

PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT SIGNATURE PAGE

I/We hereby affirm that I have read the Parent/Student Handbook. I/we certify that I/we consent to and will follow all policies and procedures of the school, including everything contained in the John Paul II Catholic School Parent/Student Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Student Signature

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Date

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Student Grade

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