

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

May 27, 2025

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

Can you believe it? Another school year is coming to a close! It's hard to imagine how quickly time has flown; but here we are, preparing to say farewell to the school year and welcome the joys of summer.

We are so proud of all that our students have accomplished over the past months. They've grown in knowledge, faith, confidence, and virtue; and their hard work was evident in every classroom, on every adventure, and across every grade level. Just last week, our students celebrated their academic growth on the NWEA benchmark assessments with an ice cream party at recess. It was a joyful reminder of how far they've come and how much they've achieved together! As we look ahead to the summer months, we want to remind our families that **HNJ will remain open throughout the summer**. We offer **year-round care for infants and toddlers in our Little Gators program**, and we're also excited to provide a **flexible, weekly-based summer camp option for rising PK4 through 7th grade students**. Whether your child joins us for one week or the entire summer, our camp offers a fun, faith-filled experience to keep the learning and laughter going. Learn more here: [Summer at HNJ](#)

Before we officially kick off summer, we have a few special celebrations ahead:

- **Kindergarten Graduation** takes place **Thursday at 8:30 AM** in the Auditorium. We can't wait to honor our youngest learners as they take this big step forward!
- On **Friday**, we will gather as a school community for our **Closing Mass at 8:30 AM** in the Church, followed by the **End-of-Year Awards Ceremony** for students in **1st through 6th grade**. These events are a cherished tradition and a chance to reflect on the grace and growth of the past year.

We hope you'll join us for these meaningful moments as we close out a year filled with learning, faith, friendship, and wonder. Thank you for walking alongside us every step of the way—we are grateful for your continued support and partnership.

Here's to a summer full of sunshine, rest, and adventure—and to a community that makes every school year one to celebrate!

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



Important Dates

Tuesday, May 27 - Wednesday, May 28

5th and 6th Grade Exams

Tuesday, May 27

7th Grade Promotion Ceremony, 6:30 PM at HNJ Church

Wednesday, May 28

PK3/PK4 Last Day of School

Last Day of Later Gators (PK3-7th Grade)

Thursday, May 29

Kindergarten Closing Ceremony, 8:30 AM

No Later Gators (1st-7th Grade)

Friday, May 30

1st-6th Grade Last Day of School

Closing Mass and Awards Ceremony 8:30 AM at HNJ Church (1st-6th Grade)

Early Dismissal (Little Gators - 6th Grade)

No Later Gators (Little Gators - 6th Grade)

Monday, June 2

Camp Gator Begins!





WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?

Faculty and Staff WIN!!

By James Zubic, William Baxter, and William Kohrs
Official Sports Reporters of Holy Name of Jesus

During the 7th vs. Faculty Game
Faculty won. Here is how it happened:



1st Period

The court is loud and the game begins with 6 turnovers ending in an out of bounds on Faculty. Although 7th misses their 1st shot, it is turned over to start the game with a 3 from Faculty. This point streak continues for the next 7 drives. 7th is losing to Faculty partially because of height. But will that stop them? First foul made 3 minutes in on George Woodrow. He tried but missed. Drew Fallo makes the first shot for 7th the scoreboard is frozen for the next 6 drives. Faculty's defense is picking up. Not much point action here. 7th lets 40% of their drive go to faculty. 5...4...3...2...1... That's the first period folks.

2nd Period

The second half started with a shot from Faculty. Faculty's defense is weakening. The excitement might be taking over them. But they are not going easy on 7th's defense. If I could rename the game, it would be "Tall vs. Short" which is really hard and (in my opinion) unfair. 7th's athleticism is defining those words. Ten minutes in and George Woodrow face plants onto the court. In 1 minute he is back up. Game's on. 9 minutes. 18 to 30. Faculty winning. 7th is advancing in skill and making a comeback. 7th is now 8 points away from Faculty with 3 minutes left. It is comeback season. Bethany Chavez narrows it down to 30 - 34. 7th might win the first game in 4 years. Sudden timeout with 4 seconds left and 7th is down by 1. 3...2...1... Basketball is hard. Especially when 90% of people on your team are smaller than the opposing team. But the point of this game is to have fun. Though the 7th graders lost, they will remember this. This tradition must continue because this is HNJ.

Interviews

What engaged you?

"It was fun and I liked the thought of winning." -Cosimo DeCandia

"The crowd really engaged me." -George Woodrow

"Since it was the last (and first) time we would do this, I wanted to have fun." -Bethany Chavez

"The crowd and my friends engaged me." -Jabari Polete

What was the strategy?

"The strategy was to move the ball and get points." -Coach T

"The strategy was to play like it was recess." -2025 Class of 7th Grade



"Go forth and set the world on fire" — St. Ignatius of Loyola

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



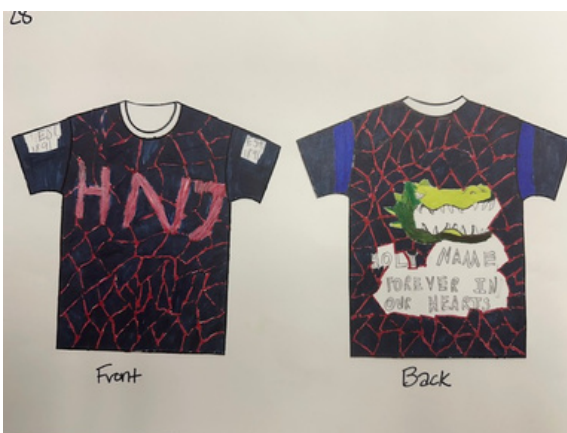
WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?

Thank you to our Sixth Grade students for their fabulous entries in the Spirit Shirt design contest. Students and staff voted on their favorite design. Congratulations to the top three finalists. Our first place design will be the official 25-26 HNJ Spirit Shirt!

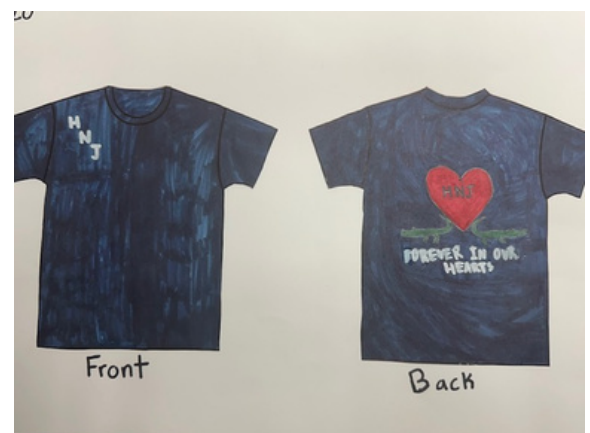
First Place Legend Bickham



Second Place Liam Lemoine and Ben Nalty



Third Place Annie Heeren-Mueller



To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



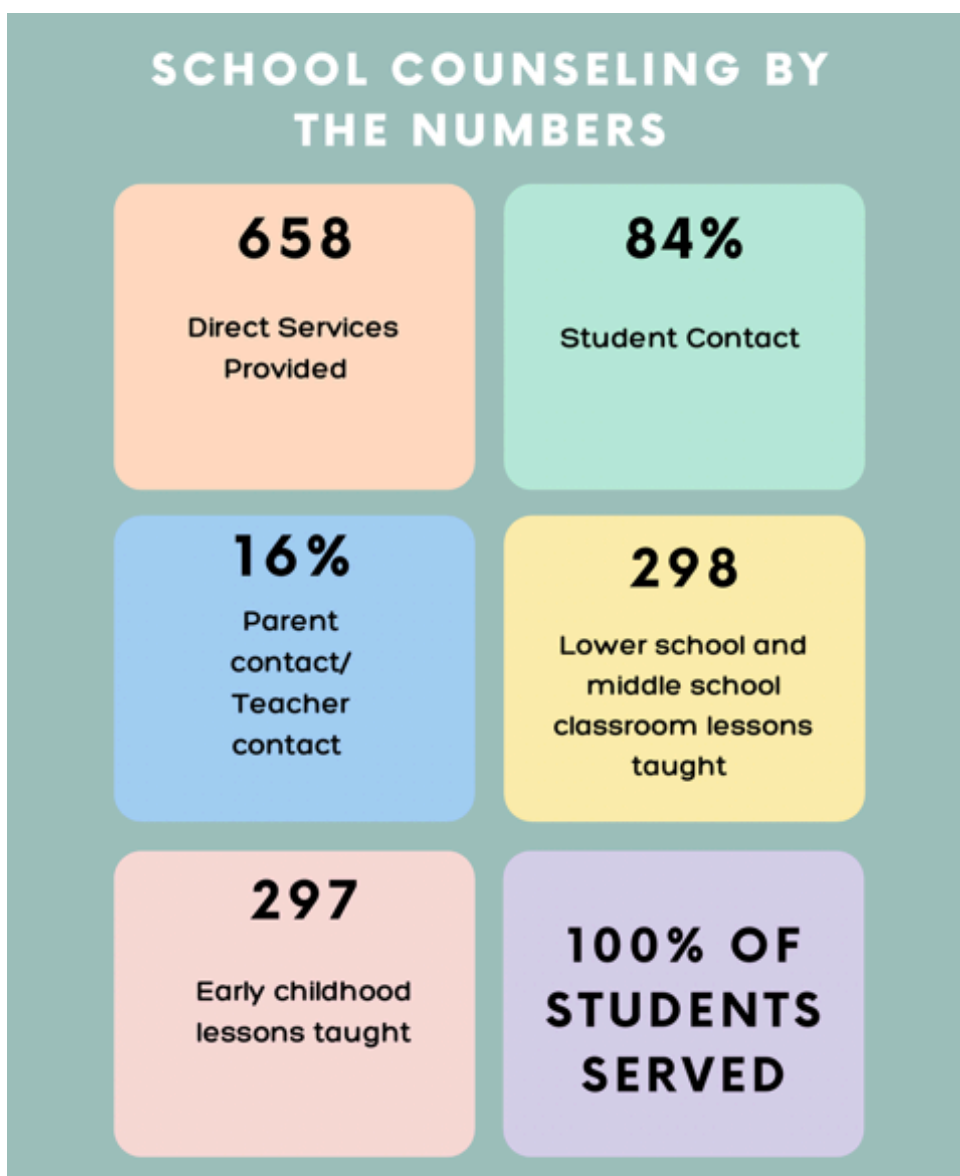


COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

msubervielle@hnjschool.org

The Counseling Department at HNJ had a fantastic year! Within our comprehensive school counseling program, we develop strategies to work with students both in groups and individually. Together, Ms. Morgan and Ms. Angelle, our Social Emotional Learning Teacher provided over 658 student services this year! Students were referred to the counseling department by teachers/faculty, parents, and themselves. The top reasons students were referred to the counselor this year include: coping skills/emotional regulation, impulsivity, feelings/mood/affect, peer relations, and friendship skills.



In addition to meeting with students individually or in small groups, the counseling services at Holy Name of Jesus include Life Skills lessons to promote positive personal growth and school-wide safety skills. Topics included: Empathy, Identifying Feelings, Calming "Big" Feelings, Interpersonal Communication, Conflict Resolution, Problem Solving, Careers, and more. Thank you all for supporting our school counseling program!

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



DEMOGRAPHICS



SCHOOLS

5,852

Elementary/Middle

4,683

Secondary

1,169


STUDENTS

1,683,506

Elementary/Middle

1,163,827

Secondary

519,679


PROFESSIONAL STAFF

154,258

 The student/teacher ratio is **10.9:1**.


FAITH



Students

Catholic 71.8%

Non-Catholic 21.8%

Not Reported 6.4%

Staff

Catholic 73.4%

Non-Catholic 16.4%

Not Reported 10.2%

ETHNICITY

American Indian 0.5%

Hispanic 14.5%

Middle Eastern/

North African 0.2%

Native Hawaiian 0.5%

Asian 4.4%

Black 7.6%

Multiracial 7.2%

Unknown 4.5%

White 60.6%



PARENTAL CHOICE*


31%

Schools Utilizing Parental Choice Programs

18%

Students Utilizing Parental Choice Programs

TITLE I

6.8%

Students Receiving Title I Services


14.7%

Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch

RETENTION


85.7%
 Teachers

84%
 Principals

70.5%
 Superintendents

DIAGNOSED DISABILITY*


9.1%

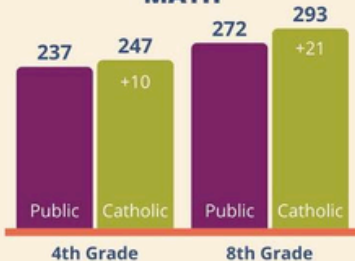
Students with a Diagnosed Disability

75.5%

Schools Serving Students Diagnosed with a Disability

*Not all dioceses reported

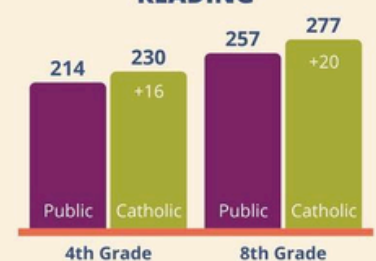
MATH



ACADEMICS

2024 NAEP SCALE SCORES

READING



Sources: U.S. Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2024-2025: The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing (NCEA), 2025; National Assessment of Educational Progress, National Center for Education Statistics, 2024.



NURSE'S NOTES

ABBY DONNELLY,
SCHOOL NURSE

adonnelly@hnjschool.org

Dear HNJ Families,

It has been a true joy to be your School Nurse for the last five years and to care for all of your precious Gators! Thank you for entrusting their health and safety to me throughout COVID, bumps, scrapes, bruises, broken bones, and of course - peppermint visits! I'll truly remember all the moments and this special time in my life forever!

Love, Nurse Abby



THANK YOU!



HNJ families donated 1,850 diapers for families in need for the Junior League Diaper Drive this year. This is worth \$627.34! This is also more than any of the Junior League's other daycare partners! Thank you to all who donated!

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



HOLY NAME

A large, glossy red bowling ball is positioned in the foreground, partially obscuring a set of white bowling pins with red stripes. The pins are arranged in a standard triangular formation on a bowling lane. The background shows the dark, industrial-looking structure of a bowling alley.

BOWLING

TOURNAMENT

SPONSORED BY HNJ ALUMNI

OPEN TO PARENTS, ALUMNI & FRIENDS!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025 | 6-9 PM

ROCK-N-BOWL

LIVE MUSIC: THE MIXED NUTS STARTS AT 8:30PM

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!





HOLY NAME of JESUS CHURCH

A Community for Others

6367 St. Charles Avenue New Orleans, LA 70118
On the Campus of Loyola University • www.hnjchurch.org

JUNE 1, 2025

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THAT THE WORLD
MAY BELIEVE
THAT YOU
SENT ME.

JOHN 17:23

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 4 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
University Mass 9 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
Weekdays 7 a.m. (Church)
Weekdays 12:30 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
Saturday 8:30 a.m. (Church)

RECONCILIATION

Monday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m. (Church)
Saturday 3:45 p.m. (Church)
Sunday 8:15-8:45 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
(or by Appointment)

PARISH CENTER

6220 LaSalle Place
New Orleans, LA 70118
(located 4 blocks north of St. Charles Ave.)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
(closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch)
Phone: 504-865-7430
Email: holyname@hnjchurch.org

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG

Ponseti's
SHOES

Uniform School Shoes Since 1965
3501 Severn Ave. Metairie La 70002
504-354-9692

Back To School SALE!

**Holy Name of Jesus
School Shoes 10% Off**

Regular Price

During July, 2025

Come in-store for the perfect fit!
Know the Size? Visit our website:
www.ponsetis.com
Free in-store pick-up
Free shipping on orders \$99+
Discount applied automatically



The HNJ Yearbook Committee needs your photos!

We need pictures from this school year! If you have photos from any of these past events, or any future HNJ events, please submit them to us!

- HNJ Athletics
- Gator Fest
- Back to School BBQ
- Class Parties
- Field Trips
- Pure Imagination
- Choir
- Other HNJ Events!

**GOOD
TIMES**



Click the camera
icon to upload your
photos directly to our
yearbook photo
library!



**HNJ
CAMP
GATOR**

RIISING PK4-7TH GRADE STUDENTS

JUNE 2-6: MESSY MASTERPIECES
JUNE 9-13: GALACTIC ADVENTURES
JUNE 16-20*: MID-SUMMER MARDI GRAS
JUNE 23-27: MAD SCIENCE LAB
JULY 7-11: SPORTS MASHUP
JULY 14-18: GATOR BUILDERS
JULY 21-25: ENDING SUMMER WITH A SPLASH

*NO CAMP ON 6/19 IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH

HOURS

BEFORE CARE: 7:00-8:30
CAMP: 8:30-3:15
AFTER CARE: 3:15-5:30

[Click to Register](#)

PRICING

\$250/WEEK (\$200 WEEK OF 6/16)
BEFORE AND AFTER CARE \$100/WEEK (\$80 WEEK OF 6/16)

REGISTRATION

2/17 PRIORITY FOR CURRENT AND NEWLY ENROLLED HNJ STUDENTS
3/10 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



@CAMPGATOR_HNJ

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



Let's Make a Difference... Together!



We are in an exciting time of growth here at Holy Name. Our enrollment is growing; our students are excelling academically and are being accepted into their high schools of choice; and this fall we will break ground on a brand new Little Gators Early Childhood Center, along with the first phase of our new school gym!

Our Annual Giving Appeal is something we do every year to support the school's annual operating budget. We rely on your gifts to help bridge the gap between what parents pay for tuition and what it actually costs to educate each student. This campaign is separate from our Capital Campaign, which raises funds for capital improvements. Gifts to the Annual Fund help support our Mission, including:

- Attracting and retaining highly qualified teachers with competitive salaries,
- Providing tuition assistance for families who need it,
- And equipping our students with the resources they need to strive for their personal excellence.

[Make a Gift!](#)

[View Our
Gift Catalog
Here!](#)

[Read the full letter from
our Annual Fund
co-chairs here!](#)

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!





HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

Mission

Holy Name of Jesus School is an inclusive community dedicated to teaching children confidence, compassion, and integrity while staying committed to academic excellence and the Catholic faith.

Core Beliefs

- Find God in everyone and everything
- Strive for personal excellence
- Are boys and girls for others
- Open eyes with faith, open ears with truth, and open hearts with love

Academic Vision

Holy Name of Jesus School fosters academic excellence in an inclusive environment where our community celebrates and supports all members through student development, innovation, and social justice.

Motto: To wonder, to achieve, to make a difference, together

Decisions: Student-centered

In implementing this academic vision, Holy Name of Jesus School is committed to:

GOAL #1

Meeting the needs of ALL students by utilizing data to differentiate instruction in order to grow as individuals academically, spiritually, and socially

GOAL #2

Delivering engaging, collaborative, project-based opportunities where students develop an inquisitive approach to learning

Goal #3

Providing ongoing opportunities to highlight, promote, and celebrate our own and other's backgrounds, cultures, and differences

Learn more about Holy Name of Jesus School

www.hnjschool.org

504-861-1466

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!

