

MID-YEAR REFLECTION

2022-2023



February 2023



JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ACADEMY

WELCOME!

"Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence." Our beloved patron's words have helped to bring to life our first annual JPG Mid-Year Reflection. As we celebrate the first 100 days of the 2022-2023 school year, we are grateful for the abundant blessings given to us by Our Father and the protection provided by Our Blessed Mother. We pray this report gives you enthusiasm and confidence when you reflect on this year. Thank you for your contribution to the beauty and goodness of our community. We look forward to all that is still to come.

THIS YEAR IN NUMBERS

2022-2023 Enrollment as of February 1: 403

Total Faculty & Staff: 63

Student to Teacher Ratio: 9:1

Total Alumni: 171

Average ACT Score: 26.30

Average Graduating GPA : 3.481

Pilgrimages: 7

Retreats: 5

Vocations: 2 ordained diocesan priest alumni, 3 seminarian alumni, 4 full-time missionary alumni, 1 former faculty diocesan priest + 3 former faculty religious sisters

Guardian Spirit: ∞

2 Varsity State Championships!

Congratulations
Guardian Volleyball &
Football!

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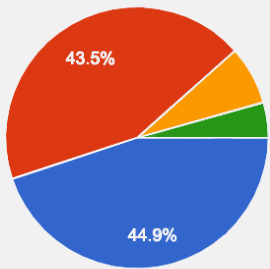
John Paul the Great Academy is a small, independent, Catholic school that provides a rigorous classical education in the liberal arts and sciences and promotes the sacred traditions of the Roman Catholic Church.

Mid-Year Survey Results

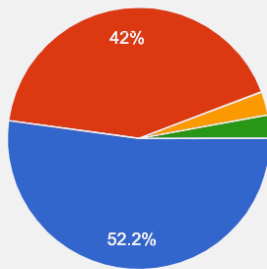
Thanks to everyone who responded to the recent Mid-Year Survey. It is vitally important to learn about the experience of our students, parents, teachers, and staff to better accomplish the mission entrusted to us at JPG. Our mission—to be a small, independent, Catholic school that provides a rigorous classical education in the liberal arts and sciences and to promote the sacred traditions of the Roman Catholic Church—has never been more important. The results indicate that we are accomplishing our mission and having the impact we strive for. These results are very encouraging and we are so grateful to our teachers, staff, administration, parents, and board for all that they do to impact the lives of our students. Not all experiences are positive in every respect. Please know if you expressed concerns or negative experiences, we take those to heart and are addressing them in our plans for next year. We have followed up with many in person in order to discuss issues and concerns further. If you would like to have a follow up meeting and haven't had one, please contact Mrs. Odinet or Dcn. Conque.

Is JPG successful at...

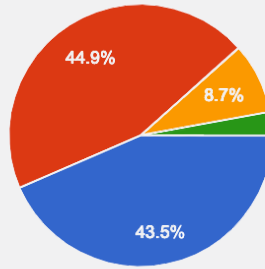
...being independent and founded in partnership with the family?



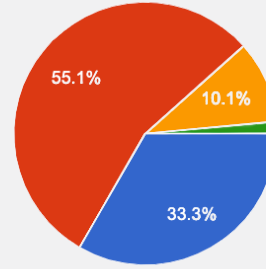
...handing on the liturgical, missionary, intellectual, and devotional tradition of the Roman Catholic Church?



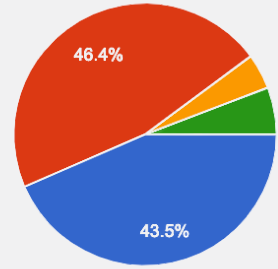
...promoting a classical view of education?



...providing a liberal arts curriculum?



...allowing for human flourishing within small classes and small communities within the school?



Very Successful

Successful

Not successful but improving

Not successful & heading in the wrong direction



Scan to read the entire survey results here!

Board Retreat

In January, the Board of Trustees conducted its first annual mid-year board retreat. As part of the retreat, they participated in board formation with guest speaker Brian Daigle who discussed their "Why/Be Not Afraid" as a board and as ambassadors of education renewal in Christ. Dr. David Pitre also attended to begin work to think about strategic planning and budgeting. Additionally, the board discussed the Mid-Year Survey and your responses. The board will continue to meet regularly to work hard providing for our mission and its continued growth. Please keep them in your prayers as they serve the school.



THE 16TH ANNUAL
Veritas LECTURE & *Gala* DINNER
PRESENTED BY JOHN PAUL THE GREAT ACADEMY

APRIL 29, 2023

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

DR. KEVIN ROBERTS



- JPG Founding Headmaster
- President of The Heritage Foundation, Washington D.C.

The Gala promotes our mission to provide a Catholic, classical education to families in Acadiana

Student Life

ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

The capstone senior science class incorporates advanced topics in biology, chemistry, and physics through the exploration of the nervous system, demonstrating to the students the integration of these sciences through the vehicle of electromagnetism. *In the photo students study charge and how it moves using insulators and conductors. Seniors develop an understanding of charge through an experiment where one touches the source of charge (Vandergraph Generator) and experiences the balance of the charge after it moves from the source.*



ALUMNI PILGRIMAGE

Reflection by Liliana Pagan, '21

"Hiking through the Blue Ridge Mountains with fellow alumni and teachers was an opportunity for rest, recreation, and a re-encounter with God's creation. The trip consisted of leisurely hikes to various lookout points, waterfalls, and campsites along with ample free time for silence, rest, or exploration. North Carolina's blue-green foothills created a serene environment for prayer and contemplation. Being immersed in this milieu often evoked in me the words of the Psalmist to "be still." Aside from rest, our hike facilitated a reconnection with the JPG community through the shared experience of hiking, laughter, and fruitful conversation around the campfire and on the trails. This trip reawakened in me the reality of the human person's deep need for community and the revitalization of awe and wonder. I am moved with gratitude that our school provides opportunities to nourish its community through creation!"



SCHOLARSHIP

Three of our seniors will vie for the opportunity to receive a full scholarship from the University of Dallas through the Scholarship of Excellence. This is the second year that we have students competing for this award. These three seniors, John Frugé, Caroline Anderson, and Isabella Polito, were chosen among 75 finalists out of 200 applicants.



NEW CLUBS

This year we introduced the Folk Music Club and the Finer Things Club. Both have really taken off with wonderful participation and even an Advent performance by the Folk Music Club.



BOOK CLUB

JPG Alumnus, Fr. Christopher Cambre, is leading a book club on Edward Sri's *The Art of Living: The Cardinal Virtues and the Freedom to Love*. Upper School students meet monthly during flex period to discuss the book together.



Congratulations



SPEECH & DEBATE!

The JPG Speech and Debate team has earned the National Speech and Debate Association Top Chapter Award for the State of Louisiana. The award is based on overall student participation in meets and accumulation of points. The award will be presented in March at the State Meet.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Esteban Abregú joined the senior class for six weeks last fall. He was the third student from Guatemala hosted by the Polito family through the Catholic Bonding Exchange.



Esteban

Maria Rodriguez Jimenez hails from Spain and is staying with the Gaffga family. Maria will really get to experience JPG culture as she is studying for a full academic year with the sophomore class. Maria was placed at JPG through the Council on International Educational Exchange. If your family is interested in hosting an exchange student, you may contact JPG parent Rebecca Richard, who is the local coordinator for CIEE.



Maria

Martina Ciprietti transferred to JPG from a local public high school, where she had been placed as an exchange student. She wanted a more Catholic community and opportunity for higher level math. During her time in Acadiana, she lived with an aunt of the Credeur brothers and attended JPG as a junior. She returned home to Italy at the end of the first semester.



Martina

LOWER SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Middle School Football earned 2nd place this season!

5/6th Flag Football won their league championship!

This fall, we revived the 5th and 6th grade soccer team with new coach Mrs. Natalie Hensgens (2nd grade), a former college soccer player. The team played in the same local Christian league as our other middle school sports.



The Lower School track team will join this league for competition this year. Ms. Kate Ferguson (Pre-K) and Mrs. Lauren Femmer (4th Grade), also former college athletes, will coach this team for 3rd-6th grade students.

Advancement Report

The JPG Advancement team works to support the school and its endeavors through the Annual Fund, the St. Joseph's Scholarship, #iGiveCatholic, SOLA Giving Day, and our other fundraising appeals.

Collarnary Cook Off Profit Benefiting the St. Joseph Scholarship Fund & other student needs:

\$67,892

#iGiveCatholic Profit Benefiting Athletics:

\$32,829

Advent Wreaths Profit benefiting Campus Beautification:

\$4,585

Make a
monthly
gift here!



ANNUAL FUND:

The Annual Fund consists of monthly and annual (one-time) gifts that support the current needs of our Pre-K through 12th grade academic and non-academic programs, build classroom resources, and maintain our school's historic campus. Everyone is invited to participate in supporting the Annual Fund. We need everyone's participation. Every donation makes a difference. The regularity of your gift helps us better financially plan to enrich our mission.



Monthly Giving:

\$12,400*



One time gifts:

\$53,075



**Total Goal:
\$210,000**

Numbers reflect gifts made from July 1, 2022 to today through the Annual Fund Appeal. Our fiscal year ends June 30th. There is still time to give.

*estimated
total expected
amount for
2022-2023
fiscal year

**YOU are directly impacting the
hearts and minds of students at
John Paul the Great Academy.
Thank you!**

WE'LL MISS YOU

MRS. MARGARET MOORE



After eight years of being a welcoming face in the front office, Mrs. Margaret Moore will be retiring. She is moving on at the end of this week. We are so thankful for the time she has spent with us and the countless ways she has made this community a better place. If you see Mrs. Moore in the next day or two, please give her a hug and best wishes as she begins a new adventure.

LOOKING FORWARD

THIS SEMESTER

- Beginning this month, students in 3rd-11th grades will take the CLT (Classic Learning Test), which will take the place of the IOWA-E. Learn more about the CLT at www.cltexam.com.
- Jacob Imam of New Polity will be visiting campus and our community.
- We will offer middle school swimming through City of Lafayette Aquatics (COLA).

THIS SUMMER

- Return of Camp Guardian! Last summer saw the successful introduction of summer camp fun on campus through the dedicated efforts of JPG parent Mrs. Brittany Primeaux. Mrs. Mindy Menard will build on that work in 2023 as we offer three weeks of camp for students rising into Pre-K4 through 8th grade. Campers will have opportunities to expand their study of the quadrivium through great literature, STEM, and robotics with the help of Mrs. Menard, Mrs. Odinet, Mr. Baker, and other community members. For more information, see the FAQs and flier on our website and in the upcoming Weekly Reminders. Registration will open Sunday, February 5.
- The kitchen staff will revamp the lunch menu and options for the upcoming school year.

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

- Upper School students will compete in two additional sports in the ACEL: Cross Country in the fall and Baseball in the spring.
- Astronomy will become the 8th grade science course, allowing freshmen to begin with Physics first in 2024-25. Students will continue to have ample science credits when they graduate from JPG, and this reordering of the sciences will allow for all high school students to begin with a more in depth study of Physics after having taken more math classes and having Astronomy as a foundation for their study.