

THE STEWARD

SUMMER 2022 | ISSUE NO. 13

ANNUAL REPORT EDITION



INTELLECTUALLY STRONG



SPIRITUALLY ALIVE



PEOPLE FOR OTHERS

Truth · Virtue · Community

From Our Leadership

Dear Friends,



This past year, our staff and board of directors collaborated to capture the value of a JPIL education in a statement: **We connect bright, curious students with opportunities to**

become who God created them to be. It is a bold statement. It requires the belief that God does indeed have a plan for each of us. It is a commitment to provide diverse experiences for students to risk trying new things and eventually come to discover their God-given talents and passions. Most importantly, it requires a community that will support and nurture their journey. At our Light & Truth Gala, I mentioned

a phrase used by Pope John Paul II – civilization of love. A civilization of love is what we are building in the form of community at JPIL.

What does a civilization of love look like? It's the teacher staying long after the last bell has rung to speak with a struggling student. It's the coach offering consolation to the student-athlete who came up short after a game. It's the students laughing during lunch as they mix across grade levels and friend groups.

Our JPIL civilization of love depends on one another. If the pandemic taught us anything, it is that we need, and can rely on, each other. Everyone belongs and is supported and encouraged. When one of our students, teachers, coaches or family

members does well, we are all lifted up. As Pope John Paul II once said, "Young people are humanity's future and living stones in the building of the civilization of love." As you read the stories and view the images in our Summer Steward, I hope you will rejoice in the community, the civilization of love, which nurtures our students, our living stones, to discover who God created them to be.

Please know how grateful we all are for your prayers, your partnership and generous support that allow our civilization of love to grow and thrive.

Blessings,

Therese Allin, Principal

Board of Directors

Hon. Carol Murphy, *Chair*

Andrew Prentice, *Chair-Elect*

Carla Rudd, *Secretary*

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J.T. Batstone

James Fellows

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Mary Beth Lang

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Essie Marapao

Angelea Miller

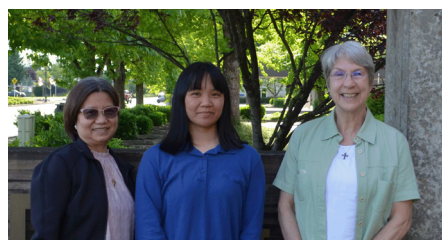
Sandy Barton Smith

Ex-Officio Member:

Therese Allin, *Principal*

Strategic Plan Progress Noted

At its retreat in February, the JPIL Board of Directors took stock of the accomplishments to date and the work ahead at this midpoint of the school's six-year strategic plan.



New board members (left to right): Essie Marapao, Angelea Miller, J.T. Batstone. Not pictured: Rev. P.A. Kaech.

"When we look at what's been achieved in the last three years – increased enrollment, enhanced communications, improved financial position, strengthened accountability – we are even more inspired to continue our work to support and grow JPIL and to prepare for expanding our campus in the future," says board chair Carol Murphy.

The board said farewell to two longtime members and welcomed four new members in December.

Departing were Fr. Tim Ilgen and Sue Muller, who both completed six years on the board. Sandy Barton Smith, who has served as the archbishop's representative for three years, also leaves the board on her retirement in June. Joining the board were former JPIL staff member J.T. Batstone, Fr. Paul Kaech of St. Edwards Church, Shelton, and two JPIL parents, Essie Marapao and Angelea Miller.

Our Mission

Pope John Paul II High School provides a Catholic secondary education within a challenging academic, spiritual, and co-curricular environment to develop men and women who are intellectually strong, spiritually alive and committed to serving the needs of others.

Striving for Normalcy While Riding the COVID Roller Coaster

JPII students and faculty returned to campus for in-person learning in late August, with masking and social distancing continuing as the norm. Students were filled with enthusiasm and ready to engage with their peers in and out of the classroom.

Fall sports resumed their normal schedules, with some alterations to ensure safety. Clubs and activities, including FBLA, Baking Club, Writing Club, StellarXplorers, and Robotics, restarted as well. Social activities, like Homecoming, resumed in October. More than 100 students attended and the dance floor was never empty.

The new year arrived with rapid transmission of COVID within Thurston County. JPII was quick to minimize the impact by shifting to remote learning for the first week of classes. Per the health department, all JPII winter sports participants had to be tested three times a week. Key Bridge Medical Clinic made this happen through an on-site student/staff COVID testing program that began early in the year at no cost to the school or families.

“We are so thankful to have been able to partner with Key Bridge,” said Therese Allin. “It made the challenging testing requirements manageable for our Eagles, who handled the testing with grace.”

COVID cases started to recede in February and, in mid-March, masks became optional. Students began walking the halls mask-free for the first time in two years.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has been a roller-coaster ride,” said Allin, “but the JPII community has proven to be adaptable as well as respectful of the individual nature of each person’s situation and choice.”



JPII partnered with Key Bridge Medical Clinic to make testing available at no cost to the school or families.

At The Heart of JPII’s Mission

Luke Christensen, a rising senior, summed up the heart of our school community well when he said, “JPII is a personal experience that ties together a community of students, any of whom will proudly tell you that JPII is not just a school but a family.”



Everyone enjoyed International Day sponsored by NHS & Multicultural Club

This past school year, JPII board members and staff collaborated in a process to capture anew our core values which parents, teachers, and students like Luke, have been

talking about for years. One of the outcomes of this process is a simple statement that communicates the beauty of a JPII education:

Every day, JPII connects bright, curious students with opportunities to become who God intends them to be.

Incoming freshmen, and transfer students across all grades, realize very quickly that small class size presents an opportunity to experience what Mrs. Allin refers to as a “civilization of love.” With a student-to-teacher ratio of 11:1, teachers really know their students.

At each grade level, the class as a whole comes together to be a cohesive unit of individuals who respect and appreciate each other no matter where they come from. This is a result of JPII’s intentional focus of its four-year retreat and community period programs as well as its numerous co-curricular activities and sports teams.

When Natalie Fassnacht came to JPII three years ago, she became excited for school again. “In middle school, I would just try to get through the day. At JPII, I feel as though I have a place and I am a person more than a number.”

New Student Mental Health Program Launched



Meet JPPI's Catholic Lifesaver Corps (CLC) team: (left to right) Gary Baits, Julie Suek, Noah Frey, Isabella Kondrat, Nora Antles and Catherine Evans, shown here with Joe Cotton, archdiocesan Director of Pastoral Care and Outreach. These four students and two staff were in the first cohort to receive training for a new suicide prevention program, designed by the archdiocese, to support high school youth. For more information see the current issue of Northwest Catholic.

Community Service Fosters Leadership & Faith

Pope John Paul II High School's community service program develops students who understand service as fundamental and intrinsic to faith. It is the program's objective, through direct service to others, to challenge students' perceptions of who they serve and create empathetic, compassionate, and courageous leaders for change.

JPPI students are required to complete a minimum of 80 hours of community service before graduating, with many students completing far more. But, "it's not really about the hours," explains Stephen Holland, coordinator of JPPI's program. "We challenge our students to step out of their comfort zone, which is where the real growth happens," he explains. "Our service experiences are selected and designed to bring about an effective change of heart in our students."

The Gospel passage from Matthew 25 serves as the basis for service experiences at JPPI: focused on marginalized populations such as adults with special needs, the homeless, and the hungry. Students have worked with many local organizations, including Table of Grace at First Baptist Church, Rebuilding Together, and Our Common Home Farms, a collaboration with Saint Martin's University.

At the end of the year, freshmen, sophomores and juniors report their service hours and write a personal reflection focused on what they learned from the experience and, more importantly, the impact it will have on their life moving forward. Seniors are challenged further; their service experience takes the shape of a 30-hour internship with one particular organization. Seniors reflect on their entire four-year learning experience with either a substantive paper or a presentation to underclassmen with the focus of the Gospel message of loving others.

Senior Carl Butterfield reflected, "Throughout my life, I want to be, need to be, devoted to alleviating their struggles, in any way possible. My time, my talents, my treasures, are, and will be theirs. Be it volunteering at a food bank, packing and providing lunches, or building shelters, I want to devote my life to their service."



Logan Johnson and Sam Harris pitch in for JPPI's Annual Day of Service.



Carl Butterfield presents his service experience to underclassmen.

JPII Adds AP Offerings

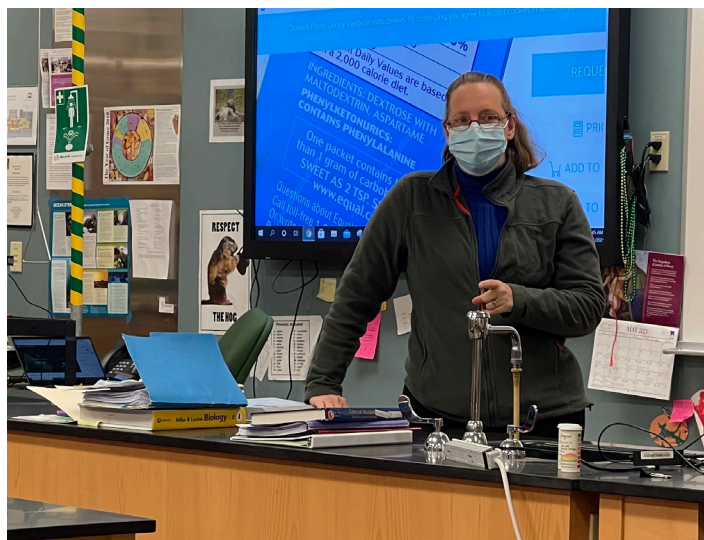
As a college preparatory high school, JPII is proud to offer a rigorous curriculum that meets and exceeds requirements for college acceptance. As part of that rigor, JPII offers honors and advanced placement (AP) courses. The number of AP courses offered to JPII students has increased over time, with AP Chemistry as one of the newest.

Many JPII students are interested in careers in science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM). So when looking at adding an AP science course to its offerings, JPII chose the course that would benefit the greatest number of students. In its first year, 16 students enrolled in AP Chemistry.

Dr. Tracy Russell, who teaches the AP Chemistry course, says there are a number of reasons a student should take AP

“ They all design their own experiments, and learn how to be scientists of the world. - Dr. Tracy Russell ”

Chemistry. “A student who wants to major in a STEM career field would benefit from AP Chemistry because they will be required to take at least one year of chemistry at the university level. AP Chemistry also provides them with an opportunity to either skip a prerequisite, which could save them money, or to do really well in college chemistry because they’ve already been exposed to and worked with the material, since this is a college-level course,” she explained.



JPII currently has approval from the College Board to offer nine AP courses including courses in STEM and the humanities.

When asked what the students enjoyed most about AP Chemistry, Dr. Russell said “I think they really enjoyed being able to function as scientists, not as high school students. I think they (whether they realized it or not) liked being held to a higher standard. They knew they could do it, and I knew they could do it.

Students took the AP Chemistry exam in early May and spent the rest of the year doing their own scientific research. “I think they really like that part of the course,” said Russell. “They all design their own experiments, and learn how to be scientists of the world.”

JPII By The Numbers, 2021 - 2022

108	STUDENTS ENROLLED
11:1	STUDENT-TO-TEACHER RATIO
39%	FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS
59%	GRADUATED WITH HONORS
60%	RECEIVED TUITION ASSISTANCE
77%	ARE CATHOLIC
93%	ARE IN CO-CURRICULARS

New Scholarship Established for Graduating Senior



Ron Edwards presents senior Vivi Kondrat with the first Make A Difference scholarship.

Ron Edwards was on hand at JP II's annual Pass the Torch Ceremony in June to present seniors Vivi Kondrat and Carl Butterfield with the Ron Edwards Make A Difference Scholarship Award.

The \$3,000 annual scholarship was established this year by Cathy Johnson, parent of Foster Johnson '17, in memory of her mother, Kay Elizabeth Foster, and to honor Ron Edwards, JP II's founding principal. Due to the generosity of Dr. David and Jeanne Spangler, a second scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 was awarded.

College-bound JP II seniors who meet the scholarship's minimum criteria are eligible to apply. Applicants write an essay on how they will make a difference with their life after graduation from JP II. Vivi, recipient of the \$3,000 award, explained in her essay that it is her desire to make a difference that will enable her to make an impact to tackle the threat of climate change. She plans to study environmental engineering, focusing on sustainability and renewable energy sources. "I won't be a bystander in this battle for our world's destiny," she wrote. "I will make a difference with my life."

Eagle Athletic Teams Shine in Spring Competitions

The JP II track & field teams had an incredible 2022 season, culminating with the girls team winning the 1B state championship and the boys team placing third at the state meet. These achievements came on the heels of JP II's girls and boys team taking first and second, respectively, at the state cross country team championships in the fall.

In individual track & field competition, senior Trevor Dugo finished his high school career with state titles in the 3200 meters and 1600 meters. On the girls side, senior Vivi Kondrat earned a state title in the 3200 meters, with JP II girls taking five of eight podium spots in the event.

The JP II baseball team put in a strong effort and showed great improvement, finishing its season with a record of 8-10. The girls fastpitch team persevered through illness and finished with a 3-6 record.

Athletes from each of our spring sports received All-League recognition, including individuals being named to First and Second teams. Trevor Dugo and Catelin King were recognized as league MVPs for track & field. All four spring sports teams were recognized for their academic achievements, and JP II fastpitch earned the sportsmanship award.



The JP II girls track & field team and their coaches proudly accept the 1B championship trophy at the state meet in May.

JP II's track & field teams were recognized for their exceptional season by the Lacey City Council at its June 16 meeting.



Erica Logan takes advantage of a rainy fastpitch practice.



The baseball team huddles for a meeting after an Eagle win.

Congratulations JP II Class of 2022!



Class of 2022 dressed for College & Career Reveal Day. (Left to right) Ryan Heiser, Joseph Harris, John Velasco, Isabella Friedline, Emilee Cash, Noah Braun, Carl Butterfield, Clare (Vivi) Kondrat, Connor Johnson, Chris Pardee, Lily Puelz, Karena Meinhardt, Trevor Dugo, Giuliana Argeris, Taylor Kleinhoff, Amber Abbott, Noah Ashe, Francis Pettis-Infante, Ha'ani Crisostomo, Celeste Gotsis, Richard Lopez

On June 4th, the JP II community gathered at Saint Michael Parish Westside Chapel for the commencement of the 21 members of the Class of 2022.

In her valedictorian address, Vivi Kondrat pointed to the family-like closeness of the class that developed over their four years together. Salutatorian Noah Braun noted that the distance learning brought on by the pandemic actually brought the class together.

Assistant Principal Ann Ashe reflected on how the class members showed themselves to be resilient leaders who have learned to live in the light and truth of Jesus. As a group, the class had contributed more than 1,800 hours of community service, led the return to campus, and each contributed to the class's special impact on the JP II community. She told the graduates that it was clear "God has a plan and a purpose for you."

The diversity of that plan and purpose is evident in the range of futures the graduates envision for themselves. Emilee Cash hopes to use her passion for computer science to design new

video games. Joseph Harris, a creative mind and member of JP II's Robotics Club, aspires to be an aerospace engineer for SpaceX. Taylor Kleinhoff plans to study animal science and rehabilitate horses at her own rescue facility. A natural at event planning, Celeste Gotsis hopes to enter the world of entrepreneurship in the culinary/patisserie industry.

This fall 20 of the graduates plan to begin studies at colleges and universities across the West with one planning to join the military.

“ ***The students of the Class of 2022 set out to reestablish connection and community after the experience of a pandemic. Their commitment and investment has set a precedent that will carry us forward for many years.***
- Ann Ashe, Asst. Principal ”

JPII Community Bids Farewell



Mr. Holland instructs the jazz band during the Light & Truth Gala.

One of JPII's founding teachers, **Mr. Stephen Holland** is saying goodbye after 12 years. The first club he led was jazz band which became an academic class the very next year. "Aside from my relationships with students, faculty and parents, it's the jazz band I will miss the most." Mr. Holland also started our History Bowl team and moderated Knowledge Bowl, Writing Club and Bee Club. One of his favorite endeavors was starting a joint project, Common Home Farms, with Dr. Jeff Crane of Saint Martin's University. Mr. Holland, who is moving on to become headmaster at a new Catholic School in Bremerton, has left an indelible mark on the JPII community.



Ms. Karaman loved working 1 on 1 with students. Shown here mentoring Taylor Kleinhoff '22.

Ms. Kimberly Karaman has dedicated the last five years of her life to teaching mathematics, including Algebra I, Algebra II, and Precalculus. Beyond teaching math and supervising Community Period, she served as JPII's College Advisor and FBLA Advisor, which she says were both highlights of her JPII experience. "I love to teach but it was my working relationships with our awesome students outside of the classroom that brought me the most joy."



Mr. Suek gives a funny and heart-warming reflection at the 2022 Commencement Ceremony.

After 35 years in education, **Mr. Phil Suek** is retiring from the vocation that he has loved and to which he has committed his life. For the past four years, JPII has been privileged to call him its own. He taught World Literature, American Literature, and PE, moderated Yearbook and supervised Community Period. "I will always look back fondly on my collegial experience with the school's staff and my lively and meaningful interactions with my students in the classroom."

“ The strength of JPII is built upon the foundation of caring, energized faculty who are committed to guiding and supporting students. - Therese Allin, Head of School ”

Welcome to JPII

This past year saw new faculty join the JPII community.



Mrs. Margarita Fox taught in both the mathematics and science departments this year. She earned a master's degree in

environmental engineering from University of Southern California and a master's of education from University of San Diego. "My goal is to support and challenge students with engaging material and encourage them to take charge of their learning process."



Ms. Gwen Bowen brought 18 years of teaching experience into our history and theology classrooms this year. She earned

her bachelor's degree at the University of Notre Dame de Namur and a teaching certificate from the University of California, Berkeley. "I see myself as a mentor on the students' faith journey in deepening their communion with God, themselves, and the greater community."



Mr. Leland Brungardt took over as the JPII choir teacher. He's been working in non-profit children's theater programs in the area for more than

10 years. "I love how JPII nurtures students intellectually as well as spiritually. It is something that I feel is incredibly necessary in our busy modern times."

Students Participate in Synod 2021-2023



Students engage in Synod discussion.

One of the most exciting events that took place in the spiritual life of JP II this school year was student engagement with the Church Synod, under the direction of JP II theology teacher and Campus Minister Ms. Mary Frances Brennan.

Derived from the Greek word “synodos”, which means “walking together,” a synod is a conversational gathering of the faithful in order to discern what the Holy Spirit is asking of the Church. According to the Vatican website, the Synod 2021-2023 “seeks to strengthen cooperation in all areas of the Church’s mission, to enhance communion, participation and mission.”

JP II students participated in the Synod during their Community Periods, facilitated by students who had attended a special training. The input from JP II students is being gathered together with input from Catholics around the world who have united in a process of listening in preparation for the 2023 Synod of Bishops in Rome.

Ms. Brennan said the students did a lot of reflection and had a great deal of energy as they discerned and shared their thoughts on where they see the Spirit leading the Church. “The people are baptized, therefore, they have God living in them. That’s an important and powerful thing.”

Up Close with JP II’s Campus Minister

What sorts of activities are involved with Campus Ministry?

Ms. Brennan: Mass and retreats are foundational along with Stations of the Cross (during Lent), and Stations of the Crib (during Advent), which was new this year.

What do you enjoy about being Campus Minister?

Ms. Brennan: Watching students grow in their relationship with God, with each other, and as a JP II class – a second family. There is a distinct beauty in watching the spiritual growth of young people. These teenagers desire God!

I understand Confessions took much longer than expected one day this year? Tell me about that.

Ms. Brennan: Yes! We started having priests come in for Confession, and I encouraged all students to at least go in and say ‘Hi’, ask for help with a spiritual issue, or just go in and chat. It didn’t have to be sacramental or Catholic. The first time we had a priest come in for Confession this year, he was only scheduled for two hours, but he ended up staying for the entire day because so many students wanted to see him!

Can you describe what you’ve seen in terms of students and their faith journey at JP II?

Ms. Brennan: I can tell you about one student, in particular. Just know that there are many stories I could share! This student grew up in a Catholic family. They knew their faith well. During the year, however, the student saw people wrestle with and question their faith. Seeing this going on with their peers got them thinking more deeply and personally about their own faith. It challenged them. After always checking the boxes, they started to actively see who God was. It was beautiful to watch this student grow in humility and joy and to develop a deep desire for God. This year I’ve seen a lot of the students dive into ‘accepting the challenge’ that the Faith provides or challenging the Church to deliver on her promises. I’ve seen the students be more open to each other, who they are and what they need.



Mary Frances Brennan teaches theology and history and serves as JP II’s Campus Minister. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Notre Dame University and her teaching certificate from Saint Martin’s University. She served as a parish minister in Kalamazoo, Michigan, taught at a classical liberal arts school in San Antonio, Texas and taught five years at Holy Family School before joining JP II in 2020.

Alumni Continue to Serve and Lead



There's no better measure of the results of a JPIL education than the success of our graduates, who now number 167. Here's news from a few alumni who recently shared how their JPIL experience prepared them to be stewards of the future.

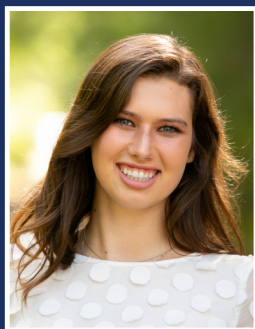
Addison Jeske '15

After I graduated JPIL, I headed off to the University of Chicago, where I had an incredible four years. Some highlights included getting involved with the Catholic Students Association as a peer minister, learning to ballroom dance, and helping facilitate retreats with the Center for Leadership and Involvement. I also wrote a thesis on early childhood education in Washington state. I graduated in 2019 with majors in public policy and economics and a minor in history, and was honored to receive the Howell Murray Alumni Association Award for my participation in student groups.

After graduating, I literally drove to Iowa to work on Pete Buttigieg's presidential campaign. I ended up working as an organizer in northwest Iowa, knocking on lots of doors and driving in many snowstorms. I was in Iowa until the February 3 caucus, then stayed with the campaign in Nevada and Chicago until it ended right at the start of the pandemic.

Though I wouldn't change anything about my campaign experience, I decided to pivot toward work that would be more relational and amplify voices of individual people in crisis. So I decided to go to law school. I participated in a year-long AmeriCorps program with a legal aid provider in Spokane, and was blessed to be accepted to the New York University School of Law. I started last fall and just finished up my 1L year. I'm currently working with the Hudson County branch of the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender and as a research assistant for Professor Vincent Southerland, while enjoying New York in my free time.

Alum Wins \$30,000 Sumners Scholarship



Molly Zepeda '20 was recently awarded a \$30,000 scholarship for her continuing studies at the University of Dallas by The Sumners Foundation of Irving, Texas. Stephen Holland, Molly's high school

English teacher, remembers "she always exhibited an intellectual curiosity and sincere faith with an insatiable desire for truth, goodness, and beauty."

Molly is one of 43 students nationally to receive a Sumners scholarship in 2022. The foundation's purpose is to encourage the study, teaching and research into the science and art of self-government so that Americans may understand the fundamental principles of democracy and so be guided in shaping governmental policies.

Alumni Updates

Frank Currall '17

Since graduating I've worked at several Fred Meyers, done video and photo work for JPIL, and tried to listen to God's will for my life including priesthood or religious life. I'm not sure what's next in life, but I have a good job, family, friends, and trust that God will lead me closer to him day by day.

Tatiana Baron '17

I am an assistant manager at Hiatus Spa + Retreat in Fort Worth, Texas! I miss you!

Soph Kobernusz '20

I go to Saint Martin's University and am double majoring in Psychology and Women, Gender, and Ethnic Studies. I currently work as a resident assistant for Housing and Res Life and as a tour guide for Admissions. I still read and write as hobbies though I've started going out a little more! I also go by a different name; In high school I was KG but now I go by Soph and use they/them pronouns.

Anna Brown '21

I attend Carroll College in Helena and am double majoring in English Literature and Political Science, pursuing a pre-law track. I am also on the Talking Saints Debate Team, winning many accolades my first year and being selected to go to Anchorage for a debate championship. While competing, I maintained my position on the Dean's List and continued my community service, working with abused horses at a rehabilitation center. I currently work for my debate coach and as a team member at Target. I am looking forward to what the future holds for me and can't wait to achieve all of my dreams.

Class of 2022 Inducted into Alumni Association

The Class of 2022 became the first class in JPPII history to be officially inducted into the school's Alumni Association. The short ceremony began with Lauryn Johnson '20 encouraging the 21 seniors to set up their LinkedIn accounts as soon as possible to begin professional networking. She also announced senior Karena Meinhardt as the winner of a \$25 gift card, randomly chosen from those that participated in Lauryn's research project involving a survey of JPPII alumni.

Association president Katie Sellars '17 spoke, inspiring the seniors to stay connected to their alma mater and to understand they would always have a home in the JPPII Alumni Association. The ceremony culminated with



Alumna Katie Sellars leads the Class of 2022 in the JPPII alumni oath.

alumni leading the Class of 2022 in the JPPII alumni oath which includes a commitment to "uphold the ideals and traditions of my alma mater imbued by the spirit of Pope John Paul II." Alumni attending the induction were Katie Sellars '17, Lauryn Johnson '20, Gabriella Ybarra '21, Matt Ramos '14, Carlo Vidallon '15, Marissa '14 and Jacob Bohlig '14, Frank Currall '17 and Tim Sellars '20.

Parish Partnerships Are Vital to the JPPII Community

One of the strengths of Pope John Paul II High School is its numerous and diverse partnerships. Since its inception, JPPII board members and staff have worked to develop special relationships with local businesses, schools and parishes. One of those special partnerships has been with Sacred Heart Catholic Church, just down the block from JPPII. The parish, under the leadership of its pastor, Fr. Tim Ilgen, has supported the growth of JPPII in a number of ways.

"It has been wonderful being neighbors with JPPII High School," said Fr. Tim. "We feel blessed to be able to provide the use of our hall for student retreats and other events." Sacred Heart's Hallen Hall has also been used for FBLA competitions and ACT testing. In 2020, JPPII's graduation ceremony was able to take place safely by using the parish parking lot.

The blessings JPPII has received due to its partnership with Sacred Heart are immeasurable. Its priests have been celebrants at school Masses, its bulletin regularly informs parishioners about JPPII events, and, most recently, the parish has established scholarships to provide financial assistance to some parish families with JPPII students. "The support and prayers from parishes like Sacred Heart contribute to the vitality of our school," says Therese Allin.

Fr. Tim has just completed six years of faithful service on the JPPII Board of Directors. "His guidance, prayers and love have made him an outstanding advocate for the JPPII school community and for all of Catholic education," says Allin. "Fr. Tim quietly and joyfully finds ways to impact the lives of our community. He is a true blessing to JPPII."



Fr. Tim Ilgen presides over Mass in the JPPII Commons.

New Award Recognizes Commitment to Truth, Virtue, Community



Radric Marapao '14 & Frank Currall '17 present Ron Edwards with Pope John Paul II Award

Ron Edwards, JPPI's founding principal, became the first recipient of the Pope John Paul II Award. "I was completely surprised and humbled at receiving the first Pope John Paul II Award at this year's Gala," exclaimed Edwards.

While the Steward of the Future Award recognizes members of our community who have made remarkable gifts of leadership and service to JPPI, this award recognizes members of our community who have demonstrated, in very particular and extraordinary ways, our three founding values of Truth, Virtue and Community.

Reflecting on the moment, Radric Marapao '14 said, "Presenting the inaugural Pope John Paul Award to Mr. Edwards was a complete full-circle moment. I couldn't come up with a more fitting way to honor his legacy at JPPI, especially after all those years of holding the door for us every morning."

Ron Edwards came to Pope John Paul II High School in April 2008. In those earliest years, Edwards taught chemistry, coached basketball, and served as advisor to several co-curricular activities. He did everything from unclogging toilets to counseling students.

"Starting a new Catholic High School from scratch was full of many unexpected twists and turns that took the gifts of many to keep moving the development of the school in a positive direction," he explained.

As noted when he retired in 2020, Edwards had one spiritual and educational truth: when students know they are loved, they will be inspired to become all God intended.

Introducing the JPPI Legacy Society

Perhaps your daughter or son's life was changed by Pope John Paul II High School. Perhaps your grandchild discovered their passion for learning here. Regardless of your story, arranging a planned gift for JPPI could be your legacy.

The Pope John Paul II Legacy Society has been founded to honor individuals who value the power of education and who have informed us that they have named Pope John Paul II High School as a beneficiary in their will or other planned giving vehicle. We are grateful!

Therese Allin
J.T. Batstone
Colleen & Patrick Gillespie
Inge Marcus & The Estate of Hal Marcus
Colleen & Andrew Oczkewicz

Save the Date!



Wednesday,
February 15, 2023
Saint Martin's University

Gala Returns with Record Results



Giuliana Argeris '22 delivers powerful keynote at Gala.

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the JPIL community returned to an in-person Gala with more than 200 people in attendance. Each year, our annual Light & Truth Gala gives us the opportunity to celebrate our amazing community and shine a light on our students, while raising support for student financial assistance and operations. An incredible outpouring of generosity raised more than \$295,000, far exceeding our goal of \$230,000. In addition, \$60,000 was raised through our business sponsorships.

There were many highlights including remarks from this year's Steward of the Future Award recipient and Keynote Speaker, Dr. Roy Heynderickx. Ron Edwards, JPIL's founding principal, received the inaugural Pope John Paul II Award. But, as usual, it was the JPIL students who stole the show.



The JPIL jazz band welcomed attendees as they arrived, the choir set the tone performing "Great is Thy Faithfulness" as the opening prayer. Later in the evening Karena Meinhardt performed a dance she choreographed to the band's rendition of "You Are the Sunshine of My Life," while the band's finale, "Feeling Good," sung by Taylor Kleinhoff, brought cheers from the audience. Band director Stephen Holland

said, "It is incredible to me that every year we can put together a band, with many students playing an instrument they have never played before, and by the end of the year they are able to perform over 30 minutes of music at the Gala."

Student speaker Giuliana Argeris emphasized that it was her JPIL community service and interactions with faculty, staff and classmates that redirected her focus. "I no longer want a several million-dollar home, with nice cars and an effortless life," she said. "I want a life in which I make an impact." Giuliana will be attending Saint Martin's University with a President's Scholarship and plans to major in pre-med biology and minor in public health.

Alumni had a strong presence this year, filling two tables. Prabjot Virk '14 was excited to fly in from Texas. "Re-connecting with fellow alumni, staff and faculty at the Gala was a great way to reintegrate myself into the JPIL community."

Dr. Roy Heynderickx, Steward of the Future

Congratulations to this year's Steward of the Future award winner, Dr. Roy Heynderickx, for his support of JPIL and his leadership and tireless advocacy of Catholic education.



Therese Allin with Dr. Roy Heynderickx at the gala.

Dr. Heynderickx became the president of Saint Martin's University in 2009 as JPIL was preparing to open its doors to its first students. From day one, he was a JPIL supporter and a promoter of the continuum of Catholic education in our community.

Under his leadership, Saint Martin's expanded its academic offerings, including new majors, new graduate programs and its first doctoral program. It increased enrollment at the undergraduate and graduate levels, broadened community partnerships and saw record-breaking fundraising results.

Saint Martin's counts a growing number of JPIL graduates as students and alumni, with four members of the Class of 2022 planning to continue their education there.

Dr. Heynderickx retired in June after more than 42 years working in Catholic education. Roy, as he prefers to be called, has been a dear friend to JPIL and could be seen at many JPIL events, including the Take Flight Scholarship events and Light & Truth Galas.

A Spirit of Giving

Pope John Paul II High School gratefully acknowledges the generosity of those who donated in calendar year 2021.

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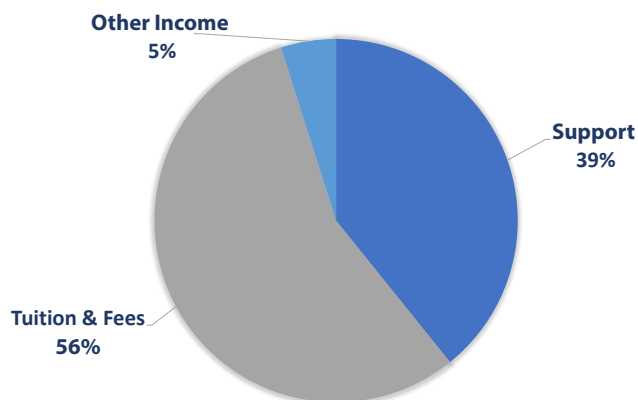
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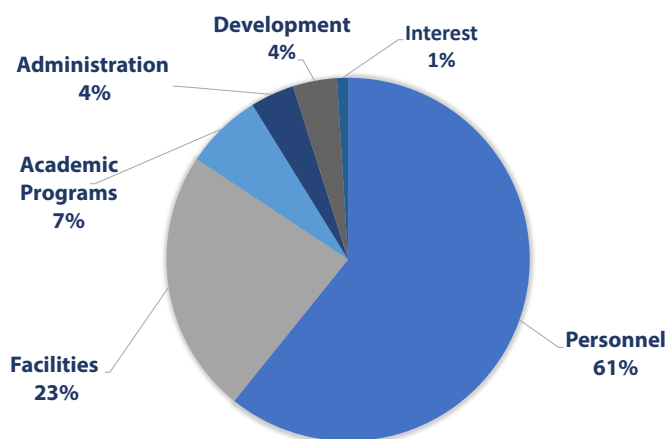
Fiscal year 2021-22

Total income was higher in all categories, topping \$2 million for the first time. Compared to the previous year, income increased by 15 percent while operating expenditures increased by 10 percent. Income from tuition and fees make up a greater percentage of income than in previous years, accounting for 54 percent of total income.

Total Income: \$2,269,364



Total Operating Expenses: \$2,080,097



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JPII is grateful to the individuals and organizations who contribute so generously in support of its mission and vision, with special appreciation to those who have contributed more than \$100,000 since the school was established.

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Save the date to learn more about the JP II community: A place where you learn who God intends you to be.

JP II Experience Events give prospective students and families the opportunity to engage with current students, meet the faculty and experience firsthand JP II's hospitality and College Prep curriculum.

The JP II Experience Open Houses

Sunday, October 23, 2022
at 1:30 PM

Wednesday, January 11, 2023
at 6:30 PM

You can also schedule a personalized campus tour and learn firsthand about our culture and advantages.

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