

**Head of School** 

SEARCH PROSPECTUS



# ST. JOHN PAUL II SCHOOL

HYANNIS, MA

jpiihyannis.org

START DATE – JULY 2025 OR SOONER

Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions, LLC



### **MISSION STATEMENT**

St. John Paul II School is a Cape Cod Catholic school that welcomes students and families from diverse faiths and backgrounds who desire a college preparatory, Catholic education. The school's academic, artistic, athletic, and co-curricular programs cultivate strong relationships and empower students to recognize their gifts, develop their potential, and communicate Christ in word and deed. Emulating their patron St. John Paul II, students pursue truth through faith and reason, preparing them to lead lives of continuous learning, respect, and community leadership.

### ABOUT THE SCHOOL

St. Francis Xavier Preparatory School opened its doors in September 1996 to students in grades five through eight. In September 2007, the long-standing dream of Cape Catholic secondary education became a reality as Bishop George W. Coleman dedicated Pope John Paul II High School. Separately, St. Francis Xavier Preparatory School and Pope John Paul II High School established strong academics, arts, athletics, and spiritual life. "SFXP" and "PJP" grew in enrollment and reputation.

In 2013, Bishop Coleman unified the schools as one, grades 5-12, community administered by the Diocese of Fall River. In the ensuing years, identities previously separate grew together through shared programs, resources, staff members, students, and families. In 2021, the school adopted the name "St. John Paul II School" for the entire Grades 5-12 institution.



St. John Paul II School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC).

JPII is a welcoming, inclusive community of passionate learners, providing students with a rigorous college preparatory curriculum that celebrates the Catholic faith as an essential tool for navigating life. The school offers an array of extracurricular opportunities in athletics, the arts, and community engagement that inspires students to cultivate their God-given gifts and realize their full potential while communicating Christ in all their pursuits.

The schools talented and dedicated faculty and staff strive to ensure that every JPII graduate leaves its campus as a thoughtful, curious, compassionate, morally courageous person who relentlessly pursues the truth through faith and reason and galvanizes their communities through leadership, Christian service, and putting their gifts into action.

### AT A GLANCE

- JPII Established in 2007
- 410 Current Enrollment
- 45 Total Faculty
- 15:1 Student-Teacher Ratio (Prep)
- 13:1 Student-Teacher Ratio (High School)
- 15 AP Classes
- 94% 2024 Graduates Enrolled in Higher Education
- 58% Students Receiving Financial Aid
- \$1.5M Endowment

- \$6M+ Annual Operating Budget
- 100% College Acceptance Rate
- 49 Extracurricular Clubs
- 50%+ Students Participating in Leadership Activities
- 2,000+ Annual Christian Service Hours Performed by Student Body
- 22 High School Sports
- 5 Prep School Sports
- 7 Artistic Mediums Incorporated into The Fine Arts Curriculum for Grades 5-12
- 9 Extracurricular Performing & Visual Art Clubs Available to Students

"Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth—in a word, to know himself—so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves." —SAINT JOHN PAUL II

### FAITH LIFE

St. John Paul II School, above all else, is a Catholic school. The theology program serves as the cornerstone of its mission to educate the whole person by equipping students with the knowledge and critical thinking skills they need to pursue the truth through faith and reason. Guided by prayer, liturgy, Christian service to the community, invaluable retreat experiences, and the study of the many ways in which our faith impacts our daily lives, students grow closer to God and, in turn, to one another while realizing their unique, boundless potential as unrepeatable children of God.





JPII's Unique Theology Program Includes:

#### Annual Retreats

Students at every grade level attend an annual retreat, each one revolving around a different theme that promotes spiritual growth. By engaging in more intentional prayer, reflection, and fellowship activities in a variety of settings, students encounter God's presence in the sacraments, nature, one another, and themselves.

#### Christian Service

All students engage in several local Christian service opportunities throughout the year, such as volunteering, tutoring, and coaching. Through their experiences advocating for the marginalized, students gain valuable insight into the environment and the needs of others while witnessing first-hand their tremendous capacity to be change agents in their communities.

#### Campus Ministry

Led by the clergy on faculty and propelled by students, the campus ministry program is the heart and soul of the JPII community. From helping at school mass and local service projects to hosting quarterly Friday Night Revivals featuring mass, reconciliation, adoration, and bible study, campus ministry provides students with ample opportunities to communicate Christ to others, on campus and beyond.

### ACADEMICS

At JPII, teachers share a meaningful calling: to empower students to reach for excellence, educating each individual in ways that encourage and challenge them intellectually and, more importantly, spiritually. Every educator is both skilled at and dedicated to creating safe, dynamic learning environments in which every student feels valued and inspired to realize their full potential as scholars and leaders of their communities. Simply put, they love to teach and help students learn, grow,

and cultivate their God-given gifts. Thanks to the determined efforts of its staff and an average 14:1 student-teacher ratio, no student gets left behind at JPII, and all are taught critical thinking skills and study habits that equip them for success in the classroom and, ultimately, wherever their hearts and talents take them.

JPII's rigorous, expansive liberal arts curriculum is bolstered by a robust blend of past and present–guided by the rich tradition of our Catholic faith while incorporating the crucial, ever-evolving elements of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math) education. Founded on the principles of hard work and discipline, the curriculum empowers students to develop the study habits and organizational skills they need to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Thanks to an intellectually stimulating and challenging course of study that encourages students to think beyond their comfort zones and meets them every step of the way with an unparalleled support system, JPII molds scholars who think critically through the lens of faith and reason, informed citizens who engage fully and responsibly with the world around them, and community leaders who galvanize others through their moral courage and God-given talents.

Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide high school students with the invaluable opportunity to tackle college-level curriculum while earning college credit and honing elevated critical thinking skills. In addition to its 15 AP courses, JPII proudly offers the following unique programs:

#### Signature Study Skills Program

Beginning in 5th grade, students are taught essential study habits, organizational and test-taking skills, and practices of academic integrity, all of which are reinforced throughout the curriculum at every grade level. Learning and developing these techniques prepare students for success, both now and in the future.

#### Advanced 7th and 8th Grade Math and Science

One of many unique advantages of being a 5-12 school is that high school-level math and science classes are readily available to advanced preparatory division students. The opportunity to study math and science at an accelerated level challenges preparatory division students academically and positions them to take AP-level courses as they proceed to high school.





#### Pre-AP Program

Geared toward 9th and 10th grade students, JPII's rigorous Pre-AP Program adheres to a college-board curriculum emphasizing in-depth reading and analysis, critical thinking, and interpreting sources. By reading and writing myriad essays while engaging an array of primary source materials and each other's ideas, students of all levels develop a robust foundation while attaining knowledge and skills crucial for success in AP-level courses.

#### AP Capstone Diploma Program

JPII has been selected as one of only an estimated 1,000 schools worldwide (and of just two schools on Cape Cod) to implement the AP Capstone, an innovative diploma program teaching students to develop the crucial skills of research, analysis, collaboration, communication, writing, and presenting. Students who participate in the AP Capstone program distinguish themselves as independent thinkers who have sharpened specific skills that are paramount to success in their future college classrooms.

### **STUDENT SERVICES**

At the core of the curriculum at JPII are two fundamental principles: 1) Every student, no matter their learning differences, is capable of learning and flourishing; 2) Every student and family deserve access to the unique benefits of a quality Catholic education.

The dedicated efforts of the skilled student services team ensure capacity to provide comprehensive, individualized support for students with mild to moderate learning differences, empowering them to reach excellence while encouraging their personal and spiritual development.

Additionally, the school community was proud to recently introduce the following initiatives and programs:

#### Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Backed by research indicating that Social and Emotional Learning promotes students' academic performance, mental well-being, and personal achievements, JPII's school-wide SEL curriculum emphasizes self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills.

#### Pathways Approach Program

In the Preparatory Division, the Pathways Approach Program was designed for students with dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, executive functioning, language processing, written expression, and non-verbal learning differences. Here are just a few of the colleges and universities where members of JPII's last two graduating classes were accepted:

- Auburn University
- Baylor College
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Clemson University
- College of the Holy Cross
- Florida State University
- Indiana University
- Louisiana State University
- Marquette University
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Providence College
- Purdue University
- Seton Hall University

- Syracuse University
- The Ohio State University
- University of Alabama
- University of Arizona
- University of Colorado-Boulder
- University of Connecticut
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia
- University of Louisville
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of South Carolina
- University of Tennessee
- Villanova University
- Xavier University



### **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING**

Beginning in 9th grade, and every step of the way throughout high school, each JPII student receives individualized, comprehensive college counseling from its dedicated guidance department. Through close collaboration with students, their families, and their teachers, the college counseling program enhances students' academic, career, social, and personal competencies, helping them forge and navigate their unique path toward their future colleges and universities.

#### Wednesday Night Workshops

Navigating the college admissions process can be challenging for students and parents. Bearing that in mind, JPII hosts Wednesday Night Workshops, where its college counseling department provides overviews of the college application process with helpful information tailored to parents at each grade level, enabling parents to tackle the process step-by-step along with their children. Parents with additional questions are encouraged to schedule a one-on-one meeting with our college counseling department during office hours throughout the school year.

#### SAT School Day Program

All JPII students take the PSATs and the SATs. Additionally, whereas most high school students take the PSAT and SAT early on a Saturday morning in an unfamiliar school, JPII students take their respective tests free of charge during the school day and on campus for a higher level of comfortability that enhances their test-taking experience.





### ATHLETICS

Sports provide not only an enjoyable outlet for exercise and maintaining a healthy lifestyle but also an invaluable opportunity as an extension of the classroom–a competitive arena where students push themselves and encourage each other to be the best players, teammates, and, most importantly, people of character they can be. Through the guidance of experienced, passionate coaches, JPII athletes forge indelible friendships with one another as they learn to lead, communicate, forgive, and cheer on their teammates while winning humbly and losing graciously. Just as lions move in pride and protect their own, JPII Lions in blue and gold value the team before themselves and fiercely support one another both on and off the field.

### THE ARTS

Whether it's painting, singing, dancing, playing an instrument, writing, or bringing a character to life on stage, creativity and the arts are fundamental to the education of young people and deserve to be valued as such. Our innovative performing arts and visual arts program at JPII celebrates the creative impulses of our students, encouraging them to develop their artistic interests and gifts–and maybe even discover new ones!

By bravely getting up on stage and proudly holding their artwork up for all to see, students learn invaluable skills that inspire them to think differently, embrace the spirit of artistic collaboration, and bring people together through the stories they tell. From the art electives included in our prep school curriculum to the many opportunities to perform and create after school, there's an activity for every artist at JPII!

### THE POSITION

The Office of the Head of School has as its primary purpose to provide overall leadership and vision for St. John Paul II School in order to achieve the fullest attainment of the school's unique Catholic mission of educating in faith, wisdom, service, community and leadership. The Head of School is appointed and delegated authority by the Bishop of Fall River and acts as the chief executive officer for the school under the supervision of the diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools, and with the guidance of the Advisory Board, in the implementation of plans and policies. As overall leader, the Head of School serves as a role model for staff and students and bears ultimate responsibility for the integration of faith and learning within the school including articulation of the school's mission, vision and Catholic identity to its various publics.

The Head of School oversees implementation of faith community affairs, academic affairs and student affairs through the Assistant Heads of School ensuring a highquality college preparatory high school experience. The Head of School is responsible for ensuring sufficient resources and enrollment for the school through direct oversight of business affairs, development/advancement affairs, communications, community relations and enrollment management activities. The Head of School acts as the primary liaison between the school, the Advisory Board, the partner parishes and schools and the broader community and maintains a close professional relationship with the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Fall River. The Head of School is ultimately responsible for the successful overall operation of the school through effective marketing for image, enrollment and resources as accomplished through effective planning and delegation of responsibilities to the administration, faculty and staff.





### **CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Similar to Catholic schools across the country, JPII faces the critical challenges of: sustaining and growing enrollment in a highly competitive market with a shrinking pool of prospective students, providing fair and competitive compensation for faculty and staff, implementing contemporary curriculum and related student learning experiences, keeping tuition at affordable levels, providing adequate levels of tuition assistance, and continually updating facilities to support academics, athletics, the arts and co-curricular activities. To this end, the next Head of School is expected to be well-versed in the mission critical operational vitality needs of the school, including advancement, enrollment management, marketing, budget and finance, and capital projects.

### THE CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will have significant executive leadership experience, expertise in financial and business management, possess exemplary communication and relationship building, and be skilled at engaging and inspiring constituents and stakeholders to further support its mission. He or she must be experienced with strategic planning and have the requisite executive-level experience to lead a school community. With a visible presence inside and outside of the school community, the Head of School will be the catalyst in advancing the strategic marketing and advancement initiatives of this distinguished Catholic school community.

While the Head of School must have a demonstrated capacity for broad institutional leadership, candidates could have attained this experience through various career paths, including primary, secondary, or higher education, non-profit management, or work in the corporate or public sector. Regardless of the career path, the successful candidate will have a proven expert record of building upon a strong community culture and identifying, cultivating, and developing strategic partnerships to ensure JPII's continued accessibility, success, and sustainability.

Applicants are expected to be faith-filled practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church and possess an advanced degree in a business, education, or related field. Salary and benefits are competitive with the local Catholic education market and commensurate with experience.

### **DESIRED QUALITIES AND CHARACTERISTICS**

We seek candidates who are mission-driven leaders with a demonstrated capacity to think strategically while inspiring and motivating teachers, students, parents, alumni, and stakeholders to advance JPII's unified vision of excellence based on its common beliefs and mission. Candidates must be actively practicing their Catholic faith and be in good standing with the Church.

The Head of School is also expected to exhibit many of the following qualifications:

- Faith-filled and Christ-centered servant leader who embraces, models, and champions the traditions, values and social teachings of this vibrant 5th-12th grade Catholic school community.
- Advanced degree in an education or business-related field with a full understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing Catholic education.
- Proven capacity in leading critical functions of budget and financial management, institutional growth and development, and high-level fundraising and philanthropic efforts.
- Career experience complementing the school's tradition of excellent academics, strong spiritual formation, competitive athletic, artistic, and educational extracurricular pursuits, focus on service to the community, and the importance of faith and family.
- Proven leadership skills and capacity in serving as the culture-builder of this school community. Experience in the Head of School/Assistant Head of School model (President/Principal) is a plus.
- Executive presence which inspires confidence and passion among all stakeholders.
- Accomplished visionary able to lead this Catholic school community while ensuring success for all students, based on high standards of excellence.
- Exceptional communication skills while serving as the public face of the school community in building constructive relationships with all stakeholders that inspire crucial support in its fundraising and enrollment management initiatives.
- Accessible and approachable leadership style, with the capacity to relate to all internal and external constituents and at school-sponsored events locally and beyond.
- Well-versed in creating conditions for market leadership in a highly competitive private school environment. Familiarity with the greater Cape Cod and Southeastern, MA market is a plus.
- Inspirational, humble, and authentic mentor who fosters leadership in others.



- Must be able to establish immediate rapport and trust with learning, parent, alumni, and civic communities.
- Skilled at identifying, attracting, developing, and retaining high-quality and mission-driven professionals with a commitment and passion for delivering a transformational Catholic college preparatory educational experience.
- Fair, fun, and compassionate executive who embraces collaboration while leading with missionary zeal.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The search committee is on a fast-track to identify and secure JPII's next Head of School. All inquiries and applications will be treated with the highest degree of confidentiality and with the greatest respect. The successful candidate will be expected to assume the responsibilities of the position in July 2025, or sooner. Do not delay. Connect with us today!

To apply, please submit the following four documents, confidentially and as separate PDF attachments in one email to <u>mikefurey@partnersinmission.com</u>.

- Letter of Interest that aligns your experiences and skill sets with the current needs of the school as you understand them.
- Statement of Catholic educational leadership philosophy.
- Current resume with all appropriate dates included.
- List of five references with names, relationships, phone numbers, and email addresses. References will not be contacted without your knowledge and approval.
- Please include "JPII Head of School" in the subject field



#### Assemble all of the application materials in one email to:

Michael Furey, Partner Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions, LLC mikefurey@partnersinmission.com 570-730-2655 www.partnersinmissionslss.com

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