

POPE JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL

ACCREDITATION CELEBRATION

JANUARY 29, 2011



Mission Statement

Pope John Paul II High School is a Roman Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory school serving students and families of all faiths from Cape Cod, the Islands, and surrounding towns. We are one community committed to academic excellence and spiritual growth.

Inspired by the life and example of Pope John Paul II, the integrated academic, spiritual, and co-curricular programs challenge young men and women to be intellectually accomplished, skilled leaders who develop personal relationships with God.

Pope John Paul II High School students respond generously to the needs of others and possess a strong desire to “communicate Christ” in all that they say and do.

September 4, 2007



Achieving the opening of the first Catholic high school on Cape Cod and the first newly-opened high school in our Diocese in forty years was the work of many, many hands. Thank you Bishop Coleman, donors, friends, parents, and students for making this long-standing dream a reality!

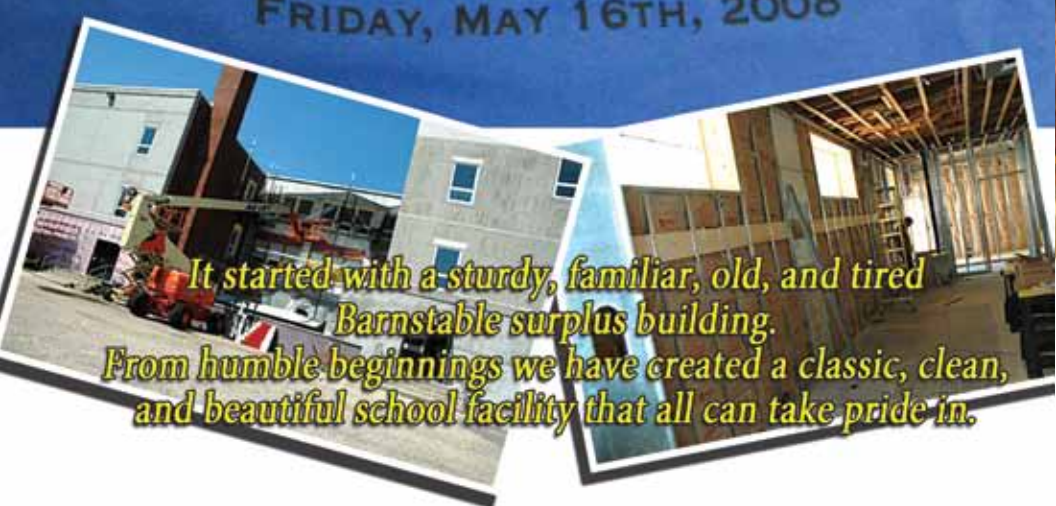


From the beginning...



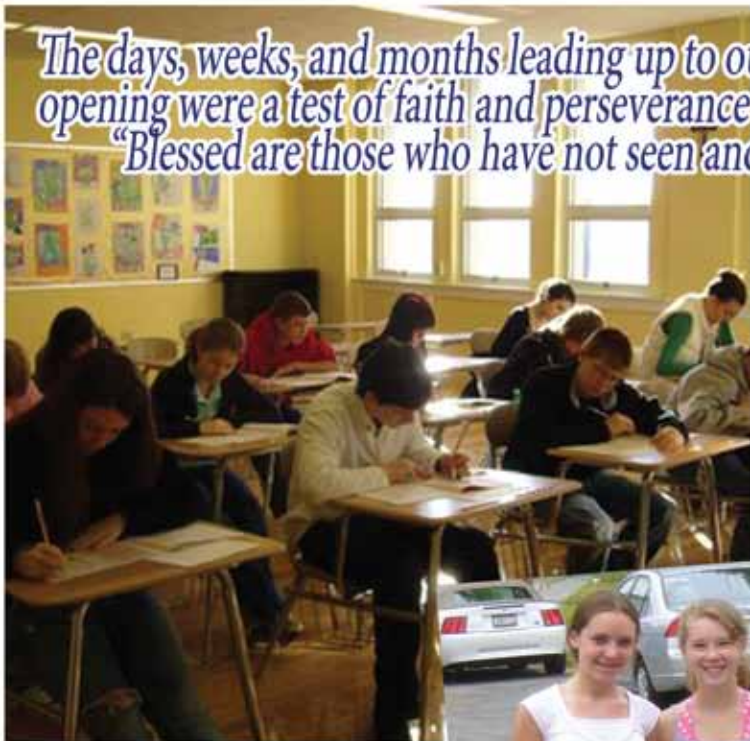
CONSTRUCTING YOUR FUTURE

POPE JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL
FRIDAY, MAY 16TH, 2008



It started with a sturdy, familiar, old, and tired Barnstable surplus building. From humble beginnings we have created a classic, clean, and beautiful school facility that all can take pride in.

The days, weeks, and months leading up to our school's opening were a test of faith and perseverance --
"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed."



Academics



"Back then, the path wasn't sure. At that time, we were the whole school. Now I can't believe all that has been accomplished. We have come an incredibly long way, farther than we could have imagined." Aisling, '11 and Sean, '11



Athletics

SPIRIT



We preach faith, family, academics, then athletics. The Lions are a brotherhood and sisterhood of student athletes who support and encourage one another. Team is something larger than ourselves.



FAITH



Pope John Paul II tells us that the purpose of Catholic education is to prepare young people for their life's work and ultimate destiny. This is our mission -- to create skilled, probing, creative, and compassionate young women and men ready to communicate Christ in all they do.



Accreditation A Milestone Achieved!



Founded in 1885

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Mr. Christopher W. Keavy
Head of School
Pope John Paul II High School
120 High School Road
Hyannis, MA 02601

Dear Chris:

It is my pleasure to report formally that, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. held on this date, Pope John Paul II High School, on recommendation from the Commission on Independent Schools, has been elected to institutional membership and granted accreditation by the Association.

The Officers of the Association join me in extending to you and your colleagues sincere congratulations on this accomplishment. We hope that the observations and expectations outlined in the Commission on Independent Schools' letter of notification will serve as a positive influence on the school as it continues to develop in the years ahead.

The New England Association is grateful to Pope John Paul II High School for its assistance with the Association's efforts on behalf of New England education and will always welcome suggestions as to ways in which to improve its effectiveness.

Sincerely,

Reginald R. Mayo
President



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Milestone reached

By MOLLY A.K. CONNORS
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HYANNIS - Its students might not have received a single diploma yet, but Pope John Paul II High School has received accreditation from the organization that evaluates the effectiveness of schools and colleges in New England.

The accreditation came as the school's first class of seniors finished its final fall semester and the school is coming into its own, said Christopher Keavy, the school's principal.

"If you haven't been happy here this fall, then you don't have a pulse," Keavy recalled saying to his faculty.

The high school joins more than 630 private schools granted accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The accreditation signals the school met the standards for educational quality set by the organization and is committed to continuing to improve.

The commission (on independent schools) commends the school for the notable character and charisma of living out the mission to communicate Christ, for the large and attractive school plant, the abundant instructional resources, and the commitment and dedication of its administration. William M. Bennett, the director of NEASC's commission on independent schools, wrote in a letter to Keavy.

The accreditation capped a process that took more than 18 months, involved a three-day visit and evaluation by a six-member investigative committee, and required an extensive self-evaluation by the school community including adults and students.

The accreditation process identifies the strengths and weaknesses at each school. At Pope John Paul II High, the



CHRISTINE HOCHKEPPEL/CAPE COD TIMES

Pope John Paul II High School art teacher Jenhy Kelley helps freshman Matt Thatcher with his still-life drawing Wednesday morning.

investigative committee cited several strengths, such as the school's adherence to its mission, its "tremendous work ethic" and commitment to further improvement.

The investigative committee, comprised of teachers and administrators from one independent and five Catholic schools in New England, made six recommendations, which it said were a result of "growing pains" and not "anything materially deficient in the management of the school," according to the panel's report.

Those recommendations included enhanced financial planning, long- and short-range preparation for the school's increasing enrollment, and improving the guidance department.

NEASC accredits between 12 and 20 schools each year, and the process is

rigorous, Bennett said in a phone interview with the Times. "Probably a third of schools coming through for the first time fail one or more standards," he said.

Accreditation is important because it allows independent parties to examine whether schools are living up to the standards they have set for themselves and helps them improve in the future. It's also important for students because colleges and universities consider a school's accreditation status when they evaluate enrollment applications.

John Paul II High was launched with 38 freshmen in fall 2007. More than 100 students are expected in the freshman class that will enter John Paul II High in September, Keavy said.

"This is, in many ways, our arrival year," he said.