

Welcome!

Presentation for Teachers

John Paul II Catholic High School

3 February 2009

7 p.m., OLPH



Goals for presentation

- To learn more about the school's mission
 - To understand the unique opportunity to found a school
 - To review the programs within the school
 - To learn how to apply
-
- **TO START THE DIALOGUE WITH TEACHERS**





the essentials

- Faculty members are the key to our project.
- The student demand is there, but only if there is high quality teaching.
- Our growth will mirror your success in the classroom.



In founding schools in the past...



*...the order “gave” the school its
charism, its spirit, its Catholicity...*

With a professed life of faith, a 'religious' would have...

A sharp mind...

Past religious were innovators by necessity, sharp in their fields, and many schools of all stripes seek to emulate Catholic school traditions.

An active ear...

An ability to listen as Christ would, to students and parents, and work with them.

A big shoulders...

The strength to take on the weight of building a school from the foundation up. LOTS OF HEAVY LIFTING.

Speak the Word. Live the Word.

A desire to speak the Word of God through actions, song, words, example.

A big heart...

A heart tended by prayer, sacraments, service, love.



Our lay faculty members will have to have...

A sharp mind...

Our faculty have to be the among the best in their field.

An active ear...

A willingness to listen to students and parents and work with them.

A big shoulders...

The strength to take on the weight of building a school from the foundation.
HEAVY LIFTING.

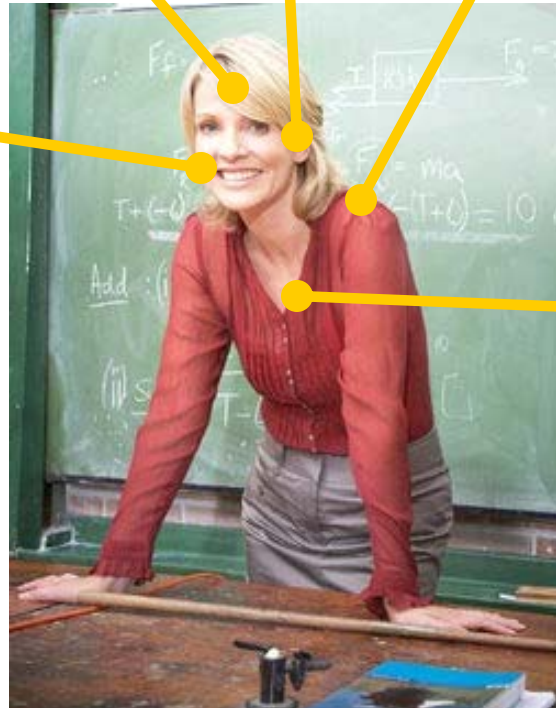
Speak the Word

Live the Word.

A desire to speak the Word of God through actions, song, words.

A big heart...

The patience and wisdom to see through the struggles and to work in community.





Mission

Our Mission

John Paul II Catholic High School is an Archdiocesan, Roman Catholic college preparatory high school for young women and men that affirms the dignity of all persons; prepares students for excellence in college; engages students in the great works of our Western, Catholic tradition; and deepens young persons' relationship with Christ.

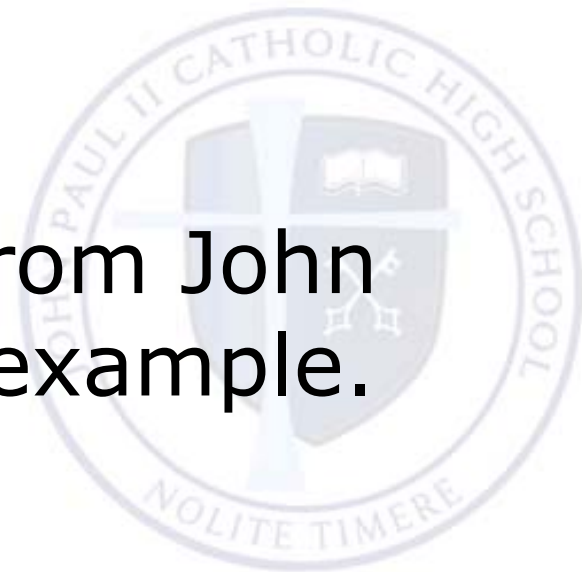
Our Vision

Our school will be dedicated to the development of our students spiritually, morally, intellectually, and physically in an environment of love, courage and service that will enable them to fulfill their Baptismal Call to witness Jesus Christ in the modern world.



Charism

- Our charism will come from our mission statement:
 - Affirms
 - Prepares
 - Engages
 - Deepens
- Our charism will come from John Paul II – his words, his example.





School culture

- A thoroughly Catholic school culture.
 - Liturgies and liturgical events will be the high point of the week.
 - Respect for prayer
 - Knowing and living our faith as a faith community
 - Respect for students
 - Respect for faculty
- Serious academic pursuit
- Exciting service learning
- Fun and safe and engaged place



Community expectations

- A JPPII _____ is...
 - ...motivated,
 - ...ready for a challenge, &
 - ...wants to found a school!
- Answers.
 - A. student
 - B. teacher
 - C. principal
 - D. parent
 - E. A and B
 - F. all of the above





HISTORY

- **2003:** School began as a grass-roots committee of parents who saw need for Catholic high school
- **2006:** Planning committee formed with reps. from four feeder schools.
- **2006:** Survey of area parishes demonstrated clear need and generated focused interest.





HISTORY

- **2006:** Group met with Archbishop Gomez to get his blessing to open as a Catholic school.
 - Archbishop requested project be an Archdiocesan school.
- **2007:** 13 Sept. – School is incorporated on the 20-year anniversary of John Paul's visit to San Antonio





HISTORY

- **Spring 2008:** Principal search
- **May 2008:** Principal hired
- **August 2008:** Land purchased
- **Fall 2008:** Student admissions
- **Spring 2009:** Facilities development

This has come from parents and families and their desire for a Catholic high school in this area!

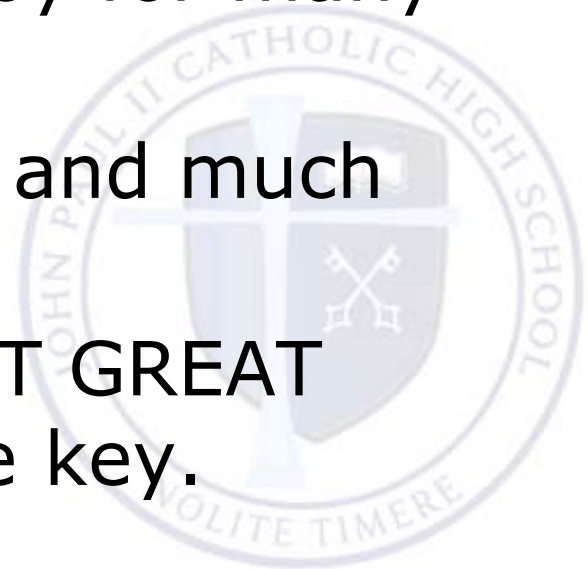
The first years will be the best...

- One might think the best years will be after three years of growth. Those will be great, too.
- **NOW** is the time for...
 - True leadership opportunities
 - Tight knit community will grow
 - Smaller class sizes, incredible attention from experienced faculty
 - The chance to found a school: “I was the first!”



“Job satisfaction”

- There is a special pride even a public school teacher feels in “opening a school.” It is a mark of accomplishment.
- Even parish members who are the founding families feel this joy for many years.
- JP II teachers will have that and much more.
- IT WON'T HAPPEN WITHOUT GREAT TEACHERS – you will be the key.





Updates

- Freshmen enrollment is growing; should reach 40 soon.
 - We are shooting for 50.
- Some very talented students.
- All are recommended by sending schools.
 - A special group of young people

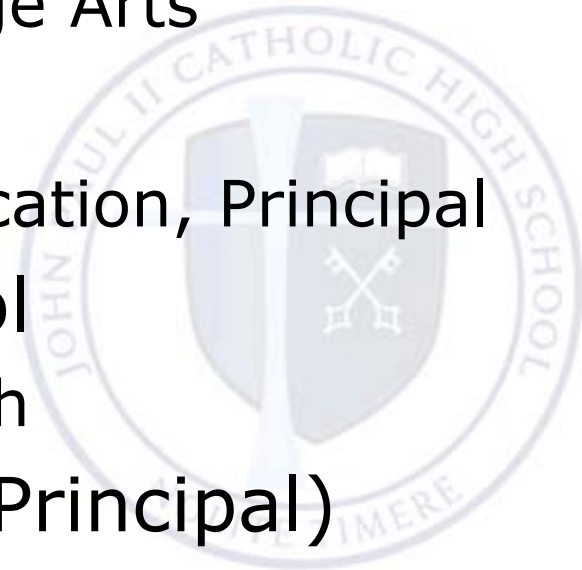




The Principal

Andrew Iliff

- University of Notre Dame
 - BA Econ., Philo.
- St. Mary's University
 - Certification, English Language Arts
- Trinity University
 - Masters in Ed. Admin; Certification, Principal
- Central Catholic High School
 - Teacher, Administrator, Coach
- St. Luke Catholic School (Principal)





Ideal teacher?

- My favorite interview question is this:
 - What would be your ideal teaching/professional position?
- I see this as an interview of the school:
 - Who would be your ideal teacher?





Ideal teacher?

- Who would be your ideal teacher?
 - Experience in high school teaching
 - Active Catholic (with confidence as a catechist)
 - Experience with Catholic education
 - Master teacher
 - Vision for the program
 - Problem solver!
 - Technologically inclined





Formation in faith

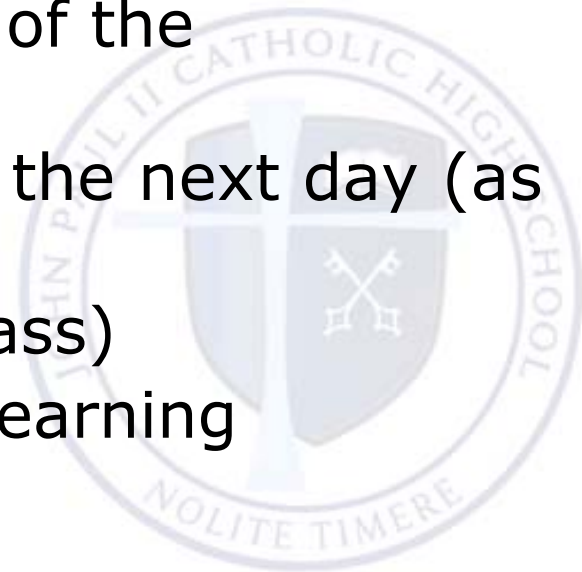
- This is the core of our mission, to form students in faith.
- All faculty members will be expected to serve as catechists.
 - No one can say, “I’m just...”
- HOW?
 - We will have small groups for all students and faculty.
 - They will meet M, T, Th, Fri.
 - We will have nearly monthly Family meetings.





Formation in faith

- Those small groups will be like advisory groups, and will gather regularly to read, pray, reflect, and support the mission.
- The administration will develop all materials necessary.
 - Monday – Readings for Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
 - Tuesday – Readings for Mass the next day (as preparation)
 - Wednesday – No meeting (Mass)
 - Thursday – Planning service learning
 - Friday – Readings of the day





Curriculum

Rigorous college preparatory work

- Great books/classical curriculum
 - Theology, social studies, ELA
- Science curriculum
 - Get students in the lab, in the field
- Math curriculum
 - Algebra foundation is the key.
- Arts, technology



A well-rounded, Catholic education

- 28 credit graduation requirement
 - Four (4) Theology credits
 - Four (4) Mathematics credits
 - Four (4) Science credits
 - Four (4) Social Studies credits
 - Four (4) English language arts credits



A well-rounded, Catholic education

- 28 credits graduation requirement
 - Eight (8) additional credits in:
 - 1.0 credit in technology
 - 1.0 credit in fine arts (in the art or music studio)
 - 0.5 in speech and 0.5 health
 - 3.0 in foreign language (same language)
 - 1.5 credits in physical education (which can be received by participating in athletics)
 - 0.5 in electives

Co-instructional classrooms

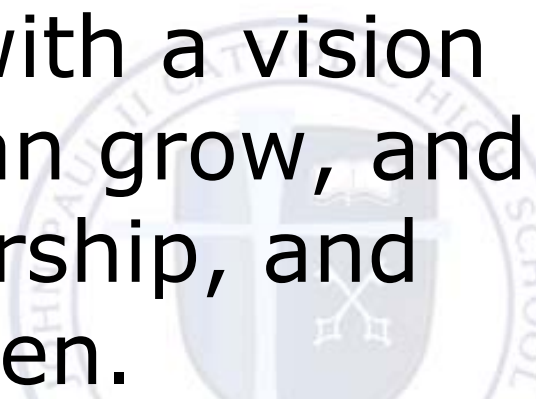
- Within most core courses, and most lower grade level courses, the school has decided to place students in single gender classes.
- In senior level and more specialized courses, the classes will be co-ed.
 - The reason is specific: research shows gains in student performance for both boys and girls in single gender classes.

Co-instructional classrooms

- In the structuring of our school's program, we plan to have ***the best of both environments***.
- Our students will have lunches, extra-curricular programs, and upper level courses in a co-ed environment, and core, foundation courses in single gender classrooms.



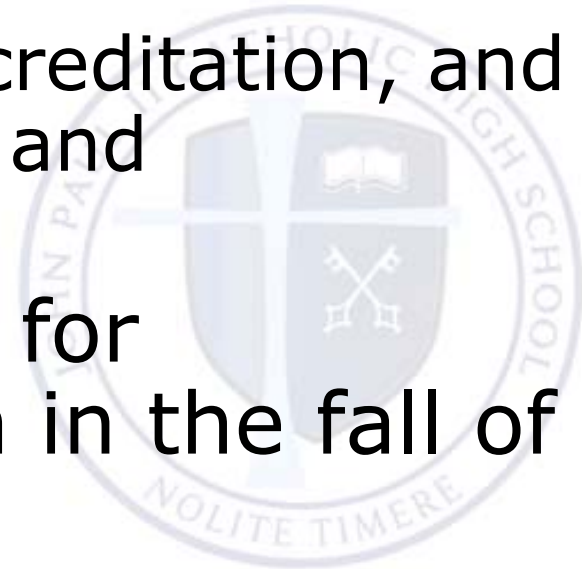
“Other duties as assigned”

- We need coaches, moderators, directors, leaders, volunteers, helpers, assistants, mentors, ‘cheerleaders.’
 - We need professionals with a vision for how the programs can grow, and the perseverance, leadership, and attitude to make it happen.
- 



Accreditation

- Catholic schools in Texas are accredited by TCCED (Texas Catholic Conference Education Department)
 - TCCED is a part of TPSA, which is recognized by TEA
 - TCCED is a full school accreditation, and is recognized by colleges and universities
- We will be able to apply for provisional accreditation in the fall of year two.





Accreditation

- In year three or early year four, we will be able to apply for our standard accreditation (that lasts ten years).
- Within TCCED, there is no mechanism for Catholic schools to open as an accredited school. We have to prove ourselves for a year, and then we can apply.





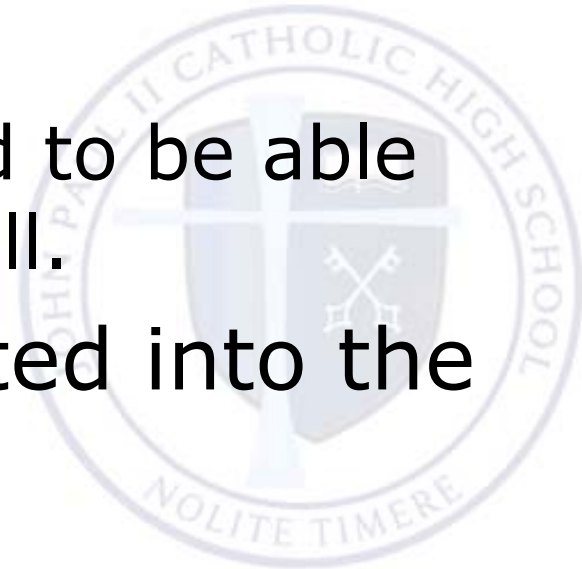
Accreditation

- We have our plans in order, and have the good fortune of having a superintendent who has both worked for TCCED as the director and is currently on the commission that accredits schools.
 - Sister Carla Lusch, SSND
 - She will be able to guide us successfully through this process.
- We will also apply for SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accreditation, which will help show our commitment to excellence.



Technology integration

- Laptop school
 - Macbooks
- Internet-based gradebook and web portal (with assignments, links, handouts).
 - Teachers will be expected to be able and willing to use this well.
- Student laptops integrated into the classroom environment.





Benefits

- Salary scale
 - Calculated as a percentage of local average for public schools
 - Working to stay competitive
- Health benefits through Aetna
 - Teacher contribution in 2008-9
 - Individual: \$72/month
 - Add spouse and children: +\$264/month
- Pension plan
 - 5% of salary, 7 yrs to be vested



Pioneer teachers

- Summer 2009
- Start immediately! with dialogue about curriculum and resources
- Meet regularly in June and July
- Retreat in early August
- Student retreat/formation days before school year starts.





Interview process

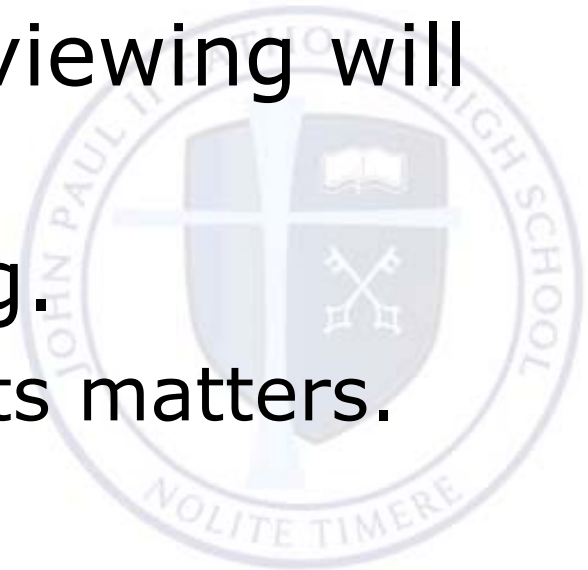
- Submit a letter of intent, a resume or CV, and Archdiocesan application.
 - All forms, instructions will be on our web site by end of the day tomorrow.
- Letter of intent should address Catholic faith, the school's mission, and vision for program growth.
- References on app. would ideally include your pastor.





Interview process

- Interviews will start in late February and continue as long as necessary.
- Committee will sit with those selected for interviews.
- A second round of interviewing will be necessary.
- Unique year(s) for hiring.
 - The combination of talents matters.





Year one needs

- Mathematics
 - Algebra and Algebra/Geometry Honors
- Social Studies
- Science
 - Biology
- Theology
- English Language Arts
- Technology and Speech
- Foreign Language
 - Latin and Spanish

Some of these sections will need to be filled with part-time teachers.

Thank you for your time!

- Please stand for prayer.

