

Welcome to

John Paul II Collegiate



A Parent's Guide

Research shows that parent involvement positively affects student success. To help you become more involved in your teen's education, the School Community Council (SCC) has funded the printing of this guide. The SCC supports, encourages and enhanced meaningful parent involvement within our school to support student success.

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Welcome to High School

Get ready for what just could be the most exciting and important years your teen spends in school! For the first time, teens will have to make choices about what they will study and what career pathway they will choose.

Here's some more of what you can expect in high school:

- More courses and programs to choose from
- Greater emphasis on career pathway exploration
- New teachers and classmates
- Additional extracurricular and social opportunities
- Increased independence and responsibility
- Greater need for organization and time management

Whatever path your teen chooses, we want to make sure your entire family is ready to meet the challenges and embrace the many opportunities that await your teen upon graduation.

This guide will provide you with a snapshot of what you need to know to help your teen be successful. Your involvement is welcomed and valued. We wish you and your teen ongoing success.

Visit our website often to stay connected.

jp2.loccsd.ca

Get Involved

As student success is positively affected by parent involvement, why not get involved in your teen's education? When schools and parents work together, students are more motivated and engaged in their school experience.

- Find out more about getting involved and volunteering in school
- Download tip sheets to help your teen succeed in school and beyond
- Meet the board's School Community Council
- Learn about School Councils



Stay Connected – Visit your school website

The school website is a great way to stay connected and up-to-date on school news. Here's some of the information you'll find online:

- Calendar and upcoming events
- School hours
- School's mission, vision and values
- Monthly newsletters
- Career planning information
- Subject and program information

The JP2 website – jp2.loccsd.ca – is also an excellent source of information about the school system.

Student Handbook

At the start of each school year, high school students are expected to review their Student Handbook, which is available in print and on our website. The handbook includes information about the school's mission, vision and values, introduces students to the school's Code of Conduct, outlines the role that students, parents and school staff play in students' academic successes, and describes the assessment and evaluation policy. It is expected that both parents and students review the Student Handbook together.



Leaving School Property

High school students are permitted to leave school property on their lunch hour and/or study periods. Many students choose to do so to go home or to visit local restaurants and other businesses. Students do not need special permission to leave school property. Because attendance is taken by period in high school, schools are able to track attendance patterns to determine if students are not coming back from their lunch periods. Staff will intervene appropriately, which may involve a call home.

PowerSchool

Parents will be provided with a login so that they're able to access information about their teen's attendance, credit history and diploma status, as well as course selection and other information. Parents are encouraged to monitor their teen's progress on a regular basis. Contact the school if you have questions or problems logging into PowerSchool.

How to Contact Teachers

All teachers can be contacted via email. Teacher's email address are available in PowerSchool.

Attendance Matters

One of the most important factors to your teen's success is regular and timely attendance. Getting to class on time and avoiding absences are critical if your teen is to get the most out of school.

To help ensure your teen's regular attendance:

- Ensure your teen is in bed at a reasonable hour
- Set realistic and consistent schedules at home
- Set your alarm early enough to avoid running late
- Do what you can the night before to save time in the morning – pack lunch, prepare backpack
- Encourage healthy habits to avoid illness
- Show an interest in your teen's education
- Monitor their attendance on PowerSchool

Reporting an absence

If your teen will be absent, phone the school at **306-446-2304** as soon as you can before the school's start time. Parents may receive a call later in the day if their teen is absent from part or all of the school day.



Lates

A student is considered late if he/she is not in the room when the teacher is ready to start teaching. Parents and students should refer to the school's late policy for instructions on what to do if a student is late to school or to class. If a student is frequently late, a parent will be notified.

Vacation Planning

When it comes to planning family trips, please save them for scheduled breaks from school. Learning is cumulative, building on the skills and concepts that were introduced before. Missing classes for an extended period of time can make it tough to learn classroom concepts and rejoin their peers.

Safe Places to Learn

As a parent, nothing is more important than your teen's safety and well-being. We share that priority. We're committed to providing a healthy, supportive learning and working environment for our students and staff.

John Paul II provides a safe environment for staff and students to work and learn. The school has many procedures to ensure safety, including regular fire drills, evacuation plans and criminal records checks for new staff and volunteers.

Student Well-Being

At John Paul II we strive to provide and maintain safe and healthy environments conducive to learning and working for all. Our diverse staff of committed, dedicated and caring people are well-qualified to support all students.

We encourage students to self-advocate – to reach out to an adult that they trust at school – if they find themselves overwhelmed or discouraged. Staff members are open to hearing their concerns and will assist to ensure the appropriate supports are put in place. Guidance counsellors, teachers and administrators are available to support students who may be experiencing difficulty or who are struggling.



If you need to speak to someone about your teen's well-being, please contact a school guidance counsellor or speak to one of the vice-principals.

Spares/Study Periods

When students are in grades 8 and 9, they are not eligible for spares throughout the day. As students move into the senior grades and the pace of their learning changes and becomes more independently directed, they can have spares. If students choose to do so, they must use their time wisely, either at home or at school, while managing their workload and accommodating extra-curricular or other responsibilities.

Reporting

Reporting is the process of communicating with parents and students about student learning. Report cards are one part of continuous communication that provides students and parents with descriptive feedback that is clear, specific, meaningful and timely to support improved learning and achievement. Mid-term progress reports are issued once in the middle of each semester. Final report cards are issued at the end of each of the two terms – in February and in June. Parents are encouraged to monitor their teen's achievement in PowerSchool.

Who can I speak to about my teen's progress?

Report cards are one aspect of ongoing communication between home and school. As always, we encourage you to discuss concerns and questions with your teen's teachers, guidance counsellor or vice-principal at any time.

We encourage you to attend Student-Led Conferences to speak to your teen's teachers about his or her progress.

School Schedule

The school has a six period day with a one hour lunch break. There are four minutes between classes and a seven minute warning bell before school and at the end of lunch. Times for each period are as follows:

Regular Days			Early Dismissal Days	
Period 1	9:00 – 9:57		Period 1	9:00 – 9:38
Period 2	10:01 – 10:52		Period 2	9:42 – 10:20
Period 3	10:56 – 11:47		Period 3	10:24 – 11:02
Lunch	11:47 – 12:47		Period 4	11:06 – 11:44
Period 4	12:47 – 1:40		Lunch	11:44 – 12:44
Period 5	1:44 – 2:35		Period 5	12:44 – 1:20
Period 6	2:39 – 3:30		Period 6	1:24 – 2:00

ATM

There is a cash machine at the school that has a \$1.00 fee for each withdrawal. All of this \$1.00 transaction fee goes to the School Community Council which uses the money to fund special events and programs for students.

Servery (Cafeteria)

Our Servery provides a hot meal each day at a very reasonable price. Soup, salad, vegetables, fruit, and other food items are also available. The menu for each week can be viewed in the daily announcements.

Pope's Corner

Pope's Corner is a small store operated by our students that sells school clothing and supplies as well as water and various food items. The store is open during the noon hour.

Diploma Requirements

In order to earn a Saskatchewan High School Diploma, a student must earn a minimum of 24 credits.

Community Service

Students must complete a minimum of 10 hours of community involvement activities every year, which they can begin to accumulate in the summer before they enter grade 8. The student is responsible for finding and completing the volunteer work on his or her own. The school will not be directly involved in finding volunteer placements for students or monitoring students while they are completing their volunteer work.



Getting Your Question Answered

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about your teen's education, or about education in general, we're here to help. Here are some of the people you can contact:

- If you have specific questions or concerns about the education of your son or daughter, the first person to talk to is your teen's teacher
- If you need extra help, or have more general questions, please contact:
 - Mrs. Harty, Vice-Principal for Grades 8 & 9
 - Mr. Yockey, Vice-Principal for Grades 10 -12
 - Mr. Hansen, Principal