



**JOHN PAUL II  
PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you and your families to the John Paul II School. As the PTO President it is my responsibility to talk with you about getting involved in the school. But first, since this may be the first time at JP 2 for many of you, I think that it is important to explain what the JP2 PTO is all about.

It is important to note that you will automatically become a member of the JP 2 PTO. In fact, all parents or guardians of children attending JP2, as well as each member of the professional staff, are members of the Parent Teacher Organization and are encouraged to participate in its activities. We are an independent organization and we do not belong to any state or national affiliation, or support any political platforms and we keep all of the funds that we raise for our school. The JP2 School PTO's mission is to promote open communication and understanding between parents and staff of the JP2 School.

We do many wonderful things as a PTO. Some of the things include providing 2 eighth graders with a Catholic high school scholarship and yearly bonuses to teachers. We helped with new computer purchases for the computer classes. PTO also provides the staff meals during parent/teacher conferences plus many more exciting things. All these things and more can only happen with ACTIVE participation from you JP2 parents/guardian and teachers.

This is where YOU come in. Now I truly understand how daunting volunteering can be. Questions such as: How much time are we talking about here? Will I be required to take on event or committee responsibilities? Or something as simple as, what exactly is required of me? Are all very normal. And I am here to assure you that we will never force anyone to dedicate more time than they are willing, or to be coerced into any undertaking that they are not comfortable with. ANY time that ANY individual is willing to offer is more valuable than I can relate! We also understand that in today's world it is increasingly more difficult to be able to find time to give, even such as one to two hours once a month, which is how often the committee meets.

But that's not the only reason to become active. When parents get involved in their children's education, grades go up, test scores go up, children become more likely to pass and to attend better schools after high school, they have fewer discipline problems, and they're less likely to use drugs and alcohol. Volunteering doesn't mean a huge time commitment. And whatever your time schedule and interests we have need of you. We have tasks that can be performed in the evenings, during the day, or that don't even involve coming to the school at all.

Won't you join us? Becoming active is really easy - and it really makes a difference! This year we are asking families to voluntarily pay a joining fee of \$5.00 per family. If you join in the month of September while supplies last you will receive a free JP2 license plate frame. If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me.

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Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount paying \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Received \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*This form can be turned in during Back to School Night or School Office\*\***