



# BELIEVE GROW ACHIEVE

## AN EXEMPLARY SCHOOL

John Paul II Academy is a thriving Catholic School. Our legacy of strong academic achievement began over 100 years ago when the Racine Dominican Sisters opened their first school in conjunction with Sacred Heart Parish.

Today John Paul II Academy is recognized by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee as an Exemplary School in Educating the Whole Student based on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools.\*

Earning this Exemplary Award means that during a rigorous application and review process we were found to have demonstrated innovation and outstanding results in educating the whole student.

\*The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, Center for Catholic School Effectiveness, School of Education, Loyola University Chicago, in partnership with the Barbara and Patrick Roche Center for Catholic Education, Lynch School of Education, Boston College (2012).

#### **EDUCATING OUR STUDENTS**

John Paul II Academy believes it is important to educate the whole student. This includes the spiritual, intellectual, moral, physical, emotional, and social growth of each individual student. This is accomplished through rich coursework including:

- Math
- Science
- Reading
- Language Arts
- Religion
- Social Studies

- Art
- Physical Education
- Spanish
- Guidance
- Music

Technology, including Chromebooks and iPads, is integrated throughout all core subject areas and is available to all students 4K through 8th grade. We also have an extensive guided reading library that has many options to intrigue all readers.

#### **BEYOND THE BOOKS**

- FAITH Students begin their day with breakfast and morning prayer and pray again before lunchtime. Mass is celebrated weekly, on holy days, and during other special occasions.
- ACADEMIC SUPPORT Our school has a full time Learning Support Specialist who works to create lessons and courses tailored for our student's different levels.
- **FLEXIBLE SEATING** Several of our classrooms offer flexible seating to meet the physical needs of our students.
- EXTRACURRICULARS After school clubs and enrichment programs include scholastic competitions, peer tutoring, academic support, robotics, student council, art club, drama club, choir, athletics, and Boy & Girl Scouts.

### **Uniquely John Paul II Academy**

We are thrilled to have a full time licensed counselor on staff. Our counselor spends time in the classroom on a bi-weekly basis teaching all students social and emotional skills through the Second Step® program.

This program teaches students to become better equipped to manage their own emotions, form healthy relationships, make good decisions, and cope with everyday social and academic challenges, which in turn makes them better equipped to learn.

Also taught is the Virtue of the Month where emphasis is placed on teaching a specific skill such as honesty, respect, gratitude, forgiveness or discipline. Learning virtuous behaviors helps our students to commit themselves to doing the right thing regardless of the consequences, thus, forming students who become agents of change for the good of society.

These programs have positively impacted our student self-concept as well as our school culture.

#### **PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

We encourage our school families to be involved in their children's education and offer many opportunities to do so. Two of our favorite events are math and literacy nights. These fun-filled evenings help families build an appreciation for both reading and math in addition to strengthening those vital skills.



Catholic education is important to our family because it teaches our kids to be respectful, kind, and to help others while keeping Christ in their lives.

> Antonio & Paola Rodriguez, Parents of Antonio ('17), Cris ('20), Adan ('25)





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