



JPII's new headmaster, Michael Deely, started his tenure at the reigns of the school with the first day of classes on Monday, Aug. 3. Mr. Deely addressed the students, faculty and staff during the first assembly of the school year.

## JPII'S NEW HEADMASTER 'HAVING A BLAST'

Michael Deely has been overseeing the start of a new school year, his first as the new headmaster at Pope John Paul II High School. "I'm having a blast," Mr. Deely said. "The faculty and students, the energy is so great ... I'm just feeding off the energy right now.

"I'm happy it finally began," he said. "I've been waiting for so darn long for this to happen."

Before arriving at JPII, Mr. Deely served for nine years as the principal of Cathedral Catholic, a co-ed school with an

enrollment of about 1,700 students, in his hometown of San Diego. As JPII's headmaster, Deely said, "I get more involved in the strategy of the school rather than just doing the day-to-day operations."

Having "a really good staff" who can handle more of the day-to-day duties gives Mr. Deely more time to work on the bigger picture, he said. And the bigger picture will be a big part of his job during his first year at JPII as the school updates its five-year strategic plan by next summer.

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# JPII'S NEW HEADMASTER 'HAVING A BLAST'

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But Mr. Deely is casting his vision further than five years. "I'm thinking 10 years out," he said. "In 10 years I want us to be nationally leading in every area."

"I would want other Catholic schools to say JPII is where you need to go to learn about how to do a Hand-in-Hand program (JPII's program for students with intellectual disabilities) or an AP program," Mr. Deely said.

In listening to the people in the JPII community, the school's academic excellence has emerged as one of its biggest strengths, Mr. Deely said. "We're always going to try to be the strongest academic school. ... Our (Advanced Placement) program will always be top notch."

But moving forward he and the faculty and staff will be looking at ways to maximize the students' time, Mr. Deely said. "How we teach, how we organize their time, what's in place to make it better, particularly, how we go organize the day," he said.

The goal would be to give students more time to delve more deeply into a subject, Mr. Deely said. He also wants to give

students who excel in a particularly area, whether it be math or art or another subject, the time and opportunity to take their interest even further. "We want to take whatever the kid's talents are and offer them more."

Coming to JPII, Mr. Deely said, he is "building on a first-class faculty and a committed parent community and most importantly kids who want to do better."

The faculty and staff all want the best for the students, Mr. Deely said. "They really buy into the renaissance child," allowing students to pursue their interests in a variety of areas, a theme that has been part of JPII's culture since it opened in 2002.

"These are great kids," Mr. Deely said. "At end of the four years," he added, "I want the students to say 'I'm happy, I'm healthy, I'm holy.'"

Part of Mr. Deely's charge as headmaster is to take the school's story to the community. "We may be one of the best hidden secrets in Middle Tennessee," Mr. Deely said.

Mr. Deely's move to Middle Tennessee has gone smoothly, he said. "I'm very happy here. I'm loving it here."

## STUDENTS TAKE LEADERSHIP ROLES ON HOUSE COUNCIL

The students on the House Council Leadership have been busy getting JPII's new school year off to a good start. Leading the Council this year will be President Michael Locke and Vice President Carly Holton. The leaders of each House are:

■ Pius, House Master Veronica DelValle: Sophie Kolbe, president; Alley McDonald, vice president; Natalie Wieber, Matt Craven, senior representatives; Anna Zikovich, Lucas Huff, junior representatives; McCain Brown, sophomore representative.

■ Peter, Co-House Masters Betty Mayberry and Joan Lange: Grace Lascara, president; Kendall Kelly, vice president; Hillary Edwards, senior representative; Jordan Kimmel, junior representative; Andrew Snyder, Owen McGrath and Saydi Arms, sophomore representatives.

■ John, House Master Ellie Walsh: Catherine Meyer, president; Jack Shuttleworth, vice president; Rachel Tidwell, senior representative; Stratton Clausen, junior representative; Savannah Smith and Oskar Relleva, sophomore representatives; Garrett Stephens, freshman representative.

■ Leo, House Master Paul Saboe: Christopher Stinnett, president; Matthew Staley, vice president; Baylie Fadool, senior representative; Brennan Smith, junior representative; Isabelle Price, sophomore representative.

■ Clement, House Master Julianne Staley: Maddy Baechle,

president; Macy Hanson, vice president; Sarah Klein, Wyatt Kaiser, Chase Moyer, Riley Southard, senior representatives; Kenner Lycans, Kira Niu, junior representatives; Chris Botsko, sophomore representative.

■ Gregory, House Master Pamela Strobel: Ian Anderson, president; Maddy Barber, vice president; Morgan Batson, Jackson Morris, senior representatives; Claire Mertens, Macey Crow, junior representatives; Ryan Duffin, Oliver Antone, sophomore representatives.



Members of the House Council include: (front row, L-R) Sophie Kolbe, Alley McDonald, Grace Lascara, Catherine Meyer, Madeline Barber, Ian Anderson; (back row) Michael Locke, Jack Shuttleworth, Christopher Stinnett, Maddy Baechle, Macy Hanson, Carly Holton.



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## JPII HAS RECORD NUMBER OF AP SCHOLARS

This year Pope John Paul II High School had 102 AP Scholars, the most in school history! AP Scholar Awards recognize high school students who have demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. JPII had more AP scholars than any Catholic high school in the Diocese of Nashville.

Seven students were granted the National AP Scholar Award, which is the highest honor and is awarded to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. Please join us in congratulating our JPII National AP Scholars, Chu Chu, Tyler Dorr, Daniel Edwards, Mia Herrington, Maggie Mann, Anna Reding and Gregory Silverman.

Fifty-three students received the AP Scholar Award, which is granted to students with a score of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. Nineteen students received the AP Scholar with Honor Award for achieving an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Thirty students received the AP Scholar with Distinction Award. This is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

JPII's AP Scholars include:

■ AP Scholars: Gabriella Aguilar, Madison Baechle, Phillip Baker, Caitlin Barnes, Indigo Barnett, Izabelle Barnett, Anna Bass, Briah Boyce, Savannah Burns, Christopher Byrne, Caroline T. Campbell, Christian Cook, Jenna Derivera, Emily Ernst, Baylie Fadool, Matthew Flood, Anna Fox, Sam Garretson, Ryan Helbig, Holly Houdeshell, Cathleen Humm, Wyatt Kaiser, Sarah Kelly, Samuel Kniery, Laura Knight, Dylan Lanas, Hailey Lavender, Rachael Leonard, Peiyao Li, Miranda MacNaughton, Jovani Martinez, Sarah Mattick, Mary Meyer, Michelle Moore, Andrew Motz, Creed Owens, Richard Petty, Reygan Putman, Kiera Reeves, Hunter Ricketts, Ellis Rivera, Christian Roberts, Jaime Rochester, Alexandra Rostek, Kyle Sanginario, Kari Sears, Dong Hyun Shin, Max Swearingen, Helen Whitaker, Timothy Whittington, Taylor Williams, Jordan Wirth, Alyssa Wyman.

■ AP Scholars with Honor: Gabriel Armshaw, Taylor Bevis, Michael Bringard, Jacob Catignani, Tyler Davis, Whit Drennan, Marissa Edwards,



Chu Chu



Tyler Dorr



Daniel Edwards



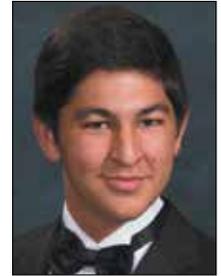
Mia Herrington



Maggie Mann



Anna Reding



Greg Silverman

Robert Ficarro, Grant Gonzalez, Alex Lanigan, Sarah Link, Tyler McCormick, Megan Reding, Benjamin Silverman, Olivia Snell, Zarina Tan, Peter Thomas, Samuel Tieche, Natalie Wieber.

■ AP Scholar with Distinction: Zachary Abdo, Grace Adcox, Carla Bardehle, Robert Brown, Depaul Chani, Chu Chu, Sydney Dawson, Tyler Dorr, Jacob Easter, Daniel Edwards, Alyssa Fogolin, Abigail Fox, Avery Glenn, Mia Herrington, James Mainland, Maggie Mann, Thomas O'Berry, Anna Reding, Alyssa Rentuza, Alexander Roy, Gregory Silverman, Michael Simpson, Jacob Telli, Casey Thompson, Katherine Williston, Katherine Willoughby, Abigail Wood, Catherine G. Wood, Annabel Yates, Christina Yi.

### JPII JUNIOR ELIJAH PATRICK QUALIFIES FOR JUNIOR NATIONALS

Elijah Patrick, a junior at Pope John Paul II High School, attended the recent Futures Speedo Championships at Purdue University where he placed first in the 200 Meter Butterfly and sixth in the 100 Meter Butterfly, qualifying him for the Junior Nationals Cuts in both events.

Patrick will travel to Atlanta Dec. 9-12 to represent the Nashville Aquatic Club in the Junior Nationals.

He was also selected by USA Swimming as a Scholastic All American for 2014-2015. To achieve this honor he had to have a grade point average greater than 3.5 and make the National Team.



## DR. SWAN GIVES STUDENTS GLIMPSE OF LIFE AS A SURGEON

When Dr. Chad Swan was a student at Pope John Paul II High School in Slidell, La., he couldn't find a way to explore his interest in a medical career. So for the last 10 years he has provided just that opportunity to students from his alma mater in Louisiana and Pope John Paul II High School in Hendersonville.

"When I was coming up through high school or college, I had no way to set myself apart," said Dr. Swan. "I couldn't find a program to even figure out if I even wanted to be a doctor. ... It wasn't until medical school that I started to experience what it's like to be doctor."

But that's just what JPII senior Hayden Yates, one of this year's Swan interns, and all the other interns over the last 10 years, have received, following Dr. Swan and his colleagues for about 10 days during the summer, observing surgeries, medical procedures and interactions with patients. "It was amazing," Hayden said. "It gave me a lot of insight into the medical field and everything associated with it."

Dr. Swan started the program at the suggestion of JPII's founding headmaster Hans Broekman. After Dr. Swan, a cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, was recruited to come to the Nashville area, he and his family were looking for a house in Sumner County. As he was driving along Vietnam Veterans Parkway, he passed JPII. "I thought my goodness you have to be kidding me. I graduated from Pope John Paul II High School in Slidell, La.," Dr. Swan said. He met Mr. Broekman who suggested Dr. Swan have a student follow him for a week or so to see what it's like to be a doctor. Dr. Swan agreed, and the first year of the program was in 2006.

He decided to include his alma mater in the program as well. He brings a student from Pope John Paul II High in Slidell to Hendersonville each summer. That student stays with the Hendersonville JPII student's family during the 10 days the internship lasts.

"The week itself is basically observational," Dr. Swan said, with the



Dr. Chad Swan is pictured with the three high school interns who shadowed him during the summer. They are, from left, Hannah Balint of Franklin, Raymond Ohler III of Pope John Paul II High School in Slidell, La., and JPII senior Hayden Yates.

students watching him perform surgeries and seeing patients. He asks the students what their interests are and he tries to arrange for them to spend time with colleagues who are specialists in those fields.

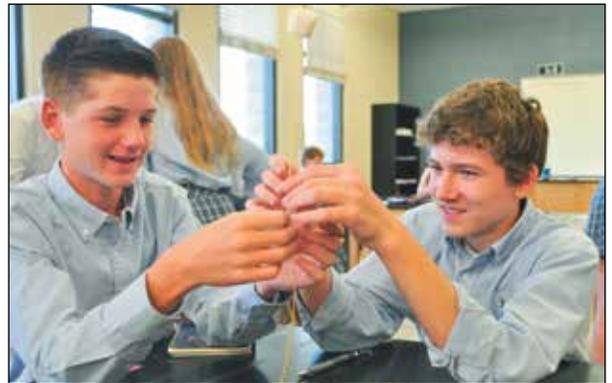
This year, the interns were Hayden and Raymond Ohler III from Slidell. There also was a third intern: Hannah Balint of Page High School in Franklin, the niece of a colleague of Dr. Swan's.

Hayden and the other interns spent time in a cath lab and a lot of time in operating rooms watching a variety of surgeries, including cardiovascular surgeries, general surgeries, orthopedic surgeries and a hysterectomy. "Surgery is awesome," Hayden said. "I really want to go into it. It would be an amazing field since there are so many different specialties."

Dr. Swan helps JPII in other ways as well. Each year he typically visits the anatomy class at JPII, and in the past has spoken to the student body about the dangers of smoking. You can also find him prowling the sidelines of home football games taking photographs, which is one of his hobbies. You can find his photos of JPII games on his Facebook page.



## FIRST DAY OF NEW YEAR



Students crowd the halls, left, on the first day of classes for the new academic year on Monday, Aug. 3. Freshmen Nick Crump, left, and Jake Shaver build a freestanding marshmallow tower in physics class.

## MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER SAYS FAITH IS KEY TO COURAGE

U.S. Army retired Maj. Gen. Patrick Brady demonstrated courage in Vietnam, flying his helicopter into bad weather and enemy fire – when other pilots couldn’t – to fly wounded soldiers to safety. For his bravery, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest and rarest decoration the U.S. military can give a person.

But there are other kinds of courage that are even harder to achieve, Brady told students at Pope John Paul II High School during an assembly on Friday, Aug. 7. “The toughest kind of courage ...,” he said, “is to do what is right every day.”

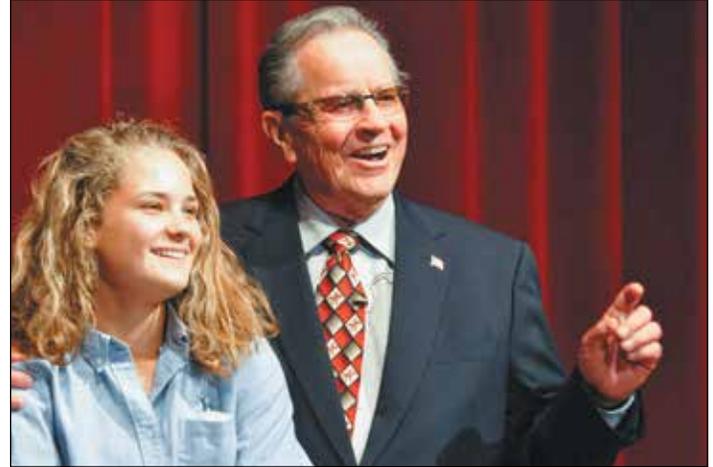
Brady was in Nashville for “Nashville Salutes” a three-day event honoring the living recipients of the Medal of Honor, which is given for “conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his or her life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in action against the enemy of the United States.”

No one is born equal in ability or opportunity, Brady told the students. “There is one way and only one way we are all born equal and that is in courage. You can never use it up.” While fear is an emotion, Brady said, courage is a decision.

“The key to courage is faith,” Brady said. “It’s as simple as that, the simple belief that there’s something above and beyond. ... For me in combat, my faith was a substitute for fear.”

Brady served two tours of duty in Vietnam as an ambulance helicopter pilot, and he flew more than 2,000 missions and transported more than 5,000 patients. Brady earned the Medal of Honor on Jan. 6, 1968. He made numerous trips into several combat areas, all under enemy fire, to rescue wounded soldiers. Throughout the day, Brady used three helicopters to evacuate 51 wounded soldiers, many of whom would have died without medical treatment.

Brady told the students when he was in combat he didn’t fear dying. “What



Retired Maj. Gen. Patrick Brady, a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for valor on the battlefield during the Vietnam War, visited Pope John Paul II High School on Friday, Aug. 7, and talked to the students. Brady was in Nashville for the three days of events surrounding Nashville Salutes Medal of Honor Recipients. Brady shares a moment on stage with JP II junior Kathleen White, whose parents are U.S. Marines.

better way to die than to die saving others,” he said. “The medal we wear is for all veterans,” said Brady. Others showed as much courage in combat but they don’t have a medal because no one was there to see it or took the time to write an account of what happened so they could be considered for an honor.

“You’ll find people who are very successful, but they’re not always happy,” Brady told the students. “The key to happiness is sacrifice. Sacrifice is love in action. The more you sacrifice, the greater your ability to sacrifice ... your capacity for leadership will grow.”

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM GROWING

JP II’s international students program is growing this year, with four exchange students from Germany and 10 from China. “It helps with diversity” at JP II, said Admissions Officer John Cooper, who works with the international students. “It offers our students a different perspective. They can learn from these students.”

The international students are here to experience the American education system and American life, Mr. Cooper said. While most of the German students return home for college, many of the Chinese students are looking to continue their education in the United States after they graduate from JP II, he said. “It gives them an opportunity to study in a rigorous school and prepare them for an American university.”

And because for most of the Chinese students their time at JP II is their first opportunity to study theology, “they learn about religion and faith ... what it is to live a faith filled life,” Mr. Cooper said.

The German students at JP II, who spend their senior year of high school here and graduate from JP II, are placed through the Christian Youth

Exchange. The four German students are: Miles Herbst from Telgte, Johanna Doleschal from Muenster, Max Stiegemann from Bielefeld, and Alexandra Galley from Bergisch-Gladbach. Alexandra’s sister Anna-Sophie was an exchange student at JP II and graduated in 2012.

The Chinese exchange students, who are placed at JP II through the Cambridge Institute of International Education, stay at JP II for several years, working toward graduation. Of the 10 Chinese students at JP II this year, six are returning students: seniors Remilia Li and Alex He, and juniors Kira Niu, David Qiu, Hao Ning and Sean Hua. The new students are: freshman Waylon Jin, sophomore Many Hua, and juniors Tiger Su and Karen Gao.

JP II would like to bring a minimum of four new students a year to the school through the Cambridge Institute program. To accommodate the students, he is trying to build a database of families that are interested in hosting international students. Anyone interested in being a host family for German or Chinese students should contact Mr. Cooper at [john.cooper@jp2hs.org](mailto:john.cooper@jp2hs.org).

# JPII ADDS NEW FACULTY, STAFF

Pope John Paul II High School has added seven new teachers and staff members for the 2015-16 school year. Here is some information about them.

**Catherine Vendetti, Theology** - Ms. Vendetti was teaching philosophy at Nashville State Community College, Volunteer State Community College and Watkins College of Art before she came to JPII. She moved to Nashville four years ago. Before that she taught high school theology in her hometown in Maryland.

**Josh Mauthe, English** - Mr. Mauthe comes to JPII after two years at Oakland High School; before that, he was at Wilson Central High School for nine years, and before that, he was at a disciplinary school in Clarksville. He and his wife have two children.

**Angi Puckett, Women's Basketball Head Coach, P.E. and Women's Strength** - Mrs. Puckett and her husband recently moved here from Daphne, Alabama. She was the head women's basketball coach at Spanish Fort High School in Spanish Fort, Alabama, prior to moving to Hendersonville.

**Kelly Delmotte, School Nurse** - Mrs. Delmotte is married with three children, including a daughter who is a sophomore at JPII. Her husband is firefighter-paramedic for the Nashville Fire Department, and also works for Vanderbilt Lifeflight. She has worked in the medical field for 18 years. Her background is in emergency medicine.

**Kim Childress, Math** - Mrs. Childress will be teaching math and serving as the JPII cross country head coach and track and field assistant coach. She earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from Vanderbilt University and a master's degree from Trevecca Nazarene University.

**Giovanna Rodriguez, Spanish** - Ms. Rodriguez first came to JPII last year to teach Spanish during the second semester. She has a bachelor's degree and master's degree from Middle Tennessee State University.

**Penny Rhoads, Math** - Ms. Rhoads has degrees from UC-Berkeley, California State University, Kansas State University and the University of Hong Kong. She earned a doctorate in education from the University of Melbourne.

The new members of the JPII faculty and staff this year include (front row, L-R) Kelly Delmotte, Giovanna Rodriguez, Kim Childress; (back row) Angi Puckett, Catherine Vendetti, Josh Mauthe. Not pictured is Penny Rhoads.



## WELCOME BACK, KNIGHTS!

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2015  
2 PM TO 5 PM

