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Pope John Paul II High School
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JPII ANNOUNCES DONATION TO THE SCHOOL'S INNOV8 PROGRAM

Hendersonville, Tenn. --- The Pope John Paul II High School (JPII) investment program received a big investment of its own. Part of the JPII Innov8 program, Mr. Bob Page's Investment and Entrepreneurial classes, which give students tools and financial support to make investments in the stock market or to create a business, received an anonymous gift of \$290,000 from a donor who was interested in how the course allows students to explore topics like finance and business ownership.

Page's course fits perfectly into the Innov8 project-based learning model. Known as a creative and forward-thinking program that makes a college preparatory education transformative and practical, JPII's Innov8 program, led by Director of Innovation Jennifer Dye, includes a combination of project-based courses, internships, and independent study. Through involvement in Innov8, students are challenged to be bold, encounter failure, and learn to see those failures as opportunities to grow and learn. Instead of textbooks and tests, the Innov8 program allows the students to become the innovators of the future—leaders in all fields of industry, government, and the arts who will create their own jobs, rather than simply finding them. The Innov8 program shifts the traditional classroom model by empowering teachers who have unique interests and real-world experiences to become mentors to students who develop solutions that solve real-world problems. Innov8 has allowed JPII students the opportunity to discover their unique potential to affect change in their community and the world.

Mr. Page's strength as one of the Innov8 teachers is his wealth of experience in the world of finance. Originally from New York, Mr. Page eventually moved to Nashville, where he worked in banking and started a family. After a lucrative stint in the hard knocks field of finance, he left to pursue his passion of working with kids as a teacher and lacrosse coach. As a successful college lacrosse player at the University of Virginia, Mr. Page returned to the sport he loved by introducing it to kids who were typically more familiar with football than lacrosse. Mr. Page started the JPII lacrosse program and quickly built a following among kids who loved the sport just like he did. Mr. Page also helped JPII to build a robust AP program by sharing his understanding of finance in the AP Economics courses. When Innov8 started at JPII, he was one of the first to get on board, as he was drawn to classes centered on students' passions and interests. His investment and entrepreneurial classes quickly became two of the most popular courses in the program.

Page explained the way in which the recent donation will not only enrich the investment program but also benefit Innov8 service projects: "Over the next few months, students will create an Investment Plan to support the creation of an *endowment-like* fund while managing a virtual individual investment portfolio. Together, these activities along with lessons on the keys to investing (diversification, compounding, and risk analysis, etc.) will establish the students' investing confidence. Central to the Investment Plan will be how to invest the funds and distribute the funds to deserving JPII projects. It is anticipated that the winning proposal

will invest a portion of the recent gift and make a cash grant to a JPII service project. These transactions will undoubtedly add to the project's authenticity and excitement." We appreciate that one of the caveats of the donation is that it will be used to support service-related projects, which fits perfectly into our mission as a Catholic school: helping students use their talents to transform our world.

Founded in 2002, Pope John Paul High School is a college preparatory Catholic high school in Hendersonville, Tennessee. The school serves over 580 students across the Middle Tennessee area. For more information, visit www.jp2hs.org