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Dr. Jeffrey Budz, *President/Principal*
 Ms. Laura Pahl, *Associate Principal*
 Mrs. Charlotte Turturillo, *Business Manager/CFO*
 Mr. Jim O'Brien, *Athletic Director*

Inspiring Growth in Knowledge and Faith Co-educational College Preparatory High School
 Sponsors: Joliet Franciscan Sisters and the Carmelites

SCHOOL PROFILE 2024-2025

Joliet Catholic Academy is a Roman Catholic college preparatory co-educational high school co-sponsored by the Joliet Franciscan Sisters and the Carmelites of the Most Pure Heart of Mary. With an enrollment of 609 students and a student-teacher ratio of 13:1, personal and individualized attention is afforded to students. Currently, Joliet Catholic Academy has graduated over 24,100 alumni in the United States and abroad.

MISSION

Inspiring Growth in Knowledge and Faith since 1869, the Joliet Catholic Academy family creates an environment that cultivates opportunities for academic excellence, meaningful service, Christian respect, and Catholic values in the traditions of the Carmelites and Franciscans.

ACCREDITATION

Joliet Catholic Academy is accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education; Cognia, a national accreditation program for achieving high level performance; and the National Catholic Educational Association.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Student-to-faculty ratio is 13:1. JCA employs 83 of which 52 are educational staff members. 45% percent of the faculty hold a Master Degree or higher.

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is 587 high school students: 140 seniors, 140 juniors, 155 sophomores, 152 freshmen, 22 8th graders taking Math/Science. 56% percent of the student body are male and 44% percent are female. Students come from the Joliet community and surrounding areas. 66% of students are Caucasian; 22% Hispanic; 9% African American; and 3% Asian. 83% of the student body are Catholic; 17% have other religious affiliations.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

JCA is a fully accredited college preparatory high school offering a challenging curriculum that prepares students for continued education and life. Depending on the strengths of the student, he/she can be placed in classes throughout the three-tier program to best meet their needs: Accelerated Program/Honors, Upper College Prep, or College Prep.

Students must earn 25 credits to be eligible to receive a JCA diploma. Twenty-two credits must be earned through required coursework. The balance (3 credits) are earned by completing elective courses.

- 4 years of Theology
- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Mathematics
- 3 years of Science
- 3 years of Social Studies
- 2 years of World Language (or 2-year sequence in Fine Arts or Reading)
- 1 year of Physical Education
- 1 semester of Computer Applications
- 1 semester of Health
- 1 semester of Visual Arts
- 1 semester of Performing Arts
- 3 credits from Electives
- Minimum of 60 hours of Christian Service

STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Jeffrey Budz	<i>President/Principal</i>	ext. 211	jbudz@jca-online.org
Ms. Laura Pahl	<i>Associate Principal</i>	ext. 213	lpahl@jca-online.org
Mrs. Kristin Horn	<i>Director of Counseling, School Counselor (Fr/So L-Z)</i>	ext. 264	khorn@jca-online.org
Mr. Mickey Palmasani	<i>School Counselor (Fr/So A-K)</i>	ext. 225	mpalmasani@jca-online.org
Mrs. Jackie Pullara	<i>College/Career Counselor (Jr/Sr L-Z)</i>	ext. 266	jpullara@jca-online.org
Mrs. Kerri Voltz	<i>College/Career Counselor (Jr/Sr A-K)</i>	ext. 265	kvoltz@jca-online.org
Mrs. Aimee Batchelor	<i>Student Services Counselor</i>	ext. 229	abatchelor@jca-online.org
Ms. LaKisha Cameron	<i>Director of Diversity and Inclusion</i>	ext. 279	lcameron@jca-online.org
Mrs. Margaret K. Goolsby	<i>Student Records Coordinator</i>	ext. 268	pgoolsby@jca-online.org
Mr. Jared Voss	<i>Director of Admissions</i>	ext. 214	jvoss@jca-online.org

ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL YEAR

JCA operates on a semester system, ending in December and May. The school day begins at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 2:40 p.m. Most students carry 7 classes in their academic load.

CURRICULUM AND SPECIAL COURSES

Three levels of study are offered in academic subjects for most courses: Accelerated/Honors, Upper College Prep, and College Prep. Advanced Placement (AP) offerings provide a fourth alternative for upperclassmen. Students may work at different levels in different subjects.

An Honors Diploma requires a student to complete a sequence of 17 Honors/AP courses with no more than one grade of C per semester in any course. A sequence of 23 Honors courses and 14 AP courses are offered. AP courses include:

AP Biology	AP French Language and Culture
AP Calculus AB	AP Micro Economics
AP Chemistry	AP Physics I
AP Computer Science	AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP English Language and Composition	AP Statistics
AP English Literature and Composition	AP US Government and Politics
AP European History	AP US History

JCA typically does not allow underclassmen to take AP classes. Students who enroll in AP courses at JCA are not required to take the AP exam in May.

JCA Pre-Calculus, Statistics, English 101, English 102, Personal Finance, and Psychology II are dual credit courses with Joliet Junior College.

Student enrollment in Honors and AP classes is based on 8th grade placement exam results, academic performance, and teacher recommendation. **LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AP STATUS WITHOUT PLACEMENT IN HONORS CLASSES.**

JCA's Academic Resource Center specifically targets students in need of special academic assistance.

Eighth grade students can get a head start on JCA coursework by enrolling in Biology and Algebra courses. Eighth grade candidates must be approved.

ADVANCEMENT PLACEMENT EXAMINATION

Students enrolled in AP courses are not required to take the AP exam in May. Students may take AP exams in other subject areas for which they are prepared.

Year	Number of Exams	Scored 3 or higher
2024	243	75%
2023	176	55%
2022	147	49%
2021	121	59%
2020	148	59%

GRADING AND RANKING

All courses taken in grades 9-12 (8-12 for students enrolled in the JCA 8th-grade Biology and Algebra 1 program) are included in the cumulative GPA. All AP courses, Honors courses, and UCP courses are weighted. Joliet Catholic Academy does not calculate class rank. Please refer to the Cumulative GPA Distribution Chart below. The Adjusted GPA printed on the transcript is a cumulative weighted GPA, and the Simple GPA printed on the transcript is a cumulative GPA on a 4.25 scale (A+=4.25). The grading scale is rigorous and is presented with quality points for weighting in the following chart.

Important note: JCA transitioned to a 90-100 grading scale (from a previous 93-100 scale) for the 2021-2022 school year. The new grading scale is not retroactive.

SCALE	AP	HONORS	UCP	CP
A+ 97-100	5.75	5.25	4.75	4.25
A 93-96	5.50	5.00	4.50	4.00
A- 90-92	5.25	4.75	4.25	3.75
B+ 87-89	4.75	4.25	3.75	3.25
B 83-86	4.50	4.00	3.50	3.00
B- 80-82	4.25	3.75	3.25	2.75
C+ 77-79	3.75	3.25	2.75	2.25
C 73-76	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.00
C- 70-72	3.25	2.75	2.25	1.75
D+ 67-69	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
D 63-66	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
D- 60-62	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
F 59 or below	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CLASS OF 2024 TEST INFORMATION

- 128 students took the ACT
- 20.7 ACT Mean for the class
- 28 ACT Mean for Honors Program students
- 29 Top 10% Mean ACT
- 24 ACT Mean score for top 50% of class
- Middle 50% Range: 17-24
- Class GPA Mean (Weighted): 4.09
- Middle 50% GPA: 4.29

ACT SUMMARY

	Class of 2024	Class of 2023
Mid 50% Range	17-24	17-25
Mean Composite	21	21.1
Students Tested	92%	88%

2024-2025 CURRICULUM GUIDE

ENGLISH

AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition
AP English IV
English 101
English 102
English I - A/U/C
English II - H/U/C
English III - H/U/C
English IV - H/U/C
Journalism / Newspaper - U
Journalism / Yearbook - U
Literature of the Holocaust - U
Reading I

STUDY SKILLS

Study Skills 1
Study Skills 2
Study Skills 3
Study Skills 4

SCIENCE

Anatomy and Physiology - U
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics
Biology - A/U/C
Chemistry - H/U
Human Biology - U
Physics - H/U/C
Robotics and Engineering I - U
Robotics and Engineering II - U

PERFORMING ARTS

Music Appreciation - U
World Music - U
Beginning Handbells - U
Intermediate Handbells - U
Advanced Handbells - U
Vocal Skills Singing Class - U
Music Theory - U
Theatre Arts - U
Tapestry - U
Guitar - U
Band - U

WORLD LANGUAGE

AP French V
AP Spanish V
French I - U
French II - U
French III - H
French IV - H
Spanish I - U
Spanish I - C
Spanish II - U
Spanish II - C
Spanish III - H
Spanish IV - H

SOCIAL STUDIES/BUSINESS

AP European History
AP Micro Economics
AP US Government and Politics
AP US History
Current Issues - U
Economics - H/U/C
History of Illinois - U
International Relations - U
Introduction to Sociology - U
Introduction to Psychology - U
Psychology II - U
US Government - H/U/C
US History - H/U/C
World History - A/U/C
Accounting I - U
General Business - U
Business Law - U
Marketing - U
Personal Finance - U

VISUAL ARTS

2-D Design - U
Sculpture - U
Digital Photography and Editing - U
Drawing II - U
Drawing and Painting - U
Graphic Design - U
Metalsmithing/Fiber Arts I - U
Metalsmithing/Fiber Arts II - U
Metalsmithing/Fiber Arts III - U
Pottery Design I - U
Pottery Design II - U
Pottery Design III - U
Studio Art - H

MATH

Algebra I - A/U/C
Algebra I, Part A - C
Algebra I, Part B - C
Algebra II/Trigonometry - H
Algebra II - H/U/C
Algebra III - C
AP Calculus A/B
AP Statistics
Geometry - H/U/C
Pre-Calculus - H/A/U
Statistics - H/U

COMPUTER SCIENCE

AP Computer Science
Broadcasting I - U
Computer Applications - U
Computer Science 101 - U
Multimedia Design - U

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Physical Education Fr/So - U
Physical Education Jr/Sr - U
Life Fitness - U
Introduction to Athletic Training - U
Health - U

THEOLOGY

Theology I - U
Theology II - U
Theology III - U
Theology IV - U

DUAL CREDIT

Education 101
English 101 - U
English 102 - U
Pre-Calculus - H/A/U
Psychology II - U
Statistics - H/U

COURSE KEY

H - Honors
A - Accelerated
U - Upper College Prep
C - College Prep

STUDENT LIFE

- JCA offers over 40 clubs and societies, which are an integral part of our mission to educate the whole person.
- 94% of the JCA student body participates in extracurricular activities.
- JCA has a mandatory-random drug testing program
- Monthly all-school Masses offered.
- Comprehensive yearly retreat programs capped by a junior/senior Kairos retreat.
- Students complete a minimum of 60 hours of Christian Service throughout their four-year careers, working both within the school and the Joliet community to directly impact the lives of others.
- The Class of 2024 completed over 15,000 hours of community service.

ATHLETICS

94% of the JCA student body participates in at least one sport or activity. JCA offers 23 varsity teams in 12 sports for girls and 11 sports for boys.

JCA has a tradition of winning state titles, national championships and sportsmanship awards. The past few years have continued that tradition for the athletic department with numerous team and individual accomplishments. Athletics plays an important role in developing the discipline and competitive spirit required for academic success while cultivating future leaders. There is no greater feeling than running on the field, taking the court, walking on the course or cheering in the HillZone as an Angel or Hilltopper.

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- 37 State/National Championships
- 67 Former/Current Professional Athletes

2023-2024 Year in Review

- JCA Girls' Cross Country: Individual State Finalists
- JCA Boys' Cross Country: Individual State Finalist
- JCA Girls' Tennis: Doubles State Finalists
- JCA Boys' Golf: Individual State Qualifier
- JCA Football: Class 5A State Runner-Up
- JCA Dance: State Finals
- JCA Cheer: State Finals
- JCA Boys' Swimming: Individual 200 Free
- JCA Girls' Wrestling: 2 Individual State Qualifiers
- JCA Boys' Wrestling: 11 Individual State Qualifiers
- JCA Boys' Wrestling: 6 Individual State Placers
- JCA Boys' Wrestling: Individual State Champion
- JCA Boys' Wrestling: Dual Team State Finals
- JCA Girls' Track: Individual State Qualifiers
- JCA Boys' Track: Individual State Qualifiers
- JCA Boys' Tennis: Individual State Qualifiers
- 27% of the Class of 2024 is continuing their athletic careers at the collegiate level

CLASS OF 2024 ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Class of 2024 graduated 139 students.
- The Class of 2024 is attending 65 colleges and universities in 22 states.
- 96% attending the college/university of their choice
 - Four-year college or university - 83%
 - Two-year college - 13%
 - Vocational school/military/work force - 4%
- \$17.6 million was offered in scholarship funds.
- 29 Illinois State Scholars

ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE 1990

- 7 National Merit Scholars
- 7 National Merit Corporate Scholarship Winners
- 13 National Merit Finalists
- 15 National Merit Semi-Finalists
- 70 National Merit Commended Students
- 2 National Merit Hispanic Recognition Scholar
- 8 National Achievement Scholars
- 926 Illinois State Scholars
- 27 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 57 AP Scholars with Honors
- 98 AP Scholars

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY

It is the policy of Joliet Catholic Academy not to report disciplinary infractions to postsecondary institutions. It should be noted that serious student infractions result in dismissal.

College Matriculation

American Academy of Art	Indiana University-Bloomington	Saint Mary's College	University of Mississippi
Arizona State University-Tempe	Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis	Saint Norbert College	University of Missouri-Columbia
Auburn University	Iowa State University	Saint Xavier University	University of Nebraska at Omaha
Augustana College	Iowa Western Community College	Samford University	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Aurora University	Jackson State University	San Diego City College	University of Nevada-Las Vegas
Ave Maria University	John A Logan College	South Dakota State University	University of North Dakota
Ball State University	Johnson County Community College	South Suburban College	University of Notre Dame
Baylor University	Joliet Junior College	Southeast Community College - Milford	University of Oklahoma-Norman Campus
Bellarmino University	Judson University	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus
Belmont University	Kalamazoo College	Southern Illinois University-Carbondale	University of Rhode Island
Bemidji State University	Kansas State University	Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	University of San Diego
Benedictine University	Kaskaskia College	Spoon River College	University of South Carolina-Columbia
Black Hawk College	Kentucky Wesleyan College	St Catherine University	University of South Florida-Main Campus
Bradley University	Knox College	St. Ambrose University	University of Southern California
Butler University	La Salle University	Stony Brook University	University of St Francis
Capitol Technology University	Lake Forest College	SUNY at Fredonia	University of St. Thomas (MN)
Carroll University	Lake Land College	SUNY Cortland	University of the Incarnate Word
Carson-Newman University	Lamar University	Texas A & M University-College Station	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Carthage College	Lewis University	Texas Christian University	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Central Michigan University	Lindenwood University	Texas Tech University	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Clemson University	Loras College	The Catholic University of America	University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Coastal Carolina University	Loyola University Chicago	The College of the Florida Keys	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
Coe College	Luther College	The College of Wooster	University of Wisconsin-Platteville
College of DuPage	Manchester University	The University of Alabama	University of Wisconsin-Stout
College of Saint Benedict	Marian University	The University of Tampa	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
College of the Holy Cross	Marquette University	The University of Tennessee-Knoxville	Valparaiso University
Colorado Mesa University	Marymount Manhattan College	Trine University	Wartburg College
Columbia College Chicago	Metropolitan State University of Denver	Trinity International University-Illinois	Washington University in St Louis
Concordia University-Wisconsin	Miami University, Oxford	Trinity University	Webber International University
Cornell College	Michigan State University	Triton College	Weber State University
Creighton University	Millikin University	Truman State University	Webster University
Dartmouth College	Milwaukee School of Engineering	United States Air Force Academy	Western Illinois University
Denison University	Missouri Southern State University	United States Military Academy	Western Kentucky University
DePaul University	Missouri State University-Springfield	United States Naval Academy	Western Michigan University
Dodge City Community College	Missouri University of Science and Technology	University of Arizona	Wichita State University
Dominican University	Montana State University	University of Arkansas	William Penn University
Drake University	Murray State University	University of Chicago	Wright State University-Main Campus
Duquesne University	New Mexico Military Institute	University of Colorado Boulder	Xavier University
Eastern Kentucky University	Murray State University	University of Dayton	Yale University
Eastern Michigan University	New Mexico Military Institute	University of Denver	
Elmhurst University	North Central College	University of Dubuque	
Eureka College	Northeastern University	University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy in St. Louis	
Fashion Institute of Technology	Northern Illinois University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	
Florida Atlantic University	Northern State University	University of Illinois Chicago	
Florida Gulf Coast University	Northwestern University	University of Iowa	
Florida Southern College	Oakland University	University of Kansas	
Florida SouthWestern State College	Oklahoma State University-Main Campus	University of Kentucky	
Florida State University	Olivet Nazarene University	University of Louisville	
Fordham University	Pittsburg State University	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	
Georgia Southern University	Purdue University-Main Campus	University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	
Georgia State University	Quincy University		
Grand Valley State University	Reed College		
Grand View University	Rockhurst University		
Greenville University	Roosevelt University		
Hobart William Smith Colleges	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology		
Illinois Institute of Technology	Rutgers University-New Brunswick		
Illinois State University	Saint Louis University		
Illinois Valley Community College			
Illinois Wesleyan University			
Indiana State University			