

1. **Has the tuition for the junior high been determined?** There will be a separate tuition for the junior high. It will be lower than the current high school tuition and more in keeping with the diocesan tuition that parents have been paying. Parents will be involved in helping to make up the difference between the tuition and the cost of educating a student through our fund raising activities.
2. **Will Financial Assistance be available?** Yes, Financial Assistance will be available. The school uses a third party company called FACTS. All applications for financial aid are done on line by going to [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com).
3. **What will the uniform be for the junior high students?** It will be the same as the current Notre Dame uniform...kaki walking shorts or slacks, a navy uniform golf shirt and a fleece pullover for the colder days. They will all be available locally at PAL's on College Avenue in Elmira.
4. **Will the students be bussed?** Yes, The following districts bus to Notre Dame:

**NEW YORK STATE:**

Elmira  
 Elmira Heights  
 Horseheads  
 Corning  
 Spencer-Van Etten  
 Waverly

**PENNSYLVANIA:**

Athens  
 Sayre \*  
 Towanda \*  
 Troy  
 Northern Tioga  
 \* = bus fee

5. **Will the lunch period be different for the junior high students?** We are working on the schedule and will add a third period lunch which would be for junior high students only. All of our lunches are supervised by teachers or administrators.
6. **Will there be extracurricular activities available for the junior high students?** There will be separate activities which are appropriate for this age level. Dances will be separate and no junior high student will attend senior high dances, nor will senior high students be allowed at junior high dances.
7. **Will there be an opportunity for athletics?** Yes, there will be a modified program in most sports that the school offers and some junior high students who are especially talented may be eligible for the high school teams. Those eligible for high school teams will have to pass the selective classification criteria established by the NYSPHAA.
8. **What will the curriculum be for the seventh and eighth graders?** The school will offer a core curriculum which follows the state mandates. Traditional components will include math, science, ELA, social studies, language and theology.
9. **Will accelerated courses be available for junior high students?** Accelerated courses will be available in math, science and language for those who qualify. This will give some students high school credits so they will be able to enroll in AP and ACE courses in high school.
10. **What about students who need extra help?** Extra help will be available.
11. **Will foreign language be available?** Yes, the school will offer French and Spanish.

12. **Will the junior high be separate from the high school?** Four classrooms will be designated for the junior high school. Junior high students will use the same art, music, technology and gym as the senior high but will be scheduled separately.
13. **Will textbooks have to be purchased?** No, textbooks will be provided by the school and there will be no need to purchase textbooks.
14. **Who will staff the junior high school?** Notre Dame will be hiring teachers who are qualified for their subject area and persons who have a special understanding of what it means to teach in a Catholic Junior High. We welcome applications from the current Holy Family Middle School staff.
15. **What access will the junior high students have to technology?** Notre Dame's computer lab will be available for instructional time that is necessary and the wireless system in the junior high area will make the internet available to the teachers and the students.
16. **Will there be opportunities for field trips?** Yes, there will be opportunities for field trips that have educational value.
17. **What is the role of the parents in the junior high school activities?** We see the parents as partners in the education of their sons and daughters. They are always welcome in the building and they should be involved with the faculty in their son or daughter's development.
18. **What are the opportunities for prayer and worship?** We begin each day with a prayer and have school liturgies for Holy Days and special celebrations throughout the year. The junior high will have retreat days.
19. **Will there be a service component to the junior high program?** As a Sisters of Mercy School, there will be a service program.
20. **Will there be a separate administrator for the junior high school?** The junior high will be under the high school administration with a separate junior high coordinator.
21. **How many students will be admitted to the junior high school?** Because of building limitations we can only accept 50 students in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 50 students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Acceptance will be based on a first come, first served basis and priority will be given to Holy Family Middle School students.
22. **When can students begin the application process?** We will begin accepting junior high students immediately. Registration applications are on the left side of the packet you received this evening.
23. **Will there be a graduation ceremony for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade?** Yes.
24. **Will there be any unstructured time for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders?** There will be no unstructured time for these students.
25. **Will there be morning and afternoon supervision?** The school will provide supervision before and after school.

