

**Contact: Rachel DeGirolamo**

440-845-2444 ext. 212

rdegirolamo@paduafranciscan.net



**Padua Franciscan High School**

6740 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

P: 440-845-2444 • F: 440-971-0575

# Press Release

## Padua Franciscan Breaks Ground on New Athletic Center

PARMA, Ohio – (September 2, 2025) Padua Franciscan High School broke ground on a brand-new Athletic Center on its campus in Parma. The project is part of a \$16 million Capital Campaign. The school has raised over \$12.125 million thus far.

The 29,000-square-foot addition will be connected to the school near Padua Stadium. It includes a gymnasium space that will provide two full-size competition courts. The space will also include locker rooms, a sports medicine room, bathrooms and concessions.

"Our campaign plans represent the culmination of an extensive two-year planning process driven by our vision to provide Padua students with outstanding designated facilities needed to achieve their full potential," said President Dave Stec '86.

"We are incredibly grateful to those who have supported and believed in our shared vision," said Vice President of Advancement Tony Shuman '91. "The collective efforts from our Padua family have made a real difference and with each new member generously stepping forward we move one step closer to successfully crossing the campaign finish line."

During the second phase of construction, the current gymnasium will be renovated into a Center for Performing Arts for both vocal and instrumental instruction, performances and theatrical productions.

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**School Background:** Padua Franciscan High School is located at 6740 State Road in Parma, Ohio. Padua is a college-preparatory, co-educational school with 800 students and 13,000 alumni. Padua was founded by Franciscans in 1961 and bases its educational philosophy on the life and spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi. The school's mission is to develop the unique talents of each student, while giving them the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.