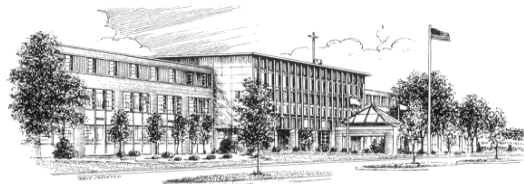


**Contact: Rachel DeGirolamo**  
440.845.2444 ext. 112  
rdegirolamo@paduafranciscan.com

6740 State Road  
Parma, OH 44134  
Phone 440.845.2444  
Fax 440.971.0575



**Padua Franciscan High School**

# Press Release

## Padua Franciscan High School Unveils New Mascot

PARMA, Ohio – (August 25, 2022) Padua Franciscan High School’s new and improved mascot named Bruno made his debut on Friday, August 19, 2022 at a school rally and home football game.

The suit was created by BAM! Mascots, which has created numerous custom costumes for professional and collegiate sports teams and corporations. Several school administrators were part of the creative process, including President Dave Stec ’86, Principal Bob DiRocco, Athletic Director Kevin Leigh ’89, and Vice President of Strategic Communication Rachel DeGirolamo ’02.

“We are so excited to share the new Bruno with the Padua community,” said Rachel DeGirolamo, who oversees the school’s branding. “This project has been a labor of love for many months. We looked at dozens of bear and grizzly costumes from teams all over the country. We picked some of our favorite characteristics from each one in order to come up with this one-of-a-kind design. We hope Bruno brings joy and pride to our students, alumni and future Bruins too – for years to come.”

Student performers participated in a mascot training camp led by the Cleveland Browns’ mascot Chomps on Friday, July 22, 2022. They learned acting skills, crowd interaction and sportsmanship. Teacher Mrs. Rebecca Simna scheduled the workshop and plans to schedule Bruno’s appearances throughout the school year.

For further information, contact Rachel DeGirolamo at 440.845.2444 ext. 112 or at [rdegirolamo@PaduaFranciscan.com](mailto:rdegirolamo@PaduaFranciscan.com).

###

**School Background:** Padua Franciscan High School is located at 6740 State Road in Parma, Ohio. Padua is a Catholic, college-prep, co-educational school with 760 students. 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.

---