UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 26, 2020

Commission File Number: 000-21660

PAPA JOHN'S INTERNATIONAL, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) **Delaware**61-1203323

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification

incorporation or organization) Number)

2002 Papa Johns Boulevard Louisville, Kentucky 40299-2367 (Address of principal executive offices)

(502) 261-7272

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

	` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` `	,							
Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is	intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing	obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:							
☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the	Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)								
☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Ex	schange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)								
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))									
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))									
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this classical exchange and the securities of the securities and the securities are secured to the securities and the securities are secured to the securities and the securities are secured to the securities are secured to the securities are secured to the securities and the securities are secured to the securiti		of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of							
Emerging growth company □									
If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark it accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) o	e	ended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial							
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:									
Title of each class:	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered:							
Common stock, \$0.01 par value	PZZA	The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC							

Section 2 – Financial Information

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On February 26, 2020, Papa John's International, Inc. issued a press release announcing fourth quarter 2019 financial results.

Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit
Number

Description

99.1 Papa John's International, Inc. press release dated February 26, 2020.
104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

PAPA JOHN'S INTERNATIONAL, INC.

(Registrant)

Date February 26, 2020

/s/ Joseph H. Smith, IV Joseph H. Smith, IV

Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

Description of Exhibit

Number 99.1 104

Papa John's International, Inc. press release dated February 26, 2020.

Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

Papa John's Announces Fourth Quarter 2019 Results and Provides 2020 Outlook

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--February 26, 2020--Papa John's International, Inc. (NASDAQ: PZZA) today announced financial results for the three months and full year ended December 29, 2019.

Highlights

- Fourth quarter 2019 loss per diluted share of (\$0.18) and adjusted earnings per diluted share, excluding the impact of Special items, of \$0.37 versus fourth quarter 2018 loss per diluted share of (\$0.41) and adjusted earnings per diluted share of \$0.18
- Full Year 2019 loss per diluted share of (\$0.24) and adjusted earnings per diluted share, excluding the impact of Special items, of \$1.17 versus full year 2018 earnings per diluted share of \$0.08 and adjusted earnings per diluted share of \$1.37
- System-wide North America comparable sales increase of 3.5% for the fourth quarter and decrease of 2.2% for the full year
- International comparable sales increases of 2.4% for the fourth quarter and 1.1% for the full year
- 52 net unit openings in the fourth quarter and 92 net unit openings for the full year, driven by International

Rob Lynch, President & CEO said, "Papa John's accelerated its turn-around in the fourth quarter with a second consecutive quarter of positive comparable sales, positioning us for a strong start to 2020. The company's new focused priorities and a more inclusive, winning culture are empowering our team members to innovate our products and marketing, drive sales growth, improve efficiencies and achieve better results for all of our stakeholders. Our 2020 plan accelerates this momentum, as we work to become the world's best pizza company and deliver strong, long-term profit growth."

Global Restaurant and Comparable Sales Information

Global restaurant and comparable sales information and operating highlights for the three months and full year ended December 29, 2019, compared to the three months and full year ended December 30, 2018 are as follows:

	Three Month	Three Months Ended		
	Dec. 29, 2019	Dec. 30, 2018	Dec. 29, 2019	Dec. 30, 2018
Global restaurant sales growth / (decline) (a)	4.4%	(13.0%)	(0.8%)	(5.9%)
Global restaurant sales growth / (decline),				
excluding the impact of foreign currency (a)	4.7%	(11.7%)	0.3%	(5.4%)
Comparable sales growth / (decline) (b)				
Domestic company-owned restaurants	4.1%	(10.2%)	(2.7%)	(9.0%)
North America franchised restaurants	3.3%	(7.4%)	(2.0%)	(6.7%)
System-wide North America restaurants	3.5%	(8.1%)	(2.2%)	(7.3%)
System-wide international restaurants	2.4%	(2.6%)	1.1%	(1.6%)

⁽a) Includes both company-owned and franchised restaurant sales.

We believe North America, international and global restaurant and comparable sales growth information, as defined in the table above, is useful in analyzing our results since our franchisees pay royalties and marketing fund contributions that are based on a percentage of franchise sales. Franchise sales also generate commissary revenue in the United States and in certain international markets. Franchise restaurant and comparable sales growth information is also useful for comparison to industry trends and evaluating the strength of our brand. Management believes the presentation of franchise restaurant sales growth, excluding the impact of foreign currency, provides investors with useful information regarding underlying sales trends and the impact of new unit growth without being impacted by swings in the external factor of foreign currency. Franchise restaurant sales are not included in the company's revenues.

⁽b) Represents the change in year-over-year sales for the same base of restaurants for the same fiscal periods. Comparable sales results for restaurants operating outside of the United States are reported on a constant dollar basis, which excludes the impact of foreign currency translation.

Revenue and Operating Highlights

		TI	Three Months Ended Year Ended					Year Ended			
In thousands, except per share amounts	D	Dec. 29, Dec. 30, 2019 2018 (a)		,	Increase %	Dec. 29, 2019		Dec. 30, 2018 (a)		Increase / (Decrease)	
Total revenue	\$	417,514	\$	397,566	5.0%	\$	1,619,248	\$	1,662,871	(2.6%)	
(Loss) income before income taxes		(4,824)		(15,252)	68.4%		5,046		6,697	(24.7%)	
Net (loss) income		(2,142)		(12,868)	83.4%		4,866		2,474	96.7%	
Diluted (loss) earnings per share		(0.18)		(0.41)	56.1%		(0.24)		0.08	(400.0%)	
Adjusted diluted earnings per share (b)		0.37		0.18	105.6%		1.17		1.37	(14.6%)	

⁽a) Our 2019 financial results include the consolidation of the operations of the Papa John's Marketing Fund ("PJMF"). Our 2018 financial results have also been restated to include the PJMF results, as a correction of an immaterial error. The consolidation of PJMF did not have a material impact on the company's annual financial results as PJMF operates near break-even annually. Additional detail on the consolidation of PJMF can be found in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2019 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

⁽b) Adjusted to exclude Special items, which impact comparability. The reconciliation of GAAP to non-GAAP financial results is included in the table below.

Adjusted financial results excluding Special items are summarized in the following reconciliations. We present these non-GAAP measures because we believe the Special items impact the comparability of our results of operations. The table below reconciles our GAAP financial results to our adjusted financial results, which are non-GAAP measures. All highlights are compared to the same period of the prior year, unless otherwise noted.

Three Months Ended					Year Ended			
	Dec. 29,		Dec. 30,		Dec. 29,	Γ	Dec. 30,	
	2019		2018 (1)		2019	2	018 (1)	
\$	(4,824)	\$	(15,252)	\$	5,046	\$	6,697	
			. , ,					
	25,404		25,899		60,817		50,732	
	(2,850)		(1,629)		(4,739)		289	
\$	17,730	\$	9,018	\$	61,124	\$	57,718	
\$	(5,612)	\$	(12,868)	\$	(7,633)	\$	2,474	
	19 774		19 687		48 519		38,957	
							222	
	-		-		-		2,435	
\$	11,947	\$	5,568	\$	37,209	\$	44,088	
\$	(0.18)	\$	(0.41)	\$	(0.24)	\$	0.08	
	0.62		0.63		1.53		1.21	
							0.01	
	(0.07)		(0.04)		(0.12)		0.07	
<u> </u>	0.37	\$	0.18	\$	1.17	\$	1.37	
	\$ \$ \$	Dec. 29, 2019 \$ (4,824) 25,404 (2,850) \$ 17,730 \$ (5,612) 19,774 (2,215) - \$ 11,947 \$ (0.18) 0.62 (0.07)	Dec. 29, 2019 \$ (4,824) \$ 25,404 (2,850) \$ 17,730 \$ \$ (5,612) \$ 19,774 (2,215) \$ 11,947 \$ \$ (0.18) \$ 0.62 (0.07)	Dec. 29, 2018 (1) Dec. 30, 2018 (1) \$ (4,824) \$ (15,252) 25,404 25,899 (2,850) (1,629) \$ 17,730 \$ 9,018 \$ (5,612) \$ (12,868) 19,774 19,687 (2,215) (1,251) \$ 11,947 \$ 5,568 \$ (0.18) \$ (0.41) 0.62 (0.07) (0.04) - (0.07)	Dec. 29, 2019 Dec. 30, 2018 (1) \$ (4,824) \$ (15,252) \$ 25,404 25,899 (2,850) (1,629) \$ \$ 17,730 \$ 9,018 \$ \$ (5,612) \$ (12,868) \$ \$ (2,215) (1,251) - \$ (0.18) \$ (0.41) \$ \$ (0.07) (0.04) -	Dec. 29, 2019 Dec. 30, 2018 (1) Dec. 29, 2019 \$ (4,824) \$ (15,252) \$ 5,046 25,404 25,899 60,817 (2,850) (1,629) (4,739) \$ 17,730 \$ 9,018 \$ 61,124 \$ (5,612) \$ (12,868) \$ (7,633) 19,774 19,687 48,519 (2,215) (1,251) (3,677) - - - \$ (0.18) \$ (0.41) \$ (0.24) 0.62 0.63 1.53 (0.07) (0.04) (0.12)	Dec. 29, 2019 Dec. 30, 2018 (1) Dec. 29, 2019 End of the property of	

⁽¹⁾ The three months and full year ended December 30, 2018 have been restated to reflect the correction of an immaterial error to consolidate the operations of PJMF.

⁽²⁾ The company incurred special costs (defined as "Special charges") of \$25.4 million and \$60.8 million for the three months and full year ended December 29, 2019, respectively, and \$25.9 million and \$50.7 million for the three months and full year ended December 30, 2018, respectively, as follows (in thousands):

		Three Months E	Inded		Year Ended					
	Dec. 29),	Dec. 30),	Dec. 29),	Dec. 30),		
(In thousands)	2019		2018		2019		2018			
Special charges before income										
taxes:										
Royalty relief (a)	\$	5,404	\$	5,532	\$	19,097	\$	15,416		
Marketing fund investments (b)		20,000		10,000		27,500		10,000		
Legal and advisory fees (c)		-		8,123		5,921		19,475		
Reimaging costs and write-off										
of branded assets (d)		-		2,244		-		5,841		
Other costs (e)		-		-		2,385		-		
Mark to market adjustment on option valuation (f)		-		-		5,914		-		
Total Special charges before income taxes	\$	25,404	\$	25,899	\$	60,817	\$	50,732		

- (a) Represents financial assistance provided to the North America franchise system in the form of royalty reductions that are above and beyond the level of franchise support the company would incur in the ordinary course of its business.
- (b) Represents marketing fund investments as part of our support package to our franchisees.
- (c) Represents advisory and legal costs primarily associated with the review of a wide range of strategic opportunities that culminated in the strategic investment in the company by affiliates of Starboard Value LP ("Starboard") as well as certain litigation costs. The costs in 2018 also include a third-party audit of the culture at Papa John's commissioned by a special committee of the Board of Directors.
- (d) 2018 includes re-imaging costs at nearly all domestic restaurants and costs to replace or write-off certain branded assets.
- (e) 2019 includes severance costs for our former CEO and costs related to the termination of a license agreement for intellectual property no longer being utilized.
- (f) Represents a one-time mark-to-market adjustment of \$5.9 million related to the increase in the fair value of the Starboard option to purchase Series B preferred stock that culminated in the purchase of an additional \$52.5 million of preferred stock in late March 2019.
- (3) The refranchising gains in 2019 are primarily associated with the refranchise of 46 domestic restaurants, including 19 restaurants in Georgia in Q3 2019 and 23 restaurants in Florida in Q4 2019. The refranchising losses in 2018 are primarily associated with the June 2018 refranchise of our China operations, which included 34 restaurants and a quality control center, and the related tax impact, substantially offset by refranchising gains related to the refranchising of 62 Company-owned restaurants in North America in 2018. The additional tax expense is primarily attributable to the required recapture of China operating losses previously taken by the company.

The non-GAAP adjusted results shown above and within this document, which exclude Special items, should not be construed as a substitute for or a better indicator of the company's performance than the company's GAAP results. Management believes presenting certain financial information excluding the Special items is important for purposes of comparison to prior year results. In addition, management uses these metrics to evaluate the company's underlying operating performance and to analyze trends.

Revenue Highlights

Consolidated revenues increased \$19.9 million, or 5.0%, for the fourth quarter of 2019 compared to the fourth quarter of 2018. Excluding the impact of refranchising 46 domestic restaurants and a quality control center in Mexico in 2019, consolidated revenues increased approximately \$30.9 million, or 8.0%, for the three months ended December 29, 2019, primarily due to the following:

- Excluding the impact of refranchising, Domestic Company-owned restaurant sales increased due to positive comparable sales of 4.1% and the favorable impact of the expiration of customer rewards associated with our Papa Rewards loyalty program.
- · North America commissary revenues increased primarily due to higher pricing associated with higher commodities costs, primarily cheese.
- Excluding the favorable impact of refranchising, North America royalties and fees increased due to positive comparable sales.
- International revenues increased primarily due to higher royalties and higher United Kingdom commissary revenues from increased equivalent units and positive comparable sales of 2.4%.
- · Other revenues increased due to higher marketing fund revenue primarily due to an increase in the PJMF contribution rate and higher online revenues.

Consolidated revenues decreased \$43.6 million, or 2.6%, for the year ended December 29, 2019 compared to the year ended December 30, 2018. Excluding the impact of refranchising activities in 2019 and 2018, consolidated revenues decreased \$3.9 million, or 0.2%, for the year ended December 29, 2019, primarily due to the following:

- Negative comparable sales for North America restaurants for the year ended December 29, 2019 resulted in lower company-owned restaurant revenues and royalties.
- Royalty relief of approximately \$19.1 million for the year ended December 29, 2019 was \$3.7 million higher than the prior year comparable period, as detailed in the previously discussed Special charges.

These decreases were substantially offset by the following revenue increases:

- Excluding the impact of the 2018 China refranchising and the 2019 Mexico quality control center refranchising, International revenues increased primarily due to higher royalties and higher United Kingdom commissary revenues from increased equivalent units, partially offset by unfavorable foreign exchange rates of approximately \$4.2 million.
- · North America commissary revenues increased due to higher pricing associated with higher commodities costs, partially offset by lower volumes.
- Other revenues increased due to higher marketing fund revenue primarily due to an increase in the PJMF contribution rate and higher online revenues.

Operating Highlights

The tables below summarize income before income taxes on a reporting segment basis. Alongside the GAAP income before income taxes data, we have included "adjusted" income before income taxes for the three-month period and year ended December 29, 2019 to exclude Special items. We believe this non-GAAP measure is important for purposes of comparison to prior year results.

	Three Months Ended						
	Reported		Adjusted	Reported		Adjusted	Adjusted
	Dec. 29,	Special	Dec. 29,	Dec. 30,	Special	Dec. 30,	Increase
(In thousands)	2019	Items	2019	2018	Items	2018	(Decrease)
Domestic Company-owned restaurants	\$ 12,486	\$ (2,850)	\$ 9,636	\$ 3,638	\$ (1,629)	\$ 2,009	\$ 7,627
North America commissaries	8,345	-	8,345	4,426	-	4,426	3,919
North America franchising	16,669	5,404	22,073	17,599	5,532	23,131	(1,058)
International	4,195	-	4,195	4,065	-	4,065	130
All others	81	-	81	(778)	_	(778)	859
Unallocated corporate expenses	(46,670)	20,000	(26,670)	(43,796)	20,367	(23,429)	(3,241)
Elimination of intersegment profits	70	-	70	(406)	-	(406)	476
Total income (loss) before income taxes	\$ (4,824)	\$22,554	\$ 17,730	\$(15,252)	\$24,270	\$ 9,018	\$ 8,712

	Year Ended							
	Reported		Adjusted	Reported		Adjusted	Adjusted	
	Dec. 29,	Special	Dec. 29,	Dec. 30,	Special	Dec. 30,	Increase	
(In thousands)	2019	Items	2019	2018	Items	2018	(Decrease)	
Domestic Company-owned restaurants	\$ 33,957	\$ (4,739)	\$ 29,218	\$ 18,988	\$(1,624)	\$ 17,364	\$ 11,854	
North America commissaries	30,439	-	30,439	27,961	-	27,961	2,478	
North America franchising	64,362	19,097	83,459	70,732	15,416	86,148	(2,689)	
International	19,110	-	19,110	14,399	1,913	16,312	2,798	
All others	(2,500)	-	(2,500)	(6,082)	-	(6,082)	3,582	
Unallocated corporate expenses	(139,355)	41,720	(97,635)	(118,296)	35,316	(82,980)	(14,655)	
Elimination of intersegment profits	(967)	-	(967)	(1,005)	-	(1,005)	38	
Total income before income taxes	\$ 5,046	\$56,078	\$ 61,124	\$ 6,697	\$51,021	\$ 57,718	\$ 3,406	

Consolidated loss before income taxes of \$4.8 million for the fourth quarter of 2019 improved \$10.4 million compared to the fourth quarter of 2018. Excluding the impact of the previously mentioned Special items, consolidated income before income taxes was \$17.7 million, or an increase of \$8.7 million from the fourth quarter of 2018. Significant changes in income before income taxes excluding Special items are as follows:

- Domestic Company-owned restaurants income before income taxes increased \$7.6 million primarily due to positive comparable sales of 4.1%, lower workers' compensation, automobile and general insurance costs of \$2.0 million, and the favorable impact of the expiration of rewards associated with our Papa Rewards loyalty program.
- North America commissaries income before income taxes increased \$3.9 million primarily due to higher pricing and lower franchise new equipment incentives costs that were previously reported in the North America Franchising segment.
- North America Franchising income before income taxes was \$1.0 million lower primarily due to 2018 including a favorable cost reduction related to franchise new equipment incentives. The costs of these incentives are now reported in the North America commissaries segment, as noted above. These segment adjustments had no impact on consolidated income before income taxes. Excluding the reclassification, the royalties from North America Franchising increased approximately \$2 million as compared to the prior year.
- International income before income taxes approximated the prior year as higher royalties and higher United Kingdom commissary income were offset by higher legal costs
- All others income before income taxes, which primarily includes our online and mobile ordering business, our wholly-owned print and promotions subsidiary and our North America Marketing funds, increased \$900,000 primarily due to higher online revenues, partially offset by the timing of marketing spend.
- Unallocated corporate expenses increased \$3.3 million primarily due to higher management incentive and executive severance costs as well as increased legal costs and bad debt expense. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in interest expense of \$3.4 million due to lower outstanding debt. Total debt outstanding was \$370.0 million as of December 29, 2019. Outstanding debt decreased \$255.0 million from December 30, 2018, primarily due to the use of proceeds from the issuance of Series B preferred stock to Starboard to repay debt.

For the year ended December 29, 2019, consolidated income before income taxes was \$5.0 million, a decrease of \$1.7 million compared to the year ended December 30, 2018. Excluding the impact of the previously mentioned Special items, consolidated income before income taxes was \$61.1 million, an increase of \$3.4 million, compared to the year ended December 30, 2018. Significant changes in income before income taxes excluding Special items are as follows:

- Domestic Company-owned restaurants income before income taxes increased approximately \$11.9 million for the year ended December 29, 2019 primarily due to improved operating costs including lower advertising spend, lower workers' compensation, automobile and general insurance costs of \$4.2 million, and the favorable impact of the expiration of rewards associated with the Papa Rewards loyalty program. These increases were partially offset from the impact of lower comparable sales of 2.7%
- North America commissaries income before income taxes increased \$2.5 million as 2018 included additional franchise support in the form of lower commissary pricing.
- North America Franchising income before income taxes decreased \$2.7 million primarily due to a decrease in comparable sales of 2.0%.
- International income before income taxes increased \$2.8 million primarily due to increased royalties and lower marketing spend in the United Kingdom. These increases were partially offset by unfavorable foreign exchange rates of approximately \$1.3 million and higher legal costs.
- All others income before income taxes increased \$3.6 million primarily due to higher online revenues and the timing of marketing spend.
- Unallocated corporate expenses increased \$14.7 million primarily due to higher management incentive costs, including equity compensation, as well as increased legal
 and professional fees not associated with the Special charges. These increases were partially offset by a \$5.6 million decrease in interest expense due to lower
 outstanding debt.

The effective income tax (benefit) and expense for the three months and full year comparable periods are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended				Year Ended			
	Dec.	29, 2019	Dec	2. 30, 2018	Dec	. 29, 2019	Dec.	30, 2018
Income / (loss) before income taxes	\$	(4,824)	\$	(15,252)	\$	5,046	\$	6,697
Income tax (benefit) / expense		(3,147)		(2,027)		(611)		2,624
Effective tax (benefit) / expense rate		(65.2%)		(13.3%)		(12.1%)		39.2%

The tax benefit for the three months and year ended December 29, 2019 is primarily related to higher excess tax benefits from equity-based compensation and other favorable tax credits. Additionally, for the full year 2018, income tax expense was \$2.6 million, or an effective income tax rate of 39.2%. This included a significant tax impact from the China divestiture, as previously detailed in the Special items.

The diluted (loss) earnings per share and adjusted diluted earnings per share, excluding Special items, for the three months and full year comparable periods are as follows:

	Three Months Ended				Year Ended				
	Dec.	29, 2019	Dec	. 30, 2018	Dec.	. 29, 2019	Dec.	30, 2018	
Diluted (loss) earnings per share	\$	(0.18)	\$	(0.41)	\$	(0.24)	\$	0.08	
Adjusted diluted earnings per share		0.37		0.18		1.17		1.37	

Free Cash Flow

The company's free cash flow, a non-GAAP financial measure, for the year end of 2019 and 2018 were as follows (in thousands):

	Year End				
		Dec. 29, 2019		Dec. 30, 2018 (b)	
Net cash provided by operating activities (a) Purchases of property and equipment	\$	61,749 (37,711)	\$	92,454 (42,028)	
Dividends paid to preferred shareholders		(10,020)		-	
Free cash flow	\$	14,018	\$	50,426	

- (a) The decrease of \$30.7 million was primarily due to unfavorable working capital changes compared to the previous year including timing of payments of liabilities.
- (b) The year ended December 30, 2018 has been restated to reflect the correction of an immaterial error to consolidate the operations of PJMF.

We define free cash flow as net cash provided by operating activities (from the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows) less the purchases of property and equipment and dividends paid to preferred shareholders. We view free cash flow as an important measure because it is one factor that management uses in determining the amount of cash available for discretionary investment. Free cash flow is not a term defined by GAAP, and as a result, our measure of free cash flow might not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. Free cash flow should not be construed as a substitute for or a better indicator of the company's performance than the company's GAAP measures.

See the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC for additional information concerning our operating results and cash flow for the year ended December 29, 2019.

Global Restaurant Unit Data

At December 29, 2019, there were 5,395 Papa John's restaurants operating in 49 countries and territories, as follows:

	Domestic Company- owned	Franchised North America	Total North America	International	System-wide
Fourth Quarter					
Beginning - September 29, 2019	621	2,675	3,296	2,047	5,343
Opened	1	18	19	90	109
Closed	(2)	(25)	(27)	(30)	(57)
Acquired	1	23	24	-	24
Sold	(23)	(1)	(24)	-	(24)
Ending - December 29, 2019	598	2,690	3,288	2,107	5,395
<u>Year-to-date</u>	645	2.602	2 227	1.066	5 202
Beginning - December 30, 2018 Opened	3	2,692 76	3,337 79	1,966 233	5,303 312
Closed	(5)	(123)	(128)	(92)	(220)
Acquired	1	46	47	-	47
Sold	(46)	(1)	(47)	-	(47)
Ending - December 29, 2019	598	2,690	3,288	2,107	5,395
Net unit (decline) growth - 2019	(47)	(2)	(49)	141	92
% increase (decrease)	(7.3%)	(0.1%)	(1.5%)	7.2%	1.7%

The company has added 92 net worldwide units in 2019. Our development pipeline as of December 29, 2019 included approximately 1,085 restaurants (85 units in North America and 1,000 units internationally), the majority of which are scheduled to open over the next six years.

Cash Dividend

The company declared common and preferred stock dividends of \$10.6 million in the fourth quarter of 2019. The company declared first quarter 2020 cash dividends of approximately \$10.7 million on January 29, 2020 which were paid to common shareholders on February 21, 2020. The first quarter preferred dividend will be paid on April 1, 2020. The dividends are as follows (in thousands):

	Q	ourth uarter 2019	First Quarter 2020
Common stock dividends (\$0.225 per share)	\$	7,200	\$ 7,300
Common stock dividends to preferred shareholders (\$0.225 per share) (a)		1,140	1,140
Preferred dividends (3.6% of the investment per annum)		2,270	2,270
Total dividends	\$	10,610	\$ 10,710

(a) Common stock dividends payable to holders of Series B Preferred Stock are on an as-converted to common stock basis

The declaration and payment of any future dividends on our common stock will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors, subject to the company's financial results, cash requirements, and other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors. The Series B preferred stockholders receive quarterly preferred dividends and common stock dividends on an as-converted to common stock basis.

2020 Key Operating Assumptions and Financial Outlook

In 2020, the company is targeting the following performance:

- GAAP EPS of \$0.60 to \$0.90 for the full-year, including anticipated Special charges of \$25 million to \$30 million (a)
- Adjusted EPS of \$1.35 to \$1.55, excluding Special charges that are anticipated for 2020 (a)
- North America comparable sales of 2.5% to 5.0%
- International comparable sales of 1.5% to 4.0%
- Net global new unit growth of 100 to 140 net units
- Income tax rate of 20% to 23%
- Block cheese prices are projected to be in the low to mid \$1.80
- Capital expenditures of \$40 million \$50 million
- (a) Special charges include the costs associated with the previously announced program to provide assistance to the North America franchise system, including franchise royalty relief and National Marketing Fund investments, both of which are expected to end in the third quarter of 2020.

Conference Call and Website Information

A conference call is scheduled for February 26, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Time to review the company's fourth quarter and full year 2019 earnings results. The call can be accessed from the company's web page at www.papajohns.com in a listen-only mode or dial 877-312-8816 (U.S. and Canada) or 253-237-1189 (international). The conference call will be available for replay, including by downloadable podcast, from the company's web site at www.papajohns.com. The Conference ID is 5623458.

Investors and others should note that we announce material financial information to our investors using our investor relations website, press releases, SEC filings and public conference calls and webcasts. We intend to use our investor relations website as a means of disclosing information about our business, our financial condition and results of operations and other matters and for complying with our disclosure obligations under Regulation FD. The information we post on our investor relations website, including information contained in investor presentations, may be deemed material. Accordingly, investors should monitor our investor relations website, in addition to following our press releases, SEC filings and public conference calls and webcasts. We encourage investors and others to sign up for email alerts at our investor relations page under Shareholder Tools at the bottom right side of the page. These email alerts are intended to help investors and others to monitor our investor relations website by notifying them when new information is posted on the site.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain matters discussed in this press release and other company communications that are not statements of historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Generally, the use of words such as "expect," "intend," "estimate," "believe," "anticipate," "will," "forecast," "plan," "project," or similar words identify forward-looking statements that we intend to be included within the safe harbor protections provided by the federal securities laws. Such forward-looking statements may relate to projections or guidance concerning business performance, revenue, earnings, cash flow, earnings per share, contingent liabilities, resolution of litigation, commodity costs, currency fluctuations, profit margins, unit growth, unit level performance, capital expenditures, restaurant and franchise development, royalty relief, the effectiveness of our strategic turnaround efforts and other business initiatives, marketing efforts, compliance with debt covenants, stockholder and other stakeholder engagement, strategic decisions and actions, share repurchases, dividends, effective tax rates, regulatory changes and impacts, adoption of new accounting standards, and other financial and operational measures. Such statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond our control. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from those matters expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. The risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are involved in our forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- increased costs for branding initiatives and launching new advertising and marketing campaigns and promotions to improve consumer sentiment and sales trends, and
 the risk that such initiatives will not be effective;
- the ability of the company to ensure the long-term success of the brand through significant investments committed to our U.S. franchise system, including marketing fund investments and royalty relief;
- the ability of the company to improve customer sentiment and sales trends through advertising, marketing and promotional activities;
- risks related to social media, including publicity adversely and rapidly impacting our brand and reputation;
- aggressive changes in pricing or other marketing or promotional strategies by competitors, which may adversely affect sales and profitability; and new product and concept developments by food industry competitors;
- changes in consumer preferences or consumer buying habits, including the growing popularity of delivery aggregators, as well as changes in general economic
 conditions or other factors that may affect consumer confidence and discretionary spending;
- the adverse impact on the company or our results caused by global health concerns, such as coronavirus, product recalls, food quality or safety issues, incidences of
 foodborne illness, food contamination and other general public health concerns about our Company-owned or franchised restaurants or others in the restaurant industry;
- the effectiveness of our technology investments and changes in unit-level operations;
- the ability of the company and its franchisees to meet planned growth targets and operate new and existing restaurants profitably, including difficulties finding qualified franchisees, store level employees or suitable sites;
- increases in food costs or sustained higher other operating costs. This could include increased employee compensation, benefits, insurance, tax rates, new regulatory requirements or increasing compliance costs;
- increases in insurance claims and related costs for programs funded by the company up to certain retention limits, including medical, owned and non-owned vehicles, workers' compensation, general liability and property:
- disruption of our supply chain or commissary operations which could be caused by our sole source of supply of cheese or limited source of suppliers for other key
 ingredients or more generally due to weather, natural disasters including drought, disease, or geopolitical or other disruptions beyond our control;
- increased risks associated with our international operations, including economic and political conditions and risks associated with the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union, instability or uncertainty in our international markets, especially emerging markets, fluctuations in currency exchange rates, difficulty in meeting planned sales targets and new store growth;
- the impact of current or future claims and litigation and our ability to comply with current, proposed or future legislation that could impact our business including compliance with the European Union General Data Protection Regulation;
- the company's ability to continue to pay dividends to shareholders based upon profitability, cash flows and capital adequacy if restaurant sales and operating results
 decline:
- failure to effectively manage recent transitions within our executive leadership team or to otherwise successfully execute succession planning;
- disruption of critical business or information technology systems, or those of our suppliers, and risks associated with systems failures and data privacy and security breaches, including theft of confidential company, employee and customer information, including payment cards; and
- changes in Federal or state income, general and other tax laws, rules and regulations and changes in generally accepted accounting principles.

These and other risk factors are discussed in detail in "Part I. Item 1A. – Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2019. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of future events, new information or otherwise, except as required by law.

For more information about the company, please visit www.papajohns.com.

Papa John's International, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

		December 29, 2019		December 30, 2018	
(In thousands)				(Note)	
Assets					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	27,911	\$	33,258	
Accounts receivable, net		80,921		78,118	
Notes receivable, current portion		7,790		5,498	
Income tax receivable		4,024		16,146	
Inventories		27,529		27,203	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		33,371		36,054	
Total current assets		181,546		196,277	
Property and equipment, net		211,741		226,894	
Finance lease right-of-use assets, net		9,383		-	
Operating lease right-of-use assets		148,229		-	
Notes receivable, less current portion, net		33,010		23,259	
Goodwill		80,340		84,516	
Deferred income taxes, net		1,839		1,137	
Other assets		64,633		63,814	
Total assets	\$	730,721	\$	595,897	
Liabilities, Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, Redeemable noncontrolling interests and Stockholders' deficit Current liabilities: Accounts payable Income and other taxes payable Accrued expenses and other current liabilities Current deferred revenue Current finance lease liabilities Current operating lease liabilities Current portion of long-term debt Total current liabilities	\$	29,141 7,599 120,566 5,624 1,789 23,226 20,000 207,945	\$	27,106 6,590 129,167 6,022 - 20,009 188,894	
Deferred revenue		14,722		17,250	
Long-term finance lease liabilities		7,629		17,230	
Long-term operating lease liabilities		125,297		_	
Long-term debt, less current portion, net		347,290		601,126	
Deferred income taxes, net		2,649		7,852	
Other long-term liabilities		84,927		79,324	
Total liabilities		790,459	-	894,446	
Series B Convertible Preferred Stock		251,133		_	
Redeemable noncontrolling interests		5,785		5,464	
Total Stockholders' deficit		(316,656)		(304,013)	
Total liabilities, Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, Redeemable noncontrolling interests and Stockholders' deficit	\$	730,721	\$	595,897	

Note: The Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets have been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements, restated to reflect the correction of an immaterial error to consolidate the Papa John's Marketing Fund, Inc., but does not include all information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for a complete set of financial statements.

Papa John's International, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

		Three Months Ended			Year Ended				
	Dec 29, 2019		Dec 30, 2018		Dec 29, 2019		Dec 30, 2018		
(In thousands, except per share amounts)				(Note)				(Note)	
Revenues:									
Domestic company-owned restaurant sales	\$	161,459	\$	162,474	\$	652,053	\$	692,380	
North America franchise royalties and fees		18,613		17,769		71,828		79,293	
North America commissary revenues		161,917		148,458		612,652		609,866	
International revenues		27,081		25,513		102,924		110,349	
Other revenues		48,444		43,352		179,791		170,983	
Total revenues		417,514		397,566		1,619,248		1,662,871	
Costs and expenses:									
Operating costs (excluding depreciation and amortization									
shown separately below):									
Domestic company-owned restaurant expenses		127,197		135,959		526,237		577,658	
North America commissary expenses		149,255		142,194		569,180		575,103	
International expenses		15,188		15,313		57,702		67,775	
Other expenses		46,573		42,652		175,592		170,556	
General and administrative expenses		70,104		58,855		223,460		193,534	
Depreciation and amortization		12,179		11,548		47,281		46,403	
Total costs and expenses		420,496		406,521		1,599,452		1,631,029	
Refranchising gains (losses), net		2,850		1,629		4,739		(289)	
Operating income (loss)		(132)		(7,326)		24,535		31,553	
Investment income		(145)		76		1,104		817	
Interest expense		(4,547)		(8,002)		(20,593)		(25,673)	
Income (loss) before income taxes		(4,824)		(15,252)		5,046		6,697	
Income tax (benefit) expense		(3,146)		(2,027)		(611)		2,624	
Net income (loss) before attribution to noncontrolling interests		(1,678)		(13,225)		5,657		4,073	
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests		(464)		357		(791)		(1,599)	
Net income (loss) attributable to the company	\$	(2,142)	\$	(12,868)	\$	4,866	\$	2,474	
Calculation of net (loss) income for earnings per share:									
Net income (loss) attributable to the company	\$	(2,142)	\$	(12,868)	\$	4,866	\$	2,474	
Preferred stock dividends and accretion		(3,470)		_		(12,499)		-	
Net (loss) income attributable to common shareholders	\$	(5,612)	\$	(12,868)	\$	(7,633)	\$	2,474	
Basic (loss) earnings per common share	\$	(0.18)	\$	(0.41)	\$	(0.24)	\$	0.08	
Diluted (loss) earnings per common share	\$	(0.18)	\$	(0.41)	\$	(0.24)	\$	0.08	
Diluced (1088) carrings per common snare		(0.10)		(0.11)		(0.2.)			
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding		31,783		31,534		31,632		32,083	
Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding		31,783		31,534		31,632		32,299	
Dividends declared per common share	\$	0.225	\$	0.225	\$	0.900	\$	0.900	

Note: The Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations are unaudited and have been restated to reflect the correction of an immaterial error to consolidate the Papa John's Marketing Fund, Inc.

Papa John's International, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	Year Ended					
(In thousands)	Dec	29, 2019	D	Dec 30, 2018		
	-	·		(Note)		
Operating activities						
Net income before attribution to noncontrolling interests	\$	5,657	\$	4,073		
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:						
Provision for uncollectible accounts and notes receivable		3,139		6,849		
Depreciation and amortization		47,281		46,403		
Deferred income taxes		(3,764)		1,620		
Preferred stock option mark-to-market adjustment		5,914		_		
Stock-based compensation expense		15,303		9,936		
(Gain) loss on refranchising		(4,739)		289		
Other		3,203		5,677		
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:						
Accounts receivable		(5,329)		2,157		
Income tax receivable		12,122		(12,157)		
Inventories		(326)		3,093		
Prepaid expenses		792		(1,039)		
Other current assets		(277)		4,834		
Other assets and liabilities		(6,354)		1,464		
Accounts payable		2,035		(400)		
Income and other taxes payable		1,009		(3,971)		
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities		(11,331)		21,753		
Deferred revenue		(2,586)		1,873		
Net cash provided by operating activities		61,749		92,454		
Investing activities						
Purchases of property and equipment		(37,711)		(42,028)		
Loans issued		(15,864)		(10,463)		
Repayments of loans issued		5,616		5,805		
Proceeds from divestitures of restaurants		13,495		7,707		
Other		1,889		180		
Net cash used in investing activities		(32,575)		(38,799)		
Financing activities						
Proceeds from issuance of preferred stock		252,530		-		
Issuance costs associated with preferred stock		(7,527)		-		
Repayments of term loan		(15,000)		(20,000)		
Net (repayments) proceeds of revolving credit facilities		(240,026)		163,585		
Debt issuance costs		_		(1,913)		
Dividends paid to common stockholders		(28,552)		(28,985)		
Dividends paid to preferred stockholders		(10,020)		-		
Tax payments for equity award issuances		(1,433)		(1,521)		
Proceeds from exercise of stock options		16,010		2,699		
Acquisition of Company common stock		-,-		(158,049)		
Contributions from noncontrolling interest holders		840		-		
Distributions to noncontrolling interest holders		(870)		(4,269)		
Other		(526)		356		
Net cash used in financing activities		(34,574)	-	(48,097)		
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		53		(191)		
Change in cash and cash equivalents		(5,347)		5,367		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		33,258		27,891		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	27,911	\$	33,258		

Note: The Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows are unaudited and have been restated to reflect the correction of an immaterial error to consolidate the Papa John's Marketing Fund, Inc.

Contacts

Steve Coke Vice President, Investor Relations 502-261-7272