



Pope John Paul II Academy

“A private independent school in the Catholic tradition”

# Parent/Student Handbook

AD VERITATEM PER FIDEM ET RATIONEM

“To the Truth through Faith and Reason.”

*“Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good, pleasing and perfect.”*

Romans 12:2

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# I. Mission Statement and Philosophy

## A. Pope John Paul II Academy Mission Statement:

The mission of the Pope John Paul II Academy is to assist parents in the spiritual, moral, and intellectual formation of the child by providing a Christ-centered education, which fosters a deep love for Truth and faithfully adheres to the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church.

## B. Philosophy & Vision

1. **Responsibility of Parents:** God has entrusted the education of children first and foremost to the parents of those children. The Pope John Paul II Academy (the Academy) has been established to assist parents in this sacred duty, helping parents form their children in such a way that they are best equipped to reach their ultimate goal: to love and serve God in this life and to enjoy Him forever in Heaven. Jesus told us to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength” . . . and to “love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mark 12:30-31)
2. **Comprehensive Approach to Formation:** The formation of the child requires a comprehensive approach. It must address all the faculties of the soul (the intellect, the will, the memory, the imagination, the passions, etc.), as well as the body’s healthy growth. It must also address the child’s social development, his ability to interact with others (peers and adults) in a Christ-like spirit of charity. The Academy seeks to strive for excellence in the formation of the intellect, memory, and imagination through the setting of high academic expectations in an effort to help each student discover his true potential.
3. **Responsibility of Teachers:** As every student learns a bit differently, teachers shall employ curricula, materials, and pedagogical techniques to work to accommodate individual learning styles, strengths, and weaknesses as appropriate. Through diversity of pedagogy and low student-to-teacher ratios high academic goals can be met.
  - a. Additionally, the Academy seeks to foster a well-formed Catholic conscience. A Christ-like moral character can only function within a properly formed will, a will correctly guiding the passions. A

proper Catholic education not only seeks to help children learn proper moral and civil behaviors but also aspires to appropriate this law within their hearts, to help them see for themselves “the beauty of the Good” and to come to love the way of Christ.

4. **The Academy’s Vision:** The ethos of the Academy strives to be fully Catholic, seeking holiness in a spirit of charity. Staff, students, and parents shall be expected to maintain this spirit in all daily activities whether overtly religious or not. The Academy seeks to maintain joy in its work of formation and education. This joy can only be achieved and maintained in an atmosphere of cooperation, held together by mutual respect, and courtesy. Children shall be expected to avoid clique formation, bullying, and any behavior that contradicts a spirit of Christ-like charity. They shall also be expected to respect legitimate authorities, expressing the virtues of obedience and humility. Teachers and staff shall model mutual respect toward each other and shall show equitable kindness and charity toward students and parents.
5. Academy behavioral guidelines and rules shall be maintained and enforced in a consistent and just manner to help maintain the atmosphere of joy in learning that a Catholic school must protect for each child and adult. In this way, children shall learn to “love your neighbor as yourself.”

## **II. Spiritual Development**

### **A. A Spiritual Environment:**

The Academy shall maintain an atmosphere of traditional and orthodox Catholic prayer and spirituality throughout its activities. Prayer and religious devotions and expressions shall be a normal and regular part of life at the Academy.

### **B. Religious Activities**

1. All students shall be expected to actively participate in all religious exercises, including daily prayer and weekly Mass.
2. The Academy holds many events throughout the year rooted in the Catholic tradition. These include but are not limited to: All Saints’ Day, Stations of the Cross during Lent, adoration, other school activities pertaining to religious instruction.

### **C. Non-Catholic Families**

1. While we respect the faiths of families who do not share our Catholic Faith, non-Catholic families admitted to the Academy are to understand

that instruction in and practice of the Catholic faith is an integral component of the educational and formational program of the Academy.

2. Non-Catholic students who attend the Academy shall still be required to fully participate in all prayers, devotions, liturgical celebrations, and, of course, instruction in the Catholic Faith.
  - a. An exception shall be made only where Canon Law requires (e.g. reception of the Eucharist).
3. To enroll their child at the Pope John Paul II Academy, parents of a non-Catholic student must be willing to support their child's decision to enter the Catholic Church if so desired.

### **D. Commitment to Christian Life**

1. All catechesis and religious instruction shall be in full and complete conformity with the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.
2. Students shall study the fullness of the Catholic Faith "as it has been held always, everywhere, and by all" and as it is contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
3. Teachers and staff shall model a love and enthusiasm for the Faith as a gift from Christ to His Church.
4. Students will also learn to engage in apostolic work and in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy so that they might put their Catholic Faith into application in service to the Church and the world.
5. Apologetics (the defense of the Faith) will be part of their religious formation so that as the "salt of the earth" they can learn to bring the truths and hope of the Gospel to their neighbors.

## **III. Admission Policy, Enrollment & Disenrollment**

### **A. Non-Discrimination Clause:**

Pope John Paul II Academy accepts students for K4 through 8th grade and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin.

### **B. General Admission Requirements:**

The Academy exists to provide an education that emphasizes both academic excellence and faithful adherence to the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. It will always strive to foster a thoroughly Catholic ethos, culture, and

community among teachers, staff, and students. Bearing this in mind, the Academy maintains several requirements for admission.

1. Children admitted shall generally come from practicing Catholic families. Non-Catholic children may be admitted but will be expected to participate in all religious activities while at school as described above.
2. All students (K-8) shall be evaluated for academic level before they are admitted into the Academy. Parents must arrange for transfer of student records for evaluation. Students with significant behavioral and/or academic problems at the previous school will generally not be admitted to the Academy as it is not likely to be better suited to meet their needs than their previous school.
3. All accepted students will be admitted on a probationary status only. Severe behavioral and/or academic problems, if unresolved, will be grounds for expulsion from the Academy. The Academy shall not refund prepaid tuition or registration/admission fees.
4. **Age Requirements:** Children must have reached the age of 4 years old for entry into K4 and 5 years old by August 1 for entry into Kindergarten. Potty-trained 3 year olds may be admitted into the Tuesday/Thursday K4 program when they have turned three years old by August 1.

### **C. Admission of Students with Special Needs**

1. Because we are a small private school with limited funding and resources, we are unable to assist students who have more severe special needs. Public schools offer greater resources and personnel to address more specialized academic or behavioral needs. Some students who have less severe or specialized needs may benefit from the smaller class sizes found at Pope John Paul II Academy. However, because we are trying to build a culture which is rooted strongly in faith, morals, and high academic standards, students who are struggling more severely in school may need resources and assistance that our school cannot provide.

### **D. Admission and Agreement to School Policies**

1. Parents must read over and acknowledge their acceptance of the policies and other content of this handbook at the start of each school year, expressing agreement with the mission, philosophy, and purposes of the Academy.
2. Following signature for acknowledgement of handbook policies, the child and at least one parent must meet with the principal or a representative board member prior to acceptance. If admittance is sought during the

school year, a meeting with the teacher prior to acceptance will be a requirement.

## **E. Admission on Provisional Probation Status**

1. All accepted students will be admitted into the Academy with a Provisional Probation status for a complete grading period. Within a complete grading period, the student must demonstrate that he is capable of successfully meeting the high academic and deportment standards set by the Academy. If this can be demonstrated, the student will be placed in full Good Standing. Failure to meet academic and/or deportment standards within the first complete grading period may result in expulsion from the Academy without tuition reimbursement.
2. Provisional Probation is a non-punitive status, and these students shall be permitted to fully participate in all curricular and extra-curricular school functions.

## **F. Disenrollment Process**

1. Should a family wish to withdraw their child from the Academy, all appropriate forms and paperwork must be filled out and submitted to the office.
2. It is the responsibility of the disenrolling family to ensure that all associated payment plans (FACTS, etc) are updated so that no further chargers occur. The Academy **is not** responsible or liable for any resulting fees or charges which may occur.
3. The Academy does not refund deposits, prepaid tuition, or registration or admission fees.

# **IV. General School Procedures and Policies**

## **A. Daily Schedule**

1. **Morning: Monday-Thursday:**
  - a. Student Drop Off: 7:45-7:55 a.m. Students are to proceed directly to classrooms.
  - b. Warning Bell: 7:55 a.m.
  - c. Tardy Bell: 8:00 a.m. Students must be seated in classroom before the 8:00 a.m. bell.
  - d. Morning Assembly (school gym) 8:05 a.m.
2. **Friday (Mass Days)**
  - a. Student Drop Off: 7:40-7:50 a.m.
  - b. Procession into Mass: 7:55 a.m.

- c. Mass 8:00 a.m.
- 3. Midday Recess and Lunch:**
  - a. Grades K4 - 5 morning recess: 10:15-10:30 a.m.
  - b. Angelus Prayer (school gym): 12:00 p.m.
  - c. K - 3 Lunch / 4 - 8 Recess: 12:05-12:30 p.m.
  - d. 4 - 8 Lunch / K -3 Recess: 12:30-12:50 p.m.
- 4. End of School Day:**
  - a. K - 8th Dismissal Bell: 2:55 pm
  - b. Pick-Up - Kindergarten - 8th Grade: 3:00-3:10 p.m.

## **B. Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures**

- 1. Drop-Off:** Parents who are “dropping off” their children are to do so at the cement pad on the north end of the parking lot. This is the same location where pick-up will occur at the end of the school day.
  - a. Parents who wish to walk in with their children may do so by parking in any of the designated parking areas. Vehicles are not to be parked “temporarily” along the drop-off lanes or in other areas which will block traffic or cause other safety hazards.
  - b. Parents are to ensure that their children arrive at the school no later than 7:55 a.m. Students who arrive prior to 7:45 am will wait outside until doors open at 7:45 am.
- 2. Pick-Up**
  - a. Parents are asked to observe pick-up times for their students, and to arrive punctually so that the pick-up and dismissal process may be carried out smoothly without causing backed-up traffic in the school’s parking lot, or on Sunnyside Road.
  - b. Parents are to pull around to the pick-up area (the concrete pad on the north end of the parking lot) when they arrive. Early arrivers should park and walk over to the pick-up location to escort their children back to their vehicle. **Children must be checked out with their designated teacher before leaving school.**
  - c. Parents are asked to be considerate of others and to keep the line moving. In the event that one class is taking longer to arrive than usual, parents waiting for their children are asked to pull around in a parking lot so as not to hold up the line.

### 3. Late Pick-Up

- a. Faculty will supervise children on the school grounds only until 3:15 p.m. After that time, students must remain in the secretary's or principal's office for pick-up.
- b. If parents or guardians are going to be late in coming for their student, they must call the office to alert the school of this delay.
- c. After more than one late pickup per quarter, a standard fine of \$1 per late minute may be charged.

## C. Pick-Up Policy & Child Security

1. Students **may not** be picked up by anyone who is not listed on the permission slip filed with the office. Anyone picking up a child must be listed by the parent/ guardian on the permission slip.
2. Teachers may request any person or persons to show ID to prove their identity before releasing a child to them.

## D. After School Programs

1. **Boys' and Girls' Club:** Students who attend the Boys and Girls Club located across Sunnyside Road must wait to be accompanied by a designated teacher. Parents must be sure to communicate with the school whenever their children will be attending the Boys and Girls Club.
2. **After School Program:** Parents who wish for their children to attend the Academy's after-school program must register and pay the enrollment fees which are due by the first Friday of the month. Parents must agree to the policies and behavioral standards of the after-school program. It shall be understood that the behavioral standards set forth in this handbook are applicable for the after-school program.

## E. Absence & Tardy Policy

NOTE: Parents should give serious consideration to the effects of taking their child out of school for any extended period of time.

### 1. General Policies Concerning Absences

- a. **More than one unexcused absence or more than ten excused absence days per semester (i.e. within two grading quarters) may result in withdrawal from the Academy without credit.** A prolonged illness or family emergency can be considered for exception by the principal if work can be made up.
- b. Leaving the campus without permission during the school day may result in suspension from school.

- c. Parents should provide teachers with as much notice as possible when make-up work is requested for a student absence.

## **2. General Unforeseeable Student Absences**

- a. An unforeseeable absence would include any unforeseen medical or family emergency, unexpected illness, or sudden breakdown of vehicle for transportation.
- b. In the event of an unforeseeable absence, the school should be notified prior to 8:00 a.m. if possible. Either a written or verbal message may be given.

## **3. Excused and Foreseeable Absences**

**NOTE:** Parents are strongly encouraged to avoid absences of a foreseeable nature.

- a. **Definition:** A foreseeable absence would generally include a special family event or participation in a special religious, educational, civic, cultural, or athletic event. Doctor or non-emergency medical appointments scheduled during the school day would also be considered foreseeable absences.
- b. Absences generally approved as excused would include a student illness, major illness in the immediate family, death in the immediate family, and foreseeable absences (defined above).
- c. Any foreseeable absence requires that parents or students provide a written or verbal notice informing the secretary of the absence. The written or verbal notice may be in the form of an e-mail, phone call, or a handwritten note delivered by the parent or student at least 24 hours in advance.

## **4. Unexcused Absence**

- a. **Definition:** A student who is absent without the permission of the parents and the Academy's administration will be deemed truant. Likewise, any student who leaves school without permission from the administrator in charge or leaves class without the permission of the teacher will be deemed truant.

## **5. Tardiness**

- a. School begins at 8:00 a.m. Any student not in his classroom at 8:00 a.m. will be marked tardy.
- b. The time lost due to tardiness will be made up as deemed appropriate by teachers or the administrator.
- c. The administration will contact parents with a warning when chronic tardiness (more than 5 tardies in a single grading period) has occurred at the end of an academic quarter.

- d. If chronic tardiness persists for two consecutive grading periods, the parents will be asked to meet with the administrator to design a plan for timely arrival. Parents will be expected to improve in punctuality according to this plan.
  - e. Parents may be asked to complete additional service hours or to pay associated fees when chronic tardiness has occurred for two consecutive grading periods. In more serious cases of chronic tardiness and where improvement has not been demonstrated, the student may be suspended or expelled.
- 6. Early Pick-Up by Parents (Early Release)**
- a. Parents who need to pick up their children prior to the regular dismissal time must first check in at the office. The office will send for the children, and the parent must sign the early release log located in the secretary's office. Parents are asked to call the school office with as much advance notice as possible before arriving for their children.
  - b. Unless it is an emergency, the teacher and student should be given a standard 24-hour written notice of the appointment. The written notice may be in the form of an e-mail, phone call, or a handwritten note delivered by the parent or student.

## **F. Make-Up Work**

1. In the case of foreseeable absences (See IV. D. 3., above) parents and/or students are expected to consult teachers in advance to arrange opportunities for make-up work. Teachers are not required to provide make-up assignments or award credit for missed work if prior arrangements have not been made.
2. In cases of unforeseeable absences (e.g. sickness), students are allowed to make up work which was missed or may be excused from certain assignments. Generally, students are given an established timeline according to their respective grade level in which to complete make-up work for credit. Teachers are not required to provide make-up work on the day of an unforeseeable absence, and may wait until the student returns to school to make arrangements.

## **G. Food at School and School Lunches**

1. Students shall eat their lunches in the designated area (viz. gym). Food and beverages may be consumed in the classrooms only with the explicit permission of the staff.

2. Parents are encouraged to see that their children eat only healthy snacks and meals. Please avoid soda pop, candy, or other sugar-filled foods.
3. Gum is not allowed on campus.

#### **4. Hot Lunch**

- a. Parents will be sent home order forms when hot lunches are offered. Order forms and payments must be submitted by the designated deadlines for students to participate in these meal options.

#### **5. Pack Lunch**

- a. Students who are not participating in the hot lunch program are to bring their own healthy lunches to school.
- b. There are a limited number of microwaves available for student lunches. Parents/ students are encouraged to be mindful of this when preparing their lunches.

## **V. Emergency Procedures**

### **A. Emergency Procedures**

1. Administration and staff at the Academy regularly review policies pertaining to emergency preparedness and procedures with local emergency personnel.
2. Fire-drills and lock-down drills occur on a regular basis to ensure that staff and students are well-acquainted with procedures in the event of an emergency.

### **B. Emergency Communication**

1. An emergency situation is understood as any incident, threat, hazardous weather conditions, or other matter that entails substantial risk to one's health and general safety.
2. In the event of an emergency, the school will communicate as quickly as possible using the best available modes of communication. Parents will be given as much relevant information as possible and any necessary directions.
3. Emergency notifications will normally be given by phone or text. E-mail communication will generally follow afterward.

## **VI. School Communication**

### **A. General Communication**

1. Teachers and administrators will send out regular communications (viz. newsletters) which parents should read with due attention.

2. A weekly folder will be sent home to parents with pertinent paperwork, order forms, and other communications. Parents should check these folders each week and have them returned to school promptly.

## **B. Telephone Calls**

1. Parents are asked not to phone their children during school hours unless it is relating to an urgent or medical matter.
2. Students are allowed to use the school phone only for an emergency or as approved by a staff member.

## **C. Non-Scheduled Meeting with Staff:**

Teachers and school administrators strive to be accessible to any parent who desires to speak with them; however, an appointment should be scheduled if any issue requires extensive discussion.

## **D. Parent/Teacher Conferences:**

Parents are given the opportunity twice during the school year to meet with the teachers and confer regarding their children's progress. It is expected that both parents attend these conferences whenever possible. These conferences, along with the quarterly report card, constitute the ordinary periodic reporting of student progress, achievement, and conduct.

## **E. Addressing Questions or Concerns**

1. All personnel, students, and families are requested to follow the proper channels when raising questions and airing concerns. When an issue originates from the classroom, consult the teacher first. When an issue originates from the school policy or administrative action, consult the administrator first. If a situation is not resolved to one's satisfaction, the chain of command must be followed: teacher, administrator, school board.
2. It is expected that all communication occurs within a spirit of Christian charity and understanding. Concerns should always aim towards constructive dialogue and discussion in which common ground can be attained. Only when a conflict is not resolved according to one's satisfaction in this manner should one move up the chain of command.
3. Personal conflicts or disputes are private matters and should remain so: they should not be aired publicly or expressed to others who are not immediately involved.

## **VII. Health and Medical Policies**

### **A. Vaccination Records**

1. According to state law, all parents must complete the Academy's vaccination report detailing whether their children have or have not received vaccinations. If a child does not have certain vaccinations, a medical or non-medical exemption must be on file.
2. Students who have not received certain vaccinations may be asked to remain at home in cases where there is an outbreak of an illness from which the child is not immunized.
3. Because vaccinations never guarantee absolute immunization, all families will be notified when any serious illness is reported to have been present or spread at school.

### **B. Illness**

1. If a student becomes ill, the student should report to the teacher for release to the secretary's office.
2. If a student has a communicable illness (cold, flu, measles, chicken pox), that student should remain home until the period of contagion is passed. No child should return to school until fever and vomiting symptoms have been absent for 24 hours.
3. The school reserves the right to send a student home when it has determined that a student's health is not disposed for normal school activity and/or that a student's sickness may be spread to others.

### **C. Head Lice**

*(Note: The following is adapted from the Montrose County School District policy on head lice.)*

1. If a student is found to have a live infestation of head lice, the parent/guardian will be notified via phone and information on head lice will be sent home.
  - a. The student may stay until the end of the school day, however it is acceptable if the parent wishes to pick their child up after being notified.
  - b. The student is not permitted to return to school until they have used a medicated lice shampoo treatment.
  - c. The student's head may be checked for lice upon returning to school according to the judgment of the Academy's staff.

- d. It is ultimately the parent/guardian's responsibility to manage head lice by checking for live lice daily and before returning to school, as well as checking and combing out nits daily for 14 days following the first treatment.
2. Students found to have nits are permitted to remain in school. If a student is found to have nits/eggs, parent/guardians are encouraged to comb the nits out with a fine-toothed comb daily for the following 14 days and reminded to complete the follow-up medicated shampoo treatment in 7-10 days from the first shampoo treatment.
3. Current evidence does not support classroom screenings for head lice, and therefore these will not be implemented regularly.
4. If a student with an active infestation of head lice has siblings, they will be checked for head lice discreetly.
5. If a student is found to have head lice or nits, the staff will vacuum the affected classroom(s) and upholstered furniture within.
6. Stuffed animals and pillows will be removed from affected classroom(s) and bagged for 14 days.
7. Coats, hats, scarves, and backpacks in affected classrooms will be kept separately so they are not touching one another.
8. Classroom notifications will not be done for typical cases of head lice.
9. The Academy staff and administration will reserve the right to use their best discretion when deciding whether to inform the general school community of any lice outbreaks.

## **D. Medications**

1. NO MEDICATION shall be administered by any school personnel. Parents or legal guardians must come to the school to administer medication, unless parents provide written permission and notification that their student is deemed mature enough to self-administer the medication. Students who are mature enough to self-administer medication may do so only under the supervision of the school staff.
2. All medications shall be safeguarded in the secretary's office at school to avoid ingestion by the wrong student.
3. Students who will self-administer prescription medication must comply with written orders from a physician. A copy of these written instructions shall be on file stating:
  - a. Child's name
  - b. Name of the drug
  - c. Dosage

- d. Time of day medication is to be administered
  - e. Purpose of medication
  - f. Anticipated number of days it must be given
  - g. Possible side effects
  - h. Storage instructions
4. Any medication brought to school must include a record of parental release allowing student to self-administer medication.
  5. The medication must be brought in a container appropriately labeled by a pharmacy or physician.
  6. Individual records (including dates, times, and dose that was self-administered) shall be kept of such medications.

## **VIII. Academics**

### **A. Grading Scale:**

1. The academy uses the following letter grading scale for grades 3-8:
  - A = 92%-100%
  - B = 83%-91%
  - C = 74%-82%
  - D = 65%-73%
  - F = below 65%
2. Students in grades K – 2 are provided a standards-based report each academic quarter.

### **B. Academic Standards**

The Academy will maintain the highest academic standards and will strive to help each student achieve his best.

#### **1. Basic Academic Expectations**

- a. Student work must be done according to the standards established by the Academy and as implemented by the teacher in each learning situation.
- b. All work must be done neatly, accurately, and promptly. From third grade and higher, all handwritten assignments shall normally be completed with a standard cursive script.
- c. Assignments must be submitted on time as directed by the responsible teacher. Late work will not be tolerated. Late work is subject to penalization and the respective student to academic discipline. Penalties and discipline are determined by the teacher and in serious by the administrator. Penalties and discipline may

include grade reduction, extra assignments, circumstances detention, restriction, probation, suspension, or expulsion.

## **2. Academic Deficiencies**

- a. If a student drops below a 73% average of core classes in a given grading period, he shall be placed on Academic Probation.
- b. The teacher will present a plan of action to improve student performance. This plan will be approved by the principal.
- c. He must raise his GPA above a 73% average at the next grading period. The teacher must present a plan of action to improve the student outcomes. The principal must approve this plan.
- d. A student who remains academically deficient (at or below a 73% average in core classes) after two consecutive grading terms may be dismissed from the Academy.
- e. The teacher and principal may advocate for exceptions when they believe the student is committed to a plan of improvement and has shown measurable gains.
- f. Final determinations will be made by the school board.

## **3. Standardized Testing**

Students grades 2-8 participate in ITBS (Iowa Tests of Basic Skills) standardized testing on a yearly basis.

## **4. Middle School Honor Roll**

- a. At the end of every quarter, all middle school students who have all A's will be added to the Honor Roll.
- b. Honor Roll students will be given special opportunities due to their grade performance including, but not limited to, school recognition, the availability to attend special trips of academic significance, and other privileges.

## **C. Academic Probation**

1. Any student in grades 3-8 whose cumulative GPA drops below a 73% average of core classes in a grading period will be placed automatically on Academic Probation. Students in grades K – 2 also may be placed on academic probation in cases where extensive academic delinquency is noted on their quarterly standards-based report.
  - a. The student must raise his next grading period's GPA above a 73% average in order to return to Good Standing.
2. If a student remains on Academic Probation for two consecutive grading periods, he may be required to either repeat the current grade or may be expelled from the Academy without tuition reimbursement.

- a. This dismissal or grade retention can be waived only if the teacher believes the student is showing exceptional effort and improvement and obtains the principal's final approval. The teacher, principal, and parents shall collaborate on a plan of action to improve the student outcomes.
3. Any student placed on Academic Probation may not be permitted to participate in extra-curricular functions including but not limited to sports games, school endorsed clubs, band, and ski and snowboard lessons, until the student has returned to Good Standing.

## **IX. Courtesy and Deportment**

### **A. General Principle**

The Academy staff is responsible for the safety and wellbeing of students during the school day. As such, students are expected to comply respectfully and expediently with any directions, policies, and procedures given from the Academy staff and other Academy appointed supervisors (viz. parent volunteers).

### **B. Classroom Conduct and Courtesy**

1. When being addressed by a teacher, students devote their complete attention to that person until the conversation has ended, avoiding interrupting, and always listening politely.
2. Students shall always greet others courteously, regardless of the situation. Specifically, students shall address adults as "Sir" or "Ma'am", or "Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. (last name)" to show respect.
3. Students shall rise and stand respectfully for any adult entering a classroom. They are to remain standing until instructed otherwise by the adult.
4. Student conduct in the halls and classrooms is always mannerly and never loud or unruly; student demeanor reflects a serious respect for the learning that is ongoing around them. Similarly, they shall show respect when passing between others who are conversing, when navigating around other students, or when moving through crowded spaces by saying "excuse me" or "pardon me."
5. Speech shall be kept under proper control. "Indoor voices" shall be used at all times (other than gym) within the facility.
6. Students shall knock before entering a room, showing respect for the wishes and privacy of those already in the room. Students shall NOT pound or yank on doors.

7. All members of the school community shall show courtesy by holding doors for each other, visitors, and anyone needing help.
8. All members of the school community shall remove head coverings inside the school.
9. Students shall practice showing humility in success and graciousness in defeat, be it academic, physical, or personal, as they know that on another day those roles may well be reversed.
10. Students shall conduct class work respectfully, cooperatively, and compliantly.

## **C. Other Rules of Conduct**

1. Running is never allowed in the building (except during directed activities).
2. Rough-housing, pranks, and unnecessary noise within the school are all prohibited activities.
3. All books, clothing, lunches, and personal belongings are to be kept in the appropriate places.
4. Students shall remain in designated play areas.
5. Name calling, rock throwing, discourteous, and uncharitable conduct toward fellow students are prohibited.
6. All foul language and conversations (viz. curse words, using God's name in vain, sexually explicit terms or innuendos, derogatory or offensive slurs) are strictly prohibited.
7. Students may not leave the classroom or other assigned place without permission.
8. Students may not leave the school during school hours, except with parental/guardian permission.
9. Student "cliques" or clubs which unjustly exclude or ostracize fellow peers are not permitted.

## **D. School Culture & Positive Reinforcement**

### **1. Student of the Month**

- a. While the Academy does place a special emphasis on academic excellence, the importance of character formation is not to be dismissed. As such, the Academy will recognize students from grades K-2nd, 3-5th, and 6-8th who in particular embody the spirit and values of the Academy.
  - i. To be considered for this award, students must be in good academic and deportment standing. Students who have

demonstrated particular shows of virtue will be featured on the Academy's "Virtue Board", which will be updated

## **2. Student Spotlights: Virtue**

- ii. on a regular basis to reflect the Virtue of the Week, as discussed and presented at Morning Assemblies and in classroom discussion and activities.

## **3. Student Service & Citizenship Opportunities**

- a. In order to promote an awareness of the importance of stewardship, service, and citizenship, students are given many opportunities throughout the year to give of their time, efforts, and/or talents.
  - i. Depending on grade level and age appropriateness, classes may: write letters to soldiers serving in the armed forces and prepare care packages for them; decorate placemats for the prison ministry; organize food/ clothes drives for food banks and others in need; participate in Adopt-A-Highway; visit nursing homes for prayer and visitation; and others.

## **4. Honor Roll**

- a. Students in grades 3-8 who achieve a straight-A report card in a quarter, demonstrate academic excellence as well as model exemplary behavior will be added to the Academy's Honor Roll.

## **5. Spirit Days**

- a. The Academy hosts several "Spirit Days" throughout the school year. These themed days are to promote school spirit and foster community.
- b. On Spirit Days, students are encouraged to dress out of uniform so long as their attire is within general modesty guidelines, and they are dressed on theme. See the section on Student Appearance at Special or Non-Academic Events for more information.

## **6. Other School Culture Events**

### **a. All Saints' Day (November 1st)**

The school joins the Catholic church in observance and celebration of the holy day in which the students and faculty draw attention to holy men and women throughout history whose lives serve as excellent models for us in our quest to draw closer to Christ.

**b. Christmas Program**

The Academy hosts an annual Christmas Program before Christmas break in which the students put on some sort of dramatic and/or musical performance in celebration of the joyous Christmas season. This is held in the evening and is open to the entire Montrose community.

**c. One Hundred Day**

The Academy observes and celebrates the 100th Day of School every year with special festivities. Students may be permitted to dress in pajamas, or in some other themed dress.

**d. Catholic Schools Week**

Catholic Schools Week is a special week in which the Academy joins other Catholic schools nationwide in celebrating our proud traditions and history. Special themed days throughout the week will be announced as the time draws near.

**e. Stations of the Cross**

On Fridays throughout Lent, the students of the Academy participate in the devotion commemorating Christ's journey from Pilate to the Cross before His death. This prayerful meditation occurs in the last 15 minutes before dismissal and is primarily led by the older students: all parents and siblings of students are invited to attend.

**f. Soup & Stations**

On the last day of school before Easter Break, the whole school community is invited to join in a longer Stations of the Cross, which is concluded with a potluck meal of soup, provided by students and their families.

**g. Poetry Cafe**

In homage to the many great poets, writers, and historical characters whose works make up our curriculum, every April the students of the Academy put on an afternoon of recitations.

**h. International Day**

As the school year draws to a close, each class spends some extra time to focus on and study a particular country. They will examine that country's history, culture, geography, language and contributions, presenting to parents and staff on International Day-- a full day devoted to exploration and discovery!

## **E. Student Use of Technology**

1. Academy policy prohibits students from carrying or using any cell phones or other personal electronic devices while at school (even after school hours), on field trips, or during other school-related activities or events.
  - a. Students who remain on campus after school hours for sports events or the after-school program may not use their electronic devices.
2. Students who bring a cell phone or other electronic device to school must check in their device with the school secretary before 8:00 a.m. Phones can be retrieved after school from the secretary or principal. If the parents wish for their child to have a phone while on a field trip, the student may only use this device as permitted by the respective teacher or chaperone.
3. The Academy and the Academy staff will not be held responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen electronic devices.
4. Students who use any of the school computers must have express permission of their teacher (or other authority) to do so, and they may only visit specified sites. Computers are not to be used for chatting, socializing, or for entertainment purposes. See Section XIII. C for more information.

## **F. Serious Offenses, Misconduct & Suspensions and Expulsions**

**GENERAL STATEMENT:** Because of the nature of PJP2A as a fully integrated school with grades K4-8, and because of the effect that older students may have on younger students, the PJP2A Board has established the following policies on:

1. **Weapons, Fighting, Physical and Verbal Abuse:** No form of violence or threat of violence is ever permitted. Any student who intentionally and maliciously brings about serious physical injury to another student or students will be automatically suspended pending investigation of the circumstances. Upon investigation, the student may be placed on restriction, detention, further suspension, or expulsion. Students are not permitted to bring weapons on school premises.
2. **Possession or Use of Tobacco, Alcohol, or Drugs:** Student possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs will be grounds for automatic expulsion.
3. **Pornography** - Any student who possesses or brings onto campus any material of a sexually immoral nature will be automatically suspended pending investigation of the circumstances and possible expulsion.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** If it comes to the attention of the PJP2A Board that a student’s household has or patronizes a pornographic publication, watche

s “X”rated TV or videos, or allows the student access to such material, the parents or guardians will be requested to remove their children from the school.

4. **Immodest, Impure, or Immoral Conduct**

- a. No form of sexualized behavior will be tolerated on school grounds. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, kissing, hand holding, secret love notes, and other “dating-imitating” behaviors.
- b. Any student who engages in any conduct which is grossly immodest or immoral will be suspended pending evaluation of the circumstances.
- c. Upon investigation, the student may be placed on restriction, detention, further suspension, or expulsion.

5. **Dishonest Conduct:** All lying and cheating is, of course, prohibited. Gossip, detraction, calumny, name calling, spreading of rumors, and other hateful speech shall not be tolerated. Any conduct that seriously deprives another of property, good name, or otherwise causes another person undue mental anguish may be cause for expulsion.

6. **Conduct Off-Campus:** Any conduct off campus which brings great discredit to the Academy will be cause for expulsion.

7. **Cheating:** Cheating during tests will result in a failure grade on the test and, depending on the circumstances, may involve additional punishment. Cheating on other assignments will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

8. **Final Determinations: Final evaluations and disciplinary decisions rest solely with the administration and board.**

## **X. Discipline Code**

### **A. General Philosophy**

- 1. An environment conducive to the enrichment of the mind and the soul must be well ordered, focused, and at peace, and such an environment cannot be attained without the virtue of obedience. The Academy, therefore, requires that all students cooperate in the establishment and maintenance of a disciplined and orderly environment.

### **B. Hierarchy of Discipline**

- 1. In general, all parents and students are reminded to observe the “chain of command” as stated in Section VI.E.

2. In or out of the classroom, the teachers of the Academy are responsible for ensuring that the general standards of discipline and conduct are met by all students.
  - a. Any teacher may address or otherwise correct a student upon observing behavior that is not in accordance with Academy expectations.
  - b. All teachers at the Academy have the authority to correct student behavior; as such, all students are to treat all faculty with respect.
3. The involvement of the principal in disciplinary matters is to be regarded and seen as a serious matter: the teacher is always the first to address and respond to such issues.

### **C. Student Discipline**

1. The objective of disciplinary measures is to ensure that the student has learned to correct the problem for which he is being punished.
2. Any infraction of school policy will result in disciplinary measures being taken. Discipline begins with a verbal clarification of the rules. When a child first misbehaves, usually (except in severe offenses) he simply needs instruction. Justice requires that persons understand the law before being held accountable for obedience to it. We will strive to use positive reinforcement for good behavior as opposed to punishing negative behavior. However, punishments may need to be used in the disciplining of the students. We expect that each person will be treated with respect and dignity.
3. Infractions of these rules and guidelines, as well as any violation of common order or moral standard will result in disciplinary measures taken. These measures may be in the form of extra work, clean up duties, detention, suspension, or expulsion.
4. The continued or serious violation of school policy may result in the student's removal from the school.

### **D. Color System (K-4th)**

1. **Students K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade follow a color system for discipline.**
  - Purple: Excellent behavior
  - Green: Good behavior
  - Yellow: Warning
  - Red: Consequence
2. While each teacher may have a different standard for what qualifies as “excellent” behavior, students are not awarded for complying with the minimum department standards. The same applies to “coloring down” to a

“Red” status: different consequences exist. Parents should be sure to discuss with their child’s teacher what standards of behavior are to be met. Chronically poor behavior from students will result in more serious consequences, including but not limited to Department Probation.

## **E. Merit/ Demerit System (5-8th)**

1. Demerits will be issued to students for failure to meet school standards:
  - a. Category One Demerit: issued for minor infractions
  - b. Category Two Demerit: issued for infractions of a more serious nature, upon a student’s reception of three Category One demerits for the same offense within the quarter, or upon the reception of five Category One Demerits within a quarter.
  - c. Category Three Demerit: issued upon the reception of two Category Two demerits in a school year
  - d. Category Four Demerit: issued upon the receipt of two Category Three demerits in a school year
2. The varying levels of demerit categories carry different consequences. See Middle School Handbook for full explanation of demerits and their consequences.
3. Merits will be given to students who demonstrate behavior that goes above and beyond behavioral standards. Students who achieve high levels of merits are eligible for various awards and opportunities throughout the school year.

## **F. Department Probation**

1. When a student exhibits chronic misbehavior or has committed a singular but serious offense within a grading period, this student may be suspended, expelled, or placed on department probation.
2. A student may be dismissed from the Academy when there is no evidence to believe the student shall improve future conduct. A student shall be placed on department probation and provided an individual student behavioral plan when there is sufficient reason to believe the student will improve future behavior with the appropriate support structures and established plan.
3. When a student is placed on department probation, the principal and respective teacher(s) shall collaborate in designing an appropriate behavioral plan for the student. The plan shall denote SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results-oriented, and Time-bound) with the end goal of improving student conduct and outlining specific expectations for the student.

4. The principal shall meet with the student and his/her parents to discuss the individual student behavioral plan.
5. The teacher, principal, and parents shall review that these goals were met at the end of the following grading quarter. If the goals were successfully met the student shall be placed back in Good Standing.
6. If the behavioral goals were partially met, the principal and teacher shall decide whether it is believed the student is progressing sufficiently towards improved behavior. If it is believed the student will be able to continue to improve behavior at the Academy, the individual student behavior plan shall be revised and renewed for the following quarter.
7. If the behavioral goals were mostly or completely violated, the student may be dismissed from the academy without tuition reimbursement. In this situation, there is not sufficient evidence to believe the student shall improve his/her conduct.
8. The final judgment regarding the measurable progress of a student's deportment shall be made by the principal with the assistance of any respective staff.
9. Any student placed on Deportment Probation may not be permitted to participate in extra-curricular functions including but not limited to sports games, school endorsed clubs, band, ski and snowboard lessons, and field trips, until the student has returned to Good Standing.

## **XI. Student Uniform and Grooming**

### **A.General Appearance Policy**

<b>Clothing Condition</b>	Ironed, clean, free of large or apparent holes
<b>Haircut Styles, Lengths, &amp; Accessories</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Boys - Neatly trimmed above the collar in a traditional style</li> <li>2. Girls - Neat and combed; hair bows are acceptable in solid, school colors</li> <li>3. All- No extreme or fad cuts or styles deemed inappropriate or distracting (including obviously dyed or bleached)</li> </ol>

<b>Jewelry</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Girls - may wear small, post-style earrings in earlobes.</li> <li>2. All - Small, religious necklaces only (medals, cross, scapular, etc)</li> <li>3. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.</li> <li>4. No bracelets. Watches are permitted so long as they are non-distracting.</li> </ol>
<b>Makeup</b>	7-8th grade girls may wear a small amount of natural-looking makeup; no lipstick or colored eyeshadow/ liner.
<b>Skirt Style &amp; Length (All Grades)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A-line style</li> <li>2. Pleated</li> <li>3. Must touch the floor when the student kneels and must not rise more than three inches above “touching-the-floor” length during the school year.</li> </ol>
<b>Shorts Style &amp; Length</b>	No short shorts or spandex.
<b>Belts</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> grades should always wear plain black or brown belts with any pants which include belt loops.
<b>Other/General</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shirts tucked in</li> <li>2. Fingernails must be clean and of moderate length.</li> </ol>
<b>Prohibited</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No tattoos or writing on body</li> <li>2. No boots, sandals, heels</li> <li>3. No leggings worn as pants</li> <li>4. No jackets, hoodies, sweatshirts worn inside (see approved uniform sweater)</li> <li>5. No clothing is to feature wording, graphics or logos which may be deemed inappropriate.</li> <li>6. No spaghetti-strap, mesh, see-through, tube, crop-top, or extremely tight shirts are permitted.</li> </ol>

## B. Elementary Uniform (K4 - 5)

Shoes & Socks	Top	Bottom	Mass
Athletic Shoes; Solid, school-colored socks	Burgundy, white, navy blue, or honey-gold polo (long or short sleeved)  Burgundy or navy blue cardigan	Khaki pants or shorts	-Black or brown closed-toe dress shoes -Khaki Pants
Athletic Shoes; Solid, school-colored socks	Burgundy, white, navy blue, or honey-gold polo (long or short sleeved)  Burgundy or navy blue cardigan	Khaki shorts, pants, skirt, or jumper	-Flat black or navy blue dress shoes  -Khaki skirt or jumper

**NOTE:** 5th Grade is to wear a solid navy blue or PJP2A t-shirt as well as black or blue basketball-style shorts (or sweatpants) for PE classes and Workout Wednesdays.

## C. Middle School Uniform

Shoes & Socks	Top	Bottom	Mass	P.E. & Workout Wednesday
Athletic Shoes; Solid, school-colored socks	Red, white, baby-blue, or honey-gold polo (long or short sleeved)  Red or navy blue cardigan	Navy blue pants or shorts	-Black or brown closed-toe dress shoes -Navy blue pants -Oxford style white dress shirt -Solid navy blue tie	-Athletic Shoes -Black or navy blue basketball style shorts or sweatpants -Solid navy blue or PJP2A P.E. Shirt
Athletic Shoes; Solid,	Red, white, baby-blue, or	Navy blue shorts, pants,	-Flat black or navy blue dress	-Athletic Shoes -Black or navy

school-colored socks	honey-gold polo (long or short sleeved)  Red or navy blue cardigan	skirt, or jumper	shoes -Navy blue or approved blue/white plaid skirt -Oxford style white or baby blue blouse	blue basketball style shorts or sweatpants -Solid navy blue or PJP2A P.E. Shirt
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## D. Student Appearance at Special or Non-Academic Events

### 1. Non-Uniform School Day

2. Teachers may sometimes request students bring non-uniform clothes for special events (field trips, spirit days, etc). In these cases, the following dress code policies apply:
  - a. If it is a themed dress day (ie, Spirit Day), students **must** dress on-theme, or else come in regular uniform.
  - b. Attire for field trips must be clean and modest: no rips, tears, holes; no inappropriate logos, graphics, or wording is permitted. Plain t-shirts or official school P.E. shirt is preferred.

### 3. Athletes on Game Days

- a. Students who are members of the Academy’s official sports teams are permitted to wear their **uniform shirts** to school (not Mass) on game days.
- b. Students must wear regular, standard uniform bottoms to school on game days (no gym shorts).

### 4. Student Attire at Extracurricular Events

- a. Although extracurricular events (sports games, cookouts, track day, etc) are not academic events, students are representatives of the Academy and as such are to dress and behave appropriately, setting an example of Christ-like behavior.
- b. Students who attend such events are expected to adhere to the Grooming and Appearance Policy, as well as the general school Courtesy and Department requirements (Section IX., above).

### 5. Non-Uniform Compliance

- a. Students who appear on campus in non-uniform or otherwise inappropriate attire (including dyed hair, writing on the body, etc) will not be allowed to join their class until they are in compliance

with the established dress code. Students who fail to meet appearance and or behavior expectations at other school-related events will be asked to correct their attire or behavior, or leave. Habitual non-compliance with the uniform policy may result in more serious disciplinary action

- b. Consequences for being out of uniform differ by grade levels. Regardless, students will not be permitted to attend class until they meet uniform requirements.

**Final Note on Uniform:** Teachers and staff reserve the right to prohibit any clothing, jewelry, makeup or accessory which is deemed inappropriate, distracting, immodest, or otherwise improper.

## XII. Tuition, Payments & Service Hours

### A. Annual Tuition

	<b>Tuition</b>	<b>Monthly payments of</b>
K4 ½ Day (3 yr. old: T/Th)	\$1,600	\$160
K4 ½ Day (4 yr. old: M/W/F)	\$2,200	\$220
K4 ½ Day (Monday - Friday)	\$3,300	\$330
Kindergarten - 8th Grade (Full Day)	\$4,200	\$420
<b>Sibling Discounts:</b>		
K4 ½ Day (3yr. old: T/Th)	\$1,250	\$125
K4 ½ Day (4 yr. old: M/W/F)	\$1,800	\$180
K4 ½ Day (Monday - Friday)	\$2,700	\$270
Kindergarten - 8th Grade Sibling	\$3,400	\$340

### B. Payments

1. Unless tuition is paid in full prior to September 1, all enrollees must utilize FACTS Tuition Management payment plan (<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/> 4HRSL). Enrollees are responsible for the nominal costs associated with arranging for this plan.

2. If a parent does not wish to use the FACTS Tuition Management payment plan, full tuition must be paid by September 1.
3. There is an additional \$100 books and supplies fee for students in grades K – 8; K4 students have a \$50 supplies fee.
4. All families are expected to pay a \$200 deposit to hold their spot at the Academy for the following year. This deposit is nonrefundable and is later applied directly to tuition charges upon the start of the academic year.
5. A 2.5% tuition discount is available if you pay in full prior to September 1.
6. Checks returned by the bank are assessed a \$20.00 processing fee.
7. Tuition is NOT refundable if your child is expelled or withdraws from the Academy.

### **C. Service Hours**

1. Each family is expected to complete between 20 – 30 hours of service for the school during the academic year. Families with children only in the K4 class will have reduced “pro-rated” hours. Families who receive any form of tuition assistance from the Academy must complete 30 hours of service. Families who pay full tuition are required to provide 20 hours of service. The school staff and Parent-Teacher Organization will provide parents opportunities to complete these service hours.
2. A quarterly report will be sent to families to update them on their service hour completion. Families are responsible for providing the school secretary an updated report of any service hours they have completed which have not been previously recorded in the school office log.
3. Any family who fails to fulfill service hours to the school will be charged \$15 per service hour not completed.
4. Families may be excused from completing the required number of service hours in the discretion of the school board. Parents must submit a formal request to be excused from the service requirement, and they must provide an explanation of the reason for the request. Exemption will only be given when it is deemed that there are serious and legitimate impediments to fulfilling the service requirement.

## **XIII. Use of School Equipment and Facilities**

### **A. Care and Handling of Textbooks, Personal Effects, and School Equipment**

1. Textbooks are loaned to students for use during the school year.

2. Books may not be left unattended; they must be kept in the student's locker, in the desk, or on the person.
3. The student's parents or guardians will be charged books or materials that are lost or suffer damage beyond the usual wear-and-tear.
4. Failure to properly care for school property will result in fines
5. Final report cards and transcripts may be withheld until lost or damaged books or school materials are paid for.

## **B. Kitchen**

1. Kitchen facilities are for use by the staff only. Students may only enter and use the kitchen facility when this is permitted and supervised by school staff.

## **C. Library and Computers**

1. Library use and procedures are overseen by the school secretary.
2. Special permission must be obtained before a student may take a book or other equipment from school. (Textbooks, library books, and books used for class assignments are excluded from this prohibition.)
3. Computers are reserved for use of students and staff. Computers may only be used with the explicit permission and supervision by school staff for designated academic activities. Students must use computers responsibly, safely, and according to the directions given.

# **XIV. Student Privileges**

## **A. Extracurricular and Special Activities**

1. Special programs, sports activities, field trips, and free dress days, are all privileges that must be earned by the students. These and other privileges are offered to the students who illustrate that they are mature and worthy of the invitation to join the field trip or other activities.
2. Students are encouraged to work for these privileges and maintain academic and deportment levels that will allow them to retain the privileges.

# **XV. Sports**

**Note:** Participation in sports is understood to be a privilege, not a right. Students who participate in sports must maintain a basic academic eligibility status, and must, at all times, adhere to the Academy's expectations for behavior and conduct.

## **A. General Sports Information**

1. Sports are offered at the availability of coaches, players, and competition.

2. All coaches are volunteers.
3. Basketball and volleyball are offered in conjunction with the ACSWC league, and all students, coaches, and participants are required to meet league standards.
4. Other sports (soccer, baseball, etc) may be offered throughout the year, as volunteer parents/coaches are available and interested.
5. Parents of student athletes are expected to be involved in transportation, scheduling, and volunteer duties.
6. Appropriate paperwork must be turned in to the office prior to student participation in any sports-related event.
7. Athletes and parents are to understand that playing time is not guaranteed for any student.

## **B. Athlete Participation Requirements**

1. Athletes must meet school and league requirements for eligibility.
  - a. Students must have a minimum of a “C” in all core classes, and may not have a “F” in any class.
  - b. Students must be in good standing with the school in all other regards.
2. Students may not play in a game if they were absent from the school that day due to illness.
  - a. A student must have been at school for a minimum of half of the day in order to play in a game that same day. (The student must either be at school from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm, or from 12:00 pm - dismissal.)
  - b. Any student who has any “bug” which may be contagious and has gone home sick may not play in a game that day.
3. Athletes must be present at all team practices and games.
  - a. If there is a scheduling conflict with a practice or game, students are responsible for informing their coach at least 24 hrs before.
  - b. Failure to notify the coach may result in a player’s ineligibility for the next game.
4. Athletes are to be punctual and attentive at practice and games.
  - a. Students are to help with any set-up or take-down associated with practice.
  - b. Limited practice time means athletes must give their coaches their full attention. Rough-housing and disruptive, inattentive behavior will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from teams.

- c. Athletes are to be ready to go immediately when practice starts; athletes are to arrive at games approximately 30 minutes prior to gametime to allow for stretching and preparation.
- 5. Athletes are to be in the appropriate attire for practices and games.
  - a. Practice: Navy blue shorts and plain Navy blue or PJP2A PE t-shirt
  - b. Games: Navy blue shorts and designated uniform
- 6. Students are responsible for school-issued game uniform
  - a. Uniforms are not to be worn to practices
  - b. Uniforms should not be machine-dried
  - c. Loss or damage of uniform will result in a fee to replace uniform (\$75)
- 7. Athletes must respect their coaches, teammates, referees, and members of the opposing teams at all times.
  - a. No vulgar, abusive, or taunting language will be tolerated at any time.
  - b. Athletes are to always exhibit a spirit of good sportsmanship while competing.
  - c. No displays of excessive celebration or anger will be allowed.

### **C. Involvement of Parents**

- 1. All parents are needed to volunteer to help the Academy's sports program to function effectively. Parents are to volunteer for each sport and team in which their child participates.
- 2. Parents of student athletes must assist the team by volunteering their time in one or more of the following capacities:
  - a. Taking admissions
  - b. Line-judge (volleyball)
  - c. Scorekeeper
  - d. Book-keeping
  - e. Gym monitor
  - f. Team parent
- 3. Parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from any practices and games.
  - a. When a parent is unable to provide transportation to a game or practice, the parent must make other arrangements.

### **D. Eligibility**

- 1. Students in grades 5-8 may participate in ACSWC league basketball and volleyball
  - a. Volleyball (August - November): co-ed

- b. Basketball (November - March): boys teams and girls teams
- 2. **Academic Eligibility:** Student athletes must maintain a “C” average in all core courses, with no “F” in any class.
  - a. If a student is deemed ineligible due to grades or academic standing, participation at practice and attendance to games is still expected and encouraged.
  - b. Students who are ineligible for games are to still attend in game uniform and assist coaches and encourage teammates.
- 3. **Behavioral Eligibility:** Students who have not adhered to the Academy’s Discipline Code may be ineligible for sports. Any 5-8th grade student who has received a Category 3 Demerit is automatically ineligible for participation.

## **E. Use of Gym Facilities**

- 1. Athletes on teams that do not commence practice immediately at the end of the school day are to sit quietly in the gym. All the rules for behavior at school still apply.
- 2. Students are not to be left unattended. Unless their practice or game commences immediately upon release of the school day, students are to be picked up or supervised by a parent or guardian.

## **F. Sports Behavior**

- 1. The Academy is a member of the ACSWC: an organization of Christian private schools and home educators who recognize the importance of Christian virtues and behavior on and off the courts. Any student who participates in any sports program must present a model of Christ-like behavior in all sporting events (practices, games, events, etc).
- 2. **Parents are expected to model appropriate behavior for their children.** While it is the very nature of sports to be competitive, parents and all fans are expected to maintain an attitude of control and respect.
  - a. No parents are to address, approach, or otherwise heckle coaches, referees, or other players.
  - b. No inappropriate language, name-calling, booing, or similar behavior.
  - c. Parents and spectators are to follow league rules concerning behavior during games (no unnecessary yelling, screaming, or noise-making during key parts of game play).

# **XVI. Other Policies**

## **A. Final Disclaimer**

The administration reserves the right at any time to unilaterally revise, modify, delete, or add to any and all policies, procedures, and work rules stated in this handbook or in any other document. These policies and procedures establish guidelines only. The interpretation of this handbook is the responsibility and right of the administration.



Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Policies and Procedures  
in the Parent/Student Handbook (to be signed by all parents and students 3-8)

By signing below, I indicate that I have received a copy, read, and agree to the policies, procedures, and expectations listed in the PJP2A Faculty Handbook.

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_