



Rationale

St. Catherine's recognizes parents as the primary educators of their child and, therefore, important role models in the Mission of the Church shared by Catholic Schools. This is demonstrated by parents in proclaiming and building the Kingdom of God, promoting a faith community within the family and community at large, committing to excellence in Catholicity in all areas of a child's development, and supporting the development of Christian leaders, responsible citizens and life-long learners.

At St. Catherine's we look to Jesus as our model and expect everyone to act in a Christ-like manner. The three guiding principles of our school code of conduct are:

- **Respect** treat others with respect and dignity by our words and actions
- **Responsibility** demonstrate responsibility by doing our part in the classroom and in the school
- **Reverence** show reverence while praying, especially during Mass

This applies to students, staff and parents during regular school hours and school sponsored activities.

Policy

St. Catherine's has developed a Parent Code of Conduct with input from students, staff and parents to inform the school community of expected conduct for parents based on the principles of respect for the rights and dignity of all persons in order to promote a safe and respectful environment within the school community. The Parent Code of Conduct is reviewed annually.

Procedure

Parents of St. Catherine's are expected to (but not limited to):

- Be examples of Catholic witness (those parents who are Catholic) by attending Sunday Mass (proclaiming and building the Kingdom of God – see Family Statement of Commitment).
- Be supportive of the Mission of the Catholic Church and supportive of the religious educational programs of the school.
- Respect those in position of rightful authority.
- Respect the rights and dignity of all persons in the parish/school community at all times.
- Refrain from using any technology/media device to defame the character or cause harm to the character of a parish/school community member.
- Show an active interest in their child's schoolwork and progress as well as attend required meetings (sacramental, human growth and development, and student progress interviews, conferences etc.).
- Ensure that their child attends school regularly, is on time and prepared.
- Work cooperatively with teachers in all areas of their child's school life including disciplinary issues.
- Work towards the common good of all students.
- Be familiar with the school's policies and regulations (for example, uniforms, anti-bullying, traffic safety on school grounds, etc.).
- Take concerns to the appropriate person(s) and follow the complaints procedure as provided in the school's and CISVA's policies.
- Avoid involvement in rumors and dissemination of rumors.
- Build bridges of acceptance and understanding among the different cultures represented in the school community.

The Pastor/Archbishop's Representative has the right and duty to provide for the spiritual welfare of the students and families within the parish and the school. They work towards this end with parental cooperation.

The Principal in law has the discretionary right to prohibit or remove any person on school premises and property who is deemed to be an immediate threat (in deed or word) to the safety of students and/or employees and/or any other member of the school community. The Principal will inform the Education Committee, Pastor and Superintendent's Office when such action is taken.



The Education Committee, in consultation with the Principal, reserves the right to determine consequences for non-compliance.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

Bullying is a pattern of repeated actions targeted at a person in a deliberate manner, intended to reduce the perceived power that person has over the situation or to harm that person. All acts of bullying have the characteristics of being dehumanizing, intimidating, humiliating, threatening, and evokes fear of physical harm or emotional distress in the person being targeted.

Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) are wireless and/or portable electronic handheld equipment that include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging Mobile Communication Systems and Smart Technologies (cell phones, smartphones, walkie-talkies, pagers, etc.), portable internet devices (tablets, ipads, mobile managers, mobile messengers, BlackBerry™ handsets, etc.), PDAs (Palm® organizers, pocket PCs, etc.), handheld entertainment systems (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods®, Walkmen™, etc.), digital or film cameras, digital or analogue audio recorders or video recorders (tape recorders, camcorders, etc.), spy gadgets (spy cameras, covert listening devices, etc.), and any other convergent communication technologies that do any number of the previously mentioned functions. PEDs also include any current or emerging wireless handheld technologies or portable IT systems that can be used for the purpose of communication, entertainment, data management, word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.

Reference: School Policy #12 - Complaints CISVA Policy #411 – Family Statement of Commitment CISVA Policy #302 – Complaints	Approved: St. Joseph's Parish Education Committee
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