

DISCIPLINE

It is the intent of St. Patrick School to develop an inner discipline in each student as well as provide an educational environment free from all forms of improper threats, intimidation, hostility, and offensive and inappropriate behavior. Such improper conduct may take the form of unwanted verbal or physical conduct, verbal or written derogatory or discriminatory statements, and behavior otherwise not conducive to the educational and religious mission of the school. Students are expected to comply with school directives and school policies. Students must be respectful, courteous, and attentive to teachers and staff at all times and considerate of their classmates.

If a student fails to cooperate regarding the above expectations, a student in grades K-4 will receive a warning. If the behavior continues, an e-mail or phone call to parents will be initiated informing them of the unwanted conduct/behavior. Continuous disregard for school regulations and policies may result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the teacher/principal. If the situation so warrants, it may be necessary to suspend a student from class. A student may be denied participation in school related activities, including field trips, Mission Day, etc., for serious violations of discipline. Parents will be notified in writing if a student is not eligible.

Students in grades 5-8 who do not cooperate with the discipline code will receive a Behavior Report which will need to be signed by the parent and returned to school the next day. Three conduct referrals in one trimester will result in an after school detention. Two detentions in a trimester will result in a suspension from school and a mandatory meeting with the parents, student, and principal.

Examples for which a warning, phone call, e-mail, Behavior Report (Grades 5-8) or a disciplinary conference may be scheduled include, but are not limited to the following:

- . Stealing, Cheating, Lying
- . Incomplete homework
- . Uniform infractions
- . Chewing gum
- . Disrespect to an adult
- . Disrespect to a peer
- . Misuse of technology
- . Classroom disturbances by student
- . Use of abusive, vulgar or profane language or gestures

These categories do not cover every possible situation. The school is responsible for determining appropriate or inappropriate behavior.

Immorality in talk or action and conduct, whether inside or outside school, that is detrimental to the reputation of St. Patrick School could result in suspension or expulsion.

Suspension is a serious disciplinary measure and may occur when the student has received two after school detentions (Grade 5-8), demonstrates continued disregard for school regulations, disrespect, disruptive behavior, or for other serious reasons.

Immediate suspension may be warranted for reasons which include but are not limited to:

- . Blatant disrespect for authority
- . Fighting or deliberate physical or verbal harassment of others
- . Serious inappropriate behavior
- . Stealing
- . Possession or use of cigarettes, tobacco, alcohol or drugs
- . Truancy
- . Use of profanity
- . Destruction of school property
- . Leaving school grounds or classroom without permission
- . Abuse of the Internet

The length of the suspension is up to the discretion of the principal. Parents/guardians will be notified when a suspension occurs. The student will not be re-admitted to school without a parent conference with the principal. The report of the suspension will be filed in the principal's office. Suspension may make a student eligible for immediate dismissal.

Reasons for Expulsion:

- . Actions detrimental to the moral and spiritual welfare of other students
- . Habitual profanity or vulgarity
- . Assault, battery, harassment or any threat of force or violence directed toward any school personnel or student
- . Open, persistent defiance of authority
- . Continued willful disobedience
- . Use, sale, or possession of narcotics, and/or other controlled substances on or near school premises
- . Use, sale, distribution or possession of any alcohol or drugs
- . Stealing
- . Smoking or possession of tobacco products
- . Vandalism
- . Possession of firearms, real or toy.
- . Possession of a weapon
- . Abuse of the Internet

The possession, use, or distribution of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or weapons or any threats made by a student on school property or at school-related functions will merit immediate disciplinary action. Parents will be contacted and the student will be suspended, expelled, and/or referred to appropriate agencies. A student may be required to have psychological or psychiatric clearance before returning to school.

Harassment/Bullying/Violence

As a reflection of the mission of St. Patrick School it is recognized that bullying, harassing, intentional exclusion, or violent behavior will not be tolerated. We seek to create an environment of learning, compassion, and safety by educating parents, teachers, staff, and students concerning respect. All members of the school community are expected to discourage, prevent, intervene, report, and otherwise appropriately address bullying, harassing, or violent behavior.

Bullying/harassment is defined as an abuse of power by an individual (or group) who deliberately targets others for repeated physical and/or psychological abuse; and/or in the extreme, causing injury. Bullying can also include a pattern of deliberate isolation or exclusion of another with the intent to be hurtful. Physical contact such as pushing, punching, kicking, or throwing of objects between students will be not tolerated. Making fun of, writing notes, and encouraging a fight in person or using social networking sites, are examples of harassment and will not be tolerated.

All forms of Cyberbullying on computers at school or home are unacceptable. Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuse of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, and threatening another by sending or posting inappropriate or hurtful messages, pictures or images, including Website postings or blogs. Verbal or written threats made against the physical or emotional well-being of any individual are taken very seriously. Students making such threats (seriously or in jest on line) face disciplinary action by local police authorities and St. Patrick School.

This section is intended to serve notice to students, their parents and all members of St. Patrick School community, that bullying/harassing/violent behavior is an immediate cause for interventions that could include immediate suspension or expulsion. All persons- those engaging in bullying behaviors, victims of bullying, or witnesses to victimization of another-must realize that bullying is a community concern requiring community-wide accountability and commitment to both its prevention and prompt, appropriate response if and when it occurs.