



SAN JOSE

CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

Parent-Student Handbook 2023-2024

INDEX

Absences	6, 14	Honor Code Violation Disciplinary Action	26
Absence Due to Illness	9-10	Honor Roll and Special Recognitions	15
Absentee Student Homework and Missed Tests	14	Hours of Operation	1
Academics	12-16	Immunization Requirements	8-9
Admission and Registration	2	Internet Policy	17
Admissions Process	3	Learning Support Services	13
After School Policy	8	Lost and Found	29
Annual Book Fee	4	Lunch Program	30
Arrival	6	Mass Attendance	7
Arrival and Dismissal Safety	11	Media/Photo Release	5
Attendance	6-7	Medication in School	10
Attendance Requirements	5	Mission Statement	1
Behavior policy (unacceptable)	25	No Smoking on School Grounds	11
Birthdays and Holiday Celebrations	22,30	New Student Probation	3
Building Visitors	11	Office Phone Use	5
Bullying	24-25	Parent Involvement	30
Cell Phones and Electronic Devices	16-17	PE Uniform Dress Code	20-21
Child Protective Investigations	11	Personal Items Brought to School	29
Communication	5	Philosophy	2
Community Service- Student Requirement	13	Picture Day Dress Code	22
Conduct	23	Registration Fee	3
Core Curriculum	12	Religious Education	13
Disciplinary Action for Accumulated Reminders	25	Reminder System	27-28
Disciplinary Action for Misconduct	26	Report Cards	14-15
Disciplinary Definitions	25	Resource Curriculum	12
Discipline and Behavior	23-29	Restrictions Due to Illness or Injury	10
Dismissal	7	Retention Criteria	15
Educational Needs/Accommodations	3	Retention Policy	15-16
Eighth Grade Fees	4	Right to Amend	2
Emergency School Closure or Delay	5	Sacrament Preparation	13
Extended School Care	8	Safety and Campus Security	11
Extended School Care Contact Information	8	School Contact Information	1
Extended School Care Fees	4, 8	School Liturgies	13
Extracurricular Activity Requirements	18-19	Searches	25
Family Service Hours Requirement	31	Sexual Harassment	23-24
Field Trips/Chaperones	18	Signing A Student Out Before Dismissal	7
Financial Policies	4	Spectators Attending Extracurricular Activities	19
Florida House Bill 1521	29	Spirit Day Dress Code	22
Food Allergies	10	Student Items	29
Forgotten Items from Home	29	Summer Remediation Requirements (Retention)	16
Forms of Communication	5	Tardy to School	7
Fundraising	31	Textbooks/Library Books	29
General Information	2	Threats and Violence Policy	24
General Release of Liability	32	Tuition and Fees	4
Grading Scale	14	Unacceptable behavior – right to dismiss	25
Guidance Services	12	Uniform Dress Code Policy	19-22
Head Lice	10	Values	1
Handbook Agreement	33	Vision and Hearing Screenings	10
Harassment	24	Volunteering	31
Health and Safety	8-10	Waiting Lists	3
Health Room Services	9-10	Weapons Policy	24
Home and School Association	30	Withdrawals and Fees	4
Homework	14	Withholding Report Cards	14
Honor Code Policy	26		

MISSION STATEMENT

San Jose Catholic School is dedicated to fostering Catholic identity and academic excellence through faith, love, and knowledge.

Values

FAITH: *Faith grows from hearing God's word.* Romans 10:17

LOVE: *Do everything with love.* 1 Corinthians 16:14

SERVE: *As each has received a gift use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.* 1 Peter 4:10

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address

San Jose Catholic School
3619 Toledo Road
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Telephone: (904) 733-2313

Fax: (904) 731-7169

Website: www.sanjosecatholicsschool.com

School Information System: FACTS SIS

Pastor

Fr. Remek Blaszkowski

Principal

Ms. Jen Swain

Assistant Principal

Mrs. Stacey Orlando

HOURS OF OPERATION

Early Morning Care Pre-K – 8th (no fee)	7:00 am – 7:30 am
School Office	7:30 am – 3:30 pm
Classroom Buildings	7:30 am – 3:00 pm
Class Hours	
Pre-K3, Pre-K4 (Half Day)	7:45 am – 11:45am
Pre-K3, Pre-K4 (Full Day)	7:45 am – 2:50 pm
K - 8th grade (Monday through Friday)	7:45 am – 2:50 pm
Pre-K3-8 th grade Early Dismissal Days	7:45 am – 11:45 am
Regular Extended School Care (added fee)	2:50 pm – 6:00 pm

FREQUENTLY DIALED TELEPHONE NUMBERS

School Office	733-2313
Health Room	733-2313
Church Office	733-1630
Cafeteria	733-8915

GENERAL INFORMATION

This handbook serves as a guide and source of information about San Jose Catholic School and assists us in meeting our mission of fostering Catholic identity and academic excellence through faith, love, and knowledge for your child. With this in mind, it is expected that each family thoroughly read this handbook and keep it for reference. It is also expected that each family will sign and return the handbook agreement annually. **The handbook agreement can be found on page 33 and must be signed and returned at the start of school.**

PHILOSOPHY

Being Christ-Centered and Child-Centered is the foundation of San Jose Catholic School. We strive to develop the whole child through the fostering of a Christian community, and a deep commitment to the Catholic faith. We work to achieve this in a loving atmosphere in which personal growth and Gospel values are strongly linked. Our families, students, and faculty work together, each with specific responsibilities, to ensure the learning and growth in all areas of a child's life. Through this shared conviction, we work as one educational and religious community to foster the best for each student.

RIGHT TO AMEND

It is the responsibility of each student and parent to read, understand, and abide by the contents of this handbook. The administration of San Jose Catholic School reserves the right to alter or amend this parent-student handbook at any time. Should changes be made, the changes will be communicated to parents/guardians and students. The changes made are effective immediately and apply to all students.

ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION

ADMISSION

Admission preference is given to Catholic students who are members of San Jose Catholic Parish. Transfer students from a public, private, or diocesan school will be considered on a conditional basis.

San Jose Catholic School has an open admission policy. No person, on the grounds of race, color, gender, disability, or national origin, is excluded or otherwise subjected to discrimination in the receiving of services. Nor does the school discriminate in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment on the basis of race, color, disability, age, gender, or national origin.

Grade Entering	Age or Placement Guidelines	Entrance Test Requirements
Pre-K 3	Must be 3 years old by Sept. 1 st	Developmental readiness assessment
Pre-K 4	Must be 4 years old by Sept. 1 st	Developmental readiness assessment
Kindergarten	Must be 5 years old by Sept. 1 st	Kindergarten readiness assessment
Grades 1-8	Placed in grade according to age, previous school records and recommendations, and entrance test results.	Grade level entrance tests which may include easy CBM™, Developmental Reading Assessment® (DRA), STAR, or other writing standards assessment

EDUCATIONAL NEEDS/ACCOMODATIONS (DOSA Policy 700.7)

The Catholic school community in the Diocese of St. Augustine has a goal of helping all children reach their full potential intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. Individual schools establish admission policies for their own schools, which target students who are able to manage in a mainstream setting. Limited resources prevent us from accepting students who would require more than simple accommodations.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

APPLICATION PROCEDURES for entry into the school

1. Complete the online application. There is a \$25 fee. (This fee does not apply to VPK.)
2. Submit the child's birth certificate via upload OR in the application via email.
3. Submit the child's last two years report cards from other school (if applicable) via upload in the application or via email.
4. Submit copies of psychoeducational test results, IEPs, Learning support plans (if applicable) via upload in the application or via email.
5. Submit documentation of custody (if applicable) via upload in the application or via email.
6. Once the application and documentation has been received, you will be contacted to set up a new student assessment. There is a \$25 assessment fee for this assessment. (This fee does not apply to VPK.)
7. Once the new student assessment results have been reviewed by the administration, you will be notified of the admission decision.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES for new students upon acceptance

1. Once you have accepted your child's spot, you will receive an enrollment packet. Please complete the packet within one week of receipt.
2. Submit your child's Catholic Baptismal certificate (if applicable).
3. Submit your child's current FL Certificate of Immunization. (DH680)
4. Submit your child's current FL School Health Entry Exam. (Form 3040)
5. Set up your FACTS financial account.
6. You will be charged the registration fee at the time of enrollment.

****We will not HOLD spots for students who have outstanding documents or fees.****

WAITING LISTS

Currently enrolled students will receive priority for admissions. However, there is a cutoff date announced for re-enrollment. Current families who do not re-enroll by said date will jeopardize their spot for the next year. New families may have to be put on a waiting list pending class size.

NEW STUDENT PROBATIONARY PERIOD

All new students will be placed on academic, behavioral, and social probation for the first semester. Failure to meet the academic OR behavioral/social standards of San Jose Catholic School will result in immediate dismissal.

FINANCE POLICIES

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition and academic fees are determined annually. See our website: www.sanjosecatholicschool.com or contact the School Office for a current tuition and fee schedule.

All families must be registered with FACTS Management Company.

FACTS Management Company will process annual fees, tuition payments, AND any other necessary payments – such as P. E. uniforms, field trips, HSA fees, yearbooks, etc. This will eliminate cash and check payments.

FACTS will assess each family a \$41 processing fee annually.

REGISTRATION FEE

To register a student, a **non-refundable** registration fee is required. There are two rates for this fee, NEW or RETURNING.

ANNUAL BOOK FEES

- The Annual Fee payment is due in June.
- The Annual Fee covers textbooks, workbooks, standardized testing, art, classroom resource materials, technology (annual maintenance, scheduled replacements, and software), music, science, library/media services, periodicals, health room, and insurance.

TUITION

- Monthly tuition payments are due August to May (10 months).
- Families may select a monthly payment option.
- A \$30 late fee will apply for late payments.

Tuition and fees must be up to date for a student to receive a report card, participate in graduation, or to have permanent records transferred to another school.

A family with an account 45 days past due will be required to keep the student(s) at home until the account is current.

EIGHTH GRADE FEES

Graduation and related activities require a separate fee for 8th grade students. Parents will be notified of additional 8th grade fees shortly after the start of each academic year. **Fees will cover end of the year field trip to Universal Studios, graduation ceremony, caps/gowns, awards, diplomas, and a yearbook.**

EXTENDED SCHOOL CARE FEES

For students attending ESC on a regular basis, a scheduled monthly rate is available.

For students attending ESC on an occasional basis, an hourly rate is assessed.

Visit our website, www.sanjosecatholicschool.com, or contact the School Office for more information.

WITHDRAWAL FEES

To withdraw a student, parents/guardians must complete a withdrawal form. All accounts must be paid in full (i.e., tuition, academic fees, cafeteria program, library fines). All textbooks and library books must be returned. Once all these conditions are satisfied, official school transcripts can be released to other schools. **If a student is withdrawn anytime during the academic school year, the family will be financially responsible for two months of tuition from the date of withdrawal.**

COMMUNICATION

FORMS OF COMMUNICATION

San Jose Catholic School strives to establish open lines of communication.

- Pre K 3 – 2nd grade emails classroom newsletters to alert parents to upcoming events.
- 3rd – 8th grade teachers post regular updates on Schoology.
- Parent-teacher conferences are available for at the end of the first quarter and by request for the second quarter. For additional conferences during the year, contact the teacher.
- San Jose Catholic School's website www.sanjosecatholicsschool.com contains a wealth of information throughout the school year. A monthly calendar listing of school events and the daily lunch menu is found on the website.
- **For teacher email addresses** and regularly updated news and information pertaining to grades and individual classes, parents may log-in to **FACTS SIS Parent Portal**.
- At Back to School, OPEN HOUSE, parents are invited into the school to meet faculty and staff and to receive information for the upcoming school year.
- E-mail blasts and text alerts are sent by the school to inform parents of current or urgent events.

OFFICE PHONE USE

If a student needs to contact a parent or guardian at some point within the school day, the student must have teacher permission to go to the office. The student must then wait for an office assistant to supervise the use of the phone. Forgotten items, such as homework, lunches, or PE clothes, do NOT constitute an emergency phone call. Students will not be called out of class for telephone messages; however, urgent messages will be delivered to the student if necessary.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE OR DELAY

San Jose Catholic School follows the directive of the Bishop or the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, his delegate, to close or delay the opening of the school.

MEDIA/PHOTO RELEASE

We enjoy celebrating the many achievements of our school community. It is a normal practice that school staff, parents, or volunteers may take photographs of our students and other community members engaged in activities during the academic year.

It is important that our families understand that a media/photo release is not required under these circumstances. Newsworthy photographs may appear in various SJCS media, including but not limited to, the school's website, newsletters, yearbooks, San Jose Catholic Church bulletins, the school information system, social media, official school email accounts, etc. This also pertains to the publication of student work, any photographs taken at public events held on our campus, and any school-sanctioned event that occurs in a public venue. In all other circumstances, a media/photo release will be obtained.

*Please note that in an effort to protect our students, SJCS **does not identify** any child on social media, or the school website, without prior authorized consent.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS (DOSA Policy 400.3)

Excessive absences or tardies will be reported to STEP UP and may jeopardize scholarships.

- There is a minimum attendance requirement to qualify a student for a passing grade.
- Within each quarter, attendance is mandatory 37 days of 45 days for each subject.
- Any student who has more than 8 absences per quarter, in any given subject, cannot obtain a passing grade in that subject.
- Under conditions that warrant special consideration, the administration will make the final decision after meeting with the parent and teacher.
- **Voluntary Pre-K Program laws**, made by the state legislature, require that *students participating in this program may not miss more than 20% of the program in order for the school provider to receive funding. Students missing more than 20% will be allowed to remain in San Jose Catholic School's Pre-K but will be required to pay fees.*
- Upon the fourth absence in a quarter, parents will be notified by the homeroom teacher. After six days of absences in a quarter, parents will receive communication from SJCS requesting their cooperation in preventing further absences.

ABSENCES

- **Parents must notify the school of a child's absence by emailing or calling the Health Room by 9:30 a.m. Health room contact info: clinic@sanjoseschool.com or 733-2313.**
- When a student returns after an absence, a note must be sent to the homeroom teacher stating the reason for the absence from the parent, or doctor, if applicable.
- **Excused Absences:** Excused absences are those due to illness, accident, or death in the immediate family. Make-up work will be accepted. For more information see the **HOMEWORK** section of this handbook.
- **Unexcused Absences:** In the case of an unexcused absence, a teacher is not required to give make up work. A grade of zero may be given for class work or tests missed.

Preplanned Absences: Please use the school calendar and book vacations during 3 and 4 day weekends or holidays. Absences due to preplanned family vacations or commitments can create a hardship on both the teacher and the student. Class materials and homework are not given before a preplanned absence occurs. Upon the student's return, a plan for make-up work and tests will be prepared by the teacher and student. Again, use the school calendar when planning vacations.

ARRIVAL

- Early drop-off supervision is available at no cost from 7:00 a.m. until 7:25 a.m. **in the cafeteria.**
- Students should not enter the cafeteria at or after 7:25. Please join carline at this time.
- Regular morning drop-off is between 7:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. in the front or back parking lot.

To ensure the safety of all students and to facilitate arrival procedures, **drivers are prohibited from cell phone use**, must remain in their car during drop-off times, and are asked to kindly follow instruction from all faculty and staff.

Students must be IN their homeroom by 7:45 a.m.

TARDY TO SCHOOL

If a student arrives at school or in homeroom after 7:45 a.m., he/she is tardy.

- Students must be IN their homeroom by 7:45 a.m. If a student arrives to school after 7:45 a.m., he/she must report to the School Office for a tardy slip. If the youngest tardy child is in grade 4 or above, the student may sign in (without a parent) at the to receive the tardy slip for admittance to class. Students in grades 3 and below must be accompanied to the School Office by a parent before being admitted to class.
- After 3 tardies in a quarter, parents will receive a letter from SJCS to remind families of the school policy, and a \$5 fine per student will be assessed per tardy. Each quarter will begin anew.
- Doctor, dentist, and orthodontist appointments are considered excused tardies. Students arriving late due to such appointments must have a parent sign them in at the School Office and bring official documentation from the doctor.
- After 6 tardies in a quarter, a conference will be required.
- Students who arrive after 8:15 a.m. will be marked absent for their first period class.

MASS ATTENDANCE

The Catholic Mass is an integral part of our Catholic faith. It is a primary source for building our school community, authenticating our Catholic identity, and fortifying our personal journey with Jesus Christ. Therefore, attendance at school Mass and prayer services is expected for PreK 4 – 8th grade students.

SIGNING A STUDENT OUT BEFORE DISMISSAL

- If a student needs to be picked up early, a courtesy message is requested via note, email, or phone on the morning of the appeal. Parents must sign the student out at the School Office. Parents are not to go to their child's classroom; the student will be called to the office to be dismissed. If a student is signed out prior to 2:25 p.m., they will be marked absent for their last period class. Eight or more absences in a class per quarter may result in a failing grade for that subject.
- It may be difficult to make doctor, dental, and other appointments after school hours; this is an interruption to the classroom and academic success.
- After three unexcused early dismissals, a \$5 fine per student will be assessed per early release. Each quarter will begin anew. Early pickup for sibling of an athlete for a sporting event will be considered an excused early release because this is a school requested pickup.

DISMISSAL

To help ensure the safety of everyone, drivers are prohibited from cell phone use, must remain in their car during pick-up times, and are asked to kindly follow instruction from all faculty and staff.

Students can ONLY be released to adults listed on Student Pickup List through FACTS. Students will not be released to anyone not listed on the Student Pickup List without a handwritten/signed consent or email from the legal guardian to the school prior to dismissal. **Parents MUST update the Dismissal Release form online in FACTS when wishing to make changes.**

Students not picked up at regular dismissal will be taken to Extended School Care and charged the hourly rate.

AFTER SCHOOL POLICY

- For safety reasons once a child is picked up they will not be allowed on the property unsupervised.
- After 3:00 p.m., the playgrounds are reserved exclusively for Extended School Care.
- Siblings of students attending after school activities such as club meetings, sporting events, play practice, detention, etc., must be picked up or they will be sent to Extended School Care. Siblings are not allowed to attend these functions unless accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone.

EXTENDED SCHOOL CARE (ESC)

EXTENDED SCHOOL CARE HOURS OF OPERATION

Extended School Care 2:50 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

6:01 – 6:15 p.m. (\$25.00 late fee) \$2.00 a minute after 6:15

Once a student has been signed out of extended care, they cannot be signed back in.

Extended School Care (ESC) is operated for the convenience of parents of SJCS students.

- ESC is available every school day, except the last day before major holidays, and the last day of school.
- Students may attend ESC on a regular or occasional basis. Current fees are published on the Fee and Tuition Schedule and can be downloaded on the 'Helpful Links' page of the school website or you may contact the School Office for more information.
 - Occasional care students will pay an assessment fee based on hours of provided care monthly.
 - Students on contract for regular care will pay a published monthly rate.
 - Payment for occasional care students is due by the 20th of each month. A \$10.00 late fee will be assessed for each month the payment is past due.
 - Shorter months will holidays have already been factored into the monthly rates.
- Students will be grouped according to grade levels.
- All students will have access to a refillable water station. Parents may pack a snack.
- Students will have an opportunity to begin homework at ESC.
- Parents, or adults listed on the school pick up list, will be required to sign out their child.
- If an adult picking up is not recognized they will need to show ID.
- A student will not be dismissed to someone not on the pick-up list.

For general information or other ESC questions or concerns please contact the main office or ESC@sanjoseschool.com.

HEALTH and SAFETY

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

State law requires that all children enrolled in school be immunized and that proof of the immunization be on file in the school office. Any student without proof of a student physical examination and/or required immunizations will be denied enrollment and/or removed from school.

Students entering San Jose Catholic School for the first time must present the following documents before the start of school:

1. Student **Physical Examination Form DH 3040** (original, no copies) signed by a Florida physician.
2. Florida law requires that all students must have on file a current **Florida Certificate of Immunization Form DH 680** (original, no copies).

To meet the requirements for a Florida Certification of Immunization, a child must have the following:

1. At least four doses of the DTP or DTAP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) vaccine with the last dose given on or after the fourth birthday (otherwise, a fifth dose is required).
2. At least three or four doses of polio (IPV/OPV) vaccine with the last dose given on or after the fourth birthday (otherwise a fifth dose is required).
3. The MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine given on or after the first birthday with a definite recorded date. Proof of one dose is required for Pre-K. Proof of two doses of the MMR vaccine is required for kindergarten through 8th grade students.
4. Hib (haemophilus influenza type b) vaccination for children under five years of age.
5. Hepatitis B series is required to attend Pre-K through 8th grade.
6. Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine is required to attend pre-school through 8th grade.
7. A second dose of Varicella (chicken pox) is required for kindergarten through 3rd grade.
8. Students entering, attending, or transferring into 7th or 8th grade must have, in addition to the above, another dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine. Proof of this must be documented and submitted on a **Florida Certificate of Immunization Form DH 680**.

The required immunizations are available at your child's medical provider or the Duval County Health Department's Immunization Center at 5222 North Pearl Street, (904-253-1420).

OUT-OF-STATE APPLICANTS

A student **Physical Examination Form DH 3040** (original, no copies) must be presented prior to a child entering school.

The Public Health Department will transfer the medical information to a Florida certificate at no charge. The student's health data must be on a **Florida Physical Examination Form DH 3040** (original, no copies) and **Immunization Form DH 680** (original, no copies).

Your child will not be admitted to school if the **DH Immunization Form 680** (original, no copies) is not in his/her file.

HEALTH ROOM SERVICES

Health Room Contact Info: clinic@sanjoseschool.com or 733-2313.

The school operates a Health Room, with an attendant, during regular school hours for grades Pre-K through 8th grade. The school does not employ a registered nurse in the Health Room. The Health Room exists primarily to care for minor injuries and as a place to provide temporary care for students who become ill at school. A parent will be notified and is expected to pick up their child in a timely manner if he/she becomes ill and is unable to return to class. The student will be released from the Health Room or the School Office.

Emergency Information: Emergency information must be current on your **FACTS Family Portal**. It is the parent's responsibility to keep the contact information updated. A student will **only** be released to a parent or their designees named on your FACTS Family Portal unless written notification has been received.

Absence Due to Illness: Parents are expected to keep students who have an infectious disease out of school until such time as it is no longer communicable. Students returning to school after an illness should be free of symptoms (vomiting, diarrhea, fever) without medications, for a minimum of 24 hours. A child who has had a serious illness or injury must present a written discharge statement from the attending physician before being readmitted to school.

Medication in School: Administering medication is normally not a function of education; however, San Jose Catholic School allows for medication to be given at school under the following conditions:

- Medications must be kept in the school Health Room. Students are not permitted to have any medication in their possession on school campus.
- The school's medication forms must be completed by the parent and on file in the school office. All medication must be in the original container and must be brought to the School Office or Health Room by an adult. This includes non-prescription drugs such as Tylenol, Advil, etc.
- Medication is to be administered by school personnel.
- Cough drops for a student may be held and distributed in the classroom by the teacher after written consent is given by the parent.
- Medications must be picked up by the parent/ guardian or another responsible adult.
- Students using inhalers for asthma control, Epi-Pens for anaphylaxis, diabetic glucose monitoring or other "as needed" medications or treatments, must have the physician's written authorization to "self-administer" their medication or to carry it on their person at school.

Food Allergies: Parents are responsible for notifying the teachers and Health Room of any food allergies their child may have. Annually, the parent and the student's physician must complete Diocesan forms.

- A child with a food allergy may be required to have a parent accompany his/her class on any field trip.
- A child with a medical condition (such as, but not limited to, diabetes or asthma) may be required to have a parent accompany his/her class on any field trip.

Restrictions Due to Illness or Injury: A child who has had a serious illness or injury must present a written discharge statement from the attending physician before being readmitted to school and resuming normal physical activity.

Vision and Hearing Screenings: Screening may be offered during the school year. Parents must notify the school in writing if they do not want their child to participate in the screenings. A vision or hearing screening at school is not a complete eye or ear examination.

HEAD LICE (DOSA Policy 500.19)

The Diocese of St. Augustine has a no nit policy regarding re-admittance of students after head lice infestation. Students with nits (eggs) will be excluded from school until they are nit-free. All children excluded from school due to head lice and/or nits, must be accompanied by a parent or guardian before the student will be allowed to return to school.

ARRIVAL and DISMISSAL SAFETY

The school uses faculty and staff in addition to 5th grade safety patrol students to assist with morning arrival in order to ensure students arrive in the classroom from the car as safely as possible. To ensure the safety of all students and to facilitate arrival and dismissal procedures, **drivers are prohibited from cell phone use**, must abide by the posted speed limit of 5 mph and remain in their car during pick-up times. Parents **MUST** use their assigned drop-off and pick up lines.

Please have the appropriate color-coded car tag provided by the school hanging from the review mirror of your car.

SAFETY AND CAMPUS SECURITY

Safety and security are carefully monitored at San Jose Catholic School.

- All volunteers and visitors are required to sign in and out through the School Office and display a visitor pass while on campus.
- In the event of a suspicious or dangerous person being reported on campus, lock-down procedures will be implemented.
- Entrance doors are locked throughout the day.
- Student areas are fenced, and gates are kept locked during the day.
- Students move about the campus in pairs using a buddy system.
- Videotape surveillance occurs on a 24-hour basis on the school campus.
- Fire drills and/or safety drills are conducted on a regular basis.

CHILD PROTECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Florida law provides that any person who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused by a parent, legal custodian, caregiver, or other person responsible for the child's welfare must report such knowledge to the Department of Children and Families (DCF). The school will cooperate with all child protective investigations by DCF or the local law enforcement agency. Reports should be made to Florida's Department of Children and Families by calling the Abuse Hotline at: 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873).

Child protective investigations by DCF or local law enforcement agencies sometimes include interviews of students at school and may occur without advance notice. When it is reasonably possible, the school will request of the investigator that the school be allowed to notify the parents that their child has been asked to participate in a child protective investigation. The school may also request the presence of a school staff member during investigative interviews on school property. However, the school will follow the direction of the investigator with respect to these requests.

BUILDING VISITORS

It is essential for the safety of the students that all school visitors, including parents, guardians, grandparents, and volunteers, sign in at the School Office and obtain a visitor's pass before proceeding anywhere in the building. Additionally, all visitors must sign-out at the School Office before leaving campus. This protocol must be followed unless advised of an exception from administration.

No Smoking

Both San Jose Catholic Parish and School are smoke free inside and outside.

ACADEMICS

CORE CURRICULUM

San Jose Catholic School meets all the requirements of the State Department of Education and is accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference. The school also meets the guidelines of the Diocese of St. Augustine and offers a rigorous academic curriculum that exceeds Florida Standards.

San Jose Catholic School's academic curriculum is designed at each grade level to prepare students for their future educational experience and studies. Our faculty is adept at utilizing new methods and resources to ensure that the State and Diocesan curricula are applied with updated methods and techniques. Curriculum includes both cognitive and affective aspects of academic growth at every grade level.

Pre-K3: Age-appropriate curriculum includes religion, math, language, fine and gross motor skill development, spatial relations, and social skills through whole group instruction, classroom centers, hands-on activities, and exploration.

Pre-K4: The Pre-Kindergarten program is developed using age-appropriate practices to teach religion, language arts, math, science, and social skills. Directed and creative experiences provide opportunities for the student to "learn how to learn."

Kindergarten: The kindergarten program is carefully planned to establish the building blocks for academic success. This covers all academic disciplines, religion, math, science, language arts, and social studies. Our program is rigorous and is designed for the youngest learners.

Primary/Elementary: Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

The main emphasis of the primary and intermediate grades is religion, reading, English, spelling, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students continue to learn through whole group, small group, and independent learning instruction and activities.

Middle School: Grades 6, 7, 8

The core curriculum for middle school consists of religion, literature, English, math, science, and history. Some subjects may be leveled, such as math and literature, and are done so after careful assessment by the school in order to further challenge each student at his/her own level.

Resource:

In addition to the core curriculum, students have numerous resource classes added to their schedule. Resources include: music, art, technology, media research (library/computer), Spanish, physical education, and guidance.

Guidance:

San Jose Catholic School employs a school counselor. The Guidance Program is intended for all students. Guidance services provide education and intervention of academic, behavioral, and personal/social issues. When needed, the school counselor meets with students, parents, or teachers individually or in small groups. Requests to see the counselor may come from students, teachers, administrators, or parents. When necessary, referrals to outside sources are made for on-going counseling.

Learning Support Services:

San Jose Catholic School employs certified ESE teachers and an Academic Dean to aid with students needing learning support and minimal accommodations. This assistance is provided on a priority basis and not intended for long-term assistance. When necessary, referrals for testing and or other services are made.

Sacramental Preparation & Religious Education

Religion is the cornerstone of the students' education at San Jose Catholic School. Both Catholic and non-Catholic students participate in daily religion class. Second and eighth graders will also receive sacrament preparation during their religion classes. Attendance for all diocesan workshops related to these sacraments is mandatory.

First Reconciliation & First Eucharist

Catholic students who have been baptized will prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion during 2nd grade.

Confirmation

Catholic students may receive the Sacrament of Confirmation during their 8th grade school year. In addition to the school's religion curriculum, parish sponsored programs help prepare students for reception of this sacrament.

Student Community Service

San Jose Catholic promotes social justice by focusing on community service in every grade level. The school participates in at least two community service projects that require active student participation. These include things like our Thanksgiving Food Drive and collections for Catholic Charities.

Mandatory Middle School Student Community Service Policy

8th Grade: As part of the religion grade and confirmation requirements, 8th grade students are to complete a total of **20 hours** of community service.

7th Grade: As part of the religion grade, 7th grade students are to complete a total of **10 hours** of community service.

6th Grade: As part of the religion grade, 6th grade students are to complete a total of **5 hours** of community service.

Middle School students may begin to earn required service hours during the summer prior to starting the new grade. **Service hours will be checked prior to Christmas break. Students should have HALF of their hours completed by the end of the first semester. Middle school students not completing their community service hours prior to the special end-of-year field trip will not be permitted to attend.** 8th grade students may not graduate without completing service hours.

***Additional service hour forms may be found on the school website or within the religion classroom.**

HOMEWORK – students in grades 6 - 8 who choose not to complete homework will be issued an academic reminder which will count as a demerit point within the FACTS discipline system.

Homework is assigned to support the learning that takes place in the classroom. It is designed to practice and reinforce a skill or increase knowledge in a subject through advanced preparation or an extension of learning.

Excused Absences & Homework: Absences due to illness, accident, or death in the immediate family are excused with a parent or doctor’s note upon the student’s return.

- Students are responsible to find out what work was missed during their absence and create a plan with the teacher for make-up work and missed tests, quizzes, or projects.
- If a student is absent due to illness, assignments may be picked up at the School Office after dismissal.
- Students will have one day for every day missed to make up work.
- Missed tests will be made up when the student returns and alternative tests may be given. Semester exams may not be made up unless the student has a written note from his/her doctor.

Preplanned Absences & Homework: Class materials and homework are not given before a preplanned absence occurs. Upon the student’s return, a plan for make-up work and tests will be prepared by the teacher and student. Vacations taken outside of the designated school holidays is discouraged.

Unexcused Absences & Homework: In the case of an unexcused absence, a teacher is not required to give make up work. A grade of zero may be given for class work or tests missed.

GRADING SCALE

Grades K-2		Grades 3-8	
<u>Achievement Grades</u>	<u>Skill Grades</u>	<u>Achievement Grades</u>	<u>Skill Grades</u>
S = Satisfactory	4 = Proficient	A = 90 – 100	4 = Exceeds Expectations
N = Needs improvement	3 = Developing	B = 80 – 89	3 = Meets Expectations
U = Unsatisfactory	2 = Emerging	C = 70 – 79	2 = Working Toward
	1 = Insufficient	D = 60 – 69	1 = Not Meeting
	N/A = Not Assessed	F = 0 – 59	* = Not Assessed

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are to inform parents and present to them an assessment of their child’s achievement and progress in his/her academic studies. Report cards are issued quarterly.

- Academic grades will be posted on a regular basis on the parent portal: **FACTS SIS Parent Portal**.
- Pre-K 3 does not issue a formal report card but will send home a report of developmentally appropriate goals bi-annually.

Withholding Report Cards: If tuition, an Extended School Care fee, or other finances are not current, the school policy is to withhold a student’s report card and block access to grades on FACTS SIS until the outstanding bill has been paid.

HONOR ROLL AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Students in grades 3-8, who have attained substantial achievement on their report card and conduct grades of average or above, will be given recognition by being placed on the Honor Roll for each marking period.

- **A Honor Roll:** Grades must be at 90% or above.
- **A/B Honor Roll:** Grades must be at 80% or above.

Honor Roll Award: This award is given to 4th – 8th grade students who have at least A-B Honor Roll for all four quarters.

Peace in Christ Award: This very special award is given annually to only one graduating student from 8th grade who clearly exemplifies Bishop Snyder’s motto of Peace in Christ.

Student Athlete Award: This award is given annually to 5th – 8th grade students who have at least A-B Honor Roll all four quarters, have participated in at least 2 sports, and are approved by the principal.

Superintendent’s Award: This award is given annually to 6th – 8th grade students who have achieved the A Honor Roll throughout the academic school year.

San Jose Catholic Honor Society: Eighth grade students with a 3.5 GPA or higher (90% average) in the core classes (religion, English, math, science, history, and literature) throughout seventh grade may be invited to apply for **SJCHS** by the faculty and administrative advisory board. Candidates shall then be evaluated by the advisory board on the basis of service, leadership, character, and citizenship as well as disciplinary and attendance records. A student who has received an HONOR CODE or suspension in middle school is NOT eligible for the honor society.

Core Value Awards: Students in grades PK 3 - 8th grade will be recognized **each semester** for modeling our core values of Faith, Love, and Serve.

RETENTION POLICY (DOSA Policy 400.6)

Most students will be able to follow the school’s regular program of sequential learning. However, testing, diagnosis, and actual performance may indicate that some students cannot complete a year’s work in that time; therefore, it may become necessary to retain a pupil an additional year in a particular grade. Should that be the case, school personnel will follow the retention criteria.

- A student should not be retained more than once in the primary grades (K-3) and once in the other grades (4-8).
- An eighth grader who needs to be retained will not be able to return to SJCS.

Retention Criteria (DOSA Policy 400.6)	
Kindergarten	Lack of readiness in reading, math, and communication skills. At the primary level, especially Kindergarten, special consideration in a decision to promote a student will be given to social, emotional, and maturation levels.
Grades 1-3	Failure for the year in reading/language arts or math will result in retention.
Grades 4-8	For promotion in a Catholic school, a passing grade must be achieved in all major subjects: religion, reading, language arts, English, math, social studies, and science. Any student failing three or more subjects will be retained.

Remediation Requirements in Regard to Retention (DOSAs Policy 400.6)	
Grades 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one subject, reading or math, may be remediated. • The failed subject must be made up in a summer remedial program or by a state certified teacher, approved by the school's administration. At the completion of the summer remediation, documentation of attendance and student work must be provided to the principal. In addition, the student is required to successfully pass a predetermined assessment at a level communicated before the summer remediation began before being readmitted to San Jose.
Grades 4-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A maximum of two subjects (religion, reading, English, math, social studies, or science) may be remediated. • Any student failing one major subject must participate in a summer remedial program or be tutored for 30 hours by a state certified teacher approved by administration. • Any student failing two major subjects must receive a combined 50 hours of tutoring in those subject areas or attend two classes at an approved summer program. • At the completion of the summer remediation, documentation of attendance and student work must be provided to the principal. In addition, the student is required to successfully pass a predetermined assessment at a level communicated before the summer remediation began before being readmitted to San Jose. • If one of the failed subjects is religion, the student must make up the work if he/she wishes to return to the school or to enroll in any other Catholic school in the diocese.

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

If a student brings a cell phone or electronic device to school, it must be **turned off and remain in his or her backpack until the student is off school property**. Any misuse of this policy, especially taking and/or sharing pictures taken on campus, will be a LEVEL III violation. If a student needs to text a parent/adult, they must ask for permission from a teacher.

Misuse of cell phones and other electronics is disruptive to the academic environment. Devices with photographic, video, or text messaging capabilities present a danger of privacy violations as well as a serious threat to Conduct Code expectations.

If a student is found using his or her cell phone or electronic device without permission during the school day (7:00 – 3:05), during faculty/staff supervised after school activities, or at ESC, the device will be confiscated.

First offense: The device will be confiscated and held in the school office until the parent is able to pick it up.

Second offense: The device will be confiscated and held in the school office until the parent is able to pick it up, and the device may not be brought to school for the remainder of the quarter.

Third offense: The device will be confiscated and held in the school office until the parent is able to pick it up, and the device may not be brought to school for the remainder of the school year.

E-READER POLICY

At the teacher and administration's discretion, various types of e-readers may be used at school for the sole purpose of reading books. The material must be downloaded to the device before arrival at school. The use of such devices is a privilege. Students who use the e-reader inappropriately will have the privilege revoked. San Jose Catholic School is NOT responsible for lost, stolen or damaged devices. Prior to the device coming to school the parent and student MUST sign a release of liability form, which will be filed in the school office.

INTERNET POLICY – which applies to computers and cell phones

By virtue of the values professed in all Catholic schools of the Diocese of St. Augustine, appropriate use of the Internet available to students and teachers on our school site is assumed. The Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in our school by facilitating resource sharing. The following items are specific areas of responsibility:

- All Internet access must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the Diocese of St. Augustine. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in suspension or cancellation of that privilege.
- The school specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through Internet services. A student may not use information in reports, etc. without properly citing the source. Use of another's work without a citation is plagiarism.
- Email, texting, and social media communication between teachers and students is not permitted.
- Personal contact information about yourself or other people may not be posted unless approved by the administration.
- Students may not attempt to access information that is profane or obscene, that advocates illegal acts or that advocates violence or discrimination toward other persons. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. If a student mistakenly accesses inappropriate information, he/she should immediately tell the teacher. The information should not be shown to other users.

The following acts are not permitted:

- **Using other's passwords**, folders, work, or files. **LEVEL II HONOR CODE**
- Posting words or images on any Internet site (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, texting, chat rooms, etc.) which would bring discredit to the Diocese of St. Augustine, San Jose Catholic School, its students, staff, faculty, or administrators. This includes material which is illegal, defamatory, abusive, threatening, harassing, derogatory, or demeaning. **LEVEL II or III - administration determination**
- Posting photographs or making remarks pertaining to drugs, alcohol, racism, or references to sex through social networking sites or text messaging. **LEVEL III**
- Receiving or transmitting information pertaining to dangerous instruments such as bombs, automatic weapons, other illicit firearms, weaponry, or explosive devices. **LEVEL III**
- Receiving or sending e-mails or texts while at school. **LEVEL II**
- Accessing chat rooms or social media sites. **LEVEL II or III – administration determination**
- Soliciting for products or services. **LEVEL II**
- Downloading software to a school device. **LEVEL II**

FIELD TRIPS

- An official Diocesan permission slip, signed by the parent, is required before a child will be permitted to attend a field trip activity. Verbal permission cannot be accepted.
- A field trip fee will be assessed according to the cost of admission and transportation. All monies collected for the field trip are non-refundable.
- Students must ride the bus to and from the field trip with their class.
- If a parent chooses not to have their child participate on the class field trip, the student will be marked absent and may not attend school that day.
- A field trip is a privilege, not a right. Individual teachers, in consultation with the administration, reserve the right to restrict or deny student participation on any field trip due to, but not limited to, poor academic performance, poor conduct, and/or incomplete middle school student service hours.
- A child with a food allergy may be required to have a parent accompany his/her class on any field trip.
- A child with a medical condition (such as, but not limited to, diabetes or asthma) may be required to have a parent accompany his/her class on any field trip.

Chaperones

- All school chaperones must have attended Protecting God's Children and have a current cleared background check and fingerprints on file in the School Office.
- Volunteers who chaperone may not bring siblings or other children.
- One field trip, up to **6 hours**, may be counted towards family service hours requirements.
- Family members wishing to chaperone a school sponsored field trip must sign a Chaperone Agreement delineating expectations and obligations outlined by the teacher sponsor before the event.
- Chaperones who do not successfully uphold the signed agreement will lose chaperone privileges for one calendar year.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

PARTICIPATION

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and an honor. Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, NJHS, Student Council, school sports teams, the school play, and cheerleading.

- Students trying out for sports teams must have a **current physical** (after June 1 for the upcoming school year) and the ***Diocesan Student Athletic Participation Application*** on file with the school.
- A sports fee is due from each person who makes a team. The fee is per sport and is due before the first game. Fees are subject to change.
- Parents are reminded that sports teams are competitive. All students will be given an equal opportunity to compete for a spot on a team if conditions for eligibility are met. See academic and behavioral eligibility requirements below.
- Students must be in school the entire day in order to participate in after-school sports or activities. The only exception will be an appointment excused by a physician/dentist note or permission from the principal.
- Participants should report immediately after school to their coach or activity supervisor. If the activity does not begin immediately after school, normal dismissal procedures apply.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- To be eligible for tryouts, a student must qualify in six out of seven major subjects with a 70% or above on his/her most recent report card and must exhibit satisfactory behavior in conduct. Major subjects are: religion, social studies, math, science, English, reading/lit, and spelling/vocab.
- Diocesan guidelines state that grades will be checked at the mid-term point of the quarter and when report cards are issued. For any grade below 60% or two (or more) grades below 70%, a student loses the privilege to participate. The probationary period is 5 school days for a mid-term and 10 school days for a report card.
- After the probation period, grades will be rechecked. Students who meet the grade criteria will become eligible. Students whose grades have not improved will be given an additional probation period. For a probation period longer than 20 days, the student will be removed from the activity for the remainder of the season. The principal reserves the right to check grades or behavior at any time during the season and make decisions as to eligibility to continue to participate.

BEHAVIORAL ELIGIBILITY

- Students are representing our school; therefore, their disciplinary record must be satisfactory to participate. Eligibility will be determined by a review of the following: number of reminders, types of reminders, and prior discipline record.

SPECTATORS ATTENDING EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Students staying to attend after school games or other activities must be supervised by a parent or designated adult. The school will not be responsible for unsupervised students.
- Children are not allowed to run freely in the gym, throughout the campus, or on the field.
- The coaches, staff, and personnel at the activities are engaged in their roles; they should not be subject to conduct that distracts them from their jobs.
- If a child does not follow school rules, the student will face a consequence. The administrator and/or attending coach will determine consequences.

UNIFORM/DRESS CODE POLICY

UNIFORM POLICY FOR ALL GRADES

- **No make-up or nail polish, of any kind, is permitted.**
- **One** simple stud earring on each earlobe is allowed for girls only. NO hoops or dangling earrings.
- **One** simple chain necklace (cross or religious medal is preferable).
- **No bracelets allowed.**
- Hair accessories must be simple in nature and color.
- No dyed or highlighted hair of an **unnatural** color.
- Boys' hair must not touch eyes, ears, or collar. Hair must be tapered, neat, clean, and well groomed.
- No long hair slicked back. **Sideburns may not extend below mid-ear.**
- **Boys must be clean-shaven.**
- No fake tattoos or ink of any kind (including pen) on skin or uniform.
- Students should NOT write, draw, or color on themselves.

Pre-K 3 & 4 Dress Code:

GIRLS

Navy Blue Polo Dress: purchased at uniform store

Shorts: must be worn under polo dress

Shoes: **Non-marking athletic shoes of a mostly solid color are required.** Shoes must be designed for running and playing. ***NO light up or character shoes.**

Sweatshirts: Solid navy-blue sweatshirts with SJCS logo must be purchased in the main office or on school website

Sweatpants: Purchased from uniform store ONLY - Solid navy-blue with San Jose Catholic logo

BOYS

Shirts: Green San Jose Catholic Polo purchased at uniform store

Shorts or Pants: Navy blue – may be purchased at uniform store or other location

Shoes: **Non-marking athletic shoes of a mostly solid color are required.** Shoes must be designed for running and playing. ***NO light up or character shoes.**

Sweatshirts: Solid navy-blue sweatshirts with SJCS logo must be purchased in the main office or on school website

Sweatpants: Purchased from uniform store ONLY - Solid navy-blue with San Jose Catholic logo

UNIFORM DRESS CODE: GIRLS K - 8

Polo dress (Grades K - 3): Dresses may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. Dress length should be no more than 2 inches above the knee and worn with dark shorts underneath.

Shirts (Grades K - 8): Hunter green golf style, long or short sleeve shirt with school logo is required. Shirts may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. **Shirts must be tucked in at all times.** No long sleeve shirts may be worn underneath short sleeve shirts.

Plaid Skorts (Grade K-5): Skorts may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. Skort length should be no more than 2 inches above the knee.

Plaid Skirt (Grades 6-8): Skirts may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. Skirt length should be no more than 2 inches above the knee, front and back. Dark shorts, not extending below the hemline, must be worn under the dress or skirt.

Pants (optional for girls in grades K - 8): Navy colored pants are required. Pants may be purchased through Poindexter's Uniforms or any department store. Pants must be worn with a plain black or brown belt.

Socks: Solid white, black or navy-blue socks are allowed. **Socks must cover the ankle bone.** Designs and large logos are not permitted.

Tights: Solid white, black, or navy blue. Leggings are allowed only if the sock (which must be the same color as legging) covers the bottom of the legging. The same color rules apply.

Shoes (Grade K -3): Non-marking athletic shoes are allowed for the entire school day. **Shoes must be a mostly solid color. No light up or character shoes allowed.**

Shoes (Grades 4-8): Black, brown, or navy shoes are allowed. No boots. Shoes should be worn as intended. Athletic shoes are to be a **mostly solid color** and **worn only with the PE uniform and on Spirit Days.**

Sweatshirts: Navy, crew neck sweatshirt with school logo, purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms may be worn inside or outside. Navy, hooded sweatshirts with school logo, purchased from SJCS may be worn inside or outside.

Sweatpants: Purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms ONLY - Solid navy-blue with SJCS logo.

Jacket: San Jose Catholic School fleece logo jacket may be worn inside or outside. Fleece jackets may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. Students may wear any other jacket outside if they are still cold.

UNIFORM DRESS CODE: BOYS K - 8

Shirts (Grades K-8): Hunter green golf style, long or short sleeve shirt with school logo is required. Shirts may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. A plain white, short sleeve, cotton, crew t-shirt may be worn under the uniform shirt. **Shirts must be tucked in at all times.** No long sleeve shirts may be worn underneath the short sleeve shirts.

Pants (Grades K-8): Navy dress pants are required. Pants must be appropriate in length. If pants become worn and faded, they must be replaced. No corduroy or cargo pants. Pants may be purchased at Poindexter's Uniforms or any department store.

Shorts (Grades K-8): Navy blue uniform shorts are allowed. They may be purchased at Poindexter's Uniforms or any department store.

Belt: Pants and shorts must be worn with a plain brown or black belt, fitted at the waist for students in 1st-8th grade. Belts are not required for students in Pre-K or kindergarten. Oversized belt buckles are not permitted.

Socks: Solid white or navy socks are required. **Socks must cover the ankle bone.** Designs and large logos are not permitted.

Shoes (Grade K - 3): Non-marking athletic shoes are allowed to be worn the entire school day. Shoes must be of a **mostly solid color**. No "high-top" shoes.

Shoes (Grades 4-8): Black, brown, or navy shoes are allowed. No boots. Athletic shoes should be a **mostly solid color** and are to be **worn only with the PE uniform and on spirit days.** No "high-top" shoes.

Sweatshirts: Navy, crew neck sweatshirt with school logo, purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms may be worn inside or outside. Navy, hooded sweatshirts with school logo, purchased from SJCS may be worn inside or outside.

Jacket: San Jose Catholic School fleece logo jacket may be worn inside or outside. Jackets may be purchased from Poindexter's Uniforms. Students may wear any other jacket outside if they are still cold.

P.E. DRESS CODE Grades K-8: BOYS & GIRLS * shorts must be appropriate in length

Shirts*: Red school logo t-shirt is required. Shirts must be purchased through the school.

Shorts*: Black, mesh school logo shorts are required. Shorts must be purchased through the school.

Shoes: Non-marking athletic shoes are required. Athletic shoes should be a **mostly solid color** and designed for athletic activities. are to be worn only with the PE uniform and on spirit days.

PICTURE DAY DRESS CODE:

Grades Pre-K 4 through 7th grade will wear the school uniform for class portraits and individual pictures. 8th grade students will be notified separately of the dress code for the 8th grade portrait and other special events.

SPIRIT DAY DRESS CODE

Blue jeans, blue jean capri pants, uniform bottoms, or PE shorts with San Jose School T-shirts or jerseys, are the appropriate attire for this day. Uniform shoes, athletic shoes, or boots are the only acceptable shoes. Jewelry guidelines still apply. Please note, a student may opt out of a Spirit Day and wear his/her school uniform.

- No sequin, torn, or ripped jeans.
- No sweatpants, shorts (other than PE shorts).
- No leggings/yoga pants.
- No tank tops or spaghetti straps.
- No part of the midriff may show at any time.
- No cleavage can be showing.
- No tight or clinging apparel.
- No baseball caps or other hats and headwear.
- T-shirts worn for special holidays may not have inappropriate logos, sayings, or graphics.

When in doubt about a clothing item, please check with a teacher or the administration. Students who fail to dress appropriately for 2 Spirit Days will lose the privilege for the remainder of the year.

DRESS DOWN DAY DRESS CODE

There will be special days where the students may wear other apparel to school. On these days all garments must be appropriate for a student enrolled in Catholic school. Shirts with questionable messages, shorts and shirts that are too tight or too revealing are unacceptable. Hats and open-toed shoes are unacceptable. Students who arrive to school with inappropriate attire will be sent to the office to call home. The student will be required to change into a school uniform for the remainder of the school day.

BIRTHDAY DRESS DOWN DAYS **Students must observe guidelines above for dress down days.*

All students (PreK3 through 8th grade) earn a dress down day for their birthday! Summer birthdays can choose a date in August of 2023 – please communicate this with your homeroom teacher. **If the student's birthday falls on a Mass day, the student may observe the free dress day on the day before or after Mass.** If the student's birthday falls on a weekend or when the school is closed, the student may observe the free dress day on the day before or after the weekend/school closed day.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR UNIFORM/DRESS CODE (DC) VIOLATIONS, GRADES K-3

# of Tallies	Disciplinary Action – all dress code violations will be documented in Ren Web
1 st Tally	A tally will be given to the student as a visual reminder – parent will be emailed (1 offense)
5 th Tally	Student will phone home for parents to bring appropriate uniform (5 offenses)
10 th Tally	Parent teacher conference with a member of administration to go over dress code policy (10 offenses)

DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR UNIFORM/DRESS CODE (DC) VIOLATIONS, GRADES 4-8

# of Offenses	Disciplinary Action
1 st Offense	Written reminder of dress code violation and 1 point
2 nd Offense	Student will receive a dress code violation and 2 points
3 rd Offense	Student will phone a parent to bring the appropriate uniform and a 5 point reminder

CONDUCT

The following outlines the expectations of our student body. Failing to meet expectations results in consequences.

Each student is expected to be a RESPECTFUL citizen that modeling our core values of FAITH, LOVE, and SERVE.

- Students should display a RESPECTFUL attitude toward God and our Faith.
- Students should be RESPECTFUL by obeying school rules and procedures.
- Students should be RESPECTFUL of the learning environment throughout the school.
- Students should maintain a RESPECTFUL relationship with all adults within the school and church.
- Students should be RESPECTFUL of peers and their supplies/property.
- Students should be RESPECTFUL of school property.
- Students should be RESPECTFUL by using proper manners and always showing courtesy.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT (DOSA Policy 800.7)

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other inappropriate oral, written, or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal or written harassment
- Pressure for sexual activity
- Repeated remarks to a person with sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats

Any student who alleges sexual harassment by another student should bring this matter to the attention of the principal, his/her teacher, or school counselor.

Students who engage in such conduct shall be subject to discipline. A substantiated charge against a student will result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension or expulsion.

HARRASSMENT

San Jose Catholic School is committed to providing an environment that is free of discrimination and harassment. In keeping with this commitment, the school will not tolerate harassment or discrimination based on a person's protected status, such as gender, color, race, ancestry, national origin, age, physical disability, mental condition, marital status, veteran status, citizenship status. All employees, faculty members and students are protected under this policy. In addition, this policy applies to all conduct occurring on school grounds, at assignments outside the school, or at school-sponsored events. All students are responsible for helping to assure that any harassment or discrimination is reported. If a student witnesses or learns of any conduct that violates this policy, the student must immediately report the incident to his/her principal. If, however, the principal is the individual who is believed to have engaged in the inappropriate conduct, the student should notify the Superintendent of Schools of the Diocese of St. Augustine. If an investigation reveals that inappropriate conduct has occurred, the school will take corrective action based on the circumstances.

THREATS AND VIOLENCE (DOSA Policy 800.8)

If a student makes a threat, the principal, at his/her discretion, may suspend/expel the student from school. If suspended, the student may be required to receive psychological assessment and counseling, and if required, the student may return only if he/she presents a written recommendation to that effect from the psychologist/psychiatrist and the administration is willing to have the student return to school. A reinstatement conference will take place with the administration, parent, and student.

WEAPONS POLICY

It is a violation of the school's policies for a student to possess a weapon on the school premises, or at any time in connection with school-related activities. Included in this policy are the possession, sale, distribution, manufacture, receipt, seeking the sale or trade, or use of any firearm, knife, martial arts device, or other object which, in the administration's discretion, may reasonably be considered to constitute a weapon. Violations of this policy will result, at the administration's discretion, in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from school.

BULLYING

San Jose Catholic School does not tolerate bullying. It can distract from learning, lead to absenteeism, and result in emotional and/or physical injury. Bullying, of any type, has no place in or out of the school setting. San Jose Catholic School cannot address any bullying unless we are made aware that bullying is occurring. **Bullying** is defined as one or more individuals inflicting verbal, physical, or emotional abuse on another person. Bullying is intentional, deliberate behavior that involves misuse of power and is typically repeated over time. Some examples of bullying include, but are not limited to, inappropriate physical contact, name-calling, unwanted teasing, humiliation, damaging or stealing property, threats, ostracism, rumors, harassment, retaliation, and racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual comments.

Cyberbullying is defined as the use of technology in any means or medium to perpetrate the harm or harassment of other students or staff members. The school may impose disciplinary consequences for students who use technology, on or off school premises, in a way that threatens, harasses, or results in harm to persons within the school (students or staff), that causes disruption to the normal learning environment of the school, or that negatively reflects on the reputation of the diocese, the school, the faculty, students and/or stakeholders. In addition, individuals who misuse technology may become subject to legal action under civil or criminal statute.

Target of Bullying: Victims, or targets, of bullying or harassment should tell the person being mean to them to stop and if they do not, report it immediately to a parent, teacher, counselor, or principal.

Witness of Bullying: Those witnessing bullying or harassment have a responsibility to take action by reporting it verbally or in writing. Reports need to be made to a parent, teacher, counselor, or principal. Those who do not report what they see or hear are contributing to the problem. Student and parent reports will remain confidential.

DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIOR

San Jose Catholic School reserves the right to apply disciplinary action to any student who does not demonstrate respectful and responsible behavior. San Jose Catholic School reserves the right to discipline students **for off-campus conduct which causes clear disruption to the school environment, has a negative impact on the school’s reputation, the educational program, or defamation to anyone in the school community.**

For the safety and security of the entire San Jose Community, it is necessary that all members of our San Jose Catholic School family demonstrate proper and acceptable behaviors. **Chronic behavior concerns (same behavior occurrence in excess of three times) are unacceptable and will result in immediate dismissal from San Jose Catholic School.** These behaviors include but are not limited to the following: physical altercations, disrespect, defiance and failure to comply with classroom rules and expectations.

SEARCHES

The health, safety and welfare of students, administration, faculty, staff, and parent volunteers are extremely important. Accordingly, there may be occasions when a student and their personal effects need to be examined. The principal may direct non-discriminatory inspections of individual students, a grade level, or the entire school. The primary purpose of the inspection is to ensure that contraband items and materials detrimental to health, safety and welfare are not on school property.

***By acceptance of enrollment, students, their parents, and guardians’ consent to and authorize all reasonable action on the part of school authorities to inspect students and their lockers, desks, and personal belongings at any time.** Student or parent failure to comply or collaborate with this policy will result in an indefinite suspension of the student and a disciplinary meeting will be held to determine whether the student may remain enrolled at San Jose Catholic School.

DISCIPLINARY DEFINITIONS

Disciplinary Action	Definition
Detention	An hour served after school. A fee of \$20.00 will be assessed.
In-school Suspension	A student will report to school and work in a separate space supervised by a substitute. A fee of \$95.00 will be assessed to cover the cost of supervision.
Out-of-school Suspension	Student will not be allowed to report to school for a designated period of time. The student will be required to complete work upon their return to school.
Probation	Student loses privilege to participate in extracurricular activities for a predetermined period of time.
Expulsion	Student is expelled from San Jose Catholic School and will not be allowed to return.
Contract	Student will be given a contract containing the guidelines they must meet in order to remain enrolled at the school. A contract can be written for academic, behavioral, or academic and behavioral purposes.

DETENTIONS are held regularly on a designated day of the week from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Students are not excused from detention to participate in any after school activity, including sporting events. **Cost of detention is \$20.00 and will be billed through FACTS.**

HONOR CODE POLICY – 5 points / Level II Consequences

A San Jose Catholic School student is expected to be respectful, responsible, and honest. Violations of Honor Code include, but are not limited to:

- Dishonesty and lying
- Stealing
- Changing a grade
- Forgery
- Plagiarism (copying work from another source)
- Offering work to be copied by another student
- Copying work from another student
- Cheating on a quiz or test
- Withholding information from parents and teachers (such as papers to be signed)

Documentation of all honor code violations will be kept in the student’s file. Disciplinary action will apply for each calendar school year and encompass all activities including, but not limited to athletics and school sponsored extra-curricular activities.

GRADES 3 – 8 DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR HONOR CODE VIOLATIONS

Honor Code	Disciplinary Action
First Violation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A grade of zero on the assignment or test · Written notification to parents requiring parent signature · Level II offense / 5 points
Second Violation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A grade of zero on the assignment or test · Written notification to parents requiring parent signature · Level III offense / 10 points automatic referral to administration for consequences · Off honor roll for the quarter in which the honor code offense occurred · Probation from extracurricular activities for 5 school days · No ‘All Conference’ participation
Third Violation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A grade of zero on the assignment or test · Written notification to parents requiring parent signature · In school suspension proctored by a substitute – parent cost \$95 · Probation from extracurricular activities for 5 school days · No ‘All Conference’ participation · Off honor roll for the remainder of the year

GRADES 1 - 3 DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR BEHAVIOR

Grades 1-3 will employ a tally system to remind students of expectations on the SJCS campus. Tallies will reset each week, but teachers will keep track of totals throughout the year.

H	O	W	I	A	C	T
Hair and Uniform	Out of Order	Written Communication	Intentional Disobedience	Attitude Lacking	Courtesy Lacking	Talking Out
1	1	1	5	1	1	1
Dress code violation	Not following procedures	Homework not completed, papers or forms not signed	Refusing to adhere to school procedures	Uncooperative Poor attitude	Disrespect to adult, student, or situation	While teacher is teaching or during a test

5 tallies in a week – laps at recess

10 tallies in a week – silent lunch and message home

15 tallies in a week – mandatory parent – teacher conference

40 tallies (in a quarter) – conference with administration

GRADES 4 – 8 DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR BEHAVIOR

Grades 4 – 8 will employ a written reminder system to remind students of expectations on the SJCS campus.

*Due to internet and cell phone use, some behaviors outside of the classroom may apply. All behaviors will be documented in FACTS and reviewed quarterly. A behavior contract will be employed at 25 points.

<p>Level I Violations: (1-2 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonconformity to the dress code • Any violation of classroom rules • Non-preparedness for class/ irresponsibility • Disruptive classroom behavior • Disruptive behavior in common areas/ lunchroom (2 points) can be assessed by ANY teacher • Disrespectful behavior • Horseplay • *Chewing gum (2 points) • *Irreverence during church or prayer (2 points) • Cell phone ringing in class (1 point) • Cell phone seen in hand by teacher (2 points) 	<p>Consequences for Level I Violations:</p> <p><u>Level I violations are subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement of classroom seating • Verbal reprimand • 1 -2-point reminder - written reprimand added to student behavior in RenWeb – notification sent to parents via email and paper copy sent home for signature • *Detention and Think Sheet <p>*Automatic detention</p>
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<p>Level II Violations (5 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of Level I offenses including dress code • Intentional disobedience • Blatant disrespect to any adult • Cell phone use anywhere on campus • Honor code violation • Use of profanity, indecent language, or gestures • Lying • Destruction of school property or the property of others • Public display of affection • Internet or cell phone use including texting or social media posts that are determined inappropriate by administration based on Catholic Christian expectations 	<p>Consequences for Level II Violations</p> <p><u>Level II Violations are subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 point reminder - written reprimand added to student behavior in FACTS – notification sent to parents via email and paper copy must be returned with signature • Extended detention and Think Sheet • In school or out of school suspension • Service to School • Meeting with principal and/or assistant principal • Conference with parents • Financial restitution when applicable • Loss of honor roll for the quarter • Suspension or removal from sports teams – no all conference • Removal from Student Council / Honor Society
<p>Level III Violations (10 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of Level I / Level II offenses • Continuous disruptive behavior that hinders the classroom learning environment • Gross disrespect to any adult • Internet or cell phone use including texting or social media posts that are determined inappropriate by administration based on Catholic Christian expectations • Physical contact with intent to harm/ fighting/encouraging others to fight • Promoting violence • Any use of violence (real or in jest) • Sexual Harassment, threats, OR bullying • Photography or video recording of fellow students or teachers without permission • Any inappropriate conduct, whether inside or outside of school or on the internet that is detrimental to the reputation of the school • Stealing • Leaving school grounds • Possession, use, or transfer of indecent materials or substances (weapons, tobacco, drugs, alcohol) 	<p>Consequences for Level III Violations</p> <p><u>Level III Violations will result in suspension and are also subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 point reminder - written reprimand added to student behavior in FACTS – notification sent to parents via email and paper copy must be returned with signature • Meeting with principal and assistant principal • Administrative conference with parents • In school or out of school suspension • Extended detention and Think Sheet • Service to school • Removal of student from school by parent/guardian for the remainder of the school day or days • Financial restitution when applicable • Loss of honor roll for the semester • Removal from sports teams – no ALL conference • Removal from Student Council / Honor Society • Immediate removal of student from school by parent/guardian for the remainder of the school day • Expulsion

Any student receiving 25 accumulated points in the second semester OR a suspension in the 3rd or 4th quarter will not be allowed to participate in field trips or other end of the year activities specified by administration.

8th graders receiving a suspension in the 4th quarter will not be allowed to participate in field trips, end of the year 8th grade privileges, or graduation activities specified by the administration.

Florida House Bill 1521 States:

“Schools must have bathrooms designated for exclusive use by biological females and a restroom designated for exclusive use by biological males or a single-occupant, unisex restroom.”

“Schools that have locker rooms must have a locker room designated for exclusive use by biological females and a locker room designated for biological males or a single-occupant, unisex locker room.”

“Each school must establish disciplinary procedures within its code of conduct for any student who willfully enters a restroom or locker room designated for the opposite sex on school premises and refuses to depart when asked to do so by a school employee.”

San Jose Catholic will note non-compliance as a LEVEL III offense.

STUDENT ITEMS

TEXTBOOKS/LIBRARY BOOKS

Textbooks are the property of San Jose Catholic School and must be treated with respect. Students who lose, destroy, or damage textbooks, workbooks, library books, or Friday Folders, must pay replacement costs. Report cards and diplomas will be withheld if school property issues are not settled.

PERSONAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

San Jose Catholic School nor any staff member will not be liable for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

Students may not have toys or items that interfere with instruction or the daily educational atmosphere of the school. Toy look-a-like weapons are not allowed at school. Electronic devices are considered personal items; refer to **CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY** for specific guidelines.

LOST AND FOUND

All articles of clothing, lunch boxes, and other personal items should be clearly marked with the student’s name. The school will not be responsible for lost articles.

- Lost articles may be claimed in the Community Room (ESC), cafeteria, or School Office lost and found area.
- Lost articles that are not claimed will be given to the needy.

FORGOTTEN ITEMS FROM HOME

Parents are to bring any forgotten items (lunches, PE clothes, homework, etc.) to the **main office or health room**. Items will be delivered as soon as is possible for the office staff.

- If the item is for a student in grades **Pre-K-4 through K**, drop items at the main office.
- If the item is for a student in grades **Pre-K 3 or 1-8**, please drop items off in the health room.

BIRTHDAYS AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

We love to celebrate birthdays! Once teacher approval is given, a small birthday treat may be sent in with your child. **Invitations to private parties (i.e., birthday parties) may not be distributed at school unless the entire class is invited.**

- Delivery of fast-food lunches, flowers, balloons, or other gifts to students is not permitted.

Holiday celebrations for all classes will be centered-based celebrations in which the students are actively engaged in projects and games that are directly related to the holiday and the curriculum. These celebrations should be coordinated between the teachers and Homeroom Parents. We always need parent volunteers for these celebrations; however, the volunteers must be fingerprinted, have attended Protecting God's Children and be cleared with the office. **Do not bring younger siblings on celebration days.**

LUNCH PROGRAM

- San Jose Catholic School uses **MY SCHOOL BUCKS**, an online payment lunch program. Families may establish a prepaid lunch account through **www.myschoolbucks.com**.
- Students may bring their own lunch or purchase lunch from the school cafeteria.
- A lunch special is offered each day. A variety of salads and sandwiches are also available.
- A monthly calendar, with the daily menu choices, is posted on the school website.
- Milk, water, chips, ice cream, desserts, and a variety of side dishes and healthy snacks, may also be purchased.
- **Students with a \$10.00 or more unpaid balance will be provided a sandwich only, if ordering lunch.**
- Students not purchasing lunch are encouraged to bring lunches and drinks in reusable lunch boxes and drink containers. **Glass containers are not allowed.** Sodas are not permitted.
- Designated "peanut free" tables are available in the lunchroom.
- Due to limited seating, parents are not permitted to eat lunch with students.
- Cafeteria volunteers are always needed and appreciated. The Home & School Association recruits volunteers through Sign-up Genius.
- Fast food lunches may not be delivered to any student. If a student has forgotten their lunch at home, the school will ensure that food is provided.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION - \$50.00 fee at the time of registration

Purpose: *The Home and School Association seeks to support, enhance, and enrich the educational, spiritual, and social experiences of San Jose Catholic School students and families.*

The Home and School Association:

- Provides students, parents, and other interested persons the opportunity to participate in various school activities.
- Provides service and financial support for school projects, school improvements, events, and activities.
- Offers volunteer opportunities for family involvement and community building.
- Fosters communications between the school, parents, and community.

FUNDRAISING

San Jose Catholic School conducts fundraising events to support the school and its programs. Family participation is needed and appreciated. Major fundraising events include, but are not limited to:

- Charleston Wrap
- Annual Golf Tournament
- Annual Gala at San Jose Country Club
- San Jose Fest- Annual School Auction

VOLUNTEERING

Parent/guardian volunteers are an important part of the educational program at San Jose Catholic School. Parents/guardians are encouraged to volunteer for special classroom projects, room parent duties, cafeteria helpers, library/book fair events, field trips, athletic events, Campus Clean-up, Drug Prevention Week, school programs, and the many fundraising events Home and School coordinates. Please note, only screened adults are permitted to volunteer at school and on field trips; a student's siblings and other unscreened adults are not allowed to participate.

To be a volunteer: According to the Office of Youth Protection at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, any time a parent or other volunteer works, or volunteers, in any capacity in connection with the church, parish, or school —no matter how infrequently this occurs—safe environment training is essential, in addition to undergoing a background check. Thus, any parents who volunteer during the school year must be both **fingerprinted through Live Scan** and attend **Protecting God's Children**. Until both have been accomplished that parent may not be allowed to volunteer or work at the school.

- Parents should go to VIRTUS® Online, website <http://www.virtusonline.org>, for a schedule of Protecting God's Children sessions.
- Background checks and Live Scan fingerprints forms can be obtained from the School Office.

FAMILY SERVICE HOURS REQUIREMENT

Each family with a child or children in grades K thru 8 is required to provide a minimum of 20 hours of service to San Jose Catholic School. If you are unable to fulfill these hours, families are required to pay \$25 per hour not served. Persons who qualify to serve are the parents, grandparents, or another adult family member. Of the 20 hours, 5 of them must be served working on a Home & School event(s) and no more than one fieldtrip (up to 4 hours) may be counted toward family volunteer hours. More information and available opportunities to serve can be found on the school website and through notices sent home throughout the year.

Volunteer hours are submitted by logging in to your FACTS parent account and adding volunteer hours under the Family Information, Service Hours. Please be sure to enter your volunteer hours as you serve them. All volunteer hours are to be **submitted in FACTS SIS no later than May 1st**. If you have May hours, input them in advance. Unmet volunteer hour fees will be billed by the School Office prior to the end of the school year.

GENERAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Upon signing the General Release of Liability in the enrollment packet, this handbook reinforces the policy established by the Diocese of St. Augustine. As stated on the student enrollment form:

The undersigned hereby releases and forever discharges San Jose Catholic Grade School, their officers, agents, employees, Bishop Erik Pohlmeier, and the Diocese of St. Augustine, from any claims and demands, rights, and causes of action of any kind the undersigned now has or hereafter may have on account of or in any way arising from personal injuries known or unknown to the undersigned at the present time and property damage resulting or that results from any occurrence which may happen to our child(ren) (or legal ward), during his/her stay at San Jose Catholic School.



Family Name:	
Homeroom	Student Name

SJCS 2023-2024 PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

The San Jose Catholic School Parent-Student Handbook is an agreement (contract) between the student, parent, and school. This handbook must be read, and this sheet signed, removed from the handbook, and returned to school by **Friday, August 18, 2023**.

Failure to sign and return this form by Friday, August 18, 2023 will result in your child being unable to return to classes until the contract is signed and returned.

For parents/guardians:

I have read through the San Jose Catholic School Parent-Student Handbook and the Return to School Plan. I agree to support the school and its faculty and staff as they provide my child with an education that supports Catholic identity and academic excellence through faith, love, and knowledge.

_____	_____	_____
Parent Name (printed)	Parent Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent Name (printed)	Parent Signature	Date

For students in grades 3 through 8:

I have read through the San Jose Catholic School Parent-Student Handbook with my parent(s)/guardian and agree to support the school and its faculty and staff as they provide me with an education that supports Catholic identity and academic excellence through faith, love, and knowledge.

_____	_____	_____
Student Name (printed)	Student Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Student Name (printed)	Student Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Student Name (printed)	Student Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Student Name (printed)	Student Signature	Date

