

St. Ann School



JR. K - 7TH GRADE
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK
2011-2012

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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

“Conscious of our dependence upon the Holy Spirit and with courage and perseverance, we, the parishes of St. Ann - St. Edward, seek to foster our growth in the likeness of Christ, to gather new followers of Christ into our midst and to implement Christ's way in society. We seek to accomplish these tasks through Spirit-filled liturgy, sound instruction and loving care and concern for all.”

ST. ANN SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

“We at St. Ann School are guided by the Holy Spirit to provide a Catholic education that meets the needs of students spiritually, academically, physically, and socially.”

ST. ANN SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

At St. Ann School, we are committed to instill in each child both a love of the Catholic faith and a love of learning. Daily religious instruction, frequent prayer and participation in the planning for Eucharistic liturgies all contribute to the faith-filled atmosphere. Because our faith must be shared to be authentic, students have frequent opportunities to put into practice the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. With sensitivity to the uniqueness of the individual, we encourage each child to fulfill his or her potential in all areas of learning. The student is able to see his or her life as a tapestry in which the strands of learning, faith, and service are not separated, but integrated to produce a unique and beautiful whole.

Acceptance of a position at St. Ann School requires a commitment to the education of the whole child. Dedication to Jesus Christ, commitment to professional growth, and a strong sense of community are the marks of our staff. We recognize the developmental continuum of the educational process and strive to build on already acquired skills and knowledge while preparing for future learning. Students can see in our methods of teaching and our handling of discipline both the gentleness and the strength of Jesus.

We believe parents are the primary educators of their children, so the school is committed to working with parents to encourage the development of each child. It is our hope that children view the school as an extension of the faith life they experience at home, where their parents are the first models of Gospel living. We support and assist parents by offering educational information and presentations and by fostering regular and open communication between home and school. Parents assist as volunteers, making use of their abilities to contribute to the educational process.

Parents wishing to send their children to St. Ann School are to be committed to living out the Catholic Christian life by:

- Striving to model the values of Jesus
- Daily prayer together in their home
- Regular attendance at Sunday Worship
- Faithfully supporting their church and works of charity
- Commitment to the Parent Involvement Program

ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

The announcement, distribution, or posting of non-school sponsored materials must have the prior approval of the administrator, principal or his/her designee. A minimum of 24 hours is required to ensure that the principal has sufficient time to review the announcement or posting. Materials determined to meet any description below will be denied:

- causing a material and substantial interference to the educational environment;
- obscene or containing indecent or vulgar language;
- defamatory or libelous;
- invading the privacy of another person;
- offensive to a person's race, religion, ethnicity, or gender;
- encouraging illegal activity or violation of school rules.

ATHLETICS

Philosophy

The purpose of the athletic program is to complement the home, church, and school in the development of the "whole person." Activities of the program there for the benefit of the students, suited to their age and physical growth.

While winning or striving to win is a legitimate goal of any athletic contest, it should always be done in a way that does not compromise the following primary philosophies of the program which are:

- to foster Christian sportsmanship among teammates and other teams,
- to recognize the need of physical fitness for the wholesome growth of the individual,
- to develop a healthy interest in sports through participation,
- that any student who meets our program's criteria will be allowed to play.

Policies

The St. Ann Athletic Program is under the jurisdiction of the School Advisory Committee, with policy being implemented and enforced by the Athletic Director. The policies are established for the benefit of all the students who participate in sports at St. Ann School. All students who have the desire to participate should be encouraged to take part in our athletic program.

St. Ann School student athletes must comply with all rules and guidelines contained in this athletic handbook, the St. Ann School Parent/Student Handbook and the policies of the Diocese of Gaylord.

General Information

The following items are required to have been completed and on file with the school office before an athlete is allowed to participate in the program:

1. Your family doctor or any medical center must complete a yearly physical or sports examination.
2. A consent form must be completed by the parent/guardian giving permission for the student to participate in each sport.
3. Athletes must sign an agreement form stating their desire to play a particular sport and their willingness to abide by the directives of their coach and the Code of Conduct of St. Ann School.
4. Proof of insurance for medical coverage is required before participation is allowed. The name of the insurance company and the policy number are to be included on the consent form. Student accident insurance is available through the school for families without other insurance coverage.

5. The school will do a confidential background check on all coaches through the State of Michigan. The information will be sent to the Diocese of Gaylord to determine coaching eligibility.

Fundamentals of Sportsmanship

- Show respect for the opponent at all times. The opponent should be treated as a guest, greeted cordially on arriving, given the best accommodations, and accorded the tolerance, honesty, and generosity that all human beings deserve. Good sportsmanship is the Golden Rule in action.
- Show respect for officials. The officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who are trained to do their job and who can be expected to do it to the best of their ability. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.
- Know, understand, and appreciate the rules of the contest. A familiarity with the current rules of the game and the recognition of their necessity for a fair contest is essential. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.
- Maintain self-control at all times. A prerequisite of good sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own bias or prejudice and the ability to prevent the desire to win from overcoming rational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized. Good sportsmanship is concerned with the behavior of all involved in the game.
- Recognize and appreciate skill in performance regardless of affiliation. Applause for an opponent's good performance is a demonstration of generosity and good will that should not be looked upon as "treason." The ability to recognize quality in performance and the willingness to acknowledge it, without regard to team membership, is one of the most highly commendable gestures of good sportsmanship.

Players

The responsibility of the players for sportsmanship is second in importance only to the coach. Because players are admired and respected, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of the spectators. A player's actions must display a Christian attitude at all times.

Responsibilities and obligations:

- Treat opponents with respect that is due them as fellow human beings.
- Shake hands with opponents and wish them good luck before the contest.
- Exercise self-control at all times, accepting decisions and abiding by them.
- Respect the official's judgment and interpretations of the rules. Never argue or make gestures indicating a dislike for a decision.
- Only the captain should communicate with the officials regarding the clarification of a ruling.
- Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion, never being boastful or bitter.
- Congratulate the opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- Cooperate with the coach and fellow players in trying to promote good sportsmanship.
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privileges of representing your school.
- Students are expected to be present from the first day of practice to the last athletic contest.
- Athletes are to respect school property and leave the locker area and gym clean and neat.

- All athletes, both home and away teams, must remain in the building at all times unless accompanied by a parent.

Responsibilities of Parents

Participation in sports can be a rewarding experience when parents join with the school in providing the best program for the children. It is important for parents to help in supporting their child's athletic experience in various ways by:

- Attending games
- Giving encouragement and moral support to coaches and players
- Parents and athletes are expected to remain after the game until the gym and changing rooms have been cleaned.
- Carefully supervising your other children during the games
- Parents agree that arrangements be made so that siblings of players are not left at school during practices.
- Picking players up promptly after practices and games.
- Handling problems with coaches or officials in a Christian manner.
- Providing the required sports physical for your child.
- Taking care of uniforms, washing them regularly, and returning them clean (*Uniforms are only to be worn during games – not during practices*).

Spectators

The enthusiasm for sports among many spectators indicates that they play a vital role in the development of good sportsmanship. Their habits and reactions determine the quality of sportsmanship that reflects upon the reputation of their school.

Responsibilities and obligations:

- Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship.
- Discourage fellow spectators whose behavior is inappropriate.
- Respect the property of the school and the authority of school officials.
- Show respect for an injured player when he/she is removed from a contest.
- Do not applaud errors by opponents or penalties inflicted upon them.
- Do not heckle, jeer or distract members of the opposing team.
- Never criticize the players, coaches, officials, or scorekeepers for the loss of a game.
- Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach. Refrain from being a second guesser.
- Avoid profane language and obnoxious behavior that are contrary to good sportsmanship.

Number of Games

- Each sport will be permitted to have up to 20 games (including tournaments) per season.
- During preseason, teams will be allowed to practice up to 8 hours per week, 4 days per week.
- During the season, teams will be allowed to practice 6 hours per week, 3 times a week that includes games.
- Athletic Director, coach and principal need to set up schedule.

Player Fee

All participants are required to pay a \$25 player fee for each sport. **Student is not allowed to participate in any games until the player fee has been paid.** No student will be denied the opportunity to participate based on financial limitations.

Church Attendance and Games

At St. Ann School, we consistently stress the importance of attending Mass regularly. In order to participate in games, the player must attend his or her regular weekend worship service.

Eligibility for Students in Sports

- A student is academically ineligible if they have below a 2.0 GPA.
- A student is ineligible to play sports due to behavior, at the principal's discretion.
- The teacher will send in writing, notification of ineligibility to the principal, coach, and parent/guardian of those students who are ineligible for that week.
- An ineligible athlete must attend the games and sit with the team but not participate in games for one week that consists of Monday through Friday of that week.
- Student athlete that is ineligible to participate in games for the week is expected to still attend practices that week.
- Athletes must be at school for at least half of the school day in order to participate in practice or a game held that same day.

Code of Conduct

- Grooming: Athletes shall be clean, neat, and well groomed at all times. Since athletes are representatives of our school, they should be expected to look and act in a way that will bring credit to themselves and to St. Ann School.
- It is expected that all athletes will follow the tradition of "dressing up" on game day. This tradition identifies them as athletic representatives of St. Ann School.
- All athletes are expected to follow the Code of Conduct in the St. Ann School Parent/Student Handbook.

Benching of an Athlete

The coach may bench an athlete for one game under the following circumstances:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Unexcused absence
- Missing a game or practice without a legitimate excuse

If a student is benched for any of the above reasons, he or she is still expected to attend the game.

Dropping Out of a Sport

Quitting a team in mid-season is a serious matter. It is only fair and reasonable to expect that the student and parent/guardian consult with the coach prior to quitting.

Inclement Weather

The principal, in consultation with the Athletic Director, will determine whether or not a game will be held if there is inclement weather on the day of a game. In the event school is canceled, there will be no game.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend school regularly and on time.

The first bell rings at 7:35AM. A student is tardy and must report to the office if they arrive after 7:40AM. **School starts promptly at 7:40AM.**

Non-bus students should not arrive before 7:20AM.

Absences

As a safety measure and as a courtesy to the school staff, parents/guardians are requested to call the school at 775-1301 on the first day of a particular illness. All absences must be reported to the school office by the parent or guardian. Please call by 9:00AM.

School secretaries begin calling parents of any students marked absent by 9:00AM. If a parent or guardian cannot be reached within a reasonable amount of time, the student will be marked unexcused.

**Students will be marked half-day absent for the morning if they arrive after 9:15AM.
Students will be marked half-day absent if they leave before 1:15 p.m.**

Excused Absences

Absences will be excused on the basis of verified contact with the parent or guardian, as well as by a written explanation for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness of the student;
2. Medical and dental examination and/or treatment of the student when such appointments cannot be scheduled other than during the school hours. A tardy due to medical/dental reasons, with a doctor's note, will not count against a student's cumulative attendance.
3. Student participation in school sponsored activities taking place during school hours;
4. Death in the immediate family;
5. Reasons of extenuating circumstances to be judged by the principal.

Student who will be absent for an extended period of time, a note will be required one week before the child's last day of school. Please indicate if you are requesting schoolwork for your child in this note. Your child's teacher will attempt to provide all necessary schoolwork by the child's last day in school.

Unexcused Absences

Absences other than those mentioned above, or any absence without a written explanation from parents/guardians, will be considered unexcused. In case of an unexcused absence, the teacher is not required to instruct again, give credit for work missed, or provide make-up tests. If a student has been absent for twenty five percent (25%) or more of the grading period, the teacher may choose to withhold grades for that period.

Appointments

Should you find it absolutely necessary to schedule appointments during class hours, please notify the school by a note. Appointments will be judged excused or unexcused according to the criteria above. ***Parents or guardians coming to school for early dismissal of a student are to go to the office to sign the student out of the building.*** Please do not go to the classroom. Students will be called to the office. Likewise, when dropping a student off after an appointment, parents/guardians should report to the office and sign the student into school.

Tardy Students

Tardiness causes an interruption not only for your child, but also for the entire class. Please be sure your child arrives at school on time.

If your child arrives to school after 8:30AM a parent must sign them in at the office. Excessive tardiness and absences may be referred to the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD).

Attendance and Homework

Parent requests for homework will be honored if their child is ill for 2 or more days.

An attendance intervention will be held for any student who accumulates 10 days of absence during the semester. Letters will be sent to parents when a student has missed a significant number of days. This letter will be accompanied by a current attendance history report. Parents are encouraged to contact the principal to discuss their student's attendance history.

BAND/GENERAL MUSIC

Fifth, sixth and seventh grade students have an option of signing up for Band or General Music classes. Both classes are offered to the 5th, 6th and 7th grade students in a shared-time program with Manton Consolidated Schools.

Marshall Music tests all 4th grade students in the spring and contacts parents with the results. If the student needs an instrument, Marshall Music will assist them in choosing the best instrument for their child.

Once band has begun, **students may not drop out of band until after the Christmas concert.** Students must bring a note from their parents to give to the band instructor and one for the principal before Christmas break indicating they wish to drop band. Upon receipt of this note, the student will be placed in the General Music class at St. Ann School.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

St. Ann School offers enrichment child care to preschool through 7th grade students. The program operates as follows:

Preschool:	AM: 7:20-8:55AM — \$3 per day
JrK-7:	AM: 7:20-7:40AM — \$2 per morning
Pre-7:	PM: 2:25-5:30PM — \$25 per week, or \$6/day Early pick-up by 4:00PM — \$3

A 24-hour notice must be given in advance if your child is staying in the after school program. That means we need to know no later than 2:30PM the day before (by Friday if they are staying on Monday). This policy is necessary because the staffing needs to be compliant with the State of Michigan regulations. A 24-hour notice is also required if you plan on cancelling your child/ren's stay in the after school care program to avoid being charged for that time.

You will be billed on a weekly basis. Applications are available in the office.

St. Ann School will provide an after-school snack.

BUILDING USE

When an individual wishes to use the school facilities, he/she needs to fill out a building request form. These forms need to be filed one week prior to the date you wish to use the facility. Building Use Forms are available in the school office.

BUS RULES

Cadillac Area Public Schools provide busing for our Jr. Kindergarten – 7th grade students. According to their handbook, they ask that:

- Students observe the same courteous conduct on the bus as they would in class

- Students talk in normal tones
- Students do not eat or drink on the bus
- Students stay in their seats
- Students cooperate with the bus driver
- Students help to keep the bus clean and free from vandalism

If you have a question about busing, call the district transportation director at 876-5050. Inappropriate behavior is usually ticketed. St. Ann School cooperates with the public school disciplinary process.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS

St. Ann School is committed to providing a safe and orderly learning experience. School authorities and faculty have an obligation to expect an attitude of respect and cooperation from their students. Discipline is fundamental in education and a respectful atmosphere is essential for academic, social, and spiritual growth to take place. In order to establish and promote an atmosphere of Christ-like living in the school community, the following standards of conduct are expected:

- Respect for self, students, teachers, staff, and guests.
- Respect for personal and communal property.
- Respect for rules and regulations.

Self-discipline is a responsibility students need to learn. Helping students to learn self-discipline is a shared responsibility of the school and parent/guardians. Rules and regulations are devised by the administration to help the school community function smoothly. Students are expected to follow the rules and regulations. By enrolling at St. Ann School, parents and students have accepted the conditions expressed.

Responsible Thinking Process (The Disciplinary Code)

- Students must be allowed to learn in a safe environment and teachers must be allowed to teach if we are to achieve our goals. Any disruption to this fundamental premise affects everyone. In an effort to maintain a quality school setting it is necessary to teach our students to be responsible thinkers. We accomplish this through the Responsible Thinking Process, a discipline program that creates mutual respect.
- “The only way to teach children to act responsibly is to ask them to search their own minds and think for themselves,” according to Ed Ford. “You can’t try to control what they do. You can only teach them to control themselves.”
- If a child’s behavior interferes with teaching or learning, the child will be asked a sequence of questions similar to the following:
 - *What are you doing?*
 - *What are the rules?*
 - *What happens when you break the rules?*
 - *What do you want to happen?*
 - *What will happen if you disrupt again?*
- The child will then be making a choice to follow the rules and remain with their class, or go to the Responsible Think Classroom (RTC). If they choose RTC, a staff member is available to assist the student with creating a discipline plan that will enable him/her to rejoin their class. This plan must then be presented, negotiated and accepted by the person that referred that student to RTC.
- Your support in the area of discipline is critical. If a student continues to interfere with the learning environment, or refuses to follow the Responsible Thinking Process, you, the parent, will be contacted. A conference must then be scheduled before your child may return to school.

Enrichment Lab

In keeping with the Mission Statement of our school, we are privileged to have an Enrichment Lab. The lab will guide students academically, as well as, behaviorally, in making good choices. The goal of the lab is to help enrich the student's education spiritually, academically, socially, and socially.

General Conduct and Expectations

The following activities are not permissible anywhere on school or parish property:

- Cursing or obscenity (words, pictures, or gestures)
- Fighting
- Killing statements, put-downs, and threatening statements
- Throwing of any objects not meant to be thrown, taking hats, or belongings of others etc.
- Disregard of safety rules
- Disrespect of others (children and adults)
- Aggressive behavior/putting your hands or feet on another student or "play fighting"
- Gum is not permitted anywhere on parish or school grounds

Students may be asked to write apology letter/s, review more appropriate choices, etc.

Major Disruptive Behaviors

A student will be subject to immediate disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion for any of the following reasons:

1. Disruption of school: A student shall not by use of violence, force, coercion, threat, or false alarm cause disruption or obstruction of normal school operations.
2. Damage of school property: A student shall not cause or attempt damage to any school property. This will include books, equipment, furniture, vehicles, and buildings. Students/parents are responsible for restitution of all damages.
3. Assault: A student shall not act or behave in such a way as could cause physical injury to other students, any school employee or other persons on school property or during school sponsored activities.
4. Dangerous weapons and instruments: A student shall not possess, handle, or conceal any dangerous weapon or instrument while on school property or during school sponsored activities. **NOTE**: A weapon is an object that can be used to threaten or injure another person. The school vicinity refers to any of the buildings on the parish compound, as well as, the adjacent grounds (including parking lots, playgrounds, and /or the perimeter of all parish property).
5. Procedures regarding weapons policy: (In compliance of The Michigan School Code and the Diocese of Gaylord Weapons Policy 4112):
 - a. Any student discovered to have, or suspected of carrying, possessing, concealing, or transferring a weapon on school grounds shall be immediately removed from classes pending further investigation.
 - b. A search may be conducted to verify the suspicion. Questions may be asked by the administrator, a member of the administration team, a teacher, the pastor, or any other person acting on behalf of one of these individuals.
 - c. Depending on the nature of the weapon, the local police department may be notified immediately and the pupil may be detained.
 - d. A pupil found to be in violation of the school's policy is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.
6. Alcoholic beverages, drugs, and controlled substances: A student shall not possess, use, deliver, conceal, or be under the influence of the aforementioned items while on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activities.

7. Repeated violations, gross disrespect, insubordination: A student shall not repeatedly fail to comply with directions of teachers, substitute teachers, teachers aides, administrator or other authorized school personnel or school volunteer while the student is under the authority of school personnel.
8. Stealing: Students shall respect the personal ownership rights of others.
9. Verbal abuse/profanity: A student shall not verbally abuse and/or use profanity to harass another student, teacher, administrator, staff member, or other school personnel or volunteer. This includes “Killing Statements” and put-downs of other students.
10. Smoking/Chewing tobacco: Students shall not possess or smoke cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco products. Tobacco of any kind is prohibited.
11. Cheating/Plagiarism: Students shall not cheat/plagiarize on tests or assignments.
12. Physical Abuse: Students shall not engage in inappropriate touching or physical abuse of another student, teacher, administrator, staff member, or other school personnel or volunteer.

In School Suspension

The pupil is removed from daily classes but not from the building. They are expected to complete daily assigned work in silence by themselves. Parents will be informed by the principal of all suspensions.

Suspension (Out of School)

Suspension procedures according to Diocesan Policy 4110 will take effect when a student has been found to seriously impair the development of Christian education, respecting the rights of all involved.

Expulsion

The following is taken from Diocesan Policies 4114:

Expulsion is defined as the permanent dismissal of a student from the school. Like suspension, it is enacted as a last resort after all other means of motivation and correction have failed and/or circumstances of crime, scandal, morality, or disruption necessitate this extreme disciplinary action.

There are two general situations that may lead to expulsion:

1. When the moral or physical well being of the student body or staff is endangered.
2. When there is prolonged and open disregard for school authority.

The school principal shall exercise the right of expulsion only after suspension and having had a conference with the student, parents/guardians, and pastor.

The principal has final discretion on all disciplinary matters. Because it is impossible to foresee all problems that arise, the faculty and administration are empowered to take disciplinary action for any behavior that violates the spirit and philosophy of St. Ann School.

CODE OF CONDUCT – PLAYGROUND

During recreation and play, it is expected that students show respect to each other and adults by:

1. Giving *all* students the opportunity to participate in games;
2. Taking time to apologize and make amends if someone is hurt; and
3. Taking corrections from adults positively and with a cooperative attitude.

At our school, we don't say, "You can't play."

Outdoor Recess Conduct

1. Play on designated playground areas within sight of supervisors.
2. Respect the rights and feelings of others (No pushing, fighting, teasing, or foul language.)
3. Obey the supervisors the first time a direction is given.
4. Rough play of any kind is not permitted, i.e. "chicken", red rover, tackle football, wrestling, martial arts fighting, etc.
5. Use the play equipment properly.
6. NO food, drinks, candy, or gum are allowed on the playground except on special occasions.
7. Snow pants and boots are required attire in order to play in the snow.
8. Students are not to re-enter the building until the bell rings, unless permitted by a playground supervisor. When the bell rings, play time is over. Students should line up quickly and quietly.

CODE OF CONDUCT – ANTI-HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the Diocese of Gaylord and St. Ann School to make every effort to provide an educational environment that is free from all types of harassment. This policy applies to the actions of all faculty, staff, and students at St. Ann School, as well as others who may be in a working relationship with the school. The Diocese of Gaylord and St. Ann School are open to and respect any/all concerns brought under this policy. At St. Ann School, every individual should be treated with dignity and respect. Faculty, students, staff members, and anyone else who works and/or visits the school are entitled to work/attend school in an environment free from discriminatory practices, including sexual and other forms of harassment. All will be held by standards of conduct that ensure that the school is free from sexual and other forms of harassment. Students are expected to treat all persons with respect and dignity. Thus, inappropriate sexual behavior or comments, which are directed at faculty, students or other staff members, will not be tolerated. The school will investigate all complaints of harassment in a confidential, professional manner. Appropriate action will be taken when warranted. Individuals involved in any allegations will be given due process.

CODE OF CONDUCT - TECHNOLOGY USE

Administration Professional Code of Ethics

It is the policy of the Diocese of Gaylord and St. Ann School that all employees, volunteers, and students will abide by federal copyright laws. Employees, volunteers, and students may copy, print, or non-print material allowed by:

1. Copyright Laws
2. Fair use guidelines
3. Specific license or contractual agreements
4. Other types of permission

Policy Enforcement Guidelines

Depending on the nature and severity of the policy violation, the technology director, or school administrator may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Verbal or written warning
2. Temporary access denial
3. Permanent access denial
4. Suspension
5. Expulsion
6. Legal action

Demonstrated intent to violate policy will be considered the same as actual policy violation. Demonstrated intent means evidence of actions, which if successful or carried out as intended, would result in a policy violation.

Evidence of attempted or actual system security, integrity, or performance-related incidents will be cause for immediate access denial.

If warranted, the school administrator will refer the case to Local, State, or Federal authorities for further disposition.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications with teachers or students during the school day are made through the school office so that classroom activities are not disturbed. The school office will deliver important messages as soon as possible.

Please call school before 2:00 p.m. if there is a change in transportation.

Classroom newsletters will be sent home through your student. Menus and calendars are sent via email when an address is provided. Parish bulletin announcements, telephone calls, emails, and conferences will also be used to enhance communications between families and school.

CONFERENCES

Conferences are held twice a year. The dates and times for conferences are scheduled approximately two weeks prior to conferences.

Other forms of reporting progress to parents are:

- Periodically sending home a pack of completed schoolwork and tests for parents to view and return with parents' signatures.
- Relating classroom activities through teacher letters.
- Informing parents of a student's conduct and academic work by phone.
- Occasionally writing a note that requests a parental written response.
- Requests for extra conferences should be made with each teacher individually.
- Progress reports are sent home four times per year for grades K through 7.
- Mid-term reports are sent home for the Middle School students.

CORE CURRICULUM

Art	Physical Education
Bible Studies	Reading
Computer Skills	Religion
Health and Safety	Sacramental Preparation
Human Development	Science
Language Arts	Spelling
Mathematics	Social Studies
Music/Band	Writing
MCREL	

DELIVERIES

All deliveries for students during the school year should be brought to the school office and not to the classrooms.

DISMISSAL

Dismissal time is: 2:25PM bussers/2:30PM car riders. We ask that you make every effort to pick your child up at the designated time. Late pick-ups after 2:50 p.m. will be sent to After School Care and you will be billed for the day. Often teachers will have parent or staff meetings right after school and need to be available at that time.

DONATION REQUESTS

Periodically families may be requested to donate items to support fundraising such as: pop drop, Oktoberfest theme basket items, Thanksgiving baskets, food pantry, charitable giving, charitable organizations, and/or disaster relief. These offerings are intended to encourage our students to Christ's call to share with those in need by giving.

DRESS CODE

Students are to dress appropriately for school. Behavior patterns are affected by what we wear. The word "appropriate" is interpreted to mean:

- Wear clothing that reflects a sense of dignity and Christian values.
- Collared shirts must be worn on Mass day, no denim allowed on Mass day.
- Dress neatly with shoelaces tied.
- **No pajama bottoms allowed.**
- For safety reasons, clogs, flip-flops, and Heelys may not be worn.
- **Each student must have a pair of indoor and a pair of outdoor shoes.**
- **Neither hats, kerchiefs, nor bandanas are to be worn in the building.**
- No bare mid-riffs.
- Shorts are allowed on warm days. Parents will decide if the weather is warm enough. Spaghetti-strap tops cropped tops, short skirts and short shorts are not permitted. Shorts must be no shorter than where the fingertips reach with hands at sides. Sleeveless shirts/dresses with three-finger-wide shoulders are permitted.
- During cold weather months, students are expected to dress appropriately. For recesses and noon hours outside students are to wear all the outside clothing sent to school with them from home. Snow pants, boots, hats, and mittens are necessary attire for playing in the snow. Bus riders may carry their snow pants on the bus if they choose to do so.

If a child comes to school dressed inappropriately, the child will either be reminded of the dress code, or be requested to call his/her parents to bring them a change of clothes.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT POSSESSION

The school supplies most electronic equipment necessary in school. Students are not allowed to bring radios, laser pointers, "boom-boxes", electronic games, portable TV's, pagers, cellular telephones and the like without the permission of the principal. The property will be confiscated and disciplinary action will be taken. Violations of this rule could result in suspension or expulsion.

VIOLATION – property will be confiscated and kept in the office until a parent comes to school to claim the item. Items kept more that 30 days will become the property of St. Ann School District.

EMERGENCY CLOSING

The local television and radio stations announce school closings due to inclement weather as early as 6:00AM listen and use this system of notification. St. Ann School will follow the Cadillac Area Public Schools, (CAPS), as to closings and delays, **due to inclement weather only**, since we use their busing. Please listen carefully to hear if school is delayed a number of hours or if school is cancelled altogether. When school is delayed until 10:00AM, the students will be served lunch at the usual time. Continue to listen to the radio and television during the delay for further information or in case of possible school closing.

If it should happen that we would have to dismiss early, we will make every effort to contact you using the information on your emergency form. Please keep this form up to date.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Boys' Basketball
DARE

Kids on the Go
Junior Police

Girls' Basketball
Girls' Volleyball

Student Mass Choir
7th Grade Retreat

FIELD TRIPS

Class visits to places of cultural, educational, or religious significance enriches the lessons of the classroom. The written consent of parents must be obtained for every student to participate in each field trip. When a class is planning a field trip, parents/guardians will receive information about the trip and be given a permission slip to sign. No student may participate in a field trip away from school property unless we have received this permission from the parents. Younger siblings attending a field trip are **NOT** allowed to ride the bus.

FIRE, TORNADO AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Fire drills (6) are conducted on a regular basis as weather permits. Each room in the school building has fire procedure exits posted. Students are directed to note the fire drill exit and observe silence and order during these fire drills.

Tornado drill (2) procedures are reviewed with the students during the fall and spring months. The students are taught to respond to the drills in a safe and appropriate manner.

Lockdown (2) procedure will be reviewed and practiced.

FUND RAISING

All school fundraising is budgeted as income for operational expenses. A set amount is budgeted each year and helps with the purchasing of library books, computers, playground needs, and/or textbooks.

GRADING SCALE

The grading scale for grades 5, 6, and 7, as directed by the diocese is as follows:

A – 93% - 100%
B – 85% - 92%

C – 84% - 77%
D – 76% - 70%

E – Below 70%

A student may qualify for the High Honor Roll with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, and the Honor Roll with a 3.0 - 3.49 grade point average.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

If a parent of a student has a dispute with a member of the staff, certain steps must be followed:

1. The grieved person must talk to the concerned party.
2. If that proves unsatisfactory, the grieved party is to talk with the principal.
3. If that proves unsatisfactory, the grieved party is to present the concerns to the pastor, who is also the superintendent of the school.
4. There is a diocesan school superintendent that could be contacted if necessary.

GYM SHOES

Students, for safety's sake, are to wear tennis shoes in gym classes. Please try to obtain tennis shoes that will not leave black marks on the gym floor. For safety reasons, clogs, flip-flops, and Heelys may not be worn for gym class or on the playground.

HEAD LICE

Head lice are a continuing problem among elementary age children. We try hard to prevent lice from spreading at our school. All children are checked throughout the school year when they complain of their head itching. Students who have lice need to be treated and have the nits combed out of the hair. If your child is sent home with head lice, they need to be brought into

school by a parent/guardian after they have been treated and are checked before returning to class. It is strongly recommended that parents check their student's hair once each week throughout the elementary years. Following these guidelines will help keep lice out of our school.

HEALTH

If a child becomes ill in school, parents will be contacted. All contagious diseases, including flu, must be reported to the school secretary by 9:00AM each morning. She, in turn, informs the District Health Department. If a child has been ill and should not go outside for recess, parents are to write a note stating the request and accompanying reason. After two days the child should bring a note from their doctor.

If your child must take medication at school, a parent/guardian must fill out a Permission Form for Medication. The parent/guardian must provide the medication in its original container, put the container in a Ziploc bag and label the bag with the child's name and dosage. All medication **must** be brought in by the parent and picked up by the parent. At the end of the school year a parent must pick up medication. Any medication left after the last day of school will be disposed of properly.

<i>When your child becomes ill, how long would you normally keep him/her out of school?</i>	
Fever-free.....	24 hours (without fever reducing medication)
Chicken pox	10 days from onset
German measles	7 days from onset
Rubella or 3-days measles	7 days from onset
Impetigo or Scabies.....	when clear,
Or	when under a physician's care, a note is received
Measles.....	7 days from onset
Mumps	upon recovery
Ringworm	when clear,
Or	when under a physician's care, a note is received
Scarlet Fever.....	7 days from onset, plus a note from the physician
Strep Throat	7 days from onset, plus a note from the physician
Whooping Cough.....	3 weeks from onset of characteristic cough

St. Ann Preschool and Before and After School Care has a health care policy that addresses children and staff hand washing, handling children's bodily fluids, cleaning and sanitizing of all equipment, toys, and other surfaces, controlling infection, including universal precautions, and health related resources. Parents may request a copy of the policy.

HOMEWORK

Homework is assigned on a regular basis in order to review and reinforce the work done in school. Achievement cannot be attained without study. Parents should help their child to understand that the study and review of assignments are needed for practice, as well as the further development of classroom instruction. The amount of home study per night should be approximately follows:

Grades 1-2	Not more than 30 minutes
Grades 3-4	30-45 minutes
Grades 5-7	30-60 minutes

Daily homework time does not include long-range assignments or projects. ***In most instances, students will need parental guidance with time management skills.*** All children vary in their abilities to perform any task. Parents should provide proper conditions in the home, and, as far

as possible, a specific routine or time span in which work for school can be done. In all grades, each student is given a personal planner in order to keep track of daily assignments and projects. Parents are expected to show an interest in their child's homework, and to provide only the kind of help that encourages them to succeed on their own merit.

If your child is exceeding that amount of time on his/her homework, please contact the teacher.

IMMUNIZATION

The State of Michigan has established minimum immunization requirements for all students. All students new to the school must have an up-to-date immunization record or a waiver on file in the school office.

The Michigan Department of Education, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Community Health has stated that the Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) can protect children and adolescents from this disease.

- This vaccine is usually given to 11-12 year olds (6th graders)
- Because it is a newer vaccine, older adolescents may not have received it. Teens that have not had Meningococcal vaccine should be given a dose.
- Ask your child's health care provider if he/she needs the Meningococcal vaccine

INSURANCE

Michigan Catholic Conference provides student accident coverage through Student Assurance Services. Information is sent home at the beginning of the school year.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

St. Ann Parish and School Computer, Network, and Internet Student, Staff, Parishioner and Community Member Acceptable Use Policy

Introduction and Code of Ethics

St. Ann Catholic Parish and School strongly promote the use of electronic technologies in the educational process. St. Ann Parish and School provide access to information resources in a variety of formats. Together these allow students, staff, parishioners and community members to access current and relevant resources provide opportunity to communicate in a technologically rich environment, and become responsible, self-directed lifelong learners.

The use of technology within St. Ann Parish and School is a privilege extended to students, faculty, parishioners and community members to enhance learning and exchange information. When using St. Ann Parish/School technology, the user must realize that he/she represents the Catholic community, and therefore must uphold Christian, ethical, and legal requirements. All users must read understand, sign, and abide by the Acceptable Use Policy. Access privileges may be revoked; school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action for violations that may constitute a criminal offense.

Rights

All St. Ann Parish and School students, staff, parishioners and community members have the right to make educational use of the following censored resources; internet access, limited hard drive space on our servers, and access to St. Ann Parish/School approved software on the workstations, in a manner consistent with Catholic school philosophy.

Responsibilities

It is important that users of electronic technologies within St. Ann Parish and School represent themselves with ethical, Christian responsibility. As such, the following points are a partial list of unacceptable behavior:

- Users may not damage or mistreat equipment or facilities under any circumstances.
- Users must not leave their workstation unattended for any reason and must properly logout at the end of their session.
- Users must make sure that all food or drinks are kept away from computer equipment.
- Users may not intentionally waste computer resources.
- Users may not transmit any material in violation of any United States or State of Michigan Regulations.
- Users may not employ the network for personal financial gain or commercial purposes.
- Users may not violate regulations prescribed by the network administrator.
- Users may not engage in practices that threaten the integrity of the network (e.g., knowingly download files containing viruses).
- Users may not engage in personal business that is unrelated to the research being done or the performance of the job.
- Users may not write, use, send, download, or display obscene, threatening, harassing, or otherwise offensive messages or pictures, including pornography, violence, or hate sites.
- Users may not use the equipment for any illegal activities, including the violation of copyright laws and software piracy.
- Users may not load or copy any software or other programs to or from St. Ann School equipment unless permission is explicitly granted by an authorized party (e.g., the network administrator).
- Users may not use anyone else's password, nor may they share their password with others.
- Users may not trespass into anyone else's folders, documents, or files.
- Users may not disclose anyone else's personal information (e.g., address, phone number, or confidential information), including and especially that belonging to students, community members and families, or fellow employees
- Users may not use the network or the internet for unauthorized game playing, unauthorized "chat" or chain letters.
- Users may not use the network for acts of vandalism against persons or resources including the uploading of viruses.
- Users may not use another persons computer file, access accounts, and or files without proper authorization.

Privileges

The use of the Internet and related technologies is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in cancellation of those privileges.

Administration Professional Code of Ethics Copyright

It is the policy of the Diocese of Gaylord and St. Ann Parish and School that all employees, volunteers, students, parishioners and community members will abide by federal copyright laws. Employees, volunteers, students, parishioners and community members may copy, print, or non-print material allowed by:

- Copyright Laws
- Fair use guidelines
- Specific license or contractual agreements
- Other types of permission

Policy Enforcement Guidelines

Depending on the nature and severity of the policy violation, the technology director, or school administrator may take one or more of the following actions:

- Verbal or written warning
- Temporary access denial
- Permanent access denial
- Suspension
- Expulsion
- Legal action

Demonstrated intent to violate policy will be considered the same as actual policy violation. Demonstrated intent means evidence of actions, which if successful or carried out as intended, would result in a policy violation.

Evidence of attempted or actual system security, integrity, or performance-related incidents will be cause for immediate access denial.

If warranted, the school administrator or technology director will refer the case to Local, State, or Federal authorities for further disposition.

Limitation of Liability

The Diocese of Gaylord and St. Ann Parish and School make no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the school/parish/diocesan system will be error-free or without defect. The school/parish/diocese will not be responsible for any damage suffered, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The school/parish/diocese is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. The school/parish/diocese will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system. In addition, it is understood that despite reasonable efforts at supervision, access control, and filtering, students may inadvertently or otherwise access inappropriate materials.

LIBRARY

Each classroom is assigned a weekly library period. Students may check out books to take home, and are reminded of the special care that they should give to the books. If books are overdue there will be a 25¢ fine per book per week. Lost books must be replaced. No new books can be checked out until the books that are due are returned. Progress reports will not be issued if books are missing at the end of each quarter, or if there are outstanding fines.

The library exists for the use of all our students in order to:

- Support the instruction and learning taking place in the classroom;
- Provide for personal intellectual growth;
- Promote interest in good literature; and
- To assist students in learning how to use reference materials.

LOST AND FOUND

Please try to label your child's belongings. Please check with your child's teacher for lost items. Lost and found items will periodically be taken to Goodwill. Parents will be notified via our newsletter prior to items being taken to Goodwill.

LUNCH PRICES

Preschool and Elementary Students

\$1.80 includes milk and salad bar

Middle School Students (5th, 6th, and 7th grades)

\$1.90 includes milk and salad bar

Student salad bar - \$1.25, does not include milk

Milk may be purchased for 35¢

LUNCH PROGRAM

St. Ann School provides a hot lunch every day for those who wish to take it. A lunch menu will be sent home before the beginning of each month and is available online at our website, www.stanncadillac.org. A count of those who will be taking hot lunch is taken every morning.

St. Ann School uses a pre-pay lunch system. Families may send one check to cover all of their children. Checks should be made payable to St. Ann. All moneys should be placed in an envelope marked "Hot Lunch," with the student(s) name(s), and grade(s).

A family whose lunch balance exceeds \$20 will result in their students being served a peanut butter and jelly sandwich only instead of the full entrée until the balance is paid in full.

Free/Reduced Lunch applications are available in the school office. All information is strictly confidential. Our process is set up in such a way that the students do not even know.

Lunches served are nutritious and filling; therefore, each student is expected to try everything and not waste food. Children always have a choice of the main entrée or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Please do not expect the hot lunch personnel to store and keep track of lunch drinks.

Lunches from fast food restaurants may **NOT** be brought in to the lunchroom. Pop is **NOT** allowed in the lunchroom during lunchtime.

The following behavior is expected in the lunchroom:

- Students should walk from the cafeteria in an orderly fashion as not to disturb other classes in session.
- Students are expected to show respect to the lunch supervisor and follow instructions the first time they are given.
- Students are to sit at the table assigned to their class.
- Students are not permitted to "save" seats, nor are they allowed to say, ***"You can't sit here."***
- Students are expected to be courteous and thoughtful to all, with conversation being carried on in a normal tone of voice.
- Students should sit down and eat/visit quietly for 15 minutes. Students will not be permitted to move from table to table or wander around the lunchroom at will.
- After approximately 15 minutes have passed, students may be dismissed.
- Students are to leave their eating-place neat, picking up all papers on and under the table.
- Students who brought their lunch from home should take care of their lunch container by putting paper in the garbage basket and **replacing lids tightly on any container that they will be taking back home**. This will help prevent any dripping on our carpets in the hall and classroom.
- Hot lunch students should take care of their trays by putting paper and service ware in the garbage basket, and trays and bowls stacked neatly on the cart.
- During the winter months the temperature must be 0 or above for the students to go outside.

MASS AND PRAYER SERVICES

Students and staff will meet daily for Morning Prayer except for weekly scheduled Mass days (Wednesday) and choir practice (Tuesday).

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

A student's eligibility is determined by his/her performance (academic performance and behavior) the previous week (Monday – Friday). Eligibility will be determined every Monday and ineligible students informed. A list of ineligible students will be submitted to the office.

- A. A student will be ineligible for the entire week if he/she:
 - 1. Is failing two or more classes (tabulated weekly)
 - 2. Has three or more assignments not completed (cumulative from the first Monday of each month – all assignments must be made up)
 - 3. Displays inappropriate behavior that leads to being sent to Enrichment Lab or in-school or out-of-school suspension (tabulated weekly).
- B. An ineligible student:
 - 1. Is not allowed to participate in breaks/recess and will attend a study hall at that time to make up late work. (Teacher discretion)
 - 2. May not be allowed to attend any special events that are held that week in or outside of normal school hours (i.e. assemblies, concerts, field trips, 7th grade trip, etc.) This decision is at the discretion of the classroom teacher and/or principal.
- C. An ineligible student may:
 - 1. Attend any activity required by a teacher for a grade or credit.
 - 2. Middle School students may attend Parents' Night Out or any activity that raises funds for the 7th grade trip.
- D. Each day an assignment is late, the student will lose 10% of the possible grade. When the assignment can no longer receive a passing grade, it will be recorded as a "0" with no opportunity to make it up for points. The assignment still must be completed.
- E. It is the responsibility of the student to make up any required work missed during an absence. It is the student's responsibility to request make-up work the same day he/she returns to school from an absence. Make-up work is to be completed at a time mutually convenient to the student and teacher involved with at least one day of make-up allowed for each day of absence. Absent work not completed in that allotted time will become an incomplete assignment.
- F. In the event of a long-term absence (due to illness or family emergency), it is the teacher's discretion what assignments need to be made up with a schedule of completion.
- G. Students will be notified each Monday of their eligibility.
- H. Each week there will be a surprise activity for eligible students. Ineligible students will attend a study hall to make up late work.

MONEY AND VALUABLES

Students are discouraged from bringing large sums of money and/or valuables to school. If the child elects to bring any personal belongings, (toys, balls, books, etc.) they are responsible for these items and must understand that "accidents" may occur when sharing these treasures. Lost items are placed in the lost and found in the gym.

MOVING

If your family is planning to move, please let the school and parish know so we can update our records, and/or make the necessary transfer of records arrangements. Please notify the office of any custodial changes, living arrangements/dual households.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

St. Ann School is dependent upon its parent volunteers to help provide some of the extracurricular programs for the students and to help with some of the supervisory duties during the school day. To insure that these programs continue and to fairly distribute the tasks of running each one, parents are required to sign up for:

- Assisting with our annual Oktoberfest (one job per parent), Winterfest (one job per parent)
- Hot Lunch supervision (4 times/family) or pay \$10 per day for someone else to work for you
- Two committees or activities for the school year (one if you agree to chair the committee or activity)

Each year at Registration and the Open House, we put out charts so each family may sign up for the areas in which they wish to be involved. At each place there is a description of the committee or activity they may want to choose. Every family is required to be involved in at least two committees unless the family would like to chair a committee.

Every effort will be made to help you fulfill your commitments; however, assignments will be made for those families failing to sign up in each area. The following are brief descriptions of the committee/activities that you may choose to fulfill your parent involvement commitment.

Lunch/Playground Supervision (required)

This commitment may be made in one of two ways:

1. **Work from 11:15AM - 12:15PM** four times a year, per family. Sign up will be at the Open House. You may trade with another worker if a conflict arises. Please notify the office of any changes. **NO SHOWS WILL BE CHARGED \$15.**
2. Pay the school office \$40 (\$10 per time) to hire a designated person to work for you. Scheduling and payment will be done through the school office.

PARENT-STUDENT-TEACHER COMPACT

St. Ann School staff knows that with the help of parents and community we can guide each child in achieving his or her greatest potential by providing a diversity of experiences, which integrate excellence in education with the child's individual abilities and unique talents. We share the responsibility for student acquisition of academic, creative, emotional, physical, and social skills necessary for entering society as contributing members. We strive to enhance each child's experience at St. Ann School by continually assessing and evaluating our attainment of these goals.

The teachers agree that students must be given the opportunity to succeed. Therefore, they agree to do the following:

- Have high expectations for their students and themselves
- Maintain open lines of communication with students and parents through the use of the classroom folder, planners, e-mail, newsletters, etc.
- Respect the students, their parents, and the diverse culture of the school
- Demonstrate care and concern for each student
- Seek ways to involve parents in classroom activities
- Use the Responsible Thinking Process
- Make efficient use of academic learning time

We believe that parents and guardians want their children to reach their full academic potential. Parents can help by doing the following:

- See that their children attend school regularly
- Support the school in its use of the Responsible Thinking Process
- Read with their children and let them see you reading
- Establish a time and place for homework and check work in the classroom folder regularly

- Have ongoing communication with the classroom teacher
- Limit and monitor children's TV and movie viewing
- Keep required volunteer commitments, (Parent Commitment, Oktoberfest, Winterfest, and Lunch Supervisor, etc.) for St. Ann School.

It is important for students to work to the best of their ability. They can do this by:

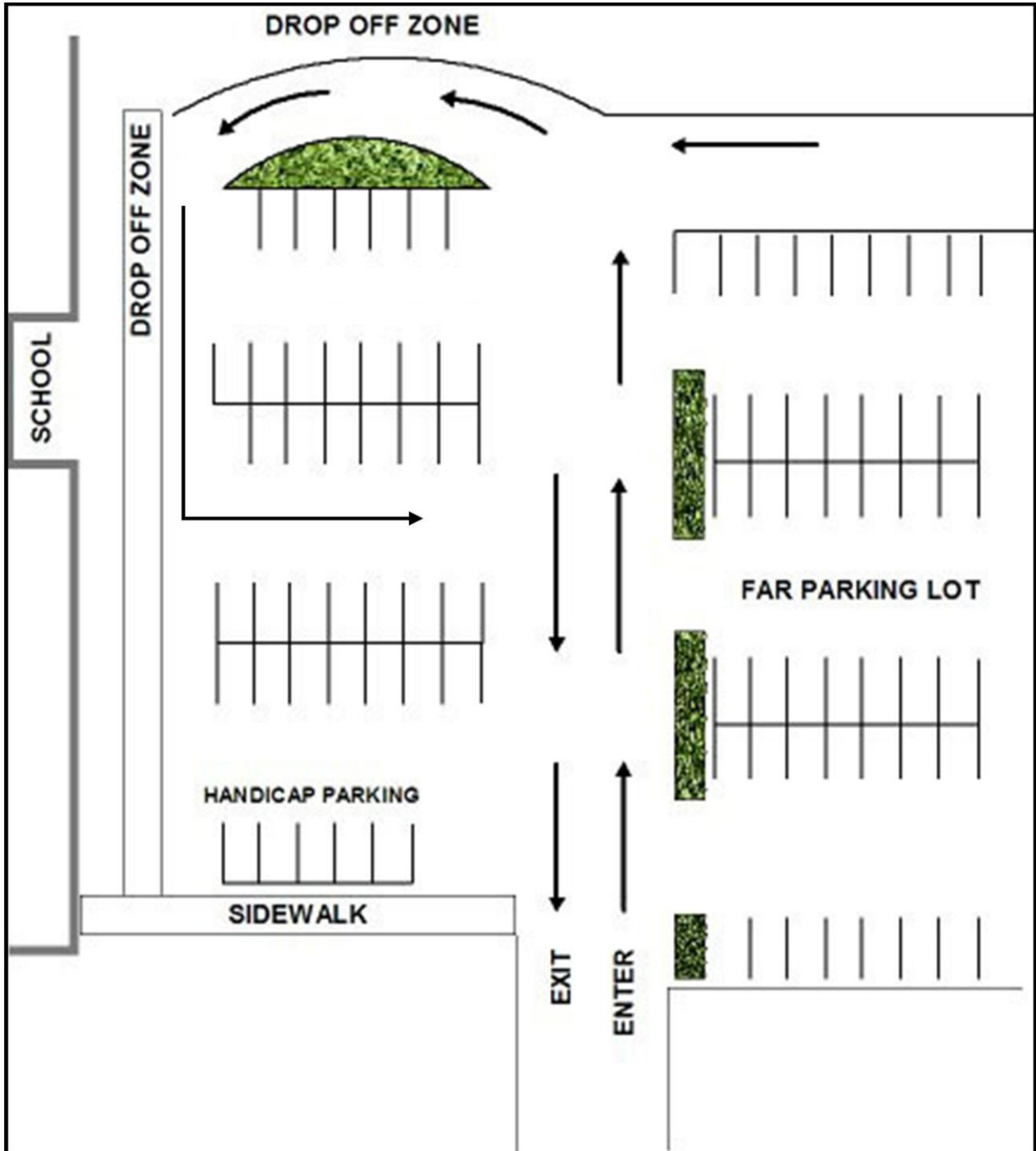
- Coming to school every day on time and ready to learn
- Finish their school work and participate in classroom activities
- Show respect for themselves, the school, and other students
- Understand and follow the Responsible Thinking Process
- Set aside a regular time and place at home to complete homework
- Be responsible for bringing your classroom folder to and from school

PARKING - MORNING DROP OFF

1. Please go around the horseshoe in a single lane and stop at the sidewalk in front of the school doors.
2. Have your child **exit the car on the sidewalk side**. If the weather is bad they may go right into school. If not, they are to follow the sidewalk out to the playground.
3. **Do not** pass a car in front of you, but wait until they pull away and follow them out.

— IMPORTANT —

PLEASE SHARE THESE PROCEDURES WITH ANYONE WHO WILL BE DROPPING YOUR CHILD OFF AT SCHOOL.

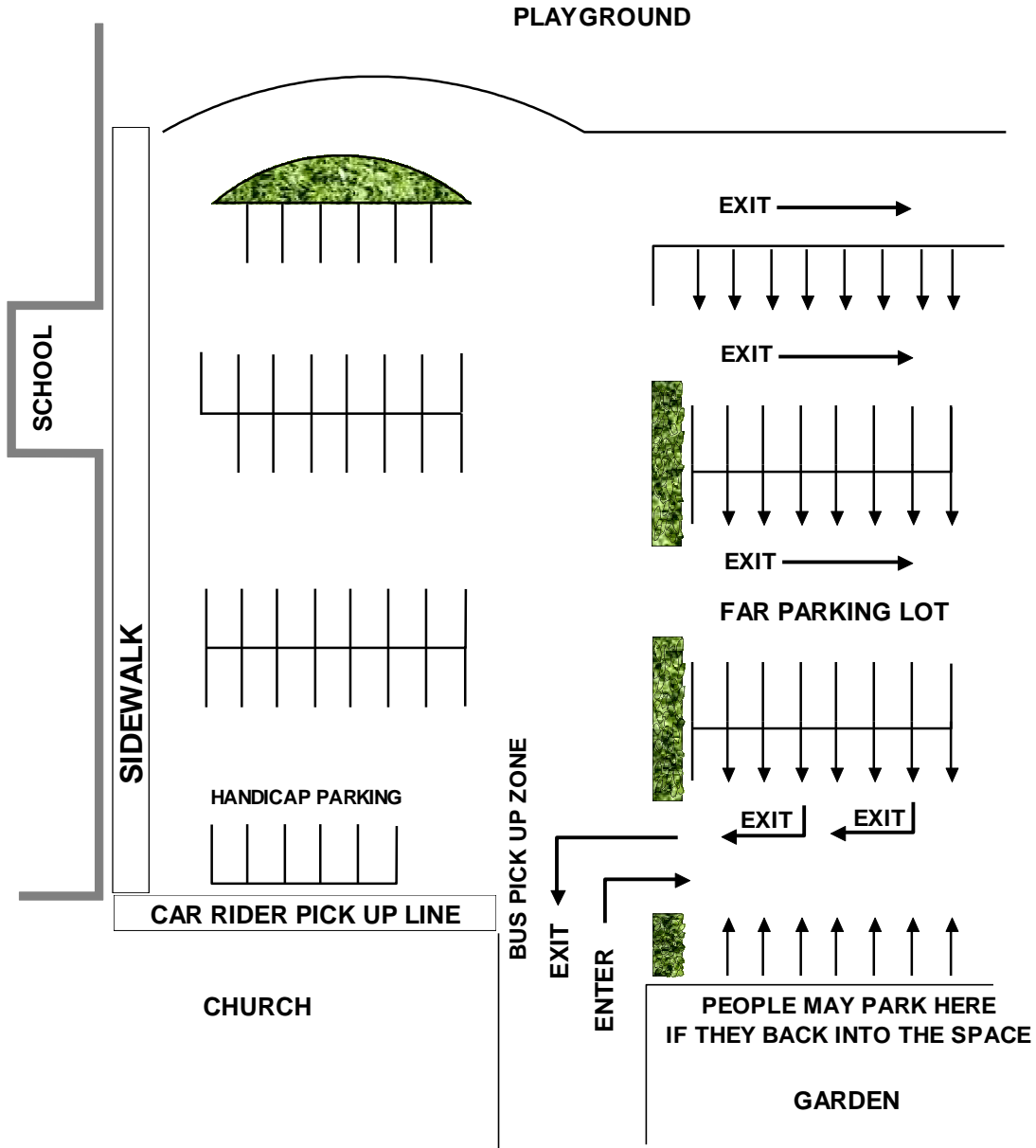


PARKING - AFTERNOON PICK UP

1. When coming to pick up your children at dismissal, please park in the far parking lot with your car facing 13th street so no one will have to back up.
2. Do not park in the first row facing the grotto. This row would have to back up, thus being a safety hazard to the children.
3. Please enter and leave the school grounds by way of 13th Street.

— IMPORTANT —

PLEASE SHARE THESE PROCEDURES WITH ANYONE WHO WILL BE PICKING UP YOUR CHILD AFTER SCHOOL.



PESTICIDES

Pesticides will be used periodically throughout the school. If you need prior notification, please contact the school office to fill out a Prior Notification Request Form. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied to prevent injury to students.

REGISTRATION

Parents are required to attend a registration night in April. Each family receives a registration packet prior to registration. Registration forms must be turned in during registration along with a registration fee for each student. Parent Commitment, Oktoberfest, and Winterfest sign-ups are conducted during registration.

SACRIFICIAL INTENT/TUITION

Families who are registered parishioners at St. Ann Church are required to fill out a Sacrificial Intent form. The recommended pledge is \$50 of each \$1000 of annual income. Non-parishioners will pay \$3,725 per student, Kindergarten-7th grade (Jr. Kindergarten, \$2,235).

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Second grade is the time when we prepare our students for the reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Penance. We also work with older students who desire to be prepared for the reception of one or more of these sacraments. Please contact the office if you want your child to participate in this program. Parents are expected to attend the sacramental parent meetings.

SCRIP

St. Ann School families are required to purchase a minimum of \$1,000 per year through the SCRIP program. Family members and friends may purchase SCRIP and credit it to your account. We will have two SCRIP fundraising contests during the school year in November and March.

SHARED SERVICES

Manton and Cadillac Area Public Schools, (CAPS), will receive names and addresses of all students in order for us to receive services such as Art, Music, Physical Education, and such Federal and State programs such as Title I.

SPECIAL SERVICES

The Intermediate School District provides the school with personnel to help in testing, evaluation, and program planning of students who have been found in need of special services. The school personnel may make requests for these services through the Intermediate School District with the agreement of a parent. The ISD also provides the services of a Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, etc. who work with those students who qualify for these programs.

The District #10 Health Department provides vision and hearing screening for students throughout the school year.

STUDENT RECORDS

Parents may review their child's school records in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan.

TESTING

Students are tested to gain information about the kinds of skills they have learned or need to learn. In conjunction with the Diocese of Gaylord Catholic Schools, the "Measures of Academic

Progress” (MAP) put out by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), are given to students 2nd-7th grades two times a year. To monitor student’s progress in reading the Gates McGinity Reading Assessment Test and the Dynamic Indicator of Basic Early Literacy (DIBLES) are used.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

To ensure the safety of our children and enable communication with visitors should they need to be reached while on the premises, *all parents, visitors and volunteers are to report to the school office when entering the building.* We do ask that you make prior arrangements with the office or classroom teacher. Volunteers are to sign in the Volunteer Sign-in Book upon entrance in the building; when leaving the building please return to the office to sign out. All parents, visitors, and volunteers need to wear a visitor sticker provided by the office. Please do not interrupt individual classrooms. Any adult wishing to spend time on the playground with students must sign in as a visitor in the school office.

VOLUNTEERS

In an effort to provide a safe environment for your children and to comply with the directives of the Diocese of Gaylord and the United States Bishop Catholic Conference, St. Ann Parish requires Employee and Volunteer Criminal Background Checks. The requirements are listed below:

- A. Regardless of position, all diocesan, parish and school paid staff (including those paid by stipend) shall have a fingerprint criminal background check through the Michigan State Police.
- B. Church and school volunteers who are expected to have regular contact with minors eight (8) or more hours each month shall have a fingerprint criminal background check through the Michigan State Police.
- C. Church and school volunteers who are expected to have regular contact with minors less than eight (8) hours per month shall have a criminal background check utilizing the Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) through the Michigan State Police.
- D. Minors who wish to volunteer to assist with children’s programs shall be requested to complete a statement of their background.

Upon signing in at the school office, volunteers will be required to read and agree to the following agreement:

“In the course of working with students in classroom settings, school activities, or accompanying students on field trips away from the school, volunteers may occasionally develop their own opinions or insights, or become aware of possible sensitive information regarding students or their families. The volunteer should hold any such opinions, insights or information in confidence. If the information potentially involves abuse or other harm to the student or others, the volunteer should convey the information to the administrator immediately. When in doubt as to the nature of the information, the volunteer should discuss the information with the administrator.”

WEAPONS POLICY

The Diocese of Gaylord has an official weapons policy for all Catholic Schools in the Diocese. The policy states:

- *Any student discovered to be, or suspected of, carrying, possessing, concealing or transferring a weapon upon school premises or in the immediate vicinity of the school will be immediately excluded from classes pending investigation.*

- *Any student found to be in violation of the school's weapons policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. The school principal or superintendent on a case-by-case basis can modify the rule regarding expulsion.*

St. Ann School follows this policy and any of the other policies mandated by the Diocese. Copies of the Diocese School Policy Book are located in the Pastor's office and Principal's office.

**PARENT/STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK**

We have read the St. Ann School's 2011-2012 Parent/Student Handbook. We understand the rights and responsibilities pertaining to students and agree to support and abide by all rules, guidelines, procedures, and policies of St. Ann School. We also understand that this handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written materials on the same subjects.

FAMILY NAME: _____
(Please Print)

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Please return to the school office 9/30/2011