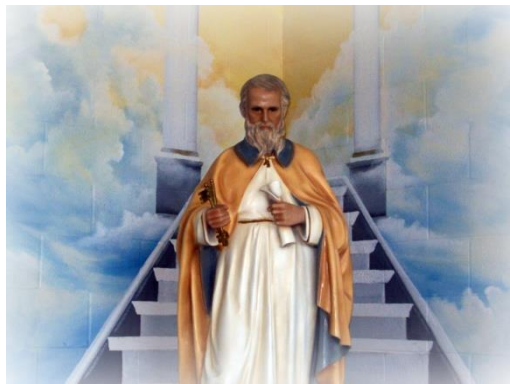


**ST. PETER CATHOLIC
SCHOOL**
Fulton, Missouri

**PARENT/STUDENT
HANDBOOK**



2021-2022

Revised: August 10, 2021

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ST. PETER CATHOLIC SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

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St. Peter School Advisory Board:

Meets 1st Wednesday August-May @ 5:30 p.m.

Joe March, President	Andy March, Vice President	Ashton Eibel, Secretary
Lori Rhoades, Member	Danny Neudecker, Member	Jordan Real, Member

St. Peter Home & School:

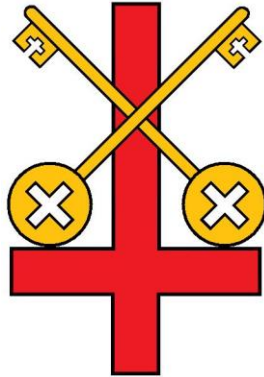
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of September, November, February, and April @ 6:30 p.m.

Jessica Cook, Co-President	Stacy Ellermann, Co-President
Cindy Russell, Secretary	Jamie Oestreich, Treasurer

St. Peter School is an accredited Catholic elementary school recognized by and a part of the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri. The Diocesan Policy and Regulation Manual for Schools express official policies and regulations regarding all schools of the Diocese. The St. Peter Catholic School Advisory Board recommends local school objectives and policies for pastor approval. The principal, in conjunction with the board, determines how best to implement goals developed by the Diocesan School Office, which helps the Bishop set the direction of Catholic education in the Diocese of Jefferson City. The local objectives and policies of St. Peter School are in harmony with the Diocesan Policy and Regulation Manual for Schools.

St. Peter Catholic School Mission

The mission of St. Peter Catholic School is to educate the whole child within the framework of Catholic beliefs.



The foundation of our faith and our families is to live the message of Christ and the Church. Our school reflects this message and is a genuine experience of the Church. Evangelization and complete formation at St. Peter Catholic School serves as a foundation for academic excellence and civic responsibility.

We provide academic excellence through a committed, highly trained and dedicated faculty who focus on the needs of students. We maintain high, attainable goals for our students, staff and school. We provide essential equipment and adequate facilities to enhance a safe learning environment.

We believe students, parents, teachers, staff and parishioners form a faith community. Each entity has a vital role in the educational mission of the Church. Through our academic setting, we offer parents support and guidance in fulfilling their primary responsibility of educating their children.

Revised September 2, 2015

Admission & Registration

The mission of St. Peter Catholic School is to educate the whole child within the framework of Catholic beliefs.

ADMISSION:

LSP 5104

Diocesan and School Advisory Board admission policies shall be promulgated in writing to all parents and parishioners and included in the local student/parent handbook. Every effort is made to serve children of supporting parishioners. Cooperation of parents with the Church and school can be an important criterion in approving the admission and annual registration of the applicant.

St. Peter School exists to further the educational mission of St. Peter Church. Therefore children shall normally be admitted in the following priority up to maximum enrollment:

- A. Children of active parishioners (pastor determines active status).
 - a. Children from families with children already enrolled.
 - b. First child currently reaching school age or enrolling new children.
- B. Children from families new to the parish.
- C. Catholic children from non-parish families (registered and active in another parish) with students already enrolled.
- D. Non-Catholic children from families with students already enrolled.
- E. Catholic children from non-parish families (registered and active in another parish).
 - a. First child reaching school age or enrolling new children.
- F. Non-Catholic children.
 - a. First child reaching school age or enrolling new children.

LSR 5102

In accord with Missouri law and diocesan policy, a child entering Kindergarten must be five years old by August 1st. A child entering first grade must be six years old by August 1st, unless he/she has successfully completed a year in an approved Kindergarten program.

In accord with **Diocesan School Regulation 5105**, effective July 1, 2019, all students must be appropriately immunized or be in the process of being immunized. Students may not be enrolled in school unless they are in compliance with the immunization requirements or qualify for either: (1) a medical exemption as confirmed by a statement from a duly licensed physician; or (2) a religious exemption as confirmed by a statement from the family's faith leader that is furnished by the parents or legal guardian of the student. Religious exemptions for Catholic families will not be accepted.

In accord with **Diocesan School Policy 5201**, in any situation where there is a custody agreement, the schools are to obtain the portion of that Agreement that stipulates custody and any other information pertinent for the school. This information is to be obtained as a condition of enrollment and parents are to notify the school of any changes in that Agreement.

TRANSFERRING STUDENT IN/OUT ST. PETER
Students Transferring In

LSP 5230

1. In order to register, previous academic, health and discipline records must have been received by St. Peter office.
2. The principal, after consultation with the pastor, may admit transfer students to classes at maximum enrollment.

Students Transferring Out

1. The state-required immunization record, along with other general health data (vision, hearing, height, weight, etc.), shall be forwarded when a student transfers to another school, unless parents specifically request to the contrary or if all financial obligations owed the school are not paid in full.
2. When a student transfers from the school, the school must obtain a release of information prior to sending a copy of the student's cumulative and discipline record to the new school. The original cumulative, discipline and attendance records shall be retained in the inactive portion of the school file.
3. Parents may, if desired, request to see a copy of the records sent to the receiving school. St. Peter School may charge a fee to the parents to cover the cost of copying and mailing the records. Ordinarily records are sent directly to the school.
4. St. Peter School will withhold student records if all financial obligations owed the school are not paid in full.

STUDENTS: Non-Discrimination

DSP 5101

Every Catholic school in the Diocese of Jefferson City respects the dignity of each individual and, therefore, will not discriminate on the basis of race, nationality, sex, or any other basis that is prohibited by law, in regard to enrollment.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

LSP 5101

St. Peter School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school except where permitted by law. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin on admission policies, scholarships and loan programs, athletic and other school administered programs except where permitted by law.

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS: Parent Communication Agreement

DSP 1810

Enrollment in a Catholic school is a privilege, not a right. Especially in the Catholic schools, an expectation of a child's enrollment is the support and close cooperation of the parent(s) or guardian(s). Should disagreements, problems, or criticisms arise, all informal efforts between the parent(s)/guardian(s) and school(s) are to be used to resolve the concern.

If informal efforts are unsuccessful, the Diocese of Jefferson City and the school have a fundamentally fair, formal process to resolve differences. It is called Administrative Recourse, and details of the process can be found in this handbook. (page 31 in this handbook.) A brief summary of the Administrative Recourse is: set up a face to face meeting with the teacher, and if unsatisfied, meet face to face with the school administrator/principal, and if unsatisfied, meet face to face with the pastor.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are requested and expected to communicate any concerns they have directly to school administration and not to express them through social media or broadly distributed email. If parent(s) or guardian(s) use any form of electronic media to defame or denigrate the school or any of its personnel, or use electronic media to post inappropriate negative statements about the school or its personnel, all as determined by the school in its

discretion, this could be cause for the school to immediately end the enrollment of the child(ren) or ward(s) of the parent or guardian who has done so.

By enrolling children in this private, Catholic school, parents are agreeing to abide by this policy as well as all other policies and regulations of the school.

STUDENTS: Proof of Guardianship

DSP 5201

The school presumes that each parent has the authority to enroll the student, consent to various activities and programs, have custody of the student, or discontinue enrollment.

In any situation where there is a custody agreement, the schools are to obtain the portion of that Agreement that stipulates custody and any other information pertinent for the school.

Schools are to indicate in their registration materials that this is a condition of enrollment. This is also to be stated in the parent/student handbook along with a statement that indicates the parents are to notify the school immediately of any change in the agreement.

When consent by both parents is required by court decree in any/all matters relating to school, the consenting parent represents that the other parent has been consulted, and he or she consents to this registration.

The school administrator/principal will release the child(ren) according to the court documents and visitation documents the school has on file.

Any non-parent having custodial rights must supply the school with complete documentation evidencing such rights.

STUDENTS: Catholic Faith and Moral Standard

DSP 5305

As a condition of initial and continued enrollment as a student in schools that are part of the Diocese of Jefferson City, a student's conduct, both in and outside of school, must be consistent with Catholic faith and morals. Conduct which is inconsistent with Catholic faith and morals, which is a threat to the health, safety, reputation and welfare of other students or employees and/or which causes scandal, impairs or threatens to impair the reputation of the Church or its schools, is grounds for disciplinary sanctions up to and including immediate dismissal/expulsion.

INSTRUCTION: Non-Catholic Student Participation

DSP 6235

Non-Catholic students enrolled in a Catholic school are required to participate to the same extent in all school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) and courses of study as Catholic students, provided such activity is permitted by Catholic Church law.

Participation in Religious Activities

LSP 6235

Students will have the benefits of religious education courses, participation at Mass, and other opportunities for prayer and reflection. Basic school requirements for student participation apply to all students, Catholic or non-Catholic.

Tithing, Tuition and Fees for 2020-2021

To offer an educational curriculum of the highest intellectual quality

SCHOOL FEES

LSP 3101

Tuition and all fees for instructional materials, etc., for each child and each family shall be recommended by the principal, reviewed by the school board, and approved by the pastor on a yearly basis. Current fees shall be communicated to the parents. Board policies related to fee payment shall be published in the parent/student handbook.

TITHING

LSP 3101.1

St. Peter School family parishioners will be expected to support the church and school through time, talent and financial commitment (stewardship). The anticipated tithing from a school family is 5% of gross income per month for 12 months. If this amount is not financially possible, parents may speak privately with the pastor and make other financial arrangements. No Catholic child will be denied a Catholic education because the family may be experiencing financial constraints, but good communication is expected.

TUITION for Non-Catholic students:

Kindergarten through 8th grade: Tuition for non-Catholic families will be \$3335 per year per child payable in ten monthly payments of \$333.50, August-May. The first tuition payment is due at the time of initial registration with St. Peter School. A 5% discount will be applied when tuition for all children in a family is paid in full by September 1 of the current school year. Families who were enrolled in K-8 during the 2019-2020 school-year will be eligible to continue the multiple child discount at the current year's tuition rate.

Pre-kindergarten: Tuition for all pre-kindergarten students will be \$125 per week per child due on the first school day of each week.

FEES:

Kindergarten-8th grade:

1. Instructional Materials and Supply Fee: \$300 per student per school year, payable in ten monthly payments of \$30.00, August-May.
2. Activity Fee: \$25.00 per family per year.
3. Technology Fee of \$75.00 per 3rd-8th grade student per year.
4. Snack fee for all kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students of \$50 per student per school year.
5. A monthly payment plan is available for Tuition as well as Instructional Materials and Supply Fees, and payments are due the 1st of each month. A late fee of ten percent (10%) of the unpaid balance due may be assessed after the 10th of each month for tuition, instructional materials fee, after school care program fee. If the 10th falls on a weekend or school holiday, the balance is due the next business day following the 10th. **(LSP 3120)**
6. St. Peter will withhold student records if all financial obligations owed to the school are not paid in full.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FEES (2021-2022)

Instructional Materials & Supply Fees:	\$300.00 per child per year (payable \$30.00/mo. August-May)
Tuition for Non-Catholic students:	Tuition for non-Catholic students: \$3335 per child per year (payable \$333.50/mo. August-May)
Tithe:	Tithe for parish families year-round: 5% of gross income
School Activity Fee:	\$25.00 per family per year.
Technology Fee:	\$75.00 per 3 rd -8 th grade student per year
Lunch:	\$2.75 per lunch including one milk; extra milk is \$0.35. Money is to be deposited in advance into student lunch accounts from which daily fees are drawn.
Kindergarten Snacks:	\$50.00 per year
Before/After School Care (BacPac): 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. (at ECLC downstairs in Parish Center) 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	\$10 annual registration fee per family. \$10 per child weekly fee for daily BEFORE school use OR \$3 per day for occasional use. \$30 per child weekly fee for daily AFTER school use OR \$8 per day for occasional use. Students not enrolled in after-school care but who are not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be sent to Bac Pac and will be charged fees for that day's use.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN FEES (2021-2022)

Instructional Materials Fees:	\$25.00 per child
Tuition:	\$125.00 a week (includes Before/After School Care and Lunch) One week tuition paid at registration (this will be refunded if written notification of withdrawal is received prior to May 1 st)
Snacks:	\$50.00 per year

Outstanding Bills

LSP 3101.3

All outstanding bills shall be cleared before the beginning of the new school year. All bills, book and supply fees, must be paid for the current year for records to be transferred to another school.

Arrival and Dismissal

To educate and encourage students in social and civic responsibility

ARRIVAL:

1. The School will open at 7:15 a.m. Students arriving before that time are to be enrolled in the Before School program. Students arriving after 7:15 a.m. are to enter the front gym doors upon arrival and enter directly to the gym. Classes will be dismissed from the gym.
2. The school day will begin at 7:45 a.m. with morning gathering and prayer. All students who arrive after 7:45 a.m. should come in the front doors by the office, check in at the office, and will be marked tardy. If the homeroom class is already on their way to church, the student is to drop his/her belongings in the back of church and proceed directly to Mass.
3. A student is tardy if arriving after 7:45 a.m. Tardies are recorded on the report cards quarterly.

DISMISSAL:

1. Dismissal from the classroom is at 3:15 p.m.
2. All students will be dismissed from the hallway.
3. All students being picked up (riders) will exit through the tunnel hall door at the back of the school.
4. Parents will enter the front parking lot and drive around the school between the church and parish center to the back parking lot. Cars will line up single file and students will be dismissed when their names are called. Cars will then exit onto Wood Street.
5. A faculty member will announce the arrival of each parent. Children will be able to see their car and acknowledge it as their family car.
6. The students will then be dismissed to go directly to the car.
7. If a student is not prepared for any reason, the parent will be asked to pull aside to wait or park in the front parking lot.
8. A written notice of permission must be on file in the office for any student who will be walking from school. The notice must include regularity of walking and destination.
9. All changes in pick-up need to be cleared through the office by phone, email, or a note.
10. Any student remaining after 3:30 p.m. will go directly to BacPac and **fees will be assessed.**

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM:

Before and After School Care program (BacPac) is offered daily when school is in session. An annual \$10.00 non-refundable registration fee per family is required.

- Before School care is available Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 7:15 a.m. in the school gym. Before School care cost is \$10 per week per child for daily before school use, or \$3 per day per child for occasional use. Parents must sign-in when bringing children in at the front gym doors.
- After School care is available Monday-Friday, 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 per week per child for daily after school use, or \$8 per day per child for occasional use. Parents pick up students from After School care by driving up the back gravel drive off Wood Street to the back of school and picking up children from outside or ringing doorbell to sign-out children. Parents are to sign out children each day when picking up.
- All fees are due the 1st of each month. A late fee of 10% of the unpaid balance due may be assessed after the 10th of each month. If the 10th falls on a weekend or school holiday, the balance is due the next business day following the 10th.
- Parents must pick up their child(ren) by 5:30 p.m. Late charges are accrued at \$5 for the first minute and \$1 for every additional minute after closing. Excessive late pick-ups (more than three) may result in dismissal from the program.

STUDENTS: Absence and Tardiness

DSP 5210

A. Absence

Excessive absenteeism may be indicative of educational neglect by the parent or guardian. Such neglect might warrant reporting in compliance with child abuse laws of the State of Missouri. (Refer to #5810.)

An absence of more than two hours is recorded as one-half day absence.

B. Tardiness

Excessive tardiness may be indicative of educational neglect by the parent or guardian. Such neglect might warrant reporting in compliance with child abuse laws of the State of Missouri. (Refer to #5810.)

The school handbook specifies times for the beginning of the morning and afternoon sessions. Any pupil who arrives after either of the stated times is considered tardy.

If a student is regularly missing Mass because of arriving late (morning Mass) or leaving early (afternoon Mass) this may be taken into consideration of allowing the student to continue to be enrolled in the school.

ABSENCE:

LSR 5210

1. If a student is going to be absent, parent/guardians are to contact the school office by 8:30 a.m. the day of the absence.
2. A written excuse from parent/guardian is needed when the student returns to school. The excuse is to include the date and specific reason for the absence, or specifics concerning the illness. An emailed excuse from a parent/guardian may be sent to the school office address stpeterschooloffice@stpeterfultonmo.org.
3. When a student is absent, a member of the family may pick up daily schoolwork after 3:15 p.m. and until 5:00 p.m. on the day of the absence- if homework has been requested. One day to make up work will be allowed for each day of illness or absence. Questions or concerns should be discussed with the child's classroom teacher.
4. If a student accumulates more than three absences per quarter, a conference may be requested with the student's parent/guardian to discuss the effect of the absences on the child's academic work.
5. A student is allowed to leave school premises only with a written notice from the parents/guardians and the knowledge and permission of the principal and teacher. The school accepts no responsibility for any child who leaves the school premises without permission of the principal. Students may not leave the school premises early without parent/guardian or a parent/guardian approved adult coming into the school for him/her and signing out the student(s). Adults authorized to pick up a student should be on file in the school office. **Permission for someone to pick up a student other than parent/guardian must be in writing from parent/guardian.** (see below: Diocesan School Policy 5370)
6. Students needing to leave school because of family commitments, holidays, or vacation must notify the school in writing prior to departure.
7. In order to participate in same-day extra curricular activities or sport activities the student must have been present in school a minimum of ½ day. Students must have been present in school a minimum of ½ day on Friday to participate in weekend extra-curricular activities or sport activities. Exceptions must have principal permission.
8. A student is considered tardy when the time absent from school is less than one half day's absence at the beginning or the end of the school day. Departure from school prior to end of day dismissal time will count as a tardy.
9. Habitual tardiness will result in disciplinary action.
 - A. After the 3rd tardy of each quarter, parents will be notified.

- B. After the 5th tardy of each quarter, parents will conference with the principal and student to ensure all work is completed.
 - C. After the 10th tardy of a quarter, further consequences will be assigned, to include but not limited to a conference with the pastor.
10. A student must have zero tardies and zero absences to achieve perfect attendance.

STUDENTS: Written Excuses

DSP 5211

When a child has been absent, the school requires a written excuse from his/her parent or guardian. All notes concerning absence are kept on file until the end of the school year. If a pupil is absent without an excuse or if the school has reason to suspect the validity of the excuse, the school administrator/principal may investigate or delegates someone to investigate the situation. Schools are encouraged to establish a policy requiring "Return to School" documentation from a medical professional after a period of illness (for example, if a student misses more than 3 days due to illness, documentation is required for return).

In addition, schools are encouraged to establish or continue procedures whereby a parent is expected to phone the school if a student will be absent. This call, however, does not replace the written excuse as a matter of record.

STUDENTS: Requests for Family Reasons

DSP 5220

Parents occasionally wish to take their children out of school for several days because of family plans. The school administrator/principal and teacher(s) should discuss the child's progress and make recommendations to the parent. The school administrator/principal keeps a record of the recommendations made to the parent. The final decision, however, is the responsibility of the parent. Conditions, procedures, and time limits for making up work are to be specified in writing.

Parents are encouraged to notify the office, in writing, well in advance of any planned, extended absences. Students are encouraged to request assignments for the time they are gone and to take textbooks and homework to keep up with the rest of the class.

STUDENTS: Release of Individual Students from School

DSP 5370

Extraordinary care is taken in regard to early dismissal of individual students. Parents presume their child is under the care of the school during school hours. Consequently, an elementary student is never released early without explicit knowledge of his/her parent or legal guardian. Under no circumstance may a child be released to anyone other than the parent or guardian who is listed on the child's registration form or another person explicitly authorized in writing by the parent or guardian.

In the case where only one parent has custody of the child, the school must be apprised of any existing court order that would affect release of the student from school. The school personnel must follow the most recent written agreement/order regarding custody.

A student may never be sent home for assignments, books, or disciplinary reasons without parental communication, nor may any student be sent on errands outside the school and parish grounds for anyone.

Dress Code

To provide an intellectual and spiritual environment

DRESS CODE:

LSP 5340

Clothing which is appropriate in a formal Catholic school is to be modest, neat and clean. Learning is a formal activity, and how a person dresses affects one's behavior and attitude toward any activity. Good grooming is important to the well-being of every student at St. Peter School. It reflects not only the individual, but also the school and the community of St. Peter Parish. In general, any student dress or appearance, while not specifically outlined below, may be considered unacceptable if it disrupts the focus of the academic work of the classroom or if it violates the modest, neat and clean spirit of the standards.

Pre-kindergarten students:

- ◆ Are not required to wear school uniforms, but clothing should be modest, neat and clean, and appropriate in a formal Catholic school.
- ◆ For safety reasons, must wear shoes that completely cover the foot—NO FLIP FLOPS.
- ◆ For safety reasons, must wear tennis shoes on PE days.

Kindergarten-8th grade students:

- ◆ **Uniform Company**
Uniform plaid is the only thing that must be purchased through a uniform company. You may order online at www.frenchtoast.com (Green Plaid) or www.landsend.com (Hunter/Classic Navy Plaid).
- ◆ **Clothing in ill repair is not acceptable unless the damage occurs during the school day.**
- ◆ **Hair must not be disruptive or interfere with learning and boys may not wear earrings.**
- ◆ **The only logos permitted are approved St. Peter School insignias/designs.**
- ◆ **All shirts and/or blouses must have a collar and must be:**
 - polo or Oxford style and long or short sleeved with a fitted sleeve
 - of solid uniform color (red, white, navy blue, light blue)
 - tucked in, with the exception of during recess and physical education class
 - long enough to cover the torso when arms are raised
 - a plain, uniform color (red, white, navy blue, light blue) shirt may be worn under a uniform shirt
- ◆ **Sweaters And Sweatshirts**
 - sweatshirts may be worn during the school day as part of the school uniform
 - hoodies may be worn during school hours but removed during Mass
 - must be of solid red, white, navy blue, or light blue
 - may be worn with an exposed collar from a uniform shirt underneath
 - may have current or previous St. Peter logo or P.E. design on them
- ◆ **Pants and Slacks must**
 - be navy blue or khaki uniform pants (**not denim material, athletic pants, or leggings**)
 - fit properly and not be baggy or too tight
 - NOT have cargo pockets

- ◆ **Shorts**
 - may be worn during appropriate temperatures
 - must be navy or khaki uniform shorts (**not denim material, athletic shorts, or leggings**)
 - must be no shorter than 2” above the knee and reach past fingertips when arms hang loosely
 - may be Capri pants or cropped pants
 - may NOT be cargo style but may have painter’s pockets
- ◆ **Dresses or Skirts**
 - must be twill navy blue or khaki or school uniform plaid (**not denim or sweater material**)
 - must be worn with tights, leggings, or shorts underneath (black, white, or navy blue)
 - may be worn with hose (girls grades 5-8)
 - hemlines for skirts and dresses will be no shorter than 2” above the knee
 - may be skorts with the same color/length/material specifications as shorts
- ◆ **Socks or Tights**
 - must be worn and match as a pair
 - must be in solid uniform color of white, navy blue, or black
 - must be visible outside the shoe
- ◆ **Shoes**
 - may be tennis shoes or dress shoes
 - must have closed heels and toes
 - may not have stacked heels; maximum heel height is 1 ½ inches
 - boots may be worn under pants/slacks (not with pants/slacks tucked in)

ALTERNATIVE UNIFORM FOR P.E. DAYS ONLY

- ◆ St. Peter School uniform t-shirt (including previous designs) may be worn.
- ◆ Gym shorts that are solid black or navy blue, or solid black or navy blue with a modest stripe and without a visible logo may be worn. Shorts must be no shorter than 2” above the knee.
- ◆ Windpants, track pants, and sweatpants that are solid black or navy blue, or solid black or navy blue with a modest stripe and without a visible logo may be worn.
- ◆ **Fleece sweatpants/shorts (such as pajama bottoms) are not permitted**, and any breakaway snaps must be sewn shut on windpants.
- ◆ **Tennis shoes are mandatory on P.E. days.**

DRESS CODE GUIDELINES FOR OUT-OF-UNIFORM DAYS AND SCHOOL EVENTS

These guidelines are to be followed for out-of-uniform days and all school events (concerts, awards assemblies, picnic days, field trips, etc.):

- ◆ **Shirts and Tops:**
 - Shirts and tops must be long enough to cover the torso, even when the arms are raised.
 - Lettering and graphics on any shirt must be tasteful and appropriate for the Catholic school environment.
 - All shirts and tops must have shoulder straps at least 2 inches in width and must not allow undergarments to show.
- ◆ **Shorts:**
 - Shorts must follow uniform specifications in length but do not have to be of uniform color.
- ◆ **Shoes:**
 - Shoes must follow uniform specifications.

- ◆ **Clothing must fit.**
 - Clothing must not be so tight that the outline of underclothing can be identified (ie. Leggings can only be worn under a dress or skirt, not as pants)
 - Oversized (baggy) clothing, including but not limited to sweatshirts, “jams” and baggy slacks, will not be permitted.
- ◆ **Sweatpants are not permitted.**
 - Wind-suits, parachute pants, and nylon pants are permitted as long as they do not have breakaway side-seams (unless sewn shut).
- ◆ **Dresses and Skirts:**
 - Hemlines for skirts and dresses will be no shorter than 2” above the knee and must pass fingertips.
 - Dresses must have shoulder straps at least 2 inches in width and must not allow undergarments to show.
 - Tights and/or matching socks must be worn.

Curriculum and Instruction

Providing challenging opportunities for intellectual, creative, spiritual development within the framework of Catholic beliefs and values

St. Peter School fulfills all diocesan curriculum requirements and is accredited annually with an accreditation review every seven years. Curriculum guidelines are available for review in the School Office and on the diocesan website.

GRADING SYSTEM:

The grading system is in accordance with diocesan policy.

1. The grading system used for pre-kindergarten through second grade is a checklist of skill objectives.
2. The grading system for third through eighth grade is a letter grade system: A, B, C, D, F.
3. The appropriate teacher may comment on conduct and effort for all subject areas.
4. Grade cards are sent home following each academic quarter.

If a student has an “F” average in 2 or more core subjects at the end of the first semester, he/she will be evaluated for possible retention. Parents will be contacted to discuss strategies to help improve their student’s academic standing.

REPORTING OF GRADES:

Grades Pre-K-2

Pre-kindergarten teacher reports student progress/needs informally daily with information sheet. Teachers of grades K-2 report on student progress/needs informally each Friday through the use of Friday Folders or similar communication. Teachers of these students formally report on student progress quarterly.

Grades 3-8

Teachers of grades 3-8 report on student progress in the following ways.

- Student grades may be accessed online at www.factsmgt.com
- Four/Five Week Mid-quarter: FACTS grade sheet will be printed after all grades have been entered. **Participation in extra curricular activities will be assessed at this point for students falling below the minimum requirements.**
- Quarterly Report Cards: **Participation in extra-curricular activities will be assessed at this point for students falling below the minimum requirements.**

A+ (99-100) A (95-98) A- (93-94)	Superior
B + (91-92) B (88-90) B- (86-87)	Above Average
C + (84-85) C (80-83) C- (77-79)	Average
D + (75-76) D (72-74) D- (71-70)	Below Average
F Below 70	

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

All students are expected to be honest in their actions and their classwork. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: plagiarism; cheating by copying another student's homework, quiz, or test by any method; or enabling someone else to cheat (i.e. giving your assignment to someone else, giving answers to tests, etc.).

Plagiarism:

- **Copying from another student's work, or enabling someone else to do so.**
- **Using someone else's (classmate or published author) words and/or ideas in a paper without proper citation.**

First Offense: Principal/Student conference, parent(s) notified, student must attend a study session to learn how to identify plagiarism to prevent it from happening again

Subsequent Offenses: Principal/Student/Parent conference, Zero on assignment or test, and In-School Suspension.

STUDENTS: Promotion and Retention

DSP 5410

All promotions, regular and special, are decided by the school administrator/principal in light of the teacher's recommendation and in consultation with the parents and with the child, if appropriate. Such decisions are based on a total evaluation of a student's growth in all areas of development.

If a student's progress is unsatisfactory and the teacher believes the student may not satisfactorily complete the present grade, the teacher shall discuss alternatives with the school administrator/principal. As soon as possible, the teacher and/or the school administrator/principal shall talk with the parents/guardians and, as appropriate, with the student. Although the school administrator/principal always acts in consultation with the student's teachers and parents, the final responsibility for a student's promotion or retention rests with the school administrator/principal. During conferences and in a follow-up letter, the parents/guardians and the student are informed of the pending decision at least six weeks before it is finalized. The decision, with its rationale, is to be communicated to the parents/guardian. If the parents/guardians do not agree with the school administrator's/principal's decision, the school administrator/principal and the parents/guardians shall meet to discuss the rationale for the decision. While parent/guardian input is valued, it is ultimately the school administrator's/principal's decision whether to promote a student.

If a student with special educational needs is accepted in a school that does not offer a special education program, at the request of parents who are aware that a special education program is not offered, the school administrator/principal and parents sign a written agreement concerning promotion and retention procedures for the child as well as the type of diploma to be awarded upon termination of attendance.

High school students who satisfactorily complete a program that includes a modified curriculum or significant accommodations for special needs will receive a diploma that indicates the modified nature of the curriculum, i.e., Modified Diploma

SPECIAL SERVICES:

STUDENTS: Students with Special Needs

DSP 5701

If a student with special needs (categorized such as EMH (Educable Mentally Handicapped), EEN (exceptional educational needs), or other similar classification, or having a serious physical disability) applies for admission and/or is in need of special placement and admission is going to be denied, or a current student is being asked to withdraw, or being referred to another school, the administrator is to immediately consult the Catholic School Office so that all necessary accommodations can be made in order to meet the needs of the student and to help make a judgment as to whether or not, indeed, that is possible. Whenever possible, accommodations are to be made to meet the total needs of the student. A review committee can be convened by the Catholic School Office, if deemed necessary, before a final decision is made. The review committee can include, but not be limited to, the Catholic School Office, the local administrator(s), parent representative, counselor, pastor, and other designated professionals. It will be the purpose of the review committee to help the school make a local decision. This review committee can also be convened or reconvened by the Catholic School Office, if deemed beneficial, when a parent disagrees with a local school decision.

LSR 5701

1. St. Peter School offers special services through the Fulton Public School District. If there is an academic concern, parents should make an appointment to discuss concerns with the teacher. St. Peter School might be limited in providing special services for certain student needs.
2. Enrichment and gifted curriculum is served within the scope of the regular classroom. Academic curriculum goes beyond diocesan standards at each grade level.
3. Tutoring may be available through outside sources, parent volunteers, and faculty.

Participation of Nonpublic School Children

As part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the LEA (Public Schools) must make available equitable services to eligible nonpublic school children, their teachers, or other educational personnel. LEAs must ensure that total expenditures, less administrative costs, are equal on a per-pupil basis to Title I funds that are spent on public school students. Services to nonpublic school children must be performed at the public school, a neutral site at the nonpublic school, or neutral grounds. Through the consultation process, services will be provided through a contracted reading interventionist. Students are identified through a multi-criteria list and provided 30 min. of reading intervention three times per week.

The LEA must review data annually to assess the effectiveness of its nonpublic Title I program. During this consultation, the LEA and private school officials determine the standards that are to be used to measure the effectiveness of the Title I program, what assessment will be used to measure the agreed upon standards and what constitutes annual progress for the Title I program

Schools with Title I parents in the spring term are asked to evaluate Title I services and the LEA's and school's parent involvement policy. Input from parents, such as a survey, is considered as part of the Annual Title I Evaluation.

TESTING FOR SPECIAL SERVICES:

St. Peter School can offer special services through the Fulton Public School District. Special services encompass academics, behavior, intelligence, social concerns, and speech.

1. Parents will make an appointment with the teacher to discuss concerns. If parent/guardian decides to request a special services evaluation, the teacher will relay the intention to the principal.
2. The parent will contact the director of special services with the Fulton Public School District **to request an evaluation**, and relay necessary information to the principal/teacher.
3. Final determination of the need for services will be made within 60 days.

**Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)
COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs¹ that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)².

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Complaint Procedures for ESSA Programs Table of Contents	
General Information	
1. What is a complaint under ESSA? 2. Who may file a complaint? 3. How can a complaint be filed?	
Complaints filed with LEA	Complaints filed with the Department
4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated? 5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?	6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department? 7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated? 8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?
Appeals	
9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated? 10. What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?	

1. What is a complaint?

For these purposes, a complaint is a written allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

2. Who may file a complaint?

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

3. How can a complaint be filed?

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to the locally developed and adopted procedures.

5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

1. A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and
2. The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of forty-five calendar days. That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties.

The following activities will occur in the investigation:

- 1. Record.** A written record of the investigation will be kept.
- 2. Notification of LEA.** The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
- 3. Resolution at LEA.** The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
- 4. Report by LEA.**
Within thirty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
- 5. Verification.**
Within five days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, or telephone call(s).
- 6. Appeal.**
The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?

In addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, complaints related to equitable services will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Department's resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. This investigation may be continued beyond the thirty day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

10. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?

The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.

1 Programs include Title I, A, B, C, D, Title II, Title III, Title IV, A, Title V

Revised 4/17

2 In compliance with ESSA Title VIII- Part C. Sec. 8304(a)(3)(C)

Local education agencies are required to disseminate, free of charge, this information regarding ESSA complaint procedures to parents of students and appropriate private school officials or representatives.

HOMEWORK:

LSP 6240

1. Homework is designed to practice and reinforce material already taught. A reasonable amount of homework is necessary for progress, self-discipline, and self-motivation.
2. Homework is to be turned in on time.
3. Homework is posted on the classroom board and students are expected to record assignments in their planner each day.

LIBRARY:

1. Library hours are determined at the beginning of each school year.
2. The librarian, in cooperation with the teachers, will determine the method of checkout and time limit for return of books for elementary children.
3. Students will be notified of overdue materials. Checkout privileges are suspended pending return of materials.

4. Students must return books or pay a non-refundable replacement fee within one week of 3rd overdue notice in order to restore checkout privileges.
5. In case of lost or damaged items, student will be expected to pay replacement cost.

LITURGY (means Works of the People):

1. Students attend and actively participate in Mass twice weekly on the following schedule:
 - K-8th grade on Wednesdays
 - PreK-8th on Fridays
 - PreK-8th on Holy Days
2. Extra prayer services may be held at principal or pastor discretion.
3. Classes attend Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reconciliation, and visits with the pastor as scheduled by the teacher and/or pastor.

MUSICAL PROGRAMS:

Musical programs are part of the school curriculum, and participation is mandatory. Students earn a grade for musical programs, and students who miss a scheduled performance will receive no credit for that grade. Students in grades 3-8 receive a letter grade for music class. The music teacher(s) and administration will determine dates of these programs.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE):

1. Children are to participate in physical education (PE) class and to dress appropriately as specified by the PE teacher and in accordance with the dress code.
2. A child may be excused from class with written permission from parent/guardian.
3. **Tennis shoes are mandatory on PE days for all students.**
4. Students in PreK-2 will receive participation grades; 3rd-8th will receive a letter grade.

RECESS:

1. Students in grades PreK-3rd have a 15-minute afternoon recess. Students in grades PreK-8th have a 25-minute lunch recess.
2. RULES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER will be followed as applicable.

RELIGION: (per LSP 6235)

1. Prayer is an integral part of each school day. All children are to participate in an appropriate manner.
2. Catholic religion is taught in each classroom.
3. All students receive a grade or evaluation for religion class.
4. All students are expected to actively participate in the Mass.

TESTING:

1. St. Peter School uses a diocesan-approved testing program. These tests are given in the fall to the second through eighth grades.
2. Test results are made available to the parents/guardians.

TEXTBOOKS:

1. Students are responsible for textbooks issued.
2. Parents/guardians and students are responsible for the cost of a lost or damaged textbook.

ACADEMIC AWARDS:

An Awards Assembly takes place at the end of the school year. The following awards are typically given:

- ◆ Presidential Academic Award (8th)
- ◆ Nolin Courtesy Award (8th)
- ◆ Christian Social Development Award (K - 8th)
- ◆ Essay Awards (DAR, VFW, Pro-Life)
- ◆ Individual subject awards
- ◆ Highest GPA award (8th)

INSTRUCTION: Educational Outings, Field Trips, 8th Grade Trips

DSP 6301

Field trips and outings are to be learning experiences; they are also privileges. Each teacher or moderator, in advance, explains to the school administrator/principal the proposed field trip, including student preparation, plans for supervision and transportation, and student follow-up activities. If approved, the teacher follows the local procedures for the distribution and return of the field trip forms with parental signatures.

A school may, but is not required to, sponsor an end of year 8th grade and/or a senior trip. If it does, the school must be ultimately responsible for the planning and implementation, including the assigning of chaperones and the establishment of rules. In addition, school personnel must be on the trip. If the school does not sponsor the trip, then DSP 6306 is to be followed, in which case the school must isolate itself from the planning, distribution of any information, and fundraising. If any fundraising is done, then the school name is not to be used. The school tax identification number is not to be used in any way for this trip, and any contracts are not to use the school name.

Other than high school sports, any proposed school-sponsored trip that would include an overnight stay, travel outside of the state, or both, must be approved through the Catholic Schools Office prior to permission slips being distributed to parents/guardians.

INSTRUCTION: Educational Outings, Field Trips, 8th Grade Trips Grade and Senior Trips

DSR 6301

All field trips and outings must be pre-approved by the local school administrator/principal. The written consent of parents must be obtained for every child participating in a field trip or outing. The consent is to include the basic information on the trip, such as where they are going, times, chaperones and mode of transportation.

No student may participate unless a signed parental permission slip for the specific event is on file with the school administrator/principal. The Diocese of Jefferson City sample Field Trip Permission Slip is included in Appendix #6301.

STUDENTS: Alcohol Use at School Related Events

DSP 5545

No alcohol may be present or consumed at events where children and youth are the primary focus. For example: field trips, school carnivals, school picnics, school sponsored athletic events, etc.

INSTRUCTION: Chaperones and Drivers for Field Trips, Athletic Events and Other Off-Campus School Activities

DSP 6305

Schools should take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of students when they are being transported for educational field trips, athletic events, and other off-campus school activities.

An adequate number of responsible adult chaperones are to accompany the students. Ordinarily, at least one adult will accompany every five students in the lower grades and every 10 students in the upper grades - but some situations or younger students may require more supervision. Trips involving a great deal of travel should be discouraged.

When appropriate, schools should use bus transportation by an insured carrier for off-campus school sanctioned events. There are circumstances for which a school administrator/principal may determine that transportation in

private passenger vehicles is appropriate. These circumstances could include the fact that there is a small number of students involved in an activity and the cost of commercial transportation. If a private passenger vehicle is to be used, the following criteria shall apply:

1. drivers must be a parent/guardian of a student;
2. drivers must be experienced drivers over the age of 25 and demonstrate the maturity necessary to provide for the safety of those they are transporting;
3. drivers must have a valid, non-probationary driver's license and no physical disability that may impair the ability to drive safely;
4. drivers must sign a driving policy acknowledgement form agreeing to abide by certain safety practices; (Appendix 6305: Agreement to Transport Students);
5. drivers must complete the Diocesan Safe Environment training;
6. the vehicle must have a valid registration and meet state safety requirements; and
7. the vehicle must be insured for minimum limits of \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per occurrence.

All drivers should be given a copy of the above criteria. Volunteer drivers must provide the school with copies of a valid driver's license, their vehicle registration, and proof of insurance coverage. The documents shall be kept on file by the school. The school shall also maintain a record of each event and date when each volunteer driver transports students.

Student Services

To provide an intellectual and spiritual environment that enhances the individuality of each student

ACCIDENT/ILLNESS/MEDICATION:

Parents/guardians will be notified if a student becomes ill or is injured seriously.

Students should not be at school if their temperature is at or above 100.0 degrees F. Parents will be called to pick up their child if he/she is running a temperature at school. Students need to be fever-free without medication and symptom-free for 24 hours prior to returning to school.

Parents/guardians must keep the office updated of current phone number, address, employment, or medical information.

STUDENTS: Drug/Medication Administration

DSP 5520

Any drug which may lawfully be sold over the counter without a prescription may be administered in compliance with the written instructions and consent of the student's parent or guardian. Administration of a prescription drug requires written instructions from a physician, dentist or podiatrist and written consent from the student's parent or guardian. All drugs, whether OTC or prescribed, must be kept in the school office/nurse's office, NOT in the possession of a student.

Each school must have a written policy in regarding to oral medication administration. The policy shall include procedures for obtaining and filing in the school or other appropriate facility the written instructions and consent required. There must be procedures for the periodic review of the instructions, for the storing of the drugs, for record keeping and for the appropriate instruction of persons who may be authorized to administer the drugs. (For the proper protection of students and faculty, schools are required to keep medication in a locked cabinet.)

DRUG/MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

LSP 5520

1. All medication must be kept in the school office. Students, therefore, are not to keep or carry medication (including aspirin and/or cough drops) on their person unless directed to by a physician. All medication, prescription and non-prescription, is to be sent to the school office in a plastic Ziploc bag with the student's name on it.
2. If medication is needed at school, please come into the School Office; a form will need to be filled out (prescription and non-prescription medication) and signed in order for school personnel/volunteers to administer the medication. Prescription medicine must have a pharmaceutical label with physician's directions to be accepted at school. Your pharmacist can give you an extra bottle to be used for the medication sent to school. Your doctor may be able to schedule all doses of medication to be taken at home.
3. Do not send more than one week's supply of medicine at one time.
4. Students with chronic or specific problems requiring medication for emergency situations should have their medication properly labeled as listed above. Specific written instructions must be provided as to when and under what circumstances medication is to be given. This information must be provided and signed annually by the student's doctor.
5. Medication will be properly disposed of if it is left at school for more than two weeks. (Exception #4 above.)
6. Indicate if medication is to be refrigerated.

CONTAGIOUS AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES:

Diocesan School Policy (DSP) 8000: Communicable Diseases will be followed.

Any student who is liable to transmit a contagious disease through day-to-day contact (such as measles, chicken pox, and tuberculosis) will not be permitted at school or school-sponsored activities as long as the possibility of contagion exists. Parents must notify the school office if their child has a communicable disease.

Students with Pediculosis Capitis (head lice) will not be permitted at school or school-sponsored activities until live lice and viable nits are eradicated and a written statement from a physician or a County Health Nurse states that this is so. Students may then return to school after a visual check by a St. Peter School official who may also conduct periodic visual checks.

IMMUNIZATIONS & SCREENINGS:

1. All students are required to be appropriately immunized. The immunization requirements are in accordance with the regulations established by the Missouri Department of Health. The school must maintain a record of current immunization status of all students.
2. **ALL** students must be properly immunized **BEFORE** the first day of attendance. Students not properly immunized will not be permitted to attend school.
3. Visual and auditory screenings are done annually at school.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

LSP 5810

The Diocesan Policy regarding Child Abuse and Neglect will be followed.

STUDENT INSURANCE:

LSP 5575

Students who participate in extra-curricular activities must have a signed statement verifying that they have insurance through their own family.

LUNCH:

1. St. Peter School has a nutritious hot lunch program.
2. Lunch money is to be deposited in advance into a student lunch account from which daily fees are withdrawn.
3. The cost of a lunch tray is \$2.75 per student and includes one milk. Money for milk (for brought lunches and “extra milk”) may be added to the lunch account at a cost of \$0.35 per carton.
4. St. Peter School participates in the federally sponsored **Free and Reduced Lunch Program**. Letters concerning this program are made available at the beginning of each school year. Participation in the program is held in the strictest confidence and families are encouraged to participate in this program, if eligible.
5. Accommodations will be made for students with doctor documented food allergies, intolerances, and sensitivities. A written statement from the doctor must be on file in the school office.
6. Students may NOT bring any drink other than water to school to drink with their lunches.
7. Students may NOT have “fast food” delivered to them at lunch.
8. Students are encouraged to eat lunch each day.

PARTIES:

1. St. Peter School children may have classroom holiday parties for Halloween, Christmas, and Saint Valentine’s Day.
2. Birthday treats may be brought to class with teacher permission.
3. Invitations to private birthday parties are not to be distributed at school unless the entire class is receiving an invitation.

SPORTS:

St. Peter School offers extra-curricular cross-country, volleyball, basketball, track, and cheerleading. Sports physical and proof of insurance are required every two years of all student athletes prior to the first practice, unless a physician determines a need for an annual visit. All coaches and at least one parent (but both are encouraged) from every family with a student participating in a sport is required to attend a **Booster Club meeting** prior to their student beginning sports at St. Peter School.

WELLNESS POLICY:

St. Peter School recognizes the relationship between student well being and improving student achievement. The school will provide developmentally appropriate and sequential nutrition, physical education, physical activities, and other areas of the curriculum to assure student wellness. The wellness policy will be implemented in a multidisciplinary fashion. The primary goals of the wellness program are to promote student health, reduce student overweight/obesity, facilitate student learning of lifelong healthy habits and increase student achievement. The principles of continuous quality improvement will serve as the basis for the deployment of this policy. You may access the full wellness policy in the school office.

LOST & FOUND:

There is a lost and found box in the Gathering Space in back of church. Children and parents are urged to check the lost and found box if they are missing an item. Every year there are many items unclaimed. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

Organizations and Groups

To provide a friendly atmosphere for creativity and experimentation within the curriculum

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS: Educational Authority in the Parish DSP 1305

The pastor of each parish, canonically appointed to be the head of the Catholic community, has pastoral authority and concern in all facets of parish life. In educational matters, he works with the school advisory board. The school advisory board is an advisory board established to assist the pastor, school administrator/principal, parish pastoral council, and parish finance council in fostering the education mission, goals and objectives of the Catholic school. It helps formulate and recommend policy and is consultative to both the pastor and the school administrator/principal. The role of the parish pastoral council is to advise the pastor on all areas of the mission and direction of the whole parish. The school advisory board advises the pastor that the school is in harmony with the mission of the parish. The parish finance council advises in the temporal goods to insure the mission is sustained.

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD: LSP 1305

A Catholic School Advisory Board acts as a representative group to give general guidance for discretionary action of the principal and staff. The pastor's approval is required for any board policy. Membership consists of the pastor, the principal and six lay members elected to a three-year term.

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS: Home and School Associations DSP 1430

There must be the closest cooperation between parents and the school faculty and staff. In fulfilling their task, schools are to collaborate closely with the parents/guardians. Associations and meetings of parents/guardians are to be established and held in high esteem. Each Catholic elementary school shall establish and maintain a home and school association to help parents/guardian in fulfilling their role as Christian educators and to provide educational assistance in Christian family living. (School) Associations and meetings of parents are to be set up and held in high esteem. (Code of Canon Law, Canon 796.) The home and school fulfills its purpose by supporting the school and collaborating with faculty and staff.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION: LSP 1430

The goal of the Home and School Association is to assist in the advancement of Catholic education and the welfare of all the St. Peter School children.

Membership shall consist of parents and guardians of students of St. Peter Catholic School, the pastor, principal, and members of the faculty. ALL parents/guardians are to participate in and support the Home and School Association.

The association usually meets four times during the school year. (September, November, February, and April)

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS:

St. Peter Catholic School welcomes all who wish to be involved in the school. We actively seek volunteers in areas of our needs. Volunteers are required to attend a diocesan-sponsored in-service on working with youth, Protecting God's Children (VIRTUS), complete paperwork for a background check, and sign a Code of Conduct prior to their helping in the school. Upon approval by the Diocese, school administration will work with volunteer for appropriate placement.

PANTHER ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB:

The Panther Athletic Booster Club is open to family membership for all parents and parishioners and the Fulton community. Membership is \$25.00 annual dues. The Booster Club supports the St. Peter athletic program, helps purchase additional equipment and sponsors volleyball and basketball tournaments.

INSTRUCTION: Athletics

DSP 6610

All athletic programs offered through Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Jefferson City shall reflect the values of, and be consistent with, the mission and principles of the Catholic Schools and the Diocese.

INSTRUCTION: Athletics

DSR 6610

All athletic programs offered through Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Jefferson City (referred to collectively as “Catholic Schools”) will ensure their program meets the following criteria:

- 1. Sports are viewed as ministry to children and families.*
- 2. Teams are seen as moral communities.*
- 3. Moral growth and character development are emphasized.*
- 4. Spiritual development.*

All coaches and assistant coaches, whether paid or volunteer, will be expected to imitate Christ through their coaching.

Administrators/principals of each Catholic School who participates in any athletic program will be responsible for assuring that all coaches, physical education teachers and parents meet these behavior standards. Evaluation of coaches and physical education teachers by administrators/principals will assure that these coaches and teachers are integrating these goals into their ministry of coaching/teaching.

Administrators/principals may delegate responsibility for various aspects of the program to other employees (i.e., assistant principals, athletic directors or secretaries), but will retain overall responsibility for the implementation of the program in their schools.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: VALUES OF ATHLETIC PROGRAM

LSP 6604

The athletic program shall be such that it teaches self-discipline, good sportsmanship, fairness, and that it instills in students Christian values and behavior. Especially at the elementary level, participation, skill development, and teamwork shall be emphasized more than competition. Eligibility of students to participate is based on satisfactory effort put forth in schoolwork. Practice time shall be approved by school administration. All coaches for sports activities will be on a voluntary basis. All coaches and volunteers will have completed the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” training, background checks, and review expectations of the Diocese and school.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY AVAILABILITY:

LSP 6601

St. Peter School attempts to meet the needs of all students. Activities outside the classroom are offered throughout the year to students at varying age levels. These may vary from year to year depending on the demand and availability of coaches and parents who are willing to supervise. Some enrichment activities which might enhance class work may take place during classroom time. If you have a skill or talent, which could be shared with the students, please contact the school office.

The following activities are offered, at a minimum, to students in appropriate grades, provided sponsor and student interest:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bellarmino Speech League (5-8) | Boys’ Basketball (5-8) |
| Diocesan Sketch Day (6-8) | Girls’ Basketball (5-8) |
| Diocesan Music Enrichment Day (varies) | Cross Country (4-8) |
| Science Fair (5-8) (Diocesan 6-8) | Girls’ Volleyball (5-8) |
| Cheerleading (7-8) | Choir at Masses (3-8) |
| Student Council (6-8) | Essay Contests (varies) |
| Spelling Bee (4-8) | Geography Bee (4-8) |
| Aquinas Academy (6-7) | Band (arranged) (6-8) |

INSTRUCTION: Eligibility for Co-Curricular Activities

DSP 6603

The school should set norms for eligibility of students to participate in school-sponsored activities, e.g., that attendance in school is required for participation in co-curricular activities on the day of the activity. Physical examinations are required for participation in athletic activity. Parents/guardians shall sign a "Suitability Declaration and Release Agreement" for participation in a co-curricular activity.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

LSP 6603

1. A student must maintain a "C" average with no more than one "D" to participate in co-curricular activities. If the student receives an "F" or more than one "D" during a report period (mid-quarter or quarter) he/she will have special conditions placed on the academic agreement limiting their participation for a period of up to ten school days. If after the ten days improvement has been shown, the student will be returned to eligibility. If after the ten days the student has not achieved a "C" average, he/she will be allowed an additional five school days to improve. If improvement has not been accomplished at the end of 15 school days, the student will remain ineligible until the next report period (mid-quarter or quarter). Notification of ineligibility will be issued by the school office to parents and co-curricular activity sponsor.
2. Homeschooled students of the parish are eligible to participate in co-curricular activities sponsored through the PAL league. Homeschooled students are to maintain the same academic level of eligibility as St. Peter School students.
3. In order to participate in same-day extra-curricular activities or sport activities the student must have been present in school a minimum of ½ day. Students must have been present in school a minimum of ½ day on Friday to participate in weekend extra-curricular activities or sport activities. Exceptions must have principal permission.
4. Receiving discipline slips will have an effect on participation.
5. Sports Physical examinations are required for participation in all school-sponsored athletics.
6. Parents/guardians shall sign a "Suitability Declaration and Release Agreement" for participation in a co-curricular activity.
7. At least one parent of any student who wishes to participate in any athletic team will participate in a one-time parent training session prior to their child being allowed to participate in athletics programs.

Communication

To promote cooperation among parishioners, parents, faculty, and students

COMMUNICATION TO PARENTS:

- **All communication throughout the school day is to be directed through the school office or through school email.**
- Email: The staff email addresses are included on page 3 of this handbook and found on the webpage. All teachers have email through our school service provider, which is to be used for all communication with teachers about student or school matters.
- Newsletters: A monthly newsletter, Panther Post, is sent out from the office to update school families on upcoming events. Notify the office of anything you need included.
- Classroom updates: individual classroom teachers may send a weekly, monthly, or quarterly update of classroom happenings.
- St. Peter School offers a web-based student information program, called FACTS.

- Parents of students in grades 3-8 may access their grades online and view any missing assignments. Teachers update the grade book a minimum of once a week; this does not apply to late student work.
- Parents of students in grades PreK-8 may check fee and lunch account balances, absences, and tardies.
- This program can be accessed at www.factsmgt.com. Passwords and User IDS are issued at the beginning of the year.
- Parent Alert System: Parents/guardians will be notified of school closings, upcoming events, or emergency situations via the school alert system.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:

STUDENTS: Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

DSP 5405

It is required that each school plan to have conferences at reporting time at least once a year for classes PreK – 8. These conferences provide the opportunity to discuss and explore various aspects of the student's growth and development.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. If you wish to speak to the principal or a teacher regarding any matter that requires extensive discussion, you must first make an appointment. Discussion of student progress should take place at school.
2. Parents needing to speak with their child or deliver something are to check in at the office prior to proceeding to any other area of the school; do not go directly to the classroom.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:

LSR 1901

If a problem arises, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. Make an appointment with the teacher or teachers at once. Don't wait. Call the office and leave a message for the teacher to call you for an appointment time.
2. If, after seeing the teacher, you are still dissatisfied, then consult with the principal.
3. If you still feel that the problem requires resolution, call the pastor to make an appointment for a meeting of all parties involved.

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS: Grievance

DSP 1901

Any serious grievance that cannot be solved through an informal process using the local chain of command (teacher, school administrator/principal, pastor) shall be resolved through the Administrative Recourse Procedure. Since the school advisory board is advisory, it is not part of the process of reconciling differences, unless a pastor decides to consult some or all of the board for advice on a serious issue. The Administrative Recourse Procedure shall constitute the exclusive method for resolving such disputes after informal attempts at reconciliation have failed. The parties are bound by its determination as final and binding. The Administrative Recourse Procedure is specifically limited to "Grievances" as defined within the Administrative Recourse Procedure policy and regulation.

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS: Administrative Recourse

DSR 1901

A. Definition

A "Grievance" is a formal complaint about any serious issue regarding a school or its personnel that needs a formal process of reconciliation in order for it to be resolved.

B. Purpose

The primary purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to problems which may from time to time arise affecting the welfare or working conditions of persons associated with the school.

C. Basic Principles

1. *Informal attempts using the local chain of authority (teacher, school administrator/principal, pastor) have failed to resolve the grievance.*
2. *Since it is important that grievances be processed as rapidly as possible, the number of days indicated at each level should be considered a maximum and every effort should be made to expedite the process. The failure of a grievant to act within the time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal and an administrator's failure to give a decision within the time limits shall permit the grievant to proceed to the next step. (By mutual written agreement, however, the time limits may be extended.)*
3. *The grievant agrees that discussions during the procedural stages of a grievance shall be kept confidential.*
4. *There is to be no retaliation against any party or participant in the grievance procedure.*
5. *Meetings held pursuant to this procedure shall be conducted by mutual agreement at a time and place that will afford a fair and reasonable opportunity for all persons, including witnesses to attend.*
6. *Records of formal proceedings at every Level shall be kept and made available to all parties involved.*

D. Procedure

1. Informal Attempts at Resolution

Before differences become formal grievances, every effort shall be made to resolve local-level disputes by way of a free and open discussion between the parties involved in the grievance. Accordingly, a party may not pursue a grievance through the formal procedures outlined in this policy unless the party has first engaged in informal attempts with the local chain of authority to reconcile the difference beginning with the person whom the grievance is against. The normal chain of authority is: (1) teacher; (2) school administrator/principal; (3) pastor. The school administrator/principal or pastor may ask a third party to attend and assist the discussion.

2. Formal Grievance Procedures

In the event that informal attempts at resolving the dispute have been unsuccessful, the formal grievance procedure outlined below shall be observed. For complaints to be resolved through the Formal Grievance Procedures, the following shall apply: (i) if the complaint relates to a school administrator/principal, LEVEL ONE will not apply, and the grievant will begin with LEVEL TWO; and (ii) if the complaint relates to a pastor, LEVELS ONE AND TWO will not apply, and the grievant will begin with LEVEL THREE.

LEVEL ONE: SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR/PRINCIPAL

The grievant shall reduce the complaint to writing and submit it to the school administrator/principal within fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the event. In the complaint, the grievant must specifically request resolution through the Administrative Recourse Procedure. The school administrator/principal will hold a meeting within seven (7) days following receipt of the written statement of grievance. The school administrator/principal, a grievance representative designated by the pastor and the grievant shall be present for the meeting. Within seven (7) days following the meeting, the school administrator/principal shall provide the grievant with a written decision.

LEVEL TWO: PASTOR

If the grievant is dissatisfied with the school administrator's/principal's written decision, the grievant may appeal the decision in writing within five (5) days to the pastor. If the Formal Grievance Procedure begins with LEVEL TWO, the grievant shall reduce his/her complaint to writing and submit it to the pastor within fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the event. The pastor will hold a meeting within seven (7) days following receipt of the written statement of grievance or the appeal, as applicable. The pastor, a grievance representative designated by the pastor and the grievant shall be present for the meeting. Within seven (7) days following the meeting, the pastor shall provide the grievant and the school administrator/principal with a written decision.

LEVEL THREE: CATHOLIC SCHOOL OFFICE

If the grievant is dissatisfied with the pastor's written decision, the grievant may appeal the decision in writing within five (5) days to the Catholic School Office. If the Formal Grievance Procedure begins with LEVEL THREE, the grievant shall reduce his/her complaint to writing and submit it to the Catholic School Office within fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the event. The Catholic School Office or a

designated representative of the superintendent of Catholic schools will hold a meeting on the matter within ten (10) days following receipt of the appeal. The Catholic School Office will render a decision in writing stating findings of fact and conclusions within ten (10) days of the hearing and a copy of the decision shall be delivered to the grievant, the pastor and the school administrator/principal.

LEVEL FOUR: DIOCESAN SCHOOL RECOURSE COMMITTEE

If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at LEVEL THREE, a written appeal may be made within five (5) days to the Diocesan School Recourse Committee (DSRC), a committee composed of three members appointed by the bishop. The committee will review the entire record relating to the grievance and thereafter hold a meeting which shall not be later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of the written appeal. The grievant is entitled to attend the meeting. Evidence relevant to the grievance may be offered by interested parties, and questions may be asked pertaining to the cause by committee members as well as the interested parties. The DSRC will render and communicate its recommendation to the bishop who will notify the Catholic School Office and the grievant of his ruling. The decision of the bishop will be final and binding.

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS: Penalty Status During Administrative Recourse DSP 1902

The penalty for a violation of a school or diocesan policy or regulation is to be enforced during the recourse procedure. However, a request can be made to the pastor to speed up the procedure. Either the person(s) registering the complaint or the person(s) to whom the complaint is registered can make this request. The request, in consultation with the Catholic School Office, can be granted or denied.

TELEPHONE:

1. Students may not use the phone without permission.
2. Students **are not** to call home for materials or books that have been forgotten without specific permission from the teacher.
3. Emergency calls may be made with the permission of an adult.
4. Parents may leave a message in the office asking for a return call.
5. The use of cell phones, smart watches, or other personal electronic devices are not permitted during school hours. All devices in visible sight, in use, or that audibly ring or vibrate will be confiscated and may be retrieved after school. Any subsequent violations must be picked up after school by a parent/guardian of the student. This rule applies to all school activities, including field trips, during the school day.

STUDENT INTERNET, EMAIL AND OTHER TECHNOLOGY USE

INSTRUCTION: Student Internet, E-mail and Other Technology Use

DSP 6425

All schools allowing students to have access to the Internet, e-mail and other technology are to have a written policy regarding usage in their student and parent handbooks. This policy is to include at least the following:

1. Internet, e-mail and other technology access and use in school is a privilege, not a right.
2. The use is always to be consistent with Catholic teaching, doctrine, morality and values.
3. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail or other technology for the purpose of transmitting or receiving illegal, illicit or obscene materials, or other materials in conflict with our Catholic mission.
4. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail or other technology for the purpose of violating copyright law. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted software, text, graphics or music. Such action will be considered theft and is in violation of Catholic and legal standards.
5. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail or other technology for the purpose of plagiarism.
6. Users shall not attempt to gain access to resources belonging to others. This includes, but is not limited to: passwords, e-mail, personal files, and restricted or secure Internet sites. This will also be considered theft and in violation of Catholic and legal standards.
7. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail or other technology to transmit information about the school or the school-governed facilities, other than their own e-mail address. This includes, but is not limited to school personnel names and addresses.

8. *The school reserves the right to review any materials (e-mail, files, other correspondence) sent or received via the Internet, e-mail or other technology for their appropriateness in light of legal, ethical and Catholic standards.*
9. *Any violation of this policy is also considered a violation of the general school discipline code and is subject to school disciplinary action.*
10. *The privilege of the Internet, e-mail or other technology use can be suspended or revoked at any time.*

In addition to the above, the school, after consultation with the Catholic School Office, can take disciplinary action against any student who, either within or outside school hours and/or on or off school grounds, uses technology to defame, bully, or assault the character or being of the school, diocese, any of its employees and/or students. This includes any such negative postings, verbal or pictorial, on such websites as Facebook, YouTube, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networking sites, etc. This includes any activity that would violate DSP 5305, Catholic Faith and Moral Standard.

Students will not be allowed to use cameras to record other students/staff during school without prior approval from the principal or a faculty member. Diocesan guidelines state that pictures and videos of our students placed on school-approved internet websites will not have their name associated at any time.

PERSONNEL: Digital, Online, and Social Media Communication Policy **DSP 4650**

All digital, online, and social media communications with youth shall uphold the principle of transparency. All individuals communicating with youth will do so in a prudent and professional manner and will ensure compliance with the principles and procedures outlined in the Digital, Online and Social Media Communication with Youth document found in Appendix # 4650 DIGITAL, ONLINE, AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION WITH YOUTH, Appendix 4650 of Diocese

SECURITY CAMERAS:

School district buildings and grounds are equipped with electronic surveillance for the safety of students, staff and visitors. Your actions may be recorded and preserved. Video/audio surveillance may occur on campus and such recordings could be used as evidence against students, staff or visitors in an appropriate disciplinary action or for referral to law enforcement agencies. Cameras will not be placed in areas that constitute an intrusion or violate a reasonable expectation of privacy.

VISITORS:

Parents are welcome in the school. When visiting a classroom for any reason, first check in at the office; do not go directly to the classroom. If parents wish to talk to their child’s teacher, they must arrange for a private conference by calling the office for an appointment or arranging with the teacher.

Discipline

To develop an environment conducive to creating a positive self-image and to educate and encourage students in social and civic responsibility

The goal of discipline is to provide an environment that fosters Catholic virtues. We strive to create an atmosphere in which each child and staff member is respected. Discipline is aimed at encouraging children to grow in responsibility, integrity, courage and faith. Students are to put God first in all endeavors. Students are to submit to the authority that God has placed over them. Each student is to respect and obey teachers, administrators, and all other responsible adults.

STUDENTS: Confidentiality**DSP 5260**

Rather than strict confidentiality in regard to student-school employee communication (verbal and written), the schools in the Diocese of Jefferson City operate under a “spirit of confidentiality.” This means that outside of the seal of confession between priest and penitent, strict confidentiality cannot be promised to the student if the information disclosed by the student includes, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

1. Information that concerns violation of the law;
2. Matters involving the health and safety of the student or any person;
3. Serious moral issues;
4. Any other matter that raises serious enough concern in the mind of the employee that he or she believes it is important to share the information with school administrator.

The school administrator/principal, after consultation with the Catholic School Office, may chose to disclose the information to parents, legal authorities, medical personnel or other deemed necessary personnel.

STUDENTS: Prohibition of Corporal Punishment**DSR 5310**

Corporal punishment is not used under any circumstances in any school in the Diocese of Jefferson City. The school administrator/principal is responsible to report immediately to the Catholic School Office any violation of this prohibition. Any extreme or unusual form of punishment or any touching of a child in a manner that is considered punitive is to be avoided.

STUDENTS: Weapons and Dangerous Instruments**DSP 5315**

The possession, conveyance, use, or storage of weapons or look-alikes on school property, at school-sponsored events, or in or around a school vehicle is prohibited. This ban applies to students, employees, and visitors, except for those acting in a law enforcement capacity. This prohibition expressly includes those persons licensed to carry concealed firearms. Schools are to formulate specific local policies regarding reporting weapons and dangerous instruments to law enforcement.

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS:**LSP 5315**

The possession, conveyance, use, or storage of weapons or look-alikes on school property, at school-sponsored events, or in or around a school vehicle is prohibited. This ban applies to students, employees, and visitors, except for those acting in a law enforcement capacity. A weapon will generally be defined as a gun or knife but may include any device used in a threatening manner such as to stab, strike, or purposely inflict injury on another person. Administrator is responsible for reporting weapons violations to law enforcement officials.

REQUIRMENTS FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

1. Students are to be responsible for their own behavior, homework, classroom studying and their courtesy and respect toward others.
2. Students are to follow building, playground, and classroom rules as they are published, posted or directed.
3. Parents/guardians will be contacted if a student is unable to maintain reasonable behavior.
4. An option available to the teachers and principal, as a form of discipline, is an after-school detention. In this event, the parents/guardians will be notified in writing. Parents/guardians are to respond in writing or with a phone call. If the scheduled detention is to be altered, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to arrange the change with the principal or teacher.
5. If the student’s behavior threatens the safety or well being of him/herself or others, immediate action will be taken, and the principal notified.

6. A student who consistently demonstrates behavior counter to the philosophy of the school, or commits an act of negligent or gross disregard for Christian values, will be asked to withdraw from the school or will be expelled.

GUM & SNACKS:

- Chewing gum is not allowed on school premises, unless permitted by teacher.
- Healthy snacks may be eaten at recess. Snacks may be allowed at other times with teacher approval.
- Water bottles are allowed during the day to keep students adequately hydrated; however, misuse of water bottles will result in removal of the privilege for the student.

PLAYGROUND RULES:

Playground Politeness:

1. A Christian attitude should be exhibited by everyone to everyone.
2. Stay within the visual contact of the teacher on duty. Stay in the back of the building on the play area within the property line. Do not cross over to the country club property or on the road without permission.
3. Ask politely to enter a game. Understand that you might have to wait for a natural stopping point to occur. EVERYONE plays.
4. Be respectful of other activities. Do not stand in the middle of the basketball court or other game and talk while a game is going on.
5. Make sure all trash is thrown away in the trash cans.
6. Rocks, sand, and dirt stay on the ground; do not throw them or move them to other areas.
7. Do not play on or around the stairwell to the boiler room.
8. Line up immediately when the whistle is blown. Tuck shirts in and tie shoes. Wait quietly for directions.
9. All playground equipment is to be put away when the whistle is blown.
10. If a situation or problem occurs, follow these steps:
 - a. Use words, like "I'll share with you when I'm done" and "Please stop interrupting our game."
 - b. Move away from the situation.
 - c. Tell the teacher on duty right away that there is a problem and help is needed.
11. If an injury occurs on the playground (even a scrape) inform the playground supervisor so that the proper care can be given. Accident reports must be made for head, neck, and back injuries.

Swings:

1. One person on a swing at a time.
2. Swing by sitting on the swing and swinging back and forth; no diagonal swinging, running swings into another one, or twisting and releasing swings.
3. Stop the swing before getting out. Do not jump out of swings in mid-air.
4. Do not climb on the swing set equipment, do not run through swings or play with playground balls on the swings.

Slides:

1. Go down the slides only on your bottom or on your back, feet first.
2. Go down the slide facing forward at all times, feet first.
3. Only one person may go down the slide at one time, no pushing.
4. Do not throw rocks, sand, etc. on the slide.
5. No climbing up the slides and only one person climbing steps at a time.

Monkey Bars:

1. You may not sit or stand on the top rail of the monkey bars.

Parallel Bars:

1. Do not climb or sit on wood posts of parallel bars.

Merry-Go-Round:

1. Everyone is to be seated and holding on before pushing; no standing to ride the merry-go-round.
2. No standing inside or pushing from inside the merry-go-round.

Soccer Fields:

1. Soccer games are open to all students.
2. Standard soccer rules will be followed.
3. Do not hang or climb on the goals.

DISCIPLINE POLICY:

St. Peter School constantly strives to improve its discipline policy because more effective learning takes place in an environment without behavioral and discipline problems. Students with a sense of discipline and the ability to make good choices will be better prepared for their future. At St. Peter School we will implement this policy to help and promote students to make good choices and take responsibility for their actions. We believe that if our requirements and consequences are clear, then it will help students make good choices.

-When Students Make Poor Choices-

As a school we believe that natural consequences are the most appropriate form of discipline. For example, if your student were to write or draw on school property, we believe it is appropriate for your student to clean the desks in his/her classroom. We believe this follows the Church's teaching of reconciliation or righting the wrong that has been done.

Each situation and student is unique. All discipline is handled on a case-by-case basis. We will focus on teaching the students self-discipline, although moving from discipline to self-discipline is not a quick process. By using Virtue Based Restorative Discipline, we have a program that guides staff, students, and their families through the self-discipline process. The focus is on developing communication and reconciliation skills that they will be able to use throughout their lives. There is never a lost cause, and it is never too late to make amends. Forgiving others and forgiving ourselves is a key to having an intimate relationship with Christ. Ultimately, we all have choices to make, and choosing our response to a situation is the freedom God gives us.

Parents can help support the work being completed at the school:

1. Encourage your children to think about virtues and self-discipline before they act.
2. If students receive a consequence for inappropriate behavior, ask them which virtue was missing and what the consequence is teaching them. Encourage them to take responsibility for fixing the behavior and when they do, applaud their maturity growth.
3. When you listen to your child's side of the story, don't stop there. Contact the teacher to get the other side of the story, showing children that you are demonstrating the self-discipline strategy of separating fact from feeling.
4. Remember that your children reflect your attitudes and ideas as well. Supporting the school, teachers, and the work of the school by verbally affirming the work, helps students feel secure in their learning environment. We appreciate the direct contact from parents when issues arise.

For every action, there is a subsequent reaction. Some restorative reactions that school staff and families may utilize are:

1. Have a one-on-one conversation with the child and anyone directly involved in the situation.
2. Use supportive language, such as, "I understand that you are upset. Hitting hurts and I'm sorry that you were hurt."
3. Circle together and discuss the actions that happened and which virtues should have been used. Work through reconciling the matter, with apologies.

4. Create a plan to help prevent the issue from happening again. Pray together and ask Christ to forgive us for our sins and to help us forgive each other.
5. Contact appropriate school staff and/or families that may need to know about the situation. Support one another and focus on the blessings God has given us. Learn from your mistakes and move onward.

In the event of severe aggression and/or continual blatant disregard of expected behaviors, St. Peter administration reserves the right to, in consultation with the pastor and superintendent of the Jefferson City Diocese, permanently dismiss or expel any student, if the parents are not meeting the school's recommendations.

SUSPENSION

LSP 5355

A student typically will not be suspended by the principal until there has been a conference with the parents or preferably with the parents and student. The principal retains the right to suspend a student without a parent conference if deemed necessary. The school is urged to use a form of in-school suspension, whenever possible. Suspensions of more than one day require, in addition to the above, a written notice to the parents of the reasons for the suspension. The time period of suspension may not exceed five (5) consecutive school days. A written record of the reason for the suspension with the date and a summation of the parent conference is kept on file in the school.

A student could be suspended or dismissed from school for possession of a controlled substance or alcohol, striking a teacher, serious infraction of a continued disregard for school rules, possession of or using a weapon on school grounds or at any school function.

All work must be completed upon return of the student. Full credit will not be given for work completed during an out-of-school suspension.

DISMISSAL/EXPULSION

LSP 5360

In case of incorrigible behavior, or when conduct threatens the physical or moral welfare of anyone in the school community, the principal, in consultation with the pastor and the Catholic school office, may expel a student. Dismissal from school will be carried out according to directives in the Policy and Regulation Manual for schools. If the consequence for inappropriate behavior affects participation in extra-curricular activities, the coach/sponsor will be notified.

STUDENTS: Expulsion

DSP 5360

The expulsion of a student from a Catholic school is a very serious matter and should be invoked only in extreme cases. Care should be taken that fundamental fairness is offered the student in the process of expulsion.

The term "expulsion" is:

Termination of a pupil as a student from the school permanently (no opportunity for reinstatement).

In cases of serious misconduct which could lead to expulsion, the parents are so advised immediately and in writing. They are urged to take advantage of assistance from school, parish, or social service agencies which can help the student with his/her difficulties. Careful documentation must be kept of all disciplinary proceedings.

In extreme cases of incorrigible behavior or when conduct threatens the physical or moral welfare of anyone in the school community, the school administrator/principal, normally in consultation with the pastor, can immediately suspend a student until a final decision is made. (See DSP #5355.)

After the school has exhausted all avenues of assistance for the student, a recommendation may be made to the pastor regarding expulsion. All expulsions must be reviewed with the Catholic School Office for compliance with

the law and diocesan policies and regulations. A statement of expulsion is made in writing, including the reasons for the expulsion and a complete listing of dates and efforts made to help the student to avert expulsion.

STUDENTS: Expulsion

DSR 5360

If an expulsion is pending, the Catholic School Office is to be notified immediately. The Catholic School Office will review the case, consult legal counsel if necessary, and make recommendations back to the school administrator/principal and/or pastor of the school.

STUDENTS: Harassment/Bullying

DSP 5820

Policy: All Catholic schools part of the Diocese of Jefferson City shall maintain a learning environment that is free from harassment. No student in any school shall be subjected to any type of harassment/bullying.

Harassment is defined as any unwanted and unwelcome behavior that interferes with the student's performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment. Harassment includes physical, visual, verbal and sexual forms of behavior. Instances of harassment should be addressed using appropriate disciplinary consequences, counseling methods, and parental/guardian contact and involvement in accordance with the nature and frequency of the offense.

Bullying is the use of force, threat, or coercion to abuse, intimidate, or aggressively dominate others. Bullying behavior is repeated and habitual. One essential prerequisite is the perception, by the bully or by others, of an imbalance of social or physical power, which distinguishes bullying from conflict. Behaviors used to assert such domination can include verbal harassment or threat, physical assault or coercion, and such acts may be directed repeatedly towards particular targets.

Every school is to have a comprehensive anti-bullying plan that is consistent throughout the school. This plan is explained and enforced by the administration, teachers, parents and students. This plan will also be available in the school office for parents to refer to if they have questions. This can also be in the school handbook.

Sexual harassment deserves special mention.

- 1. Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome sexual advances, unwelcome physical contact of a sexual nature, or unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. "Unwelcome verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature" includes, but is not limited to, "the deliberate, repeated making of unsolicited gestures or comments, or the deliberate, repeated display of offensive, sexually graphic materials which is not necessary for school purposes."*
- 2. No student shall be subject to sexual harassment as a student.*
- 3. Any student or employee who engages in sexual harassment shall be subject to severe disciplinary measures.*
- 4. Any student who believes that he or she is being sexually harassed shall report immediately such information to the school administrator/principal or other school official. Any information reported shall be treated as confidential. All claims of sexual harassment are to be immediately reported to the Catholic School Office and/or chancellor and/or review administrator and shall be thoroughly investigated by the school administrator/principal after consultation with and direction from the Catholic School Office.*

No student shall receive any retaliation or disciplinary action for reports of harassment made in good faith. Samples of bullying documentation forms are available at Appendix #5820.

STUDENTS: Sexual Abuse of Minors

DSP 5825

PASTORAL POLICY REGARDING ALLEGED CASES OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS BY CLERGY OR OTHER CHURCH PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY

INTRODUCTION

Since 1990, the Diocese of Jefferson City ("the Diocese") has had a policy and procedures to give guidance to its employees, volunteers, religious and clergy in the Diocese on the subject of child abuse and to address the needs of persons affected by child abuse. The following policy and procedures have been adopted to address the particular situation in which a member of the clergy, or an employee, volunteer or religious working in the Diocese or in any parish, school or agency of the Diocese (the latter hereinafter referred to collectively or individually as "church personnel") is accused of sexual abuse of a minor. (1) For the purpose of this policy, any person under 18 years of age is considered a minor. An allegation of this type of abuse has serious consequences for the person alleged to have been abused and his/her family, for the person accused, and for the larger community.

It is the policy of the Diocese that no person with a substantiated allegation (2) of sexual abuse of a minor will serve as a member of the clergy in active ministry or hold a position working in proximity to children as an employee or volunteer in the Diocese or in any parish, school or agency of the Diocese. All priests, deacons and other church personnel who minister in the Diocese are expected to be familiar with this policy and to comply with the procedures adopted to implement the policy. The Diocese will make available the resources required to implement the policy and procedures. By following this policy, the Diocese hopes to offer spiritual and psychological assistance as needed to any victim/survivor and to respect the civil and canonical rights of the accused while seeking to assist him or her. Proceedings pursuant to this policy shall be conducted in compliance with civil law and in accordance with ecclesiastical law; in particular the motu proprio, Sacramentorum Sanctitatis Tutela of Pope John Paul II, the Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons of the USCCB, and the Code of Canon Law.

II. ENSURING AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS

The Diocese has adopted a process to address allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy or other church personnel. By following the steps outlined below and by working with the person alleged to have been abused, his or her family members, and appropriate civil authorities, this process will help to ensure an effective response to allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

A. BRINGING AN ALLEGATION

1. A person may bring an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy or other church personnel by calling the Chancery Office and asking to speak with the Review Administrator or by writing to the Chancery Office. The address and telephone number are as follows:

*Ms. Connie Schepers
Review Administrator
Diocese of Jefferson City
Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial Catholic Center
2207 W. Main
P.O. Box 104900
Jefferson City, Missouri 65110-4900
Telephone: 573-635-9127 (ext. 224)*

THE COMPLETE PASTORAL POLICY REGARDING ALLEGED CASES OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS BY CLERGY OR OTHER CHURCH PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY (DSP 5825) IS LOCATED IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN THE DIOCESAN POLICY AND REGULATIONS MANUAL, WHICH MAY BE ACCESSED UPON REQUEST.

Crisis Plans

CRISIS PLANS:

In the event of a crisis situation (e.g., fire, tornado), St. Peter School personnel will direct students to respond according to the established crisis plan. Emergency procedures are available for review in the St. Peter School office or in the classrooms.

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PLAN:

St. Peter School has a Radiological Emergency Response Plan in the event of a declared emergency at the Callaway Energy Center Nuclear Power Plant. The purpose of the plan is to ensure the safety of the children in the event of a plant incident while the school is in session. This plan has been developed in coordination with the emergency management authorities in Callaway County and the State Emergency Management Agency.

1. In the event of a declared Site Area Emergency, the St. Peter Catholic School will close. Parents/Guardians will be notified to pick up their children as soon as possible.
2. In the event of a General Emergency being declared prior to all children being picked up, the children will be transported to a Reception Center and parents/guardians will be notified where to pick up their children.
3. If the school is advised to Shelter-In-Place, parents/guardians will be notified and should not attempt to pick up their children until instructed to do so after the Shelter-In-Place order is lifted.

If parents have questions or wish to see a copy of the emergency response plan, please contact the school.

ASBESTOS PLAN:

St. Peter School has an Asbestos Management Plan on file in the school office, and it is available for review by appointment.

Our school has a periodic surveillance performed every June and December, and the diocese performs a re-inspection of our facilities every three years. All the asbestos that creates an immediate health hazard has been either removed or contained to provide a safe environment for our students and staff members.

WEATHER:

Weather often requires modification to the school day. As a general rule, St. Peter School will try not to dismiss classes during the middle of the day due to inclement weather.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS:

1. If the decision to cancel school is made during off hours, the information will be announced over the following television stations and a Parent Alert message sent.
KRCG-TV Ch 13 KOMU-TV Ch 8 KMIZ-TV Ch 17
2. Should the weather or conditions become so severe during the day that it is decided to dismiss early, the information will be announced over the following radio stations: KFAL/KKCA 900AM/100.5FM-Fulton, KWWR 96FM-Mexico, and the television stations listed above. All the necessary information will be broadcast as soon as possible and a Parent Alert message sent.
3. Parents will be notified of closings via the school Parent Alert system.
4. It is the FINAL decision for the parents/guardians to make as to whether or not to send their child to school due to road conditions and bad weather.

RULES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER:

Heat:

Students are permitted to bring water bottles to school every day to stay hydrated, but water bottles are especially encouraged anytime the projected high temperature is above 90° Fahrenheit. This is a privilege; students who misbehave with water bottles may have their privilege revoked. The students will not have outdoor recess during excessive heat warnings.

Cold:

Students are to wear hats, gloves, warm coats and boots on snowy days. Students are not to throw snow and/or ice. Students stay indoors when the temperature and/or wind chill falls below 22° Fahrenheit.