

# ST. PIUS X ST. PIUS X SCHOOL FAMILY HANDBOOK 2022-2023

St. Pius X Catholic St. Pius X School is a diverse community dedicated to the mission of nurturing students with a strong foundation in the Catholic faith by following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and providing an excellent academic education to grow as lifelong learners committed to discipleship and service.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to St. Pius X St. Pius X School! In choosing St. Pius X School, you have demonstrated a commitment to the values and philosophy of a Catholic education. The Parent/Student Handbook reflects the policies of St. Pius X School for the 2022-2024 St. Pius X School year.

The St. Pius X School Handbook is available online and hard copies are available in the St. Pius X School's main office. All St. Pius X School families must read this document carefully and have a signed handbook agreement form on file. By signing this agreement form, you and your student(s) agree to abide by the policies of St. Pius X School during the 2022-2023 St. Pius X School year.

The faculty and staff of St. Pius X School look forward to working with you to promote academic excellence and spiritual development in the context of the teachings of the Catholic Church. Together let us pray that God, who has begun this good work in us, may carry it through to completion. God bless you.

Peace,

Dorothy Farewell, M.Ed. Principal

# **DIRECTORIES**

# 2022-2023 ST. PIUS X SCHOOL FACULTY AND STAFF

Principal **Dorothy Farewell** dfarewell@stpx.org ECE Director/Title Judi Rash jrash@stpx.org Lisa Owen-Fabian lowen@stpx.org Preschool Lead ifoz@stpx.org Preschool Aide Irene Foz PreK Lead/ESS Director Karen Raney kraney@stpx.org Christina Reynolds creynolds@stpx.org Kindergarten Grade 1 Susan Bucy sbucy@stpx.org Grade 2 Renee Roach rroach@stpx.org imichaels@stpx.org Grade 3 Joyce Anne Michaels Lisa Castillo lcastillo@stpx.org Grade 4 tlentz@stpx.org Grade 5 Theresa Lentz sbatog@stpx.org Grade 6 Stephanie Batog Adam Ever aever@stpx.org Grade 7 Christene Poteet cpoteet@stpx.org Grade 8 kdwyer@stpx.org Music Teacher Kate Dwyer kandrews@stpx.org P.E. Teacher/Playground Kristina Andrews Primary Spanish Samantha Merca smerca@stpx.org Administrative Assistant mbrown@stpx.org Mary Brown Before/After Care Karen Raney kraney@stpx.org

### PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Father Cal Christiansen Pastoral leader fr.christiansen@stpxparish.com

Parochial Vicar Rev. Roberto Saldivar, M.Sp.S.

PAA Aimee Do paa@stpxparish.com

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Director for New Evangelization Sr. Leticia Rodriguez sr.leticia.rodriguez@stpxparish.com Director for New Evangelization Sr. Liliana Rivera sr.liliana.rivera@stpxparish.com hispanicministry@stpxparish.com P.A. for Hispanic Ministry Ericka Lopez youthministry@stpxparish.com P.S. for Youth Evangelization Cesar Rodriguez-Rendon

Music Director Kate Dwyer kdwyer@stpx.org

Genevieve Constantino Digital Evangelization Administration & Events Nancy Bowman secretary@stpxparish.com stpiusparish@stpxparish.com Receptionist **Ruth Morris** facilities@stpxparish.com Facilities Manager Paul Brown

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL COMMISSION MEMBERS

President Ana Montoya-Alm ana ayotnom@hotmail.com Amy Kunkel kunkel13ap@gmail.com Vice-President lunarosae45@yahoo.com Rosa Elena Luna Secretary kaminskiania@aol.com Anna Kaminski Treasurer

Commission Member Stephanie Janik

Commission Member Carelyn Griffin linmildred@gmail.com
Commission Member Engy Attia engyattia@gmail.com
Commission Member Linda Huynh ltphan120@gmail.com

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL PARENTS CLUB/ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

President Jennie Smither Ryan jenniesmither@gmail.com Vice-President Rhea Moore rhea\_lim@hotmail.com

Annual Fundraiser Chair Ana Montoya-Alm, Careylin Griffin

Auction Chair Jamie Soul thesoulfamily5@gmail.com Book Fair Coordinators Tutrinh Vu duytrinh01@yahoo.com

Family Event Coordinator Jamie Soul, Stephanie Amsberry

Teacher Lunches Linda Huynh

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL PARENT AMBASSADOR MEMBERS

Leaders Ana Montoya-Alm, Juan Garcia

Staff Representative Samantha Merca smerca@stpx.org

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL INFORMATION

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL LOCATION

St. Pius X School is a Preschool through 8th grade Catholic elementary St. Pius X School. It is located at 22105 58th Ave W, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

St. Pius X Catholic School supports and affirms families as the primary educators of their children. As a community, we respect each student's learning abilities and differences knowing that each child is a creation of God, blessed with unique gifts and talents. The highly qualified teachers and staff implement best educational practices in a safe and nurturing environment to provide students with excellent opportunities for learning. We provide a strong foundation for students that includes Catholic faith formation, high academic standards and expectations, leadership and critical thinking skills, respect of cultural differences, service to others, and development of social responsibility.

# HISTORY OF ST. PIUS X SCHOOL

St. Pius X School was opened in the Fall of 1956. Its first faculty was staffed by the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sister Mary of the Divine Heart served as the first principal. The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary were dedicated to provide a Catholic education and bring the love of Jesus Christ to their students. Their love, care, and compassion were instilled in the hearts and souls of young people. The school opened with 200 students in grades one through five. In subsequent years, grades six through eight were added with the plan to expand the school to include eleven classrooms and a gym.

Over the years, as many parish schools experienced, faculties staffed by various orders of sisters dwindled. Four of the Sisters of Charity continued to teach at the school until 1999 when they retired to their mother house in Dubuque, Iowa. A photograph of the founding Sisters is displayed in the main school office. With the parish convent no longer providing housing for the sisters, the convent was renovated to accommodate the needs of the school. The main level of the convent building was remodeled and reconfigured for a front office waiting area, secretary office, and nurse's station. The other rooms were modified to a principal's office, copy room, parent club room, supply room, and kitchen adjacent to the faculty room. A large brick wall that divided the Sister's patio was replaced with a planter box. A four foot statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary is prominently placed at the north side of the courtyard, visible to the school community.

When a permanent church was constructed, the former parish church originally located at the south end of the school building until 1983 was made into a multi purpose room. The former church was redesigned to serve as a multi-purpose social hall, lunchroom and gym. The new free-standing church building was constructed in the lot adjacent just south of the school.

Fr. Sean Fox was pastor for 37 years and Fr. Cal Christiansen has been the pastor since 2013. Pastors, principals, staff, parishioners and the entire community have been ardent supporters of St. Pius X School. The school continues to carry on the rich traditions of years past and the vision and philosophy reflects the dedication and commitment of supporting students in obtaining an exceptional and life-changing Catholic education.

# **MISSION STATEMENTS**

# ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

The ministries of the Archdiocese of Seattle continue the work of evangelization to encounter Christ, who calls and sends missionary disciples, and who himself provides lifelong formation and nourishment in the Church.

# OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC ST. PIUS X SCHOOLS

In the spirit of communion, solidarity, and subsidiarity, the Office for Catholic St. Pius X Schools provides high quality professional development, resources, and best practices to expand the evangelizing mission of our Church as we help one another form the St. Pius X School leaders God has designed for our time.

# ST. PIUS X PARISH

We are a Catholic community dedicated to proclaiming the joy of the Gospel, forming Missionary Disciples, and serving others.

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL

St. Pius X Catholic St. Pius X School is a diverse community dedicated to the mission of nurturing students with a strong foundation in the Catholic faith by following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and providing an excellent academic education to grow as lifelong learners committed to discipleship and service.

# NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

St. Pius X School admits students of any race, sex, sexual orientation, faith traditions, color, national and ethnic origin, and disability to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the St. Pius X School. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, color, national and ethnic origin, age or disability in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other St. Pius X School-administered programs.

Although we do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, color, national or ethnic origin, it remains our primary purpose and mission to serve Catholic members of the parish. Under some circumstances, medically justifiable limitations may be placed on the admission/retention of students with infectious diseases and/or life-threatening illnesses. Likewise, limitations may be placed on the admission/retention of students whose needs the St. Pius X School is unable to meet. Decisions regarding admission/retention of these students is decided on a case-by-case basis by the principal or his/her designee.

# **ACCREDITATION**

# WESTERN CATHOLIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

St. Pius X School's most recent accredited by the Western Catholic Education Association was in 2018. Accreditation is just one way of ensuring that the St. Pius X School meets acceptable environmental standards, has a valid St. Pius X School improvement plan, and is engaged in an on-going self-study and on-site peer evaluation process. The next Accreditation is scheduled for December 2023.

# COVENANTS

# **COMMUNITY COVENANT**

St. Pius X School community strives to be a covenant community. The teachers and staff at St. Pius X School are committed to work in partnership with all families to live out the parent/student/teacher covenant to build a respectful and loving faith community.

Covenant implies a **sacred relationship.** The parent-student-teacher covenants help us all remember that through good times and tough times we have a commitment to each other to walk a journey of faith, trust, respect, and hope, guided by the Lord.

# CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHER'S COVENANT

Each teacher at St. Pius X School accepts the responsibility of cooperating with parents in the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual education of their children. Each teacher further commits that his/her mission is to educate children and to form Disciples of Christ consistent with the mission and teachings of the Church. Therefore, teachers at St. Pius X School agree to:

- be a Christian role model and maintain an atmosphere which ensures each student's right to an education and personal growth.
- be respectful to the parents of their students, work towards developing good communication with them, and continue to build a trusting relationship;
- provide appropriate and challenging academic instruction;
- embrace the diversity of their students and build bridges between all cultures;
- set clear standards for behavior and be fair and consistent in discipline; and

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL STUDENT'S COVENANT

As a student at St. Pius X School, I am blessed to be given the opportunity to be educated spiritually and academically. Each student understands his/her parents have made this choice out of their love and concern for them. Therefore, students will:

- behave in a respectful manner toward all St. Pius X School and parish personnel, volunteers, and visitors.
- respect all students and treat each one with care regardless of race, gender, or other differences.
- obey all rules.
- respect St. Pius X School property and the personal property of other students.
- display proper manners and show common courtesy at all times.
- assume responsibility for all their actions and not make excuses.
- always do their classwork and homework without excuses or disrespect.
- be on time, ready to learn, and give their best effort.

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL PARENT'S COVENANT

As the primary educator of their child, parents understand that they teach their child best by their own example of reverence, responsibility, and respect. Parents chose St. Pius X School to assist them in forming their child as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and understand and acknowledge that their own conduct and the example they set for their child can impact whether their child is allowed to remain enrolled in

St. Pius X School. Parents understand that their child's teacher is a dedicated professional who chooses to teach in a Catholic school. Therefore, parents will:

- be a Christian role model by regularly attending Sunday Mass with their children, if they are Catholic.
- promote respectful behavior in their child by setting a good example in their own speech and behavior.
- show respect for the St. Pius X School personnel, volunteers and visitors and teach their child to do the same.
- practice confidentiality and use appropriate communication to solve differences in a peaceful manner.
- follow the policies and procedures of the St. Pius X School Handbook.
- accept and embrace the diversity at St. Pius X School.
- respect the privacy of the faculty, staff, students, and their families.
- not consume smoke or vape prescribed cannabis products on St. Pius X School grounds, St. Pius X School transportation and/or at St. Pius X School activities and events.

# ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT POLICIES

### GENERAL INFORMATION

It is understood that St. Pius X School exists to support the parents in their role as the primary educator of their children in the Catholic faith and to educate those parish children whose families are committed to the Catholic faith and a Catholic education. It is also understood that much of a child's faith formation and moral foundation comes from their experiences at home. All parents and legal guardians are expected to respect and support the Church's teachings and moral authority as administered through the pastoral leader of their Catholic parish.

All parents and guardians must also be aware of their obligation to model Christ and the Church's teachings, and that their own conduct can impact whether a student is admitted or remains enrolled, at the discretion of St. Pius X School. St. Pius X School reserves the right to dismiss any student, or to deny reenrollment to any student who, in the sole judgment of the principal, is not making satisfactory progress, has engaged in conduct which is detrimental to the St. Pius X School, or whose parent has engaged in conduct which is detrimental to the St. Pius X School.

Prior to entry, attendance or transfer to a Level 1 Catholic Pre-K through high St. Pius X School in the Archdiocese of Seattle, students must present proof of having had the immunizations as required by Washington State law.

Every student enrolled in a Level 1 Catholic St. Pius X School in the Archdiocese of Seattle shall be immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with the immunization schedule adopted by the Washington State Department of Health Services. The only exception to the foregoing requirements for students in our Catholic St. Pius X Schools is a medical exemption signed by a licensed professional (M.D., N.D., D.O., ARNP, or PA)) authorized to practice in the State of Washington, including the physician's license number. Failure to obtain required immunizations prior to admission or to maintain required immunizations during enrollment may result in a denial of attendance.

- 1. Applications and registrations will be considered on the following priority basis:
  - a. Current students presently enrolled at St. Pius X School.
  - b. Students of families who have children presently enrolled in the St. Pius X School.
  - c. Students of families who are registered, supporting and active in St Pius X Parish. The family must be in good standing with regard to participation in and financial support of the parish in order to receive consideration for in-parish tuition, if offered.
  - d. Students of families who are registered in and supporting other Catholic parishes with first priority given to parish-subsidized families.
  - e. Baptized Catholics who are not covered by the above qualifications.
  - f. Non-Catholic students.
  - g. When the applicants are equal, the following will be taken into consideration:
    - i. Longevity in the St. Pius X Parish;
    - ii. Children/siblings of alumni of St. Pius X School;
    - iii. Grandchildren of long-time parishioners; and
    - iv. Results of any interviews deemed necessary by the Principal.
  - h. As in all St. Pius X School policies, the final decision is made by the Principal and Pastoral leader of St. Pius X Parish.

- 2. Non-Catholic students will be eligible for admission if space is available after April 1st. Non-Catholic students are placed on a waiting list in the order their completed applications are received in the St. Pius X School office.
- 3. As openings occur for each grade level, students will be admitted and/or placed on a waiting list. A waiting list will be established when a class reaches:
  - a. 20 in pre-kindergarten
  - b. 20 in kindergarten
  - c. 22 in 1st--8th grades
- 4. St. Pius X School admits qualified students of any race, sex, sexual orientation, color, national and ethnic origin, and disability and makes no distinction among such students in the administration of its educational policies and scholarships. Students possessing physical or emotional disabilities will not be denied admission solely by reason of the disability.
- 5. Final admission of students is dependent upon the results of an interview with the principal and review of current St. Pius X School records and entrance exam results.
- 6. The completion of application forms, the approval of a tuition contract, a determination of available space, and a finding that the St. Pius X School has the ability to meet the needs of the individual student are also required.
- 7. Final acceptance will be submitted in writing to all new families admitted for the following St. Pius X School year.
- 8. A child must be 5 years of age for kindergarten and 4 years old for pre-kindergarten by August 31<sup>st</sup> immediately preceding the St. Pius X School year for which the student seeks to enroll. There are no exceptions made to this requirement.
- 9. A copy of a Baptismal certificate (if Roman Catholic), birth certificate, and immunization form MUST be submitted by all new students before St. Pius X School begins.
- 10. All new students are accepted on a probationary basis. (Please refer to policy on Academic Trial Period). Students must meet and maintain academic standards and expectations.
- 11. Registration will begin each year during Catholic Schools' Week at the end of January.

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students who are not permanent residents of the United States will be admitted in accordance with the requirements of the United States Department of State and/or the United States Department of Homeland Security. Any foreign student who is not a permanent resident of the United States who desires to enroll in St. Pius X School must have complete legal documentation required by the United States government in order to do so.

# STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES

Students with special needs shall be given the same consideration as all applicants. However, prior to admitting a student with diagnosed learning differences, St. Pius X School shall make a determination as to whether it can provide an appropriate education for that child in light of the St. Pius X School's resources and staff/support capacity. Each child will be considered on an individual basis. St. Pius X School will consider:

- 1. the severity and degree of the student's needs;
- 2. the level of support needed from special services and any special equipment or related services the student may require;
- 3. the St. Pius X School's resources, such as available support personnel, class size, and accessibility of St. Pius X School facilities;
- 4. the accommodations, if any are necessary, and the St. Pius X School's ability to provide those accommodations:

- 5. the child's Student Support Plan (SSP) if one exists, and/or the St. Pius X School's ability to meet a current IEP or behavioral plan; and
- 6. Any other considerations that may apply to the particular situation.

Parents and/or the public St. Pius X School district in which the student resides shall be responsible for any additional special education services that a student may require.

St. Pius X School will accept any child for whom an appropriate program can be designed and implemented. Each child is to be considered for admission based upon his/her emotional, academic, and physical needs; the St. Pius X School's ability to support the student in adhering to all health/medical requirements; and the resources available to the St. Pius X School in meeting those needs. St. Pius X School determines continued enrollment based on these factors.

There is a limit to what St. Pius X Schools have the capacity to do. However, St. Pius X School will not discriminate against otherwise qualified individuals on the basis of disability if, with reasonable accommodations, St. Pius X School staff can assist a student in meeting the requirements of the St. Pius X School program.

St. Pius X School honors the following procedures in trying to serve students with special needs:

**Phase 1: Identification** – Identification of the specific area of concern(s), documentation of concern, consultation with the student's family.

**Phase 2: Assessment** – Comprehensive assessment through the local public St. Pius X School or through private, professional consultants.

**Phase 3: Planning and Placement** – Determining the most appropriate and affirming long-term educational plan for the student. A modified plan would be created to match the needs of each individual student with on-going communication and assessment.

\*\*For the complete procedural plans for serving students with special needs, please contact the St. Pius X School office.

# ADMISSION FOR RE-REGISTRATION

Students who are enrolled for the current year may be re-registered for the next St. Pius X School year through the following process:

- 1. Parents must return the winter intent form, stating their desire to re-enroll. If this form is not returned to the St. Pius X School office by the designated date, the student may be removed from the class list for the next St. Pius X School year.
- 2. After review of the family's current tuition contract/covenant compliance a contract/covenant for the next St. Pius X School year will be offered provided that all current contract/covenant obligations have been met. This review will include current tuition payments, fundraising obligation, current active parish status (including but not limited to financial responsibility, participation in parish life, and current service hours recorded) and health/medical compliance. The contract fee is non-refundable and due with the tuition contract.
- 3. Non-compliance could result in a change of tuition contract status.

# WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENTS

In the event students are withdrawn from St. Pius X School, parents are asked to follow this procedure:

- 1. Notify St. Pius X School of the withdrawal via a note to the St. Pius X School office with a copy sent to the principal.
- 2. All financial obligations must be met before a student's education records will be released.
- 3. Student's records will be sent at the request of the student's new St. Pius X School

# WITHDRAWL REGARDING FINANCIAL MATTERS

St. Pius X School enters into covenants or contracts with faculty and staff and incurs financial obligations for the entire St. Pius X School year. In order for St. Pius X School to meet these financial obligations, when a student is enrolled, the parent/guardian assumes the obligation to pay the tuition/fees in full.

In order to receive a full refund of tuition paid, the parent/guardian must advise the principal by July 31<sup>st</sup>, if the student will be withdrawing. The registration fee is non-refundable under any circumstances.

- If a student is withdrawn by the first day of St. Pius X School, 95% of the tuition is refundable.
- If a student is withdrawn between the first day of St. Pius X School and the end of the first trimester, 50% of the tuition is refundable.
- If a student is withdrawn between the first day of St. Pius X School and the end of the first trimester, 50% of the tuition is refundable.
- If a student is withdrawn after the end of the first trimester, 100% of the tuition is owed.

Extenuating circumstances regarding the withdrawal of a student will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

The St. Pius X School reserves the right, if any tuition payment is past due, to remove the student(s) from the St. Pius X School. The St. Pius X School has the further right to refuse re-enrollment for the following St. Pius X School year until financial commitments have been met. No transcripts of grades or St. Pius X School records of any child enrolled in the St. Pius X School shall be provided without prior payment of tuition due to the St. Pius X School.

# RIGHTS OF THE ST. PIUS X SCHOOL AND RELATIONSHIPS

# PRINCIPAL PRIVILEGE

The Principal interprets and reserves the right to amend or adjust the handbook after consultation with and approval from the pastoral leader. Parents will be notified of any changes in the handbook through the St. Pius X School newsletter.

# RESPECT OF ST. PIUS X SCHOOL PROPERTY

Care of St. Pius X School property portrays a sense of pride and also strong St. Pius X School spirit. For this reason, all students will treat St. Pius X School property with care and respect. This includes being respectful of restrooms and classrooms and all that they contain.

# SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The principal and/or his/her designee may search student desks, lockers, and personal belongings, including, but not limited to, handbags, briefcases, purses, backpacks, clothing and other items in a student's possession. The local police, using drug detecting dogs, may be invited into the St. Pius X School on a random basis to search lockers as a proactive, preventative measure.

# **USE OF STUDENT INFORMATION AND PICTURES**

The St. Pius X School reserves the right to use student pictures (or video) in publications and on the St. Pius X School's website. Student names will not be published with pictures or video. A parent who does not wish his/her child's picture used must notify the principal in writing prior to the beginning of the St. Pius X School year.

# USE OF ST. PIUS X SCHOOL/PARISH GROUNDS

St. Pius X School grounds are not supervised outside of St. Pius X School hours or St. Pius X School events. Please respect the dedicated space and usage of the covered play area, field, and play zones during active St. Pius X School hours.

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL/HOME RELATIONSHIPS

St. Pius X School believes that education is a partnership between home and St. Pius X School. If, in the opinion of the administration, parent behavior seriously interferes with the teaching/learning process and the Christian community, St. Pius X School may require parents to withdraw their children and sever their relationship with the St. Pius X School.

# FINANCIAL POLICIES

# **TUITION**

# **General Information**

- 1. The St. Pius X School Commission, in consultation with the principal and pastoral leader, is responsible for setting the non-refundable registration fees as well as tuition rates.
- 2. All tuition contract/covenant obligations for the prior year must be paid in full to insure a student's registration for the following St. Pius X School year. Tuition contract obligations for eighth graders must be paid before graduation. All report cards, mid-term reports, and St. Pius X School records, including eighth grade diplomas, will be withheld until all fees are current. If special arrangements are necessary, please contact the principal.

# **Tuition Goals**

- 1. To try our best to make Catholic School education affordable to all who truly desire and value it for their children.
- 2. To foster a trusting, community relationship between the parish, the St. Pius X School, and the Catholic family.
- 3. To generate funds so the St. Pius X School has a solid financial base that can more effectively improve programs and services.

# St. Pius X School Tuition Rates

# 1. In-Parish Tuition Rate

- a. A St. Pius X School in-Parish family is one who is registered in the parish prior to St. Pius X School registration.
  - i. If relocating to this area from another Catholic School, a letter from the former parish expressing active parish family status would be acceptable.
  - ii. If coming from another parish that does not have a St. Pius X School, a letter from the pastoral leader expressing active parish status would be acceptable.
- b. A St. Pius X School in-Parish family is one who has a **Stewardship Commitment Card** on file in the parish office. A quarterly review may be shared by the parish office to verify contributions.
- c. A St. Pius X School in-parish family is one who is participating in the sacramental life of the parish by regularly attending Mass, supporting parish activities, and tithing.
- 2. Monitoring of the St. Pius X School in-Parish Tuition Rate Privilege
  - a. A Catholic family receives the gift of the "In-Parish" rate provided the criteria of being parishioners as stated in the Admissions and Enrollment policies and included in the registration materials is met. These criteria do not in any way stand in judgment of a person's depth or quality of faith, but rather as objective ways of establishing a person's commitment to St. Pius X Parish. So that each parent/guardian might be treated equally and fairly, the most objective means of monitoring parishioner status is through the financial giving records kept by the parish.
  - b. Each year, the St. Pius X School Commission, in co-ordination with the Principal, will establish the actual cost of educating a student at St. Pius X School and apply the gift of the parish subsidy to determine the "In-Parish" rates for Catholic students.

- c. The St. Pius X School office will report all tuition obligation data to each St. Pius X School family throughout the year. At the end of these reporting periods, report cards or mid-term reports may be held until families become current with their St. Pius X School financial obligations. [The parish bookkeeper will mail stewardship statements regarding parish contributions. This data is kept confidential with only the pastoral leader, principal, and bookkeeper involved in maintaining and honoring the parish financial records].
- d. If there is a financial challenge being incurred by a parish family, the family should notify the St. Pius X School directly. There is a process for applying and receiving scholarships and there is a deep commitment to make sure all our Catholic families have the financial support they need. Any Catholic families challenged by their stewardship commitment may make an appointment to discuss this matter privately with the principal and the pastoral leader.
- e. For returning students, family financial obligations will be assessed each spring. Catholic families receiving the "In Parish" rate may be moved to "Catholic Out-of-Parish" rate for failure to live up to the requirements of the tuition contract and the Family Handbook. This decision is made by the pastoral leader in accordance with the principal.

# 3. Out-of-Parish Catholic Tuition Rate

a. This rate is available to Catholic students who have been baptized in the Catholic Church and are not currently active members of a parish, and who are not eligible for the inparish tuition rate.

# 4. Non-Catholic Tuition Rate

a. A non-Catholic student is one who has not been baptized into the Catholic Church and does not receive in-parish tuition.

# **TUITION PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Recognizing that payment of St. Pius X School tuition is a requirement of each family and that the need to maintain a continuous and consistent cash flow is essential to the well-managed St. Pius X School, the following policy applies to tuition payments:

- **A.** Families choose their tuition due date every month. Should a situation arise that a payment will be late, the parent is responsible for notifying the St. Pius X School principal as soon as possible. In the event that a family fails to pay tuition on time, the St. Pius X School principal will initiate the following procedures:
  - a. If at the end of **thirty** (30) **days** the tuition account is not current, the parent will be notified by the principal of the past due amount. A late fee of \$25 will be added to the total tuition balance, and additional late fees of \$25 each month will continue to be added until the account is current.
  - b. If at the end of **sixty** (**60**) **days** the past due condition continues to exist, the parent will be notified in writing by the principal that the account must be brought current.
- **B.** St. Pius X School reserves the right, if any tuition payment is past due, to remove the student(s) from the St. Pius X School. The St. Pius X School has the further right to refuse re-enrollment for the following St. Pius X School year until financial commitments have been met. Reenrollment in the current year or enrollment for the following year will not be accepted until tuition and fees are paid in full. The St. Pius X School will withhold all report cards, mid-term reports, and St. Pius X School records, including eighth grade diplomas until all financial obligations are met. Additionally, families who have past due tuition are not eligible for tuition assistance.
- C. St. Pius X School offers three tuition options to St. Pius X School families:

- a. Tuition paid in full August 1st
- b. 2 equal payments (July and January)
- c. 10 equal payments (July through April)
- **D.** Families that are experiencing financial difficulties should contact the principal immediately.
- **E.** Electronic banking is used for all St. Pius X School families. Please contact the St. Pius X School office if you would like to set up automatic payments. No charitable (goods or services) contribution shall be accepted in consideration of a student's enrollment at St. Pius X School.

# **TUITION CONTRACTS or COVENANTS**

- 1. Each family signs a tuition covenant/contract, agreeing to the rights and responsibilities each has to promote the common good of the Christian community in accord with Catholic teachings, traditions and tenets as directed by the principal and pastoral leader at St. Pius X School. Volunteer hours, participation in major fundraisers, supporting the parish, and participation in sacramental life are key elements to the partnership between the St. Pius X School and each family. Questions or concerns about the tuition contract should be addressed to the principal or St. Pius X School bookkeeper.
- 2. The person who signs the tuition covenant/contract is the person who will be held financially responsible for all obligations. If more than one person is responsible for the tuition costs and fees then both should sign the tuition contract. Any modifications occurring with the tuition contract/covenant must occur in writing and have the approval of the principal.
- 3. Divorced or separated parents must file a court-certified copy of the custody section of the divorce or separation decree with the St. Pius X School office at time of registration. The St. Pius X School will not be held responsible for failing to honor arrangements that have not been made known.
- 4. All families must pay a covenant/contract fee of \$225 per student, \$75 for tech fee, \$75 graduation fee (when applicable) and \$35 SchoolAdmin fee per family for grades K-8. The contract/covenants fee is used toward the cost of contract processing, supplies, and activities. All contract fees are non-refundable.

# **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

# **Fulcrum Foundation Tuition Assistance**

The <u>Fulcrum</u> Tuition Assistance Grant program is designed for families and students currently enrolled or applying for the next St. Pius X School year in any Catholic St. Pius X School in the Archdiocese of Seattle. A family must apply each year through FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment to qualify for a grant. All awards are made based on financial need.

# -St. Pius X School Financial Aid

Local financial assistance can be requested by any current St. Pius X School family. However, families must first apply for the annual Archdiocese of Seattle Tuition Assistance Grant funded by the Fulcrum Foundation (See above). Once a family has submitted the application by the designated deadline, the family can then be considered for St. Pius X School Financial Aid. The confidential form is processed

by the St. Pius X School administration and awardees are based on financial need only. Each new St. Pius X School year, the applicant must reapply for the Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grant and financial aid. Any special circumstances will be handled confidentially by the principal and pastoral leader.

The principal has established a Financial Aid Committee that determine the process and amount of tuition assistance based on specific criteria. St. Pius X School families who belong to St. Pius X Parish receive first consideration for assistance. Families will receive notification from the principal regarding their tuition assistance award.

Some neighboring parishes give financial assistance to their registered families. Families are expected to complete the Fulcrum "Tuition Assistance Application" or request and submit it to their pastoral leader for his signature. When it is signed, it should be returned to the St. Pius X School along with the completed contract/covenant.

# **Emergency Financial Aid**

Life status changes occur and St. Pius X School tries to respond to the situation. If a current St. Pius X School family has experienced a life status change, the family may submit in writing an emergency scholarship request. If any funds are available, the principal will work with the pastoral leader to assess the need and respond accordingly.

# **REGISTRATION AND FEES**

# **Re-Registration Fees:**

Re-registration is held each year beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> of February for families currently enrolled at St. Pius X School. The registration process is complete when the St. Pius X School has received:

- 1. St. Pius X School Tuition Contract along with the contract fee.
- 2. St. Pius X School New Student Registration Application along with the new student registration fee.
- 3. Emergency information forms that have been completed in full.
- 4. Applications for parish assistance and scholarship applications if applying.
- 5. Records: Baptismal and birth certificates, immunization, health records, and transcripts from any previous St. Pius X School.

# New Student Registration Fees:

1. Registration begins the first of March for new families.

# **Building Fees:**

Beyond registration and tuition, there are several additional fees that may be charged:

- 1. Technology fees- the cost of updating hardware and/or licensing fees licensing
- 2. Eighth Grade Graduation Fee—This covers cost of graduation and other 8<sup>th</sup> grade expenses. For full details please refer to Graduation Policies.
- 3. 5<sup>th</sup>/6th Grade Camp Fee—For full details please refer to 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Policy.
- 4. Field Trips—Prices vary due to field trip destination and costs.

# **FUNDRAISING**

Each St. Pius X School family will be required to participate in fund raising.

# Fundraising PreK thru 8

- AUCTION Donation of an item worth a minimum of \$100 or
- more (with receipt) and \$50 Cash.
- JOG-A-THON Sponsor solicitation with a \$75 minimum per family.
- RAFFLE Sell two books of raffle tickets (25 each book) per child;
- with a maximum of 4 books per family.
- SCRIP Parent participation in our SCRIP program. Each family is
- to generate \$250 in profit through the purchase of SCRIP
- or donate \$250.

# Scrip

- 1. One fundraiser at St. Pius X School is the selling of SCRIP or gift cards. For complete details and ideas to make SCRIP sales successful, please contact the SCRIP chairpersons. **Statement of liability/ waiver**: The St. Pius X School assumes permission to send/receive financial statements and actual SCRIP through the Wednesday envelope system or directly home with the students. Parents who prefer not to participate in the pick-up and delivery process of SCRIP at St. Pius X School must communicate in writing to the SCRIP Chairperson that they will relieve the St. Pius X School of the burden of pickup and delivery of SCRIP and establish an appropriate system for their family. (Please see St. Pius X School Financial Policies for addition information on SCRIP.)
- 2. A family whose last child is a graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grader and who is attending a Catholic high St. Pius X School may forward any SCRIP profits to the Catholic high St. Pius X School your student has selected to attend. These profits will be sent as scholarship funds in your child's name. For the profits to be sent, a letter of designation to the selected Catholic high St. Pius X School must be sent to the St. Pius X School bookkeeper by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 3. A family whose last child is a graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grader and is not attending a Catholic high St. Pius X School may apply any SCRIP profits back to St. Pius X School or can designate to a current St. Pius X School family to help with their tuition costs. For the profits to be designated to a current St. Pius X School family, a letter of designation must be sent to the St. Pius X School bookkeeper by August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 4. SCRIP profits from anyone else who purchases SCRIP and not a current St. Pius X School family go to the St. Pius X School Fragile Families SCRIP Fund, which can be designated for a particular family or for the general fund. Please see the bookkeeper for additional details. Any designations not listed must have approval by the principal and pastoral leader.

# **Auction**

1. The auction is St. Pius X School's largest fundraiser. It is an annual dinner gala with a silent and live auction dedicated to support the full mission of the St. Pius X School and is held each year. The principal and a team of volunteers work throughout the year to create a special evening celebrating and financing the gift of Catholic education. Per the tuition contract, families donate, "procure" items for the auction, or they can buy out. Buy-out money is used by the procurement

team to purchase quality items for the auction. (Please see St. Pius X School Financial Policies for additional information).

# **Annual Fund**

Every family must financially support the St. Pius X School's Annual Fund, which helps with the current and future viability of the St. Pius X School.

# **SERVICE HOURS**

St. Pius X Catholic School asks that all of our families make a difference in the life of their children and school by volunteering. The goal is to increase community, be active in your child's education, show support to teachers and staff, and increase the sustainability of the school through fundraising efforts.

The requirements are as follows:

PreK Two - Parent Family: 20 Hour minimum for the year

Single - Parent Family: 10 Hour minimum for the year

Requirements:

• 10 Hours - General Volunteering

• 6 Hours - Fundraising

• 2 Hours - Auction

• 2 Parent Club meetings (minimum)

K-8 Two - Parent Family: 40 Hour minimum for the year

Single - Parent Family: 20 Hour minimum for the year

Requirements:

• 20 Hours - General Volunteering

• 13 Hours - Fundraising

• 4 Hours - Auction

• 3 Parent Club meetings (minimum)

Volunteer service hours are self-reported and documented through the Volunteer Online log found on our website: www.stpx.org. Parents are responsible for obtaining volunteer hours to

fulfill their obligations. The hours will be tallied each trimester. The last day to fulfill service hours for the school year is May 31. Please refer to the back of the calendar for our Volunteer Guidelines.

In the event, the minimum service hours are not completed by the end of the school year, \$30 per hour will be charged to your account. If families choose to pay off their service hours, the following is equivalent to volunteering:

K-8 40 Service Hours = \$1200

PreK 20 Service Hours = \$600

# **ACADEMIC POLICIES**

St. Pius X School exists to teach the message of Jesus Christ to its students. The curriculum taught at St. Pius X School meets Archdiocesan requirements for textbooks, materials, and time allotments for subject areas. St. Pius X School's curriculum is cross-referenced with Common Core Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, and Washington State's Essential Learning Requirements, so that it meets or exceeds current national and state standards. St. Pius X School is fully accredited through the **Western Catholic Educational Association** (WCEA). A copy of the accreditation study and report is available on the St. Pius X School website and/or St. Pius X School office.

### **CURRICULUM**

The Archdiocesan curriculum guidelines are consistent with the Archdiocese of Seattle Religion Standards, State of Washington learning requirements, and the National Common Core Curriculum State Standards subject areas. We strive to offer a program which makes use of many sources of reading material, a wide variety of audio-visual and technology tools, and a multi-text approach to the content areas. Textbooks are approved by the Archdiocese of Seattle.

# Instruction

The instructional program at St. Pius X School continually strives toward implementing the best and most appropriate teaching practices. These practices include circulating, direct instruction, coaching, guided practice, presenting, modeling, problem-based learning, hands-on experience, use of technology, incorporating learning centers, writing process/workshops, employing close reading, text and evidence questions and answers, teacher directed questions and answers, high level questioning, discussion, and observing.

# Religion

The St. Pius X School is committed to promoting Gospel values in every aspect of St. Pius X School life. Besides daily instruction in the Catholic faith, St. Pius X School emphasizes daily prayer, frequent and regular worship, service projects and outreach, training and preparation for the sacraments, and Catholic Social Justice teaching. This is inclusive of the mutual respect of teachers, staff, students, and parents, and the implementation of St. Pius X School policies and programs, which are just.

Parents are the primary educators for the faith of their children. The St. Pius X School's role is to support families in this critical aspect of parenting. Families are encouraged to be active participants in their respective faith communities by regular attendance at Mass and by sharing their time, talent, and treasure. Sunday or Saturday Vigil Mass attendance is expected of all Catholic St. Pius X School families. Friday or daily Mass is not a substitute for Sunday or Saturday Vigil Mass attendance.

<u>Non-Catholic Students</u> are expected to participate in St. Pius X School religious experiences and to attend religion classes which are assessed as academic subjects. Non-Catholic students shall be considered an integral member of the student body, expected and required to participate in all aspects of the St. Pius X School program.

1. Non-Catholic students are required to attend and participate in religion classes. Teachers will be sensitive to the student's ability to understand and be respectful of his/her personal religious convictions.

2. Non-Catholic students shall be required to be present for Mass and other religious services. They are not required to actively participate in such services, but are invited and encouraged to do so to the extent they desire. In accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church, non-Catholic students are not permitted to receive communion or other sacraments.

Non-Catholic students, like other students, are required to participate in service-learning projects and student service hours sponsored by the St. Pius X School.

<u>Religion Class</u> - Religion is taught regularly as part of the St. Pius X School curriculum, using the Standards approved by the Office of Catholic St. Pius X Schools of the Archdiocese of Seattle, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

<u>Sacrament of Penance</u> - Opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Penance are made available to the students throughout the St. Pius X School year. This is not meant to take the place of the students receiving this Sacrament on their own or with their families.

<u>Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living</u> - The St. Pius X School will offer ongoing formation in chaste living, using an approved text, as part of Catholic moral formation, as required by the WCEA's Catholic Identity accreditation standards, and by standards published by the USCCB (2008): Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living."

<u>Community Service</u> - Each student and class take part in Christian service activities throughout the year.

<u>ACRE Test</u> - The elementary religion curriculum will be evaluated by a uniform means of assessment, including national assessments, with oversight by the Office for Catholic St. Pius X Schools. Students in grades 5 (level 1) and 8 (level 2) will take the ACRE (Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education) assessment offered by the **National Catholic Educational Association** (NCEA) in the month of April. The St. Pius X School will receive a group report for each ACRE leveled assessment used in the St. Pius X School.

<u>Mass - St. Pius X School</u> is foremost a Catholic School. We are committed to the spiritual development of our students. In pursuit of this goal, the St. Pius X School community gathers weekly for the celebration of the Eucharist. The St. Pius X School Mass is not a substitute for the obligation of each Catholic to attend Sunday Mass.

<u>Prayer -</u> In order to foster the habit of daily prayer in our lives, the St. Pius X School day begins and ends with prayer. Students are each encouraged to use these and other opportunities to ask forgiveness, give thanks, and praise and recall God's blessings.

# **Academic Subjects**

<u>English Language</u> Arts - The English/language arts curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards for all grade levels. Students are taught a variety of skills and strategies in learning to read, including decoding, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary development. Writing classes are based developmentally on the fundamentals of grammar, usage, spelling, and mechanics, as well as writing a variety of forms for different audiences and different purposes, including argument writing, informatory/explanatory writing, and narrative writing.

<u>Mathematics</u> - The math curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards for all grade levels. The program emphasizes individual student abilities, and students can be placed in higher-level

math classes. The math program also emphasizes basic math facts, hands-on activities, and an online visual-spatial technology program for grades K-8.

<u>Social Studies/History</u> - In social studies, PreK through  $3^{rd}$  grade students learn about communities, geography, and map skills. In  $4^{th}$  and  $7^{th}$  grade the focus is Washington State history. In  $5^{th}$  and  $8^{th}$  grade the focus is United States history and geography. In  $6^{th}$  grade the focus is world history.

<u>Science</u> – Science is taught at all grade levels incorporating the Next Generation Science Standards and the content domains of physical, life and earth/space sciences. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) activities that include engineering design are also infused into the curriculum.

<u>Music</u> – [Add Description here]

<u>Physical Education</u> - Physical education is aligned with the Washington State standards. Students work on coordination, movement, and physical activities. The 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum also includes team-based activities.

<u>Technology</u> - Students are introduced to major operating systems that may include Windows, IOS/Apple, and Google. Technology components include keyboarding, documentation, visual presentations, and other curriculum-aligned projects.

Students are preparing for a world in which technology literacy is an important part of their future educational and vocational careers. Technology allows students to develop their learning styles and explore more creative ways to demonstrate their mastery of skills, concepts, and information. Technology is a tool by which teachers can reach each student at his or her own level, pace, and interest to enhance their lifelong learning process. This is an integral part of the educational program at St. Pius X School.

Students accept the responsibilities and guidelines outlined in the agreements they sign each year for the use of all St. Pius X School electronic devices. Any damage to any electronic device through improper use will be the responsibility of the student and their parent. Internet access is available to students for educational purposes only. St. Pius X School staff has taken precautions to restrict access to inappropriate information and students are not to use the Internet without a teacher present.

 $\underline{\mathbf{Art}}$  - Art instruction takes place in PreK through  $8^{th}$  grade and is connected to subject areas, liturgical seasons and holidays, and is facilitated by the classroom teacher.

<u>Personal Safety</u> - St. Pius X School uses an Archdiocesan required safety program in PreK through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Current program is *Protecting God's Children* TM program by Virtus.

<u>Band Program</u> – For 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders, band is an additional co-curricular activity offered Wednesdays and Fridays during lunch beginning in mid-September. Rental equipment is not included. Fees are additional

 $\underline{\text{Honors Choir Program}}$  – For  $6^{\text{th}}$ - $8^{\text{th}}$  graders, by audition only. Practice is on Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch. No fees are required.

**Robotics**—Offered for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders and is an afterschool program.

# **Assessment**

St. Pius X School teachers use a variety of methods and types of assessments to monitor and ensure student learning. Students are assessed informally through observing, listening, asking questions, discussion, and requiring written responses to ensure the students understand a concept or skill. Students are also assessed through formal assessment, which include, but are not limited to portfolios, written tests, oral tests, performance tasks, and projects. Progress reports are sent home to parents 3 times a year and report cards are sent home three times a year. Students in grades K through 8 take the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) standardized tests. The data the St. Pius X School collects from these tests and classroom assessments is then disaggregated and is used to help inform instruction and curriculum.

# **LIBRARY**

# **Mission Statement**

The St. Pius X School Library exists to help develop reading skills; to encourage recreational reading; to help familiarize students with the world around them, both present and past; to enhance the curriculum taught in the classrooms; and to promote a life-long love of reading.

# **Philosophy Statement**

The St. Pius X School library staff is committed to providing highly responsive service to the entire St. Pius X School community. The staff strives to inform, enrich, and empower every member of the St. Pius X School community by providing access to high-quality, appealing, timely, authoritative, and reputable materials in a variety of genres for a variety of age levels. The library staff acquires, organizes, and provides a wide variety of children's literature; Catholic resources; other relevant library materials; and serves the entire St. Pius X School community with caring and expert assistance. All students are encouraged to visit the library regularly and often so that they may enjoy and benefit from these materials.

St. Pius X School maintains a library available to all grades. We encourage regular visits to the neighborhood library to enhance the school program. The annual Scholastic Book Fair takes place each fall to encourage reading. This fund-raiser provides funds for the school library budget. New book donations to the library and/or classroom are always welcomed. Check with the librarian/teacher for a 'wish list'. Students may borrow books but must return them on time and in good condition. Books damaged or lost must be paid for by the student before any other materials may be checked out.

# **Responsibility Policy**

It is a **privilege** for students to use this facility and its materials. With this privilege come the following **responsibilities**:

- 1. **Students are responsible** for knowing what books they have checked out and for knowing where those books are at all times.
- 2. **Students are responsible** for taking proper care of library books and for returning them on time.
- 3. **Students are responsible** for learning and demonstrating proper library etiquette at all times in order to maintain a quiet, studious atmosphere.

**Overdue Notices:** Overdue notices will be sent home periodically throughout the year. The notices are a reminder to the student and his/her parent to return the book(s) for others to use.

**Damaged Library Books:** Students whose books are returned damaged beyond what would be considered "normal wear and tear" will incur a fine in an amount commensurate with the extent and type of damage. If the damage is so extensive that the book is no longer fit for circulation, the amount of the fine will be the replacement cost of the book.

**Lost Library Books:** If a student believes he/she has lost a library book, the library staff should be notified as soon as possible. If the book is still lost when the library prepares to close for the year, the student/parent will be billed for the replacement cost of the book.

**Questions, Comments, Concerns:** If you have a question, comment, or concern about our materials, service, or library in general, please submit it in writing to the library staff. The librarians and the St. Pius X School administration will meet with you to respond to your concern, and the pastoral leader will make all final decisions regarding materials available for the students.

Donations of used books, paperback books, or books that do not appear on the Wish List are welcomed and appreciated, but they will not be honored or recognized as part of this program.

# FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are planned by the teacher to enrich the curriculum. They are a privilege afforded to students; no student has an absolute right to a field trip. Students can be denied participation if they fail to meet academic or behavioral requirements.

Teachers will notify families in advance of these trips. All students must bring the required permission slip form in advance of the field trip day. Phone calls will not be accepted in place of the written form. Only students currently enrolled at St. Pius X School are allowed to participate in field trips. Parents who volunteer for field trips must find childcare for their children not enrolled at St. Pius X School.

If necessary, fees will be collected from St. Pius X School families to pay for the cost of the field trip and the transportation. (Bus transportation is the preferred method to be used for any fieldtrip.) St. Pius X School uniforms are to be worn on field trips unless otherwise indicated by the principal.

In accordance with Washington State law, the following requirements must be met for all field trips and other St. Pius X School-sponsored events involving vehicles that are privately owned and driven:

- 1. The driver must be at least 21 years old
- 2. The driver must submit to a background check and show no felony, DUI, or reckless driving convictions
- 3. The vehicle must be insured by the driver for the minimum limits required by the Archdiocese's insurance company
- 4. Effective January 1, 2020
  - Children under age 2 must be properly secured in a rear-facing car seat,
  - Children ages 2-4 must be properly secured in a car seat with a harness which may be either rear facing or forward facing,
  - Children ages 4 and older and less than 4'9" tall must be secured in a booster seat with seat belt (or continue in harness seat).
  - Children over height 4'9" must be secured by a properly fitted seat belt (typically starting at 8-12 years old).
  - Children under age 13 are required to ride in the back seat when practical to do so.

RCW 46.61.687 says a child must remain in a booster "until the vehicle lap and shoulder seat belts fit properly, typically when the child is between the ages of eight and twelve years of age, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, or must be properly secured with the motor vehicle's safety belt properly adjusted and fastened around the child's body."

For children under 2 years old, they must remain in rear-facing car seats until they reach the height and weight specifications set by the seat manufacturer.

Children not enrolled in the St. Pius X School shall not accompany the class field trip.

# **OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

The Outdoor Education Program at CYO Camp Hamilton is an every other year part of the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum at St. Pius X School and attendance and participation in camp and camp activities are mandatory. **It is not an optional program as it reflects directly upon the expectations and grades and encompasses every subject.** The outdoor education program is in direct alignment with Washington State Educational Standards and the Archdiocese of Seattle religion standards. Camp Hamilton is owned by the Archdiocese of Seattle and is operated in accordance with values and morals uplifted by the Catholic Church. Students attending camp will practice academic risk-taking skills through critical and creative thinking, problem solving, and working cooperatively in addition to participating in the liturgical celebration of the Mass.

Camp Hamilton is not an optional program when it is offered; the only excused absence from camp is illness with a doctor's written note recommending that the student avoid outdoor activities. A student who misses camp due to an illness is responsible for making up missed work and the student's family must make arrangements for the student not to be at St. Pius X School during camp week. If a student does not attend camp due to another reason besides illness, 1/3 of their overall science and religion grades for the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester can be affected.

Payment for this important educational experience is the responsibility of the parents of  $5^{th}/6^{th}$  grade children. Limited scholarships for camp are available; access to these funds must be obtained through the principal. Payment for camp must be paid to St. Pius X School in full before a student is allowed to attend camp.

Adult chaperones are needed for the successful implementation of camp activities and events. Any interested chaperone must fill out a camp chaperone application. Only current 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade parents, guardians, or grandparents can be selected as a parent chaperone. Chaperones must be over 21 years old and must abide by the rules set forth by St. Pius X School and Camp Hamilton; these include cell phone and other electronic device usage which are not allowed. All chaperones must have completed the Archdiocesan Safe Environment training. The 6th grade science teacher and the administration will make the final determination on the selection of parent chaperones. In addition, all 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade parents must attend a mandatory camp meeting which will outline important information and expectations of camp policies and procedures for both the student and chaperones.

# TRANSFER OF STUDENTS

Notice of withdrawal of a student should be made by the parent in writing to the Principal in advance of the withdrawal date. This enables the school to prepare necessary information and settle accounts. Student records are transferred to their new school when tuition payments are current, and all other outstanding bills are paid in full.

# **TUITION**

The school registration contract and tuition amount are approved by the School Commission. All parents/guardians are required to sign the school's tuition contract which indicates an agreement to fulfill the tuition obligation and requirements regarding service hours and fundraising commitments. All tuition and fees are paid through SchoolAdmin Tuition Management Online System. All Tuition is due and payable on your scheduled date from July through May. Full tuition may be paid in advance and receive a 5% discount. For returning families, an "early bird" registration fee of \$50 off per student will be available for families who register for the next school year by the end of January. Registration fees will increase to \$225 per student through June 30, and \$250 for July through September. We encourage families to be regular with tuition payments each month to avoid the late fee. In the event tuition is two months or more in arrears, a mandatory meeting with the tuition accounts manager is required.

# **Tuition Payment Policy:**

Tuition payments are divided by 10 monthly payments. In the event tuition is two months past due, a mandatory meeting is required with the business tuition accounts manager. When a family leaves the school, students records will not be transferred until the families account is reconciled.

Tuition Financial Aid Policy: The Fulcrum Foundation in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Seattle has a Tuition Assistance program open to all families. If a family applies for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese and is denied, they may request assistance at the parish level by contacting the Principal. Parish Financial Aid is on a case-by-case and year-by-year basis. Financial aid covers tuition only. The registration fee, technology fee, SchoolAdmin fee and the requirements for the Jog-a-thon, the Auction, and SCRIP remain a family obligation.

Endowment Fund: The future and sustainability of St. Pius X Catholic School was addressed several years ago by establishing an Endowment Fund. When the Endowment Fund reaches \$1,000,000.00, the interest from the investments can be used to keep tuition stable. The

Endowment Board consists of the pastor, principal, and four appointed members that meet once per year to oversee the investments of the fund. Contributions to the Endowment Fund can be made at the parish or school office any time.

# **HOMEWORK**

The St. Pius X School faculty is committed to assigning homework that is authentic and relates to the learning concepts that are taught in the classroom. Homework assignments are considered an extension of classroom work and are a means of reinforcement and, with few exceptions, can be completed by the student on his or her own. Studying for tests and quizzes are also an essential part of the homework process. Much can be accomplished if parents help foster systematic home study habits in their children and provide adequate study space, lighting, and a proper environment free from distraction.

Homework is used to reinforce, enrich, and build upon subject matter previously learned, teach self-discipline and independent study habits. It provides input to the parent as to the subject matter being studied and the students understanding of the reviewed material. Parents are encouraged to show interest, guide the child in the assignment and see that it is completed neatly and thoroughly. Students returning from an absence need to request missed assignments and complete them within an amount of time

mutually agreed upon by teacher and student. A recommended time allotment for homework: (In addition to daily reading as required by classroom teacher.)

# **Pre-Kindergarten**

Homework assigned to Pre-Kindergarten students is under the discretion of the Pre-Kindergarten teacher and there is no specific amount of time for this grade.

# Kindergarten and First Grade

Each child is responsible for daily homework. The average length of the daily homework assignments is approximately 10 - 20 minutes.

# Second and Third Grade

Each child is responsible for daily homework. The average length of the daily homework assignments is approximately 20 - 30 minutes.

### Fourth and Fifth Grade

Each child is responsible for daily homework. The average length of the daily homework assignments is approximately 45 minutes to one hour.

# Middle St. Pius X School – Sixth Through Eighth Grade

Each child is responsible for daily homework. The average length of the daily homework assignments is approximately one hour to one and one-half hours.

# **Additional Homework Notes**

- 1. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> grade are responsible for writing down their homework for each class in the assignment notebook they receive in September.
- 2. If a student consistently spends more time than is recommended in real studying (without television and other distractions), the teacher should be notified, and adjustments will be considered.
- 3. Various assignments and long-term projects may involve homework on the weekends. The teacher will monitor the progress of long-term projects.
- 4. Middle St. Pius X School students (Grades  $6^{th} 8^{th}$ ) may periodically expect homework on the weekends and it may be to a student's advantage to complete assignments outside of the St. Pius X School week.

# **Late Work**

Middle School Missing Homework:

Missing work is assigned homework not turned in at the beginning of the class period. If homework is not completed at home, student will fill out a "Missing Homework" slip provided

by the teacher.

Absent students will be given one additional day for each day absent to complete missed work. Consequences for Missing Homework: lunch detention will be assigned for work missing prior to Noon the day of. Missing work after 1pm will result in lunch detention the following day. Student will complete missing/makeup work during this time from 12-12:30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Parents will receive email notification of lunch detention from the homeroom teacher.

On occasion there may be an event that prevents a student from having his/her homework completed. In order for the child to be given additional time to complete homework, a note must accompany the child on the day the homework is due. This note must state the reason for incomplete work and must be signed by the parent. Accepting the note and late turn in of homework is at the teacher's discretion. The school will not normally accept attendance at athletic events, team practices, concerts, etc. as valid excuses for late homework. On our website under classrooms is a link that allows parents and students to view homework assignments. Assignments are posted on a weekly basis.

Late work: Policy established by each teacher. The policy will be published and discussed at Curriculum Night in early September.

## Make-Up Work

When a student is absent from St. Pius X School due to an illness, he/she will be given the same number of days he or she was absent to complete and turn in missing work. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange for all make-up work. Parents may call the office to pick up work if the student has been absent for more than one full St. Pius X School day.

## **GRADING**

Students in the primary grades (PreK-4) are assessed using a five-tier grading scale based on meeting the academic standards for their grade level. Students in grades 5-8 are assessed on a hybrid-letter grade system that is aligned with the academic standards of their grade level. Students' effort and personal development are also assessed. A modified academic plan may be established if a student has specific academic needs. This academic plan would be prearranged between the teacher and the principal in conjunction with parents.

## **GRADING SCALE:**

Grades K through 3	Grades 4 thro	Grades 4 through 8	
4 Exemplary	A 94-100 %	C+ 77-79 %	
3 Proficient	A- 90-93 %	C 73-76 %	
2 Progressing	B+ 87-89 %	C- 70-72 %	
1 Beginning	В 83-86 %	D+ 67-69 %	
	B- 80-82 %	D 63-66 %	
N/A Not applicable during		D- 60-62 %	
reporting period		F 59 and below 17	
*Accommodation			

# Kindergarten through 3

# 4 Exemplary -

- Work exceeds grade level expectations
- Demonstrates superior performance and in depth understanding of learning outcomes
- Student may benefit from extra challenges

#### 3 Proficient -

- Work meets grade level expectations
- Evidence that relevant learning outcomes have been met
- Demonstrates proficient academic performance

# 2 Progressing -

- Work may be inconsistent, but meets grade level expectations at minimal level
- Evidence of progress toward relevant learning outcomes
- Needs support in some area(s)

# 1 Beginning -

- Work does not meet grade level expectations
- May be evidence of progress toward relevant learning
- Needs continuous support
- + Area of proficiency / Grade level -- Area where work is needed

If a discrepancy occurs with a grade, the parent may ask for a review of the trimester grades. This needs to be requested and completed within fifteen (15) calendar days. Appeals must be in writing and given to the classroom teacher. If the parent and teacher cannot come to an agreement concerning the grade, the principal will become involved in the discussion and will determine the final outcome after review of all information.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

Frequent communication between home and St. Pius X School is encouraged regarding your child's academic progress. These reports are sent home several times during each trimester. Progress reports are not part of a child's permanent St. Pius X School record. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers with questions and/or concerns. Appointments should be made with the teacher, and a meeting should never be attempted during class hours, carpool, or recess periods.

#### REPORT CARDS

Trimester report cards are issued at the end of each 13-week term. We encourage parents to discuss these reports with their child and to work cooperatively with teachers in their efforts to help each student develop to his or her potential. Report cards are not intended to provide a complete evaluation of a child's progress. They are tools of assessment that are used to measure a student's achievement, effort, and performance. A conference may be scheduled when needed to give a more complete view of a child's overall progress.

## PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES

Mandatory Parent-Teacher-Student conferences will be scheduled for each family in the middle of the fall and winter grading periods. The purpose of these conferences is to provide an up-to-date and personal evaluation of the students' work and progress and to discuss with parents the ways to assist their children.

Conferences also give parents opportunity to ask questions and to become informed of St. Pius X School activities. The conferences are student-centered; each student is an active participant and all students in grades 1-8 are expected to attend. Attendance of Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students is up to the discretion of their teachers. Registering for conferences is done online.

Additionally, conferences may be requested at any time by parents or teachers. To schedule a conference, please email your child's teacher.

#### **RETENTION**

If the teacher feels that another year in the same grade would be beneficial for the student he/she may be retained in that grade. If retention is being considered by the teacher; parents must be notified by February conferences. A formal letter from the principal will be sent out by March 1<sup>st</sup> and a final decision regarding the retention will be made by mid-May. A parent may call and ask the classroom teacher and/or administrator to discuss retention at any time.

If a middle St. Pius X School student (Gr. 6-8) does not pass two out of three trimesters in a core subject, he or she is in jeopardy of not passing to the next grade level or not graduating from St. Pius X School. In all cases, the final decision rests with the principal.

## **ACADEMIC PROBATION**

Probation may occur if a student is not meeting the academic requirements of his/her particular grade, or if there is continuing serious academic deficiency. A student can be placed on academic probation by the principal in consultation with the teachers. The principal will determine the length of the probation period. If there is no improvement during the probation period, the student may be asked to withdraw from St. Pius X School.

#### **ACADEMIC PROMOTION**

Students are promoted from one grade to the next once a year based on the student's satisfactory completion of the grade requirements. Final decisions regarding the promotion of a student is the sole responsibility of the principal

## **ACADEMIC TRIAL PERIOD**

All students who are newly enrolled in grades Pre-Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Pius X School are admitted on a six-week trial basis. Parents/guardians will be notified of their child's progress through regularly scheduled progress reports, report cards, and at parent/student/teacher conferences. At the end of the trial period, parents/guardians will be notified if an extension is necessary.

## ST. PIUS X SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The responsibility for having necessary St. Pius X School supplies belongs to each family. A supply list is sent home in June and is available on the website.

# **TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks should be kept in the best possible condition, as they are on loan to the students. The student is expected to pay for the loss or damage done to any textbook.

# **TUTORING**

Teachers may tutor a student for profit in a subject, if they are not responsible for teaching the student in that particular subject. Class time may not be used for any private lesson or practices. Check with the principal for the appropriate forms to be completed.

# DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

#### DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

We are committed to the development of a Christian community wherein all members, adults and children, are encouraged and supported in their growth toward fullness in the person of Christ. In an effort to make this growth a reality, the faculty and staff are dedicated to building an atmosphere conducive to this Christian development. At times, this requires positive encouragement and building of self-esteem. At other times, it demands assisting an individual or group to re-direct energies toward growth.

Purpose of discipline at St. Pius X School

- 1. To provide an environment of Christian community, wherein growth and development of the person is made possible, stimulated, and encouraged.
- 2. To provide an opportunity for the student to practice Christian ideals and attitudes.
- 3. To assist students in the development of self-discipline, courtesy, and respect.
- 4. To provide an atmosphere conducive to learning, wherein no one student or group of students deprives others of their right to learn.
- 5. To promote respect and care within the student for himself/herself, for others in the St. Pius X School, and for members of society.

Appropriate behavior is defined as following three basic rules:

- 1. We respect self and others.
- 2. We respect and care for St. Pius X School and personal property.
- 3. We observe playground boundaries, lunchroom, library, and St. Pius X School safety rules.

Model Christ's teaching about love for one another in all interactions.

- Encourage behavior in self and other students that conform to the standards of a Catholic School.
- Help to maintain a clean, orderly, and safe school.
- Obey our school rules.

## **Corporal Punishment**

The use of corporal punishment in any form is prohibited at St. Pius X School. All St. Pius X School personnel exercise pastoral leader care in the discipline of a student and will follow carefully articulated discipline procedures.

# **Disciplinary Actions**

When methods of positive reinforcement, motivation, and conferencing with students have not proved successful, or when seriously disruptive conduct has taken place, other actions may be necessary; some of which are defined below. Since building a Christian community demands that each individual be given the opportunity for personal growth, infringement of these rights will result in disciplinary action.

## **Disciplinary Policies**

To be successful, it is imperative that all students follow St. Pius X School policy and guidelines. St. Pius X School rules governing conduct and discipline are to be interpreted to ensure an optimum learning atmosphere and create a climate in which each student has the maximum opportunity to learn.

The following are in addition to the Student Covenant and rules covered in the St. Pius X School Handbook.

# Student Responsibilities/Discipline Policy

All persons associated with St. Pius X School will be treated with dignity and respect. This right flows from their position as members of the family of God and carries the responsibility of treating others in a Christ–like manner. All members, staff, and students alike, will work together to create a safe physical and emotional environment which fosters learning. It is the responsibility of all students to help maintain an orderly environment throughout the school and to respect other student's right to an education. All students make acceptable progress toward clearly defined and measurable School-wide Learning Expectations, Archdiocesan curriculum standards (local curriculum standards where Archdiocesan standards don't exist), and other governing authority expectations. In order to accomplish this, all students must observe the following standards of behavior:

- Model Christ's teaching about love for one another in all interactions.
- Encourage behavior in self and other students that conform to the standards of a Catholic School.
- Help to maintain a clean, orderly, and safe school.
- Obey our school rules.

## Basic St. Pius X School-wide rules:

- 1. I. Follow the directions the first time given.
- 2. II. Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- 3. III. Listen to the speaker no matter who it is.
- 4. IV. Be prepared for class and school.
- 5. V. Respect the belongings of others.

Student behavior expectations include all times the students are on school property or in reasonable proximity thereto, or at any school-sponsored activity on or off campus, or off campus where the student may be recognized as a Catholic school student:

- 1. All discipline will be dealt with at the classroom level first. Every teacher is responsible for the implementation of discipline procedures following guidelines presented here. The classroom teacher will inform you of classroom policies at the beginning of the school year. The teacher will also review the policies with all students.
- 2. Each teacher will establish the rules for respect and learning. The rules are published and reviewed with the students in class. On Curriculum Night discipline policies will be discussed and parents will be asked to review these rules with their child(ren) at home and returned with the parent and student signatures.
- 3. Disciplinary consequences will reflect the degree of the nature of the infraction.
- 4. In cases where there is a disagreement about consequences, parents of the student, the student, the teacher, and the principal may meet to discuss the issue in question.
- 5. At no time will any disciplinary situation be discussed publicly with anyone other than the individual involved.
- 6. Parents are requested to share information with the school regarding serious situations

outside school, especially if they involve harassment, threat, or aggression.

7. If a situation requires reports to the authorities, the parent, administrator, teacher, or student must do so in a reasonable period of time as prescribed by state law.

#### **DISCIPLINE REGULATIONS**

The rules of a St. Pius X School, governing all conduct and discipline, are in-place to insure an optimum learning atmosphere in the classroom. "Optimum learning atmosphere" shall be defined as the climate in which each student has the maximum opportunity to learn. Conduct of students that interferes with that climate should be kept at an absolute minimum as determined by the classroom teacher. Students are to comply with rules established for the governing of the St. Pius X School.

The principal reserves the right to waive and/or deviate from any and all disciplinary regulations for just cause at their discretion.

A student who engages in conduct detrimental to the St. Pius X School's reputation or learning environment, whether on or off St. Pius X School grounds, can be subject to suspension or expulsion.

## **Behavioral Contracts**

A student is placed on a behavioral contract when there is a persistent issue with conduct. The St. Pius X School administration will determine when a student is placed on a behavioral contract. A written contract is drawn up by the St. Pius X School and presented to the student and the student's parents at a conference. The behavioral contract will state specific areas where growth is needed and will provide specific directions in terms of negative and positive reinforcement. Parent signatures are required on all processing forms.

#### **Detention**

**Lunch Detention Expectations** 

- Student will report to the assigned lunch detention classroom at 12pm and remain in the room until 12:30pm.
- Student receiving a missing homework referral should come prepared with all materials for completing missing/makeup work.
- Student receiving a behavior referral will be given standards (a specific sentence to be written a reasonable number of times by the assigned teacher) and time for written reflection and self-correction plan to be turned in to the assigned lunch detention teacher.
- Student should bring a book to read silently.
- Parents/guardians will be notified by email.

## **Disciplinary Proceedings:**

Level One - the student will receive a warning. If the behavior occurs again the student may receive a recess infraction.

#### Level Two for K-5

th grades is as follows – for the same infraction occurring multiple time and repetitively, the student receives a recess infraction and parents are informed of the infraction. Parents will be notified, and a parent-teacher conference may be scheduled. The student is sent to the office to discuss the infraction with the Principal. The White Slip is taken home for a parent signature and returned.

Level Two for Middle School students and is as follows: A student receiving a behavior infraction from a teacher—after first receiving a warning—results in a lunch detention. A behavior infraction received before 12 Noon will occur day of. A student receiving a behavior infraction after 12 Noon will receive lunch detention the following day. Parents will receive email notification of lunch detention from the assigning teacher.

Level Three – the student receives two white slips about the same infraction, a parent-teacherprincipal conference will be scheduled. Parent-student will be asked to participate in an action plan.

In the event of severe or consistent and repetitive student disciplinary behavior a parent-teacherprincipal conference will be held. Based on the offense the student may receive an in-house suspension or an out of school suspension as well as a written behavior plan prior to resuming normal class or school activities.

Illegal actions will be cause for immediate expulsion, this includes but not limited to weapons, drugs, alcohol, assault, or arson. Parents will be called in for a conference and may appeal the expulsion to the Principal and Pastor. If there are circumstances, which need to be examined, this will be done after the expulsion.

White Slip

The White Slip form has a two-step progression (steps can be skipped if offense warrants stronger immediate action):

- o The first White Slip the student will discuss the inappropriate behavior with the teacher. A recess infraction will be given. The student is sent to the office to discuss the infraction with the Principal. The White Slip is taken home for a parent signature and returned.
- o The second White Slip the student will be sent to the office to meet with the Principal. A meeting will be arranged with the parents, student, teacher, and principal to make an action plan with measurable and specific expectations. Further disciplinary action will be considered at that time.

## Suspension

Suspension would occur after consultation has taken place between the student, parents, teacher, and principal. Suspension can be based on continuous antisocial acts and/or accumulation of behaviors below.

In certain circumstances, immediate suspension or expulsion may take place at the discretion of the principal. For example:

- 1. An attitude showing continued and deliberate disobedience of school regulations.
- 2. Cheating
- 3. Stealing.
- 4. Foul or suggestive language or graffiti on desks, books, walls, lavatory areas, etc.
- 5. Inappropriate reading material, pictures, etc. on school grounds including internet and computer resources.
- 6. Engagement in online blogs such as, but not limited to, MySpace.com, Xanga, Friendster,

Facebook, etc. may result in disciplinary actions if the content of the student's blog includes defamatory comments regarding the school, the faculty, other students or the parish.

- 7. The identification of a student on the internet by word or photo as a student of St. Pius X School. The identification of St. Pius X School by word or photo on the internet without permission.
- 8. Possession or use of cigarettes.
- 9. Disrespect of teacher/adults in charge, which disrupts and tears down classroom, school, and playground morale.
- 10. Fighting, threatening, or intimidating of others.
- 11. Harassment and Bullying. \*SEE Policies
- 12. Serious vandalism of church, school, and/or staff property.
- 13. Violation of Computer Use Policy.
- 14. Forgery of documents and/or the signature of parents or school personnel.

## In-St. Pius X School Suspension

Two Wednesday-St. Pius X School infractions for behavioral reasons in a trimester will result in an in-St. Pius X School suspension and the implementation of a behavior contract. The student will not be allowed to return to class until a conference is held with the parents, student, teacher(s), and principal. Extreme or serious behaviors can result in an immediate suspension. Persistent and serious offenders may be asked to withdraw from St. Pius X School.

# Out-of-St. Pius X School Suspension

A student is expected to conduct himself/herself in a manner that is consistent with the Catholic faith. At the sole discretion of St. Pius X School leadership, a student may be placed on suspension for serious misconduct that is deemed to be detrimental to the St. Pius X School or the St. Pius X School's reputation on or off campus, during a St. Pius X School or parish sponsored activity, that happens off St. Pius X School grounds, or for continued misconduct after being placed on probation. A student may be suspended for a single serious offense, repeated infractions of the rules, or for the repeated disregard of the general good of the St. Pius X School.

A student may be removed from the St. Pius X School building for a period of time (generally not to exceed 10 St. Pius X School days) pending an investigation of the circumstances and a conference with the student, parents or guardian, teacher(s), and principal. A second suspension for the same or similar infractions may cause the student to be expelled. A psychological evaluation including a risk assessment of the student may be required as part of the documentation steps of a suspension, probation, or expulsion case.

## **Expulsion**

Expulsion is the most drastic course of action for repeated or serious violations of St. Pius X School rules. Expulsion is a serious process and follows the steps outlined under suspension unless the seriousness of the circumstances necessitates immediate action. In cases of expulsions, parents and/or students have the right to request an appeal. The information for due process is available to those concerned in the Archdiocesan Policy Handbook. This handbook is kept on file for reference in the St. Pius X School office.

## **Problem Resolution Procedure/Principle of Subsidiarity**

The school's philosophy centers around the belief that, by working together, we can foster the sense of a Christian community. It is understood, though, that from time to time, problems will arise that parents and staff will want to resolve. The Principle of Subsidiarity means that problems should be solved at the most immediate level possible. To accomplish this, it is recommended that the guidelines below be followed:

- 1. Contact the teacher you feel is directly involved with the situation. The goal is to discuss your concern and work out an acceptable resolution.
- 2. Contact the principal if you are not satisfied with the results of your meeting with the teacher, or if a problem is related to a school wide issue. The principal is involved with the day-to-day operation of the school and is readily available most of the time to discuss your concerns.
- 3. Submit a letter to the pastor of St. Pius X Parish. The pastor will be kept informed and be made aware of parent concerns as they may arise by the teacher and principal.

#### **Due Process**

The principal has the right, if necessary, to exclude a student from all St. Pius X School activities during the time of due process. If a student has been expelled from the St. Pius X School, the parents/guardians may request a hearing from the St. Pius X School. If a hearing is requested, the St. Pius X School must be notified within five St. Pius X School days after the parents/guardians have received notification of the student's required expulsion. If a reply is not received within this five-day period, the hearing is waived and the expulsion from St. Pius X School is final.

If a hearing is requested, it is held within five St. Pius X School days of receiving such a request. The hearing committee will consist of the pastoral leader or his designee, the principal, and a designated teacher. The final decision of the hearing committee will be submitted to the parents/guardians within five days of the hearing. The decision of the hearing committee is final.

#### HARRASSMENT/BULLYING

St. Pius X School, as part of the greater Catholic Archdiocese, is committed to a positive and productive community environment free of harassment and bullying. It is the explicit policy of St. Pius X School to prohibit harassment, bullying, or intimidation whether committed by a student, staff member, volunteer, and/or parent. St. Pius X School will promptly respond to allegations of harassment and bullying and

take each allegation seriously. St. Pius X School will review and investigate such matters in a professional and timely manner.

- 1. St. Pius X School is committed to an environment that is free of harassment and bullying whether intentional or not, while in St. Pius X School/parish buildings or on St. Pius X School/parish property, or when being transported to and from St. Pius X School-sponsored activities. In addition, online harassment via email or social media will not be tolerated.
- 2. St. Pius X School prohibits retaliation against any student, staff member, volunteer, and/or parent who has testified, assisted, or participated in the investigation report. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal, or adverse pressure.

## Conflict

Conflict is defined as a disagreement between two students or a group of students. The results of a conflict can often lead to an argument; however, conflicts are a natural, everyday occurrence between children. Through conflict, children learn to exercise self-control and establish boundaries.

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## Harassment

Harassment is defined as any intentional electronic, verbal, physical, visual, or written act including, but not limited to, one shown to be motivated by a person's perceived race, ethnicity, genetic information, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability, or that of his/her relatives, friends, or associates, when the electronic, verbal, physical, visual, or written act:

- (A) Physically harms a student or damages the student's property;
- (B) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
- (C) Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- (D) Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the St. Pius X School. and that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive St. Pius X School environment. Descriptive Terms
  - 1. <u>Verbal Harassment:</u> Includes, but is not limited to, harassment involving derogatory comments, jokes or slurs; belligerent or threatening words between individuals; offensive, negative remarks.
  - 2. <u>Physical Harassment:</u> Includes, but is not limited to, harassment involving unwanted deliberate touching, pinching, punching, kicking, bruising, or patting.
  - 3. <u>Visual Harassment:</u> Includes, but is not limited to, harassment involving derogatory, demeaning or inflammatory pictures, posters, cartoons, written words, drawings, novelties, computergenerated images and memes, and both body and facial gestures.
  - 4. <u>Sexual Harassment:</u> Means harassment that includes, but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical contact, sexually suggestive remarks, gestures or jokes, or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature if:
    - (A) Submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining an education or employment;
    - (B) Submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's education or employment; or

- (C) That conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's educational or work performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment.
- 5. <u>Online Harassment:</u> Includes, but is not limited to harassment involving emailing, texting, tweeting, or posting indecent and/or demeaning writings, cartoons, memes, or pictures via social media.

Uncivil or unkind behavior towards others that does not meet the above standards for harassment may still subject a student to disciplinary action.

# **Bullying and Cyberbullying**

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among St. Pius X School-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. **The behavior is repeated over a period of time**.

There are three types of bullying:

- 1. Verbal bullying involves saying or writing mean things.
- 2. Social bullying, sometimes referred to as relational bullying, involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships.
- 3. Physical bullying involves hurting a person's body or possessions.

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes but not limited to devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, tweets, chat, and websites.

All allegations of harassment and bullying will be taken seriously and promptly investigated. Reports of harassment and bullying should be made immediately to faculty, staff, and/or the principal. Once an allegation of harassment and or bullying has been reported, the principal, under the discretion of the Pastoral leader, will adhere to Archdiocesan policy and follow through on the investigation of the allegation.

Uncivil or unkind behavior towards others that does not meet the above standards for bullying may still subject a student to disciplinary action.

#### **Threats**

Any threat by a student to inflict harm to self or others will be taking seriously and addressed promptly. Threats should be reported to the principal or lead teacher, who will decide if police support or notification is needed. The police will be notified about threats when it is deemed necessary. If a student has been threatened, the principal or lead teacher shall notify the student's parents/guardians promptly.

Any student who makes an intentional verbal or physical threat to cause a person's death, or who makes a threat about guns or explosive devices, will be suspended or expelled and the police will be notified.

# **Retaliation/False Allegations**

Retaliation is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. It is a violation to threaten or harm someone for reporting harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or to threaten or harm someone who

participates in an investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. It is also a violation of St. Pius X School rules to knowingly report false allegations of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Individuals will not be disciplined for making a report in good faith, even if the report is found not to be substantiated. However, persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline

#### **VIOLENT BEHAVIORS**

St. Pius X School strives to maintain a safe, respectful, Christian environment. Violence of any nature will not be tolerated. Violence can manifest itself in various ways. Major offenses may warrant an immediate conference and the implementation of suspension, required withdrawal, or expulsion. These actions may result from any serious or chronic conduct, whether inside or outside the St. Pius X School, that is detrimental to the reputation of the St. Pius X School.

The following are examples of infractions requiring action:

# **Aggressive or Reckless Behavior**

Aggressive or reckless behavior which jeopardizes the health, safety, or welfare of the student, other students, the greater community, or staff members will be subject to disciplinary action.

# **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

The use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs is prohibited by law to minors. In addition, the following regulations shall be applicable to students of St. Pius X School while they are in St. Pius X School, on and off St. Pius X School grounds, or at St. Pius X School-sponsored events.

- 1. The selling, possession, distribution of and/or social media or other reference to alcoholic beverages, drug paraphernalia, controlled substances including marijuana, or any substance considered to be such, is a major violation. Students who knowingly do so will receive a long-term suspension or expulsion. Legal authorities may be notified. Controlled substances include, but are not limited to, narcotics, amphetamines, marijuana, hallucinogens, barbiturates, and prescription or non-prescription drugs of any nature whatsoever. In order to return to St. Pius X School students will be required to state where and how they obtained the drug or alcohol.
- 2. Students under the influence of any alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, including marijuana, or other illegal substances considered to be such will receive a long-term suspension or expulsion. Legal authorities may be notified. In order to return to St. Pius X School, students will be required to state where and how they obtained the drug or alcohol and may be required to obtain a drug/alcohol assessment and follow any recommendations.

Any medication a student requires during the St. Pius X School day must be kept in the health room or St. Pius X School office (as discussed further below) and administered by St. Pius X School personnel, a parent, or a parent-designated adult consistent with written authorization from the licensed health care professional. Students will not be permitted to consume prescribed cannabis products on St. Pius X School grounds, St. Pius X School transportation, and/or at St. Pius X School activities.

## **Assault or Intentionally Causing Physical Injury**

A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause physical injury or intentionally behave in such a way as could injure another person. Any student involved in fighting, play fighting, or promoting

fighting shall be subject to disciplinary action. A conference with the parents may be requested, and a student may be suspended or expelled for fighting. Fighting may constitute a crime and be reported to law enforcement.

Hitting, biting, or kicking another student, whether intentionally or during play, is not tolerated. Students who engage in this type of behavior will receive an in-St. Pius X School suspension. For severe cases, parents will be called, and the student must go home.

# **Criminal or Gang-Like Activity**

Criminal or gang-like activity or membership in a criminal street gang is not permitted. Criminal street gang is defined as any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more criminal acts. Criminal / gang-like activity shall not be tolerated on St. Pius X School/parish grounds or at any St. Pius X School/parish -sponsored activity. Students shall not wear/display explicit gang-like symbols or display gang-like symbols. Violation may result in expulsion, suspension, and/or other appropriate disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the principal.

# Cheating

St. Pius X School strongly stresses that doing one's best work is more important than the grade; however, if a student is cheating on a test, quiz or any assignment, or forges a signature on any test, note, or report, the person cheating will receive a failing grade on the test or assignment, and any person facilitating the cheating will also receive a failing grade on the test, quiz, or assignment. An additional behavioral consequence will also be administered to all parties that are involved in the cheating incident. Cheating in any form is clearly dishonest and unacceptable.

Such cheating may include:

- 1. leaving books or notebooks open during a test period, unless students are instructed by the teacher to do so
- 2. writing answers on desk tops, clothing, or on hands, legs, arms and other parts of the body
- 3. looking on another's test paper
- 4. copying another student's assignment and/or homework
- 5. talking with another student during a test period
- 6. writing down answers copied from others when tests are handed in
- 7. talking with students from previous class periods in order to get test information
- 8. using or attempting to retrieve digital information from a cell phone or similar device and then accessing such material during an exam, quiz or test
- 9. handing in a paper for credit which has already been graded in another class, without the approval of the teacher

#### **Disturbances**

It is against the rules to willfully create a disturbance on St. Pius X School premises during St. Pius X School hours or at St. Pius X School activities or meetings. It is also against the rules to repeatedly create a disruption of the learning environment in the classroom.

# False Fire Alarms and Fire

Any student involved with activating a false fire alarm is subject to disciplinary action by both St. Pius X School and legal authorities. Under the law, false fire alarms can be a misdemeanors subject to a fine up to \$1000.

**Arson is a felony.** Any student who sets a fire on St. Pius X School premises will be subject to discipline and referred to law enforcement for a potential charge of arson or reckless burning. Igniting matches, lighters, or other similar devices is prohibited. A student who engages in this behavior will be suspended or expelled.

# **Forgery**

The forging of a signature of a parent, guardian, staff member, or another student on any letter, note, or report to the St. Pius X School or on any St. Pius X School document where a parent signature is required will result in a disciplinary action.

# Gambling

Gambling on St. Pius X School/parish grounds is illegal and not allowed.

## Hazing

Hazing in any form or of any type is not allowed at St. Pius X School and can result in suspension or expulsion from St. Pius X School.

## Insubordination

Any student who is insubordinate or defies the authority of any St. Pius X School personnel or parent volunteer is subject to disciplinary consequences.

# Leaving St. Pius X School Grounds without Permission

Any St. Pius X School student who leaves the St. Pius X School grounds without permission from the St. Pius X School will receive a suspension or expulsion for his or her actions.

## **Plagiarism**

Students should not plagiarize (or use as their own, without citing the original creator) content, including words or images, from any source, including the Internet. Students should not take credit for things they didn't create themselves, or misrepresent themselves as an author or creator of something found online. Research conducted via the Internet should be appropriately cited, giving credit to the original author. Students who use plagiarized material will be subject to a reduction in grades and disciplinary consequences.

# **Profanity**

Swearing, profanity, vulgarity, or obscenity by any person on St. Pius X School/parish grounds or during St. Pius X School-sponsored activities will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such conduct will be subject to discipline. Students are likewise not allowed to play videos, music, or other recordings that contain profanity, vulgarity, or obscenity.

# **Respect of Property**

All students are expected to respect and care for all property of the St. Pius X School. Any student or students found damaging, defacing, or destroying St. Pius X School property will be required to pay for the damage or loss. Willful destruction or defacement of St. Pius X School property at any time is cause for suspension or expulsion. Student grades and transcripts will be withheld until all costs from damages have been paid.

# **Smoking**

Cigarette smoking, e-cigarettes used for vaping, JUULing (jeweling), and other similar conduct by students will not be tolerated at any time on the St. Pius X School/parish premises or at St. Pius X School-sponsored activities or on St. Pius X School transportation. Students caught smoking will receive a suspension and or expulsion for their actions.

## **Theft**

Any student involved in a theft may be suspended from a single class or from a full schedule of classes for a period of up to ten (10) St. Pius X School days with possible loss of credits for a trimester. The student will be required to replace or pay for the stolen item(s). Proper legal authorities may be contacted.

## SEARCHING STUDENT'S BELONGINGS

St. Pius X School has the right to search anything that a student brings onto the St. Pius X School campus. In addition, the St. Pius X School has the right to search backpacks and/or lockers at any time.

## **WEAPONS**

It is unlawful for any person to carry onto St. Pius X School grounds or facilities a firearm or dangerous weapon as defined by RCW 9.41.250 and RCW 9.41.280. Students carrying a knife, firearm, ammunition, and/or an explosive device onto St. Pius X School/parish premises, at St. Pius X School/parish sponsored activities, on St. Pius X School provided transportation, or in areas of facilities while being used for St. Pius X School purposes will result in expulsion. Police will be notified.

The law provides an allowance for licensed persons to possess firearms within 1000 feet of a St. Pius X School, and state law allows those licensed to carry a concealed pistol to possess a firearm on St. Pius X School grounds while picking up or dropping off a student. However, loaded firearms will not be allowed inside St. Pius X School facilities except for security and law enforcement personnel.

Any object used to intimidate, threaten, or causes bodily harm will be considered a weapon. If the principal determines that an object falls into the category of dangerous weapons that require expulsion, he or she shall promptly notify law enforcement and the student's parent or guardian regarding any

allegation or indication of such a violation. Any knife used to threaten, intimidate or injure is treated as a dangerous weapon. Likewise, a facsimile of any weapon used to threaten, intimidate or coerce will be treated as a real weapon.

Any fireworks or explosive (including, but not limited to M-80s and other high-powered fireworks) will be considered dangerous weapons capable of causing grave bodily harm. Both the police and the fire marshal will be notified in the event a student is found to be in possession of such items..

Any weapon will be confiscated and disposed of in an appropriate manner as deemed by the administration. The administration will call the police first then parents or guardians will be called.

# **Weapon Procedures**

- 1. Carrying or possessing a firearm on St. Pius X School premises is a gross misdemeanor and the student who uses or displays a weapon may be guilty of a felony assault. Police referral for criminal charges is required.
- 2. Emergency expulsion shall be immediately implemented for any student who brings a firearm onto St. Pius X School premises, St. Pius X School transportation, or in facilities being used exclusively for St. Pius X School purposes. The student should be prohibited from coming onto St. Pius X School property while the principal's investigation is ongoing. The police should be asked for a copy of the police report and, if available, the police report number should be noted in the Notice of Expulsion.
- 3. The principal shall carry out whatever St. Pius X School investigation is necessary, including taking statements from witnesses. As in any case of expulsion, the accused should have an opportunity to respond to the charges before the final disposition of the case is announced.
- 4. If the facts support the charges, the principal will send a formal Notice of Expulsion to the student and his/her family. Again, the student should be reminded that the "no trespassing" order is in effect.
- 5. In cases that result in expulsion, the student has the right of appeal. The process of appeal is outlined in the St. Pius X School handbook. During the appeal process, the accused must honor the "no trespassing" order.
- 6. As specified in the Federal Gun Free St. Pius X Schools Act of 1994, the principal may modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- 7. These procedures shall be construed in a manner consistent with the individuals with disabilities education act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1401 et seq.

# ST. PIUS X SCHOOL POLICIES

## **DAILY SCHEDULE**

The School Day

The school office is open from 8:30 AM -4:30 PM. School supervision for students begin at 8:40 AM and ends at 3:20 PM. First bell rings at 8:40 AM and school begins at 8:45 AM. School is dismissed at 2:00 PM on Mondays, and at 3:20 PM on Tuesday thru Friday.

Families are encouraged to attend Mass daily at 8:00 AM. Arrangements may be made via phone or note to the teacher prior to classroom visits.

Extended School Services (E.S.S.), aka the "Eagle's Nest"

St. Pius X School provides a service to parents who need to be at work early and who do not leave work until after school hours. ESS Program times:

Morning: 7:00 AM - 8:35 AM

After School: 3:20 PM - 5:30 PM

2:00 Dismissal: 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM

12:00 NOON Dismissal: No After school ESS

First & Last Days of School No After school ESS

The program offers students from Pre-K (5 years old) through Grade 8 a positive, safe, creative, and fun environment, under adult supervision daily. A combination of play, craft/artwork, study, and quiet time are provided during this time. Parents are charged \$6.00 per hour through FACTS.

Arrival and Departure: Parents are encouraged to use the carpool plan before and/or after school. Please see the map at the back of the handbook. As a reminder, parents are requested to enter and depart the parking lot on 56th Ave W. PLEASE DO NOT DROP YOUR CHILDREN OFF OR PICK THEM UP IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL ON 58TH AVE. W.

In the morning, parents may park in the Church lot and walk into the building with their children.

After school, parents may park in the Church lot and meet their children in the waiting area for carpool. Children are not allowed to walk from school to the Church lot unattended. When business needs to be conducted in the School Office, please park in the Church lot.

## **CALENDARS**

The St. Pius X School year calendar is sent home via email during the summer and is available on the St. Pius X School's website. Monthly St. Pius X School calendars will be sent home via email. The monthly calendar is also posted on the St. Pius X School's website. Should you not receive either calendar, please notify the St. Pius X School office. The St. Pius X School calendar is subject to change, but not without sufficient notice. Should a change be made after the St. Pius X School calendar is distributed, families will be notified via email and through the St. Pius X School's website.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

## **Absences**

St. Pius X School hours are from 8:40AM -3:20 PM. Students must attend St. Pius X School regularly and be punctual. Absences are recorded by the homeroom teacher each day. When a student is absent from St. Pius X School, parents must verify the absence by phoning the St. Pius X School office 425-778-9861 before 8:45 AM. If there is no contact from the parents, the St. Pius X School will call for verification. If parents cannot be reached, persons listed on the emergency form will be contacted.

If a student is absent more than 10 days in a trimester, a parent conference will occur and an attendance contract will be established. If a student is absent 30 days or more in a St. Pius X School year, this will be grounds for retention, which will be handled by the principal in consultation with the student's teacher(s). Individual circumstances for the reason of the absence will be taken into consideration.

Missing St. Pius X School for any reason is considered an absence. Students who miss St. Pius X School or a class because of any absence may be provided an opportunity to make-up work. Failure to make up assignments or tests may result in an adverse effect on grades.

## **Tardiness**

The St. Pius X School day starts at 8:40 AM and a student is considered tardy if he/she is not in his/her classroom at 8:40 AM. All students arriving after 9 AM must stop in the office and receive a tardy slip to admit them into their classroom. Children should then proceed to the classroom and enter the classroom with as little disruption as possible. Frequent tardiness is disruptive to the teacher and students in the class and can adversely affect the education of the child who is tardy. After a student is tardy three times, the student will lose a non-uniform day privilege.

# **Appointments**

Every effort should be made to arrange medical and dental appointments for times outside of the St. Pius X School day. See the St. Pius X School Calendar to note in-service days, holidays, and early dismissal times. If a student does need to leave for an appointment, parents must go to the St. Pius X School office to sign the student out and return to sign the student back in. If a child is gone from St. Pius X School for more than three hours, it is considered a one-half day absence.

Early Dismissals/Appointments Archdiocesan Policy states: "No teacher or staff member shall release any pupil to any person who calls the school to pick her/him up, unless the release is the child's parent or their delegate and the dismissal is verified in writing." 9 Students are not permitted to leave school grounds once they arrive. If possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside of school hours or on "Early Dismissal" days. If an appointment needs to be scheduled during school hours, written notice must be submitted to the teacher and office on or before the day of the appointment. Please sign your child "out" at the school office prior to taking her/him off the grounds. If you return before the end of the day, you must sign your child "in" at the school office.

#### **Vacations**

Daily attendance is an integral part of the educational experience at St. Pius X School. The classroom interaction between students and teacher, as well as more formal instruction, is extremely important and cannot be readily replicated. Lengthy absences may interrupt student learning. Student absences for family vacations, travel, or other reasons are highly discouraged. The St. Pius X School calendar is published months in advance of the following St. Pius X School year. Please refer to the St. Pius X School calendar prior to planning family vacations and arrange trips during St. Pius X School breaks. Students are responsible for all work assigned during their absence.

## **Inclement Weather**

When inclement weather makes it necessary to close the St. Pius X School, parents will receive notice via but not limited to the St. Pius X School website, KOMO and KING websites and local TV channels, Facebook, and Twitter. The St. Pius X School may also utilize text messages to families regarding closure alerts. Please listen to early broadcasts between the hours of 6:30 AM and 8:00 AM, always looking specifically for St. Pius X School. Please do not send students to St. Pius X School or ESS until it is confirmed that the St. Pius X School is open. <u>ESS</u> will open 15 minutes before the announced St. Pius X School starting time.

If the weather turns hazardous during the St. Pius X School day, parents will be notified and are expected to pick up their children as soon as possible. All missed instructional time lost due to inclement weather and St. Pius X School cancellation will be made up at the discretion of the principal.

#### **UNIFORMS**

# **Policy**

St. Pius X School maintains a strong tradition of St. Pius X School uniforms that reflect St. Pius X School pride, modesty, and appropriate regard for personal appearance. Every student is expected to be in uniform every day. Failure to cooperate with the uniform policy will result in uniform infractions; 3 uniform infractions will result in the loss of a non-uniform day.

#### Where to Purchase

New uniforms are available through the Dennis Uniform Store at https://www.dennisuniform.com/ National Customer Service phone number is 800-854-6951 Used uniforms are available in the main office. We welcome clean and gently used uniforms to give to other students.

#### Uniforms

The School Commission and the administration believe in the philosophy of a school uniform. The purpose of the uniform is to free the students from the distraction of 'what to wear' and allow them to focus on learning. Uniforms must be purchased at Dennis Uniform Store.

 $Full\ Uniform-Students\ will\ wear\ white\ collared\ shirts\ with\ a\ clean\ uniform\ sweatshirt\ or\ sweater,\ uniform\ slacks\ and/or\ jumper/skirt.$ 

#### Girls:

- Blouse or white Knit soft or woven collar (polo, turtleneck, no Tee Shirts)
- Long or short sleeves. All grades
- Jumper: Grades PS-5 "Plaid RR Knife Pleat"
- Skirt: Grades 6-8 "Plaid RR Knife Pleat"
- Sweater: Grades PS-5 Mayfair Blue V/N Pullover or Vest (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Grades 6-8 Navy V/N Pullover or Vest (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Sweatshirt: Grades PS-5 Mayfair Blue, (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Grades 6-8 Navy (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Pants: Grades PS-5 Navy slacks (exact replicas from Dennis Uniform Store)
- Grades 6-8 Khaki or Navy slacks (exact replicas from Dennis Uniform
- Store)
- All pants must have inset pockets. No Cargo pants.
- Skorts: Navy skorts (exact replicas from Dennis Uniform Store) no more
- than 1" above the knee.
- Shorts: Grades PS-5 Navy walking shorts (knee length) (exact replicas from
- Dennis Uniform Store)
- Grades 6-8 Khaki or Navy walking shorts (exact replicas from Dennis
- Uniform Store)

- Socks/Tights/ Plain white, navy, or black. No designs, logos, or holes. Tight fitted
- Leggings leggings only under jumpers, skirts and skorts. Sock color must match
- legging color.

#### **Boys:**

- Shirt: White Knit soft or woven collar (polo, turtleneck, no Tee Shirts) Long or
- short sleeves. All grades.
- Sweater: Grades PS-5 Mayfair Blue V/N Pullover or Vest (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Grades 6-8 Navy V/N Pullover or Vest (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Sweatshirt: Grades PS-5 -Mayfair Blue (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Grades 6-8 -Navy (w/St. Pius X logo)
- Pants: Grades PS-5 Navy slacks (exact replicas from Dennis Uniform Store)
- Grades 6-8 Khaki or Navy slacks (exact replicas from Dennis Uniform
- Store)
- All pants must have inset pockets. No Cargo pants
- Shorts: Grades PS-5 Navy walking shorts (knee length) (exact replicas from
- Shorts: Dennis Uniform Store)
- Grades 6-8 Khaki or Navy walking shorts (exact replicas from Dennis
- Uniform Store)
- Socks: Plain white, navy or black. No logo socks.

## **Expectations**

Parents are expected to help children keep the St. Pius X School uniform code. At St. Pius X School we wear uniforms because:

- 1. They represent our Catholic St. Pius X School image and tradition.
- 2. They discourage differences brought about by various income levels, thus eliminating unnecessary peer pressure and allowing the attention of the students to be directed to learning.
- 3. They assure that the dress standards of the St. Pius X School emphasize neatness.
- 4. They promote an image of pride both at and away from St. Pius X School and help create a positive climate of discipline and responsibility.
- 5. They are less costly to families and more easily maintained.
- 6. They promote an attitude of moderation and modesty.

#### Student Uniform Rules:

- 1. Students will be in uniforms that fit properly and are neat and clean.
- 2. Students will be in uniforms that are in good repair.
- 3. Uniform shirts and blouses must be worn under the St. Pius X School sweatshirt, sweater or vest and are to be tucked into their pants/skirts.
- 4. T-shirts worn under the uniform shirt or blouse must be plain white.
- 5. No sweatshirts, large shirts, sweaters, jackets (other than uniform logo wear) will be worn during St. Pius X School time.
- 6. All hats are to be taken off as students enter the building.
- 7. Students are not allowed to write on any part of their bodies, as this creates a distraction in the classroom
- 8. All students shall have a uniform sweater, vest or sweatshirt and will wear "full uniform" on designated days such as Wednesday Mass. Students always wear dress uniform for Mass days,

picture days, and other special events. "Full uniform" means uniform sweater, vest or sweatshirt (not athletic) as part of the uniform.

# **Appearance**

<u>Make-Up</u> - Students are not allowed to wear make up to school, including nail polish

<u>Hair</u> - Hair must be neat, clean, with no artificial colors, and well groomed. Girls and boys may not change the natural color of their hair. Bizarre or distracting hairstyles are not permitted. Boys: Above collar in length and away from the face so the student can see and be seen.

Hats, head coverings and hoodies may not be worn during class but may

be worn outside during recess, before and after school.

Headbands should be flat and/or uniform colors (Dennis); bows are allowed, but no protruding objects.

<u>Belts</u> - Boys in grades 3 - 8 must wear belts with pants at all times. Belts will coordinate with uniforms: black, blue, gray or brown in color.

<u>Blouses</u> – Short-sleeved white blouse or designated color with Peter Pan or sports collar; white knit turtleneck pullover; short-sleeved

button—front white knit with collar. All blouses and shirts must be tucked into the waistband. **NO logos**, trim or crests are permitted.

<u>Coats</u> – Coats/jackets are a requirement between November and April. Coats may not be worn in the classroom. They are to be hung in the coat areas except during recess or P.E.

<u>Jewelry</u> – For girls, small post earrings hanging no lower than the earlobes

are allowed. Boys are not allowed to wear earrings. No distracting

bracelets or necklaces will be permitted. No facial, and/or bodily

applications or body piercing will be permitted. Body piercing, other than ear lobes, is unacceptable.

<u>Shoes</u> – Non-marking shoes that are in good condition, appropriate for school and safe for play and PE (No boots, heels, wedges, beachwear, sandals, or open-toed shoes.) Shoes must be tied. Snow and rain boots may be brought to school and changed for recess time.

# Miscellaneous -

No facial piercing of any kind is allowed.

No visible or body tattoos are allowed.

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) or Scouting uniforms may be worn to St. Pius X School on days of meetings.

# The Fit of Proper Attire

Pants Worn at waist.

Will be clean, hemmed at the heel and hang straight. No holes, rips or tears.

Skirt Worn at the waist.

Will be clean, hemmed and not to be shorter than one inch above the knee

Blouse/Shirt Will be tucked into skirt or pants

Will have a collar

Will be white and clean

Sweater/Vest Mayfair Blue or Navy with St. Pius X logo

Sweatshirt Mayfair Blue or Navy with St. Pius X logo.

All uniform items are to be free of logos and visible name labels except for the St.

Pius X logo. All teachers will monitor student appearance. In any questionable issue, the final judgment will be made by the Principal.

# **Non-Uniform Days**

Occasionally the St. Pius X School will announce non-uniform days. It is the parents' responsibility to send their children in appropriate attire for St. Pius X School. Dress on these days must be neat, modest, and appropriate for St. Pius X School. Students may not wear cut-offs, tank tops/spaghetti straps, miniskirts, spandex-type fashions, sweat clothes or yoga pants, or T-shirts with sayings or designs which advertise drugs, alcohol, or any other inappropriate subject matter or sexual innuendos. Shirts, sweatshirts, and dresses must cover the shoulders. No exposure of the mid-drift is allowed.

Parents and students are responsible to make appropriate decisions regarding the clothes the child wears to school. Appropriate style, modesty, size, and taste are stressed. Bare waists and/or backs are not acceptable. Students may not wear flip flop sandals, spaghetti strap tops, t-shirts with inappropriate writing, bike shorts, shortie shorts, low cut blouse or tops. \*NEW\* A long shirt or sweatshirt (past waist, to mid-thigh) may be worn with yoga pants. No holes in clothing at any time. Good jeans are permitted on Free Dress Days.

Free dress days are scheduled for special occasions and announced in the Tuesday communications. Make-up and nail polish are not acceptable on Free Dress Days. Theme Days will be announced by the Associated Student Body Officers. The students are to participate fully in the theme if they chose not to wear their uniform

#### Lost and Found

All clothing and personal items should be clearly marked with the child's name. Marked clothing is returnable. Lost and found inquiries are handled through the St. Pius X School office. Items not claimed are donated to charity at the end of each trimester.

#### **EDUCATIONAL RECORDS**

Educational records are the property of the St. Pius X School, are confidential and require a written release to be forwarded.

Education records are available to parents and others as provided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) 20 U.S.C. 1232g and the regulations of 34 C.F.R. Part 99.

Parents may request to examine the student's permanent record folder and/or test results by contacting the principal. Please make your written request at least 5 St. Pius X School days before information is desired. Student addresses, telephone numbers, and class lists are also considered to be confidential. Parents are asked to promptly inform the St. Pius X School of any change in address, phone number, marital status, etc. A copy of any court orders impacting parental rights or custody should be provided to the St. Pius X School. Requests from families not to have telephone numbers given out (printed in the Family Directory) will be honored. Parents are required to indicate on the emergency form if their phone number is unlisted.

# **Transfer of Student Records**

If a parent is registering a child in another St. Pius X School, St. Pius X School will release the student's records upon receipt of a "Request for Records Form" from the St. Pius X School where the student is enrolled or intends to enroll. The records will be sent directly to the new St. Pius X School, not given to parents to deliver, and all debts/fines or unfulfilled contract obligations owed to the St. Pius X School by the parent, must be discharged before records are forwarded.

## **Types of Records**

- 1. <u>Health cards and records of immunizations</u> are retained by the St. Pius X School. Original health records are forwarded to the student's next St. Pius X School.
- 2. <u>Permanent record cards</u> are retained at the St. Pius X School. A copy of this record is forwarded to the new St. Pius X School at the time of transfer.
- 3. <u>Sacramental records</u> are kept in the student's official file, and recorded at the parish office where sacraments were first received, to document the sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion.
- 4. <u>Attendance records</u> are kept for each student. Total days absent and tardy are transferred from daily attendance rosters to the permanent record card. Detailed attendance logs are kept on file at the St. Pius X School for seven years.
- 5. <u>Transfer of records</u> is made at the time of an authorized request by the receiving St. Pius X School. All records are mailed. All tuition and other fees must be paid in full prior to transfer.
- 6. <u>Disciplinary records</u> are kept in the principal's office while a student is enrolled at St. Pius X School and then destroyed. Disciplinary records are not part of the permanent record unless the student has been suspended or expelled.
- 7. <u>Emergency care information</u> for each student is kept on file in the St. Pius X School office. Parents are asked to update this information each fall or when necessary, during the St. Pius X School year, in order to ensure the safety of their children.

## Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

- 1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the St. Pius X School principal (or appropriate St. Pius X School official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2. The right to request an amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask St. Pius X School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write to the St. Pius X School principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the St. Pius X School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the St. Pius X School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

- 3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to St. Pius X School officials with legitimate educational interests.
- 4. A St. Pius X School official is a person employed by St. Pius X School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, or assisting another St. Pius X School official in performing his or her tasks. A St. Pius X School official has legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, St. Pius X School discloses education records without consent to officials of another St. Pius X School district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. (NOTE: FERPA requires a St. Pius X School to make reasonable attempt to notify the student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.)
- 5. The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by St. Pius X School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office US Department of Education 600 Independence Avenue, SW Washington DC 20202-4605

#### PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

# **Non-Custodial Parents**

The St. Pius X School abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of non-custodial parents. Non-custodial parents have the right of access to information and to unofficial copies of records unless there is a court order to the contrary on file in the St. Pius X School office.

## **Divorced or Separated Parents**

Our St. Pius X School exists to aide parents in the education of their children. As such, the focus and advocacy of the staff will always default to the benefit of the child. We will not position ourselves between parents in disagreements over custody rights and issues. In the absence of an official court document specifying the contrary, we will communicate and facilitate relationships with all legal guardians of each student. It is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide any pertinent documentation that would alter this procedure

Upon registration or change in status the parent must file a court-certified copy of the current parenting plan or residential schedule with the St. Pius X School office at the time of registration, or change in status. The St. Pius X School will not be held responsible for failing to honor arrangements that have not been made known. The person who signs the tuition contract is the person who will be held financially responsible for all obligations. Any modifications to the tuition contract must be made in writing and have the approval of the principal.

#### PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

## **Cell Phones**

If there is a legitimate reason to make a phone call home, students will be assisted by a faculty or staff member to call parents using a St. Pius X School phone. If there is a special circumstance whereby a cell phone is needed, the parent needs to contact the principal directly before the phone is brought to St. Pius X School. The cell phone is to be kept completely off and in the student's backpack. Students who abuse the cell phone rule will have their phones confiscated and returned at the discretion of the principal.

- 1. Any cell phone use, including text messaging, during the St. Pius X School day, including after St. Pius X School and at Extended Care is prohibited.
- 2. The use of cell phones and/or cameras to take pictures in restrooms, classrooms, playground, and other St. Pius X School/parish facilities at any time is prohibited.
- 3. Any cell phone use, including text messaging, or use of cameras during a test shall be considered and treated as cheating.
- 4. No harassment or threatening of individuals via cell phones is permitted.
- 5. Cell phones may not be used for playing games, accessing the Internet or email, gambling, or making purchases of any kind.
- 6. If a parent needs to contact a student during the St. Pius X School day, such communication shall be through the St. Pius X School's office.

#### Office Phone Use

The St. Pius X School Office is open from 8:30AM-4:30PM. The St. Pius X School telephone is available for business use only. Students may use the phone in the office for emergencies and with permission only. Arrangements for after-St. Pius X School activities and rides home should be made outside of St. Pius X School time.

#### **Electronic Devices**

The use of electronic communication devices during normal St. Pius X School hours is prohibited; these include but are not limited to Smart Watches, electronic games, I-pods, and other hand-held games or music devices.

The use of any technology-oriented device in St. Pius X School must have an educational focus and purpose. If a particular electronic communication device is to be used for educational purposes (i.e. iPad or Kindle), the St. Pius X School administration and/or teacher will provide parameters for its use. The St. Pius X School retains the right to confiscate these devices if they interfere with the learning environment. The use of camera features on any electronic or communication device to take unauthorized pictures and/or videos at any time is prohibited.

The use of any electronic communication device during a test shall be considered as and treated as cheating.

#### **COMMUNICATION**

Consistent communication between the St. Pius X School and home is an important component of a positive educational environment and is highly valued at St. Pius X School. Correspondence from the St. Pius X School is delivered to families in several ways including but not limited to email, telephone, and weekly e-newsletters. Important information such as weekly St. Pius X School and classroom newsletters, yearly and monthly calendars, St. Pius X School and parish flyers, CYO forms, and other materials may be sent via email to every family each week on Tuesdays. In order to be well-informed of academic and community news, it is essential that each family take time to open and read the St. Pius X School emails and newsletters when they arrive.

## With Principal

The principal is available to meet with parents as needed. Please either call or email the principal or the St. Pius X School office to make an appointment. In order for the principal to be fully prepared to visit with you, it is helpful to state the topic or concern when you call.

# With Faculty

If a family has a question or concern regarding their child or would like to schedule a conference, they should contact the classroom teacher directly via his or her St. Pius X School email or by telephone. Parents are asked to refrain from engaging teachers in informal conferences in the classroom, hallway, carpool, etc., as it is unprofessional and teachers have assigned duties during these times and must remain attentive to their students and other responsibilities. When scheduled in advance, teachers are happy to meet with parents before or after St. Pius X School to discuss academic progress, discipline issues, or other matters.

Parents are reminded of their responsibility to support the authority of St. Pius X School personnel by refraining from gossip or negative commentary in the presence of their children, and to consult the faculty or staff at the St. Pius X School before forming a final opinion on an incident that occurred at St. Pius X School. Any situation involving a child and a particular teacher should be discussed with that teacher, as well as the child. Generally, when the parent, child, and teacher come together face to face and share all sides of the story, these matters can be resolved quickly and to the satisfaction of all parties.

## **Electronic**

Whether occurring within or outside of St. Pius X School, when a student's use of electronic communication, including social networking, jeopardizes the safe environment of the St. Pius X School, is disruptive to the St. Pius X School environment, or is contrary to Gospel values, the student may be subject to the full range of disciplinary consequences, including expulsion.

This policy applies to communications or images sent through e-mails, blogs, text messages, social media, or website postings, whether they occur through the St. Pius X School's equipment or connectivity resources or through private communication, which: (1) are of a sexual nature; (2) threaten, libel, slander, malign, disparage, bully, harass, or embarrass members of the St. Pius X School community; or (3) cause harm to the St. Pius X School community.

## **Electronic Devices (non-computers)**

No electronic device is allowed at school. These include, but are not limited to music players, handheld gaming systems, smart watches, etc. Cell phones are allowed but must be off during the day and collected by the teacher at the beginning and returned at the end of each day. Cell

phones may not be used during school hours or in ESS or other school events. Out of respect to others' privacy and liability purposes, taking photos or videos on campus is PROHIBITED during or outside school hours unless given permission by supervising adult.

Students who violate the cell phone policy will receive the following:

1st offense - Student will turn in their phone to the front office and will be able to pick it up at the end of the day.

2nd offense - Same procedure as first offense except the parent will be required to pick up the cell phone.

3rd offense - Student will be required to submit their phone to the office at the beginning of each school day and permitted to pick up device at the end of the school day.

# **Directory**

The St. Pius X School directory is provided as a courtesy for the convenience of St. Pius X School families and includes each student's name, grade, family members' names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. Please notify the St. Pius X School office of any changes as soon as possible so all information is current. Parents who do not wish to have this information published must notify the St. Pius X School in writing no later than the third week of each St. Pius X School year. It is to be understood by families requesting this omission that they will still be contacted by phone or mail by St. Pius X School staff and volunteers authorized to do so. The directory is updated annually in late September and sent to families electronically. The St. Pius X School directory is intended solely for the use of St. Pius X School families and employees to strengthen their mutual support and the education of St. Pius X School students, and any other use of the information in this directory is strictly forbidden.

#### **Emails**

St. Pius X School provides students with email accounts for the purpose of St. Pius X School-related communication. These accounts should be used with care. Students are not allowed to send personal information; they should not attempt to open files or follow links from unknown or un-trusted origin; they should use appropriate language; and they should communicate with other students and/or the teacher for educational purposes only.

Students are expected to communicate with the same appropriate, safe, mindful, courteous conduct online as offline. Email usage may be monitored and archived. Students are not allowed to use chat features or email each other during St. Pius X School hours.

#### Social Media

Engagement in social networking and online blogs or postings shall result in disciplinary actions, including expulsion, if the content of the student's blogs or postings includes defamatory comments regarding the St. Pius X School, a person's dignity, bullying, harassment, threats, or other inappropriate comments that are contradictory to Catholic teaching and/or interfere with the educational environment of the St. Pius X School. St. Pius X School students and their parents must adhere to and sign the St. Pius X School Student Computer and Internet Agreement. HEALTH CARE

# Communicable or Contagious Disease

Always students with contagious diseases should be treated with justice and respect in every way consistent with protecting the safety of those not afflicted with such diseases.

St. Pius X Schools shall act to limit the spread of contagious diseases in order to preserve and protect the health of students and staff. Staff shall report to the St. Pius X School administrator or designated person any individual suffering from a communicable disease or one suspected of being contagious.

Parents will notify the St. Pius X School of a diagnosis of a contagious disease. The administration will notify other parents and/or the health department, if necessary, to stop the spread of the disease. Before returning to St. Pius X School the student must be past the period of communicability, that is: free of fever without medication, vomiting, and/or diarrhea for 24 hours, and be able to participate in normal classroom activities.

All employees and health volunteers who work in St. Pius X Schools will be trained in appropriate methods of responding to situations that involve human blood and other body fluids and solids and will have available to them the materials necessary for making a response.

#### **Health Room**

A Health Aid room is located near to the St. Pius X School office. This room is staffed by St. Pius X School staff and volunteers, who will check children's temperatures, treat minor injuries, conduct health and vision screenings, and maintain student health records. All medications will be kept in the office.

An Isolation Room, away from students and staff may be set up to care for students who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms. This room is staffed by St. Pius X School staff and volunteers, who will check children's temperatures, and call parents to pick up the child immediately. Reducing the spread of COVID-19 is important to the ongoing health and safety of students and staff.

#### Medication

St. Pius X School may provide for the administration of oral medication, topical medication, eye drops, ear drops, or nasal spray to students who are in the custody of the St. Pius X School at the time of administration (RCW 28 A 210.260); however, St. Pius X School must have on file a written licensed health professional authorization form to administer medication. This form must be current and unexpired. Necessary medications are provided by the parent/guardian and kept in the St. Pius X School office. No medication is to be kept in the classroom. Medications will be dispensed only from the original container provided by the pharmacy. Only a designated and trained staff member(s) will administer medication.

Students at St. Pius X School are not permitted to have either prescription or non-prescription medication in their possession while at St. Pius X School. Emergency medications shall be kept in an appropriate, easily accessible location which allows for prompt response in case of an emergency. Medication that requires injections should only be administered after training by an R.N. or M.D.

written, signed and current permission from parent or guardian, and identification of staff members who may administer the medication.

- 1. An emergency allergy self-injector (i.e., an Epipen), may be allowed to accompany the student throughout the St. Pius X School day only after is has been determined to be necessary by the St. Pius X School administration on a case-by-case basis. An emergency allergy self-injector (i.e., an Epipen) may only be administered after training by an appropriate medical professional, written, signed, current permission from parent or guardian, and identification of staff members who may administer the medication.
- 2. Students needing to use an inhaler may carry one on their person at all times once approved by St. Pius X School administration and documented in the student's medication file.

Sharing of medication in any way, including both prescription and non-prescription drugs, is prohibited.

## **Counseling and Referrals**

St. Pius X School support counseling is available at various local agencies such as Catholic Community Services.

Counselors may see a student for up to three times without parental notification and consent. After the third visit, parents will be notified. If serious concerns exist, parents will be promptly notified whenever the concerns arise. Counselors and teachers will keep confidential information entrusted to them so long as no one's health or safety is at stake.

Other family arrangements are welcomed and encouraged. If a situation warrants, St. Pius X School staff may suggest the help of one of these third-party services to shed additional light on some need or concern. Since we do not yet have the resources for on-site assistance, it is important that such a recommendation be acted upon as soon as possible. Our staff pledges its best effort to help you educate your child. Even then, our efforts, combined with yours, may not be enough. An outside professional, in dialog with you and the teacher, will usually net speedy results. If you have any questions at all about your child's progress or emotional well-being, give us a call sooner than later. Contact your child's teacher or administrator.

Sometimes it is necessary for the St. Pius X School to make a report to Child Protective Services. State law requires notification to this agency (and/or law enforcement) within 48 hours of any professional St. Pius X School personnel having reasonable cause to believe that a student has suffered abuse or neglect. We reserve the right to not inform the parent about this referral, depending upon the situation. CPS makes the determination on the severity and follow-up, depending upon the information available at the time and any previous record of the case. If you desire more information as to the procedure for such referrals, please contact the St. Pius X School Office.

#### REPORTING SUSPECTED SEXUAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE OR NEGLECT

Church personnel who have <u>reasonable cause</u> to believe that a child or vulnerable adult has suffered abuse or neglect shall report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the proper law enforcement agency or to Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) at 1-

866-END-HARM (1-866-363-4276) at the first opportunity, but no later than forty-eight hours after they decide reasonable cause exists. Anyone who has knowledge of sexual abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy, Archdiocesan employee, or volunteer is also urged to call the Archdiocesan Abuse Helpline, at 1-800-446-7762, within, or no later than, 48 hours of learning of alleged abuse. If the alleged abuse involves a teacher or principal, the Office of Professional Practices in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at 360-725-6130 must be notified by the Catholic St. Pius X Schools Department.

"Reasonable cause" means a situation that would motivate a person of ordinary intelligence under the circumstances to believe, based on observations or conversations that a child has been or is being abused.

#### **Immunizations**

Prior to entry, attendance or transfer to a Level 1 Catholic Pre-K through high St. Pius X School in the Archdiocese of Seattle, students must present proof of having had the immunizations as required by Washington State law RCW 28A.210.060 through 28A.210.170.

Every student enrolled in a Level 1 Catholic St. Pius X School in the Archdiocese of Seattle shall be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with the immunization schedule adopted by the Washington State Department of Health Services. The only exception to the foregoing requirements for students in our Catholic St. Pius X Schools is a medical exemption signed by a licensed professional (M.D., N.D., D.O., ARNP, or PA. authorized to practice in the State of Washington, including the physicians license number.

## **EMERGENCIES AND CRISIS PROCEDURES**

It is important to prepare for any crisis in the best way possible. After consulting with several St. Pius X Schools, districts, OSPI, FEMA, and local fire/police departments, St. Pius X School has formulated an on-going working comprehensive plan to help ensure the safety and protection of all adults and children in our care.

If St. Pius X School must be closed due to any emergency during the St. Pius X School day, families will receive notice via the St. Pius X School website, [text messages], KOMO and KING Websites, KIRO radio station, and KOMO and KING TV channels. Students will not be dismissed to walk home unless the parent calls and requests they do so and assumes all responsibility for their safety. Students will be released from St. Pius X School if the principal determines that it would be unsafe for children to reenter the building. Children will only be released to parents, guardians, or those authorized by parents or guardians. Your help in providing and completing accurate information on the emergency forms is essential in ensuring immediate and successful response. If the phones are working, the St. Pius X School personnel will attempt to notify the parents of the St. Pius X School closure. Some St. Pius X School staff will remain at the St. Pius X School until all children have been picked up. If the entire student body must be moved from the St. Pius X School premises, a designated adult will remain on the premises with instructions for parents or designated guardians.

## **Emergency Form**

The St. Pius X School must have an emergency form on file for EVERY student in the St. Pius X School. If any information changes during the year, the office should be notified immediately. It is very **IMPORTANT** that the St. Pius X School be able to easily and quickly reach at least one parent or specified responsible person during the St. Pius X School day. If you are going to be out of town, we ask that you advise us as to what procedures to follow and who to contact if there is an emergency with your child.

## **Emergency Drills**

Fire, earthquake, and lock-down drills are scheduled periodically throughout the school year. Students are trained to recognize the seriousness of these drills. Emergency Fire Drill includes:

- 1. Rise in silence when the alarm sounds;
- 2. Close windows and doors;
- 3. Walk to the assigned place briskly, in single file and in silence;
- 4. Return to the building when signal is given.

In the event of an actual emergency, children will be released to their parents or individuals listed on their emergency cards.

# **Emergency Kits**

At the first of the year, families must supply an emergency kit for their children. The emergency preparedness kit form must be included with the kit. The kits are kept in the classroom in a central location, easily accessible. The kits are to be used only for emergencies, i.e., when parents are unable to pick up their children due to a natural disaster. A list of items needed in the kits is listed on the school supply list, is available on the school website, and from the School Office. The kits are to be turned in to the classroom teacher by the second Monday of the school year.

## **General Emergencies**

If a child becomes ill during the day, the teacher will send that child to the office to be evaluated and/or arrange for a parent to pick him/her up. If the child will not be returning to the classroom, a messenger will send the student's book bag/coat and St. Pius X Schoolwork to the office. Any other dismissals must be reported to the office. If the office initiates the action, the teacher will be notified of the reasons for dismissal.

All accidents at St. Pius X School are reported to the St. Pius X School office. Serious accident victims will not be moved until emergency personnel evaluate the student. The supervising adult will remain with the student while someone else goes to the office to seek help.

- 1. <u>Student illnesses</u>--Teachers are always on alert for signs of illness of a contagious nature. Such cases are reported to the St. Pius X School secretary or principal. If the child has been ill and returns to St. Pius X School, it is important that he/she return well enough to be able to participate in normal activities, go outside for recess, etc. Children with a fever should remain at home and be fever free without the use of fever reducers for at least 24 hours before returning to St. Pius X School. If an unexplained rash appears, students will be sent home and asked to receive a medical evaluation before returning to St. Pius X School.
- 2. <u>First Aid</u>--The principal and St. Pius X School office staff should be notified of any student who has received a head injury at St. Pius X School. Any signs of concerns will be reported immediately and parents will be contacted. Any student who is observed to, or is suspected

- of, suffering a significant blow to the head or collides hard with another person or object, may have sustained a concussion. Any student who is suspected of having a concussion either based on the disclosure by the student, observed or reported symptoms, will be removed from activities and observed until an evaluation can be completed by a medical provider.
- 3. <u>Teachers/staff will call 911</u> when any serious accident occurs. The St. Pius X School keeps records of all calls made to 911.
- 4. Student accidents or injuries resulting in hospitalization, emergency, or doctor's care should be reported using an accident form sent to the Archdiocesan insurance provider, within 24 hours.
- 5. <u>Medications</u>--St. Pius X School policy does not allow any medicines to be given to students unless there is a written authorization form from a physician and the parents (see above).

#### **Fire Drills**

Fire drills are held monthly. Ordinarily, these are unannounced and occur at different times within the schedule. Each class has an emergency backpack and first aid kit that should travel with them during times of drills.

## **Earthquakes**

- 1. Instructions on what to do during an earthquake:
  - a. Remain calm and think through the consequences of any action you take.
  - b. If indoors, watch for falling plaster, bricks, light fixtures, and other objects. Watch out for high bookcases, shelves, and other furniture that might slide or topple.
  - c. If in a **CLASSROOM or CHURCH** you should: Get under desks or tables and begin counting, "One, Two, etc. up to sixty. Face away from windows.
  - d. **DROP-**crouch on knees, close to ground. **COVER-**Place head close to knees. **HOLD-**Clasp hands firmly behind the neck. Close eyes tightly.
  - e. Remain in place until ordered to evacuate or until the "ALL CLEAR" signal is given.
  - f. If in CHURCH **or ASSEMBLY** areas -- (Chairs and tables may be lacking and exterior walls and roofs could collapse.) You should normally exit such facilities as quickly as possible. You should move in an organized, supervised way to designated areas and follow subsequent directions.
  - g. If in a **STAIRWAY**, during an earthquake Interior stairways are generally structurally stable; therefore, if you are on interior stairs, you should move to the interior wall, kneel, and take a protective position as described in (C).
  - h. If **OUTDOORS** Move to designated areas, as far away as possible from buildings, poles, wires, and other elevated objects. It is advisable to lie down or crouch low to the ground. Stay there until "**ALL CLEAR**" signal is given. A teacher or other adult employee will take charge.
- 2. Specific considerations in the case of earthquakes/emergencies:
  - a. Teachers are expected to stay with their class and stay at St. Pius X School to assist in any way until the principal has given permission to leave the grounds.
  - b. Downed power lines or objects touched by the downed power line/wires should never be touched. **All WIRES SHOULD BE TREATED AS LIVE.**
  - c. If possible, any spilled medicines, drugs, chemicals and other potentially harmful material should be cleaned up immediately following appropriate safety guidelines.

- d. Do not eat or drink anything from open containers near shattered glass. Liquids may be strained through a clean handkerchief or cloth if danger of glass contamination exists.
- e. Parents should not telephone the St. Pius X School or attempt to enter the St. Pius X School building after an earthquake occurs. Parents should listen to the radio for information. Parents should understand that telephone calls could only hinder emergency relief. Parents will be notified of any injuries to students as soon as emergency needs have been met. Parents may go to designated areas such as the church hall, adjacent to the St. Pius X School grounds, to meet their children.
- f. Do not spread rumors. They often do great harm following emergencies.
- g. Keep the streets clear for passage of emergency vehicles if necessary.
- h. Be prepared for additional earthquake shocks called "AFTERSHOCKS." Although most of these are smaller than the main quake, some may be large enough to cause additional damage.
- i. Respond to request for help from police, fire fighters, civil defense, and relief organizations, but do not go into damaged areas unless your help has been requested.
- j. Cooperate fully with Public Safety officials.

#### Lockdown Shelter-in-Place

Lockdown/Shelter-in-Place is defined as a way to secure students and staff within the facility due to some emergency. Staff and students will practice lockdown/shelter-in-place procedures routinely so they can be prepared in the event of an emergency. Lockdown/shelter-in-place procedures are not meant to scare the community but to empower all members to use safety precautions at all times. RCW 28A.320.125

## SAFETY AT ST. PIUS X SCHOOL

St. Pius X School is not responsible for accidents occurring on the grounds when St. Pius X School is not in session. Accidents occurring due to a student's failure to follow rules, during St. Pius X School hours, are not the responsibility of St. Pius X School.

## Bicycles/Skateboards/Scooters/Rollerblade Safety

In order to ride a bike to school, the student must wear a helmet. Bikes are to be secured with a chain and lock. The bikes are to be locked along the East gate.

## **Pedestrian Safety**

Students walking home are required to sign out before leaving the St. Pius X School grounds. Pedestrians must utilize the designated walking areas and cross at crosswalks.

## **Touching Safety**

Protecting God's Children TM program by Virtus is provided and required by the Archdiocese of Seattle and is a part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children from sexual abuse. The program is taught by the religion teachers for all students in kindergarten through 8th grade. It focuses on developmentally appropriate safety rules,

boundaries, recognizing risky adult behavior, and internet safety. The students are taught lessons in October and in March. This is a mandated program from the Archdiocese; however, if you would choose to have your child opt out of the program, you must sign the *Touching Safety Opt Out Form* TM, available from the classroom teacher.

# **Financial Safety**

All forms of money sent to St. Pius X School for St. Pius X School purposes should be placed in a sealed envelope and clearly labeled with the student's name, grade, teacher, purpose, and amount. Children should not bring money to St. Pius X School unless necessary.

## **BEFORE-CARE AND AFTER-CARE**

St. Pius X School offers a before and after St. Pius X School program, referred to as Extended School Services (ESS). This program is located in the ESS/Gym.

The primary focus of ESS is to provide onsite quality supervised care for St. Pius X School. This is not a program intended for enrichment or extensive activities, but a place where students can be safely supervised.

Students are supervised by ESS Assistants that are employees of St. Pius X School. ESS assistants have CPR and First Aid training, Safe Environment training and adhere to yearly updates, and have passed background checks. ESS Assistants are under the supervision of the Extended Day Director. Day-to-day management of ESS is the responsibility of the Extended Day Director, who reports to the principal.

There is a separate charge for students attending the Extended Day program. Applications for ESS program are available in the St. Pius X School office.

## **Policies and Procedures**

Extended Day is open in the morning from 7:00 AM and in the afternoon until 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.

- Parents must sign in their student in the morning session of Extended Day. At 8:25AM, the Extended Day staff will dismiss the students to the St. Pius X School grounds for morning line-up.
- For the afternoon session, the Extended Day staff will sign in students. Parents must sign out their child when picking up for the afternoon session. Please park and come through the building to the Extended Day door.

After St. Pius X School students in  $PreK - 2^{nd}$  grade will go outside (weather permitting) for recess until the supervisors take them into the building. A study hall period is required for all students in  $3^{rd} - 8^{th}$  grade. However, it is not our expectation that the Extended Day personnel supervise or require the students to do homework. It is expected that all students will bring a snack for the afternoon. Please plan accordingly when packing the student's lunch.

Students are expected to treat each other and all Extended Day assistants with respect. This program is an extension of the St. Pius X School day and all expectations of behavior reflect St. Pius X School

policies. If students do not exhibit respectful behavior, they may be removed from the program after a parent conference with the principal. The assistants will use the detention forms to notify parents of concerns.

A copy of the student's emergency form is kept on file at Extended Day. If you are sending someone new to pick up your student, please notify us either in writing that morning, or by a phone call directly to Extended Day.

# **Open Times**

Mornings – 7:00-8:25AM Afternoons – until 5:30AM Early Dismissal Days – NO afternoon ESS

ESS (Extended Day) is not open during conferences, early dismissal, and various other days unless otherwise noted. Extended Day is not open on federal holidays.

ESS will open **15** minutes before the announced St. Pius X School starting time on day with a late start due to inclement weather.

#### **Fees**

#### LUNCH PROGRAM

At this time there is no hot lunch program. We recommend that you send a nutritious lunch and a snack for morning recess. Nutritious snacks enhance alertness and stamina during the day. Please remember that we are a "Nut Free" campus. Please do not send peanut butter sandwiches or any nut products to school with your child. Soy butter is OK. Students who bring lunch with nuts or nuts products (this includes items made in a nut factory) will be asked to eat in the school office. Thank you for your kind consideration.

#### Lunch Room Rules:

- Come to the gym for lunch quietly and respectfully.
- There is absolutely no running.
- Use a normal conversation voice, no yelling or shouting is allowed.
- Do not throw food or objects.
- Clean up after yourself.

Failure to follow these rules will result in loss of recess or after St. Pius X School detention.

#### PLAYGROUND BEHAVIOR

#### **Rules and Behavior**

# Playground Volunteers

Playground supervision is from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM. Upon arrival for supervision, please sign your name in the Volunteer Sign In Log in the school office and wear the yellow Visitor Badge during your time on campus.

Playground Expectations for Students

- 1. Adhere to bells. Use a moderate voice level in line.
- 2. Use playground equipment safely and properly.
- 3. Play in designated areas.
- 4. Be considerate of others in speech and actions.
- 5. Follow directions of supervisors.
- 6. When the bell rings to end recess hold equipment and walk promptly to line. Inappropriate, vulgar, or profane language is not allowed on the playground.
- 7. Spitting is not allowed.
- 8. Keep hands and feet to yourself. (Play-fighting, fighting, rough games, and contact sports are not allowed.)
- 9. Respect for adults is to be demonstrated.
  - Report all injuries to the playground supervisors immediately.
  - Students may not throw rocks or any projectiles at any time.
  - Students may not bring their own equipment/toys out to recess. This includes all electronic devices.

## Helpful Hints for Playground Supervision

- 1. If an emergency occurs DO NOT leave the playground unattended without an adult supervisor present. One adult or an older student may obtain help or bring the injured student to the office.
- 2. Walk around the playground area, periodically stopping to make sure all the children are well and safe.
- 3. When standing, position yourself to see an extended area.
- 4. Check lavatories, periodically, during the playtime.
- 5. Students are not to play on stairways, in the Church gardens, or on grass behind gym under trees.
- 6. Students are to ask permission of the supervisor to return to the school building for any reason.
- 7. As a matter of policy St. Pius X Staff members under normal circumstances do not use any physical contact with the students. All staff and parent volunteers are required to be certified by Safe Environment.

Below are the guidelines to be followed at recess times. These guidelines have been set up to provide proper supervision of the students and to ensure their safety. Violation of the guidelines may result in disciplinary action.

## **Playground Equipment**

Recess equipment is available for all students and should be shared with all those who wish to use it.

Students are not allowed to climb or hang on the fences or goal posts. All posted signs need to be honored. Students are to pick up and dispose any trash prior to leaving the field.

# **RELEASE OF STUDENTS**

#### Release of Students To Another Adult

If anyone other than a parent or guardian is sent to pick up students, St. Pius X School requires either written permission signed by the parents, or a phone call from the parents to the St. Pius X School office informing the St. Pius X School of the change. Students will not be released to anyone they do not recognize nor to anyone not on the emergency form. St. Pius X School will check identification of anyone who is not the child's parent and who is picking up a child from St. Pius X School.

#### Release of Students To Police

Police and other government officials are required to directly deal with the principal in requesting an interview with a student. Generally, no police officer should be given access to a child without parental permission unless, (a) there is an arrest warrant, (b) the parent is the subject of an investigation of abuse or neglect, or (c) there is an ongoing situation that poses an immediate danger of causing significant harm.

If a police officer is given access to a student and no parent/guardian is available, the child should be accompanied by the Principal or Principal delegate. That individual is not there to assist the police, but to ensure that the child is being treated appropriately by the police.

#### PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parental cooperation is essential for the welfare of students. If, in the opinion of the administration, parent behavior seriously interferes with the teaching/learning process, the St. Pius X School may require parents to withdraw their children and sever their relationship with the St. Pius X School.

It is expected that parents will become actively involved in their child's progression through St. Pius X School. It is our hope that this will include: assisting with daily assignments for practice/drill sessions over material, reinforcing the St. Pius X School homework policy, actively participating in PARENT CLUB/ORGANIZATION, attending fall and winter conferences, as well as conferring regularly with their child's teacher. Parents may find the following guide helpful in defining specific topics they wish to discuss with the child's teacher.

- 1. How is my child progressing academically and socially?
- 2. In what areas is he/she strong? Does he/she need help?
- 3. What can I do at home to help my child?
- 4. How can I help my child build good work habits?
- 5. How does my child get along with other children?
- 6. How does my child behave in St. Pius X School?
- 7. How can I help reinforce my child's positive attitudes toward St. Pius X School and staff?
- 8. How can I show an interest in my child's progress in St. Pius X School without making him/her feel pressured?
- 9. How can I help my child gain more self-reliance, self-confidence, and self-respect?

#### **Visitors**

All classroom visitors first must sign in and be cleared at the office. This enables the St. Pius X School to keep track of who is in the building and is a safety measure Adults are asked to wear a volunteer badge from the office as immediate identification to staff and students that this person has a valid reason to be in the building

Parents are asked not to go to the classrooms to deliver things to the students. These items are to be left in the office and will be delivered to the students. Please respect our students' need for uninterrupted learning time.

All visitors will enter the building through the main door of the St. Pius X School. Side doors are always locked and students/staff are encouraged to keep these doors closed at all times and not to open them to anyone.

## **Room Parents**

Each grade has a team of Room Parents whose role is to assist the teacher in whatever ways she/he can. Some specific ways in which the Room Parent helps the teacher may be:

- Calling parents to help the teacher as requested.
- Arranging for classroom parties with the teacher.
- Hosting one special event each year depending on your child's grade. Please see your classroom teacher for more details and an explanation of the event.

#### **Parties**

Students are welcome to bring birthday treats for each student in their class. Individual cupcakes, cookies, or other small goodies are best. Please do not bring in cakes or other types of treats that take more time and need utensils. Please do not bring in beverages with the birthday treats. Birthday treats are served at lunch time under the guidance of teacher/principal and/or administrative assistant. Adhere to any and all allergy concerns in the class.

Party invitations are not to be handed out at St. Pius X School or at carpool. Please send your invitations by mail or email. Please consult parent directory for addresses and emails. The St. Pius X School office cannot provide any contact information and does not distribute invitations or thank you notes. We respect and understand the financial obligations of inviting every student; however, it can be hurtful when one or two children from a class are left out. If possible, do not pick up children from carpool for parties where the whole class is not included.

The principal, at least a week prior to the day of the occasion, must approve any party for a staff member. Classroom parties will be determined at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Only St. Pius X School students are allowed at classroom parties.

#### **PICTURES**

Individual and class St. Pius X School pictures are taken in the fall. Pictures are distributed via the classroom. Information concerning prices and packages is sent home at least one week before picture taking day. No parent is required to pay for pictures unless they choose to order them. Professional photos are also taken at 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation and first communion.

## ANIMALS AT ST. PIUS X SCHOOL

Parents must obtain prior approval from the student's teacher and from the principal before they are allowed to bring visiting animals to St. Pius X School. If there is an allergy issue in the classroom, the

animal will not be allowed at St. Pius X School. Service animals will be reviewed by the principal who will make the final decision concerning accommodations.

#### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

All extracurricular activities sponsored by the St. Pius X School or parish such as band, choir, after-St. Pius X School clubs, scouting, CYO sports, etc. follow the policies developed by the St. Pius X School and parish for participation. Students not adhering to the policies may forfeit the privilege of participating in St. Pius X School/parish-sponsored activities. This includes, but is not exclusive of prompt payment of fees, maintaining academic and behavioral standards, and safety and supervision requirements.

# **SPECIAL POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

#### CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION (CYO)

CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) is an athletic program sponsored by the Archdiocese of Seattle. St. Pius X School students may participate in the CYO Program in accordance with norms governing the Archdiocesan CYO Outdoor Ministries and Athletics program.

The CYO's mission statement is "to provide opportunities for youth to develop strong moral character, self-worth, interpersonal competence, and a commitment to caring for others and their community through activities of a social, educational, and recreational nature based on Christian principles that reinforce societal values."

CYO's vision is that "With gratitude to Christ, we focus our resources and support the ministries which strongly impact the greatest number of youth, young adults and families – thus engaging them on their journey to know God and participate in the Catholic Community."

CYO Athletics is committed to the dignity and worth of each child it serves, regardless of physical talents, mental strength, or emotional health, and hopes that the same respect for life will become a part of his or her value system. A desired outcome is that each child knows that they are wanted and loved.

Boys and girls from ages 5 through 18 of any race or national origin participate in CYO Athletic programs. Sports may include soccer, cross country, basketball, volleyball, and track.

The CYO Athletics community is organized around the parish as its center of activities, as this is a natural environment that provides a resource of volunteers and financial support necessary for the implementation of activities for youth. It is this environment that also encourages family participation in activities, as well as serving as a base of operations for coordinated programs and service projects to the greater community upon which youth can have a positive influence.

#### PARENT CLUB/ORGANIZATION

The Parent Club/Organization is responsible for maintaining good communication between the home and the St. Pius X School, for providing a vehicle through which parents can provide service to the

St. Pius X School i.e. volunteering and fund-raising, and for offering a mechanism for parent education.

# **Article I:** [Name]

The name of this organization shall be the [Name] St. Pius X School Parents, Educators, and Parishioners Club of [Name] Parish, part of the Archdiocese of Seattle

The Parent Club/Organization is unincorporated.

The Parent Club/Organization is affiliated with [Name] St. Pius X School, which is recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt organization. The organization is authorized to use the [Name] Tax ID #91.060.8536 upon approval of [Name] Parish.

## **Article II: Purpose**

The Parent Club/Organization is organized for education, religious and charitable purposes. To this end, the Parent Club/Organization shall assist in the support and maintenance of [Name] St. Pius X School (hereinafter "[Name]") and to encourage the parents and guardian attending [Name] in their role of Catholic educators.

The Parent Club/Organization is responsible for maintaining good communication between the home and the St. Pius X School, for providing a vehicle through which parents can provide service to the St. Pius X School i.e. volunteering and fund-raising, and for offering a mechanism for parent education.

All funds raised by the Parent Club/Organization, whether income or principal, and whether acquired by gift or contribution or otherwise, shall be devoted to said purposes. Decisions about fund-raising will be made jointly by the Parent Club/Organization and the St. Pius X School Commission. If a problem arises, the St. Pius X School Commission will make the final decision.

The Parent Club/Organization will be an advocate for the St. Pius X School. They will promote the St. Pius X School for the parish and parents.

## **Article III: Membership and Participation**

Membership of the Parent Club/Organization shall consist of all parents and guardians of children attending [Name] St. Pius X School and all adults subscribing to the purposes of the Parent Club/Organization The management and affairs of the Parent Club/Organization shall at times be under the direction of the Parent Club/Organization Board, which shall comprise of Parent Club/Organization Club members in good standing and appointed into office. The Parent Club/Organization Board shall consist of voting members ("Executive Board) and non-voting members ("Advisory Members"). Members of the Parent Club/Organization Board who are volunteers serving without compensation shall be personally liable for the acts, debts, liabilities or obligations of the St. Pius X School.

Each family is expected to volunteer time to the St. Pius X School and/or parish community, attend Parent Club/Organization Club meetings, support activities, and fundraising projects sponsored by Parent Club/Organization Club. In order to cover the net cost of all fundraising projects, (which constitutes part of the St. Pius X School budget) each family is expected to meet their fundraising commitment, PLUS their auction procurement items. Two parent families are obligated to give 4 hours per month as service in the St. Pius X School or parish. Single parent families are obligated to give 2 hours of volunteer time per month. Attending Parent Club/Organization Club meetings gives 1 hour of volunteer time.

No dues shall be required to become a member of the Parent Club/Organization Club or Parent Club/Organization Board.

# **Article IV: Meetings**

# Parent Club/Organization - Board

- 1. The Parent Club/Organization Board shall hold monthly meetings from August to June of the St. Pius X School year, typically the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the St. Pius X School library, unless otherwise specified.
- 2. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the procedural authority for conducting the meetings.
- 3. The meetings shall serve as a forum for discussion and planning of social events, fundraising programs, and other St. Pius X School and parish activities.
- 4. The Parent Club/Organization Board Secretary shall record the meeting minutes and submit draft for review to Parent Club/Organization Board, Principal, Vice-Principal and Pastoral leader within five business days of the meeting. Minutes shall be approved by the Parent Club/Organization Board at the subsequent meeting and incorporated into the official records of the St. Pius X School.
- 5. The dates of the meetings shall be posted on the St. Pius X School's monthly calendar and on the St. Pius X School's website.
- 6. All Parent Club/Organization Club members are welcome to attend the Parent Club/Organization Board meetings to address the Parent Club/Organization Board with specific ideas or areas of concern.
- 7. The Parent Club/Organization Board may continue a meeting in a closed, executive session to consider security, personnel, financial and legal matters. At such time, the presiding officer shall inform the honored guests.

# Parent Club/Organization - General Meetings

- 1. The Parent Club/Organization Club shall hold monthly meetings from September to May of the St. Pius X School year, typically on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall.
- 2. The meetings shall serve to conduct the regular business of the Parent Club/Organization Club, raise awareness of any St. Pius X School issues, vote on official matters, present informative materials, inform the members of the St. Pius X School's progress and achievements, communicate fundraising opportunities, and promote fellowship and a spirit of unity among members.
- 3. The Parent Club/Organization Board Secretary shall record the meeting minutes, which shall be approved by the Principal, distributed to the Parent Club/Organization Club member via the St. Pius X School's website and shall be incorporated into the official records of the St. Pius X School.
- 4. The dates of the meetings shall be posted on the St. Pius X School's monthly calendar and on the website.
- 5. All Parent Club/Organization Club members are strongly encouraged to attend the general meetings.

# Article V: Parent Club/Organization Board Composition, Voting Rights and Quorum

The executive members shall consist of the current Pastoral leader of [Name] Parish and the current principal of [Name] St. Pius X School.

#### **Executive Board Members**

There shall be the following Executive Board Members:

1. President

- 2. Vice President
- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer
- 5. Parent Club/Organization/St. Pius X School Commission Liaison
- 6. Hospitality Chair
- 7. Fundraiser Chair
- 8. Communications Chair

# **Advisory Board Members**

- 1. St. Pius X School Vice Principal
- 2. Autumn Fest Chair
- 3. Variety Show Chair
- 4. Holiday Bazaar Chair
- 5. Summer Family Event Chair
- 6. Teacher Lunches Chair
- 7. Used Uniforms Chair
- 8. Box Tops Chair
- 9. Room Parent Chair
- 10. Book Fair Coordinators Chair

# **Duties of the Parent Club/Organization Board**

- 1. Duties of the Parent Club/Organization Board include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Setting the agenda for the monthly Parent Club/Organization Club meetings.
  - b. Making recommendations for and implementing fundraisers, budget, and future goals of the Parent Club/Organization Club.
  - c. Planning and orchestrating community/hospitality events for families, faculty, and staff.
  - d. Ensuring that information and opportunities are available for all Parent Club/Organization Club members to actively participate.
- 2. An officer or committee chair that does not comply with his or her assigned responsibilities may be relieved of his or her position by a two-thirds majority vote of the other executive board members.

## **Article VI: Duties of Elected Officers**

## A. President

The President shall:

- 1. Fulfill a two-year term for a maximum of two terms.
- 2. Preside at all meetings of both the Parent Club/Organization Board and Parent Club/Organization Club.
- 3. Make interim appointments as needed; oversee the recruitment of Parent Club/Organization Board members for vacant positions.
- 4. Serve as Ex-officio member of all committees and oversee coordination of projects taken on by the Parent Club/Organization Club.
- 5. Call any special meetings and manage correspondence as required.
- 6. Be responsible for carrying out the progress of the organization and be the official spokesperson for The Parent Club/Organization Board and Parent Club/Organization Club.
- 7. Work with principal on calendaring all Parent Club/Organization Board and Parent Club/Organization Club meetings.

## **B.** Vice President

#### The Vice President shall:

- 1. Fulfill a two-year term for a maximum of two terms but not necessarily to ascend to the president position.
- 2. Perform duties of an absent president and perform such duties as assigned by the president.
- 3. Work with the principal on preparing agendas for monthly Parent Club/Organization Board and Parent Club/Organization Club meetings.
- 4. Is responsible for the organization, planning and selling of the [Name] t-shirts that are worn on [Name] jeans & t-shirt days

## C. Secretary

# The Secretary shall:

- 1. Prepare true and accurate minutes of both the Parent Club/Organization Board and Parent Club/Organization Club meetings.
- 2. Provide a draft of the minutes to Parent Club/Organization Board members and, upon approval, provide a finalized copy to the Principal in order that the minutes can be posted and archived for both Board and general meetings.
- 3. Track Parent Club/Organization Board members' Parent Club/Organization Board binders including the assignment of binder information as deemed appropriate by the Parent Club/Organization Board.
- 4. Fulfill a two-year term, for a maximum of two terms.

#### D. Treasurer

#### The Treasurer shall:

- 1. Maintain financial records by keeping a true and accurate record of Parent Club/Organization Club revenues, expenses and balances and also keep general ledger up to date.
- 2. Provide a monthly reconciled report at every Parent Club/Organization Board meeting and Parent Club/Organization Club meeting, a quarterly reconciled report for the St. Pius X School Commission, if requested, and a yearly reconciled report to the Parent Club/Organization Board at the end of the St. Pius X School year.
- 3. Upon demand of receipts or prior authorization, prepare check requests for Parent Club/Organization Club expenses.
- 4. Work with Fundraiser Committee Chair to ensure correct procedures are being followed regarding Parent Club/Organization Club fundraising, including the deposits of revenues from fundraisers.
- 5. At the end of the year establish the required amount for start-up for the upcoming St. Pius X School year and transfer all appropriate balances to the St. Pius X School's bookkeeper
- 6. Fulfill a two-year term, for a maximum of two terms.

# E. Parent Club/Organization Board/St. Pius X School Commission Liaison

The Parent Club/Organization Board/St. Pius X School Commission Liaison shall:

- 1. Attend both Parent Club/Organization Club Board meetings and St. Pius X School Commission Meetings and act as a liaison between the two groups.
- 2. Provide a summary to each committee of the other committee's activities and discussions.
- 3. Fulfill a two-year term for a maximum of two terms.

## F. Communications Chair

The Communications Chair shall:

- 1. Communicate to the Parent Club/Organization Board and to Parent Club/Organization Club members the activities and events of the Parent Club/Organization Club and of the parish.
- 2. Work with the Pastoral leader on current happenings in the parish.
- 3. Work with committee chairs on important events that need to be communicated.
- 4. Promote volunteerism with the St. Pius X School and parish community.
- 5. Fulfill a two-year term for a maximum of two terms.

# G. Hospitality Chair

The Hospitality Chair shall:

- 1. Prepare a calendar of St. Pius X School social events.
- 2. Plan and host the social events.
- 3. Help with the organization, planning and serving teacher lunches for conference days and Catholic St. Pius X Schools week
- 4. Solicit the appropriate volunteers to assist in the execution of social events.
- 5. Fulfill a two-year term for a maximum of two terms.

# H. Fundraising Chair

The Fundraising Chair shall:

- 1. Oversee all of the Parent Club/Organization Club's fundraising efforts.
- 2. Help promote all of the Parent Club/Organization Club's fundraising efforts.
- 3. Solicit the appropriate volunteers to assist in the execution of fundraising events.
- 4. Coordinate the Box Tops program (see description).
- 5. Fulfill a two-year term for a maximum of two terms.

# **Article VII—Duties of Advisory Members**

# A. St. Pius X School Principal and St. Pius X School Vice Principal

The St. Pius X School Principal and Vice Principal shall:

- 1. Communicate the St. Pius X School's progress, needs, and significant matters to the Parent Club/Organization Board.
- 2. Provide guidance to the Parent Club/Organization Board.
- 3. Assist in the implementation of Parent Club/Organization Board projects.

## **B.** Parish Pastoral leader

The Parish Pastoral leader shall:

- 1. Communicate Parish matters to the Parent Club/Organization Board as necessary.
- 2. Provide guidance to the Parent Club/Organization Board in relation to policies set forth by the Archdiocese of Seattle.

# C. Box Tops Coordinator

The Box Tops shall:

- 1. Promote and advertise the fundraiser.
  - 2. Collect Box Tops from the Parent Club/Organization Club members.
  - 3. Provide winning classroom a party.
  - 4. The Box Tops Coordinator duties fall under the guideline of the Fundraising Chair.

#### D. Used Uniform Sales Coordinator

The Used Uniform Sales Coordinator shall:

- 1. Promote and advertise the Used uniform sales events.
- 2. Collect, wash and arrange by size the donated articles of clothing.
- 3. Transfer the proceeds to the St. Pius X School.
- 4. The Used Uniform Sales Coordinator shall serve at least one year.

#### E. Room Parent Coordinator

The Room Parent Coordinator shall:

- 1. Attend all Parent Club/Organization Board and Club meetings.
- 2. Oversee coordination of Room Parent events and activities per Room Parent Manual.
- 3. Support and guide the room parents who support classroom and St. Pius X School activities.
- 4. The Room Parent Coordinator shall serve at least one year.

## F. Variety Show Coordinator

The Variety Show Coordinator shall:

1. Promote and advertise the event.

- 2. Conduct auditions of potential performers.
- 3. Schedule and oversee a dress rehearsal and organize and plan the actual performance.
- **4.** The Variety Show Coordinator shall serve at least one year.

# **G. Summer Family Event Coordinator**

The Summer Family Event Coordinator shall:

- 1. Plan and organize the event.
- 2. Promote and advertise the event.
- 3. Solicit volunteers to help serve the food and help with games.
- 4. The Summer Family Event Coordinator shall serve at least one year.

## H. Wreath Sales Coordinator

The Wreath Sales Coordinator shall:

- **1.** Plan and organize the event.
- 2. Promote and advertise the event.
- 3. Solicit volunteers to sell wreaths.
- 4. Transfer proceeds to the Parent Club/Organization treasurer.
- 5. Organize and plan the appropriate prizes to students for selling wreaths.
- 6. The Wreath Sales Coordinator shall serve at least one year.

#### I. Book Fair Coordinators

The Book Fair Coordinator shall:

- 1. Plan and organize the event.
- 2. Promote and advertise the event.
- 3. Solicit volunteers to help sell books.
- 4. Transfer proceeds to the Parent Club/Organization treasurer.
- 5. The Book Fair Coordinator shall serve at least one year.

# Article VIII—Parent Club/Organization Board Member Selection and Removal

# A. Parent Club/Organization Board Member Selection

- 1. Vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President.
- 2. Vacancy in the office of SCRIP Chair shall be filled by the SCRIP Vice Chair.
- 3. Vacancy in the office of Hospitality Chair shall be filled by the Hospitality Vice Chair.
- 4. For all other vacancies, recruitment for open Parent Club/Organization Board positions shall begin in April.
- 5. The vacant positions, job descriptions, and their respective terms shall be announced via the [day of week] communication envelope and the St. Pius X School's Website.
- 6. A Parent Club/Organization Club member who is interested in becoming a Parent Club/Organization Board member can initiate the process of application by:
  - a. nomination by another Parent Club/Organization Club member, or
  - b. self-nomination.
- 7. The Executive Board shall compile the list of candidates and vote qualified candidates into offices from the eligible pool by a simple majority of the Parent Club/Organization Board members present during the Parent Club/Organization Board meeting dedicated to the same.
- 8. The eligibility criteria include the following Parent Club/Organization Club member:
  - a. is in good standing.
  - b. possess leadership skills.
  - c. possesses expertise and willingness.

# B. Parent Club/Organization Board Member Removal

1. The Executive Board members, principal, and vice principal are required to attend and participate in the monthly Parent Club/Organization Board meetings. Three unexcused absences may be deemed as non-performance and may serve as grounds for removal by the

- Executive Board. Executive Board members may be removed by the Executive Board for non-performance of their duties.
- 2. The Advisory Board members are required to attend specific monthly Parent Club/Organization Board meetings as determined by the Parent Club/Organization Board as necessary for reporting and event planning and may only be removed by the Executive Board for non-performance of their respective duties.

## C. Continuity

- The selected, incoming Parent Club/Organization Board members shall attend the June Parent Club/Organization Board meeting to meet the current Parent Club/Organization Board members, to familiarize themselves with Parent Club/Organization Board processes, to receive their respective Parent Club/Organization Board binder, and to obtain necessary training in the process of taking over certain functions from outgoing Parent Club/Organization Board members.
- 2. The incoming members to the Executive Board shall not have voting powers until June 1<sup>st</sup>, which is the official start of the new St. Pius X School year.

#### **Article IX – Committees**

## A. Ad Hoc Committees

- 1. The Parent Club/Organization Board may form ad hoc committees when necessary to further the objectives, goals, and purpose of the Parent Club/Organization Board or Parent Club/Organization Club.
- 2. A committee shall consist of at least one member of the Parent Club/Organization Board with other Parent Club/Organization Club members participating.
- 3. The President shall act as ex-official member of all such ad hoc committees and shall supervise each committee's activities.

# <u>Article X – Parent Club/Organization Club Revenue, Budget, Revenue Allocations and Expense Reimbursement</u>

# A. Parent Club/Organization Club Revenue

- 1. All funds raised by the Parent Club/Organization Club (whether income, principal, gift, contribution, or otherwise) shall be recorded by the Treasurer.
- 2. No part of the Parent Club/Organization Club revenue shall inure to the benefit of an individual Parent Club/Organization Club member or a private person except solely for reasonable compensation for services actually rendered or goods actually sold.

## B. Budget

- 1. The Parent Club/Organization Club Board shall tally the total funds raised during the current St. Pius X School year and establish an annual budget by June 15<sup>th</sup> for the following St. Pius X School year. This annual budget must be approved by the Executive Board and subsequently ratified by the St. Pius X School Commission and the Parent Club/Organization Club.
- 2. The annual budget must be presented and explained to the incoming Parent Club/Organization Board members.
- 3. Any extraordinary expenses, outside of the stated annual budget, must be approved by the St. Pius X School Commission and the Parent Club/Organization Club.

# C. Expense Reimbursement

- 1. The Treasurer shall prepare check or cash requests for reimbursement for Parent Club/Organization Club expenses within 5 business days of submission.
- 2. All reimbursement requests for Parent Club/Organization Club expenses must be submitted to the treasurer via check request form within 14 days of expense or event.

# Article XI – Amendment to the Constitution and By-laws

# A. Minor Changes

- 1. Minor changes, including but not limited to typographical errors, grammatical errors, clarifying clauses, changes to term limits, changes in the composition of the Advisory Members, changes or substitution of fundraising programs, and the like, shall be made upon approval of the Executive Board.
- 2. Upon Executive Board approval, the revised Constitution and By-laws shall supersede the prior Constitution and By-laws.
- 3. The Secretary shall facilitate the inclusion of the new Constitution and By-laws in the Parent Club/Organization Board binders and St. Pius X School records.

## **B.** Material Changes

- 1. Material changes with significant impact to the St. Pius X School or Parish, including but not limited to procedural changes, changes to revenue allocations, changes related to quorum, changes in the composition of the Executive Board, and the like, shall be proposed to the St. Pius X School Commission and the Parish Finance Council by the Executive Board.
- 2. Upon approval by the St. Pius X School Commission and the Parish Finance Council, the Executive Board shall seek the ratification of the changes by a simple majority of the Parent Club/Organization Club members and by the Pastoral leader.
- 3. Only upon approval by the St. Pius X School Commission and the Parish Finance Council, and ratification of the Parent Club/Organization Club members and the Pastoral leader, shall the revised Constitution and By-laws supersede the prior Constitution and By-laws.
- 4. The Secretary shall facilitate the inclusion of the new Constitution and By-laws in the Parent Club/Organization Board binders and St. Pius X School records.

# C. Compulsory Review

- 1. The Parent Club/Organization Board shall review the Constitution and By-laws every two years to determine whether changes are warranted.
- 2. Such determination shall be noted and recorded in the meeting minutes

#### BYLAWS OF ST. PIUS X SCHOOL COMMISSION

The St. Pius X School Commission is a consultative board that works with the principal and pastoral leader, in accordance with Archdiocesan policy, to assist in planning, policy development, finance, facilities, development and public relations, and self-evaluation of St. Pius X School Commission goals. The Commission serves as a consultative board to the principal and the pastoral leader in the formulation of local policies affecting the parish St. Pius X School. All policies adopted by the St. Pius X School Commission are brought to the pastoral leader for approval. Terms are staggered to maintain stability of long-range goals and directions. The St. Pius X School Commission Guidebook published by the Archdiocese of Seattle Office for Catholic St. Pius X Schools is available in the St. Pius X School office for checkout upon request.

## ST. PIUS X SCHOOL COMMISSION CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The Catholic St. Pius X School is an expression of the education mission of the parish with which it is associated and of the Archdiocese of Seattle. Therefore, the pastoral leader is responsible to the Archbishop for the administration of the total parish, including the parish St. Pius X School. The principal functions as the chief administrator of the St. Pius X School and is a member of the parish staff.

Just as the Parish Council serves with the pastoral leader on behalf of the total parish community, so the St. Pius X School Commission serves with the principal for the good of the St. Pius X School

community. The St. Pius X School Commission is established by the principal with approval of the pastoral leader, in accordance with the Archdiocesan policy, to assist in policy development and long-range planning for the St. Pius X School. The St. Pius X School Commission is a consultative body to the pastoral leader and principal in the formulation of local policies affecting the parish St. Pius X School. (High St. Pius X School Boards are Boards of Limited Jurisdiction)

## **Article I:** Name of the Organization

The name of this body shall be "St. Pius X School Commission." Henceforth, the body will be referred to as the St. Pius X School Commission.

## **Article II: Purpose and Functions**

The St. Pius X School Commission is established by the principal with the approval of the pastoral leader in accordance with the Archdiocesan policy, to assist the principal in policy development and long-range planning for the St. Pius X School. When the St. Pius X School Commission meets and agrees on a policy matter, the decision is effective and binding on all. The St. Pius X School Commission will be consulted prior to decisions being made in its area of responsibility.

#### A. Purpose

The purpose of the St. Pius X School Commission is to advise and support the principal/pastoral leader in the formation of policy and the continued development of the St. Pius X School.

# **B.** Governing Bodies

The consultative St. Pius X School Commission shall act in collaboration with the principal and pastoral leader within the guidelines provided by the Policy Manual and Commission Guidebook from the Archdiocese of Seattle Office for Catholic St. Pius X Schools.

## C. Responsibilities

The St. Pius X School Commission responsibilities are in the following areas:

- 1. Planning The St. Pius X School Commission shall advise and support the development of a mission statement for the St. Pius X School, establish commission goals for the year, and establish future plans for the St. Pius X School.
- **2. Policy Development -** The St. Pius X School Commission shall formulate policies that give general direction to the principal and pastoral leader regarding the St. Pius X School.

## 3. Financing

- a. The St. Pius X School Commission shall advise and support plans and means to finance St. Pius X School programs including tuition, development, and fundraising.
- b. The St. Pius X School Commission provides consensus on the annual St. Pius X School budget.
- c. The St. Pius X School Commission shall provide to the Parish Finance Council the annual St. Pius X School budget for review

#### 4. Communications

- a. The St. Pius X School Commission will communicate with the St. Pius X School families and the parish community about the St. Pius X School and listen to the needs and concerns through the appropriate forums set up for this purpose, such as a suggestion box.
- b. The St. Pius X School Commission will also assist with recruitment of students and promote the St. Pius X School to the St. Pius X Parish as well as other parishes and parents.

- c. The St. Pius X School Commission will maintain regular communication with the parish pastoral leader/Finance Council about the direction, state and health of the St. Pius X School, and the future plans for the St. Pius X School.
- **5. Evaluation -** The St. Pius X School Commission shall determine whether St. Pius X School Commission goals and plans are being met and evaluate the St. Pius X School Commission's own effectiveness.

## **Article III: Relationship with Other Groups**

- A. Archdiocese Relationship The relationship between the St. Pius X School Commission and the Archdiocese is stated in the Archdiocese of Seattle and Office for Catholic St. Pius X Schools education policies, which are available for local commission members.
- **B. Parish Finance Council Relationship -** The Parish Finance Council is responsible for assisting the pastoral leader/parochial minister with effective stewardship of the parish's financial resources.

# C. Parent Club/Organization Club Relationship

- 1. The Parent Club/Organization Club is responsible for maintaining good communication between the home and St. Pius X School, providing a vehicle through which parents can provide service to the St. Pius X School, and offering a mechanism for parent education and greater opportunity for social interaction.
- 2. The St. Pius X School Commission works closely with the officers of the Parent Club/Organization Club in order to more fully understand parent needs and concerns.
- 3. The St. Pius X School Commission works with parent fundraising groups as part of coordinating the overall financing of programs for the St. Pius X School.
- 4. The St. Pius X School Commission uses the St. Pius X School newsletter and the Parent Club/Organization Club meetings to report to St. Pius X School families about St. Pius X School Commission activities and decisions.

## **Article IV: Membership**

**A. General Organization -** The membership of the St. Pius X School Commission shall consist of at least nine current or former St. Pius X School parents/guardians, the pastoral leader, the principal, the vice-principal (who also acts as a liaison for the faculty), Parent Club/Organization Club Liaison, and the Development Director. One member of the St. Pius X School Commission will serve as a liaison between the St. Pius X School Commission and the St. Pius X Parish Finance Council.

## **B.** Members

- 1. All members of the St. Pius X School Commission are responsible for the following: Planning, Policy Development, Finance, Public Relations and Evaluation of goals and commission effectiveness. The commission serves as a consultative body and work on a consensus model.
- 2. The Vice-Principal and /or staff member represents the voice of the St. Pius X School faculty and is allowed voting rights.

# C. Terms of Service

- 1. The term for general members is three years. Members' terms will begin in June and end in June, three years later. Members are required to fulfill all obligations and duties.
  - a. Resignation
    - i. A member may resign at any time by submitting a written resignation to the Principal and the St. Pius X School Commission Chair.
  - b. Removal

i. A member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the full voting commission whenever, in the St. Pius X School Commission's judgment, that member has become incapable or unfit to discharge the duties of their office, or shall neglect or refuse to perform the same. Two or more consecutive unexcused absences shall be construed as failure to perform duties. A member proposed to be removed is entitled to at least five days' notice in writing, before the removal meeting. The member will be entitled to address the St. Pius X School Commission prior to the removal vote. The meeting addressing the removal vote will be closed. The member may resign prior to this meeting.

#### c. Vacancies

- i. Vacancies created in positions other than the non-voting positions will be filled by a majority vote of the St. Pius X School Commission after discussion of the candidates.
- ii. The selected candidate shall then serve the remaining portion of the term of the vacated position.

#### d. Term Limits

i. General members are limited to serving two consecutive three-year terms. If a member has filled a vacancy in which less than one full year of a term has been served, that portion of the term shall not be counted in the two-term limit.

# **Article V: Appointment of Members**

## A. Selection Criteria

- 1. A prospective St. Pius X School Commission member will complete an application with emphasis on the following criteria:
  - a. Display an interest in and commitment to Catholic education and to the St. Pius X School's philosophy and mission;
  - b. Be available to attend meetings and periodic in-service programs and to participate in committee work;
  - c. Ability to maintain a high level of integrity and confidentiality;
  - d. Deal with situations as they relate to the good of the entire St. Pius X School community;
  - e. Demonstrate public support of the St. Pius X School and parish and their leadership;
  - f. Capacity to be a credible witness to the Catholic faith of the St. Pius X School community and the other publics the St. Pius X School serves.

# **B.** Appointments

1. The St. Pius X School Commission will recommend to the principal and pastoral leader new members using the criteria identified above.

## **Article VI: Executive Officers**

The Executive board of the commission shall consist of three officers: the chair, the vice-chair, and the secretary.

#### A. Nominations

1. The general commission shall present nominees for the position of chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A majority vote of the St. Pius X School Commission members present and voting shall be sufficient for election of officers.

#### B. Duties

- 1. Chair
  - i. The chair shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the commission.

- ii. The Principal prepares the agenda for each meeting after consultation with the chair.
- iii. The chair is ultimately responsible for all commission business and should ensure commission goals are achieved.

#### 2. Vice-Chair

- i. The vice-chair shall perform all duties of the chair when the chair is absent or unable to act.
- ii. The vice-chair will assume the duties of chair at the beginning of the next term.

#### 3. Secretary

- i. The secretary shall maintain a written record of all acts of the commission.
- ii. The secretary shall conduct, receive, and dispense all correspondence as directed.
- iii. The secretary shall preserve all reports and documents.

## **Article VII: Meeting**

#### A. Structure

- 1. The full St. Pius X School Commission meets every month, as determined by the principal.
- 2. Standing committees meet at other times which best suit the members of the committee.
- 3. Executive St. Pius X School Commission meetings may be called at times other than the regularly scheduled meetings. These meetings will be scheduled with the approval of the St. Pius X School Commission Chair and the principal.
- 4. The agenda for each St. Pius X School Commission meeting will be constructed by the principal and the St. Pius X School Commission chair. An agenda shall normally be sent to all members of the St. Pius X School Commission one week prior to each regular meeting. Agendas will also be sent to the pastoral leader.
- 5. Complete minutes are available from the St. Pius X School office or from the St. Pius X School Commission secretary upon request.
- 6. Non-members may address the commission when approved for the agenda in advance of the meeting and shall leave after they have addressed the St. Pius X School Commission.

#### B. Quorum

- 1. A majority of all voting members must be present for the purpose of conducting official business.
- 2. Business will be conducted by the consensus method; when a vote is required, a simple majority of those present and voting shall carry the motion.

# C. Implementation of Policies

- 1. In order to provide the best consultation, the consensus method of decision-making shall be used.
- 2. When the St. Pius X School Commission is unable to reach a consensus, the minutes should report the different positions and appropriate reasons.

## **D.** Meeting Record

- 1. A record of all acts of the St. Pius X School Commission, maintained by the secretary, shall be preserved in the archives in the St. Pius X School office.
- 2. This record is to contain the meeting minutes and any written reports or documents presented at the meeting.

## **Article VIII: Committee Structure**

## A. General Guidelines

- 1. The commission committees are divided into two groups: Standing Committees and Ad Hoc committees. The Standing Committees are continuous committees with specific duties.
- 2. These committees are described in Section 2. Ad Hoc committees are formed for short-term studies of issues and/or policies.
- 3. Each committee will have clearly defined goals, plans, and responsibilities.
- 4. Each committee will provide, as needed, a report of progress at each commission meeting.

# **B.** Standing Committees

- 1. Budget Committee The function of the budget committee is to work with the principal and other designated St. Pius X School/parish leadership to develop the annual budget.
- 2. Endowment Committee The function of the Endowment Committee is to oversee the financial development of the [Name] St. Pius X School Endowment Fund (see Endowment Committee's by-laws)

## C. Ad Hoc Committees

1. The Ad Hoc committees are generally formed as needed.

## **Article IX: Amendments**

These by-laws may be amended by two-thirds majority vote of the full voting St. Pius X School Commission.

#### **School Commission**

The School Commission is a consultative body established to advise and support the pastor and principal. The School Commission does not involve itself in the day-to-day administrative details of running the school but develops, and defines policies affecting the operation of the school and governs the financial status. The Commission shall consist of the pastor, or his delegate, the principal, and nine members, six elected and three appointed positions. Members must belong to St. Pius X Parish or have children in the school. Members serve a three year term but no more than two consecutive terms. The School Commission generally meets on the last Monday of the month from August through June.

# **Principal Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of the principal to administer the total education program in the school in conformity to its mission, philosophy, and goals. To achieve this end the following is necessary:

- 1. Represent the needs of students seeing that their rights to a Christian education are ensured.
- 2. Provide leadership for academic programs and articulate school programs to parents.
- 3. Facilitate the work of school personnel in their efforts to implement school goals.
- 4. Be accountable to the Pastor and the School Commission regarding the observance of all school, parish, and Archdiocesan educational policies.
- 5. Communicate parent input to school personnel.
- 6. Ensure that Catholic traditions, liturgies, and teaching are evident and practiced.

## **Teacher Responsibilities**

It is the teacher's responsibility to educate students in a manner that ensures their intellectual, spiritual, and emotional development. Therefore, the following responsibilities apply:

- 1. Ensures each student the right to an education and personal growth in a safe, nurturing environment.
- 2. Treat each student with dignity and respect

- 3. Teach the Catholic faith in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church
- 4. Enforce all school rules/expectations.
- 5. Be responsible for the supervision of their students at all times.
- 6. Intervene promptly in situations concerning actions inconsistent with Christian behavior.
- 7. Keep principal and parent informed regarding behavior and academic performance of students.
- 8. Encourage student responsibility in the maintenance of classroom, lavatory, and general school grounds.
- 9. Share respect for each person (adult and child) associated with the school.
- St. Pius X School reserves the right to amend this handbook. Notice of amendments will be sent to parents via e-Family Communication.