

**St. Francis of Assisi School
Parent-Student Handbook
2015-2016**



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II. CATHOLIC MISSION

The Faculty and Administration of Saint Francis of Assisi welcome you into our school, a community of prayer, study, and fun.

“Let it be known to all who enter Saint Francis of Assisi School that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes. His the model of its faculty and the inspiration for its students”.

Student Daily Prayer:

I promise to do my best today to be Christ-like and accept responsibility for my words, actions and deeds. With Jesus as my model, I will refrain from anything that can be hurtful to my classmates, but will do my best to be kind, courteous, friendly, respectful and welcoming to everyone I encounter.

“Catholic Education is an expression of the mission entrusted by Jesus to the Church He founded. Through education the Church seeks to prepare its members to proclaim the good news and to translate this proclamation into action.”

To Teach as Jesus Did #7

“The educational mission of the Church is an integrated ministry embracing three interlocking dimensions:”

1. The message revealed by God which the church proclaims.
2. Fellowship in the life of the Holy Spirit.
3. Service to the Christian Community and the entire human community.

To Teach as Jesus Did #14

“Catholic Schools are unique expressions of the Church’s effort to achieve the purposes of Catholic Education among the young. They are the most effective means available to the Church for the education of children and young people.”

Sharing the Light of Faith
National Catechetical Directory, p. 143

“The mission of Catholic school education in the Diocese of Tucson is the formation of students to be true Christians. Every effort is made to assist the students in securing knowledge and acquiring habits, which will enable them to lead a thoroughly Christian life. As educators in the Diocese of Tucson, we assume the responsibility to teach as Jesus did as our role in the teaching mission of the Catholic Church. This mission includes the student's' spiritual, intellectual, moral, physical, social, and cultural growth.”

Ministry of Catholic Schools

III. MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School
is committed to educational excellence within
the tradition of the Roman Catholic faith.
We, along with parental support, educate our students to grow
in the image and likeness of God,
so they may become confident leaders in service to others
as well as beacons of hope for all.

PHILOSOPHY

St. Francis of Assisi School believes that each student,
as a child of God, has basic needs:
To know God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
To grow spiritually in the traditions of the Roman Catholic Faith
as well as intellectually;
to respect the dignity of self and others.
We assist parents, the primary educators of their children,
through the educational mission of the Church.

IV. ADMISSIONS, REGISTRATIONS, TRANSFERS

A. ADMISSION POLICIES

By registering at Saint Francis Catholic School, students and their parents indicate their intention to accept the philosophy of the school and observe the regulations and policies of the school and the Diocese of Tucson.

Saint Francis Catholic School does not discriminate in the administration of its policies and programs based on race, color, gender, or national origin. Students shall not be denied admission to a Catholic school because of a disability unless this disability seriously impairs the student's ability to complete successfully the school's academic program, or unless the school cannot provide sufficient care or make reasonable accommodations for the student. (Diocese of Tucson Handbook of School Policies and Procedures # 2110)

B. NEW STUDENTS

Saint Francis Catholic School order of preference in admissions to the school:

- Presently enrolled students and their siblings
- Catholic students registered at St Francis Church
- Catholic students registered at other parishes
- Non-registered Catholics
- Non-Catholics

New students must provide a birth certificate and a current immunization record before they can attend class. All Catholic students must also provide a copy of their sacramental certificates if applicable.

Transfer students are additionally required to have an interview with the principal and must present report cards and progress reports. New students may also be required to take a placement test to determine academic ability. The parents may be asked to provide a tutor if necessary. The principal of Saint Francis Catholic School reserves the right to admit or deny any student admission.

Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age prior to September 1st. They will receive a readiness screening in March/April to determine if they are at the readiness level for entrance into kindergarten. If a child is not ready to begin kindergarten the parents are notified and the final decision lies with the principal and kindergarten teacher.

C. RETURNING STUDENTS

Re-admission of students for the following year is dependent upon the approval of the school administration. Saint Francis Catholic School also reserves the right to refuse re-admission to students who have been dismissed for any reason during the past year.

ALL CURRENT EXPENSES MUST BE SETTLED BEFORE RE-REGISTRATION IN AUGUST. THIS INCLUDES ALL FUNDRAISING OBLIGATIONS AND OTHER FEES.

D. WITHDRAWAL

To withdraw from Saint Francis Catholic School during the school year:

- Set up an appointment to speak with the principal
- Return all textbooks and library books
- Make sure all tuition and other payments are current

Records will be sent to the next school upon receipt of a formal authorization request form from that school.

Students withdrawing from Saint Francis Catholic School will be considered for readmission for the next school year upon principal and pastor approval and if enrollment permits.

Student Withdrawal on Grounds of Behavior

Normally, a child is not to be deprived of a Catholic education or otherwise penalized for actions of parents/guardians. However, when this behavior significantly reduces the school's ability to effectively serve its students, the parents/guardians may be requested to remove their children from the school for any of the following reasons but not limited to:

- Refusal to cooperate with school personnel
- Refusal to adhere to the St. Francis Catholic School or Diocesan policies and regulations
- Interference in matters of school administration of discipline
- Insults to or abuse of any faculty/staff or administrator at any time on school premises, or at some place if the faculty/staff or administrator is required to be present in connection with assigned school activities.

E. ATTENDANCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Punctuality and attendance are an important aspect of a child's education. Parents are required to call the school by 9:00 am if their child is absent. The school will call the parent if a child is absent and the parents have not called. This procedure is our way of ensuring that parents know their child is not in school. **Students absent for more than two hours of a day are to be counted absent for half-day.**

Daily Attendance

Absences considered excused will be for reasons of sickness, doctor, or dental appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours, or a death in the immediate family and attendance at the funeral.

Absences for any other reason will be considered unexcused unless explicitly excused by the principal. **Absences during school days for family vacations or other such extra-curricular activities are highly discouraged and not viewed as being in your child's best academic interest.** Such absences must always be discussed with the administration before they occur. If a student is absent, they may not participate in any school sponsored activity on the day of the absence.

For planned, extended absences, special arrangements should be made directly with the teacher. If school work is requested, the request must be made two weeks prior to the leave giving teachers adequate time to prepare. Following the policy found on sub-section D. Student Homework of Section VI. Academics, make up work must be completed and turned in within the same number of school days as the absence unless there are extenuating circumstances. If the absence is for a week or longer the teacher may, at his/her discretion, give assignments when the student returns.

Excessive Absenteeism

Any time a student is absent 3 consecutive school days they must return with a doctor's excuse. This includes if a student is absent on Friday and then again on the following Monday and Tuesday. Any student who is absent a total of **five days** or more **per quarter** (if the reason is not chronic prolonged illness verified by proper medical certification) will not be allowed to attend classes in the succeeding quarter until parents have satisfied the administration that such absenteeism will not continue.

After ten absences, excused or unexcused, the administration can take the following actions:

- The parent and student will conference with the administrator.
- The family will receive written notification of serious/chronic absenteeism.
- All documentation will become part of the student's permanent file.

- **Chronic absenteeism will be reported as truant to the Juvenile Division of the Courts of the State of Arizona.**

Tardiness

All tardies will be recorded on the student's attendance record.

1. The first bell rings at 7:55 am. Students should be in line in back of the school. The tardy bell rings at 8:00 am.
2. Kindergarten students go straight to their classroom and are considered tardy if they arrive after the tardy bell rings.
3. Students in grades K-8 will serve a noon detention for every 3 unexcused tardies per quarter.
4. Students who are late because of a doctor's appointment, funeral or other excusable reason **are still considered tardy**. However, upon verification of the aforementioned reasons, the tardy will be considered excused and not count towards detention.
5. Emergency tardiness will be treated on an individual basis. An excused tardy does not count toward detention but is still considered a tardy.

Excessive Tardiness

Excessive tardiness will be treated in the same manner as excessive absenteeism:

- The parent and student will conference with the administrator.
- The family will receive written notification of serious/chronic tardiness.
- All documentation will become a part of the student's permanent file.
- **Excessive tardiness will be reported to the Juvenile Division of the Court of Arizona.**

F. EARLY DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

Students who must leave school early on a particular day must bring a note from a parent or, the parent must call on the day before the early dismissal. The student will be called from their classroom by the office staff. Students will not be allowed to wait for pick-up in the foyer for more than 5 minutes as valuable classroom instruction is lost. If the student returns before the end of the school day, he/she must check in at the office bringing verification from their appointment. If they do not return until the next day, verification should be brought to the office upon return. Students are responsible for anything missed when leaving early.

G. RECORDS

All absences and tardies are recorded in the school office and in the classrooms. Attendance records of each student are part of the student's permanent record.

V. PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Saint Francis Catholic School recognizes that the parents are the primary educators of their children and that the school is privileged to join with them in partnership for the education of their children. The school depends on family support and cooperation and encourages active parental participation in the accomplishment of this joint ministry.

Parents have certain responsibilities that they are required to fulfill as part of the Saint Francis Catholic School community. Failure in fulfilling these responsibilities can result in the student's education being compromised.

A. FAITH FORMATION

Parents are the first teachers of their children in the area of faith. Parents give guidance to their children by living their Catholic faith. Presence at weekend Mass, as a family, should be the foundation of their relationship with God and each other.

B. DIOCESAN POLICY

All parents and any adult who serves in a volunteer capacity in which they may have independent access to children must meet the child safety criteria as described by the school's Safe Environment Policies. Details regarding these requirements are communicated to families each school year. This includes:

- Fingerprinting
- Background checks
- Child safety education procedures
- Watch and sign that they have viewed the Diocese of Tucson video on "Personal Safety Education for Children" every three years.
- Volunteers must also abide by the school's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and are asked to sign the school's SOP form each year.

A. TUITION AND FEES

The School Advisory Commission/Finance Committee and the principal, with the consent of the pastor and Parish Finance Council, set the annual tuition.

Tuition Rate 2015-2016

\$5,400

Financial assistance is available for all St. Francis Catholic School families. St. Francis uses FAIR (Financial Aide Independent Review) to determine the level of qualification. Families may apply for the following programs:

- Arizona Leadership (ALF)
- American Auto Association (AAA)

- Catholic Tuition Subsidy Organization (CTSO).
- Yuma Education Scholarship for YES Funds for Kids
- School Tuition Association of Yuma (STAY)
- Empowerment Scholarship of Arizona (ESA) Active duty military family only

Families that receive YES or STAY funds may not receive financial aid from CTSO.

All families are required to sign a financial commitment form in order to be enrolled for a new school year.

Saint Francis Catholic School depends on your tuition payment in order to operate. We depend on our families to meet their financial commitment so that we can meet ours.

In order for a family to qualify for a parish scholarship, the family must be a registered, active and contributing member of Saint Francis Catholic Church. Registration must be completed at the parish office and a family will be issued a parish identification number. Families should attend Mass at Saint Francis and use their parish identification on their contributions so they are credited to their family. We ask that each family tithe a minimum of \$10 per week or \$520 in a calendar year in order to qualify for parish scholarship. Each family is responsible for monitoring their annual tithing. Please contact the parish bookkeeper for the current balance.

Tuition is due on the 1st of each month and is considered delinquent after the 10th of the month, a late fee will be added to your account. The principal and pastor will be notified of all families delinquent in tuition payments. **Should tuition remain past due for two consecutive months, the student is considered ineligible to return to classes until the tuition and fines are paid in full.**

If a family's school financial account is in debt, it is the policy of Saint Francis Catholic School that:

- The student will not be admitted at the start of a new quarter
- 8th Grade students will not be allowed to participate in the promotion ceremony.
- Registration for the new school year will not be accepted.

Note: If a financial hardship occurs in a family, arrangements with the principal must occur to satisfy the family's school financial account. **A personal appointment must be made within a reasonable time to make arrangements for payment.**

B. FAMILY SERVICE HOURS

Any adult who serves in a volunteer capacity in which they may have independent access to children must meet the child safety criteria as described by the school's Safe Environment policies. Section V. B.

Each family is required to contribute **20 hours of service** to the school. This should be done at 10 hrs. per semester. A fee of \$50 per hour will be charged for hours not completed. Every family must serve a **minimum of four hours at the annual Barbeque and two hours at a Dad's' Club sponsored event.** Service hour forms must be completed for all activities and turned in at

the end of the month in which they are served. All service hours must be completed by May 15th of the school year.

Opportunities to complete service hours include, but are not limited to: recess duty, before school duty, after school duty, lunch duty, Home and School activities, Dad's Club activities, cleaning on some Saturdays, and serving on school committees.

This policy applies to all school volunteers, parent and nonparent. It is recommended that all parents/guardians, or any adults who may volunteer at school, go through the fingerprint clearance procedure so that they are qualified as volunteers should the occasion arise.

C. Resolution of Conflicts

With Jesus as our model of all behaviors, conflicts are dealt using the process listed below:

1. Parent/Guardian-teacher meet together; if necessary the student may be involved. If a mutual understanding is reached, the conflict has been resolved and no further action is required.
2. Parent/Guardian-Teacher-Administration: If the conflict is not resolved in step one then the administration will be asked to intervene. If a mutual understanding is reached, the conflict has been resolved and no further action is required.
3. Parent/Guardian-Teacher-Administration-Pastor: Conflicts not resolved at step two may require step three. The principal will set up this meeting. The pastor, as canonical administrator, oversees the operation of the parish school. The pastor always checks with the principal before seeing anyone concerning school matters.

D. CARE OF MATERIALS

School Supplies

School supplies used for individual student use are provided by each student. The list of required supplies is provided each year. Students are expected to have the proper supplies on hand the first day of school as well as throughout the school year. All supplies should be properly marked with the student's name. Unauthorized supplies will be sent home.

School Books

Tuition provides for the purchase of the school textbooks and materials. Because of the enormous costs for texts and materials, it is imperative that books and materials are handled and treated with care. It is required that students use a school bag or backpack for carrying books and materials to and from school. (Please be very careful with water bottles in backpacks as they have been known to leak and cause damage to the books.) All books must have a cover and students should not write on the covers as it bleeds onto the books.

Fines charged for damage to books as determined by the teacher and principal are:

\$7.00	Page of book missing or torn
\$5.00	Writing in book
\$3.00	Book covers badly worn

\$1.00	Bent corners (1-5 pages)
\$2.00	Bent corners (more than 5 pages)
\$6.00	Water damage

The cost of replacing one hardcover textbook varies (according to manufacturer’s list price) from \$45-\$70. The cost of replacing one consumable textbook is \$25.00.

Library Books

Students in grades 1-8 may borrow books from the library. Parents of Kindergarten students may check out books for their children. Students/Parents are responsible for books checked out. An overdue book fine of \$0.50 a week is charged to students when books are not returned on the due date. Additionally, there will be a \$0.50 charge each week until the book is returned. A lost paperback book will cost \$15.00 and \$40.00 for hardback books. The student must pay for lost or damaged books.

E. SCRIP/COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAMS

Scrip is a vital and necessary fundraiser for Saint Francis Catholic School’s operation. Scrip turns everyday shopping into cash when our families use retail gift cards to pay for everyday purchases like gas and groceries. Each family is required to purchase a minimum of \$2000 of Scrip per school year **or** pay a one-time annual buyout fee of \$200. You can choose from nearly 400 national retail stores. A list of retailers is available in the office or on our website. Families are able to check your current balance by contacting the front office.

Community Reward Programs

- Fry’s shoppers can earn money towards their Scrip requirement by registering their Fry’s VIP card under their Community Rewards Program. Fry’s requires each family to register their VIP card by August 1st each year to participate in the program. You do not need to save your receipts. Fry’s tracks your qualified purchases and will post your rebate earned in a quarterly report to your Fry’s account. In order to receive credit for your purchases towards your Scrip requirement, they will need to print out your quarterly report and turn it into the office within 30 days from the end of each quarter.
- Albertson’s gift cards are available for purchase through the school office. We **no longer** accept Albertson’s receipts to meet your Scrip requirement. St. Francis Catholic School continues to participate in their Community Rewards Program. We earn extra money each time you swipe your Community Card at the register and an additional rebate when you purchase Albertson’s gift cards through our Scrip Program. We have extra Community Rewards cards in the office. Please pick extra cards for your friends and family.

VI. ACADEMICS

A. SCHOOL MASS

Saint Francis Catholic School attends Mass weekly and on Holy Days of Obligation. Mass is usually at 9 am on Friday and hosted each week by a different grade level. Parents are encouraged to attend. The expectations at Mass for students and parents:

- Walking in an orderly manner to prepare for Mass
- Display reverence as we pass the adoration Chapel and enter
- Be respectful, attentive, and active participants at Mass
- Leave the church in the same respectful manner

In order to maintain the learning experience of church doctrine, we ask the parents/guardians to sit behind the student body.

B. CURRICULUM

As a Catholic school, classroom instruction is always in accordance with the teachings of the Church. Saint Francis Catholic School follows the curriculum guidelines of the Diocese of Tucson, which require specific courses, time allotments and instructional material set by the Department of Catholic Schools, the Arizona State Department of Public Instruction and the Western Catholic Education Association. The guidelines are aligned with the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards.

The primary goal of program of instruction in the schools of the Diocese of Tucson is to provide learning experiences which most effectively inculcate worthwhile attitudes and impart the knowledge and skills necessary for the spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical development of the student. (#4200, Handbook of School Policies and Procedures, Diocese of Tucson)

The ITBS test (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) is administered in the fall to students in grades 1-8 and in the spring for grades K-8. Grades 5 and 8 also take the ACRE (Assessment of Catholic Religious Education); a test on knowledge of the Catholic Faith.

C. SCHOOL WIDE PROCEDURES

All students beginning in grade 3 are required to write in cursive. All papers (whether classwork or homework) must follow the following format: Across the right of each student's paper should be legibly written: student's **full name**, subject, assignment, and date.

D. Student Homework

Saint Francis' students are given homework on a regular basis for reinforcement of content and skills presented and studied in the classroom. Different varieties of homework will be assigned. Time needed to complete homework assignments will vary with the student, the teacher, the class and the day.

i. Intermediate Grades 3-5 -

-Homework is independent practice of concepts taught in the lesson along with fluency practice to support reading and math. It is expected to be completed and returned the following day. All students will use their daily planner to help them keep track of homework. All homework will be graded or checked off for completion.

- Homework will be given Monday through Thursday with exceptions of projects.
- Nightly expectation:
 - 3rd grade: 30-40 min.
 - 4th grade: 30min.-1hr
 - 5th grade: 45min.-1hr
 - Fact practice and independent reading

ii. Middle School-

Homework is given to reinforce the concepts and skills learned in class. It is expected to be completed and returned the following day. All homework will be graded.

- Students are expected to read for AR no less than 20 minutes per night.
- Middle school grades should expect about 1 - 1 ½ hours of homework nightly.
- Projects may be assigned and expected to be completed at home; deadlines and project criteria will be provided to students and will vary by teacher.
- Absences will not excuse students from meeting deadlines.
- Weekend homework, as well as over-holiday homework will be kept to a minimum excluding long-term assignments.

The student is responsible for any make-up work whenever absent. Parents may request homework assignments when they call the office to report their child's absence. Homework will be picked up in the student's classroom **unless otherwise specified**. Make up work must be completed and turned in within the same number of school days as the absence unless there are extenuating circumstances. For example, if the absence is on a Tuesday, the student returns on Wednesday, then make-up work is due on Thursday. (This does not include projects

that are long term assignments. These are due on the due date even if a student is absent.) Teachers may allow additional time. However, make-up work must be done in a timely fashion.

Grades K-2 will send weekly homework packets with a cover page providing daily assignments, behavior report, and will be used for any communication.

Students in grades 3-8 must maintain a student planner. It will be purchased during orientation and provided directly to the students by their teachers. Students will write their homework in their student planner in order to keep track of assignments. Parents may write notes to teachers in the planner, however it is the student's responsibility to give the teacher and parents the planner for all communication.

E. Study Hall

Lunch time study hall may be offered at the teacher or parents' discretion. Students will be able to work on assignments or projects in a quiet and orderly manner.

E. Report Cards and Grading System

Saint Francis Catholic School distributes report cards every nine weeks. Reports cards not returned to the teacher within 5 days from the date they were issued will result in detention until the report card is returned. The interpretation of the report card grading is:

Grading Scale for Grades 2-8

93-100 = A
85-92 = B
76-84 = C
70-75 = D
Below 70 = F

Grading System for K-1

Assessed on performances of specific skills using the following scale:
+ = skill mastered
/ = satisfactory progress
√ = needs improvement
NA= not applicable

Middle School (6,7,8) Weighted grades
70% Tests/Assessments
30% Class work/Homework

Parents with students in grades K-8 have access to our online grading system, Jupiter Grades, and should keep abreast of their child's progress through this site. Parents are responsible for monitoring their child's grades. At mid term, parents should conference with their child about these grades and any concerns should be addressed directly with the teacher. Parents may request a hard copy of the child's progress report.

A \$2 fee will be paid to the office for a lost report card.

F. Honor Roll

Students in grades 5-8 who maintain a B+ average in academic classes and conduct are eligible for the Honor Roll.

G. Testing

All testing data is utilized to drive instruction, develop curriculum maps, and provide individual student support. Saint Francis Catholic School utilizes the ITBS test in grades K-8. The DIBELS and the STAR Assessments are given to measure reading comprehension and vocabulary skills. Grades 5 and 8 are also administered the ACRE (Assessment of Catholic Religious Education) test in accordance with the Diocese of Tucson. Testing dates and times will be announced.

H. Promotion and Retention

In accordance with the Arizona State statute (ARS 15-701) and Diocese of Tucson Policy 2160. At the end of each grade K-8, student's mastery of essential competencies is evaluated and a promotion or retention recommendation is determined. A student shall be retained on the recommendation of the teacher and the principal. If, contrary to the recommendation of the teacher and the principal, parents/guardian requests that their child be placed in the next higher grade, the principal may honor this request. In this case, the parents/guardian shall be required to state their request in writing. This request will be placed in the student's cumulative file. If retention is again recommended the following year, and not accepted by the parents, then the parents will be directed to find an alternative educational setting suitable to their student's total development and welfare.

I. SCHOOL SCHEDULE

School Day Hours

Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements are recited together daily at 8:00 am.

Saint Francis Catholic School hours are from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday thru Thursday and 8:00 am to 12:05 pm on Friday or designated half days. The school campus is supervised beginning at 7:30 am. Students arriving before 7:30 am are to wait quietly in the lobby until released to the playground.

Students who are not picked up in line will be placed in the "Homework Club" where parents must sign them out. Parents will not be charged for "Homework Club" until 3:30, after this time, the charge is \$5 per hour per student with a minimum charge of \$5. There is no "Homework Club" on Fridays.

Office hours are from 7:45 am – 4:00 pm.

Student Instructional Schedule

Each classroom has its own daily schedule planned to meet students' needs and is approved by the principal. Teachers will give this to parents at the beginning of the year and a schedule will be posted on each classroom door. Schedules are subject to change.

Daily Schedule

MONDAY - THURSDAY:

- 7:55 a.m. First bell:
- 8:00 - 8:05 a.m. Prayer/Pledge/Announcements
- 8:05 a.m. Instruction begins
- 8:05 - 10:00 a.m. K-5 Instructional Block
- K-5: 10:00 a.m. Recess
- 8:05 - 10:00 a.m. K-5 Instructional Block
- 8:05 - 12:05 a.m. 6 -8 Instructional Block
- 11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 1st lunch, Kindergarten – 4th grade
 - 12:00 p.m. – 12:20 p.m. Recess
- 12:00 p.m. – 12:20 p.m. 2nd lunch, Grades 5-8:
 - 12:20 p.m. – 12:40 p.m. Recess
- 12:20 -3:00 K-5 Instructional Block
- 12:40 - 3:00: 6-8 Instructional Block
- 3:00 p.m. Dismissal

FRIDAYS:

- 7:55 a.m. First bell
- 8:00 - 8:05 a.m. Prayer/Pledge/Announcements
- 8:05 a.m. Instruction begins
- 9:00 a.m. All School Liturgy
- 9:50 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. Recess, Grades 1 – 5
- 10:05 - 12:05 a.m. K-5 Instructional Block
- 9:50 - 12:05 a.m. 6 -8 Instructional Block
- 12:05 p.m. Dismissal

J. FIELD TRIPS

Field trips provide a learning experience with the purpose of expanding students' insight into a particular curricular concept. Students may be denied participation if they fail to meet the academic standards or behavioral requirements.

- **Permission forms must be signed and returned by the due date indicated on the permission slip in order for your child to attend the field trip. Phone calls in lieu of the permission form will not be accepted.**
- **Volunteer Field Trip Drivers must be at least 25 years of age or older, have proof of current insurance, and a copy of their driver's license on file in the school office. They must be in compliance with the Diocese of Tucson Safe Environment requirement,**

including fingerprint background clearance. Vehicles must have seat belts for each student.

K. STUDENT STEWARDSHIP HOURS

A Christian steward models the life of Jesus. At Saint Francis Catholic School we strive to teach our students to be good stewards by going beyond what is normally required of them and reaching out to someone in need without receiving personal recognition. Students are required to do stewardship hours each semester and record them with their teacher. Stewardship hours completed or not completed will have an effect on the religion grade. The requirements are:

K through 4 - 2 hours per quarter

5 through 7 - 4 hours per quarter

8th Grade – 25 hours as per Confirmation Requirements (This is for all students including those who are not receiving the sacrament of Confirmation.)

Each teacher can provide suggestions for stewardship hours.

Stewardship forms are available online or by their teachers. The forms must be turned in to the teacher prior to end of each quarter.

VII. STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

A. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ATHLETICS

Athletics takes its place among many important aspects of Christian education. As part of a total educational experience, Saint Francis Catholic School hopes that all dimensions of this kind of education will be a good and helpful learning experience for students.

Organizing these sports depends on the availability of coaches and school teams with whom we compete. Coaches must be at least 18 years of age and be cleared by the school's Safe Environment Policy.

Sports Schedule

Boys Flag Football - September - November

Girls Softball - September - November

Boys Soccer - November - January

Girls Basketball - November - January

Boys Basketball - January - March

Girls Soccer - January - March

Boys Softball - March - May

Girls Volleyball - March - May

Practice is after school on days specified by the coaches, (generally on Mondays – Thursdays) Practice and game schedules will be distributed by the coaches or online. **Students must be picked up within 10 minutes of practice completion. Siblings of those participating in sports may not stay after school unless their parents are present.** Games are played after school. Parents are responsible for their child’s transportation to and from away games. Drivers who transport must be over the age of 25. **Proof of insurance, a driver’s license, and a clearance card must be on file in the office in order to transport students. All vehicles must have a seat belt for each student.**

Eligibility Requirements:

- Students in grades 5-8
- Students will pay a fee of \$25 for each sport they participate in, maximum of \$85 for all sports. This will be used to cover the cost of equipment, uniforms and any unforeseen fees.
- Current sports physical examination
- Students must maintain a C average with no F in any subject area. **If a student does not maintain the aforementioned they will be placed on academic probation and be ineligible to play until grades have improved. Grades will be checked on a weekly basis.**
- Misconduct (in or out of school) is grounds for ineligibility.
- A student’s teacher may at any time notify the administration of misconduct of a student and administration will conference with the teacher, parent, and student to determine eligibility.
- A student absent from school on a game day may not participate in the game.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Saint Francis Catholic School Student Council is an organization through which students can exercise their roles as partners in their education.

- This organization consists of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Publicity Officer and 2 representatives from each class grades 5-8.
- Officer positions are held by 7-8 grade students.
- They are responsible for promoting various activities and fundraisers throughout the year.
- Elections are held at the discretion of the teacher advisor.
- Students who fail to attend meetings or do not uphold grades and conduct will be subject to dismissal from Student Council.
- Students must maintain a C average with no F in any subject area.

B. LUNCH PROGRAM

Saint Francis Catholic School offers a hot lunch program for \$4.25 per lunch.

- If your child forgets to bring your lunch, a lunch will be provided by the office at the same cost of a hot lunch.
- If your student is absent and has ordered hot lunch, you will have the option to come and pick up the hot lunch during their scheduled lunch period, no refunds will be given.

- Every student is required to eat lunch.
- If a parent is bringing a lunch it must be in the lobby by 11:30 for grades K-4 and 11:55 for grades 5-8.
- Students will not be allowed to wait for lunches in the lobby.
- For security reasons, if the lunch is not in the lobby when the class leaves, the parents will need to check in at the office to get a visitor's pass and bring the lunch to the cafeteria.
- Parents may eat with their children but must first check in with the office.
- If a child is in detention parents may not eat with their child.
- If you wish to provide lunch for your child's class, the office must be notified at least one week in advance.

PRIVATE PARTIES

Should parents plan a party for their child away from school, invitations distributed at school must be given to each child in the class, or to all boys or all girls.

CLASSROOM PARTIES

Birthday Treats

Parents may bring treats for their child's class on their birthday. They should contact the teacher a week in advance to make arrangements. Please contact the office to verify that the students in the class do not have any known food allergies. In order to maximize instructional time treats will be passed out at lunch. It is the parent's and/or child's responsibility to distribute the treats. If this is not possible the child may pass out treats at dismissal.

Classroom Parties:

Classes will have parties for the following special occasions:

Grades K-3	Grades 4-8
Christmas	Christmas
St. Valentine	End of Year
End of Year	

VIII. DISCIPLINE

To ensure the cooperation and order required for an atmosphere of learning, the school has established certain rules and regulations. Consequences for not following these rules and regulations also exist. Refusal to obey any level of authority refers the problem to a higher level of administrative discipline.

The administration of Saint Francis will be utilizing a disciplinary matrix as a guideline in all disciplinary situations. The administration of Saint Francis may waive and/or deviate from any and all disciplinary rules for just cause at his/her discretion.

COMMUNICATION

If a parent has a problem with what is going on in the classroom, they must first speak to the classroom teacher. If the problem is not resolved then they may set up a meeting with the principal and the teacher. If the problem is still not resolved then a meeting will be set up with the pastor, principal and the teacher.

CONDUCT

A student who engages in conduct whether inside or outside the school, that is detrimental to the reputation of the school, may be disciplined by the school officials. This could include, but is not limited to not being allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

DISCIPLINE

St. Francis' discipline is a pro-active developmental approach designed to teach students skills that will enable students to become self-disciplined. The discipline program will allow our students to be motivated intrinsically (feel good for doing the right thing) as opposed to extrinsically (expecting a reward or recognition for doing the right thing.)

The following school behavioral expectations have been established at Saint Francis School. Each classroom will have the school rules and charts describing what the rule looks like/sounds like and what the rule does not look/sound like posted.

The big three rules are:

- Rule #1 Respect Yourself, Others and Things**

- Rule #2 Contribute to the Learning Environment**

- Rule #3 Follow School and Classroom Procedures**

Each teacher will communicate expectations to his/her class and visually display behaviors in his/her classroom. These are listed as the class rules. Teachers will also communicate their discipline cycle which identifies the consequences for each offense, to parents/guardians and students.

Teachers have the right to teach and students to learn. Disruption of the learning process will not be tolerated. Violation of the Big Three will result in the student being sent immediately to

the principal. The principal and teacher will judge severe disruption. Consequences for severe disruption will be a conference with the principal; parent/guardians will be notified in writing or by phone; and suspension for half day, whole day or longer; and/or possible recommendation for expulsion.

The big three behaviors include:

#1 Physical/Psychological Danger

- Fighting, rough play and/or throwing objects that could harm self, others or property.
- Bringing dangerous or illegal items such as weapon, knives, matches, lighters, smoking materials, drugs, etc. to any area of the school/parish property.
- Physical or psychological threats, intimidation, force or injury.
- Leaving the grounds without permission.
- Sexual assault or attempted sexual assault.
- Using normal objects in a dangerous way.

#2 Severe Disrespect/Abuse in Tone, Gesture, or Word

- Harassment of any kind. Any unwanted behavior that makes others feel unsafe or uncomfortable.
- Intimidation/bullying
- Disrespect in action, tone or gesture.
- Profanity/abusive language
- Continue to eat candy/chew gum.
- Continual notice of incomplete assignments.
- Cheating or copying – forging any signatures.
- Vandalism – damaging, destroying or stealing school, parish, faculty, or student property.

#3 Out of Control Behavior/Unreasonable

- Willful misbehavior toward a teacher, school personnel or volunteer.
- Unwilling to listen or follow instructions
- Repeated violations of classroom rules.

Playground

Behavior Rules (Expectations of students at recess)

- Follow directions of teachers and supervisors
- Include all students who want to play
- Use equipment properly
- Keep hands, feet and objects to self except as the game designates
- Use appropriate language and actions

DETENTION

Detention is held every day during lunch time. This is a supervised detention where students eat their lunch and work on assignments given by their teacher. Students will serve detention at the first possible lunch detention. Individual classroom teachers will determine the method of communication of infractions and detention days to parents through Jupiter grades or email. If a student earns three detentions in a week they are required to attend one hour of Saturday detention. If a student earns four detentions in a week they are required to serve two hours of Saturday detention. **Parents are not allowed to be in the detention area for any reason.**

SATURDAY DETENTION

Saturday detention is used when lunch detention is not effective or in cases that are deemed necessary by the administration. If a student **earns** three detentions in a week they are required to attend one hour of Saturday detention. If a student **earns** four detentions in a week they are required to serve two hours of Saturday detention.

Saturday detentions will be held on the last Saturday of the month according to the school calendar. Saturday detention is \$10 per hour, payable at the time of detention. Students will meet for Mass at 8 am, in the church. Detention begins immediately after Mass. The student must report in PE uniform.

SUSPENSION

- Suspension refers to the isolation of students from some or all school activities.
- Suspension shall be imposed in accordance with rules established by the school. It is a drastic consequence that should be used rarely and only in response to an action of a very serious nature or after other remedial measures have been employed without success. Suspension will be implemented by the principal.
- The student may be required to attend school, but be separated from classmates (inschool suspension).
- Whether in-school or out-of-school, suspension will not exceed five (5) school days, except in extraordinary circumstances. Suspension includes extracurricular activities. Repeated suspension of the same student warrants the need for alternative action.
- Reasonable efforts to notify parents/guardian are to be made prior to any suspension. However, in situations in which immediate suspension is warranted, parents/guardian are to be notified as soon as is practical under 2 - 20 Students the circumstances. Suspended students will only be released to parent/guardian.
- Parents/guardian are to be informed of the reasons and decision for the suspension.
- A conference must be held with the parents/guardian before the student returns to the classroom.
- A written record of the suspension, including date, reasons, and conference(s) with parents/guardian, shall be kept on file in the cumulative record.
- The suspended student is held responsible for schoolwork missed during the time of suspension.

HARASSMENT POLICIES

Saint Francis Catholic School prohibits harassment of employees by other employees, superiors, students or parents. Harassment is unacceptable conduct and will not be tolerated. All supervisors, employees, students and parents should exercise due care to see that the school is free from all forms of harassment. Harassment is prohibited by law.

For purposes of this policy, the term “harassment” consists of knowingly pursuing a pattern of conduct, which serves no lawful purpose, with the intention to annoy, seriously alarm or terrorize another person causing them to suffer substantial emotional distress.

Sexual Harassment as defined below is prohibited.

Sexual harassment is defined as “unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature” when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student’s evaluation; or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as a basis for decisions affecting such student; or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a student’s academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic environment

Harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability is also prohibited. Harassment would include verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward a student because of his/her race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability, or that of his/her relatives, friends, or associates, and that:

- Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic environment; or
- Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student’s academic performance; or
- Otherwise adversely affects a student’s academic opportunities

Cyber-bullying involves the use of information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others is also prohibited.

A situation when a child, between or teen is repeatedly “tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or otherwise targeted” by another child, between or teen using text messaging, email, instant messaging or any other type of digital technology. This type of behavior will not under any circumstances be tolerated.

St Francis Catholic School cannot take corrective measures to remedy the situations of harassment or bullying unless it has been informed of such an event. Any student of Saint Francis Catholic School who believes that he or she has been or is a victim of harassment or bullying, should immediately report the matter to the principal. Each complaint will be fully

examined individually. At its sole discretion, Saint Francis School may take interim actions (e.g., separating students and/or employees, suspending the accused, etc.) pending a full investigation and resolution.

Any student or employee who has been found after investigation, to have engaged in behavior that Saint Francis Catholic School deems inappropriate or in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, documentation will be kept and may result in immediate suspension, expulsion or termination.

Students who see an act of bullying, and who then encourage it, are themselves engaging in bullying. Students who passively witness an act of bullying and who do not report it have fallen short, at least in some measure, in their responsibility to help maintain a safe and secure school environment for themselves, and for other students.

School staff who witness an act of bullying and who do not intervene to prevent it, either directly or by calling for help, have fallen short in their responsibility to help maintain a safe and secure school environment for themselves, and other students.

IX. HEALTH AND SAFETY

A. CLOSED CAMPUS

Our priority is for the safety and general well-being of each child and adult at St. Francis Catholic School.

St Francis Catholic School is a closed campus. All comings and goings are regulated and recorded. Students are not allowed to leave the school premises during school hours unless they are signed out by a parent/guardian in the school office. This policy applies when a student remains at school on campus for school sponsored activity or attending an off campus activity.

Upon arrival, all visitors must check in at the front office to obtain a pass. Visitors must check out at the office when leaving campus. Anyone without a pass will be asked to go to the office, check in and get a pass.

B. DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

Drop Off Procedures

- Students in grades 1-8 arriving between 7:30 AM and 8:00 PM should be dropped off in the south church parking lot.
- Cars will enter through 6th Avenue and exit onto 19th Street.
- If you need to park, park vehicles on the “designated” parking spots on the west side of the church parking lot. Students must use the sidewalk to enter the playground.
- Parents with Kindergarten students and their siblings may be dropped off in the parking lot on the west side of the school near the kindergarten classroom. If parents are walking their child to the classroom they must park in a regular parking space.
- Students arriving before 7:30 am are to wait quietly in the lobby until released to the playground.
- Any student arriving after 8:00 must be dropped off in front of school. K-2 grade students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian into the school.
- Students who are dropped off in front of the school should be dropped at the curb closest to the school.
- **Do not drop students off on the north side of 18th Street.**
- **THE AREA DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL IS A RED ZONE AND VEHICLES SHOULD NOT PARK THERE.**

Pick Up Procedures

- Kindergarten students should be picked up in their classroom.
- Kindergarten students with older siblings will be picked up at the south parking lot.
- Cars will enter through 6th Ave. and exit onto 19th Street
- Families whose last name begin with A-K will be in line A (closest to the school), those whose last names begin with L-Z will be in line B (near 19th Street).
- Vehicles will form four rows of cars facing west.
- Students must be picked up from the pick-up area and may not be picked up from 17th Street or the west parking lot near the kindergarten class.
- **IF THE VEHICLES ARE MOVING THE STUDENTS ARE NOT. IF THE STUDENTS ARE MOVING THE VEHICLES ARE NOT.**
- PARENTS/GUARDIANS ARE TO STAY IN THEIR VEHICLES.
- The line that is loaded first will move first
- Homework club students will walk out with their class and will remain in a designated area and will be escorted back to the building when the staff returns to the school building.
- Staff members are visible to prevent accidents and to help with a quick and smooth pick up. Please be courteous when following our staff’s safety directions.
- **Please follow all pick-up and drop-off procedures for the safety of our children.**

C. INJURY OR ILLNESS

All students who become ill during the day will be sent to the office. If the student has a fever, parents will be called and the student will be sent home. They may not return until the following day. If no fever is present, the child may be sent back to class. Please do not send your child to school if they are running a fever. When students are ill, only the office staff will call parents. Students are not allowed to call from the classroom nor will the classroom teacher call.

D. MEDICATIONS

To ensure that medications are properly administered, the following guidelines will be followed:

A "Medication Authorization Form" must be signed and updated annually by both the student's primary health care provider and parent/guardian in order for medication to be administered at school.

A parent/guardian must provide the school with **pharmacy-labeled containers** that hold the appropriate medication.

- The "Medication Authorization Form" applies to both prescription and nonprescription medications.
- No student is to have possession of medication; this includes cough drops.
- No more than one month supply of medication may be kept for any student who receives medication on a regular basis.
- The administration of any injectable medication at school will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the principal and the parents.
- At the end of year, we will dispose of any unused medications.

E. IMMUNIZATIONS

Saint Francis Catholic School shall comply with (ARS 15-871 - 874) and Arizona Administrative Code, Title 9, Article 7 regarding immunization which states that no child may attend school unless such child can present to the school a valid certification of immunization. Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to attend class unless the school has valid certification.

F. STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Each year student accident insurance is offered to parent/guardians. Applications are available at the school office. This accident insurance is optional.

G. CONFIDENTIALITY

(FERPA) Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, commonly refer to as FERPA or the Buckley Amendment, is a Federal Law designed to protect the privacy of a student's educational record. FERPA applies to all educational agencies or institutions that receive federal funding for any program administered by the Secretary of Education.

CUSTODY

Saint Francis Catholic School abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of noncustodial parents. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, the school will provide the non-custodial parent access to academic records and other school information regarding the child. If there is a court order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the custodial parent's responsibility to provide the school with a court-certified copy of the court order. Persons listed on the Emergency Form as custodial parents/guardian will have access unless the school has documentation to the contrary.

H. USE OF STUDENT INFORMATION/PICTURES

All parents are asked to sign a consent form for their child's pictures to be used during the school year for promotional purposes or for articles given to the news media. If consent isn't given, the child's pictures will not be used.

I. SEARCHES

The principal, pastor, or a representative of the Department of Catholic Schools may conduct a search of the school plant and every aperture thereof, including lockers and desks. School searches must be based on a reasonable suspicion that a school rule has been broken and related to insuring a safe school environment.

A student assigned to a locker or desk has use of, but not proprietary right to the locker or desk. Schools can search personal property if the search is (1) justified at its inception, i.e., reasonable belief that the student has broken a school rule, and (2) the search is reasonable in scope. The search is made in the presence of at least two school officials. (Diocesan Policy, #2270)

Saint Francis Catholic School reserves the right to conduct searches in compliance with this policy. Students should not bring valuables to school. **The school is not responsible for lost or missing articles.**

J. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT

Per ARS 13-3620 and the Diocesan Policy 5130 requires the reporting of suspected child abuse and/or neglect is mandated by law. Diocesan Policy requires reporting to both Department of Child Safety and the local police.

K. UPDATING INFORMATION

To help the school provide a safe environment for the students, the parents/guardians must communicate vital information to the school. If for any reason information changes, parents/guardians must communicate these changes to the school office as soon as possible.

This vital information includes:

1. Address
2. Phone number
3. Emergency numbers
4. Email Address
5. Person to whom the school can release the student
6. Medications taken, allergies, limiting physical conditions, etc.

X. UNIFORMS AND DRESS CODE

Student Dress Code

Saint Francis Catholic School believes that standards of dress are necessary and there is a relationship between dress, grooming, behavior and performance. Uniforms are required and students must be in complete uniform from the time they enter the school grounds until they are picked up at the end of the school day. Uniforms will be checked periodically for length, belts, and tears. Uniforms should be clean, pressed, appropriate in size and length, and labeled with the student's name. Students will receive detention for uniform violation and parents/guardians will be notified.

Girls and boys uniforms should be purchased from:

- Dennis Uniform online or in Phoenix or San Diego
- Desy's Alterations and School Uniforms located at 1406 S. 4th Ave (783-1880)
- Mothers and Daughters located at 2553 E. 24th Street (783-6008).

All uniforms must have the Saint Francis Catholic School logo on them. This includes polo shirts, dress shirts, P.E. uniforms (tops and bottoms), and vests.

PE Uniforms

- Worn on Mondays and Wednesdays
- Green school T-shirt worn tucked in
- Navy blue shorts (boys in grades 6-8 may wear regular uniform shorts for PE)
- Tennis shoes
- Solid black or white socks
- Navy blue sweats (**no nylon sweats, tight fitting or yoga pants**) may be worn over the PE uniform during **November 15th - March 15.**

Girls Daily Uniform Grades K-3

- Worn on Tuesday and Thursday
- White pinpoint button down oxford blouse or white or blue polo shirt, all with school logo (long or short sleeve), tucked in, and buttoned
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts **may not** be worn under blouses
- Navy blue cardigan sweater with logo
- Sweatshirt – only the official crew neck sweatshirt with logo may be worn in classroom (**No hooded sweatshirts**)
- Jumper, plaid or navy walking shorts, or skorts (**No skirts**)
- Navy blue dress slacks with a belt (K-1 grade girls do not have to wear a belt)
- The skort or shorts cannot be more than 3 inches from the floor when kneeling
- Shoes must have no more than a 1 inch sole or heel
- No sandals, open toe, backless shoes or boots; laced shoes must be tied
- Solid black or white socks or white tights

Girls Dress Uniform Grades K-3

- Worn on Mass days and other specified dates
- White pinpoint button down oxford blouse, all with school logo (long or short sleeve), and buttoned
- Plaid or navy crisscross tie
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts **may not be** worn under blouses
- Navy blue cardigan sweater with logo (No sweatshirts may be worn)
- Jumpers cannot be more than 3 inches from the floor when kneeling (Shorts must be worn under jumpers)
- Solid white knee socks or white tights
- Dress shoes in **black, dark brown, or navy blue**
- Shoes must have no more than a 1 inch sole or heel
- No sandals, open toe, backless shoes or boots

Girls Daily Uniform Grades 4-8

- Worn on Tuesday and Thursday

- White pinpoint button down oxford blouse or white or blue polo shirt, all with school logo (long or short sleeve), tucked in, and buttoned
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts **may not** be worn under blouses
- Navy blue cardigan sweater with logo
- Sweatshirt – only the official crew neck sweatshirt with logo may be worn in classroom **(No hooded sweatshirts)**
- Skirts (no walking shorts or skorts) cannot be more than 3 inches from floor when kneeling (Shorts must be worn under skirts)
- Navy blue dress slacks with a belt (No low-rise or skinny pants)
- Shoes must have no more than a 1 inch sole or heel
- No sandals, open toe, backless shoes or boots; laced shoes must be tied
- Solid black or white socks or white tights

Girls Dress Uniform Grades 4-8

- Worn on Mass days and other specified dates
- White pinpoint button down oxford blouse, all with school logo (long or short sleeve), and buttoned
- Plaid or navy crisscross tie
- Green vest with logo, mandatory **November 15th– March 15th**
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts may **not be** worn under blouses
- Navy blue cardigan sweater with logo (No sweatshirts may be worn)
- Skirt cannot be more than 3 inches from the floor when kneeling (Shorts must be worn under skirts)
- Solid white knee socks or white tights
- Dress shoes in **black, dark brown, or navy blue**
- Shoes must have no more than a 1 inch sole or heel
- No sandals, open toe, backless shoes or boots

Boys Daily Uniform Grades K-8

- Worn on Tuesday and Thursday
- White pinpoint button down oxford shirt or white or blue polo shirt, all with school logo (long or short sleeve), tucked in, and buttoned
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts **may not** be worn under shirts
- Navy blue cardigan sweater with logo
- Sweatshirt – only the official crew neck sweatshirt with logo may be worn in classroom **(No hooded sweatshirts)**
- Navy blue twill trousers or walking shorts (No jeans, cargo pants, or cargo shorts)
- Shorts must be worn at the waist, fit properly, and fall at the kneecap

- Solid black, brown, or navy blue belt (K-1 boys do not need a belt)
- Belts must be visible with no large buckles
- Solid black or white socks
- Shoes must have no more than a 1 inch sole or heel
- No sandals, open toe, backless shoes or boots; laced shoes must be tied

Boys Dress Uniform Grades K-8

- White pinpoint button down oxford shirt or white or blue polo shirt, all with school logo (long or short sleeve), tucked in, and buttoned at the wrist
- Solid navy blue tie
- Navy blue vest with logo, mandatory **November 15th– March 15th**
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts **may not** be worn under shirts
- Navy blue cardigan sweater with logo
- Navy blue twill trousers (No jeans, cargo, or skinny pants)
- Solid black, brown, or navy blue belt (K-1 boys do not need a belt)
- Belts must be visible with no large buckles
- Solid black, brown, or navy blue dress socks
- Shoes must have no more than a 1 inch sole or heel
- No sandals, open toe, backless shoes or boots; laced shoes must be tied

Dress and Uniform Guidelines for Girls and Boys

- Plain white undergarments under uniform shirts and blouses only
- Boys' hair should be clean, trimmed above the ears and shirt collar, and out of the eyes (No razor designs)
- Girls' hair should be clean and out of the eyes
- Hair coloring must appear natural
- Students should be clean
- Writing on body is not permitted
- No cosmetics, colored lip gloss, colored nail polish or artificial nails may be worn
- 7th and 8th grade girls may wear makeup on specified days only, it must be natural looking
- **Girls** may wear one pair of earrings (No larger than one inch in dimension)
- **Boys** may not wear earrings
- No jewelry may be worn during PE
- No bracelets
- Appropriate jewelry includes a watch, a religious medal or necklace on a small chain or cord
- Jewelry that is distracting to student or class will be addressed by the teacher
- St. Francis Catholic School is not liable for lost, stolen, or damaged jewelry

- Hats or sunglasses may not be worn inside the school building

Spirit/Free Dress Days

Spirit/free dress is only worn on designated days. Violation of these guidelines will result in a detention.

- Appropriately fitting jeans for boys or girls
- Boys and girls may wear walking shorts not more than 3 inches above knee
- All shirts must contain appropriate images and slogans
- Boys must have sleeves on their shirts
- Girls may not wear spaghetti straps, racerback, tank tops, or low cut tops
- Dresses or skirts no more than 3 inches above the knee

In order for your child to participate in the designated spirit days, the fees must be paid by the due date. If your child comes in free dress on the designated date without paying by the due date will result in detention.

XI. GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. COMMUNICATION

Communication from school goes out on Wednesdays via the “Brown Envelope” link located on the homepage of the Saint Francis School website. It is the responsibility of the parents to read the weekly electronic brown envelope to stay current of school information. Parents should correspond via email to teachers or office staff.

B. CELL PHONES

Cell phones and electronic devices are not allowed to be used at school. At the beginning of the day these devices must be powered off and turned into the teacher and will be returned at the end of the day. Phones are available in the classrooms to use at the teacher’s discretion. The office phone is available for after school activities. If a student is caught with a phone or if it rings in their backpack during class time, it will be confiscated, turned into the office, and fined. At the end of the day, cell phones are to remain in backpacks until students are picked up by parents.

- **First offense:** Parents must retrieve cell phone at the office and pay a fine of \$10.00.
- **Second offense:** Parents must retrieve cell phone and student will serve 2 hours of Saturday detention at a cost of \$10 per hour.
- **Third offense:** Parents must retrieve cell phone and the student will serve 4 hours of Saturday detention at a cost of \$10 per hour.

- **Fourth offense:** Parents and students will conference with administration to discuss problem and solution.

Saint Francis Catholic School will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged electronic devices.

C. HANDBOOK REGULATIONS

By registering your child at Saint Francis Catholic School, you agree to abide by the Parent and Student Handbook in its entirety. Parents/guardians are required to sign a form indicating they have read and understood its contents. The principal is the final recourse and reserves the right to amend the handbook. Parents/guardians will be given prompt notice of any Handbook changes.

D. TITLE IX COMPLIANCE

Saint Francis Catholic School is in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to the extent that no person shall, on the basis of gender, race or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, not be subject to discrimination under any educational programs or activities, nor shall there be discrimination by gender, race, or national origin in the employment of personnel.

E. AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 provide parents/guardians access to the educational files of their children. St. Francis Catholic School procedures/guidelines for release of records are as follows:

1. Parents/guardians can request to see their children's records at any time, with a school official present, provided the school is given reasonable advance notice, so as to make the records readily available;
2. The written consent of parents/guardians is required for the school to release student records to another institution or party;
3. Parents have a right to a hearing in order to correct or remove inaccurate, misleading or inappropriate data from the files of their children;
4. Students who are 18 years of age have the same rights as parents regarding the Privacy Act of 1974.

F. COMPUTER AND INFORMATION RESOURCE AGREEMENT

All students enrolled in Saint Francis Catholic School and their parents/guardians are required to sign the *Computer and Information Resource Agreement* policy. Failure to sign this policy, by either student or parent/guardian, will result in the student not being allowed use of the computer network or internet at school.

XII. PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

A. SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Saint Francis School Advisor Commission is an advisory board composed of the principal, clergy of Saint Francis Parish, and appointed representatives from the school and parish community. To be a member of the commission one must have children in the school, are alumni of the school, or are parishioners with a devoted interest toward the continuing growth of the school.

B. HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Home and School Association is an organization through which parents/guardians can exercise their roles as partners with the school in the education of their children. Every family is a member of the Home and School Association. The Home and School Association consists of six elected parents to serve as St. Francis School officers. At Home and School meetings parents/guardians become more informed about various areas of education involving their children.

Home and School assists Saint Francis Catholic School through service functions such as classroom, library or office help, room-parents, playground supervision, health screening, special lunches, school picnics, preparation for special receptions and celebrations, school maintenance, PE activities, etc.

Home and School is a great financial help to the school. The major fundraising activities are the Annual Fall Barbecue, Benefit for Children Dinner/Dance, and Annual Walk-A-Thon. Each family's participation is important for the successful operation of Saint Francis Catholic School.

Required dues for each family at the commencement of the school year will be for:

- 10 tickets for the Annual Fall BBQ
- One couples ticket to the Benefit for the Children Dinner/Dance

In addition to the annual fall BBQ and dinner dance, you will be required to make or collect a minimum pledge of \$10 per child for the Walk-a-thon. All Home and School fees are due by September 1st and are non-refundable.

C. DADS' CLUB

Dads' Club is an organization in which the fathers, grandfathers, uncles and friends of our students exercise their role as partners with the school in the education of their children. Women may also attend meetings and be involved. Every family is a member of the Dads' Club. The Dads' Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. They have elected officers that serve for two years.

The Dads' Club is a great benefit to the school, not only through the presence of dads at school functions, but in raising money and working to make improvements to the school grounds.

Each family is required to help with one fundraiser. Their fundraisers include but are not limited to a golf tournament.