

St. Anne Catholic School

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

2011-2012

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MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anne Catholic School provides a quality Catholic education and develops responsible, Christian, young adults with an emphasis on moral and religious values of

FAITH, COMMUNITY, AND SERVICE.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

We believe that man is created for eternal life with God and that he should seek this goal. For this reason St. Anne Catholic School is totally committed to quality Catholic education.

Our school is dedicated to promoting spiritual and moral growth, intellectual excellence, physical fitness, cultural appreciation, and a willingness to serve others. Parents and faculty members have an obligation to encourage our students to deal critically with reality and to make decisions with Christian freedom. Through example, we hope to awaken in students a capacity for creativity, responsibility, commitment, and prayer.

St. Anne Catholic School Colors: Blue and Gold

Mascot: Wildcat

School Song: St. Anne School,
we will be serving in community.

Chorus Led by faith, we will hold high your light,
Blue and Gold

Day by day, may we show love of Christ
to all we know

Chorus Led by faith, we will hold high your light,
Blue and Gold

COMMUNITY OF TRADITION

St. Anne School was founded in 1937 as the parish school for St. Anne Catholic Church. Reverend E. A. Holub was the founding pastor and the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur originally staffed the school. Today, St. Anne School continues to fulfill its mission of providing a quality Catholic education rooted in moral and religious values and fostered by commitment and service.

St. Anne offers the traditional ten years of schooling associated with a Catholic elementary school—pre-kindergarten through grade eight. The campus reflects a blending of the old and new. The original and new buildings are designed in the graceful architectural style of the Franciscan missions.

Students attend weekly Mass in the original church building and participate annually in the May Crowning of Mary. The annual Halloween Carnival is an ever-popular event for the school and community.

THE ROLE OF THE BISHOP

The Second Vatican Council redefined the role of the bishops in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church and the Decree on the Bishop's Pastoral Office in the Church. Both documents clarify the Bishops' roles as a true and authentic teacher of the faith. In this function as teacher, the Most Reverend Bishop is the director of the Catholic schools in the Diocese.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Superintendent provides overall leadership, direction, and support to those engaged in the ministry of Catholic school education through consultation and cooperation with the Office of the Administration, through the identification of strengths and needs of Catholic schools, and through the development of programs and services to foster quality and excellent Catholic education.

The Superintendent is responsible for the formation, promulgation, and interpretation of policies pertaining to the operation of Catholic schools and overseeing school/parish compliance with established policies including compliance with federal, state, and local regulations applying to nonpublic schools.

ACCREDITATION

In accordance with the decision of the Roman Catholic Bishops of the State of Texas, our school is recognized by our Bishop as a Catholic school accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department (TCCED).

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

This act gives parents, custodial and non-custodial, and students the right to access the student's records. Records will not be released to third parties without parental knowledge or consent.

The principal may amend this handbook for just cause at any time.

Code of Ethics

The St. Anne student:

- **is trustworthy and seeks justice.**
- **respects all of God's creations.**
- **acts responsibly, having the courage to choose to make the right choices even when those choices are not popular.**
- **accepts the challenge to reach his or her potential physically, spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually.**
- **is generous with his or her time, talent, and resources, understanding that our call is to serve others.**

In a word, the St. Anne student is a true follower of Christ. Our mission is to serve others, using generously our time, talents, and resources for building God's kingdom.

THE STUDENT

Responsibilities of the Student

1. Show respect to all school personnel, visitors, parents, and students.
2. Be reverent in all religious activities.
3. Cooperate with all school authorities in all school regulations.
4. Develop self-control and, in so, help in the discipline of the school.
5. Arrive at school well-groomed and properly dressed in uniform.
6. Respect the property and reputation of others.
7. Cooperate in school and class enterprises.
8. Attend school prepared, punctually, and with all necessary supplies and assignments.

THE PARENTS

Parents have the God-given natural right to educate their children. "The family therefore holds directly from the Creator the mission, and hence the right, to educate their offspring..."

(Encyclical: *The Christian Education of Youth*)

Responsibilities of Parents

1. Provide a Christian home.

2. Get assistance from the Catholic school in establishing the religious and moral training of children.

3. Encourage regular attendance, and send the children on time each morning.

4. Instill politeness and respect for priests, teachers, school employees, and students.

Under normal circumstances, a student will not be deprived of a Catholic education at St. Anne Catholic School on grounds relating to the attitude or behavior of parent(s) or guardian(s). Nevertheless, it is recognized that a situation could arise in which the uncooperative and/or disruptive attitude or behavior of a parent/guardian might so diminish the effectiveness of the school in acting in its capacity of *in loco parentis* (in place of the parent) that the continuation of the student's enrollment could be deemed untenable. In such a situation, at the discretion of the principal, the student may lose the privilege of attending St. Anne Catholic School.

5. Set a definite time and place for home studies.
6. Uphold the policies and procedures of the school.
7. Participate in school activities by attending school-sponsored events and by providing service hours to support school events.
8. Confer at times with the teacher on the status and progress of the child.

Parents have chosen to enter into a partnership with St. Anne Catholic School who trusts that parents will be loyal to this commitment. During these formative years (Pre-K--8) students need constant support from both parents and faculty in order to develop moral, intellectual, social, cultural, and physical endowment.

Neither parents nor teachers can afford to doubt the sincerity of the efforts of their educational partners in the quest of challenging, yet nourishing, the student to reach his/her potential. It is vital that both parents and teachers remember that allowing oneself to be caught between the student and the other partner will never have positive results. To divide authority between school and home or within the home will only teach disrespect for all authority. Evidence of mutual respect between parents and

teachers will model good mature behavior and relationships.

Students are naturally eager to grow and learn. However, sometimes in the process of maturation new interests and peer pressure may cause them to lose focus. As this natural process occurs, the student needs both understanding and discipline. At times your child may perceive discipline as restrictive. However, it is boundaries and limits which provide a young person with both guidance and security.

RESPECT AND RECONCILIATION

All parties involved in the community of St. Anne Catholic School should make every effort to solve problems with open minds and hearts. We must remember that our students are always looking to us as role models. Our parents should be powerful supporters of the school community in every situation. With this in mind, it is of the utmost importance that all stakeholders work cooperatively to fulfill the mission of St. Anne Catholic School.

Research indicates that a strong link between school and home is considered to be the greatest single predictor of student success. Excellent schools are characterized by a positive climate and respectful relationships and strong home-school links.

ST. ANNE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY RECONCILIATION BOARD

In the ongoing effort to respond to the needs of the St. Anne Catholic School community, a Reconciliation Board MAY be formed to hear the concerns of its members. The process being implemented is modeled after the teachings of Jesus where in St. Matthew 18:15-17, He speaks to this issue:

“If your brother sins [against you], go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that every fact may be established on the

testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.”

Based on this teaching, the steps for reconciliation will be as follows:

INITIALLY:

The individual(s) presenting the issue shall meet with the person who is the subject of the complaint and discuss the issue(s). If the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome of the conference, the process will proceed to *Level One*.

LEVEL ONE

If the individual(s) presenting the issue is not satisfied with the outcome of the conference initially, the person bringing the complaint, as well as the one to whom the complaint is addressed, shall present their understanding of the situation in writing to the principal within five working days from the initial meeting.

LEVEL TWO

The principal, after reviewing the written statements, will meet together with the parties involved within three days after receiving the grievance to seek a solution.

LEVEL THREE

When the outcome of the conference at *Level Two* does not accomplish a resolution, either party may request a conference with the Reconciliation Committee within five days following the meeting with the principal. The written request to meet with the Reconciliation Committee should be sent to the pastor of St. Anne Church. A written grievance should accompany the request.

LEVEL FOUR

If an equitable solution is not achieved with the Reconciliation Committee, the individual(s) may request a conference with the pastor of St. Anne Church in an effort to achieve resolution and present his grievance in writing.

I. ADMISSION POLICIES

Non-Discrimination [Diocesan Policy]

Schools in the Diocese of Beaumont do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or national origin in accepting applications of school personnel and students. Annually at registration time, the Office of Catholic Schools will publish in the East Texas Catholic a non-discrimination statement for admission of students.

All students entering school must turn 4, 5 or 6 for pre-k, kindergarten, and 1st grade (respectively) on or before September 1.

ORDER OF ACCEPTANCE

1. Siblings of Catholic and non-Catholic students who are currently enrolled and children of teachers.
2. Any Catholic children not currently enrolled.
3. Non-Catholic students.

PROCESS OF ACCEPTANCE

Admission of New Students [Diocesan Policy] From out-of-state

Children seeking admission to Pre-K, K or grade 1 who are under age according to admission requirements, may not be admitted to the respective grade unless:

- The student has moved from a state where the age requirement differs from that listed above.
- The student has successfully completed the respective grade in that out-of-state Catholic or accredited school.

Admission of New Students

All students are put on a waiting list or probation until the academic records from the previous school have been requested and received by the principal. Academic records brought by the registering students are not acceptable. Original birth or baptismal certificates must be seen. Notation is made on the school registration form and the certificate(s) given back to the parent.

Upon receipt of the cumulative records and results of a recent standardized test, the principal makes a decision regarding the acceptance and

grade placement of the new student for a trial period of 4 to 6 weeks. Parents are informed of this arrangement which should also be noted in the local school handbook for parents. No later than the fourth week that the new student is in school, the principal and the teacher discuss the progress of the student. If performance indicates that a change of grade would be beneficial for the student, the parents must be called in for a conference to explain reasons for a grade change. A change of grade after six weeks is extraordinary.

The principal is the person responsible to see that only students with proper credentials are admitted.

SPECIAL NEEDS, DIOCESAN VISION STATEMENT

The Diocese of Beaumont promotes a model of inclusion for children with mild learning disabilities/differences in our schools. We believe that children with mild learning differences can be successful within the regular classroom setting when strategic teaching methods are utilized and appropriate planning are implemented. This philosophy is based on the understanding that parents are active partners with the school and play a critical role in their child's success.

Unlike the public school system, Catholic schools do not receive state and federal monies to fund special education programs. Therefore, we do not write or accept Individualized Education Plans as public schools are mandated to do. A plan may be written at each school for those students who are experiencing learning or behavioral differences. Each school will designate the proper personnel to collaborate on this plan with the parents. The plan's content is dependent on each school's ability to make **reasonable** accommodations to assist a student or to provide personnel who may participate in the plan.

Parents are expected to provide copies of all assessment information to schools in order that an appropriate student intervention plan can be written. If an assessment has not taken place, the school may require that an assessment is necessary to determine the student's strengths and weaknesses. This assessment can be done by a local ISD at no charge to the parents. Contact your administrator

for information.

In some cases it may become evident the severity of the learning or behavioral disability/difference exceeds the level of accommodations the school may be able to offer the student. The question of what will best benefit the student's success may indicate that a different educational placement is necessary. This decision will be based on knowledge of the resources of the school and the severity of the problem. In all cases, the decision will be based on Christian compassion.

Students in all schools in Diocese of Beaumont are on probation until all school and immunization records have been received.

II. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Registration fees must be paid in the spring at the time of registration for the following year or at the time a new student is registered. Such fees are non-refundable. Registration for next school year will not be complete until the tuition and fees for the current year are paid.

FACTS Tuition Management Service handles all tuition payments. Tuition is payable from July through April only by bank draft. Parents may make a one-time lump-sum payment by July 1.

Families who need financial assistance will make application directly to the school. Please contact the office during registration to request the forms. The school will then notify you of your amount of assistance.

Tuition and Fees: Available from office.

Insurance Policy: A secondary insurance policy is carried on all students.

III. RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Daily prayer and instruction in the Catholic faith will be provided for all students. Parents should keep in mind that they are the primary religious educators of their children.

Daily instruction in the teachings and beliefs of the Catholic faith is an integral part of our school curriculum. All teachers of religion are certified to teach or are working toward certification according

to the Diocese of Beaumont Office of Religious Education.

Classes attend Mass on a weekly basis at St. Anne Catholic Church. The Masses are at 8:15 a.m. and are on the following days:

Wednesday	K, 7 th & 8 th
Thursday	2 nd , 3 rd , and 4 th
Friday	1 st , 5 th & 6 th , pre-k (PK beginning in February)

All-School Masses are scheduled throughout the school year and are usually held at 9:30 a.m. Other special religious activities include a Living Rosary, Reconciliation Services, Blessing of the Pets, Stations of the Cross, and May Crowning.

Please refrain from the use of flash photography during Masses. Children may pose for pictures after the Mass.

IV. ACADEMIC POLICIES

GRADING SCALES FOR REPORTING PURPOSES

Pre-K Reporting System

√+	Consistently performs well above expectations
√	Doing very well and making satisfactory progress
√-	Needs to improve skills; progress lacking or inconsistent
NA	Not measured at this time

Kindergarten Grading

At the end of the first 9 weeks, progress of kindergarten students is discussed at parent-teacher conferences. Beginning with the second 9 weeks, the grading scale is as follows:

E	Exceeds Expectations
S+	Proficient
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement
U	Unsatisfactory

First Grade Grading System

A - F	E,S,N,U
Reading/Phonics	Religion
Math	Handwriting

Spelling	Conduct/Work Habits
	Science
	Social Studies

Second Grade Grading System

<i>A - F</i>	<i>E,S,N,U</i>
Reading/Phonics	Conduct
Math	Handwriting
Science	Religion
Social Studies	
Spelling/Language Arts	

Third Grade Grading System

<i>A - F</i>	<i>E,S,N,U</i>
Reading	Handwriting
Spelling	Religion
English	
Math	
Science	
Social Studies	
Conduct	

***Grading Scale 1st – 8th**

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	75-79
D	70-74
F	Below 70

*applies to conduct for grades 3-8

- E - Excellent
- S - Satisfactory
- N – Needs Improvement
- U – Unsatisfactory

Grade Weighting Policy 3rd – 8th

Grades are weighted according to the following:

Formal Assessments	50%
Classwork/Daily	40%
Homework	10%

Honor Roll - 4th - 8th Grades

Honor Roll Certificates will be issued with the report cards at the end of each 9 weeks. To qualify for **Highest Honor Roll**, a student must have an average of 95 or above in each subject area and in conduct. To qualify for **High Honor Roll**, a student must have an average of 90 or above in each subject

and in conduct. To qualify for **Honor Roll**, a student must have an 80 or above in each subject and in conduct. The following courses are used in determining honor roll placement: math, science, social studies/history, religion, English, reading/literature, band, computer (gr. 5-8 only), and Spanish (gr. 6-8 only).

Outstanding Conduct

To qualify for outstanding conduct, a student must have a 99-100 conduct grade at the end of each nine weeks.

CURRICULUM GUIDES

The Diocese of Beaumont has joined the Region V Curriculum Leadership Cooperative. For the Diocese of Beaumont, this will result in a more consistent curriculum for all the elementary schools so students are more uniformly prepared academically upon entering Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School.

HOMEWORK

Homework is used to enrich or reinforce topics covered in class and should be used as drill for practice of skills, extension of concepts, or preparation for classroom work. The teacher is responsible for assigning effective, well-planned homework assignments that aid the student in mastery course objectives. It should be assigned after successful guided practice has occurred in the classroom. The amount of time required to complete homework will vary according to age and capability. For example, first grade homework should consume about 30 minutes of time including reading practice. Students at the primary level should read aloud to a parent at least fifteen minutes each evening.

Most students in grades 6-8 will require a minimum of one hour of undistracted and undisturbed home study each school night to maintain a scholastic average that reflects true ability. Math fact flash cards should also be reviewed. Students will have planners provided so that additional homework assignments may be recorded. Be certain to check your child's folder (if

folders are used) and assignment sheets to make certain papers are signed and returned promptly.

In case of illness, parents must call the school or email teachers to make arrangements to obtain assignments, and books may be obtained after 3:15 p.m. in the cafeteria. Homework is listed online through Edline for students in all grades. Be certain that you have activated your Edline account. For help in activating your Edline account, contact the school office.

Timeliness is critical for homework to achieve maximum impact on student learning. Homework is due the day after it is assigned unless the teacher has determined a special advance date for an assignment. For grades 7-8, if homework is one day late, thirty points will be deducted off the top of the assignment. If the child does not turn in homework after the second day it is due, an additional 20 points will be deducted. The assignment will be counted as a zero on the third day. Students who are consistently late on their assignments are exhibiting poor work habits and a conference with the teacher is in order. Habitual problems may result in detention and/or office referral.

PROGRESS REPORTS

A "Progress Report" is sent home at the mid-point of each nine-week period for students who have an average of 79 or below in any subject. The purpose of these reports is to inform the parents of the student's progress or lack of progress in each academic subject as well as in conduct. The dates for progress reports are listed on the monthly school calendar. However, the dates are subject to change. Please note that at most grade levels, grades are posted on Edline.

REPORT CARDS

At the end of the first and second quarters, teachers will notify parents a week in advance of a **mandatory** conference time to receive the report card. Please notify the school if this time is not convenient. A school day has been set aside for this purpose. Students are required to attend this conference.

For third and fourth quarters, two copies of the report card will be sent home with the students. One copy will be signed and returned to school.

Report cards and other school records are withheld when financial responsibilities to the school have not been met.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

The principal shall be responsible for the establishment, implementation and publication annually in the parent-student handbook and in the employee handbook of any regulations governing promotion and retention of students of the local school. These regulations shall be made within the parameters established by the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department and the Office of Catholic Schools. The principal of each elementary school may modify the following:

Elementary Grades In the elementary grades, to be promoted from one grade level to the next, a student shall perform as follows:

- In grades one through three, the student shall attain an overall average of seventy (70) or above for the year in reading, language arts, and mathematics.
- In fourth and fifth grades, the student shall attain an overall average of seventy (70) or above for the year in reading, language arts, and mathematics. science and social studies.
- The grading scale upon which promotion and retention are determined is found in Section IV.

Middle School Grades In the middle school grades (6-8), to be promoted from one grade level to the next, a student shall perform as follows. The principal of each elementary school may modify the following:

- A student shall attain an average of seventy (70) or above in five of the following subjects: religion, literature, English, mathematics, social studies, and science.
- A student that does not pass a major subject, excluding religion, must attend summer school.

- The grading scale upon which promotion and retention are determined is found in Section IV.

CURRICULUM SUPPORT TEACHER

St. Anne School has on staff a school counselor who may assist with a plan to aid instructional support, particularly in the area of reading. To receive remediation, it is necessary for a student to have a psycho-educational evaluation. Testing information will be given to parents by the school counselor or the principal.

This special teacher will work together with the regular reading teacher to ensure a successful program for the student.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES/VISITS

Teachers are most happy to consult with parents concerning their children. It is requested that parents not see a teacher during class time as teachers may not leave their classes for this purpose. During the school days, the teachers are charged with the responsibility of supervising the entire class of students; stopping them to consult distracts them from this important duty.

Appointments should be made through the office and will normally be scheduled during a teacher's planning period or after school. Two formal conferences are scheduled, after the first and second reporting periods.

Teachers' home phone numbers will not be given out for any reason. **Parents are requested not to call or email teachers or the principal at home unless a true emergency exists.**

Phone messages to students during the school day will be sent to the students before dismissal. Cell phone calls, including those from parents, should not be received by students during the school day.

TESTING [Diocesan Policy]

Standardized tests are administered annually to students. Principals determine if and when other tests will be administered.

TESTING REGULATIONS

Principals may choose to test all grades on an annual basis. The particular achievement tests to be administered are to be determined by the Superintendent in consultation with a committee of principals.

V. ATTENDANCE

The strict legal requirements for the number of days school must be in session are made for the purpose of assuring that each student has sufficient days of instruction to fulfill all of the requirements of each course/class taken. The Texas Catholic Conference Education Department has determined that students should be in school for 180 days of instruction. It stands to reason, therefore, that St. Anne Catholic School encourages every student to be in school everyday. St. Anne strongly discourages frequent, excessive, and/or extended absences from school. Frequent and extended absences are detrimental to the student's progress. Therefore, after ten unexcused absences or four consecutive unexcused absences, a parent-administrator conference will be required.

Because of this, St. Anne is not in favor of requests to excuse students for extended periods of time, **particularly** for vacations, while school is in session. For these absences, which are unexcused, students must obtain a form from the homeroom teacher to be initialed by each teacher and signed by the parents. A student will be considered in attendance if his or her absence is due to participation at an outside event as a representative of St. Anne School.

ARRIVAL SCHEDULE

Remain in your car dropping students at designated drop-off points. Unless a conference has been scheduled, do not park and walk students to class. In fact, the parent will be contacted by the principal for a conference to review students' special needs should this become a practice.

Students are not allowed on campus unsupervised before 7:00 a.m. Supervision is provided beginning at 7:00 a.m. in the cafeteria. Students and parents should not go into the hallways or classrooms before or after school to put up

backpacks or for any other reason. They should report directly to the cafeteria or gymnasium. The school bell rings at 7:45 a.m. All St. Anne students arriving after 7:50 are counted tardy and go to the receptionist's office for a pass to class.

LUNCH SCHEDULE

Pre-K & K	10:25 - 10:55
1	10:50 - 11:20
2	10:55 - 11:25
3	12:25 - 12:55
4	11:45 - 12:15
5	12:25 - 12:55
6	12:05 - 12:35
7	11:25 - 11:55
8	11:25 - 11:55

DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

School is dismissed at 3:10 p.m. for grades Pre-K -- 8. Students should not be released from class until the dismissal bell rings. It is required that students leave school immediately after dismissal except for those engaged in supervised after-school activities. Students may not play on the playground or any other area unattended after school. **Students left after 3:30, including those being picked up by high school students, must be enrolled and will be charged a fee through the After School Care program.**

Parents or anyone picking up a student must have a car pool card in the window of the car to assist school personnel in placing students in their assigned cars to help ensure the safety of all children.

All students should stay in their carpool areas and **remain seated** until their name is called. **Parents must remain in cars to pick up children. Parents may not walk up to pick up children. Children must be loaded into cars from the patio or secondary walkway at dismissal. For the safety of all students, REMAIN IN YOUR CAR.**

AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM

All students will be enrolled in after-school care. When parents are unable to pick up students

after school in a timely manner, the child(ren) will be sent to After School care. Fees for After School Care will be charged if a student is sent to the service/program.

The After School Care Program is open to all students of St. Anne School and is located in the cafeteria. The After School Care Program is open on regular school days from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. On early dismissal days, it is open from dismissal until 5:30 p.m. After School Care is closed on Parent-Teacher Conference Days, Teacher in-service Days, and all school holidays.

Students in After School Care will have a snack, complete homework, play games/outdoors, or do arts and crafts. Our school rules apply to the After School Care Program. Continued participation in this program requires proper behavior.

GUIDELINES FOR ABSENCES

Absences are defined as missing a major portion of any single subject area. There are three kinds of absences:

1. **EXCUSED ABSENCES** - has the permission of both the parents and the school. Excused absences are considered absences and students are no longer eligible for perfect attendance. Excused absences include personal illness, serious illness in the family, death in the family, and emergencies (decision on what constitutes an emergency rests with the school and the persons involved in each case). Recitals, musical performances, etc. are excused but count as absences. Special events may be excused at the discretion of the principal.
 - a. Short Term (1-3 days) - Upon return to school, the student is expected to make up missed work *within* a period of three school days. Teachers may require the work to be made up sooner, but not later, than the three days, depending upon the circumstances of the absence.
 - b. Long Term (4 or more days) - Upon return to school, the student is expected to make up missed work within one week. The time given to make up the work may be altered at

the discretion of the teacher and governed by the circumstances of the absence.

- c. Grading - Student work made up after an excused absence is eligible for full credit depending on the quality, completeness, correctness, and neatness of the work. If the work does not meet the standards and criteria expected or, if the student fails to do the work at all, the grade for the assignment is given at the discretion of the teacher.

2. **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE** – Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to vacations, business trips, hunting/fishing trips, family reunions, etc. A vacation form must be filled out and turned in to the principal if the absence is 3 or more days.

- a. Parents are requested to give written notice, **three days in advance**, of any **UNEXCUSED** absence for their child. The written notice will be delivered to the school office for processing. **If this procedure is not followed, work/tests will not be allowed to be made up. After receiving** the written notice from the parents, the teacher will send a letter for the parents to sign documenting that they understand the school's policy on unexcused absences.

- b. Work must be made up in accordance with the above excused absences guidelines.

- c. Student work made up after an **UNEXCUSED** absence is evaluated on the quality, completeness, correctness, and neatness of the work. If the work does not meet the standards and criteria expected, or if the student fails to do the work at all, the grade for the assignment is given in accordance with the homework policies.

3. **TRUANCY** – Student has neither permission of the school nor the parents to be away from the school during the school day. Leaving the school grounds without permission at any time during the school day is considered truancy, even if the student returns to school that day. *The student shall not receive credit for work/test missed while truant.* A truancy will result in a student being put on Disciplinary Probation. Dismissal from St. Anne at this

time is a possibility.

Please note that students should request their assignments when they return from absences.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

1. When a student has been absent, a written excuse from the parent or guardian stating the reason for the absence and the date of the absence must be presented to the home room teacher upon the student's return to school.
2. If the student should forget to bring a signed excuse, one additional school day will be allowed in which to bring the excuse to the office. If there is no note provided within one school day, the absence will be unexcused.
3. Parents are to phone the school office (409-832-5939) beginning at 8:00 a.m. to report an absence. Please give the name, grade, and reason for the absence. Also, state if the illness will be prolonged beyond one day. This will alert the school as to communicable illnesses as well as save the time of calling the parents.
4. **Please note that, even though a phone call is made, a signed excuse is still required for school records.**
5. A student must be present three hours, excluding lunch, to be counted present ½ day. A student must be present six hours, excluding lunch, to be counted present a whole day.
6. Children who are home ill may not come to the library to take an AR test or participate in after school programs or practice.

TARDINESS

It is the duty of all students to be on time for school. It is the responsibility of the parents to see that they do arrive on time. Students who arrive after 7:50 a.m. miss important instructional time. Late arrivals disrupt the learning environment for all students and do not develop positive work habits for the student who is late.

1. **For an excused tardy, students must present a doctor's or dentist's note of verification of appointment upon arrival at school. All other tardies will be considered unexcused.**
2. **On the third unexcused tardy per quarter, the student will be assigned detention in grades 4-8.**
3. **On the sixth unexcused tardy per quarter, the student in grades 4-8, may serve a detention as determined by the principal, and his or her conduct grade will be lowered a letter grade.**
4. **Should the student's unexcused tardiness continue, the student in grades 4-8, will serve Out-of-School Suspension (OSS). The student will not be allowed to attend school on the day of suspension, and he/she will receive no credit for the work. The conduct grade will also be lowered a letter grade.**
5. **Students in grades K-3, who have exceeded 6 unexcused tardies, will serve a recess and/or lunch detention. For every 6 tardies, a student's conduct will be lowered a letter grade and a parent conference will be required.**
6. **Should tardies become habitual and excessive, the student may be placed on probation and may lose the privilege of attending St. Anne Catholic School.**

LEAVING THE CAMPUS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

1. No student may leave the school premises during the school day without approval from the principal's office. Normally, such approval is granted upon written request by the student's parent or guardian. The vast majority of off-campus approvals are given for medical or dental appointments.
2. When a student is leaving the campus for any reason during the day, a written request from his/her parents must be brought to the

homeroom teacher who sends him/her to the receptionist's office for an "Early Dismissal Slip." This slip is to be shown to the appropriate teacher at the time of departure. The student is then to bring the slip to the receptionist's office. Students leaving school early are to be picked up at the receptionist's office. Parents must sign students out at the desk. Children will be released only to those who are listed on the emergency forms.

3. No student is allowed off campus at any time between the time he/she is dropped off and the time he/she is picked up. **See Truancy.**

VI. DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Discipline is defined as the training that develops self-control. It is also the aim of discipline to protect the good of all by curtailing the abuses of the few. Rules exist in order to create an atmosphere in which hundreds of differing personalities can come together harmoniously while working individually towards personal and common goals. Penalties are designed and imposed in order that the purpose of the rules can be realized and so that the freedom of all to participate in school activities might never have to be limited because of the disorder of the few.

CONSISTENCY MANAGEMENT

The discipline program called CONSISTENCY MANAGEMENT was adopted by the administration and faculty of St. Anne Catholic School in August of 1981. The purpose of this discipline program is to design a system of school-wide rules, consequences, and rewards. The establishment of these rules at the beginning of the school year is important because rules are the means by which teachers convey their expectations of appropriate behavior to students. Classroom management is an important dimension of teaching because management activities lead to the establishment and maintenance of those conditions in which instruction can take place effectively and efficiently.

At the beginning of the school year, each student is given a copy of the classroom regulations or rules for their grade level.

CONDUCT GRADES

Conduct grades are based upon the following school-wide rules:

1. Respect God, self, others and the property of others.
2. Listen to and follow directions.
3. Practice safety.
4. Be on time and have necessary materials (homework, covered textbooks, workbooks, notebook and paper, pencils, ball-point pens, etc.).

A partial list of demonstrating respect includes but is not limited to:

1. Showing reverence to God.
2. Refraining from talking in the hallways and stairways during school hours.
3. Refraining from damaging property of another student, faculty, or the school. This includes the marking or carving of desks, tables, lockers, walls, bulletin boards, etc. (Gum chewing is prohibited on campus at all times.)
4. Refraining from talking out or talking to others while instruction is going on or tests are underway.
5. Taking pride in our school by helping to keep the school grounds clean. Avoid dropping paper, leaving textbooks outside, P.E. uniforms, other articles on the school grounds.
6. Wearing the proper uniform in a respectful manner. **Shirt tails should be tucked in upon arrival and remain tucked in until students leave the school grounds.** (Shoes with wheels are prohibited.)
7. Refraining from running and throwing objects of any kind either outside or inside.
8. Items not used directly in the educational process are not to be brought to school. Do not bring toys or balls to school. Watches with remotes, radios, tape or CD players, ipods, computer games, lap-top computers, lasers,

rollerblades/skates, skateboards and the like are prohibited, unless prior permission has been obtained from the office. These objects can possibly be confiscated and not returned until the end of the school year.

9. Students should keep their hands and feet to themselves at all times.
10. Copying the work of another person and giving or getting information about graded schoolwork such as a test, classwork or homework from another student is prohibited. Cheating off the Internet is prohibited.

CAFETERIA MANNERS

The following rules are an effort to provide an orderly eating environment:

1. Sit at the same table each day with your class or home room.
2. Speak softly and **remain seated** while you eat. Walking around the lunchroom and talking with someone at another table is not allowed. Students must raise their hand for permission to get out of their seat for any reason.
3. The class will be dismissed by the lunchroom monitor after he/she has approved the condition of the table and floor.
4. Food and drinks may not be taken out of the cafeteria.
5. Table cleaners will be appointed by the teacher and will assist in cleaning the table.
6. Students will be dismissed class by class and taken to the playground (or the classroom during inclement weather).
7. Students will be courteous to **all cafeteria staff and adult supervisors.**
8. Students may not take classwork or homework to the cafeteria.
9. No outside food, other than homemade lunches may be brought into the cafeteria. If you are dropping a lunch off to your child and not eating at school, you must go directly to the cafeteria at their lunch time. If lunches are brought to the school before the child's lunch

period, take the lunch with the child's name clearly written on the sack/lunch box to the cafeteria and place it on the stage. **Students are not allowed to meet parents in the parking lot.**

10. Failure to follow cafeteria rules will effect the student's conduct grade. The first offense will result in a loss of conduct points. Repeated offenses may result in detention.
11. Parents and relatives may join their children for lunch. You will be seated at a special table and may sit with your child only. **No other children will be permitted at the special lunch table unless accompanied by their own parent.** The children will need to accompany their class as they leave to go outside. **If you are eating lunch with your child, please be on time;** your child must leave the cafeteria when the lunch period is over.
12. Ice cream will be sold on Friday of each week. If Friday is a holiday, ice cream may be sold on Thursday at the discretion of the cafeteria manager.

School personnel will be on duty in the cafeteria to assist the children with any needs or problems.

REGULATIONS FOR THE SECONDARY BUILDING

1. Students will enter the building from the side door and proceed up the stairwell in the front of the building.
2. No one will be allowed to use the elevator unless he/she has permission from school personnel. The elevators are for elderly or those with handicapping conditions that make it impossible to climb the stairs. Students may not use the elevator unless they have an injury that would warrant its use. They should be accompanied by an adult or another student.
3. When climbing the stairs, students should stay on the right-hand side holding on to the handrail. No running, pushing, jumping, or walking in large groups is permitted. Students must walk on stairs in single file. Students

should not drag or roll book bags. There should be no talking.

4. When coming down the stairs, students should stay on the right side with the right hand on the rail. This allows for traffic on both sides of the stairs. No running, pushing, jumping or walking in groups. Students must descend the stairs in a single file. There should be no talking.
5. No student should ever push or rush up the stairs potentially causing others to fall. Students should not attempt to take more than one step at a time whether going up or down.
6. Remember that the safety of our students is most important to us. Being careful is the responsibility of each student.
7. Call buttons in the classroom are for teacher use only. Students should not "play" with these emergency buttons. The blinds in the classrooms should only be handled by the teachers. Students should not place hands on the windows.
8. The third floor is off limits to students at all times. The doors will be locked. Students should not be on the stairs that lead to the third floor.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY [Diocesan Policy]

Each school shall initiate a program of substance abuse prevention to include information designed to reduce the likelihood that students or employees will harm themselves or others through the misuse and abuse of chemical substances.

Regulations

Each school will have a local policy governing the matter of substance abuse and subsequent rehabilitation of students and employees. The principal or her designee will coordinate a substance abuse program. A student or employee who possesses, distributes, or ingests any mood-altering chemical or illegal drug on school property or at a school function is liable for immediate intervention, assessment, and follow-through according to the school's policy.

Students are to refrain from the following:

1. Using or possessing marijuana, narcotics, hallucinatory or sedative drugs not prescribed by a physician, or any chemical, alcohol, depressant, or stimulant, as defined under the Penal Code of the state of Texas.

This prohibition extends not only to school time, but also before and after school as well as before and/or during any school-related activity. Offenders are subject to expulsion, the usual penalty for such acts.

2. Smoking or having tobacco on school premises or during school-related activities.
3. Bringing handguns, knives, or explosive items onto the campus.

The consequence of any of the above-mentioned is **immediate referral** to the principal's office.

DISCIPLINE PROCESS AND POLICY PROCEDURES

By enrolling a child at St. Anne Catholic School the parent agrees to, and is supportive of, the rules and regulations that we deem critical in the spiritual, academic, and behavioral growth of your son or daughter. We believe that these are teachable moments and that our actions are not punishments but consequences to wrong choices. We approach each child with love and respect at all times and especially when they make the wrong choice.

Teachers discipline students directly for any minor classroom disruptions. If a student continues to disrupt the class, the teacher may send the student to an administrator. The administrator handles such matters in a variety of ways depending on the severity of the incident. All decisions regarding detention, suspension, and expulsion will be determined by the school principal.

Parents who have a question, complaint, or concern should attempt to resolve it at the most appropriate and immediate level. First, the parent is to discuss the matter with the teacher concerned. If further consultation is necessary, then the parent, teacher, and student will meet with the administration as appropriate. Parents are reminded

of their obligation to uphold the school disciplinary policy and to foster respect for the faculty and staff of the school by their words and actions in the presence of their children.

We are partners with parents in their children's education. We notify parents of concerns about student life or behavior, even when off campus. Teachers, parents, and staff are to take seriously conversation or information about potentially harmful activities or behaviors and report information to an administrator. Administrators will then contact parents when concerned about students' behavior.

DISCIPLINE PROCESS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Every effort will be made to deal with disruptive student behavior in a manner that is consistent with Christian dignity and with respect for all persons involved. Additionally, every effort should be made to solve problems immediately and at the appropriate level. There is no substitute for open and honest communication whenever a question or problem arises. A teacher might include other teachers or administrators in conferencing or counseling with students, if a situation so warrants.

The normal process for consultation would be as follows:

1. Teacher – student
2. Teacher - parent contact (may include a telephone conference, an e-mail, or a written note)
3. Administrative team - teacher - parent conference
4. Principal - parent conference

Consequences

Teachers may use the following consequences:

1. Notes of apology or letter home from student to be signed and returned the following day.
2. Loss of conduct points per incident and/or loss of recess time.
3. Student may be required to sit alone at lunch.
4. Detention may be assigned by the teacher. One day's notice will be given. A child who is

late to detention will not be able to serve detention. Failure to attend detention or serve the entire time will result in an additional detention. **Detention can be given during recess, lunch, or from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.** Detention takes precedence over appointments (except medical), practices, lessons, etc.

After two missed detentions for inappropriate conduct, a student will be automatically assigned to one day of In-School Suspension.

5. If behavior does not improve **after three detentions**, In-School Suspension will be assigned by the school administration.

Students who are given an In-School Suspension will be required to report to school to do their work. They will be given credit for their work, but the conduct grades will be lowered a letter grade for that quarter.

6. **After three In-School Suspensions**, students will be given an Out-of-School Suspension. Students given an Out-of-School Suspension by the school administration should still do the work but will receive no credit for the work, and conduct grades will be lowered a letter grade.
7. **If a conduct infraction is severe enough**, the school administration has the right to administer an immediate In-School Suspension, Out-of-School Suspension, or expulsion.

The following severe infractions could result in immediate referral to the office:

1. Possession of any drugs, alcohol, weapons of any kind, pornography.
2. Flagrant disrespect which includes, fighting/wrestling, harassment of peers or staff, name-calling (even in jest), bullying, or making racial slurs.

St. Anne School provides a safe environment for all individuals. Verbal or written threats made against the physical or emotional well-being of any individual will be taken seriously. Students making such threats (**seriously or in jest**) face detention, suspension, and/or expulsion.

Harassment of any type, verbal or written (including texts or Internet-based) will not be tolerated. The administration will investigate all complaints of harassment. Students involved in harassing behavior face detention, suspension, and/or expulsion.

3. Profanity/obscene gestures
4. Cheating
5. Theft, vandalism/destruction of school property
6. Deliberately pulling the fire alarm switch
7. Violation of the Internet Agreement
8. Truancy/cutting a class
9. Cell phone use

Cell phones are not allowed in the classroom. Cell phones are to be turned off and kept in the student's locker during school hours. Students may not use their cell phones while waiting in the carpool line. Any cell phone seen or heard by the teacher or staff will be confiscated. (Please refer to #5 under Consequences through the office for cell phone use.)

10. Misbehavior of any kind with a substitute teacher will be referred to the office.
11. Engaging in dangerous activities.

Consequences through the office may include:

1. Loss of conduct points
2. Detention/isolation at recess or lunch.
3. In-School Suspension (½ day, 1 day or more):

Parents will be notified of the date of In-School Suspension. Students must bring their lunch on the day designated by the school to report for In-School Suspension. Students will be given their assignments. Occasionally, it may be necessary to place a student in In-School Suspension immediately for his/her own well-being.

Students will not participate in any extracurricular activities for one week from the date of the incident. (5 school days)

4. Out-of-school suspension (1 day or more): Students who are suspended will not make

up any assignments or tests. **Students will not participate in any extracurricular activities for one week from the date of the incident. (5 school days)**

5. Consequences of cell phone use are the following:
 - a. The first offense will result in confiscation of the phone, detention and loss of conduct points. A parent or guardian must pick up the phone at the end of the day.
 - b. The second offense will result in In-School Suspension of the student. The phone will be released to the parent. The phone may not be brought back to school.

If the above policy is not followed and the phone is picked up again, the student will receive Out-of-School Suspension

7. Field trips are a privilege afforded to students—not absolute rights. After two In-School Suspensions or one Out-of-School Suspension, students can be denied participation in a field trip. The principal may also require a parent to accompany his/her child on a field trip.

WITHDRAWAL/EXPULSION

When a student's conduct arrives at a point in which the order of the school is obstructed, or the health or safety of the students is imperiled, or the moral well-being and good name of either the teachers, students, or the school is jeopardized, the student forfeits the privilege of attending St. Anne Catholic School. This may include students who are persistently disruptive and who do not meet behavioral goals. The expulsion of a student will constitute forfeitures of all tuition and fees.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY [Diocesan Policy]

Students shall not engage in conduct constituting sexual harassment towards their peers, faculty, employees, or other members of the school community. Sexual harassment can result in disciplinary action or dismissal.

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other sexual conduct, either verbal or physical, or any conduct or other offensive unequal treatment that would not occur but for the sex of the person when the conduct, advances, or requests have the effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or otherwise offensive environment or of interfering with the performance or promotion of the individual.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT [Diocesan Policy]

Corporal punishment is not permitted in the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Beaumont.

VII. ACTIVITIES

The many organizations and activities called co-curricular or extracurricular are fundamental components of the school experience. Participation in these activities is essential, for through them the student contributes and receives something uniquely personal. Experience shows that students who become personally involved in the total school program are less likely to become involved in serious disciplinary problems that uninvolved students might.

There is no better way for a student to become personally close to other students, faculty, and the school as a whole than by participation in these activities. Activities should be chosen according to an individual's personal interests with the rule in mind that time spent in these activities not jeopardize the student's academic work.

Only students who are enrolled in a Diocesan school during the current year may participate in extracurricular activities at St. Anne.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Purpose: The Constitution of St. Anne Student Council defines the purpose of student government as follows:

". . . to develop attitudes of, and practice in, good citizenship; promote harmonious relations throughout the entire school; promote an orderly direction of school

activities; and promote the general welfare of the school."

Membership consists of seven officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Historian, Committee Chairperson, elected in April/May for the following year. In addition, a representative and alternate are elected by home rooms from grades five through eight at the beginning of the school year.

Policies: Students must be 7th graders at the time of election. In order to run for any office, a student must have a cumulative average of "80" or above in core subjects and "90" or above in conduct through and including the 3rd quarter grading period. Members of the student council should maintain an "80" average in all subjects and in conduct. Grades are checked at report card time. If a student fails to maintain the grades academically or behaviorally, he or she must remain inactive until the next progress report. If at the next report card time the student again fails to maintain the necessary grades, then he or she is dismissed permanently. Also, **any suspension, in-school or external, results in permanent dismissal from the student council.** A member will also be dismissed from office if he/she misses three consecutive regular meetings without revealing the cause for such absences to the president or to the sponsor. Officers are required to chair major events sponsored by the student council.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Eligibility is determined at the end of a student's first semester grading report in 7th and 8th grades. Student must have attended St. Anne School at least one semester to be considered. Candidates must have a cumulative scholastic average of at least "93" in the core courses of religion, math, history, English, literature, and science, and no conduct grade below 93. Faculty members and the principal will evaluate and make final selection of prospective members in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership, service and citizenship. No prospective candidates will be considered if they receive more than two "below averages" in any area. Also, **any in-school or external suspension results in permanent dismissal from the National Junior Honor Society.**

ATHLETICS

Students at St. Anne compete in:
Boys - Football, basketball, soccer, track, tennis, golf
Girls - Volleyball, basketball, softball, soccer, track, tennis, golf

Football

Football is open to any 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boy who is interested. There will be two teams provided there are enough participants. All equipment will be furnished except for shoes, socks, practice shorts, and under-pad shirts. All students fulfilling the requirements will be allowed to participate.

Boys' Basketball

There will be two 7th and 8th grade teams if an appropriate number of students try-out. Tryouts will be held to determine participation.

Soccer

Soccer will be open to 6th through 8th grade boys and girls. Tryouts will be held to determine participation. One team of boys and girls together will be formed.

Girls' Volleyball

Girls in 7th and 8th grades may try out for volleyball. Seventh graders play on the "B" team; eighth graders will play on the "A" team.

Girls' Basketball

There will be two girls' teams, an "A" and a "B" team. Tryouts will be held to determine participation.

Track

We strongly encourage all students in 5th through 8th grades to try out for track. Because of the variety of track and field events, most students will find an area of interest. Students will participate in the annual diocesan track meet held each spring.

Tennis

Boys and girls in 7th and 8th grades may try out for tennis. Participation is limited to a small number of students and selection for the team will be based on ability. Due to the amount of absences for tournaments, teachers must sign

off on the student's request to participate based on attendance and progress.

Golf

Same as for tennis. Those selected will participate in all tournaments as long as attendance and progress remain satisfactory.

Sports awards will be given at a special ceremony at the end of the athletic season.

SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURE

Written Consent: Each student who wishes to participate in any sport must provide a complete statement of consent signed by a parent/guardian.

Physical Examination: Each student who wishes to participate in an interscholastic athletic competition must provide evidence of having been given a physical examination by a physician.

Athletic Insurance: All students competing in interscholastic sports must provide evidence that they are covered by primary health insurance that covers accidents.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SPORTS PROGRAMS: BOYS AND GIRLS

In an effort to increase motivation and maintain academic success, all students whose last semester average is 75 or above will be allowed to participate in tryouts. This is because sports programs often require a time commitment that, for some students, is needed to maintain satisfactory progress. The parent of a student participating in sports must be diligent about monitoring his/her child's progress on Edline. If it appears a student is at risk of losing eligibility, arrangements should be made for tutoring and/or a conference should be requested with the teacher and coach.

Eligibility at Progress Report Time

Grades will be checked at report card time.

- Students may become eligible at progress report time if they were ineligible at report card time. (Students must have a 75 in all subjects and conduct grades at report card time.)
- Progress reports serve as a warning that a student needs to work harder if he/she is to be

eligible at report card time. Parents and coaches will closely monitor progress reports.

Eligibility at Report Card Time

Students must have an average of 75 or better in each subject and in conduct. If a student does not have an average of 75 or better in each subject and in conduct, the following procedures apply:

- The student may practice but not play a sport providing the student made the team.
- Students may not be allowed to dress out with the team or be on the sidelines.
- Grades will be reassessed at progress report time. If the grade is a 75 or better at progress report time, then the student becomes eligible to play. If other grades drop below a 75 at this time, the student still remains eligible; however, again this progress report serves as a warning. At report card time, all grades in conduct and academics must be 75 or better to continue eligibility. If the student is ineligible a second time in that sport, he/she loses the privilege of participation.
- The student may resume participation once progress becomes satisfactory at the next progress report or nine-week report card.
- Students who are identified for modifications may be allowed special provisions.

CHEERLEADING AND MASCOT

The following is a list of the guidelines and responsibilities for St. Anne Cheerleaders. Failure to follow written or verbal guidelines can result in dismissal from the squad/team.

A. Eligibility for selection:

1. A student must have an average of 75 in each core course and 80 in conduct through and including the 3rd quarter of 7th grade.

2. Students must be available for practices, meetings, and cheerleading camp during the summer. Please note: Cheerleading camps are generally held in June. Cheerleaders must be available to practice one week prior to summer camp. Sponsors do not receive summer camp information until March.

3. Students must be registered for the next school year. All tuition and fees must be current with no outstanding balances. Tuition must be kept up-to-date.

B. Cheerleader Eligibility Policies

1. Grades will be checked at report card time for eligibility. A student must have an average of “75” in each core course and an “80” in conduct.

2. Students who have been ineligible at report card time could become eligible at progress report time as long as the student has a “75” in all other subjects.

3. If a student receives any school suspension, then she may not participate in any extracurricular activities (including practice) for one week from the date of the incident (5 days).

Cheerleading requires a large time commitment that, for some students, is needed for studies to maintain satisfactory progress. The parent of a student participating in cheerleading must be diligent about monitoring their child’s progress on Edline. If it appears a student is at risk of losing eligibility, arrangements should be made for tutoring and/or a conference should be requested with the teacher and coach.

Students who are home ill may not participate in after school programs or practice. Written permission from the principal must be obtained by an athlete or a cheerleader who, having been absent for part of the school day, wishes to participate in a sport that afternoon or evening.

Any athlete or cheerleader found to be smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, or using any substance classified as an illegal drug on or off campus will be subject to serious disciplinary action which may include expulsion from school.

Code of Participation for Players and Spectators

As members of the *Diocese of Beaumont Sports League*, we believe that every league activity must teach our players and spectators the following:

- Become a responsible and contributing member of our school in the attainment of a common goal.
- Overcome all barriers in achieving full potential and excellence in performance.

- Earn the respect and appreciation of others be they teammates, opponents, officials, coaches, or spectators by the manner in which we participate.
- Keep these competitive activities in proper perspective.

Athletics are an integral part of our educational program. The purpose of competition is directly related to developing our own talents rather than degrading the talents of others.

We expect our students to respect the campus of the opposing schools. Students guilty of vandalism, either during or after the athletic contest, are liable to expulsion.

Signs and posters used for athletic events must reflect good sportsmanship and must be approved by the cheerleader sponsor. Students are to refrain from booing a penalty or directing abusive remarks to individual players, teams, or officials. They are to remain quiet during free throws and are to respect the name, colors, and insignia of the other team.

Noisemakers are not permitted at basketball games nor any other athletic events. This includes whistles, horns, etc.

Students are to use the following guidelines when attending athletic events:

1. Remember at all times that they represent St. Anne Catholic School as much as the team does; the name of the school depends on each student’s behavior as well as on the behavior of the team and coaches.
2. Respond with enthusiasm to the efforts of the cheerleaders. Student support is always a major factor in a team’s desire to win.
3. Try to know the rules of the various athletic contests. Spectators should know what they are complaining about before they make comments about how the rules are being enforced.
4. Be considerate of the injured on both sides. Express appreciation for exhibitions of fine play or sportsmanship by players from either team.
5. Join in singing the school song.

PEP RALLIES

St. Anne pep rallies are open to St. Anne students and parents.

BAND

All students participating in extracurricular band activities must have a cumulative average of at least "70" in each subject and a "75" average in conduct.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all school-sponsored events.

VIII. CLINIC

The clinic is located in the Primary Building and is off limits during the school day to all students other than those who are ill or taking medication. If a student is too ill to remain in school, the person in charge of the clinic will call the student's parent to pick him/her up.

Immunization Policy Texas Catholic Conference

Every student enrolled in a Catholic school in the State of Texas shall be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with the immunization schedule adopted by the Texas Department of State Health Services. A student who fails to present the required evidence shall not be accepted for enrollment. The only exception to the foregoing requirement is a medical **exemption** signed by a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.) authorized to practice in the State of Texas.*

*See *Dignitas Personae* from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

All students are required to be current on immunizations according to the requirements of the Texas Department of State Health Services - Immunization Branch and the Diocese of Beaumont.

The Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Beaumont are not required to accept for enrollment a child who has received an exemption from the

immunizations required by the Texas Health and Safety Code.

Students may be allowed to enroll provisionally for 30 days during which time immunizations records can be sent to the school.

An additional provisions enrollment may be granted to students "in progress." This refers to those students who have had at least one dose of the age appropriate vaccine require by the TDH rules.

Illness

In order to insure a safe and healthy atmosphere for your child in school, we request the following rules be observed:

1. Children with the following symptoms should remain at home for observation and treatment:
 - Elevated temperature (100° fever)
 - Discharge from nose and eyes
 - Cough or sore throat
 - Earaches or toothaches
 - Rashes or infected sores
 - Diarrhea or upset stomach

Remember that cold symptoms can be a forerunner of communicable diseases.

Children must remain at home until fever free for 24 hours.

2. Chronic illness such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, allergic reactions, epilepsy, etc., should be discussed in detail with the child's teacher, principal, and school nurse.
3. Children who are ill cannot come to school to make up work or take tests.
4. **All pupils returning from any illness must check with the school nurse before entering class.**

Medications

Students will not be permitted to carry medication of any kind during the school day. All medication is to be stored in the school's main office or clinic.

Only medication which is necessary for a child to remain in school will be made available during school hours. Authorized school personnel will make available only medication prescribed by a licensed physician or dentist and labeled by a licensed pharmacist with proper directions. "Over-the-counter" medication will not be made available

unless prescribed by a licensed physician or dentist. Properly labeled medication will be made available only when it is accompanied by signed permission from the parent or legal guardian.

Each student's medication must be in a properly labeled container with the following information.

- Student's name
- Physician/Dentist's name
- Date of prescription
- Name of medication
- Dosage
- Directions for administration
- Duration medication is to be given

When the course of a medication is completed, the parent or legal guardian is to pick up any unused portion of the medication and its container within five school days. Failure to pick up the unused medication or container will result in the school's destroying the medication and disposing of the container.

Physicals

Hearing and vision screenings are given each year. If a child's response is unsatisfactory, further testing by a physician will be recommended. These screenings are usually done in October.

Additional health programs during the year will include determining each student's height, weight, dental inspection, scoliosis test for grades 5-8, and head lice screening.

Accidents

If an accident occurs during the school day:

1. The teacher or person supervising will send for the nurse.
2. The nurse will determine if the child can be moved to the clinic.
3. The nurse will call the parent. If the parent can't be reached quickly, the persons on the emergency forms will be called.
4. If the injury requires a doctor's attention, the school should be notified as to the extent of the injury.
5. All accidents that warrant a doctor's visit will be reported on an accident form and filed in the nurse's office.

6. *Please note:* If an accident is of a serious nature, 911 will be called immediately. The school will then call the parent to advise them.

Lice

Head lice (Pediculosis) are transmitted through close, personal contact. Through the use of common brushes, combs, curlers, and hair ornaments, and the sharing of hats, headbands, or other head apparel, the insects can be transferred from person-to-person.

A student suspected of having head lice will be sent home immediately and cannot return to school without being checked by the school nurse.

IX. GENERAL SCHOOL MATTERS

ATHLETIC FIELDS

The school is not responsible for any injury that might occur when students are using the athletic fields at times that school staff supervision is not provided.

CLASS PARTIES

The room mothers must contact the teacher prior to "party dates." Together they plan a suitable party for the respective grade level to insure that all sections of the same grade level have the same party (refreshments, favors, etc.)

Birthday parties will not be held at school. Parents in Pre-k - 8 must arrange with the teacher for a special snack or treat to be brought in for that child's class during lunch. **Private party invitations will not be given out at school or school functions unless the entire class, or all girls to a girl's party, or all boys to a boy's party are invited.** All party invitations will be given to the teacher to be passed out. Neither parents nor students may hand out invitations at school for private parties. **Birthday treats will not be passed out. Balloons, flowers, etc. will not be delivered to classes during the day.**

ELECTIVES

Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, and 3

These students attend P.E. each day for 30 minutes per day. They also attend art, computer, music, and Spanish during the entire school year.

Grades 4 – 5

These students attend P.E. each day for 40 minutes per day. They attend art, computer, music, and Spanish on alternating days for 18 weeks each subject.

Grade 6

Students moving to sixth grade have the choice of being in an instrumental band program daily. They, then, do not attend the other four electives which are attended in quarterly sessions.

Grades 7 & 8

Students in junior high have two elective periods each day. Within the three years that students are in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, they are required to have three semesters of P.E. Since students take P.E. for the entire year in 6th grade, then he/she would only be required to take one semester of P.E. during the 7th and 8th grades. Also, one semester of computer literacy is required during the 7th and 8th grades.

Elective choices that may be offered are:

P. E.	Choir
Athletic P. E.	Math
Computer	Drama
Spanish I	Art
Leadership	Band

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are a privilege afforded to students, not absolute rights. Students can be denied participation if they fail to meet academic or behavior requirements.

Because of concern for student safety, the School Board has adopted a policy regarding Field Trips and Transportation.

St Anne School Field Trip and Transportation Policy

A field trip is defined as any activity, including sporting events or practices, in which students would be transported off campus.

All field trips have to be submitted to, and approved by, the administration.

Suitable transportation is defined by the following restrictions:

- All students must be transported on school buses from a fully licensed and insured commercial charter company or on buses provided by an Independent School District such as Beaumont ISD.
- Buses must have seat belts for all passengers.
- All passengers will be required to wear seat belts at all times while on the bus.
- Standard commercial (tall) and passenger vans are not acceptable.

The principal or principal's designee is responsible for reviewing and verifying that these policies have been followed.

All travel is subject to cancellation if buses with seat belts are not available. Parents are encouraged to confirm the arrival of buses with seat belts before leaving their children at the school for a field trip.

Written permission from the parents or guardian on the school field trip form is required.

Any parent or guardian who volunteers to drive a small group must provide copies of his/her valid drivers license and current insurance coverage, complete a "Volunteer Driver Agreement" and a "Volunteer Background Agreement," and be approved through the Diocese of Beaumont as a driver. Parents need to allow ample time for these requests for approval to be processed.

Diocese of Beaumont Office of Catholic Schools Transportation Field Trips/Athletic & Academic Events

Transportation Policy Notes

Rationale:

Research indicates that the safest mode of transportation is the school bus. For trips over 100 miles, comfort becomes a factor. Stewardship and availability of resources may necessitate the use of

private or rented vehicles for sporting events or small groups of students traveling to both academic and athletic competitions.

- For trips with groups of 15 or more traveling over 100 miles, a charter bus may be used.
- For large groups of 15 or more, school buses will be used.
- For small groups traveling out of town, the school may rent a vehicle. The vehicle may be driven by a teacher, coach, or qualified volunteer driver who has been pre-approved with the Diocese of Beaumont.
- Only drivers pre-approved by the Diocese of Beaumont may drive students to sponsored events within the diocese.
- Use of 10-15 passenger vans is prohibited per diocesan policy.
- Students who require booster seats (under age 4 or under 40 pounds) are to be driven by their parents or guardians only.

Additional notes:

- All drivers of private or rented cars must be on the diocesan approved driver list.
- In order to reduce liability, principals should consider using buses if more than five cars are needed to transport students regardless of the event being in town or within the diocese.
- All vendor contracts for transportation services must be approved through the diocese and insurance certificates must be on file.
- Refer to the diocesan **Temporalities Manual**, exhibit J-q, p. J 53, for the **Driver Information Sheet**.
- Refer to Appendix J-III (page J-19) in the **Temporalities Manual** for more information from the diocese on this topic.

INTERNET AGREEMENT AND USE

The *Internet Agreement* is included as an Appendix to this book. Students and parents will be required to sign a statement about proper use of the Internet at school. Failure to use properly could

result in loss of Internet privileges and other disciplinary consequences.

LIBRARY

The library is open during the school day. Books must be checked out before they are taken from the library. A fine of five cents per book per school day is charged for overdue library books in grades 4 - 8. If a child loses a book, then he/she must pay for the book. If a book is returned in a damaged condition, then the student must pay for the replacement of the book. **Students with overdue library books or fines owed will not receive report cards until the library record is clear.**

LOCKERS

Each student in grades 5-8 is assigned a locker. Lockers are to be kept neat and locked. Administrators and teachers may access lockers at any time.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items are to be turned in at the receptionist's office. All items will be placed in the cafeteria. Check periodically for lost items. After a time, all items will be disposed of in order to maintain a neat environment.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

If you witness incidents in the surrounding neighborhood that are a serious concern to you, your safety, or the safety of St. Anne students, please call the Beaumont police immediately. The police will respond appropriately and will address the situation. Please appraise the administrators of such reports filed.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. uniforms are required in grades 7 & 8. No uniforms are required in pre-k - 6.

SAFE SCHOOLS

St. Anne Catholic School distributes a crisis plan handbook each year to parents.

St. Anne Catholic School maintains a smoke-free environment for the well-being of our community.

Disaster Drills

Disaster drills, which include tornado or severe weather drills, are conducted several times a year. Students should quickly move to assigned areas and sit and face the wall with their heads covered with their arms.

Disaster route and area map for each classroom should be posted where it is readily visible.

Disaster drills and fire drills will be conducted in the After School Care Program.

Fire Drills

Fire drills are conducted once a month at unannounced and varied times. All persons must leave the buildings in a quick and orderly fashion. Evacuation route diagrams should be posted in each room where they are readily visible.

Fire drills are conducted for two purposes:

1. To train occupants to leave the building quickly and orderly in case of emergency.
2. To teach self-control in times of emergency in later life.

Shelter in Place

Should a situation prevail in which students must remain in the classroom, a "shelter in place" will be called. The teacher locks the classroom, turns off the lights, and moves students to an area in the room away from view as much as possible.

STAFF FACILITIES

The following areas are off limits to students at all times: teachers' lounges, teachers' work rooms, library work room, CCD offices, rectory, the walkway between the religious education building and the church, and the front of the school building and church.

TEXTBOOKS

The general registration fees, paid in the spring, help to cover the costs of textbooks. Fines will be levied on students who damage, lose, or destroy textbooks. The usual fine will be the cost of replacing the book. All non-consumable books must be covered at all times.

UNIFORM CODE

The purpose of the dress code is the presentation of a neat and pleasing appearance of the entire student body. **Uniforms are an outward sign that indicates your pride and respect for your school.** The overall appearance of the students at St. Anne must be modest and, at all times, reflect respect for the uniform which they wear. It goes without saying that clothing should be of proper fit and not overly worn.

No exceptions in school uniform will be allowed except for special "out-of-uniform" days or "T-Shirt" days. Boys' and girls' uniform items should be purchased from Parker Uniform Supply Company (web address www.parkersu.com Web ID code: HO010246).

Shirt tails must be tucked in at all times while on the school grounds. Students who are not in compliance with the Uniform Dress Code will be given a violation notice and may be sent to the office to call their parents/guardians for the correct articles of clothing. Administrators or teachers may determine that a student's dress is a distraction and parents will be called.

The complete Scout uniform must be worn or otherwise the student is to wear the proper school uniform. Girl Scout uniforms must be modest, to the knee.

St. Anne t-shirts are allowed for t-shirt days and may be worn with uniform shorts or slacks or blue jeans.

No hats, caps, or headgear may be worn inside the buildings unless it is a designated hat/cap day.

School uniforms are worn for fall individual pictures, group class pictures and field trips. Depending on the destination of the field trip, school t-shirts and blue jeans may be worn. Students are not permitted to walk in the school

halls in P.E. uniforms unless they are involved in extra-curricular school-related activities.

Shorts shorter than walking-short length are not to be worn on "out-of-uniform" days.

GIRLS UNIFORMS: Must be purchased from Parker Uniforms:

Pre-K - 8th

Navy/Red plaid jumpers (PreK-5th only), skorts, walking shorts, and skirts (6th-8th grades only) **to the knees, front and back**

Navy walking shorts, slacks

White or red polo-style shirts, SS or LS, with monograms **for pre-k - 8th**

Other uniform items which are available for purchase from Parker:

White SS or LS oxford blouses, white overblouses

White blouses with red or navy trim, or solid white

Fleece monogrammed jackets

Monogrammed v-neck sweater

Navy shorts must be worn under jumpers and skirts

Solid white socks, white socks with blue, red or plaid piping (sold through Parker Uniforms), or socks sold through the school. Socks must be worn. Logos on socks must not be visible.

Red, navy blue, or white tights or knee-high socks are permitted.

Girls' Hair and hair ornaments

Neither hair style nor hair ornaments should be distracting. Girls may only wear ribbons, bow/clips, and plain headbands, and they should be red, white, and/or navy blue or combinations thereof. All hair accessories must be a school color and conservative in look.

Hair color should be one natural color and not distracting.

Hair may not cover eyes.

Jewelry

Only one small pair of earrings (such as posts) that fit on the earlobe may be worn. One small (not over 1½ inches in length) cross or religious medal may be worn. They should be on gold or silver colored plain chains (no leather, beads, etc.) and must be worn inside blouses. Watches without calculators may be worn. No other type of jewelry (i.e. rings, necklaces, bracelets) is acceptable.

Cosmetic policy (Grades 7 & 8)

1. Foundation and light lip gloss are allowed.
2. No eye shadow or eyeliner is allowed.
3. Only clear fingernail polish may be worn.
4. False fingernails are not permitted.

Cosmetic policy (grades PK to 6)

1. No make up foundation or lip color is allowed.
2. No eye shadow or eyeliner is allowed.
3. No fingernail polish is permitted.
4. False fingernails are not permitted.

Purse Policy (grades 6 – 8)

Girls in grades 6-8 may bring a purse to school but it must be kept in the locker and not brought into class. The purse may be carried to lunch but must be put back in the locker before returning to class.

BOYS UNIFORMS: Must be purchased from Parker Uniforms:

Pre-K - 8th

Navy shorts and pants/slacks

Navy *pull-on* shorts and pants, pre-k through grade 2 only

(Pre-K through grade 2 may wear pull-up pants without belts. If pants have belt loops, then a belt must be worn.)

White or red polo-style shirts, SS or LS, with monograms **for Pre-K through 8th**

Other uniform items which are available for purchase from Parker and other retailers:

White oxford shirts, SS or LS

Solid black, brown, or navy cloth or leather belts

Solid white socks, white socks with blue, red or plaid piping (sold through Parker Uniforms), or socks sold through the school. Socks must be worn. Logos on socks must not be visible.

Fleece monogrammed jackets

Boys Jewelry

Watches without calculators may be worn. One small cross or a small religious medal (not over 1½ inches in length) may be worn but must be under shirts. These must be worn on gold or silver colored plain chains. No other type of jewelry is acceptable.

Boys Hair

Hair should be neat and trimmed so that it is no longer than the top of the ear on the sides, to the top of the collar in the back, and short enough in front so that it does not fall into eyes. There should be no shaved designs, nor beaded or braided hairdos. Facial hair is prohibited. Sideburns may be no longer than the earlobe.

Boys will be allowed one week to get a proper haircut when needed. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

Please note the following uniform regulations for all students:

Uniforms should be clean with no rips, tears, or stains. Faded and discolored shorts or pants are not acceptable.

All blouses/shirts should be buttoned at all times. Only the top button may be left unbuttoned. Sleeves should be buttoned at all times and should not be rolled.

Shirt tails are to be tucked in at all times from arrival to dismissal. (School-wide rule)

Sweatshirts, sweaters, or jackets may not be tied around the hips.

Long sleeve shirts of any kind, including turtlenecks may **not** be worn under short sleeve shirts at any time. Uniform sweatshirts, fleece

jackets, and sweaters are available for cold weather. No hoodies are permitted.

No permanent or temporary tattoos are allowed.

Pants must be worn at **waist** level.

Shorts, skorts, and skirts should be to the knee.

Shoes

Any style or color, closed toed and closed, flat heeled, sport or leather shoe may be worn. Open-toed or open-backed shoes are not permitted. Black or brown boots may be worn **under long pants only**. High platform shoes are unsafe and not allowed. Shoes with built-in wheels are not allowed. Sandals are not permitted.

Outerwear

The only outerwear which may be worn in St. Anne buildings are St. Anne sweatshirts, Parker fleece jackets, Parker sweaters, or sweater vests. Hoodies are not permitted.

St. Anne sweatshirts will be sold throughout the year for the students. Navy, blue and red sweaters, and navy fleece jackets may be purchased from Parker Uniforms or from our school.

Logos

Shirts are not to bear any type of logo except the St. Anne monogram. Plain white crew or v-neck t- shirts with no prints, slogans, or pictures may be worn under the uniform shirt. Undershirt sleeves/thermal underwear should not show.

Out-of-Uniform or T-Shirt Days for both boys and girls

On "out-of-uniform" days or "t-shirt" days, all uniform rules apply as to shoes (no sandals), socks or stockings, jewelry, and hair. No frayed, torn, or low-rider blue jeans may be worn. Blue jeans that are decorated or of other colors may not be worn. Skirts, dresses, and shorts must be to the knee; no slits may be above the knee. Sun dresses may be worn only with t- shirts with sleeves or an outer jacket or sweater with sleeves. Belts must be worn in belt loops, and no fingernail polish may be worn. A modest appearance dictates that no

part of the torso will be exposed, and the neckline should be appropriately high.

Friday Spirit T-Shirt Days

Students will be allowed to wear a St. Anne t-shirt or a St. Anne athletic t-shirt on Fridays with blue jeans in compliance with the uniform code. All shirts must be tucked in at all times. Athletes will wear jerseys over a St. Anne polo shirt only once a week as determined by the coach, instead of participating in the Friday Spirit T-shirt day.)

Other athletic teams may wear their team shirt once during the week instead of Friday. The coach will determine the day and inform the teachers and administrators in a timely manner.

VISITORS

Visitors must report to the receptionist's office for a badge. All staff will direct visitors they encounter during the school day to comply with this regulation for the safety of our children if necessary.

Any items brought to a student during the school day should be taken to the receptionist's office. Classroom interruptions will be kept to a minimum for optimum teaching purposes.

X. ORGANIZATIONS

SCHOOL BOARD

This organization shall be called the St. Anne Catholic School Board. It shall consist of representatives of any of the Catholic schools.

The Board's function and responsibilities are as follows:

1. To develop and adopt policies necessary to govern St. Anne Catholic School and maintain its Christian integrity.
2. To develop and implement the annual budget for the operation of the school including, but not limited to, establishing and reviewing tuition policy, salary ranges for administrators and teachers, and determining sources of funding.

3. To consult with the Diocesan School Superintendent and the pastor in the hiring of the school principal.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Purpose: The purpose of the St. Anne Home and School Association is to aid our school, its governing bodies, the administration, the teachers, and the parents by providing a forum for dialogue in an effort to promote and enhance the quality of Catholic education at St. Anne Catholic School.

Objectives:

1. To foster dialogue and interaction between the parents and teachers so that instructional efforts of the home and school are coordinated and that through this cooperation, the quality of Catholic education at St. Anne Catholic School will be enhanced.
2. To create a deeper appreciation for and involvement in Catholic education at St. Anne Catholic School.
3. To provide informational programs for both the parents and the staff as a means for the coordination of educational roles of the home and school.
4. To function as an organization to raise monies which will be used to enhance the quality of Catholic education at St. Anne Catholic School

Composition: Membership in the H.S.A. is open to parents and guardians of all children who attend St. Anne Catholic School. In addition, the administrators, teachers, and staff, and any other adult who is interested in the objectives of the association may become members.

Meetings: At the beginning of the school year, the Executive Committee will publish a list of meeting dates for the year. Reminders and other announcements will be sent to parents as well.

Crisis Plan

St. Anne Catholic School provides a quality Catholic education in a caring and safe environment. School safety, comfort, and security are of the utmost importance as our students, faculty, parents, visitors, and staff move about our campus. When a crisis arises, we will respond with the gospel value of compassion to those who are in need of support spiritually, psychologically, as well as emotionally. We will be proactive in our approach to crisis prevention.

INTRODUCTION

School personnel are responsible for protecting the children in their care and keeping the community, particularly parents of students, informed of emergency procedures and decisions to safeguard children and staff in times of emergency. This is a charge all personnel – teachers, aids, custodians, maintenance personnel, cafeteria workers and administrators – share equally and hold supremely important. Parents, however, must assume full responsibility for their child’s supervision and protection after the child leaves supervised school activities or before activities begin each day.

School personnel may assist in any way in the line of Emergency Management in any other area or capacity, as long as their activities do not interfere with their assigned regular or emergency duties.

GENERAL DIRECTIVES

Identification badges are provided for visitors, staff, volunteers, and any adult on campus. Our students are made aware that anyone on campus should be wearing an identification badge; therefore, this represents that they are “safe” people who could be

of assistance if a child needed help.

Visitors must report to the receptionist’s office for a badge if they are remaining in the building or on the school grounds. All staff must insist visitors whom they encounter during the school day comply with this regulation for the safety of our children. Signs are displayed throughout the building and grounds asking visitors to report to the office. All visitors are to sign in and out at the receptionist’s office or in the cafeteria if only for lunch.

Teachers and staff must have verification of identity of those individuals picking up children during the school day and after school. Students must be signed out by the parent, guardian, or designated person in the receptionist’s office. Anyone signing out a student, other than the parents, must be listed on the emergency card. We reserve the right to ask for identification under any circumstance.

PLANT SECURITY

Visitors, including parents, have been directed to report to the receptionist’s office during the school day. Parents should refrain from entering classrooms during the day and should take all messages, materials, etc. to the office to be sent to the classrooms.

All doors on 11th Street are kept locked at all times. Parents should use the receptionist’s office as their entry to the buildings. Teachers are to keep their doors locked when they leave their classrooms.

Teachers supervise student pass times throughout the school day.

Flashlights with batteries are provided for every classroom.

All fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, emergency lighting, and other safety equipment are in good working order.

The office monitors a weather station radio when inclement weather warrants.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Faculty and staff are in-serviced concerning early warning signs of anger, violence, or depression in students. A counselor is on staff and provides ongoing instruction to students concerning emotional and social issues. An open line of communication has been developed with parents, teachers, administration, and the counselor when difficulties arise. A team meeting is held, issues are discussed, and a plan is developed.

The St. Anne community is a close-knit community. Because of this, an event occurring even in the personal life of one of the students could affect the lives of many children. During any crisis situation, the school's main focus must be on the students: those who have been involved in the incident, those who were not involved but have heard what happened, and those who are wondering what all of the commotion is about. Teachers should tally the number of students requesting counseling and seek help for them. Any crisis situation will involve a loss whether it be a death, injury, divorce, changes in body image, a change in geographical location, witness to an act of violence, or abuse. Because all such events involve a loss, all students should be provided with an opportunity to grieve. To facilitate this grief reaction effectively, the school crisis team, which includes counselors, doctors, nurses, and school personnel, will be called together to plan the response.

PROCEDURE FOR CRISIS MANAGEMENT

SCHOOL CRISIS TEAM MEMBERS

-Local physicians and counselors as needed.

Telephone Numbers for Resources in Community

-ADT Security: 1-800-238-2727
-Police District: 911 Emergency or 880-3865
-Fire Department: 880-3901

Definitions

Disaster can strike any area at any time. Generally speaking, disasters fall into two broad categories – natural disasters and those engineered, either intentionally or accidentally, by human beings.

Natural disasters:

Disasters such as floods, severe windstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires are potential destroyers of both life and property. Any of these can occur in the St. Anne area with little or no warning.

Accidental disasters:

The possibility of chemical accidents, falling aircraft, industrial explosions, traffic accidents involving students and accidents in transporting hazardous materials cannot be overlooked. The potential for major accidents increases as people and/or businesses locate more densely in a given area.

Terrorism or other intentional disasters:

In dealing with the safety of students during school hours, administrators are sometimes confronted with such crisis situations as arson, bombs or bomb threats, assaults or acts of terrorism, riotous civil disturbances, looting and/or vandalism.

Personal or family:

These are crises which directly and profoundly affect the school community, such as death of a parent, student or teacher, suicide attempt at school, cluster suicides, and community epidemics.

Planning Policies

Policy 1

All students are required to participate in all disaster preparedness drills held on their campuses. St. Anne safety education programs include the training of students to develop alertness and obedience to emergency drills. The more these drills become a matter of routine for students, the less students are apt to panic if or when a disaster occurs.

Policy 2

Students are to be held at school during an emergency situation until the superintendent or principal or the emergency official issues clearance for their dismissal.

Policy 3

One goal of school personnel shall be to prevent panic and confusion by letting parents know where their children are, that they are supervised, and that precautions will be taken for their safety and protection. Children have designated areas in Gilbert Park if an evacuation is deemed necessary. Parents should refer to Appendix II.

Policy 4

In an emergency situation or disaster, school personnel will release students only to their parents or legal guardians. Children will be transported to a local hospital of choice if a serious injury occurs. School personnel will accompany them. Parents will be notified and progress reports will be sent to the Diocesan Office.

Emergency Plan I School Not in Session

When a disaster or emergency occurs when school is not in session, and the emergency prevents the normal operation of school, the following steps will be taken:

Announcement of closing of school:

- The superintendent will make the decision to close school(s) by 6:30 a.m., if possible. The fire department has authority to close and keep schools closed when deemed necessary for the safety and well-being of students and/or patrons. Designated spokesperson for the media will be Diocesan Office of Catholic Schools. Please direct all media inquiries to the Office of Catholic Schools @ 409-838-0451, ext 150. Teachers and staff should not give out any information.
- Key personnel of the schools will be notified by telephone. The personnel phone chain will be activated.
- The superintendent or his/her designate shall notify the media. All other school employees, students, and parents will be notified of the closing through local radio and television broadcasts (Channels 4, 6 and 12) or through School Reach.

- The principal is in charge and will exercise control over the school in an emergency, but will yield as required to the authority of officials on the scene. The school will cooperate with the Red Cross or Emergency Management regarding the use of facilities and personnel for community care. The principal shall designate an alternate to take charge in his/her absence.

Emergency Plan II School in Session Duties of Key Personnel

This plan includes a description of the warning system, the general duties of key personnel and an emergency action plan for each type of disaster. In an emergency, all key personnel will be contacted. The Office of Catholic Schools will be notified.

Drills and Special Precautions

Fire Drills:

- The principal is required to conduct a fire drill once each month.
- All occupants, including students, teachers, administrators, classified employees, and students must leave the building during a fire drill.
- Students must leave the building in an orderly and rapid manner.
- Teachers are required to check all laboratories, workrooms, bathrooms, and closets to ascertain that no students remain in the building and to make arrangements to assist any handicapped student evacuating the building.
- Students, upon leaving the building, shall remain under the direct supervision of a teacher.
- Teachers should remove their class rolls and gradebooks from the building when they depart so that a rapid check of all students may be conducted.
- Fire Alarm – long, continuous siren
 - Evacuation to designated park area

immediately.

- Teachers check roll with class list. Send list to designated personnel in park.
- Return when personnel signals with megaphone
-

- **Bomb Threat**

- Same procedure as fire drill; evacuation of all personnel.
- Fire officials will search the building.

- **Civil disturbance (threatened or actual)**

- Information and instructions will be relayed orally, unless evacuation is needed, in which case fire drill will be executed.

- **Explosion or Chemical Accident**

- Within school: same as fire signal if determined necessary.
- Near school: same as fire (evacuation) or weather (duck and cover).
- Shelter in place: Chemical releases – contact fire department.

- **Falling Aircraft**

If prompt evacuation is required, use fire signal.

- **Flood**

Special warning signals: none.
If prompt evacuation is required, use fire signals.

- **Severe Weather**

Duck and cover drill, intermittent siren.

Students in the gym must be brought promptly to first floor of Secondary Building.

- **Shelter in place:** Students would remain secured in their classrooms.

Signal: Principal or designee would announce the code word to stay in classrooms. Students remain in their rooms until announcement is made to return to normal activity.

Teachers

Teachers will be responsible for the supervision of students in their charge. In discharging this responsibility, they will be governed by the general instructions of this manual and by school district guidelines and directives of their school principal.

Pre-Emergency

The teacher shall:

- Know and understand the hazards of different disasters and survival techniques for each.
- Provide instruction and practice for pupils in the techniques of survival and in the emergency procedures to be followed.
- Keep readily accessible at all times personal data on each pupil.
- Have planned activities (music, games, lessons, etc.) for use during periods of confinement and to lessen the tension of a disaster situation.

Disaster and Post-Emergency

The teacher shall:

- Direct evacuation of children under supervision to inside or outside assembly areas in accordance with signals, warning, written or verbal orders.
- Remain with and safeguard pupils until relieved by authority of school principal.
- Take roll call when class relocates in an outside or inside assembly area or at another location, or as soon as a condition of order or safety is sufficiently re-established to permit such action.
- Render first aid, restore order, and assist other teachers and children as needed.
- If not on classroom duty with pupils, report at once to pre-assigned station or to school principal.

Appendix I **Tornado Safety Procedures for Children**

Administration

- Warning of a possible tornado (tornado watch) or impending tornado (tornado alert) is usually received via radio, television, or Emergency Management officials.
- Prime attention should be directed toward sky conditions to the south and southwest.
- Audible signals or verbal alarm will notify children and staff, and they should be assembled inside the building.

Staff and Children

- Number one job – get students near a wall or under desks, away from windows. An inside wall away from windows usually offers the greatest protection.
- **Telephone lines should be kept operative as much as possible.** Parents should not call in, so lines are open for emergency personnel.
- Children should usually sit with heads between knees; or lie prone, face down.
- Avoid enclosures with long roof spans, such as auditoriums and gymnasiums.
- Immediate action usually calls for taking cover under desks or suitable heavy furniture.
- **Doors should be opened to equalize pressure.** Flashlights should be available.
- **Children should be released only to their parents** (signed permission might be arranged for others). However, parents should take cover themselves as children are safer in school than outside.
- **Roll should be taken** and each child accounted for.
- All school personnel should be aware of their particular responsibilities. Calm, firm, positive action on the part of every adult is essential.

Before and after school

- **Walkers in an open area should take cover** and lie flat in the nearest depression such as a ditch, culvert, excavation, or ravine.
- Buses should usually head away from the tornado's path, at a right angle to it, or occupants should abandon the vehicle and take cover, as should walkers.

TORNADO Safety Rules

Knowing what to do when a tornado is approaching may mean the difference between life and death!

If you are near a tornado cellar or underground area:

When time permits, go to a tornado cellar, cave, or underground excavation, which should have an air outlet to help equalize the air pressure. It should be kept fit for use, free from water, gas or debris; and preferably equipped with pick and shovel. *There is no universal protection against tornadoes except underground excavations.*

If you are in open country:

- Move at right angles to the tornado's path. Tornadoes usually move ahead at about 25 to 40 mph.
- If there is no time to escape, lie flat in the nearest depression, such as a ditch or ravine.

If you are in a city or town:

- Seek inside shelter, preferably in a strongly reinforced building. **STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS!**
- In homes: The corner of the basement toward the tornado usually offers greatest safety, particularly in frame homes. People in houses without basements can sometimes be protected by taking cover under heavy furniture against inside walls. Doors and windows on the sides of the house away from the tornado may be opened to help reduce damage to the building.
- Standing against the inside wall on a lower floor of an office building offers some protection.

If in a school:

If school building is of strongly reinforced construction, stay inside, away from windows, remain near an inside wall on the lower floors when possible. **AVOID AUDITORIUMS AND GYMNASIUMS** with large, poorly supported roofs!

Keep calm.

It will not help to get excited. People have been killed by running out into streets and by turning back into the path of a tornado. Even though a warning is issued, chances of a tornado

striking one's home or location are very slight. Tornadoes cover such a small zone, as a rule, that relatively only a few places in the warning area are directly affected. You should know about tornadoes, though, "just in case."

Tune in.

Keep turned to your radio or television station for the latest advisory information. Do not call the Weather Bureau, except to report a tornado, as your individual request may tie up telephone lines urgently needed to receive special reports or to relay advisories to radio and television stations for dissemination to thousands in the critical area.

*TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SAFETY*

*DIVISION OF DISASTER
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES*

**TORNADO WARNING
Safety Procedures**

Do not panic – remain calm and think!

Listen carefully to all directions given either over the PA system or by those in charge.

Go to a safe area.

Crouch on the floor facing the wall. Bend over with your hands on the back of your neck.

Keep away from the glass doors, windows and large rooms like the gym.

If you are outside during PE, return to the inside of the building immediately and seek shelter in a safe area.

INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Please read this document carefully.

Parents and students will be asked to sign a statement of understanding and consent.

Internet access is now available to students and teachers at St. Anne Catholic School. We are very pleased to have Internet access, as we believe it offers valuable, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in the school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

For those not familiar with the term, the Internet is an "electronic highway" connecting millions of computers all over the world, and millions of individual users. Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with users throughout the globe. In addition, the system will be used to increase school and Diocesan communication, enhance productivity, and assist employees in upgrading their skills through greater exchange of information with their peers. The system will also assist us in sharing information with the local community, including parents, social service agencies, government agencies, and businesses.

With access to computers and people from around the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Families should be warned that some material obtained via the Net might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. On a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information, either by accident or deliberately. We firmly believe, however, that the benefits to students from online access far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with our educational goals.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the students and faculty who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. If a user violates any of these provisions, his or her future access to Internet use could be denied in accord with the rules and regulations discussed with each user during Internet training sessions.

To gain access to the Internet, all students must obtain parental permission. The signatures at the end of this document are legally binding and indicate the parties who signed have read the terms and conditions carefully and understand their significance.

Internet - Terms and Conditions

- 1) Students are responsible for good behavior on the school computer networks, just as they are in a classroom, or a school hallway. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.
- 2) The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner.

Access is a privilege - not a right. That access entails responsibility. Inappropriate use will result in a suspension or cancellation of Internet privileges. The system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final.

- 3) Users are expected to abide by their generally accepted rules of network etiquette and conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, and polite manner while online.
- 4) Users are not permitted to use the computing resources for commercial purposes, product advertising, political lobbying, or political campaigning.
- 5) Users are not permitted to transmit, receive, submit, or publish any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, offensive, or illegal material.
- 6) Physical or electronic tampering with computer resources is not permitted. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks intentionally will result in cancellation of privileges.
- 7) Users must respect all copyright laws that protect software owners, artists and writers. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated.
- 8) Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem in the school's computers, network, or Internet connection, you must notify a system administrator. Do not demonstrate the problem to others. Using someone else's password or trespassing in other's folders, work, or files without written permission is prohibited. Attempts to log on to the Internet as anyone but oneself may result in cancellation of user privileges.
- 9) St. Anne Catholic School makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. We assume no responsibility or liability for any phone charges, line costs or usage fees, nor for any damages a user may suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, nondeliveries, misdeliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. We specifically deny any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
- 10) All communication and information accessible via the computer resources shall be regarded as private property. However, people who operate the system may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.

Any violations may result in a loss of computer access, as well as other disciplinary or legal action. Users are considered subject to all local, state, and federal laws.