

DISCIPLINE For St. Boniface

One of the assets of a Catholic education is the opportunity for students to learn the value and practice of self-discipline. The term discipline is defined as rational self-control. A disciplined person consistently reflects correct attitudes and respect for the rights of others. A disciplined person shows respect for the teachers, works quietly at his/her desk, cooperates with and respects fellow students, completes and brings assignments on time, and takes proper care of books.

Order and discipline are essential to learning. Each classroom has a set of rules of behavior. When order and discipline are not present, learning is difficult, if not impossible, and the rights of students, parents, and teachers are violated.

Reasons for rules should be clearly understood by adults and students. Rules are designed to uphold the purpose and mission of the school, to ensure the safety of each person, and to build an environment where learning occurs.

A student is a St. Boniface Catholic School student at all times. A student who engages in conduct that is detrimental to the reputation of the school, whether the student is inside or outside the school, may be disciplined by school officials. Behavior that violates school rules, whether it is verbal, physical, written, graphic, or electronic, may be subjected to disciplinary procedures.

Below are school rules that affect the daily living together of the school community:

1. Love God.
2. Love your neighbor as yourself.
3. Follow classroom procedures.

The following regulations from the Diocesan Handbook form the basis of our discipline policy:

1. Good classroom discipline is first and foremost the responsibility of the classroom teacher.
2. Corporal punishment is contrary to Diocesan policy and is not to be used as a means of student control.
3. Emphasis is placed on positive values rather than punishments. When violations do occur, each case will be dealt with patiently, with respect to the personal dignity of the student, the teacher, and all who have been offended by the student's misconduct.
4. Students will be held responsible for any disorderly conduct or destruction of property. Students will pay for any damage to school or parish property.
5. Serious or continuous problems will be referred to the principal. At times, a parent may be called to pick up the child and take him/her home for the remainder of the day.
6. In serious cases, if a student's behavior does not improve through any other means, the principal will follow the procedure for suspension or expulsion as outlined in the Diocesan Handbook. Suspension is defined as the temporary exclusion of a student from a school for disciplinary reasons. Expulsion is defined as the permanent dismissal of a student from school. Suspension and/or expulsion from school will be the decision of the principal in consultation with the pastor.

The principal is the final recourse in all disciplinary situations and may waive any disciplinary rule for just cause at his or her discretion.

***BULLYING**

St. Boniface Catholic School is committed to providing a safe learning environment for each of its students. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere that is free from the fear of emotional and physical intimidation and threats. Bullying is a significantly destructive behavior that will erode the foundational principles on which a school is built. Given the mission of the Catholic Schools of Arkansas and of St. Boniface, there will be no tolerance of any behavior that is classified as bullying, and steps will be taken to eliminate such behavior.

Bullying is prohibited while in school, on school property, in school vehicles, on school buses, at school sponsored activities or school sanctioned events. For the purposes of this policy, bullying is defined as behavior that may include, but is not limited to, teasing, taunting, threatening, frightening, and/or hurting other students physically or emotionally, or influencing others to use such practices. Bullying behavior will generally be established when an individual has endured a pattern of offensive behavior or when a single serious act is committed, depending on the

surrounding circumstances.

The staff and administration will make every effort to be sensitive to bullying behaviors that take place in the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, playgrounds, etc. School employees are required to report any instance of bullying to the principal. Students who believe they have been a victim of bullying, or parents who believe their child has been a victim, must report this to a teacher or to the principal. After investigating the complaint, any student found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action that is appropriate to the degree of seriousness of the bullying behavior, the age of the offending student, and the frequency of the behavior.

PARENT SERVICE REQUIREMENT

All school families are required to complete volunteer hours in the school during the course of the school year. Volunteer opportunities will be posted. All families are required to work the annual Lawn Social.

Families with one child are expected to complete 15 volunteer hours.

Families with two children are expected to complete 20 volunteer hours.

Families with three children are expected to complete 25 volunteer hours.

Families who do not complete their volunteer hours will be billed at the rate of \$10 per hour on the May statement.

Parental Cooperation

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. Just as the parent has the right to withdraw a child if desired, the school administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student if the administration determines that the partnership is irretrievably broken.

HOMEWORK

The parent is the child's **FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT TEACHER**. Parents and classroom teachers are joined together to assure normal healthy social-emotional growth in children. This growth and its development is best fostered and promoted in an environment where quiet and reverence for learning exists. Homework time and place should be disciplined and relaxed, not forced or unpleasant. In order to assimilate the academic skills acquired in school, it is essential that good study habits be fostered in the home.

Daily active interest by parents of children in all the grades helps to reinforce the learning that takes place in the classroom. Such interest helps the child to learn the value of good study habits and responsibility. **IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT PARENTS INQUIRE DAILY ABOUT HOMEWORK AND/OR SCHOOL CORRESPONDENCE**. It is strongly suggested that parents check their child/children's homework assignment book daily. Both child and parent benefit from a one-to-one relationship that is not always possible in the classroom. Friday folders are sent home each week. Work is to be examined by the parents. Then the folder is returned on Monday of each week.

It is very useful for children to utilize education facts. Scramble helps with spelling. Children who have trouble writing or printing can benefit greatly from exercising their hands and fingers while working with clay and using scissors. Finger plays are good exercise for small hands. **IT IS ALWAYS APPROPRIATE TO READ TO CHILDREN, AND IT IS ALWAYS APPROPRIATE FOR THE CHILD TO READ FOR ENJOYMENT. It is strongly suggested that TV watching and video game playing be carefully monitored and restricted in time.**