

SAFETY AND SECURITY AT SCHOOL

For the safety and security of students and staff, all doors (including the doors connecting to the church) are locked after the students arrive. Anyone who arrives later than 7:30 A.M. will need to ring the doorbell at the main door (Door # 13). All visitors who plan to stay in the building need to sign in and get a visitor's pass that signifies that they have checked in at the office.

Safety and Security Policy - Approved: January 7, 2010:

For all after school activities where outsiders are in the school, it is required that an adult be present to act as a hall monitor and "sweeper" in the hallways and lower level. The purpose of this individual is to keep the hallways and restrooms free of any loitering or unruly behavior.

SCHOOL BOARD OF LIMITED JURISDICTION

The 2017-2018 school year marked the beginning of an exciting new school board structure with important duties and responsibilities. The board spent the majority of the year learning about St. Al's accomplishments and challenges related to school enrollment, fundraising, finances, facilities, and strategic planning. The board is composed of individuals with expertise in these areas and a passion for Catholic education. We are in the process of developing recommendations and support mechanisms in each of the key areas necessary for St. Al's success. We will be adding members to the board over the summer and will do more complete introductions of the 2018-2019 board members in the Fall of 2018. We applaud the work of the teachers, staff, volunteers, and school leadership to create an incredible learning environment dedicated to the development of the whole child.

SCHOOL CLIMATE AND DISCIPLINE POLICY

School Climate and Expectations:

St. Alphonsus Catholic School strives to provide the kind of atmosphere that is focused on learning. It is our goal to make **learning** something to be desired and valued by every student, parent/guardian, teacher, and support staff in the school community.

Since it is our belief that every student has a right to learn to her/his fullest potential, it is unfair for any individual to take time away from the students or the teacher for behavior that does not contribute to learning. Small issues are usually best addressed within the classroom either by the teacher or the class as a whole. If a behavior is so disruptive that it interferes with the rest of the children's right to learn or it takes the teacher away from time for appropriate instruction, the teachers have been instructed to send the student/s to meet with the principal. The principal may use her discretion regarding appropriate consequences. The consequences range from a quiet conversation and a little break from the classroom to something more serious that could involve suspension from school or possibly expulsion from school.

It is specifically not the intention of this section to identify all consequences to correspond to various forms and degrees of misbehavior. Some items are, by their very nature, more serious than others. Fighting, the presence of weapons, involvement with chemicals, intimidation, and harassment issues are never allowed at St. Alphonsus Catholic School. They are all very serious issues and must be dealt with accordingly. In each of the previously stated incidents, students could be expelled from school. The principal must use her discretion in each case.

We do not use the terminology frequently called "zero tolerance." This term sounds effective at first glance but sometimes demands the school to take an unwise position in the name of policy when common sense would be a better guide in resolving an issue.

SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS

In an effort to discover what would be most helpful to a student, a teacher may refer a child for testing. The teacher will notify the principal before calling the parents/guardians about referring students for special help. Our school psychologist, Dr. Steve Kahn or one of his associates, is one resource for testing. The Osseo/Maple Grove District can also do testing. Sometimes parents/guardians prefer to go through their own resources for private testing. Information from this testing can be used to help the student in the classroom to be more successful. To ensure confidentiality, any information requested from the teachers or school staff will be sent directly to the doctor, psychologist, or institution that requires the information.

Occasionally there is a student with a significant learning disability whose education needs are greater than our resources at St. Alphonsus Catholic School. Since public schools offer services we cannot, we try to help each parent/guardian make an informed decision based on what is in their child's best interest.

SERVICE TO SCHOOL & VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT POLICY

*School Advisory Board approved 05/2012. **Approved May 2015, the buyout for volunteer hours increased to \$350.*

Volunteers are critical to our St. Alphonsus community. Some educationally enriching opportunities would be lost if we do not get the volunteers required for them. To meet these needs, all families with students attending St. Alphonsus Catholic School in grades K-8 are required to perform **20 service hours per school year**. The details of our Service to School Policy are as follows:

- Each family with students in grades K-8 needs to volunteer 20 hours or pay a \$350 opt out fee by September 15th.
- If the hours are not completed, a \$350 fee will be added to the May tuition payment.

Recommended hours for families with children in grades K-8:

- 2 hours to the Marathon/Fall Fest
- 2 hours to Book Fairs
- 2 hours to the Parish Garage Sale
- 2 hours to the Spring Gala
- 2 hours to helping with Athletics
- The remaining 10 hours can be covered in any way the family is able to help out St. Al's!
- Families must log their hours in Sycamore.
- Hours must be logged within one month of the event. Disputes or discrepancies must be discussed within that month following the event

If your family does not complete their 20 hours, a \$350 fee will be added to the MAY tuition statement for the 2018-2019 school year.

Each family will receive a written update of their service hours completed at the end of each trimester.