



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence

Student Handbook 2026-2027

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HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM 2026-2027

Return to the Homeroom Teacher of the eldest child in the family by Friday, September 25, 2026.

FOR THE STUDENTS

I/we have read the St. Pius X School Handbook for 2026 - 2027 and agree to be governed by its contents.

STUDENT SIGNATURES

Student 1 _____

Student 2_____

Student 3_____

Student 4_____

FOR THE PARENTS

- I/we have read the St. Pius X School Handbook for 2026-2027 and agree to be governed by its contents.
- I/we are aware of my/our financial responsibility to the school both through tuition and the weekly parish offertory.
- I/we are aware that if we plan to volunteer and work with children at St. Pius X School/Parish we must complete the Protecting God’s Children Program.
- I/we have read the Uniform Policy and will support this policy with my student(s).

Parent/Guardian Signature _____Date _____

Print Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____Date _____

Print Name _____

2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK

This school handbook has been prepared to help you become more knowledgeable of the purposes and procedures at St. Pius X, and to support and create an ever-closer relationship among students, parents, teachers and administration. While this handbook has been developed to answer most of the questions that may arise, it is certainly not meant to cover every situation. Please feel free to call the staff at the school when you need clarification on matters not covered in this text. This handbook will be in effect until revisions are necessary.

It details policies that serve as a guideline to the daily operation of our school. However, policy statements are necessarily general, and the principal and pastor reserve the right to:

1. Make specific applications as the circumstances arise.
2. Amend the handbook as necessary throughout the year.

We ask that you read this booklet carefully, discuss it with your child(ren) and keep it for reference throughout the school year. It is our hope that it will serve as a helpful guide to those devoted to the education of the children in our school.

Handbook in Coordination with the Diocese of Joliet

St. Pius X Parish School operates under the auspices of the Diocese of Joliet. Therefore, St. Pius X Parish School adopts in whole all the policies set forth in the Handbook of School Policies published by the Diocese of Joliet Catholic Schools Office. The school administrator, faculty and governance board are required to follow all policies of the Diocese. Additional local policies may be developed to govern the operation of the school but may not be contrary to those policies and procedures established by the Diocese of Joliet.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME6

ABOUT ST. PIUS.....7

ADMISSIONS, TUITION & FEES, FINANCIAL AID11

CURRICULUM & ACADEMIC POLICIES16

TECHNOLOGY24

UNIFORM POLICY30

SCHOOL PROCEDURES36

DISCIPLINE49

STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS62

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES71

PARENT POLICIES & ORGANIZATIONS77

WELCOME

Dear St. Pius X Families,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year at St. Pius X Parish School!

As both a proud alumna from the Class of 1996 and a current St. Pius parent, I know firsthand that St. Pius is so much more than a school—it is a family. This year, our theme, One School. One Family., reflects who we are and what makes our community so special. We celebrate together, support one another through challenges, and work side by side to help every child grow academically, spiritually, and personally.

Thank you for choosing St. Pius X and for entrusting us with your greatest gift—your children. It is truly a privilege to partner with you in their education. Together, our faculty, staff, parents, parish, and students create an environment where every child is known, encouraged, challenged, and cared for.

The handbook that follows outlines the policies and procedures that help us maintain a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment. It is intended to serve as a helpful resource throughout the school year. While no handbook can address every unique situation, we are committed to working collaboratively with our families whenever questions or concerns arise. The administration, in consultation with our Pastor and School Board, reserves the right to revise handbook policies as needed. Any updates will be communicated to our families, and the most current version will always be available on the school website.

As we begin this new school year, I look forward to all that we will accomplish together. There will be opportunities to learn, serve, grow, and create lasting memories as a school community. Thank you for being an important part of the St. Pius family. I am excited for the year ahead and grateful for the opportunity to walk alongside your family on this journey.

Here's to a wonderful 2026-2027 school year!

With Pride in Pius,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mrs. Megan Pauley". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Mrs." and "Pauley" being capitalized and prominent.

Mrs. Megan Pauley
Principal

ABOUT ST. PIUS X



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence.

History

St. Pius X Parish was established on December 28, 1954, by Bishop Martin D. McNamara, the first Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet. As the parish community quickly grew, plans were made to build a church and school that would serve generations of families.

Ground was broken for the church and school on August 28, 1955, and the cornerstone was laid on December 4, 1955, bearing the motto of Pope St. Pius X: "Restore all things in Christ." This guiding principle continues to inspire our mission today.

On September 15, 1956, St. Pius X School opened its doors to 276 students in grades 1 through 6, marking the beginning of a tradition of faith-filled academic excellence.

Today, as we celebrate more than 70 years of Catholic education, St. Pius X School remains committed to forming students spiritually, academically, and socially in a welcoming community where we truly are One School. One Family.

Mission Statement

To Restore All Things in Christ: We, the parishioners, parents and faculty of St. Pius X Parish School freely accept the command to teach the Good News. As part of our Roman Catholic Parish Community, we are committed to develop each child's character, intellect and identity to provide them with a foundation to live a life modeled on Jesus Christ.

Philosophy

It is our belief that in order to realize our full potential for success, St. Pius X Parish School must meet its responsibility to all associated with the school and to the community in which it operates. As a Catholic school, we recognize our parents' God given responsibility as their children's primary and first educators. We accept our roles in assisting and supporting our parents in their task to prepare their children to live in a global society. We will honor the dignity of each individual and give each person the respect he/she deserves. We will nurture, challenge, and shape each child's intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, moral and social justice awareness. We will share Catholic values with one another while giving witness to them in our academic curriculum. We will strive to teach as Jesus taught. We, the School Board, faculty and staff, join with the parish community and with the parents of our students in support of this philosophy.

Accreditation

Families choosing Catholic education in the Diocese of Joliet can be even more confident in their decision, as all diocesan elementary schools and two high schools are accredited through the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA).

WCEA is a nationally recognized accrediting body that evaluates Catholic schools based on academic quality, Catholic identity, leadership, and long-term sustainability. The achievement affirms the

Diocese of Joliet's continued commitment to excellence in both education and faith formation and formalizes a process for continuous school improvement.

A Trusted Mark of Quality

WCEA accreditation aligns with the four domains of National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools (Mission and Catholic Identity, Governance and Leadership, Academic Excellence and Operational Vitality) and Illinois State Board of Education recognition. The accreditation process affirms that schools:

- Deliver strong academic programs
- Actively form students in the Catholic faith
- Operate with sound leadership and financial stability
- Demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement

A Comprehensive Evaluation Process

The rigorous two-year accreditation process that happens every six years includes:

- Conducting a comprehensive self-evaluation and objective external review of all school programs
- Gathering feedback from teachers, parents, and students
- Developing a strategic educational improvement plan for ongoing school improvement
- Hosting an on-site visit by a team of trained educators A Distinctively Catholic Approach Unlike other accreditation models, WCEA evaluates both academic excellence and Catholic mission.

"Our goal is to operate exceptional Catholic schools," said Quaid. "This process ensures our students are growing intellectually and spiritually."

About the Western Catholic Educational Association

Founded in 1962, the Western Catholic Educational Association accredits more than 1,000 Catholic schools across 15 states in 36 arch/dioceses. WCEA is dedicated to supporting high standards of excellence in Catholic education nationwide.

Non-Public State Recognition of Diocesan Schools

All elementary and secondary schools of the Catholic Diocese of Joliet shall be recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education. Schools must be registered with the State of Illinois and be recognized by the State Board of Education. To maintain ISBE recognition principals must annually comply with requirements which include meeting administrative deadlines as determined by ISBE thus ensuring compliance and recognition.

All elementary and secondary schools of the Catholic Diocese of Joliet adhere to all applicable sections of the Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5] and relevant case law including Plyler v Doe, 457 U.S. 202, 102 S Ct 2382(1982)

ADMISSIONS, TUITION & FEES, FINANCIAL AID



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

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ADMISSIONS

Admission Policy

Schools operated under the auspices of the Diocese of Joliet admit students of any race, color, sex, nationality and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally available to students at the schools. As an active part of the parish, St. Pius X Parish School offers an outstanding co-educational program from preschool through eighth grade. Further, it is the policy of St. Pius X Parish School that no child shall be denied a Catholic education solely based on the inability to pay. Confidential financial assistance is available to those families in need.

Priorities for the admission of students are as follows:

1. All currently enrolled students.
2. Siblings of currently enrolled students.
3. Active registered parishioners.
4. Catholic non-parish families.
5. Non-Catholic families.

St. Pius X Parish School was established and is maintained by the personal sacrifices of the Catholic community it serves. This parish community continues to be its main source of support, and therefore, it gives preference to the children of active parish members for admission. Active stewardship (giving of one's time, talent and treasure) in the parish and the school will be taken into consideration for both those seeking admission for the first time or those wishing to continue their registration in the school. Families of St. Pius X Parish School shall embrace stewardship through involvement in parish ministries and, at a minimum, by consistent return of the offertory envelopes. Interpretation of the degree of "active" rests with the pastor and the principal.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Schools operated under the auspices of the Diocese of Joliet admit students of any race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally available to students at the schools. The names of the elementary and secondary schools can be found in the OFFICIAL CATHOLIC DIRECTORY, published annually.

Reference: The Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS, 5/27-23.7

Wait List Policy

To maintain appropriate teacher-to-student ratios and provide a high-quality learning environment, enrollment in some classes may be capped.

When a class reaches capacity, applications will continue to be accepted, and students will be placed on a wait list in the order applications are received. As spaces become available, they will generally be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

For preschool, placement from the wait list is also dependent upon the student's requested schedule and the availability within that particular schedule.

Placement on a wait list does not guarantee enrollment. Families will be contacted if an appropriate opening becomes available.

Admission Ages

A child entering first grade must be six years of age (kindergarten, five years; pre-school three or four years of age respectively) on or before September 1 of that year. The verification of age with a birth certificate is presented at application time. The school maintains certified copies of birth certificates for each student enrolled upon enrollment.

Registration

Registration for the following school year will begin in mid-November for our current families. Registration materials will be sent home and will need to be returned to the school office before Christmas break begins. Open registration for new families will begin in early December. There is a \$125.00 non-refundable registration fee for every family. Your registration will not be official and complete until we receive all the necessary information.

Transfer Students

When a student who is transferring from one Catholic school in the Joliet Diocese applies for admission to another Catholic school (either during or at the end of the academic year) in the Joliet Diocese a Student Transfer Form must be completed.

When a student who is transferring from a Catholic school in the Joliet Diocese to a public school (or out of state), the receiving school must obtain a parent's signature requesting records to be sent to the receiving school. Similarly, if a student is transferring to a Catholic school in the Joliet Diocese, the receiving school must obtain a parent's signature requesting records from the sending school. Records must be sent school-to-school, not through a parent.

Transfer students may be admitted following receipt from the transferring school of attendance, health and academic records, etc. Until such records have been received and analyzed, the child's admission status is probationary. Certified copies of transfer students' records must be requested within fourteen (14) days of enrollment.

Students entering the eighth grade will not be accepted as transfer students except under unusual circumstances. Admission of students at this level is subject to the approval of the principal.

All transfer students will begin their enrollment with a 90-day probationary period for both academic performance and behavior. During this time, the school will monitor the student's academic progress, conduct, attendance, and overall adjustment to the school community.

If, during or at the conclusion of the probationary period, school administration determines that the student is not meeting academic or behavioral expectations, or that the school environment may not be an appropriate fit for the student, the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) will be contacted to discuss concerns and next steps. Continued enrollment will be determined by school administration based on the student's overall progress and circumstances.

Withdrawal of Students

When a student transfers to another school, the student's permanent record card is retained. Records are transferred according to Illinois School Code. Parents/guardians should be made aware of any financial obligations to the school prior to a transfer or withdrawal. In general, no official student records are transferred until all financial accounts with the school CSO 2025 5 have been settled. Unofficial school records are transferred within ten (10) days of request. Unofficial records are minimally defined as copies of the last report card. Health records are transferred along with unofficial records.

TUITION & FEES

St. Pius X has partnered with FACTS Tuition to process and collect our families' tuition and fees. All families must register with FACTS Tuition Management.

If all financial obligations are not met by May 1 and other arrangements have not been made with the principal, students will not be allowed to participate in any graduation activities, report cards will not be distributed to the students, and official transcripts will not be forwarded until all obligations are fulfilled. In addition, a returning student will not be allowed to register for the next school year until all financial obligations for the current year have been met and/or arrangements have been made with the principal.

Families not meeting their financial obligations can be dismissed from the school. All opportunities will be given for the family to make payment and for the student(s) to remain in school. However, if an agreement cannot be reached, the school reserves the right to regain lost funds for services already received through the legal system. A decision to do so will be made by the pastor and the principal.

Tuition contracts will be given to parents for the next school year once their financial obligations for the current year are fulfilled. Parents may choose to pay their total tuition obligation from one of the options outlined on the tuition contract. Tuition contracts should be returned to the school office no later than June 1 for your student(s) to be placed on a class list for the next school year. A late fee may apply for late registration. We will not hold a place for your child without a signed and dated tuition contract.

Fees

2026-2027 Fees

Registration Fee	Assessed 1x per family	\$125
Technology Fee	Applies to each student K-8	\$200
First Communion Sacramental Program Fee	Applies to 2nd Grade only	\$75
Confirmation Sacramental Program Fee	Applies to 8th Grade only	\$75
Graduation Fee	Applies to 8th Grade only	\$250

Financial Aid

Families in need of financial support should complete an application using FACTS, our online tuition payment program. This application has a firm deadline each year.

Mandatory Fundraising

All St. Pius X Parish School families are required to participate in the mandatory raffle ticket fundraiser. Our mandatory raffle amount for all school families (preschool through eighth grade) will be \$600.00 (30 tickets priced at \$20.00 each).

The mandatory raffle amount will be divided into two separate obligations. The first raffle distribution will consist of \$300 worth of tickets distributed in the fall and the winning tickets drawn at a fall gathering that will be announced (i.e., fundraiser, Christmas Program). The second raffle distribution will consist of \$300.00 worth of tickets distributed in the winter of and the winning tickets drawn in the spring at the Art Fair.

Manna Program

All parents have the opportunity to have their tuition reduced for the school year by participating in the Manna gift certificate program during the year. The Manna program effectively reduces tuition in two ways. A percentage of your purchase is set aside as a tuition credit applied to your tuition bill. An additional percentage is directed to the school, to help meet the budgeted revenue amount. All families, especially those having difficulty meeting their tuition commitment, are expected to contribute to the school financially through active participation.

For more information about the Manna program, please contact the Main Office.

CURRICULUM & ACADEMIC POLICIES



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CURRICULUM

St. Pius X Parish School offers a variety of academic programs to meet the needs of students. This instruction is provided in English, with Spanish classes being offered to students in grades three through eight.

Preschool

The St. Pius X preschool follows the Diocesan Guidelines for Early Childhood Education and the Illinois State Early Learning Standards. Preschool students are scheduled on a flexible basis for half-day or full-day participation on Monday through Friday. Class size will be based on enrollment, diocesan guidelines and the principal's discretion.

Kindergarten

The St. Pius X kindergarten curriculum is a guided program following Diocesan Guidelines for Early Childhood Education and Illinois State Learning Standards. Kindergarten students may attend the half-day or the full-day program on Monday through Friday. Kindergarten class size will be determined based on enrollment for the current school year. Optimal class size is 25 students; however, class size will be based on enrollment, diocesan guidelines and the principal's discretion. Academics include Religion, Reading/Language Arts, Math Readiness Programs, Science, Social Studies, Music, Art, and Physical Education,

Primary (Grades 1 - 2)

Curriculum includes Religion, Reading/Phonics, Mathematics, Grammar, Spelling, Science, Social Studies, Handwriting, Art, Music and Physical Education. Preparation for Reconciliation and First Eucharist is provided to our first and second grades. Art Club, Chess Club and Spanish Club are available for an additional fee.

Intermediate (Grades 3 - 5)

Curriculum includes Religion, Reading, English, Spelling, Handwriting, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Spanish and Physical Education. Art Club, Band, Chess Club and Homework Club (for grades four and five) are available for an additional fee. Athletic programs are open to all boys and girls in fifth grade for an additional fee.

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Curriculum includes Religion, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Technology, Art, Music, Spanish and Physical Education. Preparation for Confirmation is provided to our seventh and eighth graders. Athletic programs are open to all boys and girls in fifth through eighth grades for an additional fee.

Religious Education

For our students to grow in their faith, religious instruction must be followed and supported by the home environment. Therefore, as parents, you are vital parts of the overall process. Our part is to offer each child the opportunity to come to know and love God in the truest sense of the word. Students in grades 1-8 are offered daily instruction in Catholic Doctrine. Students attend Mass every week and on Holy Days of obligation. In addition, students attend liturgical services throughout the year such as Stations of the Cross during the Lenten season. Opportunities for Christian service will be offered to all of our students.

Sacrament Preparation

Students who attend St. Pius X Parish School will be offered sacrament preparation. Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion begins in first grade under the direction of the Director of Religious Education at St. Pius Parish. Confirmation preparation begins in grade seven for the sacrament in eighth grade under the direction of the Director of Religious Education at St. Pius X Parish.

Fine Arts

Fine Arts are an integral part of a well-rounded education at St. Pius X School. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 participate in two Fine Arts classes each week: one Art class and one Music class. Through these experiences, students develop creativity, critical thinking, self-expression, and an appreciation for the visual and performing arts. Our Fine Arts program encourages students to explore new skills, build confidence, and express themselves in meaningful and creative ways.

Physical Education

Physical Education is an important part of the educational experience at St. Pius X School. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 participate in two Physical Education classes each week. Through a variety of age-appropriate activities, games, and team sports, students develop physical fitness, coordination, teamwork, sportsmanship, and healthy habits. Our Physical Education program encourages students to stay active, build confidence, and develop a lifelong appreciation for health and wellness.

Foreign Language

Spanish instruction begins in Grade 3 with one class per week and increases to three classes per week in middle school. The program is designed to build a strong foundation in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while introducing students to the cultures and traditions of Spanish-speaking countries. As students progress, they develop practical communication skills and a greater appreciation for language, culture, and global perspectives.

Technology

Technology instruction begins in Grade 5, with students participating in one Technology class each week. The curriculum focuses on developing essential digital literacy, technology, and problem-solving skills while preparing students for success in high school, college, and future careers. Students

learn responsible digital citizenship, keyboarding, productivity tools, coding fundamentals, research skills, and the effective use of technology to communicate, collaborate, and create.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Grading Code

Grades K – 3

The marks used to report progress are:

4 - Exceeds ~ Student work consistently exceeds expectations. Student fully understands concepts/skills being taught with few or no errors.

3 - Meets ~ Student work usually meets expectations and is typical for grade level and time of year. Student is able to demonstrate an understanding of the concepts/skills. During evaluation, a majority of the student responses are correct. (Most students will achieve in this range.)

2 - Needs to Improve ~ Student work needs to improve to meet expectation. Student has little or no understanding of the concepts/skills being taught. During the evaluation they are unable to demonstrate competency.

1 - Not Graded ~ Used when a particular standard is not presented.

Grades 4-8

A +	99-100
A	96-98
A-	95-93
B+	92-91
B	90-88
B-	87-85
C+	84-83
C	82-79
C-	78-77
D+	76-75
D	74-72
D-	71-70
F =	69-0

FACTS Online Grading System

Student grades and report cards will be posted on FACTS, an electronic grade posting and informational tool. Announcements and homework assignments will also be posted on FACTS.

Report Cards

Report cards will be issued three times throughout the school year using FACTS. Report cards will be posted electronically on FACTS for all trimesters. Report cards are used to evaluate students academically and to assist in the development of social skills and character.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are offered for all students in the fall and held by appointment in the spring of each school year. Conferences for students in grades preschool through grade five will be with the child's homeroom teacher. Conferences for students in grades six through eight will be held with teachers by appointment. Parents are also encouraged to contact teachers with any concerns or questions they may have throughout the school year.

Honor Roll

The honor roll for students in sixth through eighth grade is determined by calculating a Grade Point Average (GPA) of their core and special area subjects. Honor Roll will be distributed to students following the issuance of each report card. Certificates for trimester three will be mailed at the end of the year. **Behavior marks and Xs on a report card can result in a student being ineligible for honors.** Any student caught cheating/plagiarizing or has been placed in a school suspension will be ineligible for honor roll for that trimester.

There are three categories of honors: Honors, High Honors, and Honors with Distinction.

Honors with Distinction: Honors with Distinction for students in grades six through eight will be determined by a GPA of 98-100 in core and special-area subjects with no behavior marks or an X on the report card, including special-area classes. Students with a behavior mark or X will have their report card held until such time they are removed from a subsequent report card.

High Honors: High Honors is determined for students in grades six through eight with a GPA of 95-97.9 in core and special-area subjects with no behavior marks or Xs on the report card in all subject areas, including special-area classes. Students with a behavior mark or X will have their report card held until such time they are removed from a subsequent report card.

Honors: Students are eligible for Honors if they have an overall GPA of 90-94.9 in core and special-area subjects and no behavior marks or Xs on their report card. Students with a behavior mark or X will have their report card held until such time they are removed from a subsequent report card.

Standardized Assessment (iReady)

To support student growth and academic excellence, St. Pius X School administers the iReady Diagnostic in Reading and Mathematics to all students in Kindergarten through Grade 8. This assessment, required by the Diocese of Joliet, provides valuable information about each student's current achievement levels and academic progress.

The iReady Diagnostic is an adaptive online assessment that adjusts the difficulty of questions based on student responses, allowing teachers to accurately identify each student's strengths and areas for

growth. The results are used to guide classroom instruction, differentiate learning, set individual goals, and monitor student progress throughout the school year.

Students complete the iReady Diagnostic three times annually: fall (August/September), winter (December/January), and spring (April/May). The assessment is not graded; rather, it serves as a tool to help teachers provide targeted instruction that meets each student where they are academically.

Parents will receive information regarding their child's progress after each testing window.

Academic Probation

It is imperative that our students apply themselves fully to their studies. We recognize that student achievement must be fostered and encouraged. Therefore, a student who is scholastically capable but is failing in any subject (grade of D or F) will be placed on academic probation. The student is then required to attend weekly Homework Club after school to complete missing assignments. In-school activities may be forfeited, at the discretion of the principal.

Extracurricular Eligibility

If a student is earning a grade of D or F in any class, and is on academic probation, he/she will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities (i.e. athletics, Student Council, etc.) such as practices, meetings or games. On Monday, a warning list and a probation/ineligible list will be released and parents will be notified.

- 1 class with grade of D or F = Warning List (student is still eligible for Extracurricular activities this week)

This allows students 1 week to raise grades. Homework Club on Wednesday afternoon (until 4PM) is MANDATORY when on this list. If grade is not raised, student will move to the Ineligibility list the following week.

- 2 classes with grade of D or F = Academic Probation/Extracurricular Ineligibility

This means students is on academic ineligibility and is unable to participate in this week's extracurricular activities. Homework Club on Wednesday afternoon (until 4PM) is MANDATORY when on this list.

Ineligibility runs from Monday – Monday and includes all practices, meetings and games/meets. Ineligibility/warning list removal may be possible during the week, dependent upon teacher review. IEPs and accommodation plans are taken into effect when determining

Late Work Policy (Middle School)

- Late work will be entered into FACTS as an "M" for missing and a comment will be added by the teacher as to what credit will be issued, if any.
- Students must advocate for themselves, before the due date, with an email to the teacher and a valid reason for the homework being late to receive an extension.

- Sports is NOT an excuse for missing work.
- No work will be given to students over vacation; work will need to be completed upon return.
- Assignments turned in 3-5 days late will receive a 10% deduction overall; after 5 days, work is no longer accepted.
- Absences: Students get one extra day to turn in work for every day they have an excused absence; the student must check in with each teacher when they return to school for missing work.
- Responsibility: It is the student's responsibility to check the digital classroom (Google Classroom) for missing assignments upon return.

Promotion and Graduation Requirements

All students must receive a passing grade in all subjects to advance to the next grade level or to receive a diploma at graduation. Eighth grade students must pass the United States and Illinois Constitution Tests. A passing grade is considered a grade average above F for the class over the course of the academic year. Students who fail to achieve a passing grade for two trimesters will be expected to complete a summer school course or participate in a similarly structured academic program to demonstrate achievement. Receipt of a diploma at graduation is to be considered the highest honor we bestow at St. Pius X Parish School.

Retention

Students who do not satisfactorily complete all class work for promotion to the next grade level will be considered for retention. When it is probable that a student will not be promoted, the parent or guardian will be informed well in advance. Where the parent or guardian refuses to have the child retained, the school may acquiesce if a program that meets the child's needs can be provided at the next grade level. Retention of a student should be the school's last resort to remediate.

Retention may be necessary in the case of a student missing a significant portion of the school year due to truancy.

Special Services

Special education services may be available to our students through the public school system in which our school resides. Decisions regarding evaluation, assessment and level of services are determined by School District 45. St. Pius X Parish School and School District 45 strive to meet the emotional, academic, social, and physical needs of all students.

Students found eligible for speech services through District 45 will receive those services through free of charge in our building. These services are dependent on available funding provided by the State of Illinois.

Elementary & Intermediate Resource Program

Students in the elementary and intermediate grades may receive Reading and/or Math intervention through the Resource Program based on iReady Diagnostic results, classroom

performance, and teacher recommendation. Services are designed to provide targeted support for students who would benefit from additional instruction in foundational academic skills.

Resource instruction is provided in small groups and focuses on remediating learning gaps, reteaching essential concepts, and reinforcing grade-level skills in reading and mathematics. Instruction is individualized to meet students' needs and is intended to build confidence, strengthen academic performance, and support success in the general education classroom. Student progress is monitored regularly, and participation in the Resource Program is adjusted based on ongoing assessment data and teacher input.

Middle School Resource Program

Students who score two or more grade levels below in both Reading and Mathematics on the iReady Diagnostic may be considered for placement in the Resource Program following a conference with classroom teachers, intervention staff, and administration.

The Resource Program replaces Spanish instruction and provides students with additional support through small-group instruction, guided study halls, targeted interventions, organizational coaching, and extended time when appropriate. The program is designed to reinforce and strengthen foundational skills in reading, writing, and mathematics while helping students develop the confidence and strategies needed for long-term academic success.

Placement in the Resource Program is reviewed throughout the school year. Students may transition back into the traditional elective schedule, including Spanish, when they demonstrate sustained academic growth. Exit from the program is based on multiple measures, including iReady Diagnostic scores indicating performance within one grade level or above in both Reading and Mathematics, along with classroom performance and recommendations from the student's teachers and administration. Final decisions regarding placement in or exit from the Resource Program are made collaboratively by school administration and instructional staff based on the student's overall academic needs.

TECHNOLOGY



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence

TECHNOLOGY

Technology Philosophy

At St. Pius X School, we believe technology is a purposeful tool that enhances teaching, enriches student learning, and prepares students for success in high school, college, careers, and life. Through our 1:1 Chromebook program, students engage with digital tools that strengthen instruction, encourage innovation, and support individualized academic growth. Adaptive platforms, including iReady, provide personalized instruction based on each student's unique strengths and areas for growth, while classroom technology fosters creativity, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and responsible digital citizenship.

St. Pius X School is committed to integrating technology with purpose and intention. We strive to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and digital responsibility necessary to become confident learners, effective communicators, and thoughtful problem-solvers in an ever-changing world. Technology is one of the many ways we empower our students to reach their full potential while preparing them to thrive beyond the walls of our school.

Technology by Grade Level

- **Kindergarten**

Kindergarten students are assigned individual Chromebooks that remain at school. Technology is incorporated into classroom instruction to reinforce foundational literacy and mathematics skills through engaging, teacher-directed learning experiences.

- **Grades 1–4**

Students use their Chromebooks to support classroom learning, with a primary focus on iReady Reading and Mathematics. As an adaptive learning platform, iReady delivers individualized lessons tailored to each student's learning needs while providing teachers with meaningful data to guide instruction, intervention, and enrichment. Technology is also integrated throughout the curriculum to reinforce learning and build confidence with digital tools.

- **Grades 5–8**

Technology becomes an integral part of daily instruction across all subject areas. Students participate in dedicated technology classes that develop essential skills in digital productivity, research, organization, keyboarding, presentation design, responsible online communication, and collaboration. These skills are reinforced across the curriculum as students use technology to create, communicate, solve problems, and prepare for the academic and technological expectations of high school, college, and future careers.

Email Addresses

Students in grades five through eight will receive an email account through St. Pius. This email address has restrictions where the students can only send and receive emails from a stpiuslombard.org address. This will facilitate collaboration with classmates and the ability to contact teachers directly. These email addresses fall under the umbrella of the Technology Agreement. All

students in grades five through eight will be asked to sign a Technology Agreement after going over the details in Technology class.

Policy for Internet Access and Related Technology Use-Students

The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Joliet and St. Pius X Parish School support the use of technology in the instructional program through internet capable devices and digital equipment (sometimes collectively referred to as "Technology Resources"), as a means to facilitate learning and teaching in an interconnected digital world.

All uses of Technology Resources shall be for educational purposes only and will be consistent with the Diocesan and School's goal of promoting Catholic values and teaching, and academic excellence as defined in the respective mission and philosophy statements.

The Parents/Guardians of student users of Technology Resources must agree to and accept the Terms and Conditions below before their children will be granted access to the Technology Resources within the School.

- Both the Parent/Guardian and Student user acknowledge that the Code of Conduct herein also applies to personal electronic devices, including, but not limited to cell phones and other handheld devices, laptops and notebooks/tablets ("Privately Owned Devices")
- Students and their parents or guardians are advised that the Diocese of Joliet Catholic Schools may not request or require a student to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to a student's account or profile on a social networking website.
- The school may conduct an investigation and if the school has reasonable cause to believe the content of a student's social media account has violated a disciplinary rule or policy of the school, the law requires the student to provide social networking website passwords or other related account information to gain access to the student's account or profile. (IL School Code 105 75/15, Illinois Public Act 098-0129)

The failure of any user to follow the terms and conditions of this Agreement may result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action and/or legal action.

Acceptable Use

The Diocese and Parish School will make reasonable efforts to ensure that technology is used in a responsible, moral and ethical manner consistent with the educational and moral objectives of the Diocese and School.

Responsibility

School administrators, teachers and staff work together to help students cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation and online social interactions in ways that are positive, ethical, safe and legal. However, there is an enormous range of material available on the Internet, some of which may not be fitting with the particular values of a students' family. It is not practically possible for the Diocese and School to monitor and enforce a wide array of social and religious values in student use

of the Internet. Therefore, the Diocese and School recognize parents as primary educators of their children and the need for them to be involved in instructing their children as to what material is and is not acceptable for access and communication through the school network system and at home when in possession of a school owned device.

The students, teachers and staff have the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of every other user in the school and on the Internet.

The Principal or Pastor has the authority to determine what constitutes inappropriate use and his/her decision is final.

Code of Conduct

Expectations for conduct Grades K-2, 3-5 and 6-8 are defined with the expectation for age-appropriate behavior when using technology.

Safety

Reasonable efforts will be made to protect users of the network from harassment, unwanted and unsolicited communication. Any network users who receive threatening or unwelcome communication shall immediately bring this to the attention of a teacher or Principal.

Internet Filtering

The school will use technology protection measures in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) to protect minors and all users against access to visual depictions that are violent, obscene, constitute child pornography, or are otherwise harmful to minors.

Privacy

The user does not have any right of privacy or ownership whatsoever in relation to his/her use of the school network and/or email. Consequently, all electronic and telephone communication systems and all communication and information transmitted by, received from, or stored in any manner are the property of the Parish, School or Diocese and are to be used for educational purposes only.

To ensure that the use of the network is consistent with the educational objectives and philosophy of the School, Parish, and Diocese, authorized representatives may monitor the use of the network from time to time, which may include the printing and reading of all information stored, and all emails entering, leaving or stored and all files created and saved in the system. The system administrator (Principal or designee, Pastor) may remove any material stored by the users which violates the terms of this Agreement.

Consequences for Inappropriate Use

The school network user shall be responsible for damages to equipment, systems, and software resulting from deliberate and willful acts or installation of unapproved software and/or files. Illegal use of the school network, intentional deletion or damage to files or data belonging to others, copyright violations or theft of services will be reported to the appropriate authority and will be deemed a failure to follow the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

If a user mistakenly accesses inappropriate information, the user shall immediately inform the teacher or adult supervisor.

Web Pages

The School may choose to publish Web Pages for purposes of providing School or Parish information and teacher or class information. This may include the posting of meetings, agendas, student activities, projects and accomplishments, schedules and other information of interest to students, parents and the community. Classrooms may participate in the development of web pages as on-going educational projects. The posting of any material that may violate copyright law is expressly prohibited.

Disclosure of student information on the school website will be limited to first name and last initial. Photographs or video of students may be posted on the school website; however, no photograph or video of any student will be captioned with the student's name or identify the student by name in any other manner. No image of a student may be posted in such a way that the image of that student may be matched up with the student's name. The principal or his/her designee shall monitor school web publications.

Indemnification

The user's parent/guardian hereby agrees to indemnify the School/Parish/Diocese for any losses, costs, or damages, including attorney fees, incurred by the School, Parish, or Diocese relating to or arising out of the breach of, or the enforcement of this Agreement or the School/Parish/Diocese enforcement thereof.

Financial Obligations

The student, parent, guardian, agrees to be responsible for any financial obligation incurred through the use of the school network that is contrary to the terms of this Agreement.

Limitation of Liability

The School/Parish/Diocese makes no guarantee that functions and services provided by the School's computer system and network will be error free or without any defect. The School/Parish/Diocese have no responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the use of the school network or for any damages users suffer.

Diocese of Joliet Videotaping/Photographing of Students

The Diocese and Schools of the Diocese of Joliet allow positive publicity of students using videotapes, digital images, photographs and web publications within the context of this agreement. Videotaping and/or photographing may be used in and by the Diocese and Schools of the Diocese as a facet of instruction for enhancing learning, to share information, to promote the school, to assist in providing a safe and secure learning environment, and to monitor/record student activities. Such videotaping/photography may be announced or unannounced and will be conducted according to

Diocesan guidelines. However, the Diocese and Schools of the Diocese do not approve of the display of any videotapes, digital images, photographs on social networking or video sharing sites, such as YouTube, without the expressed permission of the administrator and all parties involved.

1. Videotapes, photographs, and digital images of students may be utilized by teachers, administrators, or their designee within the Diocese and/or School for classroom instructional purposes without advance consent of a student's parent/guardian. Such School and or Diocesan staff shall maintain the confidentiality of these student records in accordance with state and federal laws and the established Diocesan student record procedures.
2. Photographs or videos of students posted on the school website shall not be captioned with the student's full name or identify the student by name in any manner. Disclosure of student information will be limited to first name and last initial. No image of a student may be posted in such a way that the image of that student may be linked to or associated with the student's full name.
3. A student teacher under the supervision of a college/university, or other certified staff member may utilize videotapes, photographs, or digital images of students for his/her own professional use without the advance consent of a student's parent/guardian. Examples of educational videotapes/photographs include documenting science experiments, presentations, etc. A release form is required from the parent/guardian when students participating in class university class assignment and/or student teaching portfolio development.
4. Students under the supervision of the administrator/teacher or approved designee, may videotape or photograph students without the advance consent of a student's parent/guardian for educational purposes, to promote the school/school activities and to enhance learning. Examples: yearbook, school paper, sports games, etc,
5. Forms of release for videotaping and photographing of students are not required from the parent/guardian when:
 - A student has voluntarily chosen or been allowed by his/her parent/guardian to participate in, or be a spectator at, a school-related activity that is open to the public such as an athletic event, concert, theatrical presentation, dance, etc.
 - The student has chosen to be an officially designated school leader or role model, such as athlete, student council leader, etc. for which there is potential for informal contact with news media.
 - Stock videotape footage or generic pictures. (i.e. yearbook individual and group pictures) are being obtained in public places. (i.e. hallways, gymnasiums, general classroom areas, playgrounds, athletic fields, etc.) by the Diocese and/or School
 - Outside news media videotape or photograph students in areas that cannot be effectively shielded from the public, such as playgrounds, parking lots, athletic fields, etc.
 - Video cameras are in use to monitor public areas of a school/church facility or bus.

UNIFORM POLICIES



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence

UNIFORM POLICY

At St. Pius X Parish School, our uniform is more than just what we wear—it is a symbol of who we are. As One School. One Family., our uniforms help foster a sense of community, school pride, and belonging while creating an environment where the focus remains on learning, faith, and character rather than appearance.

All students are expected to be in the approved school uniform each school day unless otherwise announced by the school. Students should arrive at school neat, clean, and in compliance with the uniform policy.

The administration reserves the right to determine whether a student's attire, grooming, or accessories meet the expectations of the school's uniform and dress code. Families are encouraged to use good judgment when selecting uniform items and accessories. If you are unsure whether something meets the dress code, please choose not to wear it or contact the school office for clarification before wearing it to school.

We appreciate the partnership of our families in helping students represent St. Pius X Parish School with pride, respect, and professionalism each day.

Uniforms Required Grades Kindergarten-4		
Shoes	Boys/Girls	Plain black, white, grey or brown athletic or dress shoes. No rhinestones, jewels or color accessories. No boots, moccasins or authentic ballet slippers. No high tops.
Socks	Boys/Girls	Solid white, gray or black socks should be worn. St. Pius logo socks sold through Schoolbelles can be worn.
Jumper	Girls	Plaid jumper purchased through Schoolbelles. Should be no more than 2 inches above the knee in length.
Blouses	Girls	Plain white, long or short sleeve, Peter Pan or regular collar.
Shirts	Boys	Plain white polo or gray Polo purchased through Schoolbelles.
Pants	Boys/Girls	Black cotton/twill pants. No black denim, stretch or yoga pants.
P.E. Uniform	Boys/Girls	Any St. Pius spiritwear or logo t-shirt. Shorts, sweatpants and sweatshirts must have the St. Pius X logo. Shorts must be no more than 2 inches above the knee. Athletic shoes are required – any color is okay, no high tops allowed. No light-up shoes, sparkle or shoes with wheels.

Optional Items Grades Kindergarten-4		
Fleece	Boys//Girls	Gray fleece purchased through Schoolbelles.
Pullover/vest	Boys/Girls	Sweaters, crew neck sweatshirt and vest purchased through Schoolbelles.
Long-sleeve shirt	Boys/Girls	Worn under school blouse or school polo. Solid white, or black with no logos, graphics or brand names showing.

Leggings	Girls	Solid black to be worn under jumper during cold weather.
Tights	Girls	Solid black, white, or gray to be worn under jumper during cold weather.
Shorts	Boys/Girls	During warmer months, Administration will communicate when shorts are allowed. Shorts should be solid black dress shorts and should be no more than 2 inches above the knee in length.
Hair Accessories	Girls	Solid yellow, black, white or gray -small in size. Accessories sold through Schoolbelles are allowed.

Uniforms Required Grades 5-8		
Shoes	Boys/Girls	Plain black, white, grey or brown athletic or dress shoes. No rhinestones, jewels or color accessories. No boots, moccasins or authentic ballet slippers. No hightop shoes.
Socks	Boys/Girls	Solid white, gray or black socks should be worn. St. Pius logo socks sold through Schoolbelles.
Skirt	Girls	Plaid skirt or skirt purchased through Schoolbelles. Should be no more than 2 inches above the knee in length.
Shirts	Girls	Gray banded polo purchased through Schoolbelles. Non-banded shirts to be tucked in.
Shirts	Boys	Gray logo polo purchased through Schoolbelles.
Pants	Boys/Girls	Black cotton/twill dress pants. No black denim, stretch or yoga pants.
P.E. Uniform	Boys/Girls	Any St. Pius spiritwear or logo t-shirt. Shorts, sweatpants and sweatshirts must have the St. Pius X logo. Shorts must be no more than 2 inches above the knee. Athletic shoes are required – any color is okay, no high tops allowed.

Uniforms Optional Grades 5-8		
Fleece	Boys//Girls	Gray fleece purchased through Schoolbelles.
Sweater/vest/sweatshirt	Boys/Girls	Sweaters, crew neck sweatshirt and vest purchased through Schoolbelles. All items must have the St. Pius X logo.
Long-sleeve shirt	Boys/Girls	Worn under school blouse or school polo. Solid white or black with no logos, graphics or brand names showing.
Leggings	Girls	Solid black to be worn under skirt during cold weather.
Tights	Girls	Solid black, white or gray, worn under skirts during cold weather.
Shorts	Boys/Girls	During warmer months, Administration will communicate when shorts are allowed. Shorts

		should be solid black dress shorts and should be no more than 2 inches above the knee in length.
Hair Accessories	Girls	Solid yellow, black, white, or gray-small in size. Accessories sold through Schoolbelles are allowed.

Examples of Acceptable Uniform Shoes



General Uniform Policies

- Undergarments, including camis and sports bras or underwear bands may not be showing at any time.
- Shorts should be worn under jumpers and skirts for modesty.
- Only St. Pius branded hoodies are allowed.
- Throughout the school year, students may be asked to lengthen skirts or pants to appropriate length to adjust for growth.

Make-up and Nail Polish

- No make-up is allowed during school hours with the exception of light concealer for blemishes.
- Clear, light pink or white nail polish is allowed. Nails should be of modest length with no artificial nails allowed.

Jewelry

- Girls may wear stud earrings on the earlobe in matching pairs. Small hoops (cannot fit a finger through) are allowed. No earrings that dangle allowed.
- No other visible body piercings are allowed, including cartilage or upper ear piercings. Boys may not have pierced ears.
- Boys and girls may wear one wristwatch. Smart watches are required to be silenced and on school mode. If used inappropriately, privileges of smart watches will be forfeited.
- A modest religious medal or cross may be worn.

- Rings, pins, or ankle bracelets may not be worn.
- Bracelets are not allowed with the exception of medical bracelets.
- Jewelry must be removed for P.E. class for safety.

Hair

- All students' hair must be neat, clean and well groomed. No tails, cutouts, etchings or extreme hair styles allowed.
- Student's hair may not cover the eyes.
- Boys must be clean shaven. Beards and mustaches are not allowed.
- All hair must be of natural color; no extreme colors are allowed. Students may be required to dye their hair to a natural color, at the discretion of administration.
- Solid color hair accessories in black, yellow or white, or those purchased through Schoolbelles, are allowed.
- Hats may not be worn in the building with the school uniform, with the exception of specialty days that are announced prior to the school day.
- Hair length and style appropriateness is at the discretion of school administration. Boys may not have hair longer than their shoulders.

Illinois Public Act 102-0360PDF Document, known as the Jett Hawkins Law, prevents school boards, local school councils, charter schools, and non-public elementary and secondary schools from creating hairstyle-based dress code requirements. Specifically, the Public Act prohibits discriminating against hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists.

Tattoos/Writing on Body

Students may not have permanent or temporary tattoos.

Students may not write on themselves or others using pens, paint or markers. Students found wearing writing or markings on their bodies will be required to wash it off.

Dress Down Days

Periodically throughout the school year, children will be invited to participate in out of uniform days. Specific themes may be announced for those days. Policies will be indicated for each of those days.

- Jeans should have no rips or tears.
- No t-shirts with inappropriate words or images.
- No shirts with low necklines (below collarbone).
- No spaghetti straps.
- No midriffs or crop tops allowed.
- Leggings are allowed with shirts of modest length.
- Dresses may not have open backs or side cutouts.
- No Crocs or slides (unless noted).

Scouting Uniforms

Parents of Girl Scouts and Boys Scouts should check with their leaders to obtain the current information for appropriate scouting uniform attire.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence.

DAILY SCHEDULE

	Arrival	Dismissal
Grades 1 – 8	8:00 – 8:10 AM	3:15 PM
Kindergarten	8:00 – 8:10 AM	3:05 PM
Preschool AM	8:25 AM	11:30 AM
Preschool Full Day	8:25 AM	3:05 PM

Students should not arrive before 7:45 AM. If parents need to drop off their students before 7:45 AM, they are asked to enroll their students in the Before Care Program. Students should arrive at their designated door and should go directly to their classroom. The tardy bell will ring at 8:10 followed by Morning Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance in the classrooms. Tardy students are to enter the school building in the morning by using the main doors by the school office.

School Office Hours

During the school year, office hours are from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The phone number for the school is 630-627-2353. Please leave a message on the school answering machine if we do not answer. The messages are checked regularly.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Parking Lot General Guidelines

- Please be aware of students using the crosswalk in the parking lot.
- Do not park in the handicap parking spaces to drop off or pick up your children unless you have a handicap sticker on your car. The Lombard Police Department will ticket violators.
- Left hand turns onto Westmore are not allowed per a posted sign. The Lombard Police Department will ticket violators.
- Both turn lanes from the Westmore lot are for RIGHT turns only.
- The parking spaces on the south side of the school are for faculty and school auction winners only. Please do not park in these spots.
- The bus lane is located in the Madison lot. We ask that parents do not park their cars in this lane, when bus service is provided.
- Pets are not allowed on the school property.

AM Drop Off Procedures

Families with Middle Students: Cars will enter behind the school from Madison Avenue and proceed behind the Social Center. Students in grades 5-8 will be dropped off in the circle. Please proceed through the Westmore lot to exit or drop elementary students off.

Families WITHOUT Jr. High Students: Cars can enter the Westmore entrance. Please pull all the way up to drop off your students in grades K- 4 at the front doors.

Preschool drop off: Parents should refrain from coming to school until 8:20AM for only preschool dropoff to allow cars to flow through the parking lot. Students will line up with teachers at 8:25AM. Preschool 3 will enter through the Main Office doors (Door 1) while Preschool 4 will enter in the Westmore church doors (Door 3).

PM Pick Up Procedures

Students will exit through the following doors:

- Preschool 3 will exit through the Main Office doors.
- Preschool 4 will exit through the Westmore church doors.
- Grades 5-8 will exit the Recess doors and proceed to the Madison St lot.
- Grades K - 4 will exit the main office doors.

All lanes, including the no parking lanes are in use during pick up. The only exception is the lane closest to the school building and the no parking zone adjacent to the sidewalk.

Pull all the way up in the lane, as this directly affects the number of cars that can fit in the Westmore parking lot. Please do not pull in the lot and park in the back/middle if space is open in front of you - this leaves gaps that cars cannot access and limits the number of cars that can fit.

Preschool pickup uses the first two lanes until 3:05 PM only. If you are picking up a preschool student and an older student, please do not park in these lanes.

If you need to be somewhere and have to leave the lot quickly, please get here early to take a front spot or consider parking in the Madison Street (church) lot and walking around the church building to meet your student(s).

Parents should notify the school office if someone other than yourself will be picking up your student(s).

Students in Preschool & Kindergarten will be dismissed at 3:05 PM. Students in grades one through eight will be dismissed at 3:15 PM. Students who ride the bus will be dismissed 10 minutes early to allow time to walk to the bus area by the church. *Note: When District 45 is out of school or providing remote learning, the bus is not available for St. Pius students.*

Any student not picked up by 3:25 PM will be placed in the After Care Program and will be charged the After Care fee. Their after-hours phone number is (630) 627-4170 after 3:30 PM.

Before and After School Care

St. Pius X Parish School offers before and after school care to those parents who have a need for these services.

Before School Care begins at 7:00 AM and goes until school begins. When school begins, the children will be taken/sent to their homerooms. Before School Care attendees should enter the building by the

school office, ring the bell and the teacher will open the door for you. Children must be pre-registered for the program.

After School Care begins at 3:05 PM for preschoolers and 3:15 PM for students in grades kindergarten through eighth and continues until 6:00 PM. The children will be provided with a semi-structured afternoon which includes time for homework and recess. Please send a snack with your child. There is a daily fee for this service:

- \$8.00 per child for morning care
- \$8.00 per student for after care if students are picked up by 4:00 PM
- \$14 per student for after care if being picked up after 4:00PM

Parents will be billed on their FACTS account on a monthly wait.

Parents who wish to utilize the Before/After School Care program can obtain a registration/information packet with more detailed information from the school office. There is a registration fee of \$20 per family to use the Before and After Care Program.

Bus Service

Bus service, provided by District 45, may be provided to students who live within the boundaries of School District 45 and live more than 1.5 miles from the school and/or have a qualified hazardous crossing. Information is available at the school office. When District 45 is not in session or out for remote learning, bus service will not be provided to St. Pius students.

Street Crossing

Students are to cross the street only at a designated crossing area, where crossing lights are present and /or where a school crossing guard is present.

Bicycles

Students who ride their bicycles to school are not allowed to ride them on school property before, during or after school. Once on school grounds, students must walk their bikes. Bicycles must be parked and locked at the school bike racks.

Roller blades, skateboards and scooters are not allowed on school property.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Unacceptable Items

The following items are not allowed at school at any time and will be confiscated if found. Students should not bring to school: gum, radios, portable music players, fidget spinners, video games or any other electronic devices, firecrackers, lighters, matches, and any real or toy weapons. Any potentially dangerous article that could be used as a weapon is not allowed. Drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products are not allowed. In addition, appropriate discipline action will be taken when necessary.

School Security

All visitors must enter the school building by the school office and sign in. Doors are locked campus-wide, and students are instructed to not open doors for any visitor. Video surveillance has been installed throughout the campus and by the front office. Please ring the bell for entry and a staff member will activate the door for entry.

Video surveillance will be active campus wide. This video will include a stored recording for later playback if needed. Please be aware that these cameras are active and that this information will be stored in the event of a security event.

Security policies are in place for the school campus. Staff is trained on emergency procedures each year. Protocols, for instance, not going outside during a funeral, are in place to protect students. St. Pius has reciprocal agreements with Easter Seals, The Growing Place and West Suburban Bank in the event the school has to evacuate due to a hazard.

We respectfully request that parents make appointments to meet with staff members. Teachers are responsible for the supervision of the students and must be able to perform their duties in the interest of student safety.

School Property

The use and maintenance of school property by students is a vital part of one's education. Students are expected to respect all school property and will be liable for expenses occurred in the destruction or loss of property.

Personal Property

St. Pius X is not liable for all personal belongings brought to school (i.e., headphones, AirPods, cell phones, other electronic devices). Students are not allowed to touch or use another student's personal property.

Photograph/Videotape of Students and Student Privacy

If you wish for your student to be omitted from being photographed, a Diocese of Joliet Opt-out form is available in the school office. This form must be completed for your student to be omitted from being photographed or videotaped. Please note that students whose parents have "opted out" will not appear in the school yearbook.

All students will be identified in the school newsletter and website using only their first name and last initial to protect their privacy. (Please see the Photography/Videotaping Agreement section for specific details of the policy.)

Fun Lunch Program

St. Pius X Parish School is currently not offering a daily hot lunch program. The PSA offers an optional Fun Lunch program on select Fridays, at the expense of the parents.

Lunch

If you are bringing lunch for your student(s), it will need to be at school by 11AM. We ask that parents send lunches with their child in the morning and refrain from dropping off lunches during the day, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Students in grades preschool through fourth grade are not allowed to bring foods that contain peanuts, as these wings are “peanut free”. (See Student Wellness Section.) Children are not allowed to bring carbonated beverages in cans or bottles to school. Glass or squirt bottles are also not allowed.

Outside Food and Fast-Food Lunches

Families are encouraged to send students to school with a prepared lunch or utilize the school lunch program. Bringing or delivering fast food to students during the school day is strongly discouraged. This helps us maintain a consistent lunch environment, minimize distractions, and promote healthy and equitable routines for all students.

If circumstances make it necessary for a student to receive a fast-food lunch, the student will be asked to eat the meal in the designated area near the school office rather than in the cafeteria/lunchroom.

Recess

During cold weather, students will be going out to recess every day unless it is rainy or extremely cold (below 30 degrees). Please dress your child warmly with coats, hats, gloves, etc. Students will be allowed to play in the snow provided they are dressed appropriately with boots and snow pants. Please be sure to send your child with dry socks and gym shoes if they wear boots to school.

If your child should be injured on the playground, the lunch monitor will complete an accident report. One copy of this report will be sent home with your student. The school office will call home for injuries that involve the mouth, face and head or any injuries deemed to need medical attention.

Playground Behavior

Students’ cooperation on the playground will ensure their safety and well-being. The following must be observed:

- Students may not leave the school property for any reason.
- Students may not leave the playground without permission from an adult.
- No inappropriate language is allowed.
- When the bell rings, play will cease, and all the students will line up quietly in the area designated for them.
- Students will follow the school’s “hands-off” policy, no rough play is allowed.

- Students are not allowed to bring roller blades or skateboards on the grounds.
- Only touch football is allowed AND NOT TACKLE FOOTBALL.
- Failure to follow the rules for the playground will result in loss of playground privileges as determined by the playground supervisor.

Visitors and Campus Security

All visitors must enter the school building by the school office and sign in. Doors are locked campus-wide, and students are instructed to not open doors for any visitor. Video surveillance has been installed throughout the campus and by the front office. Please ring the bell for entry and a staff member will activate the door for entry.

Video surveillance will be active campus wide. This video will include a stored recording for later playback if needed. Please be aware that these cameras are active and that this information will be stored in the event of a security event.

Security policies are in place for the school campus. Staff is trained on emergency procedures each year. Protocols, for instance, not going outside during a funeral, are in place to protect students. St. Pius has reciprocal agreements with Easter Seals, The Growing Place and West Suburban Bank in the event the school has to evacuate due to a hazard.

We respectfully request that parents make appointments to meet with staff members. Teachers are responsible for the supervision of the students and must be able to perform their duties in the interest of student safety.

Volunteer Requirements

Per the Diocese of Joliet, any parent or guardian wishing to volunteer in any capacity in the school must attend a Protecting God's Children Workshop. In addition, volunteers must submit a background check, a pastoral acknowledgement and complete a DCFS form before they can volunteer at the school in any capacity.

Parents wishing to volunteer who have not met these requirements will be denied access to the building per the policies of the Diocese of Joliet.

Emergency School Closings

Emergency school closings are announced via email, on the website and on the radio and television. School closing information will be posted on our website by 6:30 AM Families can also check the website www.emergencyschoolclosings.com to check for St. Pius X Parish School closings. St. Pius will also contact you via text, email and social media.

Field Trips

Field trips enhance your child's curriculum and provide first-hand experiences. Parents or guardians will be provided with a Joliet Diocesan Field Trip Permission Slip for each field trip well in advance of the date. Field trip forms will also be available on our website. The permission slip must be signed by a parent or guardian, accompanied by payment where required, before the child will be allowed to leave on the trip. Handwritten notes or phone calls will not be accepted. (The prepayment requirement for field trips dictates that refunds are not possible.)

Students who arrive at school on the day of the field trip without a Field Trip Permission Slip will need to return home for the day.

Any parent or guardian who volunteers to chaperone on a field trip is required to have taken Protecting God's Children Workshop and submitted a background check, a pastoral acknowledgement and a DCFS form before they will be allowed to chaperone. Younger siblings are not allowed to go on field trips.

Fire Drills/Tornado Drills/Safety Drills

St. Pius X Parish School conducts regular fire/tornado/safety drills with the Lombard Fire Department according to Illinois state law. All students participate in bus evacuation drills in the fall and a lockdown drill with the Lombard Police Department.

Birthdays

Invitations to student birthday parties may not be distributed at school unless the whole class is being invited.

Students may bring in treats to their class on their birthdays. These should be individually packaged and will be distributed to the whole class at dismissal time.

Classroom Parties

In order to enrich the social skills of the children, classroom parties are held at several times throughout the school year. Parents who volunteer to assist with classroom parties must have attended Protecting God's Children and submitted a background check, a pastoral acknowledgement and a DCFS form. Siblings are not allowed to attend classroom parties.

Knightly News & Email Communication

Each Friday, St. Pius X Parish School emails The Knightly News to all families. This weekly newsletter contains important school announcements, upcoming events, calendar reminders, and other information to help families stay informed.

If you do not receive The Knightly News, please contact the school office. Occasionally, emails may be filtered by spam or junk folders, or there may be an issue with the email address on file. The school office will be happy to assist you in ensuring you receive all school communications.

Individual classroom teachers may send home a newsletter from their homerooms. Please make sure your family has access to FACTS to receive important announcements and to check on grades.

Lost and Found

Please label all of your child's belongings so they may be easily returned. Unmarked lost and found items will be placed in a bin in the school office copy room. Items not claimed after a reasonable amount of time are sent to a charitable institution.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance/Tardy Policy

School doors open at 8:00 AM Students should arrive with enough time to unpack, prepare for the day, and be ready to learn. Any student arriving after 8:10 AM will be considered tardy.

The first minutes of the school day are an important part of the instructional day. Teachers begin morning routines, attendance, and core instruction promptly, and students who arrive late miss valuable teaching and learning opportunities. Consistent, on-time attendance helps students establish positive habits and sets them up for success each day.

- Students arriving after 8:10 AM
- Students arriving after 10:00 AM will be considered absent for one-half day.
- Students leaving before 1:00 PM will also be considered absent for one-half day.

The responsibility for regular attendance and punctuality rests with both students and their parents or guardians.

Compulsory Attendance

A daily student attendance record must be kept in each school. Attendance in class is an essential aspect of our educational program. Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between the ages of six (6) and nineteen (19) (and in high school) must ensure that the child attends school the entire time school is in session during the regular school term, except as otherwise provided by law. Parents and/or guardians having legal custody of school-age children are responsible for ensuring the regular attendance of their children in school.

The Catholic Schools Office requires that parents/guardians ensure the regular attendance of their children, consistent with Illinois School Code, and inform the school of any absences and the causes of such absences. A telephone call by the parent or guardian is required on the first day and each subsequent day of absence or tardiness. A written excuse signed by the parent/guardian may also be required upon the child's return to school.

Reporting an Absence

If your child will be absent, please notify the school office by 9:00 AM by phone (630-627-2353) or by emailing the office (schooloffice@stpiuslombard.org) and your student's homeroom teacher.

When reporting an absence, please provide:

- Student's name
- Grade and homeroom teacher
- Reason for the absence

If we have not received notification of an absence, school personnel will contact parents or guardians to verify the student's safety.

Students who are absent from school may not participate in after-school practices, games, clubs, performances, or other school-sponsored activities that day.

Absenteeism

Each building principal is responsible for maintaining an effective system for recording student absences and for encouraging students to be prompt and to attend class on a regular basis. Absences are categorized as excused or unexcused. Valid causes of absenteeism (excused), as listed in Illinois School Code are:

- Illness (including mental or behavioral health of the student).
- Observance of a religious holiday.
- Death in the immediate family.
- Family emergency.
- Circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent or guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety.
- Other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the principal and pastor.

Additionally, a student will be excused for up to five (5) days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support postings.

To reduce or prevent excessive absenteeism, the school maintains a procedure to:

- Track and provide early identification of potentially harmful attendance practices.
- Provide a progressive, multi-level plan toward remediation of the problem.
- Provide supportive services to truant or chronically truant students including parent conferences, student counseling, family counseling and information about existing community services.

Excused Absences

An excused absence can be defined as, but is not limited to:

- Medical appointment verified by a medical note.

- Testing and assessment.
- High school shadow day.
- Illness confirmed by a medical note (after two days out of school before nine unexcused absences, one day after nine unexcused days).
- Observance of a religious holiday.
- Illness confirmed by a note from a parent/guardian (parent/guardian verified absences may not be excused if total absences are in excess of nine excused or unexcused absence days per year).
- Court appearance demanded by official summons or subpoena verified by court.
- Funeral (confirmed with a parent/guardian note).
- School sponsored activities, i.e. field trips, athletic events or scholastic competitions.
- Extenuating circumstances that have been approved by administration.

Unexcused Absences

An unexcused absence can be defined as, but is not limited to:

- Any absence that is not confirmed with a parental/guardian, medical staff, or within the two-day grace period.
- Truancy (absence from school without verification from the parent).
- An illness which lasts for more than two consecutive days that is not verified by a medical note.
- Vacation days taken with family (credit will be given if student meets the expectation of the building principal and classroom teachers).
- Personal reasons or business.
- Failure to attend because of transportation problems, unless transported by school bus.
- Non-school sponsored sports activities or events.

Parents will be notified by the school after a student's 9th unexcused absence of the year. Parents will be informed by letter, and concerns will be shared about their student's attendance. The letter informs parents that, if the student misses any more school for the remainder of the year, a licensed physician's medical excuse will be required for the absence to be considered excused. Unless there are very unusual circumstances, missing more than nine days of school by the end of the second trimester is excessive. Students need to be in attendance to receive credit. With the exception of excused absences due to medical reasons, bereavement, shadow days, and religious holiday observance, both unexcused and excused absences count towards absence days which can result in loss of credit. A student's grades may be affected by unexcused absences. Please remember there is a positive relationship between attendance and success in school.

Truancy

The Catholic Schools Office considers a student who is subject to compulsory school attendance truant if he/she is absent for the school day or a portion of the school day without an excused absence. Illinois State Board of Education provides additional resources and guidelines for truancy.

Chronic Truancy

The Catholic Schools Office considers a student who is subject to compulsory school attendance a chronic or habitual truant if he/she is absent for 10% or more of regular attendance days without proper permission. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

Illness

If your child is ill before school begins, please keep them home. Students who become ill during the school day will be cared for in the health office until a parent or emergency contact can pick them up promptly.

To help keep our school community healthy, students should remain home when they have:

- A fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Symptoms of pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- Other contagious illnesses as determined by a physician

Students who leave school because of fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or conjunctivitis must remain home for the remainder of that day and the following full school day. Students may return only after they have been symptom-free for at least 24 hours without medication. Students diagnosed with conjunctivitis must also have been using prescribed medication for at least 24 hours before returning.

Families are expected to follow current Illinois Department of Public Health and DuPage County Health Department guidelines regarding communicable illnesses.

Communicable Diseases

Parents should notify the school promptly if their child has been diagnosed with a communicable disease. Students must remain home for the period recommended by their physician and public health guidelines. A physician's note may be required before returning to school.

Examples include:

- Strep throat
- Chickenpox
- Measles
- Mumps
- Whooping cough
- Scarlet fever
- Other communicable illnesses as identified by public health officials
- Head Lice

Students diagnosed with head lice must be treated before returning to school.

Recess and Physical Education

All students are expected to participate in recess and Physical Education classes unless a physician provides written documentation requesting otherwise.

Make-Up Work

Students are responsible for completing work missed during an absence.

Students will generally be allowed one school day for each day absent, up to five school days, to complete missed assignments unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher.

Teachers will work with students to ensure they have the opportunity to make up essential learning while maintaining the integrity of classroom instruction.

DISCIPLINE



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence.

DISCIPLINE PHILOSOPHY

At St. Pius X Parish School, we believe discipline is about formation, not punishment. Our goal is to help students develop self-discipline, responsibility, respect, and integrity while growing into compassionate members of our school community.

As One School. One Family., we are committed to creating a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment where every student can thrive. We believe discipline is an opportunity for growth. By teaching students to reflect on their choices, accept responsibility for their actions, and learn from mistakes, we help them build the character and confidence needed for success both in and out of the classroom.

Students are expected to contribute positively to our school community and may not interfere with their own learning or the learning of others. Respect is the foundation of every classroom and every relationship at St. Pius X. Respect means treating others with kindness, dignity, and courtesy, even when disagreements arise. Respect for classmates, teachers, school property, and school expectations allows everyone to learn in a safe and productive environment.

Developmentally Appropriate Discipline

At St. Pius X Parish School, we recognize that students grow and mature at different stages. Because of this, our approach to discipline is developmentally appropriate and designed to meet students where they are while helping them grow in responsibility and independence.

Preschool through Grade 2

In our early childhood and primary classrooms, the emphasis is on teaching and reinforcing appropriate behavior. Teachers use positive behavior supports, modeling, and consistent routines to help students develop self-control, problem-solving skills, and respectful interactions. Each teacher establishes age-appropriate classroom expectations and behavior procedures, which are communicated to families at the beginning of the school year.

Grades 3 through 8

As students mature, they are expected to take greater ownership of their choices and actions. While teachers continue to provide guidance and support, students are held to increasingly higher expectations for responsibility, accountability, and respectful behavior. Classroom expectations are clearly taught and consistently reinforced, with consequences designed to help students reflect, learn from mistakes, and make better choices.

At the beginning of each school year, teachers intentionally teach, model, and practice classroom routines, procedures, and expectations. When a student struggles to meet an expectation, our staff responds with consistency, fairness, and opportunities for growth. Whenever possible, discipline is viewed as a teachable moment that helps students make better choices moving forward.

When a student does not meet an expectation, the following progression is generally followed:

- Reminder or redirection of the expectation.
- Verbal warning.
- Individual classroom consequence determined by the teacher that is appropriate to the situation.

Repeated or more serious behaviors may require additional interventions, communication with parents, or administrative involvement. By working together as partners, school and home can help every child grow into a respectful, responsible, and contributing member of the St. Pius X family.

While every situation is unique and professional judgment will always be used, the chart below outlines examples of behaviors that may occur and the typical consequences that follow. These guidelines are intended to provide consistency and transparency for students and families while recognizing that age, intent, frequency, and individual circumstances may influence the school's response. The consequences outlined are intended to teach, restore, and reinforce positive behavior while maintaining a safe and orderly learning environment for all.

These expectations apply throughout the school day, on school grounds, and during all St. Pius X Parish School-sponsored activities, including athletics, concerts, field trips, and other school events. They may also apply while students are traveling to and from school or school-sponsored activities when student conduct impacts the safety, well-being, or reputation of the school community. As representatives of St. Pius X Parish School and Parish, students, parents, and faculty are expected to demonstrate respect, good sportsmanship, integrity, and kindness in all interactions.

The administration reserves the right to address behaviors not specifically identified in the discipline chart or to modify consequences when circumstances warrant. Decisions will always be made with the best interests of the student and the school community in mind, while maintaining a fair, consistent, and Christ-centered approach to student discipline.

PRESCHOOL – 2nd GRADE DISCIPLINE MATRIX

Level	Examples (Not inclusive)	Consequence
Level 1 Behaviors that require teaching and redirection	- Off-task behavior - Calling out - Difficulty following directions - Out of seat without permission - Interrupting others - Minor classroom disruptions - Forgetting classroom routines - Difficulty sharing or taking turns	- Gentle reminder or redirection - Model the expected behavior - Practice the correct behavior - Positive reinforcement - Visual or verbal cue
Level 2 Repeated behaviors that require additional support	- Repeated refusal to follow directions - Continued disruption after redirection - Unkind words - Minor disrespect - Unsafe choices in the classroom or playground - Repeated classroom disruptions	- Teacher conference with student - Reflection or calming break - Loss of a classroom privilege when appropriate - Restorative conversation or apology - Parent communication

Level 3 Behaviors requiring administrative support	- Aggressive behavior (hitting, kicking, biting, throwing objects) - Intentional destruction of property - Leaving the classroom or supervised area - Serious disrespect toward adults - Repeated unsafe behavior despite interventions - Behavior that significantly disrupts learning or threatens safety	- Immediate administrative involvement - Parent conference - Behavior support plan as needed - Restorative action appropriate to the child's developmental level - Consequences determined by administration, including possible removal from the classroom or school when warranted
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DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES PRESCHOOL – 2nd GRADE

Behavior Support Process	School Response
Initial concern	Teacher redirection, reteaching of expectations, and positive reinforcement
Continued concern	Reflection, calming strategy, restorative conversation, and parent communication
Ongoing pattern of behavior	Teacher and parent conference to develop consistent home-school supports
Significant or unsafe behavior	Administration involvement and parent conference to develop an individualized behavior support plan
Severe behavior	Consequences determined by administration based on the student's age, developmental level, and safety of others.

Because children in Preschool through Grade 2 are still developing self-regulation, social skills, and emotional awareness, disciplinary responses are intended to teach appropriate behavior rather than

punish mistakes. School staff partner closely with families to provide consistent expectations and support students in learning the skills necessary for success. Restorative practices—including meaningful apologies, repairing harm, and making better choices—are incorporated whenever appropriate.

GRADE 3 – 8 DISCIPLINE MATRIX

Level	Examples (Not inclusive)	Consequence
Level 1 Behaviors that will be given a redirect and a warning	-Loud voice/yelling/noises -Off-task behaviors -Out of seat -Not following classroom procedures/expectations -Distracting other students -Inappropriate use of a fidget -Disruptive action -Talking during teaching -Ignores correction -Misbehaving in Church -Refusal to do work	1. Redirect 2. Verbal Warning/Redirect 3. Demerit
Level 2 Behaviors that will result in a demerit	-Chewing gum -Uniform Violation -Inappropriate language/gestures -Failure to return required signed papers -Make-up -Jewelry not in dress code -Inappropriate computer use -Consistently unprepared for class/Chromebook not charged -Excessive time away from class -Tardy to class for unexcused reason -Disrespect - Misbehaving in Church -Inappropriate bathroom behavior -Throwing food in cafeteria (i.e., food fight) - 2nd time cell phone policy infraction	1 Demerit and loss of lunch/recess. May also include restorative practices such as apology letters, cleaning mess, etc.

Level 3 Major behavior infractions resulting in a Detention	-Blatant defiance of authority -Physical contact with intent to hurt -Lying to a teacher -Racial slurs -Leaving school grounds without permission -Skipping class - Misuse of Chromebook and/or inappropriate internet searches -Pulling out a chair from another student -Major Disrespect -Repeated disregard of classroom or school procedures/expectations -Stealing -Destruction of property/vandalism -Drawing sexually explicit images -Possession of explicit literature -Plagiarism -Cheating -Inappropriate/foul language used toward another student -Taking pictures or video without consent -Use of non-school issued electronic devices -Cyberbullying, in or out of school - 3rd time cell phone infraction	These cases are handled by our Dean of Students. These behaviors result in an automatic Detention, but may also include: -Loss of privileges -Loss of recess -Loss of extracurricular activities/social events/field trips -Restorative conversation or action -Zero given on a test or assignment -Behavior contract - Payment for damages or injury
Level 4 Grounds for Out of School Suspension/ Expulsion	-Inappropriate or illegal use of technology -Harassment of teacher or other school member -Repeated actions from above -Fighting and/or physical abuse of a student and/or teacher -Threatening the use of a weapon or violence -Possession/sale of weapon, alcohol, drugs and/or dangerous instruments -Sexual harassment/Sexting/ misconduct -Tampering with fire, matches, or any form of fireworks -Pulling fire alarm	-Out of school suspension (marked on student's permanent record) -Expulsion -Police notified (if necessary)

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES GRADES 3 - 8

Demerit/Withdrawal System	Consequence
Behavior Infraction	1 demerit
3 demerits	Detention
Every 3 additional demerits moving forward results in a detention	Detention and 1 Community Service Hour required for each demerit thereafter
3 rd Detention	Parent conference and Behavior Contract created
4 th Detention	1 Day Out of School Suspension: Students are not given credit for work done in class this day, resulting in loss of grades.
Further Infractions	Meeting with Administration and Pastor. Possible consequences: • 2 Day Suspension • Loss of 8th grade privileges • Loss of field trips/field day • Loss of Extracurricular Activities • Denial of readmission for following year • Possible Expulsion

Demerits

Demerits are notices given to students in the Intermediate and Junior High (Grades 3 - 8) for infractions that occur either in the classroom or on the grounds. They are given for minor or repeated infractions that the student chooses not to correct.

Detentions

A one-hour detention may be assigned when a student's behavior warrants a consequence beyond the classroom level. Detention provides students with an opportunity to reflect on their choices, take responsibility for their actions, and make a positive plan for moving forward.

Detentions are held Wednesdays after school from 3:15PM to 4:00PM. During detention, students are expected to complete reflection activities regarding their behavior. Students are expected to remain respectful, quiet, and engaged for the entire detention period.

Parents/guardians will be notified prior to the detention and are responsible for arranging prompt transportation at the conclusion of the assigned time. Failure to attend a scheduled detention without prior administrative approval may result in additional disciplinary action.

The signed detention slip is to be returned the next day of school to the teacher who issued it. On the detention slip, the day the detention is to be served will be printed on it.

Trimester Reset for Disciplinary Actions

At St. Pius X Parish School, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and make a fresh start. At the conclusion of each trimester, student discipline records are reset for the purpose of assigning school-based consequences. This allows students to begin each new trimester with a renewed opportunity to demonstrate positive choices and personal growth.

While the discipline record resets each trimester, school administration may consider patterns of behavior throughout the school year when addressing ongoing or serious concerns. Our goal is not simply to assign consequences, but to partner with families in helping students develop responsibility, accountability, and the skills needed to make positive decisions.

This approach reflects our belief that growth is a process and that every student is capable of learning from mistakes, making better choices, and contributing positively to our One School. One Family. community.

Restorative Practices

At St. Pius X Parish School, we believe that mistakes are opportunities to learn, grow, and strengthen our community. Whenever appropriate, we use restorative practices to help students understand the impact of their choices, repair harm, and rebuild trust.

A guiding principle of our restorative approach is "You Break It, You Fix It." This applies not only to physical property, but also to relationships.

If a student damages school property or another person's belongings, they will be expected to take appropriate steps to repair, replace, or restore what was damaged whenever possible.

Likewise, if a student's words or actions cause emotional harm, disrupt the learning environment, or damage a relationship, they will be expected to work toward repairing that harm. Depending on the situation, restorative practices may include:

- A meaningful apology.
- A reflective conversation with those affected.
- Restitution or repairing damaged property.
- Restoring the classroom or learning environment.
- Community service within the school.

- Creating a plan for making better choices moving forward.
- Other restorative actions as determined by the teacher or administration.

Restorative practices do not replace consequences when consequences are warranted. Rather, they complement them by helping students understand the impact of their actions, accept responsibility, and actively make things right. Our goal is to help students develop empathy, accountability, problem-solving skills, and healthy relationships while reinforcing the values of respect, responsibility, and compassion that define our St. Pius X family.

By teaching students that both actions and words have consequences—and that harm can be repaired—we prepare them not only for success in school but also for life as thoughtful, caring, and responsible members of their communities.

Cell Phone Policy

Students who need to call home must use the phone in the school office. While students may bring their cellular phones to school, they need to remain turned off and placed in designated areas in each classroom. The school is not liable for cell phones brought on campus.

The use of cell phones by students is prohibited during any school-related activity without the express written permission of the school principal. Violation of these regulations will result in confiscation of the phone and a consequence. Confiscated phones will be returned only to the student's parent/guardian at the end of the following day it was discovered.

Hands Off Policy

Students should feel safe both emotionally and physically when they come to school; otherwise, the learning environment is compromised. Students must refrain from touching others in any aggressive manner. The 'Hands Off' policy restricts all "play fighting", pushing, shoving, kicking, tripping, hitting, slapping, and other forms of touching at any time while on the school campus. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken for students who not following this policy.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Bullying Prevention and Response

At St. Pius X Parish School, every member of our community deserves to feel safe, respected, valued, and included. As One School. One Family., we are committed to fostering a Christ-centered environment where students treat one another with kindness, dignity, and compassion. Bullying has no place in our school and will not be tolerated.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is intentional, repeated behavior that is meant to hurt, intimidate, or control another person. It involves a real or perceived imbalance of power, making it difficult for the targeted student to defend themselves.

Bullying may:

- Cause physical or emotional harm.
- Create fear or intimidation.
- Interfere with a student's ability to learn or participate in school.
- Damage a student's physical or emotional well-being.
- Occur in person or through electronic communication (cyberbullying).

Bullying may take many forms, including:

Physical

Hitting, kicking, pushing, tripping, spitting, damaging property, stealing belongings, or other physical aggression.

Verbal

Name-calling, insults, threats, teasing, taunting, spreading rumors, or offensive comments.

Social/Relational

Purposefully excluding others, manipulating friendships, embarrassing or humiliating someone, encouraging others to isolate a student, or damaging another person's reputation.

Cyberbullying

Using text messages, email, social media, online gaming, messaging apps, or other digital platforms to harass, threaten, embarrass, impersonate, or repeatedly target another person.

Conflict Is Not Always Bullying

Not every disagreement or hurtful interaction is considered bullying. As children grow, they are learning how to solve problems, manage emotions, and build healthy friendships. At St. Pius X, we teach students these important social skills while helping them understand the difference between conflict and bullying.

Conflict	Mean Behavior	Bullying
Usually, occasional	May happen once or twice	Repeated over time
Both students share responsibility	One student intentionally hurts another	One student repeatedly targets another
Can often be resolved through conversation or mediation	Requires correction and accountability	Requires school intervention and ongoing support
Both students have similar power	May occur in the moment due to anger or frustration	Involves a real or perceived imbalance of power

While conflict, rudeness, and mean behavior are not always bullying, they are still inconsistent with our expectations for respect and kindness and will be addressed by school staff.

Reporting Bullying

Students, parents, and staff are encouraged to report concerns as soon as possible. Reports of bullying will be taken seriously and investigated promptly and fairly by school administration.

An investigation may include:

- Speaking with the students involved.
- Interviewing witnesses.
- Consulting faculty and staff members.
- Meeting with parents or guardians.
- Reviewing available evidence, including electronic communications when appropriate and permitted by law.

Retaliation against anyone who reports bullying or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.

Responding to Bullying

Our first priority is always the safety and well-being of every student. When bullying has occurred, consequences will be determined based on the student's age, the severity of the behavior, prior incidents, and the needs of all students involved.

Responses may include:

- Restorative conversations and reflection.
- Parent communication.
- Loss of privileges.
- Detention.
- Restitution or restorative actions.

- Behavior contracts.
- Counseling recommendations.
- In-school or out-of-school suspension.
- Removal from extracurricular activities or athletics.
- Expulsion in cases of severe or repeated misconduct.

Whenever appropriate, restorative practices will accompany disciplinary consequences, so students have the opportunity to understand the impact of their actions, repair harm, and rebuild trust within our school community.

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying that substantially disrupts the school environment or affects the safety or well-being of students may be addressed by the school, even if the behavior occurs off campus or outside of school hours.

Consistent with Illinois law, St. Pius X Parish School will not require students or parents to provide passwords to personal social media accounts. However, during an investigation, students may be asked to share content that is relevant to determining whether school policies have been violated.

Creating a culture of kindness is a shared responsibility. Students, parents, faculty, and staff all play an important role in ensuring that St. Pius X Parish School remains a place where every child feels welcomed, respected, supported, and valued. Together, as One School. One Family., we strive to build a community where every student can grow academically, socially, and spiritually.

STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL
A community of faith, service and academic excellence

STUDENT HEALTH AND SUPPORT

Student Wellness

As a member of the Diocese of Joliet, St. Pius X Parish School is committed to providing a learning environment that supports and promotes wellness, good nutrition, and an active lifestyle and recognizes the positive relationship between good nutrition, physical activity and the capacity of students to develop and learn. The entire school environment shall be aligned with healthy school goals to positively influence students' beliefs and habits and promote health and wellness, good nutrition and regular physical activity. In addition, school staff shall be encouraged to model healthy eating and physical activity as a valuable part of daily life.

Medical Requirements

- **Physical Examinations**

Physical examinations are required by the State of Illinois for all three-year-old preschool students, all kindergarten students, all sixth-grade students and all new students entering St. Pius X Parish School. These physicals cannot be more than one year old. Physical examination forms must be on file in the school office on the first day of school. Failure to comply by October 15 will result in the suspension of the student until compliance is accomplished. In addition, the county health department will conduct yearly vision and/or hearing tests for students. The county requires these tests, and they will advise parents if test results require further examination.

- **Dental Examinations**

Dental examinations are required by the State of Illinois for all students entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades. These dental forms cannot be more than one year old. Dental examination forms must be on file in the school office on the first day of school. Failure to comply will result in the suspension of the student until compliance is accomplished.

- **Eye Examinations**

Eye examinations administered by a physician or a licensed optometrist are required for all students entering kindergarten and all students transferring into St. Pius.

- **Immunizations**

All students are immunized according to Illinois School Code. Students are excluded from school (by October 15) for noncompliance with this law. The law allows for medical and religious exemption.

Medication

For any student who is required to take medication during the school day, either over the counter or prescription, a Medical Authorization Form must be completed and is available in the school office. Students may not have medicine in their possession at any time. This includes cough drops, aspirin,

antacids, etc. Parents are required to complete this Medical Authorization Form and include the drug, dosage and time interval for administration. These forms must be renewed annually. Students who require prescription medication must have the written orders from the physician detailing the name of the drug, dosage and the time interval for administration. Orders must be renewed annually.

Students who have asthma and are required to have an inhaler with them at all times are required to fill out a Self-Administration of Inhaler Form that must be kept in the school office at all times.

Students who require immediate administration of an Epi-Pen to prohibit the effects of a severe allergic reaction will be allowed to store the Epi-Pens in their homerooms or the school office. The faculty and staff are trained in the administration of Epi-Pens. All other Epi-Pens are stored in the school office. A Medical Authorization Form is required to be on file in the school office. The school incurs no liability for the administration of asthma medication, epinephrine auto-injector or an opioid antagonist.

The parent or guardian must pick up all medicines by the last day of school. Any medicine left in the school office will be discarded.

Peanut-Free Wings: Preschool-4th

Out of consideration of our youngest students and the potential for life-threatening allergic reactions from peanuts, our preschool and intermediate wings (for grades preschool through fourth grade) is designated “peanut free”. Although close adult supervision is provided for these students during lunch, these younger students may not be old enough to recognize the symptoms of allergies or the potential for spreading allergens in their classrooms. We respectfully ask for your cooperation in providing a safe environment for these students. In the event a child does bring peanut butter to school:

- A note will be sent home to the parent that will require a signature before it is returned.
- The student will be asked to eat the item by the school office.
- Repeated offenses will result in a meeting with the principal and parents regarding the situation.

Emergency Care

An emergency card is required to be on file for every child in the school. Parents will be asked to fill out a new card each school year.

Please notify the school office of any changes of address and/or telephone numbers at home or work. In addition, the school office needs to be notified if there is any change in your child’s physical condition.

Parents or guardians who will be out of town for any length of time should notify the school office in writing regarding who is to be responsible for their student(s) in their absence.

In the event of a serious injury or accident, the school will make every effort to notify the parent or guardian. Emergency care will be provided, and first aid will be administered, until the parent, guardian or emergency personnel assume responsibility. An accident report will be kept on file for each incident that occurs.

Parents will be notified when a contagious illness that falls under the required criteria set by the DuPage Health Department is diagnosed in a student within a classroom via an email from the school office.

School Counselor

St. Pius X Parish School employs a School Counselor to support the social and emotional well-being of our students. The School Counselor provides short-term, school-based support to students as needed during the school day and works collaboratively with teachers, administrators, and families to promote student success.

The School Counselor also plays an important role in fostering a positive school culture through classroom guidance, social-emotional learning, and bullying prevention initiatives. In addition, the School Counselor assists in the development and implementation of the school's emergency preparedness and crisis response plans.

Parents who have concerns about their child's social or emotional well-being are encouraged to contact the school office to request support from the School Counselor.

If it is determined that a student requires ongoing or more intensive services beyond the scope of school-based counseling, the principal and School Counselor will meet with the student's parents to discuss appropriate next steps, which may include a referral to an outside mental health provider or to District 45 for additional evaluation and services.

Child Abuse

According to the revised Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, all employees are mandated to report suspicion of abuse or neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services. According to Illinois School Code licenses/certificates may be suspended and/or revoked if there is proof that professional school personnel had knowledge of suspected child abuse and/or neglect and did not report it.

Corporal Punishment

No student shall be disciplined corporally or corrected with abusive, demeaning language.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Allergies

If a student has been diagnosed by a physician to have allergies and the necessity to self-administer and to self-carry an epinephrine auto-injector a signed parent permission notification and a signed physician authorization must be provided to the local Catholic School either at the start of a new school year, upon enrollment, or immediately following diagnosis of such requirement. Both the parental permission and physician authorization will be held on file at the school site where the student attends.

Accommodation requests are initiated by a parent/guardian to the local Catholic School and include a physician's report outlining the severity of the allergy and the recommended actions by the physician that are medically necessary to avoid any reaction. Administration explains to parents/guardians what reasonable accommodations they can make. Allergy free is not a credible accommodation that schools make, however, effective practices to reduce the chance of exposure to allergens may include, but are not limited to:

- designating a separate table/area for students with an allergy,
- allowing the allergic student to eat at his/her own desk, keeping the same desk year-round to reduce possible contaminants if there is no common lunchroom,
- limit/prohibit food in classrooms,
- remove food as a reward in classrooms or for celebrations,
- the regular cleaning of classrooms and lunchroom,
- educate school personnel on the management of students with allergies

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Asthma

A school, whether public or nonpublic, must permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil with asthma or the use of an epinephrine auto-injector by a pupil, provided that:

The parents/guardians of the pupil provide to the school written authorization for the student to self-administer medication or for use of an epinephrine auto-injector, written authorization from the pupil's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse, and the parents/guardians of the pupil provide to the school: the prescription label, which must contain the name of the medication, the prescribed dosage, and the time at which or circumstances under which the medication is administered

If a student has been diagnosed by a physician to have asthma and is required due to this diagnosis to self-administer and to self-carry asthma medication of any type, a signed parent permission notification and a copy of the prescription must be provided to the local Catholic School either at the start of a new school year, upon enrollment, or immediately following diagnosis of such requirement. Both the parent permission and the copy of the prescription will be held on file at the school site where the student attends. Parents/guardians please be informed that the school and its employees and agents incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication or the use of an epinephrine auto-injector by the student. A school or a school employee is not liable for civil or other damages as a result of conduct, other than willful or wanton misconduct, related to the care of a student with diabetes. (b) A school

employee shall not be subject to any disciplinary proceeding resulting from an action taken in compliance with this Act, unless the action constitutes willful or wanton misconduct.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Diabetes

Students are allowed to self-manage their diabetes in the school setting if they are authorized to do so by their diabetes care plan. The diabetes care plan should specify the nature of the student's self-management and may include: allowing students to check blood glucose levels when and wherever needed; self-administration of insulin; self-treatment of hyperglycemia or hypoglycemia; and allowing the student to possess, at all times, supplies and equipment necessary for diabetes management including, but not limited to, syringes, food and drink.

If a student has been diagnosed by a physician to have diabetes and to self-administer and to self-carry diabetes medication a signed parent permission notification and a signed physician diabetes care plan that would also carry a parent signature must be provided to the local Catholic School either at the start of a new school year, upon enrollment, or immediately following diagnosis of such requirement. Both the signed parent notification and the physician diabetes care plan will be held on file at the school site where the student attends.

Diabetes Care Plan Requirements:

- It is the responsibility of the student's parents or legal guardians to share health care provider instructions concerning the student's diabetes management during the school day.
- The diabetes care plan shall include the treating health care provider's instructions concerning the student's diabetes management during the school day, including the copy of the signed prescription and the methods of insulin administration.
- The services and accommodations specified in the diabetes care plan shall be reasonable, reflect the current standard of diabetes care, include appropriate safeguards to ensure that syringes and lancets are disposed of properly, and include requirements for diet, glucose testing, insulin administration, and treatment for hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, and emergency situations.
- A diabetes care plan shall include a uniform record of glucometer readings and insulin administered by the school nurse or delegated care aide during the school day using a standardized format provided by the State Board of Education.
- A diabetes care plan shall include procedures regarding when a delegated care aide shall consult with the parent or legal guardian, school nurse, where available, or health care provider to confirm that an insulin dosage is appropriate.
- A diabetes care plan shall be submitted to the local Catholic School at the beginning of the school year, upon enrollment, or immediately after a student's diagnosis, or when a student's care needs change during any given school year. Parents shall be responsible for informing the local Catholic School in a timely manner of any changes to the diabetes care plan and their emergency contact numbers.

105 ILCS 145 states (a) A school or a school employee is not liable for civil or other damages as a result of conduct, other than willful or wanton misconduct, related to the care of a student with diabetes. (b) A school employee shall not be subject to any disciplinary proceeding resulting from an action taken in compliance with this Act, unless the action constitutes willful or wanton misconduct.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Missing Person and His/Her School Record

Diocesan elementary schools are required to utilize the FACTS Student Information System (SIRS) for the purposes of reporting student progress and communicating student progress to parents/guardians.

The procedure is as follows:

- Upon notification by the Illinois State Police of a person's disappearance, a school in which the person is currently or was previously enrolled shall flag the record of that person in such a manner that whenever a copy of or information regarding the record is requested, the school shall be alerted to the fact that the record is that of a missing person.
- The school shall immediately report to the Illinois State Police any request concerning flagged records or knowledge as to the whereabouts of any missing person.
- Upon notification by the Illinois State Police that the missing person has been recovered, the school shall remove the flag from the person's record.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Reporting Drug Violations to Authorities

Each school shall follow the provisions of the School Reporting of Drug Violations Act, 105 ILCS 127, which provides that the superintendent, principal of the school or their designee shall report all instances of “drug violations” to local law enforcement officials or to the office of the county sheriff of the municipality or county where the school is located. In such an instance, a Diocesan incident form must be completed and sent to the Catholic Schools Office.

A “drug violation” is when any of the following occurs on school property, on a public way within 1,000 feet of a school, or on any property owned, leased, or contracted by a school to transport students to or from school or to or from a school related activity:

- A person knowingly manufactures, delivers, or possesses with intent to deliver, or manufacture, cannabis in a school, in violation of the Cannabis Control Act, 720 ILCS 550, Section 5.2; or
- A person delivers a controlled, counterfeit or look-alike substance to a person under 18 years of age, in violation of the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, 720 ILCS 570, Sections 401(b) and or 407; or
- A person knowingly possesses, procures, transports, stores, or delivers any methamphetamine precursor or substance containing any methamphetamine precursor in standard dosage form with the intent that it be used to manufacture methamphetamine or a substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act, 720 ILCS 646 et seq.

- Upon receiving any report from any school personnel regarding a verified incident involving drugs in a school or on school owned or leased property, the superintendent or his or her designee shall report such drug-related incident occurring in a school or school property to the local law enforcement authorities immediately and to the Illinois State Police. Reports to the Illinois State Police can be made through the School Incident Reporting System ("SIRS"), a web-based application used by schools to report incidents electronically. Note that reporting through SIRS does not satisfy the requirement to report the incident to local law enforcement authorities as well. 105 ILCS 5/10-27.1B The school notifies the parents or guardians of students in possession of drug violations.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Reporting Firearms on School Property to Authorities

Upon receiving any report from any school personnel regarding a known or suspected incident involving a firearm in a school or on school-owned or leased property, the principal shall immediately notify the superintendent or their designee and shall report such firearm-related incident to the local law enforcement and to the Illinois State Police no later than 24 hours after the occurrence of the incident. The school will immediately notify the parents or guardians of students in possession of firearms on property or within 48 hours of becoming aware of the incident if off property. In such an instance, a Diocesan incident form must be completed and sent to the Catholic Schools Office.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Reporting Attacks on School Personnel to Authorities

Upon receipt of a written complaint from any school personnel, the school is required to report all incidents of battery committed against any school employee (e.g., principals, teachers, aides, secretaries, custodians) to the local law enforcement authorities immediately after the occurrence of the attack and to the Illinois State Police's Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program no later than 3 days after the occurrence of the attack. Additionally, all incidents of battery should be reported to the superintendent. In such an instance, a Diocesan incident form must be completed and sent to the Catholic Schools Office.

Diocese of Joliet Policy: Workplace Violence

To ensure the well-being of all employees, vendors and visitors it is the policy of the school to expressly prohibit any acts or threats of violence by a school employee or former employee against any other employee, former employee, vendor or visitor in or about any School facilities or elsewhere at any time.

The School also will not condone any acts or threats of violence against School employees, vendors, or visitors on any School premises at any time or while they are engaged in business with or on behalf of the School on or off School premises.

In keeping with the spirit and intent of this policy, and to ensure that the School objectives in this regard are attained, it is the commitment of the School:

- To provide a safe and healthful work environment.
- To take prompt remedial action up to and including immediate termination, against any employee who engages in any threatening or intimidating behavior or acts of violence or who uses any obscene, abusive, or threatening gestures or language, including e-mail, graffiti, etc.
- To take appropriate action when dealing with employees, former employees, vendors or visitors to the School facilities who engage in such behavior. Such action may include notifying the police or other law enforcement personnel and prosecuting violators of this policy to the maximum extent of the law.
- To prohibit employees, former employees, vendors and visitors from bringing unauthorized firearms or other weapons onto School premises.

Any employee who displays a tendency to engage in violent, abusive, or threatening behavior, or who otherwise engages in behavior that the School, in its sole discretion, deems offensive, threatening, dangerous, or inappropriate will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

DUTY TO WARN: In furtherance of this policy, employees have a “duty to warn” their Principals, Pastors, or the Diocesan Director of Human Resources of any suspicious workplace activity or situations or incidents that they observe or that they are aware of that involve other employees, former employees, customers, or visitors and that appear problematic. This includes, for example, threats or acts of violence, aggressive behavior, offensive acts, threatening or offensive comments or remarks, and the like. Employee reports made pursuant to this policy will be held in confidence to the extent possible. The School will not condone or tolerate any form of retaliation against any employee for making a good faith report under this policy.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence

ATHLETICS

St. Pius X Athletics Website: <https://athletics.stpiuslombard.org>

Athletics Philosophy

At St. Pius X Parish School, athletics are an extension of our educational experience and Catholic mission. Through athletic participation, students develop faith, character, leadership, teamwork, discipline, perseverance, and sportsmanship while striving for personal excellence. Our athletics programs help student-athletes grow spiritually, physically, socially, and emotionally while proudly representing St. Pius X Parish School.

Whether a child is learning the fundamentals for the first time or competing at a high level, our programs are committed to developing the whole student-athlete in an environment rooted in faith, respect, and community.

Knights Athletics (Grades 5–8)

Strength in Faith. Pride in Play.

Knights Athletics provides students in grades 5–8 the opportunity to compete in interscholastic athletics while developing their God-given talents and representing St. Pius X with pride.

Sport	Season	Grades
Cross Country	Fall	5-8
Volleyball	Fall	5-8
Basketball	Winter	5-8
Track & Field	Spring	5-8

Squires Developmental Athletics

Learn as a Squire. Compete as a Knight.

Squires Developmental Athletics introduces younger students to the fundamentals of athletic participation in a fun, positive, and age-appropriate environment while preparing them for future participation in Knights Athletics.

Program	Season	Grades
Littlest Knights Dance	Winter	Pre3 & Pre4
Squires Volleyball	Fall	1-4
Squires Cross Country	Fall	3-4
Squires Basketball	Winter	As offered
Squires Track & Field	Spring	3-4

Intramural Activities

St. Pius X also offers recreational programs that encourage participation, teamwork, confidence, and school spirit.

Program	Season	Grades
Knight Crew Dance	Winter	K-8
Additional athletics and enrichment opportunities may be offered throughout the school year based on interest and availability.		

Athletics Calendar at a Glance

Season	Typical Registration	Dates of Play
Fall Sports	Late Spring – Summer	August - October
Winter Sports	Early Fall	November - February
Spring Sports	Winter	March - May
Registration timelines vary by program. Families should visit the Athletics website for current registration dates and deadlines.		

Registration

Registration for all Knights Athletics and Squires Developmental Athletics programs is completed online through the St. Pius X Athletics website. Registration dates, participation fees, schedules, and program information are published throughout the year.

Athletics Handbook

Participation in any St. Pius X athletics program is governed by the St. Pius X Athletics Handbook, which serves as the official guide for all athletics policies and procedures.

The Athletics Handbook contains complete information regarding:

- Registration and eligibility
- Academic eligibility standards
- Parent and student-athlete expectations
- Student-Athlete and Parent Codes of Conduct
- Playing philosophy and team formation
- Communication procedures
- Health and safety policies
- Volunteer expectations

- Conflict resolution procedures
- Athletics traditions, awards, and recognition

Parents and student-athletes are expected to review the Athletics Handbook before participating in any athletics program. Registration for a St. Pius X athletics program constitutes acknowledgment and agreement to abide by the policies and expectations contained within the Athletics Handbook.

The most current Athletics Handbook, registration information, schedules, and program updates are always available on the school's website.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Students in grades 6 through 8 have the opportunity to participate in the St. Pius X Parish School Student Council. Student Council provides students with opportunities to develop leadership skills, represent their classmates, promote school spirit, serve others, and contribute positively to the school and parish community.

A Student Council Board is elected to provide leadership for the organization. Board positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Service Secretary. Homeroom representatives are nominated from the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades at the beginning of the school year.

Student Council members and Board officers are expected to serve as positive role models and demonstrate responsible leadership, respectful conduct, good citizenship, and a commitment to the mission and values of St. Pius X Parish School.

Faculty moderator(s) oversee Student Council meetings, events, fundraisers, service projects, and other activities with the approval of the school administration. Through their participation, students gain practical experience in leadership, collaboration, decision-making, service, and school involvement.

MUSICAL EXTRACURRICULAR OFFERINGS

Band

St. Pius X Parish School offers an optional band program for an additional fee in collaboration with Music Education Services. The program is available to students in grades 4 through 8 and is directed by Andrew Szymanski, an experienced music educator. Through participation in band, students have the opportunity to learn an instrument while developing skills such as responsibility, respect, teamwork, and perseverance.

Participation in the band program is not included in St. Pius X Parish School tuition. Families who choose to enroll their child are responsible for all applicable program tuition, lesson fees, instrument

rental or purchase costs, and any other related expenses as communicated by Music Education Services.

Band lessons typically begin in September and are scheduled regularly throughout the school year. Instrument fittings are offered at the beginning of the year to help students select an appropriate instrument.

Choir

The St. Pius X Parish School Choir is open to students in grades 4 through 8 and provides students with an opportunity to develop their musical abilities while serving the school and parish community through song.

Under the direction of Ms. Kirsten Currie, choir members learn the fundamentals of musicianship, including vocal technique, rhythm, melody, harmony, ensemble singing, and other musical skills. Students learn to work together as a choir while developing confidence, responsibility, and an appreciation for sacred music and the role of music in the liturgy.

Choir members provide music for school Masses approximately twice per month and are also scheduled to sing at the parish's Sunday 10:00AM Mass approximately twice per month. Participation at assigned Masses is an important responsibility of choir membership, with some flexibility with family schedules.

Practices are held during lunch and recess periods prior to assigned Masses. Choir members are expected to attend scheduled practices and Masses and to demonstrate appropriate behavior, preparation, and commitment to the ensemble.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES & CLUBS

Throughout the school year, St. Pius X Parish School offers a variety of optional enrichment classes, clubs, and activities for students. These programs may take place after school or during designated lunch periods and are offered for an additional fee paid by participating families.

Offerings vary throughout the year based on availability and student interest. Past and potential programs include Chess Club, Art Club, Spanish Club, Guitar Club, Bricks4Kidz, SKY Centers Martial Arts, and other enrichment opportunities.

Information regarding available programs, registration, schedules, grade-level eligibility, and fees will be shared with families via email. Parents should watch school communications throughout the year for new opportunities and enrollment information.

We are always interested in exploring new enrichment opportunities for our students. Parents or community members who have an idea for a class, club, or other offering are encouraged to contact Mr. Dominick Romano at domromano@stpiuslombard.org for consideration.

Participation in enrichment programs is optional, and enrollment may be subject to space, minimum participation requirements, and individual program guidelines.

PARENT POLICIES & ORGANIZATIONS



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL

A community of faith, service and academic excellence

Parent involvement is an essential part of what makes the St. Pius X Parish School community thrive. Our school is strongest when families actively partner with us and share their time, talent, and treasure in whatever ways they are able. Whether volunteering at an event, participating in a parent organization, sharing a special skill, supporting a fundraiser, or simply lending a helping hand, every contribution strengthens our school community and supports our students.

Just as importantly, parents and guardians serve as important role models for our children. Through involvement, service, respectful communication, and support of our school and parish, parents demonstrate what it means to be responsible and engaged members of a community. We encourage every family to find meaningful ways to become involved and help St. Pius X continue to grow and flourish.

Parent & School Association

Every school parent and/or guardian is a member of the Parent & School Association. The Parent & School Association works in cooperation with the principal for the enrichment of services to the school. Parents are invited to volunteer on any committee the PSA offers. Reminders of PSA events and meetings will be sent home electronically through the Knightly News. Reach out to the PSA at psa@stpiuslombard.org.

School Board

The St. Pius X Parish School Board develops and defends the policies which govern the operation of St. Pius X Parish School and promotes the implementation of said policies. The School Board is composed of nine members selected through a discernment process. This board serves as a consultative body to the school principal. Open meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of the month in the LRC.

Dads Club

The St. Pius X School Dads Club is a dynamic group that brings together fathers from the St. Pius X community for social events, volunteering, and fundraising initiatives. Designed to foster camaraderie among SPX dads, the club organizes activities that not only create lasting friendships but also support the school through various service projects and events.

The Dad's Club is actively involved in enhancing the school experience for students by offering hands-on help at school functions, contributing to community service projects, and leading fundraising efforts to benefit St. Pius X Parish School. Social gatherings, such as game watch parties and regular meetings, provide opportunities for members to connect, share ideas, and strengthen the SPX fatherhood community.

Whether you're looking to volunteer, socialize, or help raise funds, the Dads Club offers a welcoming space for all fathers to get involved and make a positive impact on the school.

Parent Partnership Agreement

As stated in our mission statement, we believe that the faculty, staff, and parents form a unique partnership in carrying out this mission of teaching the message of Jesus to our students. The school-home partnership is essential to the academic and spiritual growth of each of our students. We ask that you as parents and primary educators pledge to offer encouragement, positive reinforcement and parental involvement to your child. All parents and guardians are requested to follow the Parent Partnership Agreement below:

- Catholic families will attend Sunday Mass and be active in our faith as an example to our children.
- We will ensure our children fulfill their service requirements and also be an example to them by our involvement in church and community events.
- We will stay apprised of school events by regularly visiting FACTS and reading the weekly Knightly News
- We will attend school Curriculum Nights, Parent-Teacher conferences, and Sacramental meetings.
- We will provide the school with all medical, dental, psychological and other pertinent information teachers need to know to understand the capabilities and limitations of our child.
- We will provide a balance between academic and extracurricular activities to ensure our children have ample opportunity to complete assignments and get the sufficient rest necessary to perform to their capabilities in school.
- We agree to support St. Pius X Parish School through prayer, positive relationships, and the giving of our time, talent, and treasure, and will pay our tuition in accordance with timelines established by the school.
- We will do our best to plan medical appointments and family vacations around the school calendar.
- We will be supportive of the school, teachers, and principal in front of our children and parish community.
- We understand that the school will foster responsibility and an inclusive mindset with your child.
- We will monitor the media influences on our children's lives. This includes awareness of reading materials, television, video games, movies, internet and music.
- We accept the school's discipline code and view it as a growth instrument for our children and being in their best long-term interests by teaching them to accept responsibility for their actions with peers, professional staff, and volunteers.
- We will acknowledge the school's efforts to minimize tuition increases by supporting school fundraisers to the best of our ability.

- We will contact the teachers to schedule a conference as soon as we feel a problem exists. We will withhold judgment until speaking with the teacher whom we will always contact first before reaching out to the principal.
- We will read the Parent - Student Handbook, accept the regulations and policies written therein, and agree to discuss appropriate areas with our children.