

School Philosophy

We believe St. Pius X School educates the whole child in mind, body, and spirit with a formative education in basic skills emphasizing that all children can learn. We aspire to establish an environment that provides students the chance to discover and develop their spiritual nature. We evaluate their academic abilities and prepare every child for productive participation and service in society.

We, the staff at St. Pius X, are role models as we display our own love of learning in a Catholic setting. We offer a Catholic education centered in the teaching of Jesus Christ. We are united in our commitment to this mission.

Mission Statement of St. Pius X School

St. Pius X School has been dedicated to excellence in the Catholic tradition since 1953. Its mission is to:

- 1 Provide an effective learning experience for every child in a Catholic environment.
- 2 Assist children in developing a Catholic conscience along with an in-depth understanding of Catholic faith.
- 3 Respect and nurture the individuality and dignity of each child.
- 4 Encourage ongoing communication that emphasizes a union between parent, teacher, and child.

Goals of St. Pius X School

1. Develop Christian moral values so that the students will make choices based on Christian principles.
2. Offer personal experiences in Christian living through liturgy, sacramental life, prayer, guidance, example, and service.
3. Promote a basic knowledge of Catholic doctrine.
4. Provide professionally qualified faculty who exemplify Christian ideals and principals.
5. Develop academic, creative, social, and physical life-long learning skills.
6. Encourage in each student a positive attitude toward continued education.
7. Develop the power to think constructively, to solve problems, and to reason independently.
8. Instill within each student a sense of personal responsibility and self-discipline.
9. Provide an environment, which is conducive to the physical well being of each student.
10. Encourage students to develop leadership skills so that they can be productive members in society.

School Advisory Committee

The School Committee's primary mission is to work with the administration (Pastor and Principal) to assure that operations are consistent with the school philosophy, the parish vision and the Archdiocesan guidelines. The School Committee recommends policies under which the principal shall administer the educational program of the school. As an Elected body, the Committee represents parents and the parish providing a forum for new ideas or issue resolution.

School Committee members are:

Fr. Robert McCabe – Pastor	Mr. John Bergeron
Mrs. Michelle Seward - Principal	Mrs. Ann Mandernach
Mrs. Kelly Mann	Mrs. Kim Martin
Ms. Debbie Wallace – Teacher Representative	Mrs. Tania Chico
Mr. Bryan Hughes – Chairperson	Mr. Ed Smith
Mr. Mark Sirois – Vice-Chairperson	
Mrs. Ann Cooper – Secretary	

St. Pius X Faculty & School Staff Members 2007-2008

Pre-Kindergarten	Mrs. Sandra Shook, Rm. 29 & Rm. 27
Kindergarten	Mrs. Debbie Wallace, Rm. 25
Grade 1	Mrs. Ann Wiggins, Rm. 23
Grade 2	Mrs. Susan Kreucher, Rm. 20
Grade 3	Mrs. Cheryl Krause, Rm. 18
Grade 4	Mrs. Jennifer Piechocki, Rm. 12
Grade 5	Mrs. Debra Palumbo, Rm. 10
Grade 6	Ms. Melissa Leonard, Rm. 6
Grade 7	Mrs. Linda Kavanaugh, Rm. 4
Grade 8	Mrs. Lou Stewart, Rm 5
Grade 8	Ms. Bridgette Yaldou
Principal	Mr. Michelle Seward
School Secretary	Mrs. Sherry Kull
Librarian	Mrs. Barbara Perry
Learning Center	Ms. Mary Jo Horner
Art Teacher	Ms. Doepker
P.E. Teacher	Mr. Pratt
Music Teacher	Mrs. Varney Grades K-5
Music Teacher	Mr. Richendollar Grades 6-8

School Calendars and Notices

Please check with your children each day to see if any information has been sent from school. School Calendars go home at the end of each month. The principal sends a parent newsletter home most Fridays. Teachers will also be sending home classroom newsletters.

Class Schedule

Grades 1 to 8 and Full Day Kindergarten

Arrival:

8:00 a.m.	Entrance Bell
8:05 a.m.	Tardy Bell
8:10 a.m.	Morning Prayers

Dismissal:

3:00 p.m.	Dismissal Bell for all students
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A.M. Kindergarten Schedule

A.M. Classes: Arrival at 8:00 a.m. and leave at 12:00 p.m.

Lunch Time Schedule

Grades 5 to 8 Lunch Time: 11:50 TO 12:15 Playground Time: 11:30 – 11:50

Grades K to 4 Lunch Time: 11:30 – 11:50 Playground Time: 11:50 – 12:15

All School Masses

Community is celebrated at all school Masses throughout the school year. Parents and Parishioners are invited to attend these liturgical celebrations, which are held most Fridays at 8:30 a.m. Masses are listed on the monthly calendars sent to parents. Homerooms rotate responsibility for planning the liturgies. Parents are invited to assist as Eucharistic Ministers.

Hot Lunch Program

Students bring lunches from home except on Wednesdays, when they have the option of buying a pizza hot lunch or other type of provided lunch. Hot lunch slips are given out on Mondays. They are returned on Tuesdays. Please send money in on Wednesday, in an envelope with student's name and amount on it to purchase lunch. Menu items are listed on the monthly calendar. Milk is available every day. It is ordered in August for the full year. The fee for the whole year is \$40.00. A milk envelope is sent home the first week of school.

Emergency School Closing

If it becomes necessary to close school because of poor weather or other unexpected circumstances, parents will be notified through radio and TV announcements. WWJ & WJR radio station list all school closings, as do all the local TV stations. Please do not call the Rectory or School. St. Pius School will be listed as "SOUTHGATE ST. PIUS". Once the school day is in session, we will try not to close school unless there is an extreme emergency.

School Busses

St. Pius students who live in Southgate have the opportunity to be transported to school, free of charge, by the Southgate Public School Buses. Our students are subject to the same guidelines on distance from school and main road crossings as are public school children. If you are a qualified family, the Southgate Public Schools will notify you before school starts as to where and when your children will be picked up. This is normally done with a postcard in the mail.

If for any reason the Southgate Public Schools are not in session and St. Pius is, there will be no bus transportation provided. This should not happen often, as we try to coordinate our school calendars.

St. Pius has its own school bus for those children who live in Riverview, Woodhaven, and parts of Brownstown. There is a yearly charge for this service. It is paid on a monthly basis. The children are picked up and dropped off as near their home as possible. The St. Pius bus service starts with the first day of school.

All children riding the buses, Southgate or St. Pius, are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Any misbehavior will be reported to the principal. Parents will be notified of the incident. If the poor behavior continues, a one-week suspension will occur. If the behavior still does not improve, the student could be excluded from riding the bus altogether.

Only those Southgate students assigned to a particular bus may ride it. No switching of buses or stops is allowed. Those not assigned to ride a bus by Southgate Transportation are not allowed on the bus. The same rules apply for those students who pay to ride the St. Pius Bus.

Please be patient with the two bus systems. It takes a couple of weeks to address all the concerns. If you have a question about the Southgate buses, please call Southgate Transportation at 246-4647. If you have a question about the St. Pius Bus, call the school office at 284-6500.

St. Pius Latchkey Program

In order to better serve the needs of our St. Pius School families, we offer a Latchkey Program. This program is designed to provide a safe, caring atmosphere for children where they can enjoy activities, do homework, relax, and enjoy friends. Parents can be assured that while they are at work, a qualified, concerned, and Christian staff is caring for their children.

Time Frame and Fees:

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.	\$2.00 per child per day. For those children participating in the after school latchkey program the morning is free.
3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	\$11.00 per child per day.
Pick-up before 4:00 p.m.	is a charge of \$5.00 per child
Half-Days	\$15.00 per child per day.

Traffic Control Plan Dropping Off and Picking Up Students

In order to provide a safe environment for our students, we ask that all adults follow the traffic control plan listed below.

No students may be dropped off at the Pearl Street entrance except those arriving after 8:00 a.m.

The drop off procedure is as follows;

1. All cars will enter through the "ENTER" driveway of the parking lot from Superior Street and will drive single file following the cones to the drop off area.
2. DROP OFF AREA will be at the colored cones near the Holy Angels door. At these colored cones, a group of approximately five cars can drop off their children at the same time, with the children exiting from the right side of the car to the courtyard area. There will be no passing or going around cars allowed along this route.
3. After dropping off your children, please proceed down the service drive to Chestnut Street.
4. Anyone wishing to park may do so in the "parking area" near the church to the right of the cones.

The children will be using two doors. Grades K-3 will use the Holy Angels door and grades 4-8 will use the door west of the Social Hall. All students will go to their designated class lines. In bad weather, children will proceed to their appropriate door and wait inside the hall for instructions.

Please do not drop off children before 7:50 a.m. unless they are going to morning Latchkey. Teacher supervision at both doors is provided starting at 7:50 a.m. If your child is tardy, please use Pearl Street entrance doors.

At dismissal, children will be dismissed through the same entrance doors. Please follow the map on the following pages.

No one is allowed to park along the cones by the driveway DROP OFF area AT ANY TIME. This is extremely dangerous for the St. Pius Bus children who must cross the driveway to get to their bus.

We ask you to not deviate from the directions listed here and to respect the cones. For the safety of all our children, please be cooperative, patient, and use Christian courtesy thus insuring safety for all. Please be sure to share this information with family members and or friends who may also be transporting your child(ren). Thank you for your cooperation.

General Rules and Regulations

Our intention is to develop responsible students. We do emphasize proper care of the facilities and personal belongings. We are also concerned with peer relationships and teacher-student relationships. We feel it is important to develop these attitudes rather than to be concerned with the term "discipline."

No attempt is made in this Handbook to cover every possible regulation, situation, or disciplinary action. It is understood that the Principal, in frequent contact with the Pastor and School Committee, is empowered to handle situations not specifically mentioned in this publication. Students and parents are notified and reminded throughout the school year of policies and regulations through oral and written announcements.

1. Please dress your child appropriately. The students line up outside before school and play outside at lunch recess.
2. Line up outdoors before school. There is to be no running, ball playing etc.
3. No toys, Gameboys, video games, CD players or cell phones should be brought to school from home.

Lunch Recess

Our playground supervisors are in complete charge of the students during lunch recess. Students are to show them the same respect that they are required to show their classroom teachers and each other. The attitude and actions of the students while on the playground should reflect the quality Catholic education that they receive both at school and at home. Courtesy and concern for others should be the rule, not the exception.

The following is a list of some playground rules and policies. This is not meant to be a definitive list, nor does it address all areas of concern. The major purpose in reminding parents and students of these policies is to provide each child with a safe activity time.

- Students are to stay within the cones of the parking lot or field area. Students should never leave school grounds. Games should be played so that equipment will not go into the street or on neighbors' property.
- Safety requires that students never throw snow or ice.
- If a child (for any reason) has to stay in at lunch, a note from the parents is required.
- Students are not to fight while on the school premises. Disputes may be settled with the playground supervisors. Major problems are referred to the principal. There are many options open to the students in settling arguments, but fighting is not one of them. Students may be suspended for fighting in class or on the playground. No distinction is made as to "real" or "play" fighting.
- Students who are injured while playing should report to one of the playground supervisors. They will provide treatment for minor wounds and will send the students, if necessary, to the office for treatment. As usual, parents will be notified of any injury that may need further attention.
- Food, candy, or gum should not be taken out on the playground at any time. This can create both a safety and a litter problem.
- Parents wishing to take their child out during lunchtime must sign the child out in the school office. Children are released only from the school office. Do not go to individual classrooms. Parents need to drop off lunches at the office. The school discourages lunches brought in from area restaurants.
- In general, it is expected that the behavior and language of each child would reflect the Catholic teaching that parents and teachers try to instill in I St. Pius students.

Admission Policy

St. Pius School is committed to quality education within a Catholic, Christ-centered environment. Consistent with this commitment, the Administration along with the St. Pius School Advisory Committee has established an admission policy, which fosters family involvement in the parish.

St. Pius School does not discriminate against students in admission or participation in any school program or activity on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, or handicap which is unrelated to the student's ability to utilize and benefit from the educational opportunities, programs and facilities offered by the school.

Admission Policy (continued)

All students are expected to participate in all instructional programs offered by the school. Parents are expected to support and cooperate with all educational and administrative policies of the school. Parents who do not abide by the school policies or instructional programs and who are unreasonable in their actions may be asked to withdraw their children from the school.

PRE-REGISTRATION is held in mid-February, involving only a short form declaring an individual's intention to re-enroll for the next school year. This pre-registration is necessary in order to prepare the school budget for the coming year. A \$100 non-refundable registration fee is charged at this time. The \$100 is deducted from the new school year's tuition. In August, those families who are accepted for the new school year will be notified by mail and will be given information necessary for the start of the school year.

The administration reserves the right to deny admission to any child whose needs the school does not have the resources and ability to meet, or whose parents are motivated by concerns not consistent with the goals of the school or the policies of the Archdiocese of Detroit. If this is determined, parents may be asked to withdraw their child(ren).

All students shall comply with State of Michigan required Immunization and Health laws prior to admission.

Students requiring special support services will be considered on an individual basis and must be able to perform in a regular classroom. Their status will be reviewed annually by the Principal and teaching staff, with the cooperation of the Southgate Special Service Dept.

All prospective students will be evaluated academically for appropriate placement. Families transferring students from other schools must set up an appointment for the interview with the principal. A copy of the student's latest report card with the final grades and attendance, and copies of any standardized test scores and/or special support service evaluation reports must accompany the admission application. Admissions are considered incomplete until these records are received. Students who were not recommended for promotion in their previous school may not be accepted to the next grade at St. Pius. Families who have outstanding accounts at previous schools will not be accepted at St. Pius.

Every new student will be admitted to St. Pius School on a trial basis. If there is consistent poor behavior, a poor attitude, or inattention to academic performance, the student will be asked to withdraw.

A child entering the school must comply with the following:

- *be five years of age on or before December 1st of the same year for Kindergarten
- *be six years of age on or before December 1st of the same year for first grade.
- *pass a pre-screening test for Kindergarten
- *present the original birth certificate at the time of registration
- *produce a record of compliance with the immunization requirements of the Health Department
- *if baptized, present a Baptismal Certificate, or if baptized at St. Pius, present the actual date of Baptism
- *present a Social Security card or number

Since it is the prime objective of St. Pius School to keep families together, children on the waiting list will be given top priority if it should occur that a sibling be accepted in a given year.

Appeals Policy

St. Pius students and their parents have the right to appeal teacher and/or administrative decisions with which they disagree. The levels of appeal are as follows:

- 1st level: Student's Teacher
- 2nd level: School Principal
- 3rd level: School Advisory Committee
- 4th level: Pastor

At each level, a meeting shall take place if requested by either party. If consensus cannot be achieved after a wholehearted attempt by all parties to settle the concern, either party can appeal the issue to the next highest level. The request for review at a higher appeal level must be made in writing within five days of receiving the previous decision. A response will be made within one week of the issue.

Grading System-Report Cards

Students at St. Pius are formally evaluated in the following manner. Letter grades are given in grades 1-8. Kindergarten students receive a more detailed report card and letter grades are not given. Letter grades are based on the following percentages:

- | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 100-93 = A | Special Classes may be marked by |
| 92-85 = B | O-Outstanding |
| 84-70 = C | S-Satisfactory |
| 69-60 = D | N-Non-Acceptable |
| 59-0 = F | |

Report cards are issued every quarter.

Academic Honor Roll

Principal's Honors designation is for those students who obtain all A's in major academic subject area's and "S"s in special areas. An "A" in conduct must be maintained.

Honor Roll eligibility is figured on a grade point average. To be eligible for Honors a student must have a grade point average of 3.99 to 3.00, all "S"s or higher in special areas, and maintain a "B" in conduct.

Only students in grades 4-8 are eligible for the Honor Roll. To figure a grade point average, total up what your child received in each of the following areas: religion, math, science, social studies, English, reading, and spelling, then divide that number by the number of subjects that you added together. The result represents the grade point average. The scale used is:

A = 4
B = 3
C = 2
D = 1
F = 0

All students must have at least a B in conduct in order to be eligible for any honors. Handwriting, music, gym, computers, and art may be marked by O, S or N, or letter grades. A student must have an O or an S in all five areas to be eligible for honors.

Please remember that an Honor Roll is something a student should strive to achieve. Appropriate behavior is also something a student must learn by cultivating the self-discipline to practice it.

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS: All students must maintain a C average in the academic areas and receive an A in conduct in ALL subject areas.

Interim Reports

Interim reports are sent home midway through each quarter. They are designed to notify parents about any subject areas that need special attention. Interims are issued only to students in grades 4-8. Interims must be signed by the parent and sent back to the teacher. Letter grades and comments are used on the Interims.

Retention-Failing Grades

Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher at the **FIRST SIGN** of a student's difficulty in any academic subject. It is the teacher's duty and responsibility to notify parents through interim reports, conferences, and report cards that academic problem(s) exist. Parents and teachers will work together in planning possible strategies to improve the situation. A solution might involve tutoring or extra work requirements.

It is highly recommended that a student in grades 4-6 who fails one subject attend summer school. A student who fails two subjects **MUST** retake and pass the failed subjects in an approved summer school program. Failure to do so will result in retention. If a student fails three or more core subjects, promotion is unlikely.

Attendance Policy

Good attendance at school is essential to successful daily performance, and to future educational and occupational endeavors. Students who exhibit good attendance generally achieve at a higher rate, enjoy school more, and are more employable later in life.

*IF A CHILD HAS A TOTAL OF 5 DAYS OF ABSENCE OR 3 TARDIES IN A QUARTER, A PARENT/PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE MAY BE REQUESTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRINCIPAL.

The principal and faculty of St. Pius want to help each child continue his/her academic progress. To achieve this goal, the home and school must work together to improve and broaden the student's learning experience. To provide for continuous learning, it is wise to:

- arrange medical and dental appointments after school
- request home instruction for absences of 30 days or more
- PLAN VACATIONS TO AVOID STUDENTS MISSING SCHOOL

Absence Reporting

When a child is going to be absent from school, parents are requested to call the school office (284-6500) and report the absence by 8:30 a.m. If this is not reported, the home of the absent child will be called to verify the reason for the absence. When the student returns to school, a dated note must be signed by the parent and sent to the teacher. A parent must sign the note. This will be kept on file by the school office. All work must be made up following an absence.

Tardiness

Please make every effort to send students off to school with time to spare. It is understandable that a rare problem may cause tardiness. But even occasional tardiness can be embarrassing and disruptive.

Students enter the building at 8:00 a.m. and the tardy bell rings at 8:05 a.m. If a student enters after 8:05 a.m., he/she should enter the building through the Pearl Street doors. No students will be allowed to enter the Pearl Street doors of the school between 7:55 a.m. and 8:05 a.m. At 8:05 a.m. they will enter and be given a tardy slip. Tardies are recorded and excessive tardiness may result in disciplinary action. Students will generally have the same number of days to make up "absent work" as the number of days absent.

Extra Vacation

Since class explanations, discussion, peer interaction and instructional continuity are so important; parents are asked not to take their children out of class for extra vacation days. Every effort should be made to utilize current, published days off. Work will not be given out early to students who are taken out for additional vacation days.

Make Up Work

Teachers at a parent's request will send homework home if a child is absent due to illness. Work that was assigned prior to the absence is due on the day the child returns to school. The student has as many days as she/he was absent to make up work. If a child is absent more than 5 consecutive days, she/he has as many days as she/he was absent to make up missed work.

Parents who would like the work earlier have the following options:

1. Arrange for another student to bring home assignments. This "Buddy System" works well in the middle and upper grades.
2. Call the school office (284-6500) and request that your child's work is left in the office. It can be picked up after 3:00 p.m.
3. Know your child's schedule. Some work is routine. For example, a spelling lessons every week, a reading story, and the next pages in math. Also, past assignments may be reviewed while a child is absent so that the concepts will be understood for the next test.

Code of Conduct

St. Pius School expects a high standard of conduct from its students. The norm of good conduct is respect and kindness toward fellow students and school personnel. Development of self-discipline and acceptance of responsibility by the student for his/her behavior are primary goals.

Discipline is a part of the tradition of a Catholic education. It includes the learning of self-control and the development of character and respect for person and property. If a student interferes with work, play, or activities of other students, or if a student defaces or destroys school property, appropriate action will be taken. School rules are to be followed while in school and while on the way to and from school.

There are some areas which cause considerable difficulty and for which corrective measures must be immediate and thorough. These areas involve practices which are detrimental to health, safety and the welfare of all.

The following areas of misconduct may result in detention, suspension or expulsion. The list is not meant to be all-inclusive, but is intended to highlight some major areas of concern. They are specifically listed to help us insure that they are not part of any St. Pius school activities. Some major areas include:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| *Criminal Acts | *Possession of Weapons |
| *Gross Misbehavior | *Drugs and Alcohol |
| *Property Damage | *Disruptive Behavior |
| *Persistent Disobedience | *Smoking |
| *Excessive Non-attendance | *Threats of Violence |

- *Inappropriate dress & appearance
- *Violation of Lunch/Recess Rules
- *Throwing Snow on School Premises
- *Harassment of Faculty or Other Students.
- *Using Profane or Sexually Explicit Language and/ or Gestures
- *Leaving the School Grounds/Classroom with out permission
- *Inappropriate use of the internet or other areas of technology resources
- *Public displays of affection
- *Gambling on School Premises

Fighting, in particular, is considered a very serious violation of the Code of Conduct at St. Pius School. ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE DISCIPLINED. Those initiating the fight (hitting first) will be disciplined more severely than those defending themselves.

Any student found in violation of the Code of Conduct policy and rules is subject to suspension and possible permanent expulsion. A student who interferes with or otherwise obstructs the search and questioning allowed in this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension and possibility of expulsion.

Illegal Substances

The possession, use, manufacture, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, paraphernalia, tobacco, aerosol sprays such as hairspray, perfume, or deodorant body spray by students in school or at school sponsored events is expressly forbidden. A student found to be in violation of the school policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion (permanent dismissal).

Detention

Students will serve an hour after school detention on Wednesday for each detention slip issued by school personal. Detentions will be served on the assigned date provided. Parents will be notified by phone or in writing that they must provide transportation at the designated time of dismissal from detention. Repeated detentions for the same infraction may result in a suspension.

Lunch Detention

Students may serve a lunch detention if referred to the office by a teacher, staff member or parent volunteer for exhibiting inappropriate behavior. The student will eat his/her lunch first, and then they will be assigned a job to do in the school after eating (washing windows, sweeping floors, etc.) If misbehavior continues, an after school detention or suspension may be warranted.

Suspension

This is a very serious step which results when any individual demonstrates that he/she is consistently unable or unwilling to conform to school regulations. During the suspension, no credit will be given for written work or tests. The number of days suspended will be determined by the principal. Suspension from school requires a parent-teacher-principal conference with the student. *After 3 suspensions, expulsion may occur. *

Expulsion

Expulsion is the permanent denial of the privilege of attending St. Pius School. This severe action will be taken when there has been a very grievous or frequent abuse of school policy and/or when no other action seems effective. The decision regarding a student's dismissal will be made by the principal in consultation with the pastor.

Bullying

Bullying (physical, verbal) or otherwise will not be tolerated at St. Pius School. Following an investigation, if a student is found to be bullying, a suspension will occur. If bullying continues after being suspended, an expulsion may be warranted.

Classroom Behavior

Constant disruptive behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated. The classroom is where learning takes place and disruptive behavior does not allow learning to take place. Meetings with parents, student, teacher and principal will take place to correct this behavior. If unsuccessful, the student may be suspended or possible expulsion will occur.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Sexual harassment refers to sexually inappropriate behavior that is not welcome, that is personally offensive to some, and fails to respect the rights of others. Harassment can be either in conduct or communication. Accordingly, sexually inappropriate behavior means inappropriate touching, gestures, and language of a sexual nature directed at faculty, staff or other students. Sexual harassment also includes conduct or communication that has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with another student's education, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment.

Examples of Sexual Harassment

- *sexual innuendoes
- *jokes of a sexual nature
- *sexual propositions
- *sexually suggestive pictures or cartoons
- *foul and obscene language, jokes or gestures
- *unwanted and unnecessary physical contact
- *unwelcome comments about appearance

Reporting Sexual Harassment

Any student or other person in a working relationship with St. Pius School, who feels that he or she has been a victim of sexual or other forms of illegal harassment, should bring the matter to the immediate attention of the teacher or principal.

The school will investigate all complaints of harassment in as prompt and confidential a manner as possible and will take appropriate corrective action when warranted. Any faculty, staff member, student or other person, in a working relationship with St. Pius School, who is determined to have engaged in harassment in violation of this policy, will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or exclusion from school.

Retaliation in any form against a person who exercises his or her right to make a complaint under this policy is strictly prohibited, and will result in appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or exclusion from school.

Archdiocese of Detroit Weapons Policy

Students are prohibited from bringing weapons to school and school-sponsored activities, or having weapons in school or at school sponsored activities, on the school premises, on a school bus enroute to or from school, or in the immediate vicinity of the school.

State law requires the reporting of possession of a “dangerous weapon” to the local law enforcement agency. “Dangerous weapon” includes a firearm, dagger, dirk, and stiletto, knife with a blade over 3 inches long, pocketknife opened by mechanical device, iron bar or brass knuckles.

A weapon is any object, which can be used to threaten or injure another. It includes, but is not limited to “dangerous weapons” as defined by the State law, which is included in the policy. School premises include the school building and the adjacent grounds including but not limited to parking lot, playground, and busses. Immediate vicinity of the school means within a block radius of the school.

Any student discovered to be, or suspected of, carrying, possessing, concealing or transferring a weapon on school premises or in the immediate vicinity of the school shall be immediately excluded from classes pending investigation. A search can be conducted to verify the suspicion or clarify the discovery. It may include without prior warning an inspection and search of a student’s person, pockets (the student empties his/her own pockets), book bags, purse, lunch

pail, locker, automobile, etc. Questioning of the same purpose may include questioning by the principal, a member of the administrative team, a schoolteacher, the pastor or a person acting in the place of any of these. Any student found to be in violation of the school's policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion (permanent dismissal).

Uniform Code

General

1. **Shoes** should be neat and clean. Shoelaces must be laced and tied. Socks must be worn with school shoes and sock length must be above the ball of the ankle. No sandals, boots, dress ankle boots, clogs, platforms or fad shoes may be worn. No sling back shoes (open heel) or spike heels allowed. Heels cannot be higher than 2 inches. Athletic shoes can only be worn on designated days such as Casual Day.
2. **All uniforms** must be kept clean and neat. Jumper or skirt length must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
3. All students must keep themselves clean and neat at all times.
4. **Hair** should be neat and clean. Excessive, large, or distracting hair accessories and extreme hairstyles are inappropriate during the school day. Extreme styles such as head shaving, tails, and "punk" styles are not allowed. Extreme hair dyeing, obvious lightening, streaking, tipping or fad coloring (Red, Green, Blue, etc.) is not allowed. Boy's hair must be above the eyelid, above the ear and off the collar.
5. **Make-up** is not allowed. This includes nail polish.
6. **Jewelry** must be simple. No dangling earrings are allowed. No earrings may be extended below the lobe. Only one earring per lobe is allowed in the bottom lobe of the ear. Boys may not wear earrings. No other body piercing allowed. Tasteful necklaces and chokers are permitted, however no ribbon or band chokers allowed,
7. **Blouses and shirts** are to be tucked into skirts and pants and not rolled.
8. **Belts** are required.

Girl's Uniform

GRADES 1-3: Uniform jumper or skorts

Solid color white blouse, short or long sleeves. Peter Pan collar. Navy, hunter green, or red sweater. Sweaters must be exactly like the sweaters pictured in the catalog that each parent received from the Schoolbelles Uniform Co. **SWEATERS DO NOT HAVE TO BE WORN.** Plain white anklets, no logos on socks; knee socks in navy, red, white, or green; navy or white tights. Tights must be the panty hose type and must not be leggings. Anklets may not be worn with tights. All tights must be long enough to cover the ball of the ankle.

GRADES 4-8: Uniform skirt or skorts

Oxford cloth blouse, short or long sleeves, solid white, button down tailored collar. Same sweater as listed above. No hoodies or sweatshirts on uniform days. Same stockings described as listed above.

Non-uniform slacks may be worn outside at lunch time or going back and forth to school. Girls will be allowed to put on or remove slacks in the lavatory if they so desire. Non-uniform slacks may not be worn in school.

GRADES 1-8: Navy blue twill slacks with pleated front.

These may be purchased from Schoolbelles. They may be worn from October 15th through April 1st. Belts must be worn with slacks.

Boy's Uniform

Grades 1-8:

Navy blue twill trousers with a flat or pleated front. These must be purchased from Schoolbelles. Belts. White dress shirts, long or short sleeves, plain material. **NO KNIT SHIRTS ARE ALLOWED.** Shirtsleeves may not be rolled up and pant legs are not to be rolled up above the ankles. Same sweater requirements as listed for the girls. Traditional navy blue tie. Plain navy or white ribbed crew socks must be worn that cover the ball of the ankle.

Gym Uniform

Grades K-8:

Girls and boys are to wear the St. Pius gym uniform. No cutoffs, spandex, etc, are to be worn. Girls and boys also may choose to wear the St. Pius shorts or sweatpants with no cuts or tears. Girls and boys are to wear a St. Pius gold t-shirt. The green St. Pius sweatshirt can also be chosen to wear in cooler weather. All students must wear athletic shoes as well as socks that are above the ball of the ankle for gym class. Students may wear their gym clothes all day on gym days.

Kindergarten Dress Code

The kindergarten students do not wear uniforms. However, they are expected to adhere to the following dress code.

1. Jeans are not permitted. Slacks may be worn by both girls and boys. Sweats are not permitted. No shorts or skorts. No blue jean skirts or blue jean dresses. Girl's jumpers, dress and skirt length must be no shorter than an inch and a half above the knee.
2. T-shirts, blouses, and sport shirts are all acceptable with one major restriction- no novelty shirts or sweatshirts. Novelty items are those that are printed with pictures or cartoon characters on them.
3. Shoes: No athletic shoes are allowed. Soft-soled shoes are best. Hard -soled shoes can be hazardous on waxed floors during active play. No work boots, shoes or boots above the ankles. No sandals.

4. Hair should be neat and clean. Excessive, large, or distracting hair accessories and extreme hairstyles are inappropriate during the school day. Extreme styles such as head shaving, tails, and “punk” styles are not allowed. Boy’s hair may not touch the collar. No hair dyeing.
5. Post Earrings - only one: in the bottom lobe of the ear. Girls only.

Above all, it is important that students come to school in clothes that are clean and neat in appearance. In an age of informality when many people are dressing casually for once dressy events, it is still appropriate to teach children to “dress-up” a bit for school, as it is our “place of business” for young people. Thus, we try to teach children the difference between clothes for play and clothes for school.

Recess Policy

Students are expected to partake in daily-supervised outdoor recess. It is the parent’s responsibility to assure that their child is adequately dressed for daily recess. Adequate outer clothing may include hat, gloves, raincoat, warm jacket or coat, long pants or leg covers, scarf, or boots. The responsibility for canceling recess for any reason, such as inclement weather, rests solely with the principal or the principal’s designee. Please remember, parents, that your child will be exposed to weather while walking to and from school and while waiting for buses.

Dress Code Violations

If a student comes to school in inappropriate dress, parents will be called and asked to bring the proper clothes. A warning will be issued. If the student violates the dress code again, the same procedure will be followed, but instead of a warning a detention will be issued. Three detentions in a quarter for violating the dress code will lower the student’s conduct grade.

Casual Days

On designated casual days, students may wear t-shirts, sweatshirts or hoodies with jeans or sweats, and athletic shoes. Shirts must be tasteful, with no inappropriate words or pictures, no scoop necklines or shorts midriff tops. Jeans must be neat without rips or tears or writing on them and must fit properly. Shorts or skorts will be allowed between April 1 and October 15, but must be at least fingertip length.

For dress-up days when uniforms are not worn, nice slacks can be worn without any rips or holes. Dress shirts should be tucked in, if the shirt has a long shirttail. Skirts for girls must be within two inches of the knee.

All general uniform code rules apply for dress and casual days as well.

Tuition Policy

The pastor, principal, and parish Business Manager, who then consult with the School Advisory Committee, determine tuition policy and fees. The Administration Committee and the Parish Council approve it. Payment is requested as follows:

- Tuition Payment Agreement Plan must be signed and on file in the office. This plan consists of 3 options: pay in full, quarterly payments, and monthly payments.
- A student will not be allowed to return to school in the fall if his/her family still owes tuition for a prior year.
- A student will not receive a final report card or be allowed to graduate if his/her family still owes tuition or fees.

St. Pius Bus Fees

Bus fees for Southgate residents using the St. Pius Bus will be \$450 a year. All others who do not live in Southgate will pay \$500.00. Fees are paid monthly starting in September and ending in April. Payment due dates are: September 15, October 17, November 15, December 17, January 15 February 15, March 17, April 16. Southgate residents pay \$50.00 per payment and all others pay \$56.25 per payment.

We currently offer one-way bus transportation for St. Pius students. The cost is \$325.00 and your one-way service would have to be designated beginning of year. (Either to or from) and remain the same throughout the year.

Religious Education Program

Parish Religious Education Staff

Ms. Liela Abass, Director

Mrs. Debra Solis, Secretary

Religious education in the school is under the guidance of the Parish Director of Religious Education. She is responsible for coordinating the religion curriculum of St. Pius School and the After School Program in addition to overseeing the sacramental preparation of our parish's Catholic and public school students.

Purpose

The St. Pius Religious Education Ministry is best described by a quote from the National Catechetical Directory:

“Its purpose is to make a person's faith become living, conscious and active. Through the light of instruction, faith grows and matures. Such faith is a gift of God. Growth in faith is intimately related to one's response to this gift.”

We seek to enable our students to shine in this world like stars. (cf. Phil, 2:15) To be a manifestation of God's love in this time and place.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Religious Education Center at 284-6562.

Special Services

During the school year, services are available through the Southgate Public Schools:

1. School Psychologist
2. Speech Therapist
3. School Social Worker
4. School Teacher Consultant

These professionals provide a valuable service to the students of St. Pius because their services are highly specialized. A teacher consultant also provides assistance to students who need additional work in certain areas. Students are taken into this program when they are found to be deficient in certain skills expected of a particular grade level. St. Pius School is fortunate to have such excellent resource people available to help the needs of our students.

Wayne County also checks the hearing and vision of certain grade levels each year. Parents are notified if a problem is found with either the hearing or vision.

The federal Government provides the school with Chapter 2 money every year. The school uses the money to buy equipment for the school. It also provides funds from the Drug Free School fund. These monies are used for videos on self-esteem, conflict resolution, etc., and to bring speakers and programs into the school.

School Activities

SCIENCE FAIR

The annual St. Pius Science Fair is held every winter in February or March. Students in grades 4 to 8 have been required to display an individual project at the school fair. St. Pius science teachers "grade" the projects while science teacher professionals from other schools judge the projects.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The parish Men's Club sponsors an extensive athletic program for all children of St. Pius Parish, grades 5 - 8. Instructional programs for kindergarten to fourth grade students are offered. While most of the participants are St. Pius students, other parish-member children are welcome to participate. Program goals and direction are monitored by the Men's Club athletic committee and the pastor. Athletes are awarded letters and pins of accomplishment, as well as

trophies for championships of the year, at the annual athletic banquet for athletes, parents, and friends of the St. Pius Athletic Program.

“Special” Areas of the Curriculum

Southgate Public Schools generally provide teachers to St. Pius to instruct Kindergarten through Eight grade students on a weekly basis in the following areas: Art, Computer Lab, Vocal Music, and Physical Education. Specific details of the programs vary from year to year and will be shared with parents when available.

Athletic Code

The St. Pius Athletic Code is a minimum guide for St. Pius Athletes to follow. Individual coaches can set more stringent team policies and procedures with the support of the athletic director.

1. Athletes are representatives of St. Pius school and are to conduct themselves in a manner that will make all proud of them.
2. Athletes are required by the CYO to have a physical exam before practicing or playing. The exam must have been taken after June 30th of the current school year.
3. Athletes must maintain an Scholastic “C”: average and must maintain “C”: in conduct.
4. Athletic fees must be paid on or before uniform distribution. Failure to pay will result in suspension until fees are paid; or arrangements have been made to do so.
5. A display of unsportsman-like conduct toward an opponent or official or use of profanity will result in disciplinary action by the head coach.
6. Athletes must attend all practices or games. An excused absence is one that is accepted by the coach.
7. Parental support is encouraged, but the coaches need to be alone with the athletes during practices and games.
8. A student must be in school in order to participate in an activity that day. An exception would be made if the student had an approved appointment, with a note to the school and head coach.
9. Theft or malicious destruction of any school’s or individual’s equipment or property will not be tolerated and will be dealt with through disciplinary action and/or team suspension by the head coach and athletic director.
10. Completion of the entire sports season in good standing is required in order for a student to be eligible for team or individual awards. Exception: an injury, which limits participation.
11. An athlete is responsible for the equipment issued to him or her. If the equipment and uniforms at the end of the season are not returned, it is the parent’s responsibility to reimburse the athletic department for such items.
12. St. Pius athletic program has a zero tolerance policy on the following: the use or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, or any other behavior-altering substances by an athlete. This will result in immediate suspension from the athletic programs for the remainder of the academic year.

13. The Athletic Code is subject to school and disciplinary regulations; and the athlete may be subject to further regulations as the result of school policies and procedures.
14. Any additional circumstances not covered in the boundaries of the Athletic Code will be dealt with individually by the athletic department.

School Library

The St. Pius School Library is under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Perry. Assisting Mrs. Perry are volunteer parents who help with the selection and checking out of books by reading books to students. Each class visits the Library at least once per week. Library books are purchased with school funds, book fair profit, and memorial donations.

Safety Patrol

The girls and boys in Grades 7 are responsible for staffing the safety patrol. They are on duty in the morning and afternoon to aid the students loading and unloading the buses.

Altar Servers

Training for the ministry of altar service generally begins with recruits in the fourth grade. This service is open to girls and boys in both parochial and public school.

This parish is blessed with a large group of children who serve at liturgies.

When assigned to work a weekday Mass, students are excused from class for that time only. They must personally ask the teacher for any assignments given in the class, whether they were done in class or are to be done for homework. The teacher will provide them with these assignments and any help they may need to do this work.

Service Squad

Students in Grade 8 have significant opportunities to do volunteer service for the school. Many students provide much needed and much appreciated Christian service in a variety of ways:

Office Aides: These students offer assistance in the office.

Lunch Aides: deliver milk to classrooms; set up and remove trash barrels at lunchtime and assist lunch mothers in the primary rooms at lunchtime.

Scouting Activities

St. Pius sponsors Brownies/Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts. Meetings are held after school in classrooms or in the Social Hall.

Academic Events

Students are encouraged to use their literacy and artistic skills and to develop these skills through participation in local and state competitions. The following competitions are generally entered:

1. High School Academic Olympics at Cabrini High School - open to 7th & 8th graders.
2. "America & Me" Essay Contest - Farm Bureau Insurance - open to 8th graders.
3. National Geography Bee - 4th - 8th graders
4. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel - "Catechism Bowl" - open to 7th & 8th graders.
5. Science Olympiad - open to 6th - 8th graders.

Parish Festival

St. Pius holds its annual parish festival on Labor Day weekend. The school sponsors grade level booths that are staffed by school staff and school parents. A good time is had by all! We feel a special obligation to support the festival as the parish very generously subsidizes the school.

Festival Volunteer Fee: \$200.00 per family payable in October if family does not volunteer 6 hours of work during the Parish festival.

Library Book Fair

The purpose of the Book Fair is to stimulate further interest in a variety of reading materials, to enable parents and children to purchase some delightful, educational gifts, and to raise money for new library books and materials. The Book Fair is held in the library in November during Parent/Teacher Conference Week. It is open during school hours and during the afternoon and evening conference hours.

Halloween Parade and Parties

On Halloween, students in grades K - 5 bring their costumes to school and get dressed for the celebration just after lunch. The afternoon starts with a 1:00 costume parade around the block, followed by classroom parties.

Jr. High Dances

The principal and teachers on an annual basis will arrange Jr. High Dances.

Thanksgiving Celebration

On Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, students share a Thanksgiving celebration during lunchtime.

Christmas Program

An annual Christmas music program is scheduled each December, involving the students of St. Pius. It is planned and directed by the music teacher. It is usually held in the Activity Center in the evening so that all parents may attend.

Learning Fair-Spring Fling

This evening in March features displays and presentations in all academic areas. P.T.O. sponsors a basket raffle.

Jog-A-Thon / Bowl-A-Thon

This fund-raiser is held each October to fund our computer room. Students solicit pledges for each lap of the field course they jog. Each 8 laps make a mile. Prizes are awarded depending on the amount of pledge money turned in to the school. This is a fun-filled day for all involved-students, staff, and the many parents who come to help and cheer on the students. Students in grades 7 & 8 walk to Mulberry Lanes for an afternoon of bowling. Pledges cover the cost of bowling with additional funds going to technology.

Field Day

Students participate in a day devoted to just having fun during the last week of school. Activities could include going to a local park for activities and games between classrooms, outside picnics, videos, etc.

Casual Days- Scrip, Meijer & \$1.00

\$1.00 Donation Casual Days and Casual Days for participation in programs such as Scrip and Meijer are scheduled on the monthly calendars. (Please see the Family Handbook for acceptable Casual Day attire.) Proceeds from these \$1.00 Casual Days are used to expand upon and enrich existing programs and the educational environment.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents or significant others are invited to tour the school during this special event during Catholic Schools Week, or on an announced date during the school year.

Field Trips

Grades K – 8 schedule educational field trips during the year. Past trips have included Greenfield Village, Detroit Zoo, Art Institute, Detroit Symphony, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum etc. Transportation is provided by school buses at a nominal fee. Parents often accompany the classes on a space availability basis.

Seventh and Eighth Grade Trips

In the past, the 7th and 8th grade students have taken a special field trip every other year, giving each student the opportunity to go on an overnight trip while in the 7th or 8th grade. Options are being considered for the current year.

All-School Assemblies

Once a month, the student body of St. Pius gathers together in the Activity Center to pray, discuss pertinent business recognize student achievement, and have fun together.

Student Council

A student Council is elected each fall to represent the student body. A representative is elected from each classroom in the 4th to 8th grades. The four officers are from 7th and 8th grade. Meetings are held monthly.

Parent Involvement Programs

P.T.O.

The Parent/Teacher Organization of St. Pius School (P.T.O.) was formed to foster positive relationships among administration, staff, teachers, and parents of St. Pius School.

OBJECTIVES:

*To create a greater appreciation of Catholic education by sponsoring periodic informational and social meetings for all parents and school personnel.

*To support extracurricular activities, such as incentive programs, school parties, field days, field trips, etc.

*To keep open communication through P.T.O. calendar, P.T.O. newsletter, and P.T. O. meetings.

*To help administration, faculty, and staff by coordinating support programs.

Membership is open to any parent, legal guardian, or caregiver of a child enrolled in St. Pius School who is interested in the development of the school's students.

MEN'S CLUB

The St. Pius Parish Men's Club sponsors a varied program of competitive team sports for elementary school-aged boys and girls. While most of the participants are St. Pius School students, eligibility is open to all parish-member children.

As a parish activity, the Men's Club, specifically the Athletic Committee, supervises the sports program. They oversee the hiring of coaches and the general policies under which the programs operate, in communication with the Catholic Youth Organization Office in Detroit. The CYO is responsible for scheduling games, assigning game officials, and supervising the playoff structure. Most matters of local policy are left to parishes to determine.

PROGRAM GOALS: It is the goal of the CYO Sports program to provide young people opportunities to develop positive interpersonal relationships and attitudes of cooperation through participation in team sports under the leadership of responsible Christian adults. While championships and "perfect seasons" are exciting and memorable experiences, they are not the measurements of the success or strength of the programs. The athletic programs also help young people develop a respect for physical development as well as a positive attitude toward fitness.

LEVELS OF PLAY: Most sports play on two levels – Varsity (grades 7 & 8) and Junior Varsity (grades 5 & 6).

PRACTICE: It is scheduled according to the availability of facilities. It is the responsibility of each team member to arrange his or her own schedule to see that homework responsibilities are met while maintaining full team participation.

TEAM SPORTS: Coed T-Ball, soccer, basketball, baseball, and cheerleading.

Classroom / Teacher Helpers

Individual teachers may request parent helpers to assist with classroom parties, activities or special projects. A teacher may also request help with routine copying or cutting of materials.

Parent Tutors

On occasion a student might have a special need to be individually tutored during the school day. The teacher cannot do this in a classroom situation. Parents would work with the student in the conference room on areas of need. The teacher provides all work. The teacher also consults with the volunteer tutor to get feedback on how the tutoring sessions are progressing.

Many volunteers give a great deal of time and enthusiasm to the school library, hot lunch program, parent tutors, P.T.O., and the Men's Club. The dedication of school volunteers is greatly appreciated by staff and students alike. Such generous donations of time and talents enable St. Pius to be a "full-service school," even though it could not afford to "buy" such services. The lessons in Christian service that are taught to our young people cannot be provided to our young people in any better way!

To all of you parents and grandparents who are so generous with your time we say **"THANK YOU"**! Your sacrifice and generosity serve as fine examples for the students.

