August 2026

St. Jerome Regional School

"Living Fearlessly through Faith…"

A Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8 Catholic School

FAMILY HANDBOOK

50 Meadow Avenue
Tamaqua, PA 18252
(570) 668-2757
Fax (570) 668-6101
www.sjrschool.com
www.facebook.com/stjeromeregionalschool

TABLE OF CONTENTS PAGE

MISSION STATEMENT	3	CURRICULUM AND ACADEMICS	21-25
SCHOOL LOGO AND COLOR PALLET	3	HOMEWORK	22
CALENDAR	4	REPORT CARDS	22
MESSAGE TO OUR SCHOOL FAMILY	5	HONOR ROLL CRITERIA	22
OUR BELIEFS	5	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	23
PARENTAL ROLE	6	PROMOTION OR RETENTION	23
SCHOOL STAFF	8	CLASS PLACEMENT REQUESTS	23
ADMISSIONS	9	GRADING POLICY	23
PRE-SCHOOL	9	STANDARDIZED TESTING	24
AGE REQUIREMENTS	10	BOOKS AND MATERIALS	24
TUITION	10	SCHOOL SUPPLIES	24
STS	10	ELECTRONIC DEVICES	24
SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS	11	EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	25
TUITION POLICY / FUNDRAISING	12-14	FIELD TRIPS/CLASS TRIPS	25
COMMUNICATION	15	STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE	26
FAMILY COMMUNICATION ENVELOPES	15	DISCIPLINE POLICY	2-30
GOOGLE CLASSROOM/OPTION C	15		
FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION	15		
MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT	16	SUSPENSIONS	31
CONFERENCES	16	DISMISSALS	31
EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING	16	BULLYING BEHAVIORS	32
FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEBSITE	16	BULLYING POLICY	32
CUSTODY	17	CYBERBULLYING/NAME CALLING	32
ATTENDANCE	17-18	ANTI-HAZING POLICY	35
ABSENCES	17	FIRE ARMS AND EXPLOSIVE	35
ILLNESS DURING SCHOOL DAY	17	WEAPONS, ILLEGAL SUST, TOBACCO	36
EARLY DISMISSAL-INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS	18	DRESS CODE	36-38
LATENESS	18	HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION	39
VACATION POLICY	18	SCHOOL PROBLEMS	39
DAILY STUDENT SCHEDULE	19	SPECIAL SUBJECTS	39
LUNCH	19	COMPUTERS/STEM/PHYS ED	39
TRANSPORTATION	19-20	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	40
CLASSROOM PARTIES AND CELEBRATIONS	20	PHONE/OFFICE/VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL	40
		VOLUNTEERS	40
HEALTH	20	WELLNESS POLICY	41-45
ADMINISTERING MEDICATION	20	ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY	46-52
SUMMARY OF SAFETY STANDARDS	20	NON DISCRIMIINATION OF SERVIECS	53
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	21	PARENTS AND STUDENTS SIGN OFF PAGE	57
FIRE DRILLS	21	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY	54-55
INSURANCE	21	GENDER IDEOLOGY POLICY	56

ST. JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Living Fearlessly Through Faith…

Through our call to discipleship, we, St. Jerome Regional School, have made it our mission to live fearlessly through faith. St. Jerome once said, “Search the scripture…seek and you shall find.” Inspired by our patron, we strive to instill family values while teaching superior academics and preserving traditional standards. St. Jerome Regional School teaches for life to create a community of conviction, respect and excellence. Our base is family, our mission is faith and our future rests in the courage to leave behind a legacy.

SCHOOL LOGO & COLOR PALLET

COLOR MEANING:

Navy- The color of sky and sea. It is often associated with depth and stability and symbolizes trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, intelligence, faith, truth, and heaven.

Gold- Associated with illumination, love, compassion, courage, magic, and wisdom. Gold is a precious metal that symbolizes wealth, grandeur, and prosperity.

Red/Burgundy- Color of fire and blood, so it is associated with energy, strength, power, determination as well as passion, desire, and love. It also glorifies the sun and the joy of life and love. In Christian symbolism, it denotes the Holy Spirit. It is the color of Pentecost.

Design Meaning:

The Lion -Focal point of the design, and serves as a symbol of strength in our school and in our faith. Inspired by old yearbooks and the presence of “Leone” the lion through them over the years, our logo is a tribute to tradition and a symbol of what has come before us. The lion also represents Jesus' Resurrection (lions were believed to sleep with open eyes, a comparison with Christ in the tomb). Symbolically, lions are depicted as relentless fighters in the face of life challenges and above all else, courageous leaders.

The Coat of Arms-Surrounding the lion, the shield embodies our heritage and creates a family crest. Our school has served as a home to our children since 1921, it has raised them to become our adults, and has left our legacy that not only should be remembered, but lived every day. The shield symbolizes protection, resilience, and with it, we push forward.

The Crown-Seated at the top of the design, it is a symbol of Lord Christ Jesus, our King and Savior. The crown is often interpreted as signifying the reward in heaven. It is strategically placed at the top of the logo, reminding us of God, Heaven, and our future: all things ahead of us.

The Words-Displayed in a banner under the design, the Latin phrase “Audere est Facere” is written, meaning “To Dare is to Do.” Our patron St. Jerome, spent years rewriting the bible in Latin and believed that the only way to live was through Scripture. Honoring him we use this as part of our logo. Selecting the phrase “to dare is to do” collaborates with our mission, not only are we to live fearlessly through faith, but we are to teach how faith leads us to be fearless.

August 2026

CALENDAR

The school calendar for the year is developed according to guidelines established by the Office of Education of the Diocese of Allentown. This calendar is subject to change due to unexpected situations. If circumstances require a calendar change, a notice is sent home. A monthly calendar of school events is sent home in the family communication envelope or via email. It is also posted on our website.

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Jerome Regional School
50 Meadow Avenue Tamaqua, PA 18252
SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026–2027

AUGUST	Wednesday	26	School Opens
SEPTEMBER	Monday	7	LABOR DAY - Schools Closed
	Tuesday	8	Schools Reopen
OCTOBER	Wednesday	7	Midpoint of 1st Trimester/ 1st Trimester Progress Reports Issued
	Thursday	8	Parent-Teacher Conferences Grades K-3
	Friday	9	Parent-Teacher Conferences Grades 4-8
	Monday	12	Columbus Day- School Closed
NOVEMBER	Thursday	19	First Trimester Ends
	Friday	20	Second Trimester Begins
	Tuesday	24	1st Trimester Report Cards Issued
	Wed.-Monday	25-30	Thanksgiving Holidays - School Closed
DECEMBER	Tuesday	1	Schools Reopen
	Thurs.-Thurs.	24-31	Christmas Holidays/New Year's Eve – School Closed
JANUARY	Friday	1	New Year's Day Holiday – School Closed
	Monday	**4**	Schools Reopen
	Friday	15	Midpoint of 2nd Trimester/2nd Trimester Progress Reports Issued
	Monday	18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day–Local In-service Day - School Closed
FEBRUARY	Monday-Friday	1-5	Catholic Schools Week
	Monday	15	Presidents' Day - School Closed
MARCH	Tuesday	2	Second Trimester Ends
	Wednesday	3	Third Trimester Begins/2ndTrimester Report Cards Issued
	Thurs. Mon.	25-29	Holy Thursday/Good Friday/Easter Monday - School Closed
APRIL	Tuesday	20	Midpoint of 3rd Trimester
	Wednesday	21	3rd Trimester Progress Reports Issued
MAY	Thurs.-Tues.	20-25	Final Exams
	Wednesday	26	8th Grade Graduation (subject to change)
	Thursday	27	Kindergarten Closing Ceremony (subject to change)
	Friday	28	10:45am Early Dismissal Last Day of School (subject to change)
	Monday	31	Memorial Day Holiday – School Closed
JUNE	Tues.-Thurs.	1-3	(3 days built into calendar as weather makeup days if needed)

This calendar satisfies the requirement of 183 school days established by Diocesan Policy.
Catholic Schools Week - Jan. 31 – Feb. 5, 2027

12:00 pm Dismissal –Sept. 4, Sept. 25, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 24, Dec. 23, Jan. 29, Feb. 12, Mar. 24, April 16, May 27
10:30 Dismissal – May 28
(The calendar is subject to change; the end date may need to change due to weather emergency days)

STAR Testing Dates: September 8-11, January 12-22, May 18-21

August 2026

MESSAGE TO OUR SCHOOL FAMILY

Welcome to Saint Jerome Regional School (SJRS). We are honored to have you here, and we are proud of our school. This handbook has been developed by administration, teachers and staff as a means of communicating between home and school. It is our hope that it will answer many of the questions you may have about procedures, policies, regulations, and rules of our school. Close cooperation between the school and home is essential to promote the education of your child.

The SJRS faculty would like all students to enjoy the benefits of a peaceful environment in which they can feel comfortable. This atmosphere will facilitate learning and respect for students, teachers, and parents.

SJRS is privileged to be a partner with parents in the religious and moral formation of their children. Parents will be informed of their child's behavior, growth, and development throughout the year. By enrolling your child at SJRS, you agree to support its policies. Therefore, we ask you to become familiar with the school's mission, regulations, and procedures. Parents/Guardians/Students are required to state that they have read the student/parent handbook, that they accept and uphold the SJRS mission, policies and procedures and that their child will comply with them.

OUR BELIEFS

At St. Jerome Regional School we believe:

Spiritual Beliefs:

- To know, love, and serve God is the fundamental value of our school.
- As Catholic educators, we need to work together in a spirit of love and joy to invite students and families to fully participate in the life of the church.
- We promote human dignity and maintain a passion for excellence because we are all children of God.

Academic Beliefs:

- Dedicated and certified teachers are committed to educating the whole child in an atmosphere that reflects the Gospel message and fosters the academic growth of each student.
- Instruction involves effective teaching that provides all students, within their diverse classroom community of learners, a range of different avenues for understanding and developing teaching materials and assessment measures so that all students within a classroom can learn effectively.
- That instructors, students, and their parents are an integral part in achieving student success.

Social Beliefs:

- In accordance with each child's gifts and abilities, we strive to provide the students with opportunities needed to become faith-filled, respectful, responsible individuals and productive members of the church, society, school, family and community.
- St. Jerome Regional School provides a safe, nurturing, and welcoming environment conducive to the development of interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.
- We develop in our students, decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community situations.

FAMILY HANDBOOK

All parents, along with students, are required to read and sign a form stating they have read the rules and regulations outlined in this handbook, and they agree to abide by these rules. This signature form will be given to students in the communication envelopes. The form must be signed and returned no later than August 31st. Failure to have a signed form on file will not prevent the school from enforcing its policies. Because it is impossible to foresee all school issues that arise, the faculty and administration reserve the right to address and to take appropriate action for any situations not specifically referenced in this handbook. In view of the unique and essential religious mission of the school, it is expressly understood that the school may take actions in cases where moral offenses reflecting adversely on the school occur. The school may modify this handbook with reasonable notice to the parents/students of the effective date of any changes. Any section headings are for convenience of use, and shall not affect the interpretation of any provisions. If the school should elect not to take action in a

particular situation, this shall not be construed or interpreted as a waiver or shall not preclude the school from acting in a subsequent situation of the same or similar kind.

PARENTAL ROLE

Parents and guardians must weigh seriously their obligation to educate their children in an atmosphere of love and respect for God and others. The home is the first educator of the social virtues essential to any well-ordered society. The Catholic Church recognizes parents as the primary and principal educators of their children. The Catholic parents' promise at Baptism, to raise their children as Catholic, supports this premise. The Catholic school exists to assist parents in the Christian formation of their children. In this handbook, the term "parent" refers not only to a child's natural or adopted parent, but to a student's non-parent legal guardian or to any person or agency authorized to act in place of parents. The Diocese of Allentown Catholic School System respects the role of parents as the primary educators of their children. Since the school is a continuation of the education children are receiving at home, diocesan schools should demonstrate respect and support for the parents in their important and challenging task. As part of the foundation for a faith-community, parents are invited and encouraged to participate in the school's celebration of prayer and Liturgy. Parents are also encouraged to participate in programs, developed for the education of their children. The wide spectrum of this involvement includes volunteer work, participation in parent-teacher conferences, attendance at meetings and seminars designed to help parents assist their children at home and active involvement in the school's Home and School Association. Parents are expected to support the school's mission and commitment to Christian principles, and support the school procedures as outlined in the school handbook (i.e., annually sign the school's Handbook Agreement Form). One of the conditions for initial and continued registration at the school is receipt of this signed form indicating the parent's support of the school's philosophy, procedures and regulations. Teachers welcome the opportunity to discuss a matter of concern with parents before it becomes a problem. In the event a parent wants to discuss a problem with his/her child's teacher, the parent should contact the teacher via e-mail, phone, or letter; furthermore, a conference can be scheduled if necessary. Any parent who wishes to speak with the principal may do so, only after an initial meeting with the classroom teacher. If a parent repeatedly or seriously violates proper school protocol, displays inappropriate or disruptive conduct toward students, or displays disrespectful, disruptive, or harassing behavior toward teachers or toward school staff, the school may take corrective action.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Just as we expect faculty and staff to treat our students in a Christian manner, Saint Jerome Regional School also expects parents/guardians to treat persons in the school community in a way that is Christ-like. Parents/Guardians may not conduct themselves in a manner that is detrimental to the reputation of the school or sow discord among the school community. This includes in-school and at school sponsored events, CYO events, as well as in the school/parish community, outside the school/parish community, and in an online environment. Posting defamatory or negative statements about the school or school personnel on social media is considered conduct inconsistent with the mission of the school. Non-compliance may result in exclusion from school events or the dismissal of their children from Saint Jerome Regional School.

PARENT CONTACT OF TEACHERS

Faculty and Staff should not be called at home. Parents are not permitted to send text messages, make phone calls to a teacher's personal cell phone, or contact teachers and staff through social media. All phone calls should be made to the school office or through the staff member's school e-mail address. Teachers will respond to messages in a timely manner.

NON-CATHOLIC STUDENTS

The presence of students from other faiths provides wonderful diversity to the school. However, the presence of non-Catholic students in the school shall not alter the primacy of Catholic religious formation as an integral component of the educational program in the school. As such:

- Non-Catholic students are expected to participate in the religious formation and education programs of the school.
- Non-Catholic students must participate in liturgies, retreats, other religious functions, and religion classes.
- Non-Catholic students may be exempt from formal co-curricular or extra-curricular sacramental preparation

programs but not from the catechesis held during the school day.
• Students are expected, for testing and discussion purposes, to be knowledgeable of the Catholic Church's positions on Sacred Scripture, revelation, and moral practices. While Catholic teaching respects the various faith traditions of the students attending the Catholic school, parents must be aware that it is the Catholic position that will be taught.

SAINT JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL STAFF

Principal ..... Mrs. Amy M. Hannis-Miskar

Advancement Director ..... Ms. Laurie Daukshus

Administrative Assistant ..... Mrs. Debbie Smarr

Bookkeeper ..... Mrs. Kathy Odorizzi

PreSchool ..... Mrs. Ileana Mohammed and Mrs. Alyssa O'Grodnick

Kindergarten ..... Mrs. Maria Kopp, Mrs. Eliza Cressley

Grade 1 ..... Mrs. Lynne Sheer, Mrs. Amy Green

Grade 2 ..... Mrs. Kailee Kelly, Mrs. Teri Roberts

Grade 3 ..... Mrs. Gulla

Grade 4 ..... Mrs. Stephanie Metters

Grade 5 and 6 (5th HR) ..... Mrs. Tara Krajcirik, Mrs. Kellie Giannelli

Grade 5 and 6 (6th HR) ..... Ms. Amy Bachert

Grade 7 and 8 (7th HR) ..... Mrs. Alice Miller, Mrs. Katya Fitzpatrick

Grade 7 and 8 (8th HR) ..... Mrs. Casey Lutz

Physical Education ..... Mr. Robert Campomizzi

Music ..... Mr. Brad Cressley

Art ..... Mrs. Kathy Odorizzi, Mrs. Alyssa O'Grodnick

Computers/STEM ..... Ms. Laurie Daukshus

Building Substitute Teacher ..... Mrs. Karen Oliva

Lunch Staff ..... Mrs. Ann Marie Fenkner, Ms. Roxanne Harvilla

Aides ..... Ms. Suzanne Sweeney, Mrs. Megan DeAngelo, Mrs. Leah Fenkner, Mrs. Jada Sevinsky, Mrs. Emily Hadesty

Janitorial Staff ..... Mr. Chris Yurick

ADMISSION

SJRS is open to all children. Registration requires birth certificate, Baptismal certificate (optional), immunization records, and a nonrefundable registration fee. Admitting a transfer student requires an appointment with the Advancement Office to complete final registration. At this time, a release will need to be signed in order for us to receive records from previous schools. Copies of report cards, standardized tests, discipline status, birth certificates, baptismal certificate (optional) and immunization records are required. All students enrolled at Saint Jerome Regional School Prek-8th Grade must be toilet independent.

Appointments, information and tours of the school are always available through our Advancement Office. To register new students, please call the Advancement Director, Ms. Laurie Daukshus, at 570-668-2757.

SJRS offers students a solid academic program that prepares them for success in high school. However, the primary purpose of the school is religious. SJRS is committed to teach the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and to integrate Christian values throughout all academic areas. Our goal is to develop the whole child: spiritually, academically, physically, socially and emotionally. Through all facets of the learning process, we dedicate ourselves to the transmission of Catholic faith and values. Integration of spiritual and academic dimensions is essential to the education of the whole child, so that they can respond to the needs of society through civic and religious involvement.

Non-Catholic students are admitted to our school under the following condition: the parents/guardians agree that the children attend Religion classes and religious functions that are offered as part of the school program. SJRS endeavors to accommodate students with special needs, as the school's resources and capabilities reasonably permit.

It should be understood that all students and their parents are expected to favorably respond to the rules and expectations outlined in this handbook and successfully perform the academic work required by the faculty to ensure satisfactory progress. Students attend Saint Jerome Regional School at the school's invitation. Continued enrollment is contingent upon favorable attendance, satisfactory academic performance, a positive attitude, and constructive behavior. A student considered to be in good standing is: (a) one who has not become subject to dismissal; (b) one whose record of conduct is satisfactory; and (c) one who has met all financial obligations to the school or made satisfactory arrangements with the school's administration. As members of the Saint Jerome Regional School community, responsible conduct and decisions are also expected outside of school as well as during all school-sponsored functions. Decisions relating to rules, regulations, procedures, discipline, or programs made within the administrative structures of the school are final.

It is the philosophy of Saint Jerome Regional School that students be placed in an educational environment where they will succeed. SJRS may not be able to meet the educational needs of every student; therefore, not all students who apply will be accepted.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

In compliance with the Diocesan Board of Education policy, SJRS shall not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, color, or national origin in the administration of educational policies, admission policies, loan programs, and athletic, or other school administered programs.

PRE-SCHOOL

We offer a full day Pre-K program for 3 and 4-year-olds, which meets Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM-2:30 PM.

AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR K AND 1

SJRS follows the Diocese of Allentown's age requirements for admission. Students entering kindergarten must be five years old by October 15th of the academic year. (First graders must be six years old by October 15th of the academic year.)

GENERAL CURRICULUM

Saint Jerome Regional School is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. SJRS follows the curriculum set by the Office of Education for the Diocese of Allentown and customized to meet the needs of SJRS student body where local variations are permissible.

POTTY POLICY

Students enrolled in SJRS PK- 8 programs are expected to be toilet independent prior to the start of the academic year, but the faculty and staff understand that children sometimes have accidents. No child is ridiculed in any way for soiling his or her pants. We encourage and praise the child for successes and show understanding and patience when accidents occur. We let the child know that we have confidence in them and believe in their ability to succeed.

TUITION

Sending your child to Catholic school is one of the most important decisions you can make regarding their education. The Diocese of Allentown has a long history and a proven track record of educating young men and women with outstanding results. Catholic education is a gift that will last an eternity**. SJRS tuition is determined annually by the Board.**

Simple Tuition Solutions (STS)

The school's financial stability is dependent upon the complete and timely payment of tuition. SJRS uses the STS Tuition Management Program. STS offers a variety of tuition payment plans to accommodate each family's budget. It is essential that tuition be paid by all families. Families may pay tuition in full, in two half payments or eleven monthly installments on STS. In the case of an emergency when tuition cannot be paid, parents or guardians should contact the principal. With the approval of the Board, a different tuition schedule may be considered. Tuition can be paid online through STS via automatic payment, credit card or check. Payments are also accepted at the school by credit card, check or cash. The STS one-time fee is $45.00 for monthly payment plan and $15 semi-annual payment plan. There is no STS fee for annual payment plan.

SJRS TUITION COSTS (K-8)

FEES TO BE PAID BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS

STS Fee (due with STS registration)	$45.00
Registration Fee (due with registration)	$150.00

TUITION RATE FOR 2025-2026

First Child:	$5,461.00
Second Child:	$3,687.00
Third Child:	$2,731.00
Fourth Child:	*no charge*

FEES FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration Fee $150.00 per student

ANY FAMILY WHO PAYS FULL TUITION BY JULY 15TH WILL BE GIVEN A 4% TUITION DISCOUNT.

4% Discounted Tuition Amounts

First Child:	$5,243.00
Second Child:	$3,540.00
Third Child:	$2,622.00
Fourth Child:	*no charge*

ANY FAMILY WHO PAYS TWO INSTALLMENTS (JULY 15TH AND DECEMBER 15TH) WILL BE GIVEN A 2% TUITION DISCOUNT.

2% Discounted Tuition Amounts:

First Child:	$5,352.00
Second Child:	$3,613.00
Third Child:	$2,676.00
Fourth Child:	*no charge*

SJRS TUITION COSTS (PRE-K)

FEES TO BE PAID BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS

STS Fee (per family)	$45.00
Registration Fee (per student)	$150.00

2026-2027 Preschool Tuition

Tuition Cost: $5,238.00

Full Payment Discount: $5,133.00

Payment Options

11-month payment schedule – July through May (on 1st or 15th of month)

Full Tuition with 2% Discount – July (on 1st or 15th of month)

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Scholarships and grants are available for families to assist with tuition payments for K-8 students and are awarded based on demonstrated financial need. Aid is available for families who qualify through BLOCS, Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit, the Kremer Grant and other private donations. Recipients of grants must pay the remainder of the tuition due. Families must apply for these grants using STS online management. Tuition aid will not be given for the new school year to families who are delinquent in tuition payments for the previous year.

REQUIREMENTS:

Parent must complete STS registration (Create Payment Agreement) by May 1st.

Parent must complete Grant and Aid application in STS by May 1st

Must be registered in St. Jerome Regional School- Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

Family cannot have an outstanding tuition balance with SJRS.

Family must maintain payment schedule to retain scholarships and grants.

Pre-kindergarten students who are three or four years old may qualify for the limited separately funded Pre-K program

Actual scholarship is awarded when funds are received from BLOCS. Amount of scholarship is dependent on the financial need demonstrated from the previous year income tax returns submitted and entered into the STS system. Scholarships are awarded only through the STS system, after families have met the Grant and Aid application deadline and the income guidelines.

*****Parents are expected to pay tuition on the pre-scholarship basis until scholarships are awarded.**

Payment amounts are adjusted when the scholarship is received*

Saint Jerome Regional School Tuition Policy

Sending your child to Catholic school is one of the most important decisions you can make regarding their education. The Diocese of Allentown has a long history and a proven track record of educating young men and women with outstanding results.

The investment you make in this education is shared by the Parish community, as part of the cost of educating your child is provided by our supporting parishes. SJRS's financial stability is dependent upon the complete and timely payment of tuition. In recent years, the Diocese of Allentown moved to the STS Tuition Management Program. STS offers a variety of tuition payment plans to accommodate each family's budget. STS is **mandatory** for all SJRS families.

Saint Jerome Regional School Board of Specified Jurisdiction (the Board) is responsible for the school's sustainability. Among other things, the Board is now responsible for building the annual budget and setting tuition and fees. We believe that the tuition is an investment in your child's education and religious formation. The Board intends to ensure that sufficient financial resources are available for SJRS and that enrollment is as available and affordable as possible to all families who desire to apply and abide by the rules, regulations, and policies established for the school.

The Board has established the following tuition goals:

A. To make a Catholic school education at SJRS affordable to all who truly desire and value it for their children.
B. To foster a trusting, Catholic community relationship among the Diocese of Allentown, the supporting Parishes, the school, and your family.
C. To generate funds so that SJRS has a solid financial base in order to effectively maintain and improve programs and services to our students.

The tuition policy requires that the parents and/or guardians must arrange to pay the total tuition charged for the current school year. Given the many health related challenges along with educational and societal disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we do understand and appreciate your concerns regarding tuition. Please know that our focus remains on the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff as well as continuing to provide the high-quality Catholic education our families at SJRS deserve and expect. If we would have to close part of our school, an individual classroom or multiple classes for any period of time, our teachers will continue to work remotely to move forward with the curriculum. Because we are not publicly funded and our budget is based on fixed costs, this will require parents to continue to meet their tuition obligations. Please remember that our

cost to educate does not equal the cost of tuition. We have been able to offer a lower tuition rate for many years due to many reasons: The outstanding efforts of our HSA with fundraising, the generosity of our donors, parish support for our supporting parishes, applying for and receiving grants, among other things. The cost to educate is approximately over $6,500 per student. Our tuition for first child is $5,461. All school families are required to make tuition payments using the STS Tuition Management Plan. Each family's preferred manner of payment must be submitted each year at the time of student registration. Through this plan, the parent and/or guardian authorizes the bank to transfer the tuition payment from a checking or savings account. It shall be the responsibility of each parent and/or guardian to keep the STS administrator of the school office informed of their need to make any changes in their preferred tuition payment plan. It shall be the responsibility of each parent and/or guardian to make the necessary arrangements with STS to facilitate any changes in their preferred tuition payment plan. It is NOT the responsibility of anyone at the school to change the parent's and/or guardian's chosen option with STS.

Families with an outstanding balance who do not make arrangements for payment with the principal:

- May not participate in field trips or Spirit Day
- Will not participate in graduation exercises
- Will not have records sent to another school
- Will not have report cards issued
- May have delinquent accounts forwarded to the magistrate

STS Tuition Management Plan Options for payment include:

A. Full Payment. Under this plan, the entire amount of tuition is paid through the STS plan at a 4% discount if paid by July 15.
B. Semi- Annual Payment. Under this plan, the entire amount of tuition is paid through the STS plan in two installments due in July and December. There is a 2% discount when opting for this plan.
C. Monthly Payments. Under this plan, the entire amount of tuition is paid in 11 monthly payments beginning July 1.

REGISTRATION:

Parents and/or guardians will be required to complete an annual registration form for each child. Each registration form must be complete prior to the start of school at such time as is determined by the Board.

FEES:

Fees determined by the Board are in addition to the tuition. All fees are mandatory, not applied to the tuition, and non-refundable. The fees and the dates when they are due are published on the SJRS's website. Fees charged by STS or a financial institution are not controlled or determined by the Board and are the responsibility of each parent and/or guardian to address without involvement of the school's administration, staff, or the Board.

DIFFICULTY IN PAYMENT OF TUITION:

For the sake of your family's security and peace of mind, and for the general financial stability of our school, it is the obligation of each parent and/or guardian to contact the school as soon as possible when they are experiencing economic difficulties or changes in life situation. We encourage families who experience such problems to contact the Principal of SJRS, who will contact the appropriate pastor and the Finance Committee of the Board to arrange a confidential meeting to discuss special arrangements. It is not the policy of the Board to turn away families who are genuinely in need. All requests shall be held in strict confidence by the Principal and the Finance Committee of the Board.

TUITION AND FEE DELINQUENCY:

Children will not be allowed to attend SJRS if their parent and/or guardian fails to pay tuition according to the agreement that they made with STS or if they have been unwilling to make suitable alternative arrangements with the Finance Committee of the Board. In addition, school families whose accounts are 60 days delinquent for fees or tuition and have not made suitable arrangements with the Finance Committee of the Board to have the past due amounts paid in full will be informed that their child/children will not be permitted to attend school.

EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS AND/OR STUDENTS TRANSFERRING FROM SJRS:

Tuition and fee obligations for transferring students must be paid in full before the SJRS will complete and transmit any materials to accomplish the transfer. Eighth grade and transferring students whose tuition and fees are not paid in full will have report cards, term reports, and school records withheld until all tuition and fees are satisfied. In addition, eighth grade families who are delinquent will not have their child/children participate in graduation ceremonies or receive their diploma until all tuition and fees are satisfied.

TUITION ASSISTANCE:

Tuition assistance is available for families who qualify via the STS system.

BOOKS AND SUPPLIES:

The cost of books, notebooks, pens, pencils, paper, and other consumable supplies is not included in the total tuition fee. SJRS administration may request that parents provide additional supplies specific to their student's grade level. A supply list will be sent to families and be posted on the SJRS's website. Parents are expected to provide such additional supplies and a nominal fee.

TUITION/FEE POLICY:

- Tuition payments and fees are due at their predetermined deadlines. Any late payments are subject to a $25.00 late fee.
- A statement is sent to any family whose payment is delinquent. The Principal, Pastor, and the Finance Committee of the Board are informed of all delinquencies.
- Failure to be current at the start of any quarter may result in the child/children not being admitted for the next trimester and/or the previous trimester's grade report being withheld along with parent/teacher conferences. The child/children will also be prohibited from participating in any school activities until the tuition payment is up to date.
- Transfer of academic information to another school and final report cards will be withheld until the total tuition payment due is received in cash, cashier's check, or certified check.
- Failure to pay outstanding fees and tuition from the previous school year will result in the student not being admitted for the next school year.
- Any financial aid provided to the child/children may be forfeited.
- We realize that periodically there may be extenuating circumstances that drastically impact a families' ability to pay private school tuition (loss of job, death in the family, etc.). In these cases, a special meeting with the Principal, Pastor, and/or Finance Committee may be requested.
- Attendance Tuition is based on a per month charge regardless of whether or not your child attends. Sick days, vacations, etc…. will not change your monthly charge. There are no deductions in tuition for illness, absences, emergency weather or related closings, as well as the vacation days that we observe throughout the year.
- Two weeks' notice must be given prior to withdrawing your child. Without this notice there will be a charge of two week's tuition.
- Once a check is returned to us by the bank it is your responsibility to submit a replacement check. Checks will NOT be re-deposited. A $25.00 returned check fee will be charged to your child's account. After a 2nd returned check, cash deposits or money orders will be required.

FUNDRAISING

There are several fundraisers sponsored and organized by the Home/ School Association, which may include the following: Kids Bingo, Basket Bonanza, Night at the Races, flower sales, Specialty Bingo, and a variety of other events. SJRS also organizes school-run fundraiser events. Throughout the year, we ask all of our families to participate in these events which include: Race for Education and the Annual Fund. Information regarding these events is made available to all families via newsletters, Home/ School Association meetings, Parent Alert System, and Facebook.

MISSION MONEY

In order to provide an opportunity for children to express their generosity and to provide an experience of social justice, collections are taken for charitable causes and for other missionary efforts throughout the world. The children are encouraged to be generous and learn how to sacrifice for others less fortunate than themselves.

COMMUNICATION

FAMILY COMMUNICATION ENVELOPES

School written communications will be sent home every other Wednesday through a Family Communication Envelope **(Dates are subject to change and will be marked on the calendar).** Communication Envelopes will be sent home with the oldest or only child in a family. Parents are asked to remove and read the contents and return it the next day. An e-newsletter will be sent before the start of the new month.

OPTIONC

SJRS uses an online data base called OptionC. OptionC is a secure web-based student management system that provides schools across the country with features that benefit parents, students, teachers and administrators. The OptionC student management system is 100% cloud based, and our families and staff can access the system from home, school, office and mobile device. Parents will be given secure logins, and data is backed up daily. Families can log in anytime to see how their child is doing with assignments, grades, attendance and more.
OptionC is 100% specific to Catholic schools with features such as Catholic Saint of the Day. There is also another feature within OptionC that is a called the Parent Alert System. The Parent Alert System is a flexible notification system that lets parents, principals, and school staff communicate quickly and reliably. Families can decide how they want to be reached, either by voice, text, email, or any combination. Messages will be sent for a variety of reasons, from weather-related closings and schedule changes to fundraising events and everything in between.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google classroom will be used daily this school year. Teachers will post announcements, homework and other important information in their google classroom. Parents and students are encouraged to check the google classroom every day for important information. Students will be issued school issued Google email and login. They will be using this in class. Homework will also be assigned using google classroom.

FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION

At the beginning of the school year, emergency information forms are sent home to the parents/guardians to be completed for each student and returned to the school office. During the course of the school year, please notify the school of any changes in the contact information. It is imperative that parents/guardians keep the school office updated on current phone numbers.

For your child's interest and safety, parents/guardians must notify the school immediately in writing of any change in: home address, home/cell/work phone numbers, email address, or emergency contact information. Updated information is essential for good communication and for the well-being of the student.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENT

Meet the Teacher Event is held in August. At this event, parents/guardians meet their child's teacher, become familiar with the curriculum and classroom policies, meet other members of the school community and learn about various school activities and volunteer opportunities. It is NOT for the purpose of individual parent-teacher conferences.

CONFERENCES

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to monitor student progress by contact with teachers. Scheduled conferences are held in October. Conferences identify your child's strengths, areas in need of improvement, and reasonable goals to achieve.

Additional parent/teacher conferences may be arranged throughout the school year when the teacher or parent/guardian feels this is necessary. Please contact teachers with a written note or email. Since teachers have an obligation to their students, they may not be interrupted during the school day. It is for this reason that they do not accept phone calls during class. Teacher email addresses can also be found on the school website.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING-WEATHER

In the event of hazardous weather conditions, information concerning the delayed opening or the closing of school will be broadcast on WNEP and WBRE. It will also be posted on the school Facebook page. Families who have provided the school with working phone numbers will also receive a phone call through the Parent Alert System in OptionC. OptionC will be the primary method of notification. If you have selected to receive text messages and/or emails, you will also receive those alerts through OptionC. Please inform your children what to do in case of an unexpected early dismissal. Please fill out the emergency school closing form so that the teachers and office have the correct information on your child. Please do not call the school. Phone lines must be open to communicate with school districts and the media.

TWO HOUR DELAY

Children should not arrive before 9:45 AM.

EARLY DISMISSALS

Early dismissal days are noted on the school calendar which is sent home on a monthly basis and are also posted on the school website.

ST. JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEBSITE

The Facebook page is updated regularly. All teachers have a teacher page, which is accessible through the school's webpage. Please refer to http://www.sjrschool.com/ . Teacher email addresses and links to their classroom information will also be posted on their pages.

CUSTODY

Families have particular arrangements for the custody and guardianship of their children. Unless legal notification is provided to the school office, it is assumed that both parents are permitted to pick children up and to have access to school related information. Parents are asked to inform the school office when legal custody of the child(ren) resides with one parent. Custodial parents are also asked to supply the school with copies of the court orders. Those individuals who have legal custody of the student may attend school meetings and activities, participate in educational decisions, and review educational records regarding that student. The school will comply with court decisions as indicated by a court order given to the school.

ATTENDANCE

ABSENCES

Regular attendance has a significant influence upon scholastic achievement. The total amount of days that the school is in session is prescribed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Attendance of daily classes should be regular and punctual. We encourage students to stay home when not feeling well or if they have symptoms.

Please call us if your child is going to be absent/tardy from school. This will ensure that we know where he/she is and that nothing has happened to him/her on the way to school. If your child is going to be absent or arrive late at school, you are required to call the school by 7:45 AM. Please leave a message if necessary. The number to call to report absences or lateness is 570-668-2757. **Your call to let us know your child is not going to be in school does not take the place of an excuse note.**

PA State requirements and those of the Diocese of Allentown require that for the student's return to school, the student must be accompanied by a written note stating the particular reason for the absence and the specific date(s) of the absence(s). This note must be signed by the parent/guardian which will become an official document to be placed into the attendance files. **A written excuse must be returned within three days to the student's homeroom teacher when the child returns to school.** Note: If an absentee note is not received after three days of absence, the student is considered unexcused and truant. For absences of three or more days, a formal written doctor's excuse is required. **This will be strictly enforced.**

If a student enters school after 10:30 AM or is excused before 1:30 PM, he/she will be considered present for a ½ day only.

If your child's name appears on an attendance report from the homeroom teacher and you have not phoned to inform the school, please expect a call from the school personnel to verify the absence or check on your child's whereabouts. Your child's safety and welfare are of prime importance to us.

Homework make-up work is required for all grade levels. If the classroom policy given to students and parents at the beginning of the school year includes sending work home on the day of absence, parents should call the school office by 9:00 AM to arrange for pickup. The make-up work will not be available until dismissal time. Teachers are not able to interrupt instruction in order to prepare work for absent children. It is the responsibility of the student to complete work and tests that have been missed due to absence.

ILLNESS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

If a child becomes ill at school, parents/guardians will be notified. Please be sure that all information on the Emergency Card is current and accurate so that parents/guardians or designated persons can be reached.

EARLY DISMISSAL- INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS

Parents should only request early dismissal for a serious reason. To request early dismissal, please send a note to the homeroom teacher who will forward it to the office. The student will be dismissed from the main school office. The parent/guardian must report to the main office and sign the "Early Dismissal Book", in order to have the child released from school. Students will not be dismissed from school without an authorized adult.

Student release information is kept in the main office. When an adult asks to sign out a child, the office secretary checks the student release list to make sure the adult is authorized to pick up the child.

Student Sign Out/Dismissal during School Hours: (This is being implemented for the safety and well-being of all of our students)

1. Parents/Guardians are asked to send a note to the school indicating their plan to take their child from school prior to dismissal. This information, including the adult who is picking up the child, is recorded in the main office.
2. **Parent/guardian/authorized adult requests to sign out their child in the main office. A photo ID is presented, unless the parent is known to the staff member dismissing the student. The adult signs the log book.**
3. **Due to the business of the closing of a school day, we ask that any parent wishing to check out their child/ren at the end of the day to do so before 2:15 to help eliminate confusion.**

LATENESS

Students are due in school by 8:00 AM. Students who come to school late must report to the school office before going to the classroom. **Supervision of students in the morning begins at 7:45 AM. For safety reasons, we ask that no student be dropped off before this time.**

Students who arrive after 10:30 AM are marked absent for the morning session. Students who leave school before 1:30 PM are marked absent for the afternoon session.

Consistent unexcused lateness will be considered parental neglect, which will be reported to proper authorities for further investigation.

VACATION POLICY

The school administration and faculty realize that it is sometimes necessary to plan for vacations during the school year resulting in student absence for many days. Please consider the following guidelines when planning for your vacation: Notify the teacher as soon as vacation plans have been made or at least one week in advance. You will need to complete the Student Educational Trip/Absence Notification Form. Please contact the school office for the form. Vacations should not be scheduled during exam periods or standardized test periods. No make-up of standardized testing is administered. Notification will enable the teacher to plan for compiling a list of homework and test study material for the dates the student is absent. All written assignments will be given to the student on his/her first day back from the vacation (Teacher Discretion). The student will have one calendar day for each day of school missed to complete the assignments. For example: if a student returns on Thursday after missing four days of school, he/she has until Monday to complete and hand in all assignments. All tests will be administered according to a schedule determined by the teacher. A student may be required to complete up to two make-up tests in one day.

DAILY STUDENT SCHEDULE

Arrival is between 7:45-8:00. **Students should not arrive earlier than 7:45 AM.**
Start Time is 8:00 AM. Students who arrive after this time are marked late and must report to the main office.
8:00 AM Prayers/Announcements/classes begin
2:45 PM Dismissal

No student will be dismissed prior to the regular dismissal time without the signed permission of a parent/guardian, nor will a student be released to anyone other than a parent without written parental authorization.

LUNCH PERIOD

Hot lunches are presently offered Monday through Friday for Grades K-8. Pre-Kindergarten students are required to pack their own lunch every day.

More information is available in the office. Students are asked to observe the following regulations to ensure a pleasant and safe environment.

- remain seated while eating
- talk in a conversational tone
- clean the eating area when finished
- do not waste food
- be polite and respectful to the faculty member and adult monitors
- be aware of specific sections of the cafeteria that are marked as NUT FREE AREA. We have students with allergies and everyone will need to be aware of these designated areas.

UNPAID MEAL CHARGE POLICY as directed by the national school lunch program
The Diocese of Allentown prohibits any form of lunch shaming for unpaid meal charges by employees, volunteers or students. Lunch shaming is defined as "discriminating against or stigmatizing children whose family account has outstanding credit or insufficient funds to pay for meals." School employees will exercise sensitivity and confidentiality in serving students with insufficient or negative meal accounts. No school employee will subject a student to embarrassment or ridicule based on the balance in his or her meal account. If a student's meal account is inadequate to pay for a meal, the school will provide a full meal to the student and parents will be notified. No school employee may deny a meal benefit to any child as a disciplinary action. Schools will contact parents and guardians prior to the end of the school year to make arrangements to fully or partially pay, or waive, outstanding meal charges.

TRANSPORTATION

At the beginning of the school year, parents are asked to communicate with the teacher how a child is to go home. Parents are asked to send a note to the teacher indicating any change in transportation during the school year, even if it is only for one day**. If at all possible, parents are asked not to call the school with transportation changes.** If this is necessary, please call by 12:00 PM to avoid end of the day confusion.

BUS/VAN RIDERS: Bus transportation is provided through the school district of residence. The principal of SJRS has no authority over bus routes. Children from one district may not ride the bus of another district. Any changes within the district must be approved by the transportation director of the school district. Students who ride on busses/vans are expected to observe all safety and bus directives from the school district providing the transportation. SJRS has busses from many school districts. On delayed opening days or on early dismissal days, your bus will come according to the school district's schedule or the arrangement made with van drivers. If SJRS has a two-hour delay and the School District that you reside in does not, they will follow our school schedule. Students should not arrive at the school earlier than the designated time.

CAR RIDERS/WALKERS: **We request that parents do not wait outside the school entrance at dismissal**. For safety, as well as for expediency, it is necessary that the front of the building be completely clear so that students can easily see the busses in order to board safely. Please see the arrival and dismissal chart for more details.

*NOTE: A memo from the parent/guardian is required whenever there will be a change in the child's dismissal pattern.

CLASSROOM PARTIES AND CELEBRATIONS

Families may want to send a birthday or holiday treat for their child's classroom. **Before sending a treat of any kind, parents should ask the teacher at least a week before the celebration.** Please let the teacher know the nature of the treat. The teacher will let you know if the treat is acceptable (due to many different allergies). If you do send a treat, please send enough for everyone in your child's classroom.

Children may distribute birthday party invitations only if every child in the class will be invited. You may not send invitations if you are limiting your guest list to only a selected few. The school cannot provide parents with addresses or phone numbers of students.

Classroom parties for holidays, etc. will be planned with the teacher. Parents are encouraged to allow children to be part of the selection of the birthday/holiday treats from a range of healthy parent-led choices. In the past, we have found that children are very proud of themselves and their families when they bring in healthy treats for their classmates. (This may be restricted at times due to events such as the pandemic).

HEALTH

No child will be admitted without required immunizations and records or exemption.

ADMINISTERING MEDICATION

If a student has a specific medical problem, please advise both the teacher and the school office. This information should also be written on the student's Emergency Form. Care given in school is limited to first aid. It is generally recommended that prescription medicines be given to the student before and-or after school in accordance with the physician's directions. In those rare instances where the medication must be given during the school day, the following procedures are to be followed:

Teachers are not permitted to administer any medication to students. Students may not be in possession of, or take, medication in school without written notification to the school. This includes prescription **and** over the counter medication. All medications must be in the original container with a note from the parent or physician to include: name of medicine, dosage, time of administration, dates to be given, and reason for medication. Medication will be administered in the main office. Parents may come to school to dispense medication to their children. Students may not have medication in the classroom except for an epi-pen or inhalers as needed and prescribed by a doctor. Please submit a letter for authorization for medication which must be signed by a parent/guardian as well as a physician.

SUMMARY OF SAFETY STANDARDS

SJRS considers the safety of our students and staff to be a paramount concern. We are committed to the following standards to ensure student and staff safety:

1. Parents and students will be asked to sign verification that they have reviewed the student handbook and

understand the rules, regulations, procedures, and consequences for various violations that have been established. This sign-off page can be found at the back of the student handbook.

2. All building entrances are kept locked including the main entrance area. All students and visitors must use the main Entrance to the building at all times. **Visitors must report to the main office. All visitors will be required to sign in/out and wear a visitor badge. (You may be asked to show a form of I.D.)**
3. All staff must wear identification badges at all times.
4. At no time are weapons of any kind allowed on school grounds, at any school function, in school or personal vehicles, parking lots, and bus stops. A weapon shall include, but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. The definition of weapon also includes any object in circumstances in which the object has been, or is likely to be used as a weapon. Possessing a weapon, whether a student or staff member, will result in severe disciplinary action.
5. Teachers shall be at their doors during the passing of classes in order to monitor hallway activity. Teachers will escort their classes to specials classes, assemblies, lunch, and other events.
6. Video cameras may be used both on school buildings and grounds for security monitoring and to discourage inappropriate activity.
7. All employees are subject to criminal background checks prior to hiring.
8. All staff/students will be made aware of safety and security guidelines as they are developed.
9. In the event of a crisis or emergency situation, local television and radio announcements will be made.
10. Administration will involve local law enforcement in any matters when considered appropriate.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

Teachers and staff are familiar with the established procedures for evacuation of the building. Students should follow the instructions of and stay with the teacher in charge of them from the time the alarm sounds until the drill is over or the situation ends. If a student is not in his/her classroom during the evacuation, he/she must check in another class and inform the teacher. It is important that all students are accounted for at all times. Students can expect evacuation and lockdown drills throughout the school year. Students are expected to leave the building in an orderly manner through the exit designated by their teacher without talking.

FIRE DRILLS/EMERGENCY DRILLS

Fire drills, weather emergency drills and lockdown drills are conducted at various times throughout the year.

INSURANCE

During the school year, Saint Jerome Regional School students participate in the Diocese of Allentown Student/Athletic Accident Program.

CURRICULUM AND ACADEMICS

As always, we strive to maintain the highest standard of academic excellence for our students in a Christ-centered environment. SJRS has a challenging diocesan academic curriculum that meets national and state standards.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

The curriculum centers on the study of Catholic Doctrine, combined with the constant effort to inspire consistent growth in a solid prayer life.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Liturgies during the school day include Mass and other prayer services. Students in grades 2 through 8 receive the Sacrament of Penance throughout the year. We encourage parents to receive this sacrament with their child(ren) frequently in their home parish. Students participate in the Stations of the Cross during the Season of Lent. Non-Catholic students will attend all liturgical celebrations and participate as permissible.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Each parish schedules its own preparation for the Sacraments; therefore, more responsibility is given to the parent as the primary educator. Children in the 2nd and 3rd grade prepare for First Penance and First Communion; in 7th-8th grades for Confirmation, depending upon the parish. Parents of children who are receiving these sacraments share with the priests and teachers the privilege of preparing their children for these sacramental experiences.

HOMEWORK

Homework is essential for the full scholastic development of the child. It is a strengthening tool to extend the learning experience that takes place in the classroom. Homework may be reinforcement of skills taught, a project requiring the individual's creative initiative, a study period, or reading for further enrichment. Homework assignments are available on the teacher google classroom pages.

STUDENT ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES

The student is responsible for completing all class assignments and homework on time. Failure to do so indicates a lack of serious preparation for class. Incomplete homework assignments will result in a consequence appropriate to the grade level. If a student is unsuccessful in meeting his/her academic responsibilities, the administration will review the student's continued enrollment in the school. If the school requires the student to receive academic supports and interventions, and the parent refuses those supports and interventions, the school reserves the right to make decisions regarding the continued enrollment of the student.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to:

1. Give attention and respect to the teacher at all times
2. Show respect and concern for other students by a willingness to share and to take turns
3. Actively participate in class by responding orally or in writing as circumstances dictate

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued three times per year. Progress Reports are issued to students after the midpoint of each trimester and the dates are indicated on the school calendar. Parents/Guardians can also check the progress of their child online with OptionC. Report Cards and Progress Reports are sent home in the communication folders. Parents/Guardians must sign and return the report card/progress report envelope to the classroom teacher. **Note: All financial obligations must be current and posted to receive a report card or conference with a teacher(s).**

HONOR ROLL CRITERIA – GRADES 5-8

Honor Roll is a positive goal for our students in grades 5 through 8 and challenges them to work to their potential. Note:

DISTINGUISHED HONORS

- Grades of 95 or higher in every major subject
- A mark of G or above in Effort and Conduct

FIRST HONORS

- General Average of 93 with no grade in a major subject less than 88
- A mark of Satisfactory or above in Effort and Conduct

SECOND HONORS

- General Average of 90 with no grade in a major subject less than 85
- A mark of Satisfactory or above in Effort and Conduct

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Students participate annually in the Safe Environment Catechesis program (Circle of Grace).

PROMOTION OR RETENTION

Student progress is monitored throughout the school year. At the first trimester report card period, the parent/guardian is informed of the student's overall progress. Mid-year, the teacher will contact the parent/guardian of a student who continues to experience difficulty, to discuss the possibility of retention. By the end of May, the teacher(s) will schedule a follow-up meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s). If retention is indicated, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will receive an official notification which must be signed and returned to the school administration.

If a student in first, second, or third grade fails either math or reading, he/she may be retained. If a student in fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth grade fails two major subjects (language arts, math, reading, science, social studies), he/she may be retained. Promotion or retention is at the discretion of the administration in consultation with the teacher. If a student is having academic difficulty, it is the responsibility of the student, parents, teachers, and administration to work cooperatively to overcome academic obstacles or determine the school's ability to meet the needs of the child.

CLASS PLACEMENT REQUESTS

SJRS has assembled a highly qualified faculty who are committed to ensuring a successful school year for every child. Teachers collaborate in each grade to determine the most beneficial placements for all students with regard to each child's promotion. Teachers' professional observations help guide their assessment of where each child will best thrive. From a parent's perspective, sometimes when we've had a great experience with a wonderful teacher and we want to replicate that experience; however, each child is unique and no experience can be exactly the same for any child.

Classroom placement is a delicate balance and many factors are taken into consideration; therefore, the administration will not accept or honor requests for specific teachers. Should you have a compelling circumstance or consideration of which the administration is not aware, please pass these specific and articulable concerns, in writing, to the principal. No specific classroom placements will be considered for the following school year after the last day of school.

GRADING POLICY

Student evaluation is based on all grades accumulated by the student. The quality of the work as well as the completeness of the work is considered a part of the grade. Students accumulate grades by participation in class, completion of homework, and independent work, projects, tests, and quizzes. Tests and quizzes for students in Grades K-4 are sent home. Tests are not sent home in Grades 5-8. Parents may schedule an appointment with the

teacher to review tests. All tests and progress reports that are sent home must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to school. The grading system administered by the school is determined by the Diocesan Department of Education. Computer generated report cards indicating academic performance will be issued in grades K-8. Report cards are issued three times during the school year. Please see report cards for more specifics.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

The Diocese of Allentown is committed to increasing student achievement, monitoring student growth. We do this by providing strong differentiated instruction to ALL students in the areas of early literacy, reading, and math. These efforts support the Diocese's mission to "unlock students' full potential." To ensure that all teachers have effective tools to meet the needs of all the learners in their classrooms, the Diocese implemented Renaissance Star 360 assessments. Star 360 Assessments are a tool to collect a snapshot of a student's current performance in math and reading, as well as to monitor progress and growth. Kindergarten students will begin with the Early Literacy Renaissance 360 screener. Students in grades 1-8 complete the Math and Reading Renaissance 360 screeners three times a year (September, January, and May). Teachers may also utilize brief progress monitoring measures to check for growth at any time between the benchmark assessments. The use of Renaissance Star 360 assessments allows your child's teacher to determine exactly what "he/she already knows" to prepare targeted instruction or intervention as needed. Our teachers are committed to getting to know each of their students personally and academically to fully nurture their development, and this is another means of accomplishing that goal. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring your children learn in an environment that nurtures their brain, as well as their spirit and souls.

Here are some key points to know:

1. Your child/children cannot study for this type of assessment.
2. The data from your child's early literacy, reading and/or math assessment supports his/her classroom teacher in differentiating instruction to meet your child's specific learning needs.
3. The math and reading assessments assess your child's competency in the required knowledge and skills for his/her grade level aligned to the Diocese's curriculum standards.
4. The assessments are computer-adaptive, which means that the assessment adapts in difficulty to your child's skill ability during the test.
5. On average, Renaissance Star 360 assessments take no more than 25 minutes to complete.

BOOKS AND MATERIALS

In an effort to foster responsibility and respect, every student is required to use a suitable book bag. Books must be covered at all times. All covers must be neat, clean, and free from inappropriate material. If a book/school property is lost or destroyed in any way, the parent/guardian must assume responsibility for the cost of the book/school property.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

At the beginning of the year, each teacher provides students with a list of needed items.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The SJRS administration encourages you to keep all electronic devices at home. If a parent deems it necessary for a student to have a cell phone, the phone must be turned off and kept in the student's backpack during the school day.

- Cell phone use is not permitted in the classrooms, hallways, or on school grounds by students.
- Students may not use their cell phone to record audio, video, take pictures, or post to social media

during school hours.

- Phones must be kept in the OFF position on the Bus (except in an emergency) and during school hours. Students may not use their cell phone to record audio, video, or take pictures on the bus.
- The taking of pictures or video of any faculty or staff members is absolutely forbidden without their expressed permission. The same policy applies to students without parental permission.
- Harassment, bullying or threatening of persons via the cell phone is forbidden whether during school or after school hours.
- Cell phones may not be used for texting, posting game playing, internet or e-mail access, gambling, or making purchases of any kind.
- A school official who hears a phone ringing or sees a phone in use during school time will confiscate the offender's phone. If it is discovered that a student used a cell phone or other electronic device on school property the device will be confiscated, held in the school office until the end of the day, and the parents will be contacted.
- If a student must make or receive a phone call during the day due to an emergency, the office phone is to be used. Please do not communicate changes in transportation via your child's cell phone. All changes of transportation must be communicated through the school office.

Those who violate any of the rules regarding cell phones will forfeit their privileges of bringing them to school.

IPods, tablets, beepers, pagers, handheld electronic games, MP3 players, Apple Watches, and other devices that are capable of emailing or texting, or that, in the view of SJRS, may be distracting or disruptive to the learning environment, are not permitted in school. Violation of this rule results in the following:

- 1st offense- warning
- 2nd offense- Written notice or Phone Call to parent/guardian
- 3rd offense- confiscation of phone; Phones will be returned to parents at the school office.

*NOTE: SJRS will not be responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged devices.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Various extra-curricular activities are offered for students at SJRS. Participation is dependent upon age, ability and interest. Some of the extracurricular activities offered are:

- Student Council
- Community service activities
- Yearbook
- CYO sports/CYO spelling bee/CYO (All CYO activities offered through the Parish)
- Diocesan spelling bee/CYO art contests
- Contests by local agencies

FIELD TRIPS/CLASS TRIPS

School-related educational trips are encouraged. Parents must complete and sign the official diocesan field trip permission slip for each trip. As per diocesan policy, students who do not bring in a written permission slip will not be permitted to go on a field trip. Verbal permission by phone is insufficient.

A faculty member assisted by adult chaperones must accompany the children. A class trip is a privilege (not a student right). If a parent/guardian does not wish a child to attend the trip for any reasons, he/she should notify the school. The child must attend school on the day of the trip or be marked absent. Students with an outstanding tuition balance will not be permitted to participate in field trips. Financial obligations must be current/posted one week before a field trip or the student is not permitted to attend the trip. Parents/Guardians are notified in advance and are allowed sufficient time to fulfill the financial obligation. Students with unsatisfactory conduct or effort may be denied permission to participate in a field trip by the principal.

In order to ensure the safety of our students, the Diocese of Allentown requires that all volunteers who come in contact with children have all required documents on file: Please go to our website for a list of all updated requirements. If you need help with the address, please call our school office.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

CONDUCT GUIDELINES/EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous, and orderly manner. Expected behavior of students is a combination of displaying courtesy, good manners, consideration, respect for others, and acceptance of responsibility.

A. Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work, and conformance to school rules and regulations. Most of all, students share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.
B. No student has the right to interfere with the education of his/her fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of teachers, administrators, and all others who are involved in the education process.
C. It is the responsibility of students to:
    1. Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them.
    2. Be willing to volunteer information in matters relating to the health, welfare, and safety of the school community.
    3. Dress in the full SJRS uniform and groom themselves so as to meet fair standards of safety and health and so as not to cause substantial disruption to the educational process.
    4. Assume that until a rule is waived, altered, or relented it is still in full effect.
    5. Assist the school staff in operating a safe school for all students' enrolled within.
    6. Exercise proper care when using school facilities and equipment.
    7. Attend school daily, and be on time for all classes and other school functions.
    8. Make all necessary arrangements to make up work when absent from school.
    9. Avoid indecent or obscene language at all times.
    10. Assume financial obligation for any and all damage to school facilities and equipment and personal property (example: textbooks, computers, etc.)

DISCIPLINE POLICY

The Discipline Code's expectations are set forth to ensure the safety, positive experience, and success of all students. Along with including the parents/guardians of our students, we as a staff strive to:

- Help students develop communication skills.
- Help students find early solutions to their problems.
- Help students make school a successful experience.
- Help students develop appropriate behavior patterns for dealing with classroom activities and relationships with peers, teachers, etc.
- Encourage students to develop new interests so they can become confident individuals.
- Work together with students and parents/guardians to turn a possible negative situation into a positive understanding of what Jesus would want us to do.

There will be times when a student does not live up to an expectation or responsibility. At these times it is necessary to correct behavior. The discipline policy has classified unacceptable behaviors into three different levels so that students, parents and teachers can clearly understand the discipline policy. Consequences will be determined on an individual basis based on the circumstances of the misbehavior. A student who fails to

demonstrate acceptable behavior will be disciplined by the principal. Depending on the nature and frequency of the offense, consequences applied may include but are not limited to the options listed below. Discipline notices are sent home, are signed by the parent/guardian and student, and returned the next day. Be sure to review the classroom policies and Discipline Code with your child(ren) so that they may be fully aware of the academic and behavioral expectations at SJRS. The Discipline Policy for Grades K-8 is listed on the next page.

Student's Name_____ Grade _____

Date of Unacceptable Behavior_____ Time_____Place_____

Teacher's description of Incident: _____

_____

Teacher's Signature_____Disposition Of Case:_____

_____

Principal's Signature_____Date_____

Students who are sent to the office for Level 1 behaviors need to have record of previous interventions completed by the teacher and a minimum of 2 documented contacts with parents.

***(This list is not all-inclusive and a student committing an act of misconduct not listed will be subject to the discretionary authority of the principal.)**

Level 1 Unacceptable Behaviors	Level 1 Consequences 1st Offense	Level 1 Consequences 2nd Offense	Level 1 Consequences 3rd Offense
-Horseplay or scuffling -Disruptions, noises, etc. -Lying -Possession/use of non-instructional items (audio devices, squirt guns, playing cards, toys, etc.) -Running in classrooms, halls, cafeteria, etc. -Throwing objects -Violation of classroom procedures established by teacher (school material/supplies not ready, talking in class, etc.) -Acting in an uncooperative manner -Unauthorized food, gum, etc. -Student Dress Code Violation -Failure to keep hands and feet to self -Cafeteria Offenses	Level 1 Offenses will be handled first by the teacher involved.	Level 1 Offenses will be handled first by the teacher involved.	Personal Talk Special Assignment Loss of recess for 1-3 days Parent Conference Confiscation of Material Detention Withdrawal of Privileges Restitution Restricted Lunch Parent Called to bring in change of clothes

Level 2 Unacceptable Behaviors	Level 2 Consequences 1st Offense	Level 2 Consequences 2nd Offense	Level 2 Consequences 3rd Offense
-Repeated violations of Level 1 Behaviors -Cheating/Plagiarism -Chronic disruption of class -Profanity -Teasing/Name Calling (Low Level) -Rough Play -Minor defacing of school property (writing on desks, walls, books, etc.) -Leaving class without permission -Possession of electronic devices without permission -Acting in an insubordinate manner -Unsigned Discipline Slip from Principal -Violation of the Acceptance Use Policy for computers -Failure to complete assigned detentions -Falsification of records, excuses, passes, schedules, etc. -Leaving school grounds without permission - Use of obscene language and/or inappropriate language or gestures or possession of obscene materials. -Failure to report directly to assigned area or office -Violence to school property -Inappropriate display of Affection -Violation of privacy (book bag, bathrooms, teacher's desk or computer, etc.) -Forgery -Bus Behavior -Giving False Information	Personal talk Warning from Principal Loss of recess for 1-3 days Withdrawal of privileges Special Assignment Parent Conference Detention Phone Call to Parent Restitution for any damage Grade point deductions for cheating/loss of class credit Confiscation of Material Restricted Lunch	Special Assignment Parent Conference Guidance Referral Loss of recess for 3-5 days 2 Detentions Withdrawal of privileges (May include classroom parties, class trips, fun day, etc.) In-school suspension Confiscation of Material Restitution for any damage Loss of field trip privileges	In-school suspension for 2 days Parent Conference Withdrawal of privileges (May include classroom parties, class trips, fun day, etc.) Out-of-school suspension (OSS) Loss of field trip privileges Restitution for any damage Confiscation of Material

Level 3 Unacceptable Behaviors	Level 3 Consequences 1st Offense	Level 3 Consequences 2nd Offense	Level 3 Consequences 3rd Offense
-Repeated violations of Level 2 Behaviors -Blatant defiance of a school employee directive -Assault and/or battery on another student/teacher/faculty member -Fighting -Exposing self to others -Intimidation: Any threat to student(s) and/or staff -Theft/Possession/Sale/ or Damaging another's property -Harassment – Any references, whether general or concerning a specific student or faculty member's race, ethnicity, ability, appearance, country of origin, home language, religion, sexual orientation or economic status will be considered harassment and therefore subject to disciplinary action. Hate speech and insignias associated with hate groups are included -Direct Bullying – includes hitting, kicking, biting, shoving, spitting, choking, etc. or taunting, teasing (malicious teasing/insults/put downs), using racial/ethnic slurs, verbal sexual harassment, threatening or obscene gestures -Indirect Bullying – includes but not limited to getting another person to assault someone, spreading rumors, deliberate exclusion from a group or activity, or encouraging or reinforcing bullying -Possession of dangerous item (weapons, explosive, lighter, knife, etc.) -Vandalism -Possession/use/furnishing/selling of any controlled substances (alcohol/drugs) or related items -Furnishing/selling over the counter medication (Tylenol, Excedrin, etc.) -Smoking – tobacco products -Arson, bomb threat or false fire alarm -Misuse of technology/computers in school -Leaving School Grounds -Being in an Unauthorized Area	Guidance Referral Parent Conference 3 days loss of recess 5 days loss of recess Detention Withdrawal of privileges (May include classroom parties, class trips, carnival day, etc.) Saturday Detention In-school suspension/ recommendation to outside agency OSS Restitution for any damage Possible Expulsion Police Notified Loss of class credit Restricted Lunch	Guidance Referral Parent Conference Saturday Detention 3 days in-school suspension/ recommendation to outside agency OSS Restitution for any damage Possible Expulsion Police Notified	Guidance Referral Parent Conference 3 or more days In-school suspension/ recommendation to outside agency OSS Restitution for any damage Magistrate, citation, fine Possible Expulsion Police Notified

SUSPENSIONS

In-School or Out-of-School suspension is a serious action taken by the administration against a student whose behavior constitutes a major disciplinary infraction and who is a hindrance to the spiritual and academic progress of other students. Suspension is a major step toward expulsion from school. The procedure taken at the time of suspension is that the parent/guardian is notified immediately of the suspension, the reason for the suspension, and the action being taken. Repeated suspensions may result in dismissal of the student from SJRS.

DISMISSAL

After two (2) formal suspensions, a student may be dismissed from SJRS. In certain instances, infractions may warrant immediate dismissal. For serious reasons, SJRS, in consultation with the Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, can dismiss a student when SJRS considers the conduct of the student or parent/guardian to be inconsistent with SJRS policy, the good of the SJRS community, or Catholic teachings. Parents/Guardians may appeal the dismissal at the Department of Education.

BULLYING BEHAVIORS

SJRS is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for all of our students. We recognize that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. SJRS prohibits bullying by its students. SJRS Administration and Staff encourages students who are being bullied to promptly report such incidents to the principal or to a teacher. A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the SJRS Discipline Code.

BULLYING POLICY

SJRS follows the bullying policy guidelines of the Diocese of Allentown stated below. The Bullying reporting form should be used to report bullying. For purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

Bullying: Repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal, or electronic expression, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, that:

- Creates a hostile educational environment
- Substantially interferes with a student's education benefits, opportunities, or performance
- Causes physical or emotional harm to the individual or damage to his or her property
- Places an individual in reasonable fear of harm to him/herself, or of damage to his/her property includes but is not limited to physical intimidation, assault, extortion, oral or written threats, slurs, innuendo, teasing and put downs, demeaning comments, cartoon drawing, graffiti, pranks, name calling, threatening looks, gestures or actions, cruel rumors, false accusation, social isolation, flashing a weapon, taunting/ridiculing, stalking, and relationship undermining

For the purpose of this Policy, whenever the term "bullying" is used it is to denote either bullying or cyber-bullying.

Cyber-bullying: Bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by:

- Wire
- Radio
- Photo electronic or photo-optical system, including but not limited to electronic mail, internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications
- Cyber-bullying shall also include the creation of a webpage or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or knowingly impersonates another person as author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the conditions enumerated in the definition of bullying.
- Cyber-bullying shall also include the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the conditions enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Name-calling: The use of language to defame, demean or degrade individuals or groups

Diocese of Allentown

Bullying Reporting Form

Today's Date: _____ School: _____

PERSON REPORTING INCIDENT **Name:** _____

Best Time of day to contact: AM PM **Telephone:** _____

Email: _____

1. Name of student victim:
   _____
2. Name(s) of alleged offender(s) (If known): Age School (if known)
   _____ _____ _____
   _____ _____ _____
   _____ _____ _____
3. Where did the incident occur?
   _____
   _____
   _____
4. Describe what happened (Attach separate sheet if necessary)
   _____
   _____
   _____
5. What did the alleged offender(s) say or do? (Attach separate sheet if necessary)
   _____
   _____
   _____

6. Why did the bullying occur? (Attach a separate sheet if necessary)

   _____

   _____

   _____

7. Did physical injury result?
   NO YES, but did not require medical attention YES, and it required medical attention

8. Was the student victim absent from school as a result of the incident?
   NO YES

   If YES, please indicate how many days the student victim was absent from school as a result of the incident _____.

9. Did psychological injury result from this incident?

   NO YES, but psychological services have not been sought YES, and psychological services have been sought

10. Had steps been taken to resolve such activity prior to this report?
    NO YES Not Applicable

11. If there any additional information you would like to provide? (Attach separate sheet if necessary)

    _____

    _____

    _____

SIGNATURE:_____

DATE: _____

For Office Use

Received By (School Personnel Name and Position):_____
Date Received:_____

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
1425 Mountain Drive North
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015
(610) 866-0581

Anti-Hazing Policy

The Diocese of Allentown prohibits any form of hazing of or by employees, volunteers or students.

Hazing is defined as: "Any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person, or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, any organization. The term shall include, but not be limited to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance, or any other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health and safety of the individual, and shall include any activity which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual, or any willful destruction or removal of public or private property. For purposes of this definition, any activity as described in this definition upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with or continued membership in an organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be "forced" activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding". (PA Act 2016-31)

Any student who experiences some form of hazing or staff member who becomes aware of hazing should report it to the school administration. Any staff member who permits or encourages hazing will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal. Any student who engages in hazing is subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion, depending on the seriousness of the offensive conduct. Every elementary and secondary school shall promulgate this policy to parents and provide a copy to all athletic coaches and moderators of activities in accordance with Pennsylvania state law.

Superintendent's Regulation - Adopted: August 1, 2016

FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

Any student or other person who possesses any firearm, shotgun, pistol, rifle or explosive on school premises or on the premises of a school-sponsored event shall be turned over to law enforcement personnel, expelled from the school, and subjected to criminal sanctions authorized by law. The parent(s) of the student shall be notified immediately by the principal or his or her designee. Any firearm, shotgun, pistol, rifle, or explosive confiscated by the school shall also be turned over to law enforcement personnel and disposed of accordingly.

WEAPONS, ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES AND TOBACCO

Any student who possesses any weapon, illegal substances, alcohol, or tobacco products on school premises, or on the premises of a school sponsored event, or any student who initiates violent conduct may be subject to: Local disciplinary actions, Suspension from school activities and/or extracurricular activities, Out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

*"Weapon shall include, but not be limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, or cutting tool, nunchucks, firearm, shotgun, rifle and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting bodily injury."

DRESS CODE

Saint Jerome Regional School 2026-2027 Dress Code

For the 26-27 school year, School Spirit Wear and/or gym uniforms may be worn two days each week. Monday and Thursday of each week will be the school spirit dress down days. Dress Uniforms will be required on days that there is Mass or other special occasions. Those dates will be noted on the monthly calendar. All other days will require the everyday uniform or dress uniform. There may be other times throughout the year when extra dress down days are also granted.

All SJRS students are required to wear the approved SJRS uniform. SJRS believes that our manner of dress is a reflection of our Christian values. We strive to provide a positive environment that is conducive to learning. Any type of clothing, hair style, or accessory deemed inconsistent with these values is unacceptable and the administration reserves the final judgment in all dress code matters. The personal appearance of the entire student body represents the school to others in the community. All clothing should be identified with the student's name. It is advisable to identify all personal belongings. Official SJRS uniforms must be worn throughout the entire school year, beginning with the first day of school. Students will also have the option to wear "Summer" uniforms from April 1 through October 31. The Dress Code is listed below.

GIRL'S FORMAL and EVERY DAY UNIFORM **KINDERGARTEN-4TH GRADE** **Nov. 1st-March 31st (Winter)** **April 1st – October 31st (Optional for Summer)**	**BOY'S FORMAL and EVERY DAY UNIFORM** **KINDERGARTEN-4TH GRADE** **Nov. 1st-March 31st (Winter)** **April 1st – October 31st (Optional for Summer)**
Formal Uniform *Worn for Mass attendance and other special occasions.* • Plaid cardinal jumper (available from Flynn and O'Hara only) • khaki or navy jumper-drop waist with four kick pleats •khaki or navy skort (*must be no shorter than 1.5 inches above the knee)* • Khaki or Navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn around waist (no corduroys) • Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt or white peter pan collared blouse must be worn with either of the above options • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan sweater or V-neck sweater (if needed)	**Formal Uniform** *Worn for Mass attendance and other special occasions.* • Khaki or Navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn around waist (no corduroys) • Long or short-sleeved white dress or oxford shirt • Navy blue tie • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan sweater or V-neck sweater (if needed)
Every day uniform – Dress Uniform and these additional options • Khaki or navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn at the waist (no corduroys) •Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan sweater or V-neck sweater (if needed) or Navy ¼ zip pullover **Summer Every day (Optional April 1st – October 31st)** • Khaki or navy walking shorts with no more than two side and two rear pockets – shorts must be worn at the waist •Navy blue, gold or cardinal polo shirt	**Every day uniform – Dress Uniform and these additional options** • Khaki or navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn at the waist (no corduroys) •Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt. • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan sweater or V-neck sweater (if needed) or Navy ¼ zip pullover **Summer Every day (Optional April 1st – October 31st)** • Khaki or navy walking shorts with no more than two side and two rear pockets – shorts must be worn at the waist • Navy blue, gold or cardinal polo shirt
All shirts must be buttoned and tucked in. Polo shirts can be with or without school logo.	

GIRL'S FORMAL and EVERY DAY UNIFORM 5th-8th GRADE Nov. 1st-March 31st (Winter) April 1st – October 31st (Optional for Summer)	BOY'S FORMAL and EVERY DAY UNIFORM 5th-8th GRADE Nov. 1st-March 31st (Winter) April 1st – October 31st (Optional for Summer)
Dress uniform *Worn for Mass attendance and other special occasions* • Plaid cardinal kilt (available from Flynn and O'Hara only) • khaki or navy skort or skirt (*must be no shorter than 1.5 inches above the knee)* • Khaki or navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn around waist (no corduroys) • Black or brown "leather-like" belt must be worn unless pants are beltless elastic waist •Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt. • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan sweater or V-neck sweater (if needed)	**Dress Uniform** *Worn for Mass attendance and other special occasions* • Khaki or navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn around waist (no corduroys) • Black or brown "leather-like" belt must be worn unless pants are beltless elastic waist • Long or short-sleeved white dress or oxford shirt • Navy blue tie • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan or V-neck sweater (if needed)
Every day uniform – Dress Uniform and these additional options • Khaki or navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn at the waist (no corduroys) • Navy blue long or short sleeved polo shirt • Black or brown "leather-like" belt must be worn unless pants are beltless elastic waist • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan or V-neck sweater (if needed) or Navy ¼ zip pullover	**Every day uniform – Dress Uniform and these additional options** • Khaki or navy pants with no more than two side and two rear pockets – pants must be worn at the waist (no corduroys) • Grades 5-8 – black or brown "leather-like" belt must be worn unless pants are beltless elastic waist •Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt • Navy blue or cardinal cardigan or V-neck sweater (if needed) or Navy ¼ zip pullover'
Summer Every day (Optional April 1st – October 31st) • Khaki or navy walking shorts with no more than two side and two rear pockets – shorts must be worn at the waist • Black or brown "leather-like" belt must be worn unless pants are beltless elastic waist •Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt.	**Summer Every day (Optional April 1st – October 31st)** • Khaki or navy walking shorts with no more than two side and two rear pockets – shorts must be worn at the waist • Black or brown "leather-like" belt must be worn unless pants are beltless elastic waist •Navy blue, gold or cardinal long or short sleeve polo shirt.
All shirts must be buttoned and tucked in. Polo shirts can be with or without school logo.	

GYM UNIFORM Kindergarten-8th Grade	SOCKS/SHOES Kindergarten-8th Grade
•Navy t-shirt or sweatshirt with or without school logo. •Navy sweatpants/gym pants with or without school logo. •Sneakers •White or navy blue visible socks •Navy shorts with logo or without school logo may be worn from April 1st-October 31st. *SJRS School spirit wear may also be worn on gym days.	•Girls may wear navy dress socks, knee socks or tights. •Boys may wear navy or beige dress socks. •Plain Black, Navy or Brown colored shoes are acceptable. They must have a back on them.

JEWELRY/HAIR/COSMETICS	JEWELRY/HAIR/COSMETICS
BOYS ACCESSORIES/GROOMING POLICIES HAIR: • Hair is to be kept stylishly neat and clean. • Excessively long hairstyles are not permitted. Long is defined by being over the top of the ears, over the shirt collar, and/or in the eyes. • Unnatural hair colors are not permitted • Words, numbers, or messages in hair are not permitted • Ponytails, mullets, and man-buns of any type are not permitted. • Hairbands to hold longer hair back are not permitted. • Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. • The administration has final determination on permitted hairstyles. FACIAL HAIR • Boys are to be clean shaven at all times. Beards and Moustaches are not permitted. Only exception is a note from a dermatologist indicating a specific skin condition that prohibits shaving daily is an acceptable excuse. JEWELRY/EARRINGS Boys are not permitted to wear earrings or ear-cuffs at any time during school day or when representing SJRS • Visible Piercings of any kind are not permitted. • Wallet chains are not permitted. • No more than one ring on each hand may be worn. • Students may wear promotional/inspirational bracelets, but should keep them limited to two or three on each wrist. •Electronic devices with internet capability such as Apple watches, etc. are not permitted to be worn or used. CAPS/HOODS • Caps, hats, bandanas or hoods/hoodies are not permitted to be worn up in the building at any time. MAKE-UP • Boys are not permitted to wear nail polish or any type of make-up at any time. CONTACTS • Unusual or unnatural colored (Wild Eyes, etc) contact lenses are not permitted. GROOMING • All clothing worn in school is required to be clean, pressed, and not torn	GIRLS ACCESSORIES/GROOMING POLICIES HAIR: • Hair is to be kept stylishly neat and clean. o Unusual and/or distracting hairstyles are not permitted o Unnatural hair colors, streaks, or highlights are not permitted o Words, numbers, or messages in hair are not permitted o Shaved heads or partially shaved haircuts are not permitted. o Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. • The administration has final determination on permitted hairstyles. JEWELRY/EARRINGS • Girls may only wear one small post earring in each ear. Visible Body Piercings of any kind including NOSE RINGS are NOT PERMITTED. Exceptions will not be made for new piercings even if they are covered with a bandage. • Wallet chains are not permitted. • No more than one ring on each hand may be worn. • Students may wear promotional/inspirational bracelets, but should keep them limited to two or three on each wrist. •Electronic devices with internet capability such as Apple watches, etc. are not permitted to be worn or used. CAPS/HOODS • Caps, hats, bandanas or hoods/hoodies are not permitted to be worn up in the building at any time. MAKE-UP • Glitter make-up and/or glitter hairspray are not permitted. •Makeup is not part of the regulation uniform. Only clear nail polish may be worn. CONTACTS • Unusual or unnatural colored (Wild Eyes, etc) contact lenses are not permitted. GROOMING • All clothing worn in school is required to be clean, pressed, and not torn
Dress Down Day Code	
On dress down day, casual clothing may be worn. All clothing must be modest. The following items are not acceptable: •torn jeans •Inappropriate slogans/language/graphics on clothing or any reference to drugs, alcohol tobacco or immoral activity. •flip flops or open back shoes •tank tops •short shorts	
Students are expected to come to school in a state of cleanliness. No tattoos are permitted. Personal appearance that constitutes a distraction is not permitted.	

Final approval/ disapproval of ALL dress code issues are at the discretion of the Principal.

*Note: School uniforms **can** be purchased from Flynn and O'Hara.

All gym clothing **can** be purchased from Valley Athletic, Lansford.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The Home and School Association serves as a facilitator of communication between home and school. Its primary function is fundraising in order to assist the school in providing income for the school budget, performing facility upgrades, and other enhancements to the school. Information about Home and School Meetings, fundraising events, and volunteer opportunities are made available in the school communication folder.

SCHOOL PROBLEMS

It is most important for parents/guardians to withhold judgment on what appears to be a grievance until all facts have been gathered. The following procedures must be followed:

1. Contact the teacher first.

2. Discuss the problem with the teacher involved as soon as possible.

3. If necessary, contact the principal.

Education is a partnership between school and parents. If this relationship is irreparably damaged, the school reserves the right to ask the parent to withdraw the student. The principal is the final recourse in all disputes.

SMOKING

The school premises are a smoke-free environment. No smoking is allowed in the school building or on school property. Parents and guardians are requested to refrain from smoking outside in the area of the school while waiting for children at dismissal.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS

COMPUTERS/STEM

The purpose of our computer/STEM room is to provide educational materials and information needed by our students for curriculum, personal knowledge and general reading in both written and electronic form. Everyone must follow procedures established for computer/STEM room.

Computer/STEM Room Rules

- No food allowed.
- No excessive noise.
- Students coming to STEM are to use it appropriately.
- Students are expected to listen and follow instructions the first time they are given.
- Students must follow the Acceptable Use Policy for computer usage.
- Failure to comply with these rules may result in loss of library/computer privileges and disciplinary action in accordance with the SJRS Discipline Policy.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each student participates in Physical Education class weekly. If a student is unable to participate in Physical

Education class, a parent/guardian written notice is required. If the non-participation is for an extended period of time, a doctor's note is required. Students are expected to wear the full gym uniform.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is the heart of our school program. Parents, the first teachers of their children, have a basic and fundamental role in the religious education of their child/children. It is essential that parents/guardians support and model by example the religious education and values presented in school. All students must participate in daily religion classes and liturgical celebrations. Non-Catholic students follow the same requirements. They do not participate in the reception of sacraments.

TELEPHONE-SCHOOL OFFICE

The school telephone is for business purposes; therefore, students are not excused from class to use the phone except in cases of emergency and only with the permission of the principal. No student or teacher will be called to the telephone except in case of emergency.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

All visitors ***must*** report to the school office to sign in and receive a Visitor badge before going anywhere in the school building and then sign out before leaving. Unscheduled visits to the classroom are not permitted during school hours unless previous arrangements have been made with the teacher or through the school office. Anyone, including a parent, entering the school is required to report to the office. At the office, the visitor will be asked to sign in, and state the date, time and purpose of the visit.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents, grandparents and guardians are encouraged to volunteer at HSA events, Santa's Workshop, Dances, as chaperones, etc. whenever possible. **All volunteers must attend the Protecting God's Children class and obtain background checks.** Without our volunteers we wouldn't be where we are today. Our school depends greatly on the time and effort from each and every one of you. If you would like to continue to be a volunteer or would like to start to participate in our school as a volunteer, we need a copy of all of the required clearances and forms. This includes but is not limited to: field trip chaperones, fundraising events, and any event where children are present. All volunteers during the school day must sign in and out in the office and wear a volunteer badge. Please be sure to call the office if you are available to volunteer before coming to school.

In order to ensure the safety of our students, the Diocese of Allentown requires that all volunteers who come in contact with children have clearances on file. Please go to our website for a list of all updated requirements.

	Saint Jerome Regional School Student Wellness Policy - Updated March 27, 2018
1. Purpose	Saint Jerome Regional School recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development and readiness to learn. The school administration is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education and promotion, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.
2. Authority	To ensure the health and well-being of all students, the school administration establishes that the school shall provide to students: A comprehensive nutrition program consistent with federal and state requirements. Access at reasonable cost to foods and beverages that meet established nutrition guidelines. Physical education courses and opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The Principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor the schools programs and curriculum is compliant with this policy, related policies and established guidelines or Diocesan regulations. The Principal or designee shall report to the Diocesan official regarding compliance in his/her school. Staff members responsible for programs related to school wellness shall report to the Principal or designee regarding the status of such programs. The lunch staff shall periodically report to the Principal on the school's compliance with law and policies related to school wellness. The report may include: Assessment of school environment regarding school wellness issues. Evaluation of food services program. Review of all foods and beverages sold in schools for compliance with established nutrition guidelines. Listing of activities and programs conducted to promote nutrition and physical activity. Recommendations for policy and/or program revisions. Suggestions for improvement in specific areas.
4. Guidelines	The Principal or designee and the established Wellness Committee shall conduct an assessment at least once every three (3) years on the contents and implementation of this policy as part of a continuous improvement process to strengthen the policy and ensure implementation. This triennial assessment shall include: The extent to which the school is in compliance with law and policies related to school wellness. The extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies. Progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy.

	At least once every three (3) years, the school shall update or modify this policy as needed. The school shall annually inform and update parents/guardians and students/staff, about the contents, updates and implementation of this policy via the school website, student handbooks and/or other efficient communication methods. <u>Wellness Committee</u> The school shall establish a Wellness Committee comprised of, but not necessarily limited to, at least one (1) of each of the following: School administrator, food service representative, parent/guardian/school community, the physical education teacher and students. The Wellness Committee shall serve as an advisory committee regarding student health issues and shall be responsible for developing, implementing and periodically reviewing and updating a School Wellness policy. <u>Nutrition Education</u> The goal of nutrition education is to teach, model, encourage and support healthy eating by students. Promoting student health and nutrition enhances readiness for learning and increases student achievement. Saint Jerome Regional School aims to teach, encourage, and support healthy eating by students. Schools should provide education and engage in nutrition promotion. Nutrition education shall provide all students with the knowledge and skills needed to lead healthy lives. Nutrition education lessons and activities shall be age-appropriate. Lifelong lifestyle balance shall be reinforced by linking nutrition education and physical activity. <u>Nutrition Promotion</u> Nutrition promotion and education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by using evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and encourage participation in school meal programs. Consistent nutrition messages shall be disseminated and displayed throughout the school, classrooms, cafeteria, homes, and community. Consistent nutrition messages shall be demonstrated by avoiding use of unhealthy food items in classroom lesson plans and school staff avoiding eating less healthy food items in front of students. <u>Physical Activity</u> The school shall strive to provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day for all students. Age-appropriate physical activity opportunities, such as outdoor and indoor recess, shall be provided to meet the needs and interests of all students, in addition to planned physical education.

	A physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable activity for all students shall be maintained. Extended periods of student inactivity, two (2) hours or more, shall be discouraged. Physical activity is an essential part of strengthening and conditioning and as such should not be perceived as a form of punishment. <u>Physical Education</u> Quality physical education instruction that promotes lifelong physical activity and provides instruction in the skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong participation shall be provided. Physical education classes shall be the means through which all students learn, practice and are assessed on developmentally appropriate skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity. A comprehensive physical education course of study that focuses on providing students the skills, knowledge and confidence to participate in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity shall be implemented. A varied and comprehensive curriculum that promotes both team and individual activities and leads to students becoming and remaining physically active for a lifetime shall be provided in the physical education program. Adequate amounts of planned instruction shall be provided in order for students to achieve the proficient level for the Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards. Students shall be moderately to vigorously active as much time as possible during a physical education class. Documented medical conditions and disabilities shall be accommodated during class. Safe and adequate equipment, facilities and resources shall be provided for physical education courses. Appropriate professional development shall be provided for physical education staff. <u>Other School Based Activities</u> Drinking water shall be available and accessible to students, without restriction and at no cost to the student, at all meal periods and throughout the school day. School shall provide adequate space, as defined by the school, for eating and serving school meals. Students shall be provided a clean and safe meal environment. Meal periods shall be scheduled at appropriate hours. Shall have access to hand washing or sanitizing before meals and snacks.

	Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods/Beverages at School All foods and beverages available in school during the school day shall be offered to students with consideration for promoting student health and reducing obesity. Foods and beverages provided through the National School Lunch Program shall comply with established federal nutrition standards. Foods and beverages offered or sold at school-sponsored events outside the school day, such as athletic events and dances, shall offer healthy alternatives in addition to more traditional fare. *Competitive Foods –* Competitive foods available for sale shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School). These standards shall apply in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold to students, which may include, but are not limited to: a la carte options in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores, snack carts and fundraisers. **Competitive foods** are defined as foods and beverages offered or sold to students on school campus during the school day, which are not part of the reimbursable school breakfast or lunch. For purposes of this policy, **school day** means the period from midnight before school begins until thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day. *Fundraiser Exemptions –* Fundraising activities held during the school day involving the sale of competitive foods shall be limited to foods that meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, unless an exemption is approved in accordance with applicable Board policy and administrative regulations. The school may allow a limited number of exempt fundraisers as permitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education each school year: up to five (5) exempt fundraisers in elementary and middle school buildings, **Exempt fundraisers** are fundraisers in which competitive foods are available for sale to students that do not meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. *Non-Sold Competitive Foods –* Non-sold competitive foods available to students, which may include but are not limited to foods and beverages offered as rewards and incentives, at classroom parties and celebrations, or as shared classroom snacks, shall meet or exceed the standards established by the school.

	If the offered competitive foods do not meet or exceed the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, the following standards shall apply: 1. Rewards and Incentives: Foods and beverages shall not be used as a reward for classroom or school activities unless the reward is an activity that promotes a positive nutrition message (e.g., guest chef, field trip to a farm or farmers market, etc.). If the offered competitive foods do not meet or exceed the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, the following standards shall apply: 2. Classroom Parties and Celebrations: a. Parents/Guardians shall be informed through newsletters or other efficient communication methods that foods/beverages should only be brought in when requested for scheduled parties. 3. Shared Classroom Snacks: a. Shared classroom snacks are not permitted in school. The school shall provide a list of suggested nonfood ideas and healthy food and beverage alternatives to parents/guardians and staff, which may be posted via the school website, student handbook, newsletters, posted notices and/or other efficient communication methods. Marketing/Contracting- Any foods and beverages or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School) and comply with administrative regulations. Exclusive competitive food and/or beverage contracts shall be approved by the administration, in accordance with provisions of law. Existing contracts shall be reviewed and modified to the extent feasible to ensure compliance with established federal nutrition standards, including applicable marketing restrictions.

August 2026

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
ST. JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY, ELECTRONIC DEVICE AGREEMENT AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

General Overview

The world around us is continually changing and requires citizens to be able to function in a world that requires 21st Century Skills such as:

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity and Innovation

Information technology is vital to the mission and vision of Saint Jerome Regional School, and we are committed to preparing students to be faith-filled, independent and responsible citizens in a 21st Century world. By immersing our students in a technology rich instructional environment, we are providing them with instant access to information from all over the world and preparing them to be respectful and responsible users of technology.

Our vision to create tomorrow's leaders through spiritual values and academic excellence guides Saint Jerome Regional School in all that we do. These beliefs apply to a student's behavior both on campus and off, and extend to the manner in which students use technology and present themselves online. The use of technology is a tremendous educational opportunity and a privilege that comes with much responsibility. We believe that our students are able to handle this incredible responsibility with appropriate guidance from both teachers and parents. Much care will be taken to properly instruct and communicate our expectations to the students by overseeing the students' use of technology. The School expects that students' actions in an electronic world will reflect the same standards of personal responsibility and accountability as in the real world.

At the very core, students must understand that they represent Saint Jerome Regional School whenever they use computing resources, even if using the resources are away from or outside of the school network. Students may be held responsible for any online behavior or content that connects them to school or implicates Saint Jerome Regional School, fellow students, faculty, staff, or other members of the community, in that behavior. Students may also be held responsible for any statements, posts, communications, online behavior or content that is not consistent with the school's mission and philosophy, regardless of whether they are on campus or away from campus.
Students may use the school devices for academic purposes only. Students are on their honor to adhere to this policy.

AGREEMENT

This agreement is made effective between Saint Jerome Regional School ("School"), the student using the device (ipad, chromebook, laptop, etc.) ("Student"), and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian ("Parent"). The Students and Parents, in consideration of being provided with a device, software, and related materials for use in school while a student at Saint Jerome Regional School, hereby agree as follows:

SECTION ONE: ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Part 1: Acceptable Use

Students must use hardware, software, applications, email accounts, and network space appropriately for school related activities and in a manner that is consistent with this policy and the mission of the School at all times. In order to ensure smooth system operations, the system administrator has the authority to monitor all accounts. A user must abide by the terms of all software licensing agreements and copyright laws. A user can be monitored at any time. Once a user receives a user ID and/or device to be used to access a computer or network and computer systems on that network, he or she is solely responsible for all actions taken while using the user ID or device.

Therefore, the following are PROHIBITED:

● Misrepresenting or falsifying your identity to gain use of the computers, send electronic messages under a false address, or use other's accounts without permission.
● Using technology during class time or at home for purposes that are not academic.
● Sharing account information with any other person. (If you do share your account information with another person, you will be solely responsible for the actions of that
● Violating copyright laws
● Using proxy servers, browsers (without a teacher's permission) and other apps to access
● the Internet for the purpose of bypassing blocked sites
● Deleting, examining, copying, or modifying of files and/or data belonging to other users without their prior consent.
● Attempting to evade or change resource quotas.
● Use of facilities and/or services for commercial purpose, for seeking monetary gain or for political purposes
● Any unauthorized, deliberate action which damages or disrupts a computing system, alters its normal performance, or causes it to malfunction is a violation, regardless of system location or time duration.
● Copying programs purchased by you onto St. Jerome Regional School devices, computers and/or the network systems without the express written consent of the School.
● Copying programs licensed to the School for personal use.
● Abusing and disrupting electronic equipment and/or systems.
● Using images and photographs without permission that violate the privacy of students, teachers, staff and administrators of the school.

Part 2: Security

As a user of a computer, device or network, you may be allowed to access other networks and/or computer systems attached to those networks.
Therefore, the following are PROHIBITED:
● Use of systems and/or networks in attempts to gain unauthorized access to remote system.
● Decryption of system or user passwords.
● Copying, deleting, or moving system files.
● Deleting, examining, copying, or modifying files and/or data belonging to other users.
● Copying of copyrighted materials, such as third party software, without the express written permission of the owner or the proper license.
● The willful introduction of computer "viruses" or other disruptive or destructive programs into the computer, device and/or network or into external computers, devices and/or networks.
● Vandalism is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any attempt to harm or destroy the data of another user, the network/Internet, or any networks or sites connected to the network/Internet. Attempts to breach security codes and/or passwords will also be considered a form of vandalism.
● Willful destruction of computer hardware, devices or software, or attempts to exceed or modify the parameters of the system is prohibited. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the School/institution operator from intercepting and stopping Email messages which have the capacity to overload the computer resources. Discipline may be imposed for intentional overloading of school/institution computer resources.

SECTION TWO: DEVICE AGREEMENT

Part 1: Device Requirements

The School will issue device to students upon compliance with the following:
● Student's family shall be responsible for the cost of the device for willful, intentional or neglectful damage to the device.

Part 2: Ownership and Privacy

The School retains sole right of possession of the device and grants permission to the "Student" to use the device according to the guidelines

set forth in this document. In addition, the School owns all systems, software, and school email addresses. Content created with the School's technology tools and saved on the School's network or devices is the property of the School. The School has software and systems in place that monitor and record all activities and traffic on the School network and computing resources. Students should not expect any privacy in terms of their activity while on the School network or while using School owned technology.

Part 3: Equipment:

All devices include a power supply and applications. The School will retain a record of the number on a student's device. The School retains ownership of all supplied equipment. Students will be responsible for maintaining the equipment provided and keeping it in good working condition. All devices will be returned to the STEM lab at the conclusion of the school year for maintenance. This includes the power supply. Missing items such as a charger may result in a fee.

Part 4: Proper Care of Equipment:

Students will receive proper instruction on how to use and how where to store their devices within the classroom. They may not be used while walking. Students may only use the devices in the classroom. Never attempt to repair or reconfigure the device. Under no circumstances are you to open or tamper with the internal components of the device. Devices in need of repair must be reported to the office immediately.

General Care Guidelines:

● Dimming the LCD brightness of your screen will extend the battery run time.
● DO NOT write, draw, paint, place stickers or labels or otherwise deface your device. Remember, the device is the property of the School.
● NEVER put weight on the device.
● ALWAYS carry the device in a safe manner.
● When storing the device, DO NOT place any books or items on top of the device.
● Liquids, food and other debris can damage the device. Avoid eating or drinking while using.
● Take care while inserting cords and cables to avoid damage to the ports.
● NEVER leave your device unsecured. Devices should be kept in designated areas within the classroom.
● DO NOT attempt to remove or interfere with the serial number or any identification placed on your iPad.
● When cleaning your device, clean the screen with a soft, dry antistatic or microfiber cloth. Do not use any type of liquid or water to clean the screen of the iPad.

Part 5: General Use of the Device

● Device sound must be muted at all times unless permission is obtained from the teacher for instructional purposes.
● DO NOT delete any folders or files that you did not create or that you do not recognize. Deletion of files could result in device failure.
● Student devices WILL BE subject to routine monitoring by teachers, administrators, and technology staff. Users shall have no expectation of privacy while using the School's electronic information resources including the contents of computer files or communication undertaken by way of the computers and/or network. Teachers and administrators MAY conduct an individual search of a student's device, files, music, video, email or other related items if there is a suspicion that the "School's" policies or guidelines have been violated.
● ALWAYS obtain teacher permission before printing.
● Avoid using your device in areas which may lead to damage or theft.
● Students may not install or uninstall any hardware, software on the device without permission.
● Keep personal information about yourself or others off the device.
● Keep all passwords to yourself.
● DO NOT allow others to use your personal accounts.
● DO NOT loan your device to anyone.
● Notify a teacher or the office immediately if you suspect a problem with your device.

Examples of Inappropriate Use:

- Deleting any folders or files you did not create or you do not recognize
- Sharing login/password with another person
- Logging on to another person's device without his/her permission
- Using devices not assigned to you (teachers may allow students to look on with another student for instructional purposes)
- Removing labels and identifying stickers from the devices.
- Using proxy sites to bypass web filtering or bypassing content filter (Smoothwall)
- Videoing or taking photographs on school property (not permitted unless related to a school assignment)
- Emailing or "chatting" during class when not related to a school assignment
- Using profanity
- Gaming
- Listening to music
- Cheating

Consequences include but are not limited to:

Parental Awareness Form
Loss of technology privileges
Suspension
Dismissal
Reporting to appropriate authorities

Examples of Unacceptable Use

- Inappropriate communication to the faculty or staff
- Threats and/or cyber bullying of any kind
- Using a device to cause harm or commit a crime
- Logging into a device/application using a stolen login
- Inappropriate language
- Possession of inappropriate files
- Manufacturing using a camera to create inappropriate pictures/movies
- Distributing sending/sharing inappropriate files with other individuals
- Images of weapons
- Gang related files
- Bootleg movies or music
- Intentional actions which are harmful or potentially harmful to the device or charger.
- Habitual and intentional disregard for the device

Part 6: Software Installation:

Downloading personal apps or music on the School issued devices is a direct violation of the School's Acceptable Use Policy. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. All of the apps necessary for use with the device will be managed by School personnel. Any personal app downloaded by a student or parent, will be permanently erased from the device. A list of educational apps to be used in the classroom will be made available for parents.

Part 7: Malfunction, Damage or Loss of Equipment:

In the event that the device malfunctions due to a manufacturer defect, contact the teacher or the office. All issues need to be reported immediately. Willful and deliberate damage or neglect to the device will cause Saint Jerome Regional School to charge parents the full cost to replace the device if necessary. The School reserves the right to charge the Student/Parent the full cost of repair or replacement when damage occurs due to gross negligence. Examples of gross negligence are listed in the exclusions section below.
(examples of Gross Negligence):
Negligent, Dishonest, Fraudulent, Intentional or Criminal Acts: Insurance will not pay if damage or loss occurs in conjunction with negligent, dishonest, fraudulent, intentional or criminal acts.

SECTION THREE: INTERNET ACCESS AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

Part 1: Overview: Internet access is available to employees and students of Saint Jerome Regional School (the "School"). This access is being offered as part of a collaborative project involving the School and PenTeleData (ISP). We are pleased to bring this access to the School, and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse and unique resources to administrators, teachers, employees, and students. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence at the School by facilitating collaboration, innovation and communication. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of devices all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. The following list provides examples of sites that administrators, teachers, employees, and students may have access to and is not all inclusive
(teachers will use their professional discretion regarding the technological resources used for educational purposes in the classroom):

● Electronic mail communication with people all over the world.
● Access to many University Library Catalogs, the Library of Congress, and ERIC or other academic databases.
● Public domain and open source software of all types.
● Information and news from NASA, as well as the opportunity to correspond with the scientists at NASA and other research institutions.
● Online learning communities where academic collaboration and discussion are encouraged.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the school setting. The School has taken precautions, which are limited to known sites, to restrict access to controversial materials. The School will employ 24/7 content filtering in accordance with Federal Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) guidelines. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. Students who attempt to find inappropriate sites will be subject to disciplinary measures. We firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of this project.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies, and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. In general, this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a School user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. Disciplinary or legal action including, but not limited to, criminal prosecution under appropriate state and federal laws may also be taken. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

Part 2: Acceptable Use:

The purpose of accessing the Internet is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the United States by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of student accounts must be in support of education and research, and consistent with the educational objectives of the School. Each user is personally responsible for this provision at all times when using the network.
● Use of other organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network.
● Transmission of any material in violation of local, state, and/or federal statutes or regulations is strictly

prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, material protected by trade secret, threatening or obscene material, and criminal activity.
● Use by student users for commercial activities or product advertisement (including campaigns for student government/council) is prohibited.
● Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt network use by others.
● NEVER reveal personal information, such as your address, phone number, password, or social security number. This also applies to others' personal information or that of organization.
● Use of the network or computer resources to publicly oppose, degrade, or intentionally misrepresent any teachings, beliefs, or practices of the Catholic Church are strictly prohibited.
● Students must consider the impact on themselves and other members of the school community when using social networking sites, texts, blogs, email or instant messaging. Any posting that results in an uninviting atmosphere for any member of our community will be considered a violation. Remember that you represent yourself and the school at all times.

Part 3: Privileges:

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. Each student who receives an account will be a part of a discussion with faculty members pertaining to proper use of the network. The system administrator will deem what is inappropriate use and his or her decision is final. Also, the system administrator may close an account at any time. An administrator, faculty member, or staff of the School has the right to request, for cause, that the system administrator deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts.

Part 4: Network Etiquette:

You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette (netiquette). These include, but are not limited, to the following:
● Be polite. Do not send, or encourage others to send, abusive messages.
● Use appropriate language. Remember that you are a representative of your school on a non-private network. You may be alone on a computer, but what you say can be viewed around the world. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language including anything that may be considered inflammatory, threatening, harassment or bullying. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
● All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.
● Do not post information that could cause danger or disruption or engage in personal attacks, bullying, or harassment in any posts, communications or websites.

Part 5: Electronic Mail (EMail), Online Communication and Online Resources

In a 21st century world, the need for teachers and students to communicate electronically is evident. It is important that we teach our students this skill and how to responsibly use electronic communication. As a result, the School will issue Google Education level email address to students in grades K-8. The Google email address will be supplied through Google Apps for Education which provides additional privacy safeguards in place to protect schools and provide compliance. Using the School issued email, students will only be able to communicate with other students/teachers within our school domain. All students will be instructed on the proper use of this type of communication. Any violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action.

Students will be provided an individual email address for school related purposes only. Email accounts will be used for educational purposes only and are subject to monitoring at any time for the protection of our students. All students will be properly instructed on how to safely use this technology. Whenever you send electronic mail, your name and user ID are included in each message. You are responsible for all electronic mail originating from your user ID.

Therefore:

● Unauthorized attempts to access another person's Email or similar electronic communications or to use another's name, Email or computer address or workstation to send Email or similar electronic communications is prohibited and may subject the individual to disciplinary action.
● All users must understand that the School cannot guarantee the privacy or confidentiality of electronic documents and any messages that

are confidential as a matter of law should not be communicated over the Email.
● The School reserves the right to access Email to retrieve school information and records, to engage in routine computer maintenance and housekeeping, to carry out internal investigations, or to disclose messages, data or files to law enforcement authorities.
● Any information contained on a School computer or device which were purchased by the School are considered the property of the School.
● Forgery (or attempted forgery) of electronic mail is prohibited.
● Attempts to send harassing, obscene and/or other threatening email otherwise known as “Cyber Bullying” to another user is prohibited.
● Attempts at sending unsolicited junk mail, "for profit" messages or chain letters is prohibited.

Many teachers use online educational resources to help individualize the learning experience for every child. Some Open Educational Resources (OER) that we use require students to create a username and password in order to join a teacher’s virtual class so the teacher can track their progress. Some examples of resources used in the classroom include Dreambox Math, Stemscopes, OptionC. When we create these accounts, we use the school issued email address, school issued email address password or school issued student ID number.

Part 6: Security:
Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. Never use another person's account to log on to the system. If you feel you can identify a security problem, you must notify the system administrator, or send an email message to the School. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not reveal your account password to anyone. Users are responsible for any misuse of their account that is due to their own negligence. Users are responsible for reporting unauthorized use of their account to the system administrator.

Part 7: Services:
Diocese of Allentown and the School make no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The School will not be responsible for any damages you may suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, misdeliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the system is at your own risk. The School specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Part 8: Education, Supervision and Monitoring:

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the School staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children’s Internet Protection Act and Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

The teachers will provide age appropriate training for students who use the School Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the School’s commitment to:
● The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Saint Jerome Regional School Internet Safety Policy;
● Student safety with regard to:
○ safety on the Internet;
○ appropriate behavior while online, and social networking Websites, and in chat rooms; and
○ cyberbullying awareness and response.
● Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (“CIPA”)

Part 9: Violations of Policy:
Violations of the School Technology Acceptable Use Policy are subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

St. Jerome Regional School

50 Meadow Avenue Tamaqua PA 18252 | Main Office: 570-668-2757 | www.sjrschool.com

SUBJECT: Nondiscrimination in Services

TO: Parents at St. Jerome Regional School and Little Lions Preschool

FROM: **Amy M. Hannis-Miskar** _____

St. Jerome Regional School and Little Lions Preschool is a school and childcare facility operated in full compliance with the teachings of Sacred Scripture and the Traditions of the Catholic Church. Admission is open to all who do not object to our Catholic program, based on space availability, without regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin (including limited English proficiency), or sex (being male or female).

Program Services shall be made accessible to eligible students with disabilities through the most practical and economically feasible methods whenever possible. These methods include, but are not limited to, equipment redesign, the provision of teaching aides. Structural modifications shall be considered only as a last resort and only if economically feasible.

Any individual student (and/or their guardian) who believes they have been discriminated against, may file a complaint of discrimination with:

Saint Jerome Regional School and Little Lions Preschool
50 Meadow Avenue
Tamaqua, PA 18252

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
Bureau of Equal Opportunity
Room 225, Health & Welfare Building
P.O. Box 2675 Harrisburg, PA 17105

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office for Civil Rights
Suite 372, Public Ledger Building 150 South Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-9111

PA Human Relations Commission Harrisburg Regional Office
333 Market Street, 8th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

August 2026

AI Policy for the Office of Education
Diocese of Allentown

Purpose:

"Technological progress is part of God's plan for creation, but people must take responsibility for using technologies like artificial intelligence to help humanity and not harm individuals or groups. "Like any tool, AI is an extension of human power, and while its future capabilities are unpredictable, humanity's past actions provide clear warnings (Vatican 2025, p.103)

This policy addresses guidelines for the proper management and responsible use of Generative AI in the Diocese of Allentown's educational environment.

Definitions:

AI literacy – the ability to understand, use and interact with AI systems effectively, efficiently and responsibly.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) – technology designed to mimic human intelligence, such as analyzing data, recognizing patterns and making decisions.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (Generative AI) – an advanced subset of AI that is capable of generating new content from learned data and pattern recognition across various mediums such as text, code, images, audio and video data. Generative AI is the focus of this Policy.

Open-source AI – AI tools and resources that are built on publicly accessible platforms and use and share data among all users who access the platform, both within and outside of the district.

Authority:

The Office of Education directs that the use of Generative AI in the educational environment shall be limited to approved educational purposes and shall comply with applicable state and federal laws.

Schools should be thorough in their research of the AI programs' Privacy Policy to check for compliance with government regulations such as the American Disabilities Act (ADA), the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), before introducing AI programs for student use.

Office of Education and school policies related to acceptable use of computers and network resources, student and staff conduct, copyright protections, student records, personnel records, bullying and cyberbullying, nondiscrimination and harassment, data security and staff and student expression must be adhered to.

Note: ***Many of these AI programs require users to be at least 13 years of age for use.***

Ethical Considerations:

Diocesan schools shall prioritize the educational value in the use of Generative AI tools and resources and will take measures to mitigate associated risks.
The Office of Education shall provide additional training, when needed, and address accessibility needs to provide equitable access to Generative AI tools and resources for students and staff including, but not limited to, individuals with disabilities and English Learner students.
The Office of Education prohibits the use of Generative AI in making decisions regarding employee recruitment, hiring, retention, promotion, transfer, evaluation, demotion or dismissal.
The Office of Education prohibits the use of Generative AI in making final determinations on student assessments and evaluations

The Office of Education directs that students at all grade levels receive age-appropriate instruction on the proper use of AI tools, encompassing fundamental principles such as the necessity of proper human supervision, critical thinking, and skepticism regarding accuracy.

Such instruction should aim to empower students with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the increasingly prevalent presence of AI technologies in their academic and personal lives. By fostering a culture of responsible and informed use, students will be better equipped to navigate AI tools effectively while understanding their limitations and ethical implications.

Academic Honesty:

The Office of education permits the use of AI detection tools as an aid to identify potential academic integrity issues, but prohibits reliance on results from AI detection tools as the sole determination of
academic integrity.

The Office of Education recognizes the capacity of AI to complete many student assignments. In doing so, AI has the potential to upend traditional academic honesty and plagiarism standards.

It is the responsibility of all teachers to provide students with notice of whether AI use is permitted on a particular assignment or project.

Current Limitations of AI:

Biases and Misinformation**:** AI can only learn from its source(s), and prompts, so it may perpetuate biases or misinformation, known as hallucinations. The implicit bias of the generative AI is a part of the data it has access to. The user needs to ensure that AI-generated content is always reviewed and edited by humans.

Privacy & Security: Schools are responsible for safeguarding individuals personal data and ensuring AI systems handle data responsibly and ethically. Deep fake technology has potential for misuse. It poses significant challenges in maintaining trust, integrity, and fairness in educational settings.

Lack of Emotional Intelligence: AI systems may be able to imitate or recognize human emotions, but they cannot truly feel or understand them. AI uses algorithms to produce text, audio and/or video. Generative AI does not think, and does not have emotions, AI takes input and calculates an output.

Limited Creativity & Critical Thinking: Reliance on AI can limit the user's experience and skills to generate innovative ideas themselves. This can lead to less creative and critical thinking opportunities to grow for our students.

Conclusion

These policies emphasize the importance of using AI to serve human potential and aspirations, aligning with Pope Francis' message that AI should enhance, not compete with, human capabilities.

Source:

Vatican. (2025, January 28). *Antiqua et Nova (ancient and new): Note on the relationship between artificial intelligence and human intelligence*. Vatican Press.

Diocesan Policy on Gender Ideology 1/15/26

The Catholic Church celebrates the equal and intrinsic dignity of every human person, and we affirm that each person has received from God a natural, unchanging sexual identity as male or female. As a Catholic school, we uphold what has been revealed to us through Sacred Scripture that "God created mankind in his image; in the image of God, he created them; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27). This fundamental truth about human beings, accessible to reason, was reaffirmed by our Lord Jesus Christ within the context of His teaching on marriage (Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6). In championing the dignity of the human person, we uphold the basic truths of sexual complementarity and difference between men and women as willed by God in His loving plan for human sexuality and marriage.

Moreover, we believe that all our students must be treated with love and respect in accord with their human dignity. We want all our students to be safe, healthy, truly happy, and to flourish as the young man or woman God created him or her to be. Our Catholic school is dedicated to providing an environment that is consistent with these principles and that nurtures our students' understanding of the goodness which they possess.

If a student is questioning his or her sexual identity as male or female, our school is committed to guiding him or her in truth and charity. If a student were to bring this issue to the attention of an employee, volunteer, or other adult associated with the school, the principal must be immediately informed. Then the Principal will inform the Chaplain / Pastor and the student's parents / guardians immediately, as they are the child's primary educators and caretakers. The school is committed to the student's overall well-being and can connect the family with appropriate resources for their child, including information on counselors and professionals that reflect Catholic teaching on this matter. The school's Chaplain / Pastor and counseling services are always available to help in this regard as well. As a school, we will lovingly accompany our students and families in these difficult situations.

The school will not affirm a change of gender for any student, whether social or physical, as this distorts the gift of the student's sexual identity and is contrary to his or her dignity as a human person. Our school will refer to students only by the names and pronouns that are in accord with their biological sex. This applies to all communication, including interpersonal interactions at school, written messages, and official school documents, such as diplomas and academic transcripts.

With respect to experiences and protocols within the school that differentiate between sexes (e.g. use of restrooms, adherence to uniform dress code, involvement in athletic teams), students are expected to act and participate in accord with their biological sex. To ensure the Catholic identity and mission of the school, the Administration reserves the right to make enrollment decisions based upon this policy.

For situations that are not specifically addressed in this handbook, the school's approach will be to adhere to the official teachings of the Church, respect the unchanging reality of each student's biological sex, and to treat each person in a manner consistent with that reality, while always having compassion for students and their families. To learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches about Gender Ideology/Transgenderism, please consult *The Person and Identity Project*: personandidentity.com

SAINT JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL 2026-2027 FAMILY HANDBOOK

POLICY AGREEMENT PAGE

There have been revisions made to the Family Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. Copies of the Family Handbook can be found on the school website. This handbook contains a variety of information/policies that is important for both students and their parents to know for the 2026-2027 school year. Please read it in its entirety and then fill out the bottom portion of this page. Your child will be responsible for returning the completed page to his/her homeroom teacher, who will in turn return it to the school office. Parents of students failing to turn in this page will be contacted by the administration of Saint Jerome Regional School. Parents/Students are required to sign that they have read and understand the policies.

By signing this document, I/We affirm I/We have accessed a copy of the 2026-2027 Family Handbook and have carefully read and understand the policies, procedures, and regulations of SJRS, including but not limited to: Dress Code, Code of Conduct, Transportation policies, technology policies, media releases. I/We hereby express agreement with these policies, procedures, and regulations. I/We accept them as conditions for the enrollment of our child/children in Saint Jerome Regional School. I/We pledge support for the Catholic identity and mission of this school by entering my child I commit myself to uphold all principles and policies that govern Saint Jerome Regional School.

I/We agree to the financial responsibilities, which include but are not limited to payment in full of tuition, fees, externed care charges, and any other fees incurred during the school year. SJRS reserves the right, in sole discretion, to add, revise and/or delete school policies before, during and after the school year.

_____	_____	_____	_____
STUDENT NAME	GRADE	STUDENT NAME	GRADE
_____	_____	_____	_____
STUDENT NAME	GRADE	STUDENT NAME	GRADE

_____	_____	_____	_____
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE	DATE	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE	DATE

The student must return this completed page to his/her homeroom teacher as soon as possible, but no later than August 31, 2026. One sign-off page should be completed for each family.

Let it be known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school, the unseen, but ever-present teacher in its classrooms, the model of the faculty, the inspiration of its students.