

Holy Angels School Parent Handbook 2025-2026

Failure to read this handbook does not excuse students from the rules and procedures described herein. Personal factors or contradictory advice from any source are not acceptable grounds for seeking exemptions from these rules and procedures.

Mission Statement

Philosophy

Certification

Goals and Objectives

Administration

Faculty & Staff

<u>Admission</u>

Approved Snacks

<u>Arrival</u>

<u>Assessments</u>

Attendance

Birthdays

Bullying

Bus Regulations

Calendar

Child Abuse

Communication

Conferences

Curriculum

Custody of Children

<u>Discipline</u>

Dismissal

Dress Down Days

Drugs and Alcohol

Electronic Devices

Emergency Closing

Emergency Contact Information

Emergency Crisis Plan

Emergency Drills

Extended Day Program

Extracurricular Activities

Faith Experience

Faith's Law

Field Trips

Firearms on School Property

Forgotten Items

Fundraising

Funerals

Gangs and Gang-Related Activities

General School Compliance

Grading System

Grievance Procedures

Guardian Angels Fund/Financial Aid

Harassment

Health

Home & School Association

Homework

Honor Roll

Hot Lunch

Ineligibility

Inspection Policy

Internet Access

Learning Disability Services

Library

Lost and Found

Lunch/Playground

Medical Cannabis

Money Collection

Newsletter

Nondiscrimination Policy (Diocesan)

Parental Cooperation

Parent Involvement Program

Parties

Party Invitations

Photo Usage

Preschool Program

Principal's Right to Amend

Promotion, Retention, and Acceleration

Records Inspection

Registration

Registration Days

Report Cards

Remote Learning

Safety

School Supplies

Shadow Days/High School Open Houses

School Counselor

Social Media

Sports Program

Spring Picture Day/8th Grade Portraits

Tobacco Prohibition

Truancy

Tuition
Uniforms
Volunteers
Water Bottles
Weapons
Parental Cooperation Agreement

Mission Statement

Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Holy Angels School is committed to spiritual formation, which nurtures the Catholic faith and inspires its practice. It is committed to academic excellence, which fosters the growth of each individual. Holy Angels School strives to meet the intellectual, social, and ethical challenges of living in a technological, global, and culturally diverse society.

Philosophy

Each child is formed in the image and likeness of God.

Each child deserves respect as an individual and, in turn, should respect all with whom he/she comes in contact with.

Every student in Holy Angels School should be given the opportunity to mature spiritually, intellectually, culturally, socially, and physically.

Excellence in education can only be achieved when there is total cooperation among parents, teachers, and students.

Each child should be challenged to be the best he/she can be:

in learning and living his/her faith;

in using talents effectively, and in recognizing limitations;

in becoming self-motivated in striving for excellence in education;

in taking advantage of expertise of dedicated staff and a well-planned academic program;

in participating in class activities to the fullest extent;

in respecting the traditions and cultures of a diverse student body.

Certification

Holy Angels School is recognized and fully accredited by the State of Illinois. It operates under the auspices of the Rockford Diocese and conforms to its policies and guidelines. The school is funded by tuition and parish contributions.

Goals and Objectives

Holy Angels School focuses on religious education as the most important facet of its broad educational program. Holy Angels offers the opportunity for quality education to all students in the school and in all areas of the curriculum. The development of well-rounded students with an emphasis on the spiritual and academic aspects of human growth is encouraged. Holy Angels creates an atmosphere that fosters excitement and a desire for learning in each student.

Objectives

The specific objectives for the 2025-2026 school year are as follows:

- 1. By the end of the 2025–2026 school year, Holy Angels School will deliver comprehensive, high-quality learning experiences that reflect our Catholic identity and foster growth in core academic skills, critical thinking, creativity, and physical development. This will be achieved by:
 - IIntegrating Catholic values across all subject areas, with each grade level incorporating at least one cross-curricular, faith-based project per semester.
 - Improving student proficiency in reading, writing, and math by at least 10% on benchmark assessments, supported by targeted intervention plans for students performing below grade level.
 - Implementing differentiated instruction strategies in all classrooms, with 100% of teachers completing a minimum of two professional development sessions focused on differentiation, technology, assessment, or faith-based education.
 - Implementing project-based learning and digital tools in 50% of classroom lessons.
 - Expanding fine arts and physical education so all students participate in at least one arts event and one physical activity program annually.
 - Increasing new parent and community involvement by 10%through events and volunteer opportunities.
- 2. By the end of the 2025-2026 school year, Holy Angels will promote positive social, emotional, and behavioral skills by creating a supportive, faith-based environment focused on student wellness. This will be achieved by:
 - Integrating mental wellness lessons grounded in Catholic values into the curriculum at least twice per month across all grade levels.
 - Hosting monthly schoolwide activities that promote Catholic virtues.
 - Providing all staff with at least two professional development sessions on mental health awareness, classroom support strategies, and crisis intervention.
 - Teaching students to identify and express emotions and mental health concerns, with at least one structured class discussion or lesson per quarter focused on destigmatizing mental health.
 - Training teachers and middle school students to recognize signs of self-harm, aggression, or distress by December 2025.
 - Ensuring the school counselor maintains weekly availability for student support and partners with at least one local mental health agency.

 Offering at least two parent workshops or resources focused on supporting children's mental wellness at home.

Progress will be reviewed quarterly by the leadership team to assess implementation and adjust strategies as needed.

Administration

Holy Angels School is in the Diocese of Rockford and therefore under the administration of the Diocese. The administration of Holy Angels School consists of the Pastor, Father Michael Lavan, the Principal, Mrs. Tonya Forbes, and Director of Student Success, Sheridan Gurbal.

Faculty & Staff

The staff members of Holy Angels School are highly qualified educators who exhibit a strong spiritual faith and a desire to help students grow academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally, and physically. They strive to provide a well-rounded curriculum that will meet the needs of all students.

Pastor - Rev. Michael Lavan (<u>mlavan@holy-angels.org</u>)

Principal - Mrs. Tonya Forbes (tforbes@holyangelsschool.net)

Asst. Principal - Mrs. Sheridan Gurbal (squrbal@holyangelsschool.net)

School Secretary - Kim Thill (kthill@holyangelsschool.net)

Administrative Assistant - Liz Pudlewski (lpudlewski@holyangelsschool.net)

Preschool - Mrs. Anne Hilby (ahilby@holyangelsschool.net)

Preschool Aide - Mrs. Judy Lentz (ilentz@holyangelsschool.net)

Preschool - Mrs. Debbie Sweet (<u>dsweet@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Preschool - Mrs. Angie Berger (aberger@holyangelsschool.net)

Preschool Aide - Mrs. Carrie McQueary (cmcqueary@holyangelsschool.net)

Preschool Aide - Mrs. Marisa Boedewig (mboedewig@holyangelsschool.net)

Preschool Aide - Mrs. Caitlin Bliss (cbliss@holyangelsschool.net)

Kindergarten - Mrs. Becky Sutarik (<u>bsutarik@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Kindergarten - Mrs. Michele Anderson (manderson@holyangelsschool.net)

First Grade - Ms. Katie Udell (kudell@holyangelsschool.net)

First Grade - Mrs. Kristen Zakosek (kzakosek@holyangelsschool.net)

Second Grade - Mrs. Ann Classen (aclassen@holyangelsschool.net)

Second Grade - Mrs. Denise Kuruc (<u>dkuruc@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Third Grade - Mrs. Kate Mesiacos (kmesiacos@holyangelsschool.net)

Third Grade - Ms. Lauren Howland (lhowland@holyangelsschool.net)

Fourth Grade - Mrs. Kristin Bobeczko (kbobeczko@holyangelsschool.net)

Fourth Grade - Ms. Gaby Isitt (gisitt@holyangelsschool.net)

Fifth Grade - Mrs. Bridget Stanislo (<u>bstanislo@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Fifth Grade - Mrs. Peyton Beatty (pbeatty@holyangelsschool.net)

Sixth Grade - Mrs. Melissa Krawczyk (<u>mkrawczyk@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Sixth Grade - Mrs. Mary Beth Wright (<u>mwright@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Sixth Grade - Mrs. Ana Armbruster (<u>aarmbruster@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Seventh Grade - Mrs. Debra Martenson (dmartenson@holyangelsschool.net)

Seventh Grade - Mrs. Bethany Short (bshort@holyangelsschool.net)

Eighth Grade - Mrs. Lisa Brouch (lbrouch@holyangelsschool.net)

Eighth Grade - Ms. Allie Corrinet (<u>acorrinet@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Religion - Mrs. Tiffany Guthrie (tquthrie@holyangelsschool.net)

P.E - Ms. Deb Wagner (<u>dwagner@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Technology - Mrs. Katie Merrill (kmerrill@holyangelsschool.net)

Technology Coordinator - Mrs. Sheridan Gurbal (squrbal@holyangelsschool.net)

Music - Mrs. Jodi Taylor (<u>itaylor@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Art - Mrs. Sue Cella (scella@holyangelsschool.net)

Nurse - Mrs. Tricia Patzer (tpatzer@holyangelsschool.net)

Counselor - Mrs. Melissa Roberts (mrobertsholyangelsschool.net)

Librarian - Mrs. Diane Rodriguez (<u>drodriguez@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Reading Resource - Mrs. Karen Devereaux (<u>kdevereaux@holyangelsschool.net</u>)

Extended Daycare Coordinator - Mrs. Gina Ragsdale (gragsdale@holyangelsschool.net)

Athletic Director - Mr. Michael Mayer (mmayer@holyangelsschool.net)

Building Maintenance - Mr. Steve Rynders (srynders@holyangelsschool.net)

Admission

Holy Angels welcomes students of any race, religion, color, sex, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to students at the school. We invite others who do not share our Catholic heritage to become part of our community, and we respect the rich traditions and the energizing diversity that result from their presence. Holy Angels does not discriminate against students with disabilities. Holy Angels does not discriminate against individuals based on their status as immigrants. (Plyer vs. Doe, Diocesan Policy #5001)

All children will be accepted on a trial basis for a period of at least six (6) weeks. During this adjustment period, if the teacher or principal feels that the child is not benefiting from the learning environment or his/her needs are not being met, the child will be asked to leave the school and seek a more suitable placement elsewhere. Enrollment will be continued upon the recommendation of the teachers. Dismissal of a child may be based on: severe disruptive or aggressive behavior, late or unpaid tuition or fees, or the inability of the school to meet a child's special needs. A child will never be dismissed without previous discussion with his or her parents. The teacher and principal will make every effort to work with the parents to improve the situation. If any reimbursement of tuition is warranted, a fair amount will be determined solely by the principal.

When it becomes necessary to limit enrollment, children of active parishioners will be given first consideration.

For any child entering Holy Angels for the first time, a certified birth certificate and a baptismal certificate (if applicable) must be presented. If a birth certificate is not supplied within 30 days, Holy Angels reserves the right to contact local law enforcement. The age of children entering kindergarten and first grade in all Diocesan elementary schools will comply with the Illinois School Code (105ILCS 5/10-20.12).

Physical examinations and immunization records are required prior to entrance into preschool, kindergarten or the first grade, and sixth grade. Health exams are valid for one year prior to entrance. Physical examination forms may be obtained online, from the school secretary, or physician.

All objections to health examinations and/or immunizations should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Rockford for consideration. A parent/legal guardian who objects to his/her child being examined and/or immunized is eligible to be exempt from exams and/or immunizations only as follows:

Medical Objection. Any medical objection to an immunization must be presented by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches indicating the reason, and signed by the physician on the certificate of child health examination and placed on file in the child's permanent record. Should the condition of the child later permit immunizations, this requirement will then have to be met.

Religion Objection. An objection based on religious grounds shall be presented to the school by the parent/legal guardian in writing signed by the parent/legal guardian, detailing the grounds for the objection. The objection must outline the specific religious

belief that conflicts with the examination/immunization. General philosophical or moral reluctance to allow examinations, immunizations, and/or screening shall not provide a sufficient basis for a religious exemption to the requirement of exams and immunizations. Each objection will be addressed on a case by case basis. NOTE: In the event the objection to a vaccine is based on the vaccine containing aborted fetal cell lines, the school should inform the parent/guardian that the objections must be able to state that an alternative vaccine is not readily available to the parent/guardian's child.

Effective October 16, 2015, any objection based on religious grounds must be accompanied by a completed Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption to Required Immunizations and/or Examinations Form, bearing the signatures of the parent/guardian and the health care provider who is responsible for performing the child's health examination.

The school shall inform the objecting parent/legal guardian of measles outbreak control exclusion procedures in accordance with the Department's rules, Control of Communicable Disease Code (77 III. Adm. Code 690) at the time the parent/legal guardian presents the objection. (665.510)

More information can be found: Diocesan Policy 5150

A child's parent/legal guardian must supply proof of both the health exam and the required immunizations no later than the beginning of the school year. (The school prefers August 1). Where proof is not submitted, the school will notify the parent/legal guardian that he or she has until October 15 of the current school year in which to have the child examined and receive the immunizations, and present proof of the same. Failure to provide proof of required health exams and immunizations shall result in the child being excluded from school until the parent/legal guardian presents proof the exams and the immunizations, and the parent/legal guardian is deemed in violation of the Illinois School Code during the period of noncompliance.

Students entering kindergarten and any child entering an Illinois school for the first time must have a recent vision exam performed by a licensed physician or a licensed optometrist by October 15 of the current school year. Noncompliance with this policy will result in the withholding of the student's report card until required documentation is provided. Transfer students shall present evidence of their kindergarten eye exam.

Students in kindergarten, second and sixth grades shall have a dental exam and that student's parent/legal guardian must provide proof of that exam by May 15th of the current school year. Noncompliance with this policy will result in withholding of the student's report card until the required documentation is provided. (Diocesan Policy #5150)

Yearly sports physicals are required of all athletes before they may begin athletic practice. All health forms, sports physical forms, eye exam reports, and dental forms should be submitted to the nurse by August 1.

Students that transfer to Holy Angels need to present an official certification of grade level such as a report card or transfer slip from the former school. Student records may

be requested before a student is officially accepted. Students may undergo placement testing for math and reading skills before acceptance. Proof of physical examinations and immunizations (or objections), dental records and vision records are required for transfer students.

All new parents must complete the volunteer paperwork requirements of the Diocese of Rockford, regardless of their desire to volunteer.

Parents should notify the school office if they plan to transfer their child(ren) from the school. All financial obligations need to be met. Textbooks, library books and any school property must be returned.

Holy Angels reserves the right to deny admission to any student whose academic, physical, and/or behavioral needs cannot be met within a traditional classroom setting with reasonable accommodations.

Approved Snacks

No peanuts, tree nuts, or foods containing peanuts and/or tree nuts are to be sent to the school as shared snacks in classrooms because of life-threatening allergies. Any other food allergy or dietary concerns will be handled on an individual basis between parent and teacher. Due to an extremely high risk of cross- contamination, all foods and treats served must be commercially made, individually wrapped, and have an ingredient label. No homemade treats of any kind will be served. Any questionable treats will be referred to the principal. If a severe allergy is identified in a class, the school reserves the right to be more restrictive on allowed foods and treats.

For school sponsored events where food (homemade or commercially made) is served or shared by students and/or adults such as, but not limited to, the hot lunch program, all school picnic, Open house, Grandparents' Day, Parent/Teacher Conferences, the school cannot guarantee cross-contamination. Therefore, parents assume liability, as participation is voluntary.

In an effort to make it easier to comply with Holy Angels' peanut and nut free policy, here is a short list of approved snacks:

- Angies Boom Chicka Pop Sweet & Salty Kettle Corn popcorn
- Natures Bakery Fig Bars (they have so many flavors all allergy friendly
- Biscoff Cookies
- Annie's Organic Honey Bunny Grahams, Birthday Cake Bunny Grahams, Fruit Snacks, Fruit tape
- Barnum's Animal Crackers
- Teddy Grahams (Honey, Cinnamon, Cocoa)
- Newton's Fig Bars
- Wheat Thins
- Triscuits
- Fruit store bought, pre-packaged if bought for an entire class, applesauce or other fruit cups, dried fruit, freeze-dried fruit
- Graham Crackers

- Raisins no trail mix
- Rold Gold Pretzels
- Starbursts
- Pringles (plain)
- Vegetables store bought, pre-packaged if bought for an entire class

Arrival

The normal school day is 8:00 A.M. until 2:30 P.M. Students who arrive before 7:30 A.M. must enter at the library doors and will be required to be registered in the Extended Day program.

All students arriving by car are to be dropped off in the front or rear of the school using last name assignment. We make every effort to keep the drop off line moving quickly for arrival but our main goal is to keep each child safe. Therefore, slowly move forward to the end of the lot or building. Do not attempt to pass the car in front of you. Instead wait for the car in front of you to leave the drop off line. Please do not talk on your cell phone while driving.

We expect 100% cooperation from parents.

Students walking to school are to use the front crosswalk. Doors open at 7:45 A.M. Preschool, kindergarten, and first grade students will enter the building first. All other students will be ushered into the building by assigned teachers.

Bus riders will enter the building at 7:45 A.M. through the front entrances of the building. In the event of inclement weather, students will enter the building and report to the front lobby.

Assessments

A necessary component to a strong academic program is periodic informal and formal assessment tools. Throughout the year, teachers will provide parents with feedback that will explain a child's growth and development. Many of these assessments will be used to allow the teachers to build a curriculum to meet the individualized needs of a child. Students in grades two through eight will take the *ARK Test*. Various other assessments that are given periodically will assist the teachers and administration in determining the effectiveness of the instructional program.

Attendance

Students are required to attend school each day that school is in session. In the event of illness, parents are asked to call the school on the absentee/fax line 630-897-8233 by 8:15 A.M. If no call is received, the secretary will attempt to make contact with the parents. Inability to make contact will result in an unexcused absence for the student and no credit will be given for schoolwork for the day.

Upon return to the classroom after an illness, students are to present to the classroom teacher a note signed by the parent indicating the reason for the absence. All missed work must be made up. As a general rule, a student has the same number of days to make up work as were missed. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher regarding this work.

Junior high students are encouraged to check the daily homework site to keep up with missed work. On the day of their return to school, they must check with each teacher to arrange for make up work.

A student who has been absent five days or more may be asked to present a physician's statement to be readmitted to class. Parents will be notified in writing when ten or more absences and/or five or more tardiness are recorded. Excessive absences/tardiness (35 days) may be a cause for retention. For students exhibiting a pattern of non-attendance for more than 18 days in the school year, the school reserves the right to request a doctor's note for each subsequent absence and/or deny any of the end-of-the-year activities such as the school picnic or 8th grade trip. In addition, when the student's absences for non-medical or non-family emergency reasons exceeds more than five percent (5%) of the total attendance days in the school year, written notice shall be sent to the parent/guardian stating that the matter is being turned over to the truancy department of the Regional Office of Education.

Students participating in an after-school contest/event must attend school the full day in order to participate. The principal may make exceptions.

One of the most important times of the school day is the morning. This is the time when important school news is announced, teachers define the plans for the day, and instructional goals are reviewed and set. The whole tone of a child's school day is set in the first part of the day. Students are expected to be in their assigned seat and ready to learn at the sound of the 8:00 bell. Failure to do so constitutes tardiness. Parents are asked to help support learning by having students at school on time.

Children who arrive late must be escorted into the building by a parent and report immediately to the school office for a tardy slip. The office will determine if the tardy is excused or unexcused. To encourage consistent on-time arrival, after the first tardy of each quarter, a \$10 late fee will be assessed for each tardy after the first one. This fee will appear on the family's monthly statement. All proceeds will be donated to the Guardian Angel Fund, which assists Holy Angels families in need. Continued tardiness will result in a meeting between parents and the principal to rectify the chronic lateness.

Holy Angels discourages scheduling doctor and dentist appointments during the school day. However, if the need arises, all doctor and dentist appointments during school hours require a written note prior to the appointment. Children will report to the office before leaving and upon returning from such appointments. Parents must enter the building and sign children out. Upon return, students must report to the office. For record-keeping purposes, all appointments will be marked as a 1/2 day absence unless the child arrives before 8:15 A.M. or leaves after 2:15 P.M. These will be marked as an excused tardy and are not subject to the tardy detention policy.

Family trips during school time are also discouraged. If a child must be away, notification must be sent to the school secretary and homeroom teacher prior to the trip. All missed work must be made up. Teachers will not give assignments in advance for family trips. Report cards are distributed on specific dates listed on the calendar and will not be distributed before those dates.

On early dismissal days, students will be dismissed at 11:30.

End of the year *Perfect Attendance* awards will be issued to only those students who have never been tardy or absent. No student will be eligible if they arrived late, left early, or had to leave for any period of time during the school day unless the absence is due to conditions of an *Individualized Service Plan* issued through School District 129.

Birthdays

Birthday treats may be sent for a child's birthday to be distributed at the end of the school day (see Approved Snacks). The treats should be small and store-bought. Teachers will check food labels for possible allergic reactions for students in their care. No hot foods or those that require refrigeration should be sent. Children also enjoy non-food items such as pencils, erasers, or a donated book.

In the event that a child does not follow the established guidelines, the principal will contact the parents and return the food with the birthday child.

As part of the Seraphim Ball, parents may purchase a fast food lunch for their child's birthday.

- Only fast food items obtained through the Seraphim Ball may be brought in for students.
- Outside fast food lunches not ordered through this process are **not permitted**.
- If a student receives a lunch that was not purchased through the Seraphim Ball, a \$25 fee will be assessed through FACTS. This ensures fairness to families who have followed the ordering process.

Bullying

Any action, word or behavior which harasses, intimidates or causes physical, emotional or psychological harm to another student or students is strictly prohibited, whether the action, word, or behavior is based on a person's characteristics) or other matter. This prohibited conduct also extends to the use of technology ("Cyber bullying) as a tool to harass or cause harm.

Bullying is prohibited during any school-sponsored education program or activity; while in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities; or through the transmission of information from a computer, a computer network, or other similar electronic device equipment. However,

this policy is not limited to conduct that occurs on the premises of the Diocese school or during school hours or school activities.

"Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including made in person, in writing, or electronically ("cyber bullying"), directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- (1) placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
- (2) causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health:
- (3) substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
- (4) substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, publichumiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. Examples of "cyber bullying" include but are not limited to the use of e-mail, web sites, text messaging, posting or sending of electronic photos or videos on social media or "Apps" (i.e. Face Book, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp, Snapchat, etc.) to harass or intimidate. These lists are meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Reporting the conduct:

Any School employee who is made aware of conduct which violates this policy, or who receives a report of bullying, shall promptly report this information to the School administrator and, in the administrator's absence, to the administrator's designee, assistant principal, or dean of students. Any parent/guardian who has information that bullying involving a student(s) of the School is occurring shall promptly notify the School of this information.

Notifying the parents/guardian:

Within 24 hours of the School being made aware of a reported bullying incident, the school administrator shall notify the parents/guardian of each of the students reportedly involved. The School administrator shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent/guardian using all contact

Investigating:

The School administrator shall investigate the matter, may involve school support personnel or others as deemed appropriate, and will make reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days of the date the report is received by the

School. However, information may be discovered during the investigation which extends the investigation beyond 10 school days.

Students who violate this policy will generally be subject to the discipline policy of the student's school, but where the nature or extent of the conduct warrants, violators of the policy may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion.

The School administrator or designee will provide to the parents/guardians of the students who are parties in the investigation (parties are the student(s) reported to be the target of the conduct, and the students) reported to be committing the conduct) information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the school administrator or designee to discuss the investigation, the investigation findings, and actions or interventions taken to address bullying, adhering to privacy rules and laws. To the extent appropriate, the School will identify to the parents/guardian(s) of the involved student(s) school- or community-based resources, if available, to assist the involved students). The School may require the parent/guardian of the involved students) to participate in community-based resources for the involved students).

Procedure:

This policy is to be distributed annually by each Diocesan School to the school's students, their parents/guardian, and school employees, and to new employees when they are hired. If the School has a website accessible to the public, the policy is to be posted there as well. If the School has a student or family handbook, it is to be posted there as well. If the School posts policies, rules, or standards of conduct in the School, it is to be posted there as well. (Diocesan Policy 5170)

Diocesan Policy 5170

Bus Regulations

West Aurora School District 129 provides free bus service to students of Holy Angels. Students must reside within District 129 boundaries, live more than 1.5 miles from Holy Angels School, or be forced to walk a hazardous route (as determined by state standards) to get to school.

All bus riders must sign a conduct agreement prior to admittance on the bus. Additionally, a permission to release form for all serious medical conditions, should be signed to provide pertinent medical information to the bus drivers. In the event that medical information will not be released, a signed waiver is required. All forms are available in the school office.

Holy Angels School and/or District 129 reserves the right to suspend bus service based upon misconduct.

Calendar

A complete calendar is found on-line. Parents will be informed in the weekly principal's letter as to changes in the school calendar.

Child Abuse

All faculty and staff of Holy Angels are considered mandated reports of alleged child abuse and neglect. A mandated reporter who has reasonable cause to believe that a child known to the mandated reporter in his or her professional capacity may be abused or neglected will immediately make a report to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Individuals who in good faith make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect are immune from liability.

Communication

Frequent and professional communications about a child's academic and social development is encouraged. The preferred method of communication with teachers is through email. Teacher email addresses are available on the school's website. Voice mail messages may also be left through the office. Parents are encouraged to contact the principal if no reply has been received by a teacher within 24 hours. Teachers will not meet with parents unless an appointment has been scheduled in advance.

If students need to use the telephone, they must have permission from a teacher. Children will not be allowed to call to bring in forgotten items from home.

Any dismissal changes after 1:00 must be directed to the front office by calling and not via email.

If messages are necessary for a student during the school day, the school office will deliver such messages to the classroom teacher.

Since cell phones can be disruptive to the learning environment and have on occasion been used for cheating purposes, they are not allowed to be used on school property without the consent of a teacher and/or principal. Cell phones may be used during extracurricular activities or extended daycare. Any cell phone brought to school by a student must be turned off and placed in the student's locker during the day. Any violations result in confiscation of the phone. Confiscated cell phones are sent to the office and returned only to parents. Students may also be issued a \$125 fee to have it returned and/or a Saturday detention working at the Food Pantry.

Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled annually. Detailed information regarding the conferences will be sent out prior to the actual conferences. Parents and/or teachers may request additional conferences during the year as the need arises.

Curriculum

A well-rounded curriculum is provided and monitored by the administration, teachers, and staff at Holy Angels School. The curriculum is based on student need, which will incorporate a large range of materials, as well as a variety of instructional strategies that will focus on continual growth and progress. Teachers repeatedly work to see that the curriculum is based on state standards, consistently builds from one year to the next, and is in accord with the Catholic faith, seeking to incorporate spirituality and faith life into every aspect of the regular curriculum. Instructional objectives shall include processes of assessment to determine ability levels of students, the incorporation of higher level thinking skills, and the use of technology to engage students in the learning process.

The core curriculum consists of religion, reading, English, spelling or vocabulary, math, science, and social studies. The junior high curriculum is departmentalized in grades 7-8, where students will have the opportunity to experience different teachers for specialized subject matter. In addition, all students participate in technology, art, physical education, music, library time, and STEM.

Diocesan Curriculum

American patriotism and the principles of representative government, as enunciated in the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the proper use and display of the American flag, shall be taught. No student shall receive a certificate of graduation without passing a satisfactory examination upon such subjects (105 ILCS 5/27-3)

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited each school day by pupils. (Diocesan Policy #2401)

Curriculum Night is held in the fall of the year in conjunction with the first Home & School Association meeting. Teachers will be available to discuss their grade's curriculum, classroom rules and expectations. An open house is held in the winter during Catholic Schools Week.

Custody of Children

In cases of single parent families, it is important that the school be notified which parent has custody of the child(ren). Ordinarily, the school will release a student to either

parent unless the school has a copy of a court order giving one parent the exclusive custody. A copy of the custody decree in cases of divorce should be filed in the office.

Financial matters are ordinarily handled through the custodial parent unless other stipulations are made. When the legal guardian is not the parent, the school needs to have that information on file. Regardless of custody, both parents have the right to inspect and receive a copy of school records and reports in the absence of a court order to the contrary.

Discipline

Proper behavior, grounded on the Christian principles of respect for others and respect for self, is expected of all students at Holy Angels. The school reserves the right to establish and enforce reasonable standards of behavior for all students involved in educational and recreational activities. In the event of a violation of those standards, the school reserves the right to invoke appropriate disciplinary steps including, but not limited to: letters of restitution, fines, detentions, parental meetings, suspension from extracurricular activities, suspensions, and expulsion. Discipline records are cumulative through the school year.

The goal of these steps is to redirect inappropriate behavior. The level of discipline appropriate for a violation shall be determined on a case-by-case basis based upon a review of a variety of factors including, but not limited to: the severity of the misconduct, the student's academic and behavioral record, and other similar such criteria.

Since students often represent Holy Angels School while off school grounds and outside of normal school hours (athletic events, field trips, dances, musical performances, on the bus, etc.), they are expected to obey the same rules, regulations, and discipline that are required at school.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of infractions which are unbecoming to a Catholic school and which will not be tolerated at Holy Angels School:

- Activities related to gang or secret societies.
- Bullying.
- · Cheating/dishonest behavior.
- Conduct, whether inside or outside of the school, that is detrimental to the reputation of Holy Angels School. This includes, but is not limited to: texting, cyber-bullying*, blogging, the misuse of the school logo, as well as derogatory pictures of, or comments about students, faculty, staff, and parents placed online.
 - Continued refusal to perform scholastic requirements.
 - Disrespect for God, adults, or other children.
 - Endangering the safety and/or security of the school and/or students.
 - Fighting.
 - Forgery of a parent/guardian signature.

- Gum chewing.
- Harassment (verbal, physical, electronic, or sexual).
- Illegal actions such as drugs or alcohol use.
- Misbehavior on school bus or on field trips.
- Plagiarism (including the use of A1)
- Possession of weapons.
- Possession/use of tobacco or tobacco-related products.
- Repeated disruptive classroom behavior that impacts the learning of other students.
- Theft.
- Use of obscene language, gestures, materials.
- Vandalism.
- Violation of uniform dress code.
- Any other conduct considered by the School to be contrary to the best interests of the School, its faculty, and/or to the School's mission.

*Cyber-bullying is defined as use of email, instant messenger, chat rooms, pagers, cell phone, or other forms of information technology to deliberately bully, harass, threaten, or intimidate someone. Cyber-bullying can include, but is not limited to, such acts as making threats, provocative insults, or racial or ethnic slurs.

Holy Angels reserves the right to respond to on and off campus cyber-bullying activities if these activities disrupt or interfere with the school's mission statement or the educational environment of any student.

Detentions for students in grades 6-8, are held on Tuesdays from 6:55-7:45 AM. Teachers are scheduled to monitor detentions on a weekly basis. If a student is tardy for a detention or fails to serve a detention, a subsequent detention will be issued. Discipline consequences for students in grades K-5 shall be at the discretion of the teacher in consultation with the principal.

Students will be referred to study hall in the event of missing assignments until the work is completed. Students may also receive a morning detention for missing work at the discretion of the teacher.

If a student is suspended, he/she will not be allowed on school property for the duration of the suspension. He/she will be required to complete all homework assignments and complete any missing tests. Attendance at,or participation in school sponsored activities or organizations, are forfeited for the time of the suspension.

- As soon as it becomes evident that expulsion of a particular child might be necessary, the principal will notify the pastor, diocesan superintendent, and the parents of the child. Possible reasons for expulsion include, but are not limited to:
- When the moral, academic, or physical well-being of the student body is endangered.
- When there is a prolonged, consistent, and open disregard for the school authority.

A violation of local, state, civil, or federal law.

Parents may appeal a suspension or expulsion to the pastor. The pastor's decisions are final.

Dismissal

Any dismissal changes after 1:00 must be directed to the front office by calling and not via email to the teacher.

Parents are asked to drive slowly and with caution whenever entering or exiting the parking lot. For the safety of all children, parents park in the parking lot for dismissal facing the school building and exit slowly onto Kensington as directed by the assigned teachers and students. Parents are not allowed to park directly in front of the school or within one block of the school in either direction along Kensington or Russell.

Students will exit the main doors or the library doors. They will only cross at a crosswalk. Once all children are gathered, dismissal from the parking lot will commence. At this time, any unclaimed students will be held in the *Safety Zone* in the front of the school until the parking lot is emptied. Parents of these children may be instructed to pull forward and wait until school personnel release the students in the *Safety Zone*.

Once the parking lot is cleared, those students living within walking distance of the school as indicated on emergency forms and students picked up from other locations around the school/church will be allowed to leave.

We expect 100% cooperation from parents.

Students who are not picked up from the parking lot by 2:40 P.M. will be brought to the office to call home. They will then be sent to extended day for pickup and a \$20 fee will be assessed.

Dress Down Days

On *Dress Down Days*, students are expected to represent themselves in appropriate Spirit Wear with modesty at all times. Students may wear a Holy Angels t-shirt, polo shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie sweatshirt. Non-uniform shirts may be t-shirts or collared shirts of appropriate length (no midriffs or backs showing) and style. Tank tops, spaghetti straps, cut-offs, ripped, frayed, or faded shirts are not permitted.

In addition, students in grades K-4, may wear their gym shorts or loose-fitting navy, black, or gray shorts that are knee length. With the exception of *Boosterthon Fun Run* and the *All School Picnic* no shorts except uniform shorts or skorts are allowed in grades 5-8. Students may wear loose-fitting navy, black, or gray sweatpants. Leggings

or yoga pants are not permitted for female students in grades 5-8. Female students in grades K-4 are permitted to wear leggings. No jeans are allowed.

Spirit Wear can be purchased through Sports Boosters.

Only uniform shoes or gym shoes. No open-toed shoes, high heeled shoes, Crocs, Uggs, Birkenstock or shoes without a hard sole will be allowed. Students must wear socks.

In addition, students may participate in Theme Days. For the holidays of Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and St. Patrick's Day, students may add theme colored socks, hair pieces, hats, scarves, and/or jewelry to their uniform. Students may also wear crocs on designated days.

If the dress code for Dress Down Days is not followed, parents will be called immediately to provide suitable clothing and a detention will be issued. In addition, students will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled Dress Down Day.

Administration and staff reserve the right to determine the appropriateness of clothing. In addition, students with repeated uniform violations may not be permitted to participate in Dress Down Days.

Drugs and Alcohol

Students are prohibited from using or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs while at school or at any school-related function, except that a student is permitted to sue a prescribed drug in the correct dosage while at school or at any school-related function, provided the school has been properly notified by the parent/guardian of the student, and provided said use of the drug does not impair the student.

Included within the prohibitions set forth in this Policy are the following:

- Use, possession, manufacture, distribution, dispensing or sale of drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol on school premises or with respect to school-related activities
- Storing in a locker, desk, automobile or other repository on school premises or in connection with any school-related activity any drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol;
 Being under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school premises or in connection with any school-related activities.

The school reserves the right to require a student to undergo testing for the use of alcohol and/ or drugs when a reasonable suspicion of such use exists. A "reasonable suspicion" of drug and/or alcohol use may be based upon the observation of the student's behavior, information received regarding alleged alcohol or drug use and/or other indicia giving rise to a suspicion of a violation of this Policy. A student's failure to cooperate in testing required by this Policy or other violations of this Policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the school. (Diocesan Policy 2600)

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices are distracting to learning and should be left at home or stored in a backpack during the school day. These include (but are not limited to): smart watches, handheld game consoles, laptops or other student- owned computers, iPods, iPads, tablets, digital cameras, CD players, Gabb watches, Fitbits, etc. Students using electronic devices during the school day are subject to confiscation, and the device will only be returned after a \$25 fee is paid by a parent.

Calculators may be used during instruction if required by a teacher.

Cell phones are prohibited from use while on school property without consent from staff with a fine of \$125. Electronic reading devices can only be used with a signed *Waiver of Liability* in grades 7-8.

Emergency Closing

When school must be closed due to snow, ice, or other determination, it will be made known to school families by an automated phone message system, e-mail, website (www.holyangelsschool.net, www.EmergencyClosings.com), and radio broadcast (720 AM, 780 AM).

On days when the weather turns severe while school is already in session, or in other emergency situations, parents must make certain that someone on the contact list can be reached at all times. Children will not be released unless the office has been in contact with a parent or person on the emergency list.

Emergency Contact Information

Parents are required to complete an Emergency Information Form. The form with a parent's signature will remain on file in the school office. A student will not be able to remain in school after September 15 without a current form on file. In case of illness, parents are contacted first to pick up the child. In the event that a parent cannot be reached, a person designated by the parent will be contacted. All contact persons, including parents, need to be available to respond within 20 minutes of Holy Angels School. Parents must notify the school office regarding any change of address, phone number, cell phone number, or e-mail.

In the event of an emergency, it is the sole discretion of school faculty and staff to initiate contact for emergency responders before contacting parents. Unless a parent is on the scene, a school representative will accompany a student to the hospital if a transport is needed.

Emergency Crisis Plan

Emergency Drills

Plans are practiced with the children in the event of a fire, tornado or intruder. Fire drills are held at numerous times throughout the school year. Tornado drills are held at least two times each school year. If a drill or emergency occurs at dismissal time, students will only be dismissed to parents at the discretion of the administration.

Extended Day Program

Holy Angels Extended Day Program is a self supporting organization that operates from 6:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. and is located at the school. There is a \$25.00 non-refundable registration fee per family. Participation in the program is for students attending Holy Angels School. The school reserves the right to dismiss families from the program. There is a \$50 late fee assigned to families that are late in picking up students.

Extracurricular Activities

There are a number of extracurricular activities students may join during the year. Athletics, band, choir, chess, dances, math club, art and essay contests, spelling competitions, altar servers, and stay 'n play are some of these activities. Different organizations will set specific guidelines for students to follow. Students are encouraged to join these activities as long as they do not negatively affect their academic standing in any class.

Parents and student athletes will sign a *Code of Conduct* before participating in any athletic event. All student spectators must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all extracurricular activity performances that are sponsored by the school.

Faith Experience

Spiritual formation is the cornerstone of Holy Angels School. Mass is attended by each child in grades K-8 with his/her class once a week. Generally, the school Mass is held on Fridays at 8:15 A.M. Students have the opportunity to plan a liturgy and to take part in it by singing, reading, and praying with their classmates and teacher.

Students also participate in the following faith-building activities:

Sacred Heart of Jesus - 1st Friday of each month after Mass Adoration - On the First Friday and during the seasons of Advent and Lent Living Rosary - During the month of October Reconciliation – During the seasons of Advent and Lent. Junior High Retreats – Spring
Stations of the Cross – During the season of Lent
May Crowning – During the month of May

Students in second grade receive their First Reconciliation and First Communion in the spring. Students in eighth grade receive Confirmation.

Students collect food, clothing, and other items for the needy and for the Holy Angels Food Pantry at various times throughout the year. Mission money may be collected for the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Money may also be collected throughout the year to aid struggling families within the Holy Angels school community.

Students in grades 6-8, are required to perform ten hours of community service. Service hours must be completed by the beginning of the 4th quarter. Failure to complete service hours will be reflected in the student's final religion grade.

Faith's Law

Pursuant to Illinois's Faith's Law requirements, the Diocese of Rockford adopts this Code of Professional Conduct for School Employees. Please reference the following documents for more information regarding Faith's Law.

ISBE - Sexual Abuse Responce and Prevention Resource Guide: https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Faiths-Law-Resource-Guide.pdf

Code of Professional Conduct for School Employees: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nM4ywgNtqSHRE2EJTKJLzcZ-8D4BePzu4DVVIW8yrpw/edit?usp=sharing

Field Trips

Field trips are privileges afforded to students. Students may be denied participation if they fail to meet academic or behavioral requirements. All field trips are required to have educational value to the students. (Diocesan Policy #2420)

All students must have an official permission slip signed by their parent/guardian on file in order to participate on a field trip. Field trip expenses will be kept to a minimum.

Firearms on School Property

The Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act prohibits the carrying of firearms on school premises or into a school building or any other facility operation by a school, such as a school's outdoor football stadium. This is the rule, regardless of whether the individual carrying the weapon has a concealed carry license. The law also requires that schools,

preschools, and childcare facilities post at their property entrances and building entrances an official sign notifying the public that weapons are prohibited on and in the premises. However, the ban on firearms on school premises and in school buildings does not extend to the contents of private vehicles in a parking lot of a school. Thus:

- 1. On school premises, a licensed individual is permitted to carry a concealed firearm on or about his or her person within a vehicle, and to store a firearm or ammunition concealed in a case within a locked vehicle or locked container out of plain view.
- 2. On school premises, a licensed individual also may carry a firearm in the immediate area surrounding his or her vehicle for the limited purpose of storing a firearm within, or retrieving from, the vehicle's trunk, provided the firearm is unloaded.

Forgotten Items

With the exception of forgotten lunches and/or medications, students may not call home for forgotten homework, projects, gym clothes, permission slips, etc. Lunches should be dropped in the lobby with the student's name and homeroom clearly marked on it. Medication must be left with the secretary or nurse.

Fundraising

Fundraising efforts help maintain lower tuition costs and fund different programs at Holy Angels. There will be three major fundraisers during the course of the school year. There are also opportunities to contribute periodically to the school through other smaller fundraisers. The major fundraisers include the Boosterthon Fun Run, Super Raffle, and Seraphim Ball.

Boosterthon Fun Run – Holy Angels sponsors a fun run where students earn prizes and the school earns a profit based upon the number of pledges received for completed laps in the fun run.

Super Raffle – The Super Raffle is a mandatory fundraiser for all families. Every family is required to sell raffle tickets for the school during the winter term. A fee equal to the per family cost for Super Raffle tickets will be attached to the tuition bill for families that do not support this fundraiser.

Seraphim Ball – Items and service donations are accepted from individuals and businesses and are auctioned off during a fun-filled evening of dinner and dancing. The auction is held in the spring.

Funerals

In the event of the death of a staff member, student, or student's parent(s) or siblings, if the funeral is held at Holy Angels, teachers may choose to take their class to the funeral. No student will be allowed to attend without signed parental permission.

If the funeral is not held at Holy Angels, students can be excused to attend the funeral with their parent. Parents must send a note to the teacher and sign out their child with the office.

Gangs and Gang-Related Activities

This school is a gang-free environment. Gangs, as defined in this Policy, include individuals who associate with each other primarily for criminal, disruptive and/or activities prohibited by law and/or by the School's rules and regulations. Gangs, gang-related activities and secret societies are not acceptable in a school setting as their presence interferes materially and substantially with the educational process and the maintenance of appropriate discipline and also may foster anti-social behaviors, attitudes and practices which may endanger the health, safety and welfare of all students, staff, and the school community.

Students are prohibited from participating in any activity related to gang or secret Activities prohibited by this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Any gang
- Membership in a gang or secret society or soliciting and/or recruiting others for membership; Participating in and/or inciting physical violence; Extorting or soliciting money and/or services, or requesting any person to pay for protection or the payment of dues;
- Coercing, harassing and/or otherwise intimidating, threatening or causing harm to any person or thing;
- Wearing, possessing, using, displaying in any manner, distributing or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other item commonly associated with membership in or affiliation with a gang or secret society;
- Using any verbal or non-verbal communications(gestures, handshakes, etc.) suggesting or showing membership in or affiliation with a gang or secret society.
- Engaging in any activity where such is intended to promote or further the interest of any gang or any gang activity or secret society including, but not limited to, distributing literature, drawing or displaying gang-related symbols on any surface or teaching others to "represent" or act like a member of a gang or secret society;
- Any other activity which violates any law or policy of the School or the Catholic Diocese of Rockford when such act or activity is taken to further the interests of a gang or secret society.
- or gang-related activity in which a student engages outside the School and/or separate from School-related activities is also prohibited by this policy. Violations of this Policy may result in discipline up to and including dismissal from the School, in the discretion of the School. (Diocesan Policy #2600)

The school reserves the right to notify law enforcement should the situation warrant.

General School Compliance

The school complies with all applicable State or federal law or regulatory requirements.

Grading System

Students will be assessed quarterly based upon standards set forth by the Diocese of Rockford. All students will be assessed using the following system:

Effort/Conduct Code

- 4 Exceptional Is actively engaged in the learning process
- 3 Good Is generally engaged in the learning process
- 2 Satisfactory Is inconsistently engaged in the learning process
- 1 Improvement Needed Rarely engaged in the learning process
- * Commendation
- + Improvement Shown
- ✓ Improvement Needed

No Mark Satisfactory Progress

All students in grades K-3 will be assessed using the following scale:

Achievement Code

- 4 Exceptional Demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the essential learning
- 3 Good Demonstrates general understanding of the essential learning
- 2 Satisfactory Demonstrates developing understanding fo the essential learning
- 1 Improvement Needed Demonstrates minimal understanding of the essential learning

No Mark (Blank) - Not assessed at this time

Students in grades 4-8 will be assessed using the following scale:

Excellent:	A+ 99 - 100%	A 95 - 98%	A- 93 - 94%
Very Good:	B+ 91 - 92%	B 87 - 90%	B- 85 - 86%
Average:	C+ 83 - 84%	C 79 - 82%	C- 77 - 78%
Below Average:	D+ 75 - 76%	D 72 - 74%	D- 70 - 71%

Failure: F 69%

Grievance Procedures

In order to help a parent and/or student satisfy a grievance they may have with a teacher, administrator, or the school in general in an effective, efficient manner, the Aurora Area Board of Catholic Education has established the following order to which the grievance should be brought:

- 1. The teacher involved;
- 2. The department head of the teacher involved, if this is a matter regarding curriculum, grading, or classroom methods or practices;
- 3. The person or persons, other than the principal, handling discipline, if this is a disciplinary matter;
- 4. The school principal;
- 5. The pastor, in a parish situation;
- 6. The Area Superintendent;

If one person or board serves in two or more of the above positions, it is not necessary to meet with that person more than where they appear earliest in the order.

Guardian Angels Fund/Financial Aid

Holy Angels has a special fund that can be used for families experiencing hardships in meeting their tuition bills. The application process begins in early spring, and monetary awards are dispersed in the fall. More information can be obtained from the school's office administrator.

Harassment

Unlawful harassment (race, religion, disability, national origin, sexual, etc.), whether of or by students or of or by staff members is strictly prohibited. All harassment claims shall include investigation, disciplinary measures where appropriate, and documentation of the facts and results of the school's response. (Diocesan Policy #2405)

Health

A nurse is available daily from 9AM - 2PM. If a child becomes ill, the teacher will send him/her along with the proper paperwork to the nurse during these hours or to the office at all other times including 12:45-1:15 daily. If the child needs to be sent home, the nurse or secretary will notify the parent or emergency contact person for pick up. The

nurse or secretary will notify the teacher that the child is being sent home. All head injuries will be reported to the child's parents.

According to state law, teachers are not allowed to dispense medication of any kind, including aspirin and cough medicines. A student who needs to take prescribed medication must keep it in the nurse's office, with the exception of inhalers (and possibly epi-pens and diabetic supplies) as then a doctor's prescription is required regarding self-medication. State law allows students to carry the inhaler on their person. However a form is required to be completed by both parent and physician. The prescription medication must be in the original pharmaceutical container clearly marked with the child's name, dosage, and time on it. A note from the physician must accompany the medication indicating dosage and time as well as an authorization form signed by the parent/ guardian. Parents assume the responsibility for any advance appropriate instruction or training to school personnel for medication administration. It is the responsibility of the student to come to the nurse or office for this medication. Any child taking medication that may impair function may not attend school.

Non-prescription medications, such as Tylenol, cough syrup, and antihistamines, will not be given to any student unless the directions are so noted on a doctor's prescription pad signed by the physician. A student who needs to take prescribed medication must keep it in the nurse's office. School personnel will not apply sunscreen.

With the exception of an epinephrine auto-injectors and asthma inhalers, students may not keep any medication, prescription or over-the-counter medication, with them at any time. All unused medications will be sent home with permission of a parent/guardian at the end of the school year. A student may carry on his or her person and may self-administer an epinephrine auto-injector ("epi-pen") and asthma inhaler where the student's parent/guardian supplied the eli-pen or asthma inhaler, and presents to the School a prescription authorizing the student to use the epi-pen or inhaler by a physician, a physician's assistant, or advanced practice nurse, as well as complete the forms required by the School.

Holy Angels maintains an undesignated supply of Auto injector Epinephrine (0.15mg and 0.3mg). One auto-injector of each dose is kept in the ER bag outside the health office. Another set of auto-injectors (0.15mg and 0.3mg doses) is kept in the unlocked yellow box in the teacher's lounge. The location of Epinephrine is marked by the presence of a red "E" on the wall outside a classroom.

The nurse will have on file an authorized standing order from a licensed health provider for an undesignated supply of Auto Injector Epinephrine. The nurse will report to ISBE that the school maintains a supply of undesignated epi-pens. The nurse will also report to ISBE within three days of an administration of an undesignated epi-pen. If an undesignated epi-pen is used the nurse shall notify the medical professional who provided the standing order within 24 hours of its use.

Any time an epi-pen is used (prescribed or undesignated) EMS shall be contacted along with the parents or emergency contact of the student.

For further information:

https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Anaphylactic-policy.pdf?_cldee=dGZvcmJlc0Bob2x5Y W5nZWxzc2Nob29sLm5ldA%3d%3d&recipientid=contact-de8cc615a859eb11a812002 248047a9c-bdcf10a043614bb8887071c57058a48a&esid=398c515c-4090-ec11-b400-6 045bd0094dc#search=anaphylaxis

A student with diabetes who seeks assistance with diabetes care in the school setting, is required to submit to the principal a reasonable "diabetes care plan," signed by the student's parent and physician. A diabetes care plan shall be submitted to the school at the beginning of the school year, upon enrollment, as soon as practical following a student's diagnosis; or when a student's care needs change during the school year. Parents shall be responsible for informing the school in a timely manner of any changes to the diabetes care plan and their emergency contact numbers. (Diocesan Policy #5140)

Communicable diseases or conditions (COVID, strep throat, chicken pox, etc.) must be reported to the nurse and/or office so that appropriate isolation methods and notification can be sent home to parents by the office.

All teachers will receive pertinent medical information (allergies, etc.) about their current students from the nurse at the beginning of the school year and remains confidential. All teachers will receive yearly training from the nurse prior to the start of the school year on the management of asthma, diabetes care, concussions, opioids, anaphylaxis, epinephrine injectors, and bloodborne pathogens.

In the event of a serious medical emergency, teachers may perform basic first aid. Emergency response personnel, the nurse, and the office may be notified if the situation warrants such action. Neither the school nor school personnel incur liability for injury or illness or other damage resulting from administering medication prescribed by a licensed physician or other licensed medical personnel, and administered in accordance with the prescribed dosage. The school and school personnel incur no liability for injuries occurring when administering asthma medication, an epinephrine auto-injector, or an opioid antagonist.

Students should be fever free and vomit free (without medication) for twenty-four hours before returning to school.

All health forms are due to the nurse by August 1 of each school year.

Home & School Association

Holy Angels Home and School Association exists to promote various activities of the school year such as Drop-Off Nights, the all-school picnic, Curriculum Night, spiritual enhancement, assemblies, etc. All school parents are a part of this association, and parental involvement is encouraged.

Homework

Work done at home will be reinforcement of material taught, completion of incomplete assignments, make-up work, or reading for pleasure. On occasion, long-range assignments or group assignments may be done at home. Students are expected to complete all homework according to the teacher's directions. The use of an assignment notebook is encouraged. Students are expected to master their basic math skills and daily practice is a requirement. Additionally, students are required to complete summer reading assignments.

The amount of work given by teachers at the same grade level may vary. Every child is different, thus the amount of time spent on homework will be determined by how well the student uses time given in class, the ability level of the child, and the support from home to make a quiet structured time for a child to complete school assignments. If a child's homework appears overwhelming or detrimental to family life, communication should be initiated with the child's teacher to come to a common understanding of solutions to help the child(ren) be successful with their reinforcement work done at home.

Parents are encouraged to make arrangements with a child's peers to obtain homework if the child is absent. However, the office can arrange for homework to be sent home. Junior high students are encouraged to check the daily homework site to keep up with missed work. On the day of their return to school, they must check with each teacher to arrange for make up work.

Honor Roll

The Honor Roll is special recognition given to those students in grades 6-8 who excel in all academic subjects and is determined by grade point average. Honor Roll recognition will be announced quarterly and names of students will be published in the weekly newsletter and the Sunday church bulletin. The term "with distinction" shall mark all students in grades 6-8 who have achieved commendation in specials' classes. The honor roll scale shall be:

Outstanding Honors - 4.0

First Honors - 3.8-3.99

Second Honors - 3.6-3.79

Any student receiving an F in any subject and/or Needs Improvement in a specials class shall not be eligible for honor roll status regardless of the overall GPA.

Hot Lunch

Students may participate in the hot lunch program. Order forms are sent home in advance for parents to complete and return on a designated date. Late orders are not accepted.

Ineligibility

Ineligibility will be handled on a weekly basis in grades 4-8 as needed for the purpose of participation in all extra-curricular activities including: sports practices, club activities, choir, performances, etc. The first time a student's average in a subject falls below passing, the student will receive a warning note to be signed by a parent. If the average for that class falls below passing a second time during the quarter, the student will be ineligible to participate in all extracurricular activities from Tuesday to the following Tuesday. Parents will receive a written notice of this. Three ineligible evaluations in the same subject may result in a conference with the student's parents to formulate a Plan for Success. The plan will include steps for remediation and may include the student not being able to participate in the activity for the remainder of the season or quarter if in band and/or chorus. No monies will be refunded based upon ineligibility.

Inspection Policy

Individuals entering upon the premises of the school - whether students, employees, or guests - are expected to conduct themselves in keeping with established norms for personal conduct. In order to provide students and employees with a safe and healthful environment, the school reserves the right, in its discretion, to conduct inspections of school property, property of a student or students, and property of a visitor to the school's premises.

Included within the policy is the right to inspect the following:

- 1. Lockers;
- 2. Knapsacks, briefcases, bags, gym bags or similar such devices brought onto or existing on school premises;
- 3. Vehicles on school premises;
- 4. Clothing (with appropriate safeguards for the individual's personal privacy); 5. Desks;
- 6. Other property (whether of the school, student, or visitor) present on school premises.

A student's failure to cooperate with such an inspection may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. (Diocesan Policy #2600)

Internet Access

Access to the Internet must be related to the user's work responsibilities, for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the educational objectives of the Diocese and School.

The use of the internet is a privilege not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges, disciplinary action (up to and including expulsion or discharge) and/or appropriate legal action. Whether the use is considered appropriate or violates this policy is a matter within the discretion of the building administrator, and his or her decision is final.

Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any U.S. or State law
- Unauthorized downloading of software, regardless of whether it is copyrighted
- Invading the privacy of individuals;
- Using another user's password or account
- Using pseudonyms or anonymous sign-ons
- Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, performance, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, illegal material or other information and/or materials that are inconsistent with the objectives and/or teachings of the Diocese and/or School
- Using inappropriate language

Accounts and passwords are confidential and must remain so. Use of a photograph, image or likeness of one's self or of any other employee, or student, parent, or parishioner on any Internet or web-based site, or in any electronic communication, is prohibited, except with the expressed permission of the Principal.

Using school equipment to create a website or to transmit the likeness, image, photograph, or video of any employee, student, parent, or parishioner, is prohibited, except with the expressed permission of the Principal.

Employees are prohibited from permitting any other individual or entity from creating a website for the Diocesan facility, or from photographing, video graphing, or otherwise creating the likeness of any employee, student, parent, or parishioner for commercial purposes, advertising purposes, or for internet transmission or posting, except with the expressed permission of the Principal.

Employees are not permitted to allow a non-employee to use a school computer or other equipment unless the non-employee is an authorized volunteer.

The School reserves the right to monitor employee use of school computers. Employees, including an employee's internet use and email use and content. Thus, employees have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computers, the internet or email. (Diocesan Policy #2600)

Learning Disability Services

Administration reserves the right to refuse admittance or re-admittance to students with learning disabilities that would be better served in a public school setting.

Students who need to be tested for possible learning disabilities are tested through the West Aurora School District 129. Teachers first consult with the Assistant Principal who offers support and classroom modifications for struggling students. In subsequent meetings with the Assistant Principal, evidence of progress and/or lack of will be noted by the classroom teacher. Testing will be initiated through the Assistant Principal and must be supported by the child's parents. In the event of a referral to District 129, documented paperwork by the classroom teacher will accompany the request for intervention at the district level.

Once the district receives the necessary paperwork, a meeting will be held to determine the need for a case study. The parents, classroom teacher, and Assistant Principal will attend such meetings. The classroom teacher at the initial meeting will supply report card grades, standardized test scores, reading scores, and examples of student work. If a child is deemed eligible for testing, the district has 60 school days to complete the testing. Generally, all testing is done at Holy Angels.

At the completion of testing, an eligibility meeting will be held with parents, classroom teacher, Assistant Principal, and district testing staff in attendance.

Library

A librarian and a staff of volunteers will be present to assist teachers and students. Children may check out books on a weekly basis. Children pay fines for overdue books, lost, or damaged books. Report cards will not be issued until all library fines are paid.

Lost and Found

Children are asked to check the lost and found bin located outside the gym by the main office for misplaced items. Parents are urged to label all articles such as clothes, books, boots, mittens, etc. Periodically, the lost and found bin will be cleaned out and items will be given to a charitable organization in need.

Lunch/Playground

Students are supervised during lunch and recess, in the building and on the playground by faculty, staff, and/or parent volunteers. Adult lunch helpers monitor the children on the playground.

The lunch period is divided into two shifts:

11:05-11:25 Grades PK - 1 eat in classrooms, grades 2-4 eat in lunchroom Grades 5 - 8 play on playground

11:25-11:45 Grades PK - 4 play on playground Grades 5-8 eat in lunchroom

All lunch bags and boxes should be marked with the child's name. With the exception of Fast Food Birthday Lunches purchased through the Seraphim Ball, fast food may not be dropped off at the office for students or brought in with a child after an out-of-school appointment. Pop, coffee, or any energy drinks are not allowed. Water bottles are to be clear and filled with only water.

Children are expected to follow school rules during this lunch/recess time as outlined by the classroom teacher and school rules. Rules of common courtesy, politeness, manners, and Christian behavior in respecting the elements of safety, fair play, and obedience to authority on the playground and in the classroom during lunchtime are expected. During recess/lunchtime, children may not leave the school or playground unless accompanied by a parent/guardian. The following rules will apply to lunchtime and recess periods:

- Students will remain seated during lunch.
- No food throwing.
- Lunchtime conversation should include common courtesies, manners, and a low volume when talking.
- Each student is responsible for cleaning his/her own garbage.
- The lunch supervisor must dismiss students.
- Students are to line up and walk to and from the playground in an orderly fashion.
- No fighting.
- Treat others with respect.
- Play fairly.
- No snowball throwing.
- Stay off the hill when in the front lot.

Discipline procedures for lunch/playground periods will be followed as for classroom rules. Detentions will apply.

Every child, unless excused by reason of ill health or injury, is expected to participate in outside playground activities. Children should be sent to school dressed appropriately to withstand weather.

Cars are not to be driven on the parking lot during recess times when children are present.

Medical Cannabis

In conformance with Public Act 100-0660, entitled Ashley's Law, the Diocese of Rockford implements this policy on the administration of medical cannabis which is effective August 1, 2018.

Under circumstances set forth in this policy, the administration of medical cannabis to a student is permitted at school or on a school bus.

POLICY:

- 1. A Catholic School in this Diocese shall authorize a parent or guardian or any other individual who has been registered with the Department of Public Health as a designated caregiver of a student who has been registered as a qualifying patient to administer to that student a medical cannabis-infused product, on the premises of the student's school or on the student's school bus, provided the student and the parent/guardian/other individual have both submitted to the school their registry identification cards issued under the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act.
- 2. The only medical cannabis that is permitted to be administered on the premises of the school or on a school bus are cannabis-infused products limited to foods, oils, ointments or other products containing usable cannabis that is not smoked.
- 3. After the parent/guardian/other individual administers the medical cannabis-infused product to the student, the parent/guardian/other individual shall promptly remove the product from the school premises or the school bus, as the case may be.
- 4. No employee or volunteer of the school shall be required to administer a medical cannabis- infused product to a student.
- 5. A school or the Diocese may prohibit the administration of medical cannabis if the school or the Diocese determines that doing so would create a disruption to the school environment or would cause exposure of the product to other students.
- 6. A school or the Diocese may prohibit the administration of medical cannabis if the school or the Diocese would lose federal funding as the result of the implementation of this Policy.

PROCEDURES:

1. The student shall be a registered qualifying patient authorized to use medical cannabis. The student's parent or legal guardian shall present to the school with the student's medical cannabis registration card. The school shall make a copy of the card and keep it on file.

2. The parent, guardian, or other individual who is the one who will administer the medical cannabis to the student shall be a registered caregiver. The registered caregiver shall present to the school a copy of his or her caregiver registration card. The school shall make a copy of the card and keep it on file. (Diocesan Policy 5142)

Money Collection

No donations and/or money collections are to be taken without the approval and permission of the principal. Fines will be collected for damaged property and/or books and for violation of the uniform code

Newsletter

A newsletter is sent electronically to parents on Thursdays. Additional notices may be sent home with the youngest child in each family each Thursday.

Nondiscrimination Policy (Diocesan)

Diocesan Policy 5169

Parental Cooperation

A child's best hope of reaching his/her potential is when the parents and school educators work in tandem. If a parent/guardian refuses to abide by the rules and regulations of Holy Angels School, or by word or action is unsupportive of its goals, or otherwise fails to meet his/ her obligations under school or Diocesan policies, the school administration may require the parent/guardian to withdraw his/her child or children from the school. Additionally, parents/ guardians will be held to the same standards of respect and behavior as students in regard to their interactions with administrators, teachers, staff, and students. Parents are asked to read and sign the Parental Cooperation Agreement at the end of this document to attend Holy Angels School. This form must be submitted to the office by September 1 for a child to remain in school.

Parent Involvement Program

Families are required to fulfill a minimum of 10 service/volunteer hours per school year. Single parent households fulfill a minimum of 5 service/volunteer hours. Families must be physically present for at least one volunteer activity. PIP hours must be completed by April 1. Hours accrued after April 1, may be used to fulfill the upcoming year's service obligation. There is a "buy out" option for PIP hours. Each hour is equivalent to \$35. Failure to schedule and fulfill PIP hours will result in an assessment fee up to \$350.

Parties

Simple parties for Christmas in all grades are permissible. Room mothers will work with the teacher in planning and executing this party. A Valentine's Day party may be held in grades PK-3. Only preschool and kindergarten may have a Halloween celebration. For all other grades, treats may be sent in and distributed at the end of the day for All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, Catholic Schools Week, and/or Valentine's Day in accordance with established birthday treat guidelines. See Approved Snack guidelines.

Party Invitations

Unless an entire class, all boys or all girls are invited to a special event, all invitations are to be distributed outside of school premises. The school staff does not distribute private invitations. Only a class list of student names is available from the classroom teacher. Addresses can be obtained through the Parish Directory or School Directory.

Photo Usage

Photo permission is required of all students to advance the mission of the school. Written parental objection to the use of a child's photo and/or first name and last name initial only for this use should be forwarded to the office.

Preschool Program

Preschool Handbook

Holy Angels offers a preschool program for 3- and 4-year olds. Parents may opt for a 2-or 3-day program for 3 year olds. The four-year-old program is a 5-day morning program. All students must be the appropriate age by September 1 to be enrolled in either program.

The two day option for 3-year olds operates on Tuesday and Thursday. The three day option operates on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Students who are absent may not choose another day in the week to attend class.

District 129 does not provide bus service for preschool children. All other preschoolers may be dismissed with older siblings. For early dismissal days, preschoolers will be dismissed from 11:15-11:30.

Students enrolled in the preschool program must be fully potty trained. To be fully potty trained means not having consistent accidents. Being potty-trained means that a child must be wearing underwear (not "pull-ups" or diapers) to preschool and be able to use the bathroom independently. Children must be able to take care of their own bathroom needs while at school. A child is expected to be able to manage clothing, (we suggest easy pull-up shorts or pants, no belts) be able to wipe after a bowel movement, and

wash hands. Teachers are not permitted to wipe bottoms but will assist a child with a button, or snap and be sure he/she has washed hands after using the bathroom. Should an accident occur, parents will be called to pick up their child.

Principal's Right to Amend

The principal has the right to amend the handbook. Parents will be given prompt notification if changes are made.

Promotion, Retention, and Acceleration

Grade placement shall provide the best opportunity to make reasonable progress. It is essential to consider students' abilities, their achievement, and the grade in which they can work most satisfactorily. Special attention shall be given to the needs of all students, whether gifted, average, or below average.

Achievement level, for the purpose of considering promotion, retention, or acceleration shall be determined by a combination of factors including the professional judgment of the teacher and other school personnel as well as objective measures.

A. Promotion - In compliance with Illinois School Code 105 ILC 5/10-20. 9a(b), students will not be promoted to the next higher grade level based on age or other social reasons not related to the academic performance of the student. Therefore:

Elementary - kindergarten through five:

When reviewing students for promotion, the criteria to be considered shall include:

- 1. The achievement of a passing grade in reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.
- 2. Continuous growth and achievement in all program areas commensurate with ability and grade level expectations;
- 3. Consideration of social and emotional maturity necessary for a successful learning experience.

Middle - grades six through eight:

- 1. All pupils should demonstrate proficiency and achieve passing grades in literature, English, science, social studies, and mathematics prior to promotion to the next grade.
- 2. No student shall receive a certificate of graduation without passing a satisfactory examination about American patriotism and the principles of representative government, as enunciated in the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the proper use and display of the American flag, 105 ILCS 5/27 3 (from Ch. 122, par. 27 3)
- 3. Graduation to high school will be considered to be a promotion to the next grade.

B. Retention - Students considered for retention are those who have not achieved the minimum standards expected for the respective grade level and/or those who have not fulfilled attendance requirements. The principal and appropriate staff members shall consult as to whether any student is retained in a grade. This shall be done with the full understanding of students and parents and will always be done in the best interest of the student and their development.

Although retention may be advantageous at any grade level, it may be found to be more beneficial in the primary grades (kindergarten through three) where it may allow for the maturation process to take place. These years in particular should be viewed as critical in preparing students for successful achievement later on. Early detection, diagnosis, remediation and/or possible retention are relevant considerations. Therefore:

Elementary - kindergarten - five

- 1. The student has not been previously retained more than one time in grades kindergarten-five.
- 2. The student is not able to retain and apply the basic academic skills that have been defined as the minimum expectations for that grade level, according to Diocesan curriculum expectations and basic learning skills.
- 3. The student has missed 10 or more days of school in which little or no make-up work was completed. An exception is granted if a physician's certification of illness is provided to school staff.
- 4. As soon as retention becomes a possibility, parents will be contacted, conferences will be scheduled, and a concerted effort will be made by the school staff to provide the student the assistance and extra instruction he/she needs to be successful.
- 5. Based upon staff's professional judgment, the principal shall make the final decision regarding student retention and shall then inform the student's teachers and the student's parents/guardians. Promotion and retention decisions shall be appealed to the Pastor.

Additionally for grades four and five

- 6. Based on all of the data gathered, a student will be recommended for retention if he/she is at risk of failing two or more core subjects for the school year, as reported on the report card.
- 7. Students may be required to successfully complete teacher-assigned compensatory work over the summer in order to proceed to the next grade. Updated testing may be required in August to determine skill level. Parents of failing students will pay for the materials and necessary teacher time for instruction and grading. Failure to complete assigned summer work shall result in withdrawal from the School.
- 8. The principal, in consultation with the Pastor, may make exceptions on a case by case basis based on the recommendation of classroom teachers, resource teacher,, Assistant Principal and/or extenuating circumstances.

9. Notwithstanding anything stated in this policy a student whose performance substantially declines anytime during the school year may be a candidate for retention.

Middle - grades 6-7

- 1. Based on all of the data gathered, a student will be recommended for retention if he/she is at risk of failing two or more quarters of science, social studies, English, literature, and/or math, for the school year, as reported on the report card.
- 2. The student has missed 10 or more days of school in which little or no make-up work was completed. An exception is granted if a physician's certification of illness is provided to school staff.
- 3. As soon as retention becomes a possibility, parents will be contacted, conferences will be scheduled, and a concerted effort will be made by the school staff to provide the student the assistance and extra instruction he/she needs to be successful.
- 4. Based upon staff's professional judgment, the principal shall make the final decision regarding student retention and shall then inform the student's teachers and the student's parents/guardians. Promotion and retention decisions shall be appealed to the Pastor.
- 5. Students may be required to successfully complete teacher-assigned compensatory work over the summer in order to proceed to the next grade. Updated testing may be required in August to determine skill level. Parents of failing students will pay for the materials and necessary teacher time for instruction and grading. Failure to complete assigned summer work shall result in withdrawal from the School.
- 6. The principal, in consultation with the Pastor, may make exceptions on a case by case basis based on the recommendation of classroom teachers, Assistant Principal and/or extenuating circumstances.
- 7. Notwithstanding anything stated in this policy a student whose performance substantially declines anytime during the school year may be a candidate for retention.

Middle - grade 8

- 1. Based on all of the data gathered, a student will be recommended for retention if he/she is at risk of failing two or more quarters of science, social studies, English, literature, and/or math, for the school year, as reported on the report card.
- 2. The student has missed 10 or more days of school in which little or no make-up work was completed. An exception is granted if a physician's certification of illness is provided to school staff.
- 3. Based upon staff's professional judgment, the principal shall make the final decision regarding student retention and shall then inform the student's teachers and the student's parents/guardians.
- 4. In lieu of summer school, a *Certificate of Attendance* rather than a diploma shall be issued to any 8th grader that would be retained.

5. No pupil who has completed the requirements for graduation will be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but an 8th grade pupil may be denied participation in the ceremony of graduation when personal conduct so warrants.

C. Acceleration

The principal and appropriate staff members shall make the decision as to whether a student is accelerated (skipped) to the next highest grade level. However, this should be done with the full understanding of the student and parents/guardians and should always be done in the best interest of the student and the student's development. Students shall be considered for acceleration after consideration of the following:

- 1. The student has been referred by the classroom teacher. Recommendations must be supported by standardized testing scores.
- 2. The student has already been enriched and there are no appropriate instructional groups at the present grade level.
- 3. The test results and observation (maturity, work habits, independence) provide evidence that the student is ready for acceleration. Normally, the student is then accelerated for math and/or language arts on a trial basis. If the student is achieving satisfactorily, other content areas may be accelerated.
- 4. The student is monitored to ensure that he/she possesses the maturity and socialization skills necessary to be fully accelerated into the next grade level. During this "trial" period, the parents/guardians shall be kept abreast of the progress and social adjustments of their student.
- 5. Based upon staff's professional judgment, the principal shall make the decision on the question of acceleration.

Records Inspection

Maintenance of student records in the Diocese of Rockford elementary and high schools shall be in compliance with Illinois School Code, subject to regulations of the State Board.

A parent or any person specifically designated as a representative by a parent shall have the right to inspect and copy all school student permanent and temporary records of that parent's child. A parent's request to inspect and copy records must be granted within a reasonable time, and in no case later than 15 school days after the date of receipt of such request. The school may charge its reasonable costs for the copying of school student records, except no parent or student shall be denied a copy of school student records for inability to bear the cost of such copying.

Registration

For planning purposes, preregistration is held in late winter for returning families. A non-refundable \$200.00 fee along with required paperwork is required per family at this time. Unless prior arrangements are made with the office administrator, registration fees received after March 1 will result in a \$25 late fee assessment. Registration of new families occurs shortly thereafter.

Registration Days

Parents will be notified during the summer of the dates for registration. On these days, parents are asked to provide emergency contact information, volunteer forms, pay tuition fees, order milk, and verify that all health forms have been received.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued four times a year. Following each nine-week grading period, parents and students will have an indication of student development in academic, personal, and social growth. These student evaluations, which are Diocesan policy, will measure student growth and progress in the areas of religion, reading, English, mathematics, science, social studies, spelling, handwriting, physical education, music, art, and technology. An achievement, effort, and conduct grade will be given in each subject area as well based upon Diocesan standards.

Letter grades are assigned in academic areas in grades 4-8.

A child's progress can be checked throughout each quarter through online access. Teachers, in grades 4-8, will post grades weekly to the online grading system.

Eighth grade students who have failed (or are failing) at the time of the class trip or other eighth grade activities may not participate.

Students may be given an "incomplete" for the nine-week period if they are absent because of illness or some other unavoidable circumstances. The incomplete or the work to be made up is to be completed within the next two weeks after the grade period. If the work is not completed, a conference will be held between the student, teacher, and principal. A failing grade may result at the discretion of the principal if the make-up work is not completed within two weeks of the quarter. It is the teacher's responsibility to record the new grade.

Remote Learning

Remote learning involves online or teacher-prepared lessons that students do when away from the physical building. Remote learning may include, but is not limited to, online learning platforms, work packets, large group video or audio conference calls, 1:1 phone or video calls, email, projects, reading lists, and other resources to effectively engage with students. In remote learning, educators may use a variety of instructional strategies, tools, and media to provide equitable and accessible instruction to all

Remote Learning Goals:

- To minimize the disruption to academic progress caused with emergency school closures by making those out-of-school days as educationally productive and engaging as possible.
- To allow students an opportunity to practice the kind of online learning that is increasingly part of both college study and workplace training.
- To maximize the use of technology as a tool for independent study.

For Students:

- Students in grades K-3 will have some planned academic requirements on these days but may be limited in scope. Students can be expected to watch videos on educational websites, read leveled readers, or complete tasks using materials that are developmentally appropriate to their grade level. Assignments will be posted on the school's website under School Information/Student Resources. All assignments will be posted between 8:00 - 10:00 AM and teachers will be available to answer questions via email throughout the day up until 3:00 PM.
- Students in grades 4-8 will complete assignments using Google Classroom posted on the school's website under School Information/Student Resources. All assignments will be posted between 8:00 10:00 AM with teachers available to answer questions via email throughout the day up until 3:00 PM. It is understood that students will have a wide variety of responsibilities during Remote Learning and that some may not have access to the internet. Teachers understand this and will be flexible with those situations. However, the expectation is that

- students will complete the work in a timely manner as developed between student and teacher.
- Students with *Plans for Success* will have assignments designed in accordance with their individualized plan.
- Students and parents without home internet access or with limited internet access must inform teachers of this fact so that needed modifications to assignments and due dates can be made.

For Parents/Guardians:

- Parents/Guardians of students are encouraged to access their school website <u>www.holyangelsschool.net</u> School Information/Student Resources for the assignments for the day.
- Parents/Guardians, along with teachers and students, are asked to remember that Remote Learning Days are designed to be flexible:
 - if a child struggles with a concept or assignment and is unable to complete the work that day, parents should remind their son or daughter to communicate with the teacher the next day about how to meet requirements.
 - 2. Parents/Guardians should contact teachers directly with any questions or concerns they may have regarding Remote Learning assignments.

Safety

All parents and adults must report to the office upon entering the building to sign in using their driver's license and obtain a visitor's badge. Any visitor in the building without a badge will be escorted to the office.

School Supplies

Supply lists will be sent home in May and posted online on the school's website.

Shadow Days/High School Open Houses

All three of the Catholic high schools in Aurora schedule open houses throughout the year for prospective students. Individual shadow days are not encouraged unless a student is truly undecided as to which high school to attend. However should a shadow day need to be scheduled, students are encouraged to tour on a day that Holy Angels is not in session. Students must complete a Shadow Request Form in advance of an anticipated shadow day. Students are responsible for taking all scheduled tests before the Shadow Day and are responsible for all work immediately upon return to school.

School Counselor

Holy Angels has on staff the services of a qualified school counselor. Students can be referred for a multitude of reasons by faculty, staff, and/or parents. It shall be the responsibility of the school counselor to evaluate the need for services. This may include but is not limited to ongoing counseling sessions with her, teacher involvement, parental involvement, out-patient counseling services, or in-patient counseling services based upon her assessment. Ongoing counselor support requires the permission of parents/guardians, and all interactions are kept confidential.

Social Media

Teachers, students, staff, and other school community members use social networking/media (Twitter, Facebook, blogs, etc.) as a way to connect with others, share educational resources, create educational content, enhance the classroom experience, and network within and outside of the school community. While social networking is fun and valuable, there are some risks that need to be kept in mind when using these tools. In the social media world, the lines are often blurred between what is public or private, personal or professional.

Social media refers to online tools and services that allow any Internet user to create and publish content. Many of these sites use personal profiles where users post information about themselves. Social media allows those with common interests to share content easily, expanding the reach of their ideas and work. Popular social media tools include Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, blogs, YouTube, Snapchat, and Instagram to name a few.

Holy Angels recognizes that in today's environment, with the increasing prevalence of the internet, social media can be an important educational and evangelizing tool to promote the school and its programs. In light of the possibility, that certain comments and information may have a harmful effect on Holy Angels, its employees, school family members, students and other school community members are required to adhere to the following:

- Employees, school family members, students and school community members are prohibited from disclosing via the internet information that is understood to be proprietary to or held in confidence by Holy Angels School.
- Employees, school family members, students and school community members may use Holy Angels School logos on personal websites only in ways that clearly promote or call positive attention to Holy Angels events, websites or organizations associated with the logo.
- Holy Angels School will not tolerate employees, school families, students or school community members posting obscene, harassing, offensive, derogatory, defamatory or otherwise potentially scandalous comments, links and/or images which reflect, discredit

or cause embarrassment to Holy Angels, its employees, families, students or school community members.

Holy Angels School expects all employees, school family members, students and school community members to comply with this policy. Failure to comply will be grounds for discipline. The disciplinary action may include termination of an employee, expulsion of a student, or removal from a position if a volunteer.

Information brought to the attention of administration concerning social media misuse between students occurring outside of school that does not directly impact learning shall be referred to the parents of the involved students.

Sports Program

Holy Angels regards participation in sports as a privilege not a right. The sports program is designed to promote friendly rivalry, improve playing skills and build good sportsmanship. As an athlete, the privilege of wearing the Holy Angels uniform carries with it the responsibility of being a Christian on the field, at school, and in the community.

Holy Angels is a member of the Aurora Area Catholic League. Sports offered for grades 5-8 include:

Fall: girls' volleyball, co-ed soccer, cross-country

Winter: boys' basketball, girls' basketball...

Spring: co-ed track.

Students participating in the Holy Angels Sports Program are required to pay a non-refundable fee per sport prior to the first practice. No student will be allowed to participate if all fees are not paid by the first scheduled competition. A parent must sign a waiver of participation that includes concussion information along with a *Code of Conduct*. No student will be allowed to compete in a try-out, practice, or game unless they have a certificate of physical fitness issued by a physician (dated not more than one year preceding each tryout, practice, or game) on file with the Athletic Director. No student will be allowed to participate following a disabling illness or injury and/or suspected concussion without a physician's release. In addition to PIP hours, parents must volunteer 4 hours per child per sport in some capacity.

In keeping with the mission of Holy Angels, the school intentionally avoids scheduling activities on Sundays in order to allow staff, students, and families the opportunity to keep holy the Lord's day.

Student athletes may modify their athletic or team uniform for the purpose of modesty in clothing or attire that is in accordance with the requirements of their religion, cultural values, or modesty preferences.

Additional information is provided in the Holy Angels School Athletics Agreement.

To ensure the smooth operation of our athletic programs, Holy Angels School requires family participation in volunteer support during the sports seasons.

Volunteer Sign-Up Process

Once the schedules are finalized, volunteer opportunities will be posted on the SignUp.com link.

Parents will have approximately one week to ten days to review the calendar and select their volunteer slots.

Exact sign-up deadlines will be communicated once the schedule is released.

After the deadline, families who have not selected a volunteer time may be assigned a slot by the school to ensure all positions are filled.

Volunteer Requirements:

The number of volunteer shifts required per family will be determined based on program needs.

High school and junior high students may fulfill service hour requirements by volunteering.

Families who are assigned a time and are unable to fulfill the obligation must arrange for a replacement.

Training and Support:

To assist volunteers, these video tutorials explain how to operate the scoreboard and scorebook.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KzkoiYEuEkpZJJUI4LQHmqeeFWqCCpJs/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KzkoiYEuEkpZJJUI4LQHmqeeFWqCCpJs/view

Basketball board video

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ywQ0HicQKRWKBhQ8sgzZ7LGFZ5kjcStV/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ywQ0HicQKRWKBhQ8sgzZ7LGFZ5kjcStV/view

Basketball book video

Spring Picture Day/8th Grade Portraits

The students of Holy Angels School must represent themselves in appropriate dress with modesty at all times. Students are expected to dress in conservative clothing and follow all other rules that apply to hair and makeup. No jeans are allowed for spring pictures or 8th grade portraits. Dresses, skirts, capris, or dress pants may be worn. Girls may wear leggings or Capri leggings under skirts or dresses only. Non-uniform shirts may be collared shirts of appropriate length (no midriffs or backs showing) and style. Tank tops, spaghetti straps, cut- offs, ripped, frayed, or faded shirts are not permitted. Clothing must NOT be considered offensive in any way.

Uniform shoes or gym shoes are preferred. No open-toed shoes, high heeled shoes, or shoes without a hard sole will be allowed.

Tobacco Prohibition

The Illinois School Code prohibits the use of tobacco on school property by any school personnel, student, or other person when such property is being used for school purposes. "School purposes" includes but is not limited to all events or activities or other use of school property that the school board or school officials authorize or permit on school property, including without limitation all interscholastic or extracurricular athletic, academic, or other events sponsored by the school or in which pupils of the school participate. (Diocesan Policy #2520)

Truancy

School attendance is compulsory in the State of Illinois. The responsibility of compliance with the law belongs to the parents, but the school is obligated to keep an accurate record of daily attendance. The record is placed in the student's permanent file at the end of each school year. The principal will investigate and involve the parent/guardian if there is a suspicion that a student is truant; a student returns to school with no excuse or one that might not be valid; or a student continues to be absent with no apparent reason.

Often extraordinary circumstances are involved and the principal, parent, and counselor shall work together to remedy the situation.

When all efforts to persuade the student to regular attendance fails, and the student's absences for non-medical or non-family emergency reasons exceeds more than five percent (5%) of the total attendance days in the school year, written notice shall be sent to the parent/ guardian stating that the matter is being turned over to the truancy department of the Regional Office of Education.

Retention may occur if the student has missed 10 or more days of school in which little or no make-up work was completed. An exception is granted if a physician's certification of illness is provided to school staff. Additionally, the school may withdraw the student from enrollment.

Tuition

Tuition assessments are set by the Parish Finance Council. Parents are notified in May regarding fees for the following year.

Monetary contributions to Holy Angels Church through regular use of the parish envelopes are essential. Families who do not fulfill their financial obligations as parishioners may be charged the non-parishioner rate because the parish supports the

school each year. Non-parishioners add \$1,000 per family. Each family is assessed a \$300 technology fee. Payment schedule is as follows:

- 1. Tuition is due the 15th of each month payable July April.
- 2. First semester assessment or monthly payment is due on Registration Days.
- 3. Second semester assessment is due on January 15.
- 4. Special payment arrangements may be made through the administrative assistant.
- 5. All other fees (per August letter) are due on Registration Days.
- 6. Other program fees due as the various programs develop throughout the year.

All tuition payments must be current by October 15, January 15, and April 15 or students will not be allowed to return to school the following week. Students may not participate in extracurricular activities if tuition is not current.

At the principal's discretion, the full-year's tuition may be required to be paid at the start of the school year when a family has been delinquent in payments by more than 3 months and/or has a delinquent account of \$1,000 or more.

All fees and/or fines must be paid in full before official school records will be forwarded for transfer students and/or eighth grade graduates or before final report cards will be issued. Eighth grade students may not attend the class trip or other activities if tuition and fees are not paid in full by April 15.

Uniforms

Holy Angels as a private, Catholic elementary school offering an academic programming of studies maintains a formal dress code in keeping with its definition and character. The formal dress code contributes to the seriousness of purpose and to a positive learning environment. The school expects the full support of parents and guardians in implementing all aspects of the dress code. Therefore, students will be required to be in uniform every day to attend classes unless the principal authorizes an exception. *Uniform Inspection Days and Haircut Inspections* will be scheduled throughout the year and conducted by the principal and assistant principal.

Preschool students do not wear uniforms.

Students who are in violation of any aspect of the dress and grooming code of the school will receive a uniform violation slip. In junior high, three uniform violations will result in a detention.

All Students

- A student's appearance, including dress and hygiene, must not disrupt the
 educational process or compromise standards of health and safety. The school
 will not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair
 texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks,
 and twists. Any student's appearance that disrupts the educational process or
 compromises health and safety standards must modify their appearance.
 (Diocesan Policy 2435)
- Uniform should be neat and clean.
- Blouses and polo shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- No frayed cuffs.
- Collars must be visible.
- No hats, head scarves or caps may be worn once inside the school building.
- No Holy Angels sports sweatshirts and/or hoodies are to be worn in class.
- A watch may be worn. Fit Bits may be worn if used as a watch. No Apple watches are allowed.
- One small religious necklace/chain and scapular may be worn. No bracelets.
- No perfume or cologne can be worn.
- Students are not permitted to write on their hands, arms, legs or any other part of the body with pens or markers. Students may not have tattoos.
- Scout uniforms may be worn on days that Scout meetings are held.
- For P.E., all students wear solid black shorts sold online. Boys and girls in grades K-4 wear their school shirts. Boys and girls in grades 5-8 wear gray P.E. T-shirts also sold online. Socks must be worn. No slip-on gym shoes are permitted. In lieu of laces, Velcro straps are permitted.
- 8th graders may wear an optional navy blue sweatshirt with graduating class year logo purchased from the uniform company.
- Outer garments such as coats, jackets, or hoodies are not worn in the classroom. The school sweatshirt can be worn for warmth.
- A doctor's note is required for an exemption to the shoe policy. All exceptions to the shoe policy must be black.
- All jumpers, skirts, shorts, pants, and sweaters should be purchased from the uniform company. All other items may be purchased locally following the above stipulations.
- The principal will make a determination on any questionable student appearance.

- Girls' hair is to be neat and kept out of the face. Bangs should not touch the
 eyebrows. Simple hair accessories and/or gels are acceptable for girls to keep
 hair out of the eyes and face. Shaved designs are not permitted and must not
 entail significant contrasts of longer and shorter hair. Hair coloring of any type will
 not be permitted. If in violation, students will have seven days to comply with this
 policy. Administration reserves the right to suspend students for blatant disregard
 of the hair policy.
- Plaid jumpers (below or at the knee) in grades K-4 with plain (no decorations) white or forest green, cotton, round-collared blouse, button down oxford shirt, or polo shirt with long or short sleeves.
- Plaid skirts (below or at the knee) in grades 5-8 with plain (no decorations) white
 or forest green, cotton, round-collared blouse, button down oxford shirt, or polo
 shirt with long or short sleeves. No dark colored bras that show through the white
 blouse are allowed. Skirt may not be rolled up at the waist.
- Optional dark navy uniform pants may be worn. Belts are required with pants and must be solid black or dark brown.
- Optional navy uniform shorts may be worn until September 30 and from May 1 until the end of the school year. Must be knee length. Belts are required with shorts and must be solid black or dark brown.
- Black or navy blue leggings may be worn under jumpers/skirts after September 30 until April 1.
- Optional Holy Angels logo dark green, gray, or white sweatshirts, (crew or hoodie) sized appropriately, and not tied around the waist in grades K-8 can be worn.
- White or navy blue ankle socks (must have a cuff that folds over the ankle), knee socks, or white, black, or navy tights in grades K-8. No frills, decorations, or logos. Peds or "no show" socks are not allowed.
- Black, plain leather or leather-type dress shoes (loafer, Mary Jane style, leather gym shoes or tie shoes) are required with non-scuff soles in grades K-8. Soles must also be black. Shoes must be closed toe, securely fastened to the foot with no more than a one inch heel. Laces must be the same color as the shoes. In lieu of laces, Velcro straps are permitted.
- If wearing gym shoes, they must be leather and completely black including the sole and laces. No canvas or suede allowed.
- High top gym shoes, cowboy/work boots, sandals, clogs, crocs, moccasins, open-toe, or open-heeled shoes are not allowed. No decorative stripes, fabric, patterned, or metallic shoes are allowed. No frills, bling, or other ornamental buckles and/or decorations are permitted. Sperry shoes must also have dark soles. No white soles. If a student must wear shoes that do not meet these requirements for health reasons, a note must be on file in the office from a doctor, (i.e., podiatrist, family physician, physical therapist, etc.). In addition, all

- exceptions to the shoe policy must be black. When in doubt, check with the school office/send a picture before removing tags and wearing shoes.
- One pair of simple non-dangling earrings may be worn on lower earlobes only in grades K-5.
- One pair of simple stud earrings or simple hoop earrings no larger than a nickel may be worn on lower earlobes in grades 6-8. Only girls in grade 6-8 may wear clear nail polish.
- Professional manicured nails are not permitted.
- No make-up may be worn to school, in school, or from school. Light make up is allowed for girls in grades 7-8 for junior high dances.
- May wear solid dark colored pants under jumper or skirt for recess and going to and from school.
- Gym shorts may be worn under jumpers or skirts but must not hang below the hemline.

Boys

- Hair should be clean and neatly styled. Boys' hair is to be off the collar, not touch the ears, and not touching the eyebrows. The hair is to be tapered or faded on the sides and in the back (layering of hair will be accepted if it is not too drastic). The neckline is to be clean and cut neatly straight across. Shaved designs are not permitted and must not entail significant contrasts of longer and shorter hair. Gels are acceptable to keep hair out of the eyes. Hair coloring of any type will not be permitted. If in violation, students will have seven days to comply with this policy. Administration reserves the right to suspend students for blatant disregard of the hair policy.
- Dark navy blue twill pants in grades K-8 with plain, (no logos) white or forest green, polo, broadcloth, or oxford-collared shirt with long or short sleeves. A plain, (free from writing) white undershirt may be worn under the school shirt. Sleeves of the undershirt are to be no longer than the length of the uniform sleeve. Pants may not be cargo pants, flared bottomed, or have decorative stitching on them.
- Optional Holy Angels logo dark green, gray or white sweatshirts, (crew or hoodie) sized appropriately, and not tied around the waist.
- Optional navy uniform shorts may be worn until September 30 and from May 1 until the end of the school year. Must be knee length.
- Solid white or solid dark over the ankle socks with no logos.
- Black, plain leather or leather-type dress shoes (loafer, tie shoes, leather gym shoes) are required with non-scuff soles in grades K-8. Shoes must be closed toe, securely fastened to the foot with no more than a one inch heel. Laces must be the same color as the shoes. In lieu of laces, Velcro straps are permitted.
- If wearing gym shoes, they must be leather and completely black including the sole and laces. No canvas or suede allowed.

- High top gym shoes, cowboy/work boots, sandals, clogs, crocs, moccasins, open-toe, or open-heeled shoes are not allowed. No decorative stripes, fabric, patterned, or metallic shoes are allowed. No frills, bling, or other ornamental buckles and/or decorations are permitted. Sperry shoes must also have dark soles. No white soles. If a student must wear shoes that do not meet these requirements for health reasons, a note must be on file in the office from a doctor, (i.e., podiatrist, family physician, physical therapist, etc.). In addition, all exceptions to the shoe policy must be black. When in doubt, check with the school office/send a picture before removing tags and wearing shoes.
- Belts should be solid black or dark brown. Belt loops may only be cut off in kindergarten.
- No sideburns.
- Must be clean-shaven if necessary.
- No earrings may be worn.

Volunteers

Any parent wanting to help in school or chaperone a field trip must complete a session of Protecting God's Children and have a background check. Protecting God's Children is offered online.

Water Bottles

Students are given ample opportunities throughout the day to get water from the drinking fountains so water bottles are not necessary. However, clear water bottles brought from home must have a sport top. No bottled water type, squeeze types, straws, or open tops are allowed. Bottles are not to be in close proximity to any technology.

Weapons

It is a violation of the school's policies for a student to possess a weapon on school premises or at any time. Included within the prohibitions of this Policy are the possession, sale, distribution, manufacture, receipt, seeking the sale or trade or use of any firearm, knife, martial arts device or other object which, in the school's discretion, may reasonably be considered to constitute a weapon. Violations of this Policy may result, at the school's discretion, in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the school. (Diocesan Policy #2600)

The school reserves the right to notify law enforcement should the situation warrant. For further information:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GCnnYqhbVIOTZ43iFSI4OJgru6OceACcZeaoo_x iago/edit?usp=sharing

Parental Cooperation Agreement

 $\underline{https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NPwlcQiGni0jt2v5wmlSNZWiQSMgr-LzvJXoKg8Q4Yo/edi}\underline{t?usp=sharing}$