



**BISHOP
GARRIGAN**
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2025 - 2026

Bishop Garrigan Schools are dedicated to providing quality, parish supported, value centered Catholic education to students and families of north central Iowa. We seek to achieve a balance between Christian social conscience and academic excellence through a combination of belief in God, service to our fellow human beings, intellectual preparation, and physical development.

The intent of the student handbook is to inform and include all rules governing those attending Bishop Garrigan Schools. The document is not “all inclusive”. The principal reserves the right to determine action on all situations not specifically covered and may increase or decrease specified actions on an individual basis.

Seton

Bear Care, Early Childhood
Grades K-2

808 E. Lucas Street
Algona, IA 50511
515-295-3509
Fax 515-295-5688



Bishop Garrigan

Grades 3-12

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515-295-3521
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Admissions

The Diocese of Sioux City maintains a system of schools accredited by the State of Iowa and by the Diocesan Board of Education. The Diocesan Board respects the right of parents to educate their students at home (c.f. Iowa Code #299.1/SLF #229/Canon Law #774). Parents choosing the Home-School option may not do so through the Catholic schools of the Diocese, but should contact the local public school district to receive approval to educate their children at home. Public school districts have primary authority in these programs, receiving financial aid and bearing reporting responsibilities.

Catholic schools of the Diocese may not enter into a dual enrollment arrangement with non-accredited schools for any portion of the day.

Children who are 3 years or 4 years of age respectively by September 15 are eligible to enroll for entrance into Cubbies 3 or 4 year old preschool; children who are 5 years of age by September 15 are eligible to enroll for entrance into kindergarten or kindergarten prep.

Since the purpose of the school is to provide a Christian atmosphere in which students can experience and practice the Christian life of faith, all students are expected to exhibit Christian attitudes and behavior in their relationships with fellow students and teachers. Respect for others and for property will be the norm at all times, and will be enforced by the teacher.

Student Placement Policy

Each year in April, the school staff begins the process of placing students in classrooms for next year. Much time and effort is spent to ensure that each student is placed where he/she will learn best.

The following factors are considered in placing students into class groups for the coming year:

- Gender balance;
- Blend of abilities;
- Students who benefit from being together or separated;
- Overall student behavior;
- New mix of students each year to allow the opportunity for individual growth.

With the above in mind, the teachers who have worked with the students this year meet and confer to develop tentative classroom groups for next year.

Bishop Garrigan Schools have a very strong teaching staff who do an excellent job of educating your child with parent cooperation and support. Most students will adjust to whatever placement is made; however, students with special needs will receive special consideration. (examples: students with handicapping conditions, special academic needs, professionally diagnosed emotional or behavioral concerns, serious personality conflicts, the need for a highly-structured or more flexible environment, etc.)

We value parent input and are always willing to meet with you regarding your child. You, as parent, know your child very well and may have some information which would make a significant difference in his/her placement which should be shared with the principal by May 1.

Requesting a specific teacher may create several problems for the school community: teaching assignments can change during the summer; not all requests can be honored because some of them conflict; granting some requests and not others puts the school in the position of discriminating among students. Keep in mind also that an experience that one parent or one student may have had with a teacher may be totally different from what

you or this particular child may have with the same teacher.

Our goal is to provide your child with the best possible education that we can. Part of that goal is reached by providing the children the opportunity to work and learn with a variety of teaching styles and personalities during their school experience.

A conference may be scheduled to discuss the request. Please understand that submission of this information is not a request for a specific class or teacher assignment.

High School Registration

High School registration will take place in February for the upcoming school year. This registration will be revisited in November to ensure correct placement for the second semester.

Registration Changes

The policy concerning changes in registration is summarized as follows:

- Courses required by the State of Iowa and/or Bishop Garrigan High School may not be dropped. A failure in any required course must be made up and passed before graduation.
- The needs and abilities of the student are considered the primary factor in making decisions concerning courses.
- There will be a two day period of grace in the first quarter of a semester class in order for the students to withdraw, if necessary, from classes without penalty.
- Under special circumstances, students may withdraw after the second week of a semester, but before the completion of the first or third quarter.
 - If, in the opinion of the teacher, the student is doing failing work (which would take into account lack of effort) the student will receive a WF (withdraw, failing).
 - If, in the opinion of the teacher, the student is passing the course even at minimal level (effort may be taken into account) the student will receive a W (withdraw).
 - While a grade of W will appear on the permanent record, the grade will not be figured into the grade point average.
 - A grade of W will not affect eligibility for activities. A grade of WF will affect eligibility.
 - Withdrawal from a class during the second or fourth quarter will result in a grade of F that will count in the grade point average.
- The procedure for all withdrawals after the first two weeks is as follows:
 - The student must present serious reasons for requesting the withdrawal.
 - The student must arrange for a conference between his/her parents and the school authorities.
 - The final decision is reserved for the Principal in all classes.

College Level and Dual Credit Courses

In order to take a college math or English course you must be proficient on the AccuPlacer or ACT. Please contact the school counselor for information regarding these tests.

Students taking classes for college credit must pay the college credit fee in full by the end of the first full week of the semester. If fees are not paid, the student may be asked to drop the class.

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus is a program designed to manage student attendance, grades and parent communication. School data available to parents, including report cards, lesson plans and student homework, will be available on line. It is very important that the office always has updated contact information for each family. Each parent and student in the Bishop Garrigan system has an Infinite Campus account.

Catholic Identity

Student liturgies are celebrated weekly, with the priests presiding on a rotating basis. The students help in the planning, and participate in the Masses by reading, song leading, carrying gifts and performing other ministries as appropriate for their ages.

All students will attend religion classes, Mass and other religious celebrations.

The first reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist are celebrated in grade 2 and the Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated during the high school years. All students receive instruction in the classroom, and receive the sacraments in their respective parish sites.

An opportunity for reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is provided for the students several times a year during the school day. Parents are encouraged to make the reception of this sacrament a regular family event at other times during the year, since family influence and support are vital to the formation of an appreciation of the sacrament.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in the rosary and Stations of the Cross throughout the year.

Attendance

Students will be expected to attend classes regularly and be on time in order to receive maximum benefit from instructional programs. Daily attendance is necessary to do the caliber of schoolwork which is a responsibility expected and essential to future success.

Absences

- The parents or guardians should notify the school by telephone or email the morning of the absence. This call should be made by 9:00 a.m.
- All absences must be verified with a phone call or email prior to, on, or within one school day following the absences. Failure to provide verification within the prescribed time shall be cause for the absence to be considered unexcused.
- Planned Absence: Student is responsible for picking up a slip in the office and should be returned prior to leaving. If a slip is not turned into the office, the student absence may be considered unexcused. Students are responsible for completing assignments and taking tests upon their return.

Appointments

- All doctor and dental appointments should be made after school hours or on free days whenever possible.
- All students must check into the office when arriving late, leaving early or leaving for a period of time during the school day.
- Students returning from appointments must present a note from the doctor or receptionist to the office. Notes may be provided by the doctor or obtained in the Garrigan office prior to the appointment. Excused appointments include: medical, dental, mental health, court appearance, funerals, physical

therapy. Unexcused appointments include: haircuts and errands. (These appointments may be scheduled during lunch or study hall.) A student should always check into the office and receive a pass from the office to return to class.

- If the student does not present a note from the parent/guardian or the parent/guardian knows nothing of the absence when called, it will be considered truancy.
- Forged notes will incur a one-day in school suspension.

**Reminder: Students must be present all 9 periods and Mass to participate in events or practice. Exceptions to this regulation are absent for a school field trip, orthodontist appointments, note from a medical appointment, funerals, campus privilege, or extenuating circumstances approved by the Principal or Activities Director. Note that running errands and oversleeping are not exceptions to this requirement.

_____Level 1: When a student has been absent from school or a class for 5 days, parents will be notified by the school via phone call or email to make them aware their child has reached 5 days of absences. There is no consequence, this is simply a notification. (Note: Unexcused absences result in a detention each time they are not in attendance at class)

_____Level 2: When a student has been absent from class for 10 days, parents will be notified by the school via phone call or email to make them aware their child has missed 10 days. A meeting will be held with the student, principal, student services, or other assigned staff member. Strategies for improved attendance will be discussed.

_____Level 3: When a student has missed 15 days of school, parents will be notified via phone call or email. A meeting with the parents, student, principal, student services, or assigned staff member will be held to discuss ways to improve attendance.

_____Level 4: When a student has been absent from school for 20 days, parents will be notified. A parent meeting will be held with the school president, the building principal, student services, or other assigned staff member. A previous plan will be reviewed and a plan will be created to improve student attendance. A student's grade may be affected for that semester. For seniors this could result in not having the correct amount of credits to walk at graduation and receive a diploma.

**The only exceptions to the procedure are cases of hospitalization or confinement due to injury or serious illness that requires on-going treatment. Colds, headaches, sore throats, flu, doctor appointments, dental appointments, and vacations are examples that count toward the absent days.

Attendance Requirements for Athletic Events and Performances

In regards to activities such as athletic events and performances. You must meet the attendance requirements as follows:

- You must be in attendance in school for the entire day (all enrolled periods and Mass) to participate in events or practice. Exceptions to this regulation are absent for a school field trip, orthodontist appointments, note from a medical appointment, funerals, campus privilege, or other extenuating circumstances approved by the Principal or Activities Director. Note that running errands and oversleeping are not exceptions to this requirement.

Attendance Detention

Students who have violated attendance regulations, (unexcused tardies or unexcused absences) will be assigned to detention. Students will be notified of detention on the Monday preceding the date to be served. If a student misses a detention they will be ineligible for practices until the detention is served. If a student misses their second detention they may serve a one day in-school suspension.

College Visitation

Students will be allowed a maximum of three days to visit colleges with their parents during the course of their high school careers to help in their college selection process. If these visitations are arranged through the guidance counselor, they will not be counted against the student's ten days allowed for absences. However, if the college visitation is not arranged through the counselor, the days will count against the ten allowed absences. Students are encouraged to visit colleges on the scheduled no school days each month.

Arrival – Seton and Garrigan

Supervision in the Bishop Garrigan Buildings begins at 7:30. Students in the Seton building may enter through the south doors. Students in the Bishop Garrigan building should enter through the main entrance or the south auxiliary door. Students may enter through the north door after 7:30. (No cars on the partial north drive after 7:50) All are expected to have something to read or a quiet activity that will occupy them until an adult dismisses them to their classrooms at 8:05 am. The first bell rings at 8:12, and school begins at 8:15 in the Bishop Garrigan building and 8:20 in the Seton building.

When dropping off students in grades K-2, drivers of private vehicles are asked to park in the south parking lots. Early Childhood students may enter through the north door and be brought to the classroom door and picked up there by a family member or designee. Cubbies 4 preschoolers may ride the school buses if they have another child (4th grader on up) to be with them and see that they get to the classroom safely. Do not drop off students so that they must cross traffic. At all times students are expected to use only designated crosswalks to cross the street.

When dropping off students in grades 3-8 after 7:45, the north door may be used. Cars should avoid using the partial drive on the north side of the building. After 7:45 vehicles should remain on McCoy street.

Tardies and Appointments

When a student arrives after 8:15 am or returns from an appointment, elementary parents will sign the student in at the office where the student will be given an admit pass. The pass is to be given to the teacher. Junior High and High School students who are tardy to school are to report to the office. The tardy will be considered unexcused unless a proper excuse is received from the parent or employer; this excuse should be submitted in writing. Three unexcused tardies in a semester results in a detention (high school). Students who are tardy for school may not attend practices after school.

Students in grades PreK - 6 should be picked up by a parent in the main office.

Dismissal at Seton

It is easiest and safest for children if drivers of private vehicles enter into the SE parking lot from North Street (from the east) or the alley, and park in the stalls on the SE lot. The SW lot is easiest accessed from Call Street turning north onto McPherson Street then west into the lot. Cars are asked to remain in the lots until the teachers at both crosswalks on North Street have returned to the sidewalk.

Dismissal at Garrigan

Students will exit through the north doors and walk to cars waiting on McCoy Street. Private vehicles should not enter the partial drive north of school after school. Students leaving with high school siblings may leave through the south doors. They should be accompanied by a high school sibling at all times.

Early Dismissals

Whatever time the radio says that Algona Community Schools are dismissing, that means that Seton and Bishop Garrigan are always dismissing 15 minutes earlier. Examples: holidays, professional development and weather early dismissals.

Lunch Open Campus (High School)

Students may not leave the school grounds during the lunch periods without permission with the exception of seniors after the fall fundraiser. Students are not to miss class time for lunch out of the building. All lunches, whether purchased in school or a sack lunch, must be eaten in the cafeteria. Students who are tardy to class from their lunch period must obtain their excuse from the lunchroom supervisor. Students may receive a detention after three tardies for being late to class.

Acceptable Use for Computer Usage

Computing, data storage, and information on retrieval systems are designed to serve the students, faculty, staff and volunteers of Bishop Garrigan High School, hereafter referred to as BGHS, community. Network and Internet access is provided to further the legitimate educational goals of this institution. The school/institution provides computing and network resources for the use of students, employees, and others affiliated with the BGHS. Members of the BGHS community are encouraged to use the computers, software packages, electronic mail (E-mail) for educational or school related activities and to facilitate the efficient exchange of useful information. However, the equipment, software, and network capacities provided through BGHS computer services are and remain the property of the school. All users are expected to conduct their on-line activities and computer work station activities in an ethical and legal fashion. The use of these resources is a privilege, not a right. Misuse of these resources will result in the suspension or loss of these privileges, as well as disciplinary, legal, and/or monetary consequences. Appropriate or acceptable educational uses of these resources include:

- Accessing the Internet to retrieve information from libraries, databases, and World Wide Web sites to enrich and expand curriculum is encouraged.
- E-mail capabilities may be used to facilitate distance learning projects. E-mail will only be available for students 1/2 hour before and 1/2 hour after school.
- Listserv and news groups may be used to gain access to current information on local, state, national and work events.

Examples of inappropriate or unacceptable use(s) of these resources include, but are not limited to, those uses that violate the law, the rules of network etiquette, or hamper the integrity or security of any network connected to the Internet. Some unacceptable practices include:

- Transmission of any material in violation of any US or state law, including but not limited to: copyrighted material; threatening, harassing, pornographic, or obscene material; or material protected by trade secret is prohibited. The transmission of copyrighted materials without the written permission of the author or creator through school/institution E-mail or other network resources in violation of US copyright law is prohibited. As with all forms of communications, E-mail or other network resources may not be used in a manner that is disruptive to the work or educational environment. The display or transmission of messages, images, cartoons or the transmission or use of E-mail or other computer messages that are sexually explicit constitute harassment which is prohibited by BGHS. It is also illegal for anyone to knowingly allow any telecommunications facility under their control to be used for the transmission of illegal material.
- The use for personal financial or commercial gain, product advertisement, political lobbying, or the sending of unsolicited junk mail, or chain letters is prohibited.
- Vandalism is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any attempt to harm or destroy the data of another user, the network/Internet, or any networks or sites connected to the network/Internet. Attempts to breach security codes and/or passwords will also be considered a form of vandalism.
- The creation, propagation, and/or use of computer viruses is prohibited.
- The forgery, reading, deleting, copying, or modifying of electronic mail messages of other users is prohibited.
- Deleting, examining, copying, or modifying files and/or data belonging to other users is prohibited.
- Willful destruction of computer hardware or software, or attempts to exceed or modify the parameters of the system are prohibited. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit a BGS operator from intercepting and stopping E-mail messages which have the capacity to overload the computer resources. Discipline may be imposed for intentional overloading of the BGHS computer resources.
- Access to the BGS e-mail and similar electronic communication systems is a privilege and certain responsibilities accompany that privilege. BGS users are expected to demonstrate the same level of ethical and professional manner as is required in face-to-face or written communications. Anonymous or forged messages will be treated as a violation of this policy.
- Unauthorized attempts to access another person's E-mail or similar electronic communications or to use

another's name, E-mail or computer address or workstation to send E-mail or similar electronic communications is prohibited and may subject the individual to disciplinary action.

- All users must understand that the school cannot guarantee the privacy or confidentiality of electronic documents; and any messages that are confidential as a matter of law should not be communicated over the E-mail.
- BGS reserves the right to access E-mail to retrieve school information and records, to engage in routine computer maintenance and housekeeping, to carry out internal investigations, or to disclose messages, data or files to law enforcement authorities.
- Any information contained on a school computer's hard drive or computer disks which were purchased by the school are considered the property of the school.

Cafeteria

Lunch and Breakfast

The federal breakfast and hot lunch programs are provided. Lunch can be paid in the main office and balances can be monitored using JMC. Students may either bring their own lunches to school or purchase a lunch, including milk. All lunches, school lunch as well as lunches brought from home, must be eaten in the cafeteria. Carbonated beverages (pop) are NOT allowed in the cafeteria. Breakfast is held from 7:35 - 8:10 am.

Preschool, Den, Prep and Kindergarten students will need milk purchased for their snack break in addition to lunch payments for noon if they intend to eat hot lunch. Guests for lunch must make reservations by 9:00 am of the day they will eat school lunch by contacting the office.

Free and reduced price lunches are available upon meeting the federal income requirements as determined on a yearly basis. Application forms are distributed at August registration, and are available at any time in the school office.

Food allergies must be reported to the school office in writing and signed by the child's physician outlining the foods to be avoided and appropriate substitutions. Changes from the original document will be accepted in writing.

The school cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program of the school to encourage good nutrition. The lunchroom management and your fellow students will appreciate your cooperation in adhering to the following guidelines:

- Depositing all lunch litter in wastebaskets.
- Returning all trays and utensils to the dishwashing area.
- Leaving the table and floor around your place in a clean condition for others.
- Group cheering, jeering, or singing are not allowed.
- No food or drink may be taken from the cafeteria.
- Pop is not allowed in the cafeteria when lunch is being served.
- Those who bring sack lunches are to eat in the cafeteria.

Bishop Garrigan School System Unpaid Meal Charge Policy

Bishop Garrigan Schools policy is that all children will be provided a healthy and compatible meal in accordance to the USDA guidelines. All students should have at minimum three components on their tray at the time of charge. One of these components is required to be a fruit or vegetable. All families are encouraged to apply for Free or Reduced Status.

Low balance accounts will be notified by email when the family account starts to hit low or negative status.

Please be prompt in applying funds to these accounts. Prepaying on lunch accounts is highly encouraged. Bishop Garrigan Schools will not discriminate in any circumstance. We will ensure that our efforts to collect debt will never have a negative impact on the child or children involved. Even with a negative balance students will not be served an alternate meal or refused second helpings.

If donations are made to the lunch program, they will be distributed to free or reduced lunch status students first that have a negative balance.

Snow Day Policy

School closings, early dismissals, and late starts will be announced over radio and Infinite Campus. We will follow what the Algona Community District announces.

Suspension or Expulsion

Infractions of very serious rules of conduct are penalized by giving students a suspension or expulsion. Suspension usually involves one (1) day away from the classroom, or hours of detention as determined by the administration. Expulsion means that for serious or repeated violations, a student will be subject to dismissal from Bishop Garrigan Schools.

Violations which subject a student to suspension or expulsion are as follows:

- Smoking, use of tobacco products, or use of electronic cigarettes on school premises or at a school activity.
- Destruction of, or defacing, school property.
- Possession, drinking, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages on school property or at school-sponsored events off grounds, at any time.
- Possession of, use of, or being under the influence of illegal drugs on school property or at school sponsored events off the grounds at any time.
- Any conduct at a school sponsored activity contrary to that of a lady or a gentleman.

Fines

- Improper parking of cars: any motor vehicle improperly parked is subject to a \$5.00 fine. An example of an improperly parked vehicle is one parked contrary to the normal parking pattern. Vehicles in the first row of the south parking lot must be facing north.
- Dress code violations will result in a \$5.00 fine. These fines must be paid in the office.
- Cell phone policy: Any unauthorized cell phone use in the classroom will result in having the student's phone immediately confiscated. They may pick their phone up at the end of the day from the office after paying a \$5 fine.

Middle School Band

Students in grades 5-8 are eligible to participate in the band. Small group lessons are given each week for beginners, with large group practices scheduled three times per 6-day cycle. Older students have individual lessons and large group band practices three times per 6-day cycle. The band program includes lessons during August, in addition to a marching band clinic before school begins.

Guidance

Guidance services are available for each student in school. These services include assistance with educational planning, occupational information, career information, help with school and/or social concerns or any question the student may feel he/she would like to discuss with counselors. Conferences with the students receive first consideration of the employees time and are scheduled whenever necessary. Students should also feel free to visit with teachers with whom they feel comfortable.

Fire – Tornado

A fire evacuation plan is posted in each room. Students should study the plan and become familiar with it. When the fire alarm sounds, students will immediately stand and leave the room quietly in single file and in an orderly manner. No one is to pass another or break the line of march. Running is not permitted. Roll call will be taken.

Tornado drills will be conducted throughout the year. When the tornado drill is announced, proceed quietly in an orderly manner to your assigned location, where roll call will be taken.

Summer and Sunday Activity Policies

Sunday Policy - [See Diocesan Policy](#)

Summer Activities (June 1 - August 1)

- Each student may practice 2 ½ hours per day Monday - Friday. (off-season)
- No practice/open gym on Sundays.
- Off season activities may have two team activities on Saturdays during the summer.
- Exceptions may be granted by the building principal or activities director.

Triduum Activities

It shall be the policy of Diocese of Sioux City that no school sponsored activities or practices will be scheduled after 4:00 on Holy Thursday, the evening of Good Friday, the evening of Holy Saturday, and the entire day of Easter Sunday. Such a policy shall provide students and employees the freedom to participate in parish liturgies and family activities on these sacred days.

Vehicles

South Drive parking is for the Gala purchaser and calendar winner. The parking lot south of the school is for high school student use. All vehicles are to be parked facing north and south. All cars parked in the front row must be facing north. Parking to the east of the school is reserved for staff. Parking in front of the school is for staff, students, and visitors. Snowmobiles may be driven to school, but may not be ridden during school. Parking violations will result in a \$5.00 fine.

Bicycles

Students who ride bicycles to school are not to ride them before or after school, during the recesses or at noon. The school is not responsible for damaged or stolen bicycles. Bike racks are provided in an area near the building for safety, and bicycles are walked on and off the school property. Bicycles are allowed for students in grades 3-12 only. For safety reasons, elementary students are not allowed to ride motorized vehicles (ex. mopeds, motorcycles, cars, etc.) to school.

Open Campus Privilege

Only seniors are eligible for open campus or comp time. Those who qualify by selling for Walk and Pray may have open campus at the beginning of the first semester. For the fourth quarter, seniors will have the opportunity to arrive late or leave school early, depending on their classroom schedule. This limited open campus is a privilege to be granted seniors if the school and parents feel they deserve it. Any senior failing a course after the third nine weeks will not be allowed the open campus privilege. Furthermore, the privilege cannot be used on occasions when school authorities deem their presence necessary, such as mass, assemblies, counseling sessions, etc. Students must be here for activities. If students are in the building, all school rules apply and they must remain at the south end of the building or in senior study hall until the bell rings. Failure to meet these requirements can result in suspension or loss of open campus.

Students in Grades 9-11 do not have Open Campus. Grades 9-11 students are not allowed to leave during a class or study hall unless they are excused by a parent or have permission from the office/teacher. This includes leaving for lunch. Seniors can only leave for lunch if this is during their Open Campus time.

Bishop Garrigan Schools Dress Code

Uniforms are contracted through Brown's. Employees at this establishment have lists of required/acceptable clothing and can assist you in fitting and ordering. Uniforms purchased through places such as Old Navy are not part of the school uniform. All uniforms can be purchased at Browns, or used item at West Vendee

K-6 Dress Code

- **Shorts/Skirts:** Khaki and Black; Length: walking length to 2" above knees. Must wear tights with shorts/skirts December 1 - March 31.
- **Pants:** Uniform brand; No rips, cuts, tears; Khaki and Black
- **Shirts:** Knit or dri-fit; Uniform brand; short sleeve; Gold, black or white with official uniform emblem; Tucked in. Undershirts must be white, black, gray, or gold.
- **In School Outerwear:** Uniform Fleece - Black - full or half zip with official uniform logo. Uniform fleece or micro-fiber (sizes Adult XXS - XXL) - black - half zip with official uniform logo. Students' names may be below the logo. Letters should be in gold or white and no more than 1" in height. Students may wear a school approved sweatshirt. This is the black crew neck sweatshirt with the logo in the corner purchased at Browns. School shirts must be worn. Hats are not to be worn in the building.
- **Sweatshirts:** No hooded sweatshirts may be worn in the building.
- **Footwear:** No boots of any kind, clogs, crocks, flip-flops, slides, slippers, ballerinas, high heels, furred shoes, etc. Matching socks are required at all times; footed tights/leggings that resemble tights are acceptable in black and white only (no thigh high socks, partial socks, etc.)
- **Earrings:** Girls—earrings only. Boys—no earrings. No unacceptable body piercings which include but are not limited to pierced eyebrows, lips, tongue, nose, etc.
- **Make-Up:** Make-up shall not be worn. Examples of make-up considered to be inappropriate for school

wear include (but are not limited to) eyeliner, eye shadow, bright lipsticks.

- **Grooming:** Students must maintain appropriate grooming. (Boys: clean shaven)
- **Hair:** Bishop Garrigan recognizes that there are different types of hair, and that no single set of descriptions will perfectly capture the school's expectations about haircuts, but the following guidelines will keep a student in compliance with the school's expectations. Students should maintain a professional haircut. This includes but is not limited to: Students are permitted to dye, tint, color, or highlight their hair, provided that the color is consistent with a natural hair color. Extreme colors or distracting hairstyles are not acceptable. Boys' hair is not to extend over the top of the ear, eyebrows, or below the natural hairline. Sideburns may not extend lower than the middle of the ear, and must be neatly groomed.
- **Tattoos:** All tattoos must be covered at all times while in the school building. Students representing their schools at school-related activities or school-sponsored events are prohibited from exposing tattoos.

7-12 Dress Code

- **Shorts:** Khaki and Black; Length: walking length to 2" above knees. May be worn year round
- **Pants:** Uniform brand; No rips, cuts, tears; Khaki and Black
- **Shirts:** Knit or dri-fit; Uniform brand; short sleeve; Black or white with official uniform emblem; Activity Days - Gray shirts with logo may be worn purchased through Threads; tucked in. Undershirts must be white, black, gray, or gold.
- **In School Outerwear:** Uniform Fleece - Black - full or half zip with official uniform logo. Uniform fleece or micro-fiber (sizes Adult XXS - XXL) - black - half zip with official uniform logo. Students' names may be below the logo. Letters should be in gold or white and no more than 1" in height. Students may wear a school approved sweatshirt. This is the black crew neck sweatshirt with the logo in the upper corner purchased at Browns. School shirts must be worn. Hats are not to be worn in the building.
- **Sweatshirts:** No hooded sweatshirts may be worn in the building.
- **Footwear:** No boots of any kind may be worn with shorts, clogs, crocks, flip-flops, slippers, ballerinas, high heels, furred shoes, etc. Matching socks are required at all times; footed tights/leggings that resemble tights are acceptable in black and white only (no thigh high socks, partial socks, etc.)
- **Earrings:** Girls—earrings only; Boys—no earrings; No unacceptable body piercings which include but are not limited to pierced eyebrows, lips, tongue, nose, etc.
- **Make-up:** Tasteful and appropriate make-up may be worn.
- **Grooming:** Students must maintain appropriate grooming. (Boys: Clean shaven)
- **Hair:** Bishop Garrigan recognizes that there are different types of hair, and that no single set of descriptions will perfectly capture the school's expectations about haircuts, but the following guidelines will keep a student in compliance with the school's expectations. Students should maintain a professional haircut. This includes but is not limited to: Students are permitted to dye, tint, color, or highlight their hair, provided that the color is consistent with a natural hair color. Extreme colors or distracting hairstyles are not acceptable. Boys' hair is not to extend over the top of the ear, eyebrows, or below the natural hairline or touching the collar of their uniform collared shirt. Sideburns may not extend lower than the middle of the ear, and must be neatly groomed.
- Grades 9-12 Game and Activity Day Dress. On game or activity days, students may wear the gray Bishop Garrigan polo shirt bought through Threads. Football players may wear their white dress shirt and tie. Other team/group t-shirts, jackets, shirts may not be worn during the school day.

Bishop Garrigan administration has the authority to regulate dress in the academic area as necessary.

Board Approved: May 15, 2012

Updated: April 2021

Dress In Academic Area

Out of Uniform Days

On designated days the student body may wear their choice of clothing. Shirts that have inappropriate sayings, and exhibit drug or sex slogans are not allowed. Students may not wear jeans with holes or that are ripped, crop tops, or spandex shorts. Appropriate dress is always the rule of the day. Appropriate dress will be determined as needed by the principal or president. Students in grades K-8 may only wear uniform shorts on these days. Shorts and dresses must at least touch the fingertips. No hats of any kind unless specified for a special theme day for out of uniform.

Grading System

	3-12 Grading Scale
A+	99-100
A	95 - 98
A-	93 - 94
B+	91 - 92
B	87 - 90
B-	85-86
C+	83-84
C	79 - 82
C-	77 - 78
D+	75 - 76
D	72 - 74
D-	70 - 71
F	69/below

IM indicates that a student has not completed required work during this reporting period. It is not a grade for the subject. If no attempt to complete the work has been made by the student within two weeks of receiving an incomplete, an F will be given for the missing work and a grade computed accordingly.

Grades K-2 Grading Expectations

The following guidelines are in effect for Grades K-2 academic and personal report card marks. These refer to the main grade for each subject area, not to the sub-categories indicated there. Grades are assigned according to standard, rather than ability of students.

- It is not appropriate to say that an S is in the A-B range, and I is in the C range, etc
- An S means satisfactory work at this grade level (as opposed to this student's ability).
- Because there can be a large range of student performance, an S+ can mean that this student is doing outstanding work at this grade level.

- An S- means that work is not considered satisfactory, but the student is making an effort to improve; or it could mean that the work has slipped since the last grading period but is not yet unsatisfactory or unacceptable.
- The I is intended to show that there has been improvement since the last grading period, mid-term report, or parent contact. To give an S in one grading period and I in the next is not appropriate.
- Title I remedial reading students do not automatically receive a grade of NI in reading. When improvement occurs, then an I would be appropriate. There may be some Title I students who receive S because they may be able to do grade level work with the extra support, or because they are at a point when we are considering moving them out of the program.

Grades 3-8 Grading Expectations

Personal Development marks and comments reflect the student's all-day behavior, not just that exhibited during class time. Cooperation, courtesy, respect are important traits to be encouraged in informal interactions in the hallways and lunchrooms as well as in the formal classroom setting.

The S, NI, and I symbols signify Satisfactory, Needs Improvement and Improving. They are not intended to have + or - added to them. The I indicates that a student has improved since receiving NI in the previous marking period or since the last parent contact.

The Diocesan Office specifies the following interpretations of marking codes on the report cards. Codes to be used for personal development areas and for subtopics under the other categories are:

- **S Satisfactory:** Indicates that performance in this area is what would be expected for this student, given his or her ability. It is a good mark and should be praised.
- **NI Needs improvement:** Indicates that this student could be doing better with some effort. Specific suggestions for improvement will (may) be indicated in the comments.
- **I Improving:** Indicates that this student is showing improvement in this area, though performance is still not satisfactory.

Personal Marks/Academic Subtopics to be Used at Bishop Garrigan Schools

Current practice does not correspond with the original guidelines given when the report cards were instituted. On occasion the use of + or - is appropriate as indicated below.

- **S+:** Student has exceptional behavior/work
- **S Satisfactory:** Performance in the area for the age of the student
- **S-:** Performance is not considered satisfactory, but student is making an effort to improve; could also mean that performance has slipped since the last grading period, but is not yet unsatisfactory or unacceptable.
- **I:** This may follow the NI from the last grading period. It could also indicate that there has been previous parent contact or that a midterm report was sent to parent which expressed a concern in this area and improvement has occurred since then.
- **NI:** The NI indicates unsatisfactory/unacceptable work or behavior

Policy on Cheating (Junior High and High School)

Cheating in our school is a serious offense. However, because of laxness in our society as well as the example of the adult community in many forms, students oftentimes are inclined to view it as a slight offense or no offense at all. Cheating robs the student of opportunities to master subject matter and develop habits of honesty. Bishop Garrigan Schools expects students to do their own work on assignments, papers, quizzes, and tests so as to provide a true reflection of students' understanding and achievement.

Any assignment submitted for any course at Bishop Garrigan cannot be generated by any third party resource. Third-party resources include but are not limited to: AI generating websites used to write the paper in any aspect, and resources like Grammarly to edit or write the paper. This is considered academic dishonesty and falls under the category of plagiarism.

Cheating, a form of dishonesty, is a serious breach of personal integrity. Since it is harmful to the student as well as unfair to fellow students, the following policies form guidelines for correcting this abuse:

First Offense: If a student is found cheating, and if it is clearly evident that the student is guilty:

- The teacher will discuss the offense with the student.
- The student may be allowed to make up the work outside of school time within three days, but with a substantially lowered maximum score. After three days no make-up will be allowed, and the grade will be zero.
- A written report of the incident will be filed with the Principal, as well as personal contact made with the parents by the teacher.

Second Offense: Second offense is defined as cheating after the student has already been guilty of the first offense of cheating. The policy to be followed is:

- No make-up work is allowed, and a grade of zero will be given for the work.
- A conference with the student's parents will be arranged with the teacher.
- A written report of the incident will be filed with the Principal.

Subsequent Offenses:

- No make-up work is allowed, and a grade of zero will be given for the work.
- A conference with the parents and principal will be arranged by the principal.
- A written report of the incident will be filed with the Principal.
- The offense may be considered under the Good Conduct Policy

After School Achievement Program (ASAP)

Bishop Garrigan Schools has a strong commitment to academic achievement. Students are expected to complete work on time to the best of their abilities and complete missing assignment in a timely manner. In the event that these expectations are not being met students will be required to be present in an Achievement Program

High School

Students will be notified on Friday that work or tests have not been completed. High School students have until noon on Tuesday to complete these missing items and return the ASAP notification sheet to the designated staff member. If work is not completed or a sheet is not given to the designated staff member, students will be required to stay before or after school to complete the missing work.

Eligibility (Junior High and High School)

Following are the guidelines for academic eligibility for all activities.

Junior High

A failure at quarter requires that students miss 1 athletic contest.

High School

Students Must Meet All Academic Requirements as Follows:

- A student must receive credit in at least 4 subjects at all times.
- A student must pass all subjects and make adequate progress toward graduation to remain eligible.
- If not passing at the end of a grading period (first or second semester), the student is ineligible for a period of 30 consecutive school days. If competing in baseball or softball, the student is ineligible for the four consecutive weeks following the end of the final grading period.
- A “grading period” is the period of time at the end of which a student receives a final grade and course credit is awarded for passing grades.

At 2nd, 3rd and 4th Quarter Midterms (Progress Reports): If a student receives 1 F that student must attend two study sessions supervised by teachers (7:15 - 8:00am). If they are not in any activities they still must attend the study sessions. If you are late or miss the study session, you are not allowed to practice that night. Students will also receive one detention for each study table that they miss.

At Quarter Break: If a student receives 1 F they are ineligible for one week’s activities (not to exceed 2 scheduled events/competitions) Once their missing work is complete, they can attend practice at the normal time. This policy includes all activities, except required graded events. For example, concerts or band days are included as part of the student’s grade; however, the musical is not, nor are quiz bowl events or math team contests.

Students Must Meet the Attendance Requirements as Follows:

You must be in attendance in school for the entire day (all enrolled periods) to participate in events or practice. Exceptions to this regulation are absent for a school field trip, orthodontist appointments, note from a medical appointment, funerals, campus privilege, or other extenuating circumstances approved by the Principal or Activities Director. Note that running errands and oversleeping are not exceptions to this requirement.

Specifics for Athletes

- You are required to pass the physical exams as defined by the IHSA or the IGHS AU.
- You must obey all training rules as defined by the Athletic Department and the coach of the specific activity in which you are participating.
- Transportation to extracurricular activities will be provided by BGHS. Those who wish other means of transportation must clear it with the Activities Director, either in writing or verbal communication.

No Pass/No Play Rule - Iowa Code 36.15 (2) Scholarship Rules (Applies to both Athletics and Music)

- All contestants must be enrolled and in good standing in a school that is a member or associate member in good standing of the organization sponsoring the event.
- All contestants must be under 20 years of age.
- All contestants shall be enrolled students of the school in good standing.
- They shall receive credit in at least four subjects, each of one period or “hour” or the equivalent thereof, at all times.

To qualify under this rule, a “subject must meet the requirements of 281- Chapter 12. Coursework taken under the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 261C, postsecondary enrollment options, for which a school district or accredited non-public school grants academic credit toward high school graduation shall be used in determining eligibility.

No student shall be denied eligibility if the student’s school program deviates from the traditional two-semester school year.

- Each contestant shall be passing all coursework for which credit is given and shall be making adequate progress toward graduation requirements at the end of each grading period. Grading period, graduation requirements, and any interim periods of ineligibility are determined by local policy. For purposes of this subrule, “grading period” shall mean the period of time at the end of which a student in grades 9 -12 receives a final grade and course credit is awarded for passing grades.
- Subject to the provision below regarding contestants in interscholastic baseball or softball, if at the end of any grading period a contestant is given a failing grade in any course for which credit is awarded, the contestant is ineligible to dress for and compete in the next occurring interscholastic athletic contests and competitions in which the contestant is a bona fide contestant for 20 consecutive school days. For purposes of this subrule, a “bona fide contestant” means a student who presently is or previously has competed in the interscholastic athletic activity to which the student’s period of ineligibility herein applies. This definition shall not apply to a student in the ninth grade.
- Students do not sit out for graded events. For Music, the 20 days starts on the day following when grades are sent out. (For example, if grades were sent out on January 18, the 20 days starts on January 19.
- At the end of a grading period that is the final grading period in a school year, a bona fide contestant in interscholastic baseball or softball who receives a failing grade in any course for which credit is awarded is ineligible to dress for and compete in interscholastic baseball or softball for the four consecutive weeks following the end of the final grading period.
- A student with a disability who has an individualized education program shall not be denied eligibility on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress.

Bishop Garrigan High School Point System

Athletics (All Sports, Cheer, Danz)		Dramatics	
Maximum Points Per Sport	75 points	Madrigal	20 points
Varsity	100%	Musical	25 points
JV/Varsity	75%	Spring Play	20 points
JV	50%	Tech/Set Crew	10 points
JJV/JV	40%	Speech Contest–District	10 points
Freshman/JJV	30%	State/All-State	10 points
Stats/Athletic Manager	20%	Tech Crew/Other	5 points
Music		Other Activities	
Maximum Band Points	100 points	Student Council Representative	10 points
Band % (sample breakdown of points)	100%	Student Council Vice-President	15 points
Out for Band	25 points	Student Council President	20 points
Marching Band (5)	10 points	Christian Leadership in Action (School)	10 points
Pep Band (10)	10 points	Garrigan Honor Society	40 points
Jazz Band	5 points	FFA	10 points
Large Group Contest (2)	10 points	FFA Leadership	15 points
Solo/Ensemble (3)	15 points	Art Show (per show)	5 points
All-State Tryout	20 points	DECA	10 points
		DECA Leadership	15 points

Maximum Choir Points	100 points	Semester Honor Roll (per semester)	10 points
Choir % (sample breakdown of points)	100%	Quiz Bowl (per contest)	5 points
Out for Choir	25 points	Bear Facts (per show)	2 points
National Anthem (10)	10 points	Math Team (per contest)	5 points
Show Choir	5 points	Retreat Team Member (Search/Discover/School)	10 points
Vocal Jazz	5 points	Art Club	10 points
Large Group Contest (1)	5 points		
Solo/Ensemble (3)	15 points		
All-State Tryout	20 points		
School Mass Choir	5 points		

Letters

A letter is awarded by each individual teacher or coach based on their own established criteria. Only one "G" will be awarded. When you first letter in an activity you will receive a pin for that particular area. Every year you earn a letter after that you will receive a bar to go under your pin. When you accumulate 750 points you will receive a bronze pin, 1000 points a silver pin, and 1200 points a gold pin. Only 75% of the points for the pins can be counted in one field or activity. Pins will only be distributed to students at the end of the senior year. **The awarding of "easy points" will weaken any point system. Teachers and coaches should be very critical and should use the privilege of deducting points whenever the occasion arises.**

LEVEL	TOTAL	75% IN ONE FIELD
Bronze	750 points	563 points
Silver	1000 points	750 points
Gold	1200 points	900 points

Points May Be Deducted For Any of the Following:

- Unexcused absence from an activity or rehearsal.
- Unexcused absence from a public appearance.
- Dropping from an activity.
- Ineligibility for academic reasons.

NOTE: All points issued are left to the teacher/coach in charge of the activity.

Bishop Garrigan Graduation Service Cord

The purpose of a service cord is to recognize students for their community service and to encourage them to continue volunteering making an impact on their community. This program is a way to encourage 9th -12th grade students to contribute hours of approved service accumulated through school, parish, or community events. Those students meeting the requirements of 200 hours will be recognized as a Black and White Striped Cord award recipient at Baccalaureate. These service hours must be accumulated by April 1st of their senior year. Hours must be logged in the Bound App. This begins with the class of 2028. All hours must be logged in the Bound App.

- Service hours may not be counted if students receive points for them. (Points are on the Point System Chart)

- You may not count the hours if you are paid.
- If the service hours occur during the school day, hours must be approved from the principal or teacher.
- Your service hours can not be from your family. For example– you are asked to complete a chore in your home or for your family. You cannot count these as service hours.

Discipline (K-12)

All discipline policy action in Bishop Garrigan Schools reflects a reasoned, prayerful approach to decision-making about relationships. Since the purpose of the school is to provide a Christian atmosphere in which the students are to experience and practice the Christian life of faith, all students are expected to exhibit Christian attitudes and behavior in their relationships with fellow students and teachers. Respect for others and for property will be the norm at all times.

Suspension is a severe measure and is enforced only when extreme misconduct is obvious. Before such action is taken, communications with faculty members, parents and the principal are arranged. The principal or designated administrator, along with the teachers and parents of the student concerned will use such things as deprivation of privileges in an attempt to correct the situation before resorting to suspension.

However, when disrespect or misconduct is clear, parents and students alike must be ready to accept the consequences of not following the rules governing school discipline.

Depending on the gravity of the behavior, three degrees of suspension can take place:

1. **Extracurricular Suspension:** Suspension from extracurricular activities that the student is engaged in means that the student is allowed to attend lessons and practices, but is not allowed to participate in competition or public performances in that activity.
2. **In-School Suspension:** The student is brought to the office by a parent or designated adult in the morning five minutes after school starts. He/she will be assigned work from each class to be done in an isolated area of the school. The student will have bathroom privileges, is not allowed to converse with other students, will eat alone and will be picked up by the parent or designated adult five minutes after the rest of the students are dismissed.
3. **Out-of-School Suspension:** The student is not allowed to attend school. All assignments are to be completed, and are the responsibility of the student. In some cases, the time lost will be made up, as much as triple time.

Grounds for suspension of or expulsion from class activities and/or extra-curricular and honor activities at Seton Grade School and Bishop Garrigan 3-8 include the following:

- Smoking, swearing, possession of alcohol, or misuse of chemical substances;
- Carrying chains, knives, or other objects with the purpose of causing harm or injury to others;
- Leaving the school grounds during the school day without permission;
- Intentionally cutting classes or not attending school on appointed days;
- Vandalism or theft of school property or the property of others;
- Causing harm or injury to others through fighting, maliciousness or carelessness.

Bullying and Harassment

[Link to the Diocesan Policy](#)

Bullying or harassment is not allowed on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, disability, age, or marital status includes conduct of a verbal or physical nature that is designed to embarrass, distress, agitate, disturb, or trouble persons.

Violation of this policy shall result in appropriate penalties, up to possible suspension or termination in the case of employees and up to suspension and removal in the case of students.

Behavior Management for Physical Altercation or Verbal Altercation

Violation of this policy shall result in appropriate penalties, up to possible suspension or termination in the case of students. Behavior Management for inappropriate contact, inappropriate boundaries, comments that are related to race, color, or sexual, physical and verbal threats to another person
Each incident will be documented in Infinite Campus. .

Grades K-8 will reset annually per school year.

Grades 9-12 will accumulate

All discipline is subject to administrative review.

Student/Parent may choose to fill out the Bullying and Harassment Complaint Form. Parent/Student will set up a meeting for this form.

1. First Offense: Offense is documented in Infinite Campus and communication with parent is made. Student receives a detention. This detention will be served before or after school. This may mean the student will miss practice or leaving for a game or activity on time if served after school.
2. Second Offense: Parent communication is made, Student receives a half day in school suspension.
3. Third Offense: Parent communications are made. Student receives all day in school suspension
4. Fourth Offense: Parents meet with the principal. Student receives a three day in school suspension
5. Fifth Offense: Parents meet with the principal. Consideration for removal will take place.

Weapon Policy (K-12)

In accordance with the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, the School Board has enacted the following policy.

Weapons, dangerous objects and look-alikes are disruptive to the school environment and potentially hazardous to the health and well-being of students, staff and visitors to the school premises. The possession of these objects by students or other persons will therefore not be tolerated on school premises, at any school-sponsored event, or in any circumstances in which students and other persons are under the control of the school. Students found in violation of this prohibition are subject to severe punitive action on the part of the school, including suspension and possible removal from Bishop Garrigan.

In enforcing this policy, school administrators will:

1. immediately confiscate weapons, dangerous objects or look-alikes from any person bringing them onto school premises, onto the premises of any school-sponsored event, or into any environment under the control of the school;
2. notify law enforcement officials of any incident in which a firearm or other dangerous weapon has been confiscated by school officials and will consider suspension or expulsion of any student from whom such a weapon has been confiscated;
3. notify parents of any student from whom any weapon, dangerous object or look-alike has been seized by school officials.

For the purpose of this policy, the term “firearm” includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials shall be exempt from this policy. Authorized adults may display weapons, dangerous objects or look-alikes for educational purposes with the knowledge and consent of the principal. The use of simulated weapons as stage props in student plays and skits shall be regulated by the principal and strictly supervised by staff members in charge of the production. (see Bishop Garrigan policy 5144.1A)

Searches (K-12)

As required by law, we are informing parents and students that the school authorities will, without further notice or search warrant, search student lockers, desks, work areas, book and duffel bags, clothing or student vehicles based on a reasonable suspicion under the circumstances and in the manner reasonable in the educational environment, and protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel. School authorities may also seize illegal, unwanted, unauthorized or contraband materials disclosed in the search. Items of contraband may include but are not limited to non-prescription controlled substances, (such as marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates), alcoholic beverages, tobacco, weapons, explosives, poisons and stolen property. Possession of such items will be grounds for disciplinary action.

No school official of Bishop Garrigan Schools will conduct a search of a student's person, clothing, personal possessions, or locker unless the school official has reason to believe that such a search will produce evidence that the student has committed a criminal offense or has broken a school rule. Bishop Garrigan Schools in collaboration with the Kossuth County Sheriff's Department and Algona Police Department will have random drug searches of lockers, locker rooms, and vehicles.

Good Conduct Policy (Junior High and High School)

This information has been carefully prepared and presented so that it will be of great value in helping each student develop and accept responsibilities and obligations of good citizenship. A student shows a desire to attend Bishop Garrigan by observing these policies and by acting as a Christian gentleman or a Christian lady at all times. Misconduct in school or un-Christian behavior outside of school is harmful to the general good and is a clear indication that a student does not wish to continue as a Bishop Garrigan student.

As a student of Bishop Garrigan High Schools, your presence and your decorum make a mark in our communities. Whether it is right or wrong, often citizens expect more of a Bishop Garrigan student than that of other students. This could be a tribute insofar that it is believed that your home environment assists you in developing into an above average member of the community. Thus, remember that your school membership follows you at all times, into all places. You, by your conduct, develop not only your reputation, but that of Bishop Garrigan Schools and your fellow students as well. Your participation in parish and community events is vital to your reputation and that of the school. Seek to become part of any good movement where youth can be involved.

The general tone of the Bishop Garrigan policy is intended to be of assistance to the students, so that proper education and guidance will be provided for both high school and post-graduate years. All staff members, family members and others are urged to give students any assistance needed.

YOU ARE PART OF THE GARRIGAN PRIDE! Your life, inside and outside of school, is part of Bishop Garrigan Pride.

Activities

Extracurricular – Athletic:	Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Golf, Track, Baseball, Softball, Cross Country, Swimming
Extracurricular – Non-Athletic:	Dance, Cheer, DECA, Speech, Non-graded Band Events, Non-graded Choral Events, Quiz Bowl, Trapshooting, Archery
Not Eligible Under Good Conduct:	Drama, Graded Band Events, Graded Choral Events

Major Violations

- Substance abuse, including but not limited to, the use or possession of alcoholic beverages, of tobacco, electronic cigarettes or of a controlled substance.
- Violation of the Iowa Criminal Code
- Committed theft or vandalism (removing or taking important property from a fellow student or the school without permission, ie: taking money, phones, valuable school property, breaking technology on purpose, graffiti)
- Engaged in exceedingly inappropriate or offensive conduct or serious hazing or harassment of others
- Weapons - student is in possession of knives or guns (real or look alike) or other objects capable of causing bodily harm.

Students Involved in Extracurricular Activities:

- **First Offense: First Offense:** The student will be ineligible for 20% of the scheduled games or performances in his/her activities. In the event that the student has not been charged by law enforcement agencies with a criminal offense or proof of the offense other than witness information, a student who self-reports or gives admission of guilt will serve a 10% suspension rather than 20% suspension reduction for the violation. A student may not join an extracurricular activity for the sole purpose of eligibility. If a student joins an extracurricular activity before the season starts, and has been out for the sport in previous seasons, the student must finish the entire season by attending all practices and events. If the student quits once eligibility is served, the student will serve the ineligibility in the next activity they join.
- **Second Offense:** Second offense is one that occurs within a twelve month period of the first offense. The student shall be ineligible for 33% of the scheduled games or performances in his/her activity. If 33% ineligibility cannot be completed during the current season, it shall be carried over and completed during the following season.
- **Third Offense:** If the third offense occurs within 12 months after the time of the first offense, the student shall be suspended for a period of one year from participation in all activities. If the 3rd offense occurs within a 24 month period from the 2nd offense, the options for the second offense apply.

For Students Not Involved in the Above:

- **First Offense:** Students will give 5 hours of service to the school in a manner to be specified.
- **Second Offense:** Students will give 10 hours of service to the school in a manner to be specified. After a review a conference will be held with the student's parents. Additional sanctions will be determined. A student receiving a third offense will give 15 hours of service to the school in a manner to be specified.
- **Additional Offense:** Further counseling is required and the student will give additional time to school or

community.

Special Notes

- Violations will accumulate beginning with the first infraction and continue for the next 12 months.
- If a student does not successfully complete restitution within the time limit allowed, he/she will be suspended indefinitely.
- A student may not serve the second offense penalty until the first offense penalty has been completed.
- Consideration for students in FFA will be based on the FFA Code of Conduct.
- Students participating in athletics with another school are held to Bishop Garrigan's Good Conduct Policy.

Minor Infractions

As a member of the Bishop Garrigan community, conformance to school rules and regulations is necessary for the student's total growth and development, as well as for maintaining a good educational atmosphere. Some breaches of good conduct warrant a detention.

Situations which warrant assignment to detention are as follows:

- Grave disrespect to a teacher or guest or another student (eye rolling, arguing, tone of voice, name calling)
- Refusal to cooperate with a teacher or disregard of school wide expectations (running in the learning zone, inappropriate voice level, not following the rules)
- Student engages in low intensity misuse of property (writing in books, destroying/breaking school supplies or property, inappropriate use of playground equipment or any equipment)
- Violation of Hall Pass
- Vulgarity
- Tardies-the first three tardies warrant one detention
- When fines are levied, there are no detentions involved
- student engages in non-serious, but inappropriate physical contact (playing roughly, poking, childish horseplay, picking up, hugging)

Determination of Violation

- Admission of guilt by the student
- If the student has been charged by law enforcement agencies for a criminal offense
- If the student has been observed in possession or observed using health destructive drugs by school staff or administration
- Other occasions may arise when overwhelming evidence of violation of the conduct code has been brought to the attention of the administration by an adult in the community. Those situations will be investigated and if substantiated will fall under this code.
- If any minor violations are addressed and the student continues the behavior, a minor violation can become a major violation.

All situations will be reviewed and decided upon by the activities director, principal, and coach. All decisions are final.

Technology and Social Media

In light of each student's role as a representative of the school both on and off campus, evidence obtained through the student's use of technology may result in a violation of the Good Conduct Rule. Such violations may include but are not limited to the following: the inappropriate use of computers, cell phones, texting, e-mails; social networking sites to transmit, post or otherwise communicate speech that the school deems as harassing,

threatening, lewd or obscene, and/or the transmission, posting or other communication of photographs, other images, or information that provides a basis that the student has violated some other portion of the Good Conduct Rule, to include, but not limited to the student's use of alcohol, vaping supplies, or tobacco. These actions are not representative of the education values of citizenship, character, and integrity espoused by our school.

Cell Phones

Please note: the use of the term cell phone is used in general, the electronic communication device including smart watches, earbuds, and bluetooth devices are governed by this policy.

Grades K-6 Student's phones should be silenced during the school day and should not be used in any way that disrupts the learning environment. Teachers will collect the cell phones at the beginning of the day and placed in pouches/boxes to hold the cell phones. If a student needs to make a phone call or contact their parents, they should go to the office. Parents can call the office if a message needs to get to their child about pick up times or an appointment. Students will pick up their phone at the end of the day from their classroom.

Grades 7-12:

Technology is an ever changing piece of our lives. It consumes many of us in everything we do, and especially our children and students. Parents and educators are doing our very best with what we know to find a reasonable balance in our student's education, faith development, and social development. We are working to create an environment that supports all of these areas of all students. We have seen firsthand how cell phones can become a significant distraction in the classroom and during unstructured time. With this in mind, we are writing to inform you of an important change beginning for the 2025-2026 school year. Bishop Garrigan Schools has to implement the [Diocesan Cell Phone Policy](#).

If you are interested in reading more about the impact cell phones have on our children, there is a book called, [The Anxious Generation](#) by Jonathan Haidt. It is a great read and gives insightful information on the dangers of cell phones on kids.

Some questions you may have:

How will a phone free school day be implemented? Smart phones and personal smart devices (watches, etc.) may not be used during the school hours. We understand that students will continue to bring their phones to school for use after school.

- Upon arrival, or at the first bell at 8:12, students will place their phone or other smart devices in a locked box. Students will collect their phones at the end of the day. They can also pick them up in the office if they leave for an appointment. Phones will be placed back in the box when the student returns.

Why not allow students to have their phones, but ask them to keep them in their backpacks, lockers, or locker room?

- When students have access to their phones during the day, even intermittently, their levels of stress and anxiety remain high. Students continue to want to check their phone for any notifications or messages. There is no need to keep up with all the social media notifications throughout the day. A phone free environment allows more conversations and time for relationship building through conversation with each other.
- There is also no friction or interactions between students and adults in which the first comment made is a request to "put the phone away." It helps if we can remove the cell phone as a stumbling block during interactions.

What if parents need to communicate with their son or daughter during the school day?

- Parents may call the office any time and speak with any office personnel or administrator. We will convey messages to students or have them visit the office to give a call home. Also, students can make phone calls from the student phone in the main lobby

What will happen in the event of a crisis on campus?

- Our crisis plan is not dependent on students having cell phones. In fact, using a cell phone during an emergency can increase safety risks. In the event of a lockdown, students should be listening to adults who can be giving important information. In addition, having many parents rushing to the school would make things more difficult for first responders.

What about special daytime events or classes during the course of the school year when students would like to capture memories using their phone?

- We will work with our students to determine a list or set some guidelines for times phones will be permitted. (ex. Classroom projects, homecoming festivities, field trips, etc.)

Some students need their phone for IEPs or medical situations. What will happen with this?

- Exceptions can be made, and there should be processes and training for these limited but important situations.

Consequences for not turning in phone:

- 1st Offense: If a student has a phone out, the phone will be brought to the office, and the student can pick it up at the end of the day
- 2nd offense: phone will be brought to the office and student will receive a detention
- 3rd offense: phone will be brought to the office and a parent can pick up the phone at the end of the day
- 4th offense: a parent meeting will be held

***Beginning in August 2025, the school will provide standardized devices (chromebook in a protective case) to each student in Grades 7-12 aiming to improve cybersecurity and streamline state testing. Each student logging in and out of one device also allows the network to work faster which allows students to be more productive. Students will not be allowed to bring their own devices to school. Please see the [Chromebook 1:1 Damage Procedure Contract](#) for more information about the care of the devices. We ask families to discuss these new procedures with their children before the new school year starts. We understand that this will be a big change for students to adjust to during their school day.

Disciplinary action for unacceptable use of cell phones may include detentions, suspensions, parental involvement, and referral to proper authorities. If a student is making use of their cell phone during the day, the cell phone will be brought to the office and can be picked up at the end of the day.

Graduation

In cooperation with the Iowa State Department of Public Instruction, Bishop Garrigan High School has set up certain requirements for graduation. The requirements for each class are spelled out in detail in the current Course Description Booklet. The following include the requirements for graduation as determined by the State of Iowa as well as Bishop Garrigan High School.

Religion	8 credits
English	8 credits
Mathematics	6 credits
Health	2 credits
Science	6 credits
Social Studies	6 credits
Electives	16 credits
TOTAL	52 credits

Special Notations

- The eight credits in Religion are related to attendance in Bishop Garrigan. A student must be registered for each semester of attendance in Bishop Garrigan.
- The single credit in Physical Education is earned by participation in Physical Education each semester. One eighth credit is earned in each semester, totaling one full unit for four years. Medical excuses can dispose a student from this requirement.
- Students should consult the Curriculum Booklet to determine the specific requirements in the English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Department.
- In choosing electives, students should consider their educational plans or employment plans for post high school graduation.
- Should a student desire to graduate early during his/her senior year, he/she must have earned a total of 52 credits. These 52 credits will include State of Iowa requirements, plus some Bishop Garrigan High School credits.
- The basic requirements herein stated have been the requirements of Bishop Garrigan High School for many, many years. Specifics within departments have been adjusted occasionally to meet changing times.

Policies

Bullying and Harassment (Please see details under Discipline)

[Link to the Diocesan Policy](#)

Bullying or harassment is not allowed on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, disability, age, or marital status includes conduct of a verbal or physical nature that is designed to embarrass, distress, agitate, disturb, or trouble persons.

Violation of this policy shall result in appropriate penalties, up to possible suspension or termination in the case of employees and up to suspension and expulsion in the case of students.

Mandatory Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse

It is the policy of Bishop Garrigan Schools that any certificated or licensed employee who has a reasonable belief that a child under the age of 18 has been abused by a person responsible for the care of the child, as defined by law, shall report the suspected abuse verbally to the Department of Human Services (DHS) within 24 hours, and follow the verbal report with a written report on the appropriate forms. (See appendix for sample forms.) It is also the policy of Seton Grade School that reports of child abuse remain confidential, as required by the law.

Anyone making such a report on good faith evidence is immune from civil and criminal liability should the report prove unfounded. Failure to report is a misdemeanor and makes the person liable for civil damages.

Bishop Garrigan Schools shall provide the training required by law in the identification and reporting of child abuse to all mandatory reporters employed by the school within 6 months of initial employment. The school shall also provide each new employee who is a mandatory reporter with the legal requirements of child abuse reporting within one month of initial employment.

The Bishop Garrigan Schools administration and staff will cooperate fully with the DHS personnel in conducting a child abuse investigation by providing access to the child named in the report, and to other children alleged to have relevant information, for the purpose of interviews. Bishop Garrigan Schools recognizes no obligation to contact the parents or guardians of a child suspected to be a victim of abuse.

Mandatory Investigation of Allegations of Abuse of Students by School Employees

It is the policy of Bishop Garrigan Schools that school employees not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, toward students in school or at school functions. Any school employee who commits such acts is subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge.

It is the policy of Bishop Garrigan Schools to respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by school employees by investigating or arranging for full investigation of any written allegation, and to do so in a reasonably prudent manner. The processing of a complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible. All employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information, and to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting and investigating process.

Level-one investigator: Student Abuse Investigations: Any person who feels that he or she is the victim of abuse or harassment by any person associated with Bishop Garrigan Schools should report such incidents to the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services at 1-800-362-2178 (see [DHHS flier](#) for more information)

Non-Discrimination and Equal Employment

It is the policy of the Educational System of the Diocese of Sioux City not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, socioeconomic status, marital status, religion, creed, or disability in its educational programs and activities as such may apply to religious schools. However, nothing in this policy shall be construed as prohibiting the imposition of qualifications based on religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity when such qualifications are related to a bona fide religious purpose. The educational programs of the schools of the Diocese of Sioux City will incorporate multiculturalism and gender fairness goals as follows: a. Multicultural approaches to the educational program are defined as approaches which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups, including race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, and socioeconomic background. The contributions and perspectives of Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, European Americans, and persons with disabilities shall be included. b. Gender fair approaches to the educational program shall be defined as approaches which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of women and men to society. The program shall reflect the wide variety of roles open to both women and men and shall provide equal opportunity to both sexes. Rationale: Iowa Code 216.9 State Standard Iowa Administrative Code 281-12.1(1), 12.5(8)

Pregnancy/Abortion - ([policy 5140.1](#))

Bishop Garrigan will follow the policy established by the Diocese of Sioux City Board of Education.

School Board

Seton Grade School and the Bishop Garrigan Campus are governed by the central School Board of Education which was established in the 1991-92 school year (constitution and by-laws were adopted in 1999.)

The Board consists of the pastor and one lay representative from St. Joseph - Bode, St. Joseph - Wesley, St. Michael - Whittemore, St. Peter and Paul - West Bend, St. John's - Bancroft and two lay representatives from the parish site of St. Cecelia.

The Board meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month at Bishop Garrigan High School. All meetings are open to the public unless executive session is required because of the sensitive or personal nature of a discussion. The usual meeting time is 1:00 p.m., but varies according to the season.

Anyone wishing to have an item on the agenda may do so by submitting the item in writing to any Board member two weeks prior to the meeting. [Procedure for Public Speaking to the Board Policy](#)

School Spirit

Bishop Garrigan school spirit may be divided into three categories:

- Courtesy – to all people, young and old; at all times, in school and out; and on all occasions.
- Pride – in everything our school endeavors to accomplish and has accomplished.
- Sportsmanship – the ability to win and lose gracefully, and to respect the decision of officials at athletic events.
-

School spirit means undivided loyalty to all functions of the school. A loyal student supports his school and does his utmost to keep his scholastic, extracurricular activity and behavior standards at the highest possible level.

School Facts

School Colors – Black and Gold

School Mascot – Golden Bear

School Song – Washington and Lee Swing

