



St. Francis Catholic High School
Student-Parent Handbook

Most Reverend Jaime Soto, Bishop of Sacramento
Ms. Katie Perata, Director of Catholic Schools
Mrs. Theresa Rodgers, President
Mr. Elias Mendoza, Principal

July 1, 2021– June 30, 2022

Updated: July 27, 2021

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School Contact Information

Faculty/Staff Directory: www.stfrancishs.org/facultystaff-directory

General Information

Ext. 110

Box Office

Ext. 441

Advancement

Ext. 133

Admissions

Ext. 240

Campus Ministry

Ext. 142

Guidance

Ext. 191

Athletic Director

Ext. 125

Arts Producer

Ext. 20

Billing / Financial Aid

Ext. 242

Attendance

Ext. 150

Troubie Store

Ext. 225

Student Activities

Ext. 139

5900 Elvas Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95819
Phone: 916-452-3461
Fax: 916-452-1591
www.stfrancishs.org

Attendance Line: 916-737-5050

Welcome!

Dear Parents and Students

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We are pleased to present to you the latest version of the Student-Parent Handbook. **The handbook is of particular importance to a private school as it spells out in detail our regulations and procedures. As such, it is the contractual agreement between our school and our families by which we all agree to operate.** Particular attention should be given to the sections on Technology, the Honor Code, school uniform requirements, lateness/absences, and harassment policies. We encourage you to read through the handbook and discuss student-related items and parent responsibilities. This handbook may be updated during the school year.

Mission Statement

St. Francis Catholic High School is a diocesan college preparatory school dedicated to serving young women and their families who seek a community of faith, excellence, leadership and service, grounded in the teachings of Jesus Christ. In the spirit and charism of saints Francis and Clare of Assisi, we form students who share their gifts and talents as models of Pax et Bonum.

Philosophy of St. Francis Catholic High School

The philosophy of St. Francis Catholic High School (SFHS) is based on a belief in God and is committed to the values of our Catholic faith.

- We commit ourselves to the task of educating young women to live full, responsible, and meaningful lives, strengthened through the curricula and experiences unique to a Catholic school and unique to SFHS.
- We serve the needs of all our students through a varied and comprehensive college preparatory curriculum.
- We prepare all students for higher education, career opportunities, life-time vocation choices, artistic development, and athletic proficiency. In imitation of our patron, Saint Francis of Assisi, we help students to develop a love for God's creations, and to be of service to others.
- We believe that each student can be a force for "peace and goodness" throughout the world. Thus, young women graduating from SFHS have been challenged to reach their full potential: spiritually, intellectually, artistically, physically, and socially.

Integral Student Outcomes (ISOs)

Integral Student Outcomes are essential attributes of an educated person, as someone formed in a Catholic culture. These are derived from the school's mission and philosophy statements and are defined in the form of broad-based behaviors signifying what a student knows, understands, values, and practices. These are integral as they serve to unify all the academic achievement outcomes and the co-curricular outcomes that the school establishes as goals for its students.

A St. Francis graduate is a Woman of Faith

- She understands the major tenets and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church.
- She demonstrates an active faith life.

- She respects the members of other faith traditions.

She strives for Excellence

- She meets or exceeds requirements for university matriculation.
- She has the skills needed for independent thought and life-long learning.
- She possesses self-worth.
- She practices habits conducive to spiritual, emotional, and physical wellness.

She demonstrates Leadership

- She appreciates the efforts of her peers and of the school community.
- She models moral behavior and prudent judgment.
- She values and facilitates collaboration.

She embraces Service

- She responds to the needs of the poor and the vulnerable.
- She promotes social justice based on Catholic teachings.
- She acts as a responsible citizen.

Admission Policies

SFHS is a Sacramento Diocesan school and is governed in accordance with Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church. SFHS, in the Diocese of Sacramento, mindful of the primary mission to be witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at this school. SFHS in the Diocese of Sacramento does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nation and/or ethnic origin, age, or disability in the administration of education, policies, scholarships and loan programs and other school administered programs.

Financial Policies

In order to ensure the financial health and stability of the school, the following policies are in effect. We have selected the TADS Online Billing and Tuition Management system for our financial enrollment and tuition collection.

Tuition for the 2021-2022 school year is \$14,800 and the following payment plans are available:

- Annual Payment: \$14,800 due July 1, 2021, through the TADS Online Billing and Tuition Management system
- Semi-annual Payment: \$7,400 due July 1, 2021, and November 1, 2021, through TADS
- Quarterly Payment: \$3,700 due July, September, November 2021, and February 2022
- Ten Payments: \$1,480 due July 2021, through April 2022, through TADS

St. Francis does not accept tuition payments at the school. All tuition payments are made through TADS. To login and view your TADS tuition account [Click here](#).

Registration

A non-refundable registration fee of \$725 is required of all students. This fee is typically due in March for the next school year. For transfer students, the non-refundable registration fee is due at the time of acceptance.

Transfer Students

Tuition will be calculated and charged on a daily rate per quarter for students who transfer to SFHS during the academic year. For example, a student transferring to SFHS with ten days remaining in a third quarter will be charged ten days for the third quarter and all of the fourth quarter tuition.

Delinquent Accounts

Parents are requested to inform the Finance Department if unforeseen circumstances or hardships affect the payment of tuition. A student may be held from taking semester exams due to an overdue tuition balance. A student will not receive credit for the semester's work until such examinations are taken. Students with unpaid accounts may be denied admittance for the following school year. Diplomas will not be issued to graduating students who have not met all financial obligations to the school.

Tuition Refunds

Parents/guardians who voluntarily withdraw their daughter from SFHS agree to pay for the entire academic quarter which she last attended.

Parents/guardians whose daughter involuntarily withdraws from SFHS agree to pay tuition through the last date of attendance. For example, if a student's last day of attendance is five days from the end of the third quarter, the student's family will be expected to pay for three-quarters of the annual tuition less five days of tuition.

Financial Aid

SFHS provides financial aid for families who qualify. Financial aid enables SFHS to assist deserving students who could not otherwise afford to attend. To qualify for financial aid, a family must complete an application and demonstrate financial need. Although total financial need exceeds the school's resources, SFHS helps as many families as possible. Only registered students will be considered for financial aid. Applications are available online at www.tuitionaid.com. Families who apply after the application deadline must first receive permission from the Finance Office.

Financial aid recipients: Below is the Minimum Requirements Contract. By accepting financial aid, you and your daughter are accepting the terms of the Minimum Requirement Contract. Failure to meet these terms may affect your daughter's financial aid eligibility for the next semesters.

Minimum Requirements Contract for Students Receiving Financial Aid

It is the **student's responsibility** to meet these requirements to receive tuition assistance at SFHS.

- The student must maintain good academic standing. No academic probation as defined in the Student-Parent Handbook under Academic Policies will be allowed.
- The student must maintain a good conduct record. Suspensions serious in nature and conduct letters may forfeit aid at the discretion of the Financial Aid committee.

- The student must behave in a manner on and off campus that is consistent with the Christian principles and philosophy of SFHS.

It is the **parent's/guardian's responsibility** to comply with the following requirements for their student to receive financial aid at SFHS.

- The parent/guardian must comply with the Payment Plan as set forth by the Financial Aid Office.
- The parent/guardian must promptly return (within two business days) all phone calls or emails from school officials.
- The parent/guardian must communicate inability to make scheduled payments at least two business days prior to Electronic Funds Transfer date.

Damaged Equipment

Parents must pay the replacement or repair cost of any equipment or facilities damaged or defaced by students.

Parent Service Hours

Parent volunteers are an essential part of the St. Francis Catholic High School community. Volunteers are needed throughout the year for many events, including Admissions, Advancement, Academics, Arts and Athletic events, as well as administrative tasks. St. Francis offers parents a multitude of opportunities to participate in the life of the school, working alongside faculty, staff and other committed parents for the good of our students and school.

We are blessed to have many opportunities for parents to volunteer on campus! While family service hours are required, we know that many families contribute more than the basic requirement. Because of such dedication and support, St. Francis is able to provide our Troubies a holistic and enriching education grounded in our pillars of faith, excellence, leadership and service. Thank you in advance for your service to our Troubies and the St. Francis community.

Minimum hours:

For 2021-22, each St. Francis family is required to fulfill a minimum of 25 hours of service during the school year (the hour requirement is reduced to 10 hours for parents of seniors). Parent/family service hours can be completed through any combination of active service or donations of items requested.

Earning parent hours through active service:

Hours earned through active service correspond directly with the time spent performing the activity, and can include:

- Time attending board meetings of the above-mentioned groups may be included in hours earned. (Grandparents may earn hours for their family.)
- Many departments across campus, including Admissions, Advancement, Academics, Arts, Athletics, Wellness, Guidance, Campus Ministry, etc., will post opportunities to gain active service hours.
- Medical personnel for dances and events (may receive extra hours). Parents providing this volunteer service must carry their own medical malpractice insurance or have "Moonlight" coverage from their employer as SFHS does not have insurance coverage for medical professionals.

There are no minimum hours that have to be earned through Active Service, as long as the full hours are earned in some combination between active service and requested donations.

Earning parent hours through donations:

Many St. Francis student activities, community activities and special events utilize donations from our parent and grandparent community. Required hours can be obtained through donations of specific requested items needed for an event or specific purpose. A minimum donation value of \$25 is needed for each hour of credit.

Providing store-bought items that benefit school events (snack foods, cookies, desserts, wine, beverages, gift cards, etc.) can be counted towards the annual parent service hour obligation. A minimum donation value of \$25 is needed to receive each hour of credit. Only designated items, delivered at requested times, will be counted towards service hour obligations. Due to allergy concerns, compliance with the specific requests for donated food items is necessary. Items not in compliance with requests will not count toward the service requirement and may be returned. Families must use the donation list provided for each specific event to receive parent service hour credits for their donation.

How to find parent service hour opportunities:

Service hour opportunities (both active service and donated items) occur throughout the entire year; these opportunities will be posted on the MVP system (located at <https://www.stfrancishs.org/parent-volunteering>) on the St. Francis Catholic High School website. **Excess hours do not carry over to the next school year.**

Recording parent service hour participation and due dates:

All families must record their volunteer service hours using the MVP system on the St. Francis Catholic High School website, and the School reviews total hours per family throughout the year. Parent Service Hours must be completed by April 8, 2022 for freshman, sophomore, and junior families. For senior families, parent volunteer hours must be completed by **February 11, 2022**. Completed Parent Service Hour reports are to be emailed to Sarah Hamilton at shamilton@stfrancishs.org.

Non-participation fee:

Failure to serve all hours will result in a mandatory \$1,000 fee due March 5, 2022 for senior families. For freshman, sophomore, and junior families the student's spring semester Clearance Card will be held until payment is made through TADS. This amount cannot be prorated for partial hours completed; therefore, all 25 hours (or 10 hours for senior parents) must be performed or earned and reported by the reporting deadline to avoid paying the annual non-participation fee. The \$1,000 non-participation fee is non-refundable. If a student leaves the school, the fee is not prorated or returned.

Fundraising Events and Activities

The advancement department builds strong and lasting relationships with current and past families, alumnae and school supporters, engaging them as volunteers, ambassadors and financial supporters to strengthen and sustain the operational and long-term fiscal needs of the school. Each year, our donors provide the essential funds needed for financial assistance for students in need, enriched academic programs, life changing faith experiences (such as Kairos), top tier arts and athletic offerings, provision and upkeep of superior facilities and other expenses not covered by tuition.

The advancement department manages the St. Francis Fund (our annual fund), Thankful Thursday (our Day of Giving), fundraising events including the Crab Feed and the Revelry Gala and Auction, scholarship outreach, the endowment, planned giving and capital campaigns.

For the 2021-22 school year, every student at St. Francis is receiving a \$2,000 "silent" scholarship toward her tuition. We ask all families to make a financial gift meaningful to their circumstances that closes the gap to meet the cost of this transformative education.

Supporters surpassing \$1,940 in annual donations (July 1st - June 30th) are recognized as Benefactors and are invited to the President's Society Cocktail Reception in the fall. The advancement department ensures that donations are appropriately acknowledged and administered consistent with donors' intended purposes.

St. Francis Fund (Annual Fund)

The St. Francis (Annual) Fund is our largest yearly fundraising initiative with the most immediate impact on our students. The SF Fund benefits every student by keeping our tuition costs down for all students while enhancing unique programs and services — from athletics, to arts, academic teams and student clubs, leadership programs, retreats and offering so many other enriching opportunities. We are only able to do so through the generosity of families who support the school beyond tuition, our alumnae community, and other generous donors.

Thankful Thursday (Day of Giving)

SFHS holds a crowd-sourcing event where supporters are asked to show their gratitude with a gift made on Thankful Thursday (our Day of Giving). Our 11th annual Day of Giving will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2021. This one-day, crowd-funded initiative engages our entire community and focuses on raising the additional tuition assistance needed for more than 30 percent of our young women and their families who would not be able to attend St. Francis without this support. From students to parents, alumnae, grandparents, past parents, and countless others, this one day of giving engages more than 1,500 supporters and raises a significant amount.

All proceeds support St. Francis scholarship needs and the Day of Giving is facilitated primarily through online donations. Funds received on this day are generally matched.

Community and Fundraising Events

Our Crab Feed and Revelry fundraising events build community while supporting our Troubies. These events provide significant financial resources for the students and school. Your attendance and support of these events is a visible reminder to our community of your commitment to the school and our advancement efforts. All parents are asked to support these events with their time, talent and treasure. Each event's success can only be achieved with an expected 100 percent parent support through sponsorships, donations, attendance, and/or volunteering. Alumnae, parents of alumnae and other community members are also encouraged to participate by sponsoring, providing auction items and attending the events.

Crab Feed:

The most renowned Crab Feed in the area, this event is always a sellout, bringing together current families, faculty and staff, and our alumnae community. All guests enjoy the scrumptious meal of antipasto platter, salad and bread, rigatoni in a hearty Italian meat sauce, and crab, crab, and more crab! Everyone's sweet tooth is tempted with the amazing dessert auction! The no-host bar is open all evening and frequented regularly by guests. Outside alcohol is not permitted at this event. There is an opportunity for guests to win something in the raffle or to take home a silent or live auction item, before dancing the night away to a live band. The Crab Feed will be held on campus on Saturday, January 29, 2022.

The Revelry Event & Auction:

Now in its 16th year, St. Francis High School's premier school-wide event and fundraiser, the Revelry Event & Auction, will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2022. This fun and festive evening is typically attended by more than 500 adult supporters. It is a delightful event that brings the school community together and offers a robust silent auction, live student entertainment, delicious food and beverages, and a rousing live auction. Sponsors and live auction item donors are recognized and invited to a special reception.

Hands Up for Troubies (Fund-a-Vision):

Each year at Revelry, a special school-wide initiative is introduced. This provides all attendees an opportunity to raise their paddles high and support our students and school through this appeal.

Alumnae Relations

More than 11,000 St. Francis alumnae live and work throughout the nation and the world, and each year more than 250 young women join this prestigious group. When you enter the campus, you stroll down Alumnae Way where you will see the names of every SFHS graduate.

Alumnae are welcome at all St. Francis events and are encouraged to attend school events, including Masses, the Homecoming Rally, sporting events, theater productions, and Senior Sequester, where we welcome the current graduating class into the alumnae sisterhood. Additionally, the school supports its alumnae in orchestrating reunions and social events, and reports alumnae news and updates in the Pax et Bonum magazine, on the St. Francis website, and on social media. There is also a private LinkedIn group, SFHS Sacramento Alumnae, where alumnae can network with fellow Troubies. #TroubieForLife is popular on Twitter for identifying alumnae news and updates.

Parent Organizations

SFHS is blessed to have many active and supportive parent groups on campus operating at the discretion of SFHS administration. These organizations work to support the school and its mission, in collaboration with administration, or jeopardize their affiliation with SFHS. Parent organizations offer great opportunities to build relationships with other families, as well as the faculty, staff, and administration. Please refer to the Principal's newsletter, school website and calendar for dates, times, and meeting locations.

All organizations must have an SFHS email address, as well as use the SFHS communication channels and social media sites. Additionally, each organization will operate under bylaws approved by SFHS, and work with an assigned school liaison.

Parents' Guild:

The Parents' Guild supports campus-wide academic and student life activities. All current parents are members of the Guild, as a small portion of registration fees go towards supporting the organization's efforts. Through the volunteerism of parents, the Guild is able to support educational and spiritual life on campus. The Guild hosts many events, such as Freshmen Overnight Retreat, Back to School Night, Father-Daughter Dance, Faculty and Staff Appreciation, SWAP Day, High School Placement Test Hospitality, Troubie College Day, Sophomore Family Mass, Junior Family Mass, Dads & Grads (hosted by the Dads' Club), and the Parents' Guild Installation Ceremony. All parents are encouraged to become active in the Guild.

Booster Club:

The Booster Club fosters and provides cooperation, understanding, and communication between the parents, students, faculty, administration, and the outside community with the athletic department. Boosters endeavor to encourage parent, faculty, and student participation in the support of the athletic department while providing opportunities for volunteerism and service and are critical partners in such major events as the Welcome Back Parent BBQ, the annual Crab Feed, Sports Physical Night, and Booster Que barbeques (held annually for each sport program). Booster Club meetings are held monthly during the school year.

Patrons of the Arts:

The Patrons of the Arts supports all fine and performing arts activities and provides valuable support for the work of student artists in every discipline: theater, dance, music, sculpture, drawing, and painting. Additionally, the Patrons awards scholarships to students in every arts discipline.

Dads' Club:

The SFHS Dads' Club is a vibrant and compelling service club organization committed to developing positive, engaging, lifelong Father-Daughter relationships. This is an easy and fun way for dads to become more involved in their daughters' high school activities while expanding and growing the school's parent volunteering, Advancement, and Alumnae initiatives.

In addition to supporting many of the activities around campus, the Dads' Club signature events include the self-defense workshop, a teen driver safety workshop, the Holy Bowl Spirit Station and Troubie Life Skills. All dads are members of the Dads' club and are welcome to attend any and all meetings and events. Single mothers are also welcome to attend.

Black Parent Group:

The Black Parent Group embraces and honors the identity of the Black students and families at St. Francis High School. They support and partner with the Black Student Union and the Black Alumnae Group to enrich the SFHS experience through speakerships, sponsored projects, and cultural exchanges so that current students and families have a deep sense of belonging within the St. Francis community. The group provides a space where Black parents and parents of Black children can openly share their SFHS experience and support one another during our children's high school journey.

Grandparents' Club:

SFHS loves having our grandparents involved on campus! There are many opportunities to experience the high school world your granddaughter is enjoying, from Meet a Parent/Grandparent for Lunch days, which are offered each semester, to myriad sports and arts events, Masses and all the great community events beginning with the fall SELFe Event and including our Crab Feed and Revelry Gala.

Launched in 2018-19, the Grandparents' Club is a growing group of grandparents who want to get more involved, get to know each other, learn more about St. Francis, and enrich the granddaughter-grandparent relationship. As a member, you will be added to regular school communications and receive updates about Club meetings and events. All grandparents of our students and alumnae are welcome!

Service of Alcohol at Parent Events

For school events that are designed primarily for parents or adult community members, alcohol may be served. Students who are present at these events as performers or event assistants are required to have

their parents complete and sign a permission slip that notifies them that alcohol will be present. These permission slips must be signed and returned to the school prior to the event.

Specific fundraising guidelines for groups above, as well as athletic/academic teams and clubs, are located on the SFHS website (www.stfrancis.org).

Student Activities

This course is a required class if you have been elected as a Student Body Officer or Class Officer. Students in this class will develop an understanding of leadership theory, personal development, communication, organization, community building and ethics in leadership. The purpose of this class is to organize, manage, and evaluate school-wide activities and events, increase school spirit, participate in community activities and events, facilitate communication within St. Francis, and support the St. Francis student community. Student leaders also provide student representation for faculty, administration, and parent organizations. **NOTE: This class is only offered at B Block.**

Leadership students must maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average to remain active members of Student Council. Leadership students should be examples of our four pillars: Faith, Excellence, Leadership, and Service. Leadership students do this by participating in class retreats and school activities, completing service hours on time, and engaging in the full St. Francis experience. Leadership students may not be on disciplinary probation or have a suspension during their term; doing so may disqualify them from office.

Prerequisite: You must be elected to a Student Body Office or Class Office or be selected as a Class Senator to enroll.

Campus Ministry

As a Catholic school, SFHS embraces the teachings and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church. At the same time, St. Francis is a community of many faiths, each bringing their unique gifts to the greater community. The community is united by its commitment to Pax et Bonum (Peace and Goodness), as evident in the life of its patron, St. Francis of Assisi. All members of the community, students, teachers, staff, and parents are to respect one another's beliefs, share in each one's spiritual journey, and pray and work together as a community of faith. Campus Ministry shares in the mission of the global Catholic Church, including sharing its values of Catholic Social Teaching. Students are given the opportunity to think, analyze, and reflect upon its key principles:

- Care for God's Creation
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers, Solidarity
- Life and Dignity of the Human Person; Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities (Human Rights and Dignity); Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

The Campus Ministry program serves to challenge the faith life of the students and encourages them to move their faith into practice. This is accomplished through prayer, retreats, service, and community.

Prayer

School-wide liturgies and prayer services mark key moments in the liturgical and school year. Students also attend Family Masses at each grade level, special liturgies, and memorials as requested. School liturgies and prayer services are mandatory, and students are required to wear formal uniforms. In lieu of the Eucharist, non-Catholic students are encouraged to receive a blessing. Parents and grandparents are

welcome to attend.

All students, regardless of religious background, are expected to attend their yearly family Mass:

- Freshman Family Mass
- Sophomore Family Mass and Ring Ceremony
- Junior Family Mass and Commissioning Ceremony
- Senior Baccalaureate Mass

Retreats

The retreat program offers students the opportunity to explore their lives, their spirituality, and their relationship with God and others. Students of all faith backgrounds are expected to attend a retreat each year while at St. Francis. Retreat attendance is an expectation for all students as it is an integral part of each student's faith formation, as well as an expression of the mission and philosophy of SFHS. Teachers and staff support retreat attendance by encouraging students to attend their yearly retreats, as well as by relieving the pressures of their absences from class, sports, or other school responsibilities. Students who miss work, tests, or quizzes while on retreat will be provided an equal number of block meetings/days after they return to make up for what was missed. Teachers will post missing assignments and due dates on their Schoology class pages.

Students are to abide by the school rules regarding behavior and free dress are enforced. Cell phones, watches, and other electronics are not allowed on retreats.

Registration, Fees and Refunds for Retreats

Registrations for all retreats begin in the summer and space is limited on most retreats. The retreat fee is due two weeks prior to the retreat and no refunds or transfers are offered after the two-week deadline. Registration is complete once the online registration has been completed. Requests for financial assistance are made to the Campus Ministry department. Retreat fees help offset the true cost of the retreats, which is paid by the school. There is a \$50.00 fee to change/cancel your retreat once you have signed up. There is no refund for Sophomore and Junior Retreats canceled within 2 weeks of the retreat, and 3 weeks before Kairos (Senior Retreat).

Freshman Retreats

- Freshman Overnight Retreat in August (Free)
- Freshman Retreat - one day retreat, students attend with their theology class (Free)

Sophomore Retreat-“Finding Strength in God”

- One-night, two-day retreat at the Jesuit Retreat Center of the Sierra (Applegate)

Junior Retreat-“Celebrating the Gift”

- Two-night, three-day retreat at the Jesuit Retreat Center of the Sierra (Applegate) (\$80 fee)

Kairos-“God’s Time”

- Three-night, four-day retreat at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos (\$130 fee)

Mother-Daughter Retreat

- One-night, two-day retreat held at a different location each year (TBD)

Father-Daughter Spirit Day

- One-day retreat held at a different location each year
- Participation is subject to general waiver and release of liability (TBD)

Christian Service

Through direct service to our marginalized sisters and brothers, St. Francis Catholic High School students expand their worldview and develop their gifts and talents for the greater glory of God. Their work emulates the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and our patron, St. Francis of Assisi. Students directly serve others by feeding the hungry, giving drinks to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting the imprisoned (Matthew 25:35-36). Service hours must be completed in partnership with one or more approved non-profit organizations.

Service immersion trips are also available, but only to rising juniors and seniors. Students apply during the fall semester; preference is given to juniors.

Christian Service Requirement

For the 2021-22 academic year, hours may be completed in person or remotely. All entries must be verified using one of the options described in “The Basic Process” section of the Christian Service page of the SFHS website. Grade-level minimum requirements are listed below.

- Grade 9: 10 hours of service
- Grade 10: 15 hours of service
- Grade 11: 20 hours of service
- Grade 12: 30 hours of service

As we return to full in-person learning, all aspects of eligibility for extracurricular activities will be observed. This includes the completion of service requirements. Students who received an INC on their Semester 2 report card for the 2020-21 academic year had until July 31, 2021, to clear the delinquency in order to remain eligible for 2021-22 semester 1 activities. To maintain semester 2 eligibility, this year's service hours must be completed and logged in MobileServe by March 4, 2022. Students who do not complete their hours on time are placed on Academic Contract, preventing them from participating in Athletics, Arts, and Academic Teams.

Charity Drives and Collections

All charity drives or fundraisers are approved by Campus Ministry and scheduled in consideration of the larger school calendar. Clubs, student organizations, and athletic teams may only raise money or organize donation drives for organizations if approved by Campus Ministry. Recipient organizations must be in good standing with the Catholic Church.

Campus Life Center

The CLC is the home of the Campus Ministry Offices. It is also a student gathering place on campus. The hours of the CLC are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on school days. Hours may change without notice for a variety of reasons, including First Fridays and some late start days. The rules of the CLC are posted: water only (no other drinks), no food or gum. It is a privilege to have the CLC, and misuse of the space will result in detention and the closure of the CLC for a specified period of time.

Student/Parent Code of Conduct

A necessary condition of continued enrollment at SFHS is that students behave in a manner, both on and off campus, which is consistent with the principles and Christian philosophy of SFHS. These principles include, but are not limited to, any policies, principles or procedures set forth in our Student-Parent Handbook. It is also a condition of enrollment that the parents/guardians of each student adhere to these standards of conduct as determined by SFHS. It is essential that students, parents, and school officials work together to ensure that each student receives a value-based, Christian education. Normally, philosophical differences between families and the school can be resolved. In some rare instances, however, SFHS may find it necessary, at its discretion, to require parents/guardians to withdraw their daughter from the school. Some guidelines include the following:

- Just as the school expects its faculty and staff to be respectful of our students and parents/guardians, SFHS expects parents/guardians and students to work courteously and cooperatively with the school in order to assist each student in meeting the academic, moral and behavioral expectations of the school. This includes respectful treatment of all faculty, coaches, moderators, counselors, administrators, support staff, other students, and other parents.
- Students and parent/guardians are encouraged to express their concerns about school operations and personnel to the appropriate administrators and staff. However, they may not do so in a manner that is discourteous, scandalous, rumor-driven, disruptive, threatening, hostile, or divisive. This includes, but is not limited to, use of social media as a means to express any of the above.
- These behavioral expectations for students and parents/guardians include, but are not limited to, all school sponsored events (e.g., athletics, field trips) as well as interaction with school staff and other St. Francis students and parents at any time, on or off campus.
- Students are often judged on their behavior outside of school, and therefore, each student, whether in or out of school uniform and whether on or off campus, should conduct herself in a manner consistent as a member of SFHS. Behavior that is deemed contrary to the moral or religious principles of the Roman Catholic Church or the philosophy or policies of SFHS makes a student subject to disciplinary action.
- Students who are present when wrongdoing is evident have an obligation to remove themselves immediately from the situation; otherwise, they share in the consequences related to such behavior.

SFHS reserves the right to determine, at its discretion, which actions fail to meet the principles and Christian philosophy of the school. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in disciplinary action, dismissal, suspension of a student, revocation of a parent/guardian privilege to attend or to participate in school activities, or dismissal, depending on the severity of the offense.

Honor Code

While all of the SFHS integral student outcomes are important, the most fundamental is that students practice habits of Christian spirituality, including ethical behavior on or off campus. As its Catholic philosophy indicates, the school's ultimate interest is in helping young women make responsible, intelligent decisions in the light of Christian values and the teachings of Christ. This expectation is an end in itself; at the same time, it also is vital to the achievement of the school's other learning outcomes. Ethical behavior requires that each student hold herself and others to standards of honesty, effort, compassion, and honor. SFHS believes that without these standards, true learning and growth are impossible.

The SFHS student:

- uses her God-given talents and energy to achieve her potential. She takes full advantage of the opportunities she is given by her parents and the school to learn and to grow. She combats laziness, absenteeism, and the temptation to “take the easy way out.”
- treats her peers and her teachers with the same respect, compassion, courtesy, and understanding that she herself hopes to receive. She does not harass, belittle, make negative comments, take advantage of or seek to exclude another student, or does she display poor sportsmanship.
- accepts responsibility for her mistakes: when she errs, she admits it, accepts the consequences, and takes steps to improve. She does not manufacture excuses, blame others for her own shortcomings, ask her parents or friends to cover up for her, or quibble over the meaning of rules.
- abides by (assumes ownership of) the school rules and regulations, whether she personally approves of these or not. When she believes that a rule/regulation is unfair or unnecessary, she uses proper channels to initiate change; she does not try to justify breaking a rule on the grounds she disagrees with it.
- displays honesty, integrity, and pride in her academic endeavors, and encourages those qualities in her peers. She does not cheat, copy, plagiarize, use prohibited resources, or in any other way try to earn credit for work and achievement not her own; nor will she be a party to another student in such dishonest practices.
- cooperates with school officials to ensure the safety and well-being of persons and property. She does not steal, misuse equipment or facilities, leave messes for others to clean up, disobey attendance policies, drive carelessly, or create an environment where another student would feel unsafe.

Academic Policies

Good academic standing is required for membership on academic, arts or athletic teams or to participate in co-curricular events or the fall/spring play. Progress reports and report cards will be checked prior to the start of the sports season, at the quarter, and semester. Students are considered ineligible if they are on Academic Probation (see Academic Probation Policy).

Grading System

SFHS uses “A” through “F” grades. Explanation:

- A (4.0) Indicates superior proficiency and achievement
- B (3.0) Indicates above average proficiency and achievement
- C (2.0) Indicates satisfactory proficiency and achievement
- D (1.0) Indicates minimum proficiency and achievement credit given
- F (0.0) Unacceptable work and no credit given

Inc. (0.0) Given when a student has not completed the work for a legitimate reason. An incomplete Grade must be made up within ten school days of the due date for grades, as indicated on the school calendar. If work is not made up within the above specified time or the time agreed upon by a student, administration, and teacher, the “Inc.” automatically becomes an “F”.

School Grading Scale and Policies

SFHS uses the following scale for all standard level courses. Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses may use a different scale, based on specific department policies. Students in Honors and AP courses should consult their teachers' syllabi.

A+	100%-97%
A	96%-93%
A-	92%-90%
B+	89%-87%
B	86%-83%
B-	82%-80%
C+	79%-77%
C	76%-73%
C-	72%-70%
D+	69%-67%
D	66%-63%
D-	62%-60%
F	59%-Below

Students should consult their teachers' course syllabi for specific grading policies.

Honor Roll

Honor roll is granted to students whose semester weighted GPA falls into the following categories:

3.50-3.74	Honor Roll
3.75-3.99	High Honor Roll
4.00-and above	Highest Honor Roll

Credit Requirements

A total of 240 credits are required for graduation. A student must be enrolled in a minimum of six courses (30 credits) each semester. Students may not exceed eight courses (40 credits) each semester; exceptions are made for one academic team (1 credit) each semester. Only seniors may register for one (5 credits) Teaching Assistant course per semester to meet their six courses (30 credits) minimum.

Requirements by Subject:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Requirement</i>
Theology	Each semester of attendance
English	Eight semesters
Fine Arts	Two semesters
Foreign Language	Four semesters
Mathematics	Six semesters
Physical Education	Three semesters
Health	One semester
Science	Six Semesters
Social Studies	Seven semesters
Electives	Three semesters

A grade of C- or higher is required in courses used for admission at most colleges.

At the end of first semester, seniors with an F in a class required for graduation will receive a letter from the Assistant Principal informing them that they may not graduate or participate in graduation activities unless the failed class is made up prior to graduation.

Report Cards

Electronic grade reports are published four times each year. Quarter progress reports are posted in PowerSchool Portal in October and March; semester report cards are posted in Schoology in January and June. Only grades on semester report cards appear on the official transcript. Students and parents are required to check on progress on the school’s Learning Management System, Schoology on a regular basis.

Course Scheduling Policy

Every effort is made to accommodate legitimate course requests. However, course availability, prerequisites and departmental guidelines may result in some requests not being fulfilled.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites are designed to ensure that a student is prepared to succeed in the course. For example, a student needs to master Integrated Math 3 in order to be successful in Precalculus.

Course Load Requirements

A student must be enrolled in a minimum of six courses (30 credits) each semester. Students may not exceed eight courses (40 credits) each semester; exceptions are made for one academic team (1 credit)

each semester. Only seniors may register for one (5 credits) Teaching Assistant course per semester to meet their six courses (30 credits) minimum.

Schedule Changes

The school will not process schedule changes for the next academic year after the last day of second-semester finals without a “W” penalty (see Dropping a Course). Students may not request a schedule change based upon teacher preference. Unfortunately, we also cannot process schedule changes to accommodate free block preferences or carpools.

During the academic year, schedule changes are only allowed under the following circumstances:

- Students are cut from a sport and must add P.E. (see P.E. Policies)
- The school initiates the change, determined through student performance in the class
- SFHS erred in scheduling; for example, a schedule that is missing a required course

Dropping a Course

Students may not request a drop for a course in Theology, Social Studies, English, or an impacted course for which there was a waiting list. Also, they may not drop a course and add a Teaching Assistant course to meet the six courses (30 credits) semester minimum requirement. Drops after the school schedule change window closes will only be allowed for school errors (e.g., a missing course), a school initiated change determined through student performance in a class, or if a student is cut from a sport and must add a P.E. If a student requests a drop for any other reason, she will be subject to the policies listed below.

Yearlong Courses:

- Students will receive a “W” on their report cards for courses dropped after the school year begins. Drops that occur within twenty-five (25) school days of the first scheduled final will be reflected on the transcript as a “WF” and will be counted as an “F” (0 grade points) in the GPA.
- Students who request a drop at semester will receive their first semester grades, and a “W” on their transcripts for the second semester.
- Students who request a drop after the second semester has begun will receive their first semester grades and a “WF” on their transcripts for the second semester. A “WF” will be counted as an “F” (0 grade points) in the GPA.

Semester Long Courses:

- Students will receive a “W” on their report cards for courses dropped after the school year begins. Drops that occur within twenty-five (25) school days of the first scheduled final will be reflected on the transcript as a “WF” and will be counted as an “F” (0 grade points) in the GPA.
- Students on Academic Teams may request a drop if initiated by the teacher by halfway through the team’s season and at the discretion of the Academic Team coach. Because each Academic Team season differs in duration, each team’s halfway point is determined by the number of meetings held that season, per the team’s syllabus.

Retaking a Course Policy

If a student receives a “D” or “F” semester grade and retakes the course, both courses and grades will remain on the transcript. However, the higher grade will be used in GPA calculation and receive the credit. Students may not retake a course if they received higher than a “D” in the original course. A student requesting to retake a course at another institution must receive counselor and administrative

approval for placement on the St. Francis Catholic High School transcript.

P.E. Policy

Students participating in any level of an SFHS athletic team will be exempt from taking Physical Education (P.E.) in the semester during which their sport competes (see Athletic Policies).

A senior who has taken two courses (10 credits) and is in a spring sport must complete the entire season. If she is cut from a team or quits within the first two weeks of the semester, she must join a St. Francis non-cut sport or she will be placed in Cardio or Rec-Fitness. If she chooses to not try out or quits after the first two weeks of the semester, she will be placed in a Cardio or Rec-Fitness class with a grade reduction commensurate with the amount of class time missed.

Students who have been active and competitive for at least a year in a sport not offered at St. Francis High School may be eligible for a PE waiver. Students must provide appropriate documentation to be considered for approval. The Non SF Sport PE Waiver application can be downloaded from the school's website. Coaches are required to sign the application and attach a letter of recommendation and competition calendar. Students who are not approved will be assigned to a P. E. class. This is a zero credit course. Students enrolled in this course are exempt from one semester of P.E. and their graduation requirement for that semester is fulfilled.

Honors and Advanced Placement Policy

Students may enroll in no more than four Honors or AP classes per semester at St. Francis Catholic High School. Students wishing to take a fourth Honors or AP class must meet with their Guidance Counselors prior to registration. All students enrolled in AP classes are expected to take the AP exams. Any student who does not take the AP exam for her course will be required to take a department final, regardless of the student's grade in the course or grade level.

Students must pay the non-refundable registration fee or obtain a partial fee waiver from the business office.

Students not enrolled in an SFHS AP/Honors course that offers an exam will not be able to sit for that AP exam. Students who wish to take an AP exam in a course not offered by SFHS must submit an application to their Guidance Counselors by September 1. Due to demand and proctor availability, the school cannot guarantee that the requests for non-SFHS AP tests will be granted.

Make-Up Work/Test Policy

It is the student's responsibility to contact or email her teacher to arrange for make-up work and missed assignments within 48 hours of the student's return to campus. Students who are absent are required to make up any assignments/tests which have been given during their absences on a date and time agreed to by their teachers. Students who fail to make up assignments or who do not report for make-up tests are subject to receiving a zero for that assignment or test. **Students who miss work, tests or quizzes will be provided an equal number of block meetings/days after they return to make up what was missed, for a maximum of five (5) school days.**

Teachers are not obliged to administer make-up tests during the course of the school day. When there are repeated absences on days set aside for tests/projects/presentations, teachers will exercise their judgments regarding the feasibility of make-up work/tests/projects/presentations. In the case of prolonged absence due to illness, the teacher, guidance, and administration will decide on an appropriate course of action regarding missing work. It is recommended that parents do not schedule family vacations during school time. Students who are reported as ill may not come to campus to take a test.

Final Exams

SFHS does not offer early finals. A student who needs to make up finals due to one-time extraordinary circumstances (death in family, illness with medical note, school related events) must use the school scheduled make-up exam dates. Students who miss finals more than once for an extraordinary circumstance will be subject to reduced credit or no credit on their final exams. Make-up finals will not be granted to accommodate trips.

Senior Finals Policy

A senior in her second semester may be excused from taking the final exam in a course if she meets all of the following requirements:

- Has achieved a B- or better in the course for the second semester (this includes weighted or unweighted letter grades).
- Have no more than 6 absences from class each semester for non-school sponsored events (illnesses, trips, etc.). Students with extraordinary extenuating circumstances (death of family members, surgery, long term illnesses of more than two weeks, etc..) may be excused from the 6 absences)
- Has completed her senior service hours by the first Monday after Easter Break
- Has no suspension/Saturday School for any reason (a suspension or Saturday School in either semester automatically removes the final exam privilege for all courses)-students may file a Senior finals appeal at the end of April (forms will be emailed by the Dean)

Seniors may be required to take a final, regardless of grade, in elective and P.E. courses.

Students not required to take finals due to discipline, attendance, or class grades are not required to attend second semester final review days. Administration reserves the right to amend this policy as needed.

Transfers Prior to Final Exams

A student who transfers out of SFHS prior to the end of the first semester and who is officially enrolled in another school may be excused from taking final exams for the first semester. The student's grade will be calculated and submitted at the point of transfer. Note: A student who has transferred out of St. Francis at the end of the first semester and transfers back to SFHS within two weeks of the second semester is required to take the final exam upon her return. The student's final grade and credits for the course will be adjusted accordingly.

Incomplete Grades

A student who receives an "Incomplete" on her report card must complete any outstanding work within two weeks of the end of the semester. Failure to comply will result in the grade being changed to an "F". If there are extraordinary circumstances that prevent completion of missed work, the grade level Assistant Principal must approve any extension.

Courses Taken at Other Academic Institutions/Retaking a Course

SFHS will accept credit toward graduation from WCEA/WASC accredited and UC a-g approved high schools under the following conditions:

- Students must consult with their Guidance Counselors and subject-area Department Chairpersons prior to registration to ensure that the class is acceptable. Classes taken from other institutions may not be compatible with the SFHS curriculum; students assume the risk and responsibility for these discrepancies.
- The required courses for graduation in English, Theology, Social Studies, and P.E. must be taken at SFHS.
- Courses may be taken to remediate a grade of D or F with prior approval from the Guidance Counselor. The course must be UC-approved. The student is responsible for ensuring that an official transcript is sent to SFHS, and the course will be included on the St. Francis transcript, credits will be applied, and the new grade will be factored into the grade point average calculations. The original grade will remain on the transcript and will only be removed from grade point average calculations if the new course bears the same title.
- Approved high school classes taken at WCEA/WASC accredited high schools other than St. Francis will be recorded on the student's transcript and included in the GPA calculations.
- Honors points for GPA calculations will be given only if the same course is also offered at St. Francis.
- No courses taken prior to the fall semester of the freshman year will be posted on a student's transcript.
- Community college courses will not be placed on the SFHS transcript. Students will be responsible for sending community college transcripts to colleges to which they apply in their senior year.

Concurrent Enrollment Policy

Concurrent enrollment is designed to provide educational opportunities at the community college and state university levels for students who can benefit from the experience. In order to participate, a student must:

- Have parental and administrative approval
- Request courses which constitute an expansion of her high school courses, or courses not available at the high school.
- Have a grade point average of 3.0 or better
- Be aware that the offering of the course may not conflict with SFHS hours (8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., M-F)

Graduation/Diplomas

Our school tradition and policy dictate students participating in the graduation ceremony may **not** wear any other visible items, accessories, or regalia during the ceremony (aside from the school issued unadorned white cap and plain white gown). Students not following policy will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. In this manner, St. Francis Catholic High School creates a formal and inclusive graduation ceremony for all students, one that maintains the focus on the scholastic achievements of the entire graduating class.

Certain conditions may restrict a student from attending the graduation ceremony:

- Failure to meet academic or Christian Service requirements for graduation
- Serious behavioral issues which merit administrative decision and action
- Personal choice of student
- Failure to attend mandatory practices
- Failure to pay graduation fee
- Failure to return required sports materials

Diplomas may be withheld and a graduation date will not be posted on the transcript if:

- Credits are not sufficient or are incomplete
- Academic requirements for graduation are not met
- Financial obligations are not met
- Christian Service requirement is not fulfilled

A student can become eligible if the above standards are met on the date of the next quarterly report card. In addition, a student is not eligible if she has an “Incomplete” on her most recent report card. Once the “Incomplete” is changed to a grade, the report card will be reviewed again by the specific administrator to determine if the student is eligible. Seniors who have not completed their academic requirements within one calendar year of their anticipated graduation date will not be eligible to receive an SFHS diploma.

Christian Service Graduation Requirement

As we return to full in-person learning, all aspects of eligibility for extracurricular activities will be observed. This includes the completion of service requirements. Students who received an INC on their Semester 2 report card for the 2020-21 academic year had until July 31, 2021, to clear the delinquency in order to remain eligible for 2021-22 semester 1 activities. To maintain semester 2 eligibility, this year’s service hours must be completed and logged in MobileServe by March 4, 2022. Students who do not complete their hours on time are placed on Academic Contract, preventing them from participating in extracurricular activities (Athletics, SFHS arts productions, Academic Teams, etc.). Seniors who fail to complete their service requirements by the deadline may also be prevented from participating in senior class activities, including Kairos leadership. For expanded information about annual service requirements, please see the Christian Service page of the SFHS website. All verification of service must be submitted via MobileServe.

Graduating Seniors-Christian Service

Seniors who do not meet the Christian Service requirement by March 4, 2022, may be prevented from participating in senior class activities, Kairos leadership, and the graduation ceremony. Failure to complete service hours before the end of the academic year results in an “Incomplete” on a student’s transcript; completion of the annual service requirement is a condition of continued enrollment. Seniors who fail to complete their service requirements by the deadline may also be prevented from participating in the graduation ceremony and other senior class activities, including Kairos leadership.

If the minimum Christian Service requirement is not fulfilled, the student’s final transcript (which is mailed to her college/university in June), will officially reflect an NP (Non-Pass).

Academic Communication

SFHS uses the following web based programs. Portals are located on the St. Francis website (www.stfrancishs.org):

- PowerSchool is used to view report cards/progress reports, attendance, and conduct and is also used by teachers to post class curriculum, resources, assignments, calendars, and grades.
- Schoology is used to view daily grades and assignments. Parents are expected to regularly check Schoology to view their daughter’s academic progress.
- G Suite for Education provides the campus-wide email system, document sharing, website creation and other collaboration tools.

- Naviance Family Connection is a Guidance Department resource to help students and parents in the college selection and application process, seeking scholarships, and researching careers.
- MobileServe is used by students to log their Christian Service hours. All hours must be logged within 60 days of actual service.
- TADS is used for tuition payments and review of outstanding balances.
- Final Forms is the official online registration process for parents and students, used for back-to-school forms, including medical and emergency information, and forms which are required prior to participation in Athletics at St. Francis. Final Forms may be used for other school related forms.

Academic Probation

A student will be placed on Academic Probation if she meets any of the following criteria:

- A cumulative grade point average lower than a 2.0 in a core course on the most recent progress report or report card; core courses include English, Mathematics, Modern and Classical Languages, Science, and Social Studies
- One or more “F”s
- Two or more “D”s
- Failure to fulfill Christian Service hour requirements

Students who are not in good academic standing may not participate in academic team events, arts, athletic teams, co-curricular events, including dances, junior prom, senior ball or the fall/spring play. Students who are on academic probation two semesters in a row may see an impact on their financial aid. Students who continue to fall below a 2.0 in core courses for two grading periods will be placed on contract and may be asked to leave. The final decision as to whether a student will be allowed to continue at SFHS will be made on a case-by-case basis by an academic review board.

Parents are notified of Academic Probation or Academic Contract by a letter from their grade level Assistant Principal. The Guidance Counselors will call in students on academic probation to devise a plan for making up the course that needs to be repeated.

Academic Grievance

If a student or her family believes they have an academic grievance, they should observe the following procedure, in the order given:

- Meet privately with the teacher and attempt to reconcile the issue; if the issue pertains to a grade, the meeting should be called within ten (10) days of the grade posting
- Consult with the student’s Guidance Counselor and the Department Chair of that academic area
- Request a conference with an Assistant Principal if previous steps prove unsatisfactory-this conference may include the teacher, parent, student and Guidance Counselor

Transcripts

The transcript is a permanent record of high school courses taken and grades/credits earned. If accounts are not settled with the school, a graduation date will not be posted on the transcript.

Access to Student Files

Parents shall have access to their child’s permanent records maintained by the school, as do students who are eighteen years of age or older (DSB 5415). Anecdotal notes and psychological test results are not part of the permanent record. Parents do not have a right of access to these records. Parents wishing to review records will make an appointment with the appropriate Assistant Principal. The Assistant Principal and

the Registrar, or other designated employee, will be present to interpret records, if necessary. Parents may request and receive a copy of their child's records. The copy will be clearly marked as a copy; originals will never be released to parents until the student has withdrawn or graduated. All students are to be identified by their legal names for any form of communication and documentation, including, but not limited to, email addresses, rosters, transcripts, diplomas, etc.

Withdrawal from School

Students whose parents wish to withdraw them from SFHS during a semester or at the end of a semester must complete the withdrawal procedures and file proper information with the Enrollment Office. If a student leaves during a semester without officially withdrawing, the student may receive an "F" grade in all courses. Transcripts will not be issued until the withdrawal process is complete.

Guidance

The Guidance Department of SFHS shares in the general philosophy of the school in its respect for the uniqueness of each student and her right and responsibility to achieve her potential. Our commitment is to educate the whole student by providing an environment where students achieve their highest potentials through intellectual, social, and spiritual development.

Guidance Department Philosophy

The Guidance Department strives to encourage individuals to grow in awareness of their potentials and to become lifelong learners with the capacity to be successful in a rapidly changing world. A distinguishing strength of the St. Francis Guidance Department is our model of assigning students a consistent counselor to work with throughout the entire high school experience. This connection nurtures our students as they transition through the academic and social expectations of high school. Additionally, this four-year perspective makes the college counseling process more personal, enabling our students to find the best individual college fit.

Academic Guidance

Counselors provide academic support, resources, and guidance necessary to graduate. They inform, advise, support, and monitor each student's academic progress through the following activities and services:

- Orientation to SFHS course offerings and graduation requirements
- Individual appointments with each student
- Ongoing monitoring of students' fulfillment of graduation and college entrance requirements
- Facilitation of parent/teacher/student conferences as necessary
- Referral to tutoring
- Provision for study skills sessions
- Administration of national tests (PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP) and interpretation of results
- Training and advising through Naviance Family Connection

Learning Resources/Formal Education Plan

For students with learning differences, the counselors will work with the students to provide the following services:

- Referrals for diagnostic testing
- Provision for recommended interventions
- Coordination of student study teams
- Assisting parents with completion of IEP or 504 with public school districts
- Assist in applying for accommodations through the College Board and ACT

College Guidance Program

The college guidance program begins with an introduction at the ninth grade level and increases in scope each year to culminate in extensive and individualized counseling in the twelfth grade. Counselors remain current on developments in all aspects of the college application process by attending several workshops each year.

Freshman Year

- Registration/Administration PSAT 8/9
- Classroom presentations and explanation of a permanent record
- Introduction to College/Career Center small group academic counseling
- Development of a 4-year academic plan
- Interpretation of PSAT 8/9 results

Sophomore Year

- Registration/administration of PreACT
- Small group and individual academic counseling
- Introduction to college websites and other resources
- In-class presentations to students and parents about courses and college information
- Interpretation of PreACT results

Junior Year

- Registration/administration of PSAT/NMSQT
- College counseling workshops Just For Juniors
- Individual academic/college counseling
- Career Interest Inventory available online for Juniors
- In-class presentations to students and parents about courses and college information
- Interpretation of PSAT results
- SAT and ACT prep classes offered on campus

Senior Year

- Extensive group and individual counseling regarding the entire college application process
- Visits with college representatives on campus
- Common Application, UC and CSU application workshops on campus
- Community College application assistance
- Monthly scholarship listings
- Parent evenings regarding college and financial aid

Standardized Testing and Assessment Opportunities

- Freshman Level: PSAT 8/9
- Sophomore Level: PreACT, AP Exams
- Junior Level: PSAT/NMSQT, ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests, AP Exams
- Senior Level: ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests, AP Exams

Confidentiality

Any information of a personal nature disclosed by a student in the process of counseling is confidential. However, while maintaining the anonymity of the student, matters of health, life, and safety may be discussed with the Principal and/or appropriate member(s) of the Administration. In addition, California State Law specifies the following exceptions to this understanding of confidentiality, discussing issues with licensed physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists or other health care providers for the sole purpose of referring the student for treatment.

Athletic Program

St. Francis Athletics is committed to the total education of young women by providing a comprehensive, fair, and equitable program for the school community in a caring, supportive environment. The athletic program strives to enrich the mental, physical, and moral development of all students by integrating athletics in the school's education program. The athletic program strives for excellence with these primary goals as the focus. Championships, individual recognition, and the ability to compete are desirable outgrowths of an educationally sound sports program but are secondary to the primary objectives of the athletic program. SFHS does not recruit students for its athletic program, nor does it offer athletic scholarships to students. All athletes will adhere to the general attendance, conduct, academic standards, and Christian Service Hours requirements in order to remain in good standing for their specific teams.

Athletic Opportunities

SFHS is a member of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), the Sac-Joaquin Section and the Delta League. SFHS fields the following teams:

- **Fall** Cross-Country, Golf, Tennis, Volleyball, Water Polo
- **Winter** Basketball, Soccer
- **Spring** Diving, Lacrosse, Softball, Swimming, Track and Field

Eligibility rules and Regulations

SFHS follows the eligibility rules and regulations established by the CIF and the Sac-Joaquin Section, and at times may even have stricter guidelines. Information regarding these regulations can be found at www.cifsjs.org.

Scholastic Eligibility

Good academic standing is required for membership on a team. Scholastic eligibility standards will be enforced per CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Bylaw 205. All students entering SFHS from eighth grade will be automatically placed on probationary status in their first enrolled semester to ensure compliance with Bylaw 205.A. Report cards will be checked prior to the start of the season and at each quarter grading period. Students are considered ineligible if the following standards are not met:

- Minimum grade point average of 2.0 on the most recent report card
- No "F"s
- No more than one "D"
- No "Incomplete"s
- Fulfill Christian Service hour requirements

A student can become eligible if the above standards are met on the date of the next quarter report card.

Athletics Eligibility Committee

An eligibility committee comprised of the Assistant Principal(s), the Athletic Director, and the appropriate Guidance Counselor and/or the Director of Guidance may review cases in which a student meets the minimum academic eligibility requirements set forth by the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section but fails to meet more stringent SFHS requirements. Reinstatement of a student-athlete's academic eligibility may occur should the committee agree that a circumstance or circumstances beyond the control of the student significantly contributed to the failure of the student to meet the St. Francis standard(s). In such a case, the committee may impose conditions to the reinstatement of the student-athlete's eligibility.

Preseason Student and Parent Meetings

SFHS requires that all athletic programs hold a mandatory student and parent meeting (can be together or separate) as soon as possible after the team has been selected and prior to the first scheduled contest. The head coach, with the assistance of an athletic department administrator, is required to review with students and parents the following:

- Clearly state both the mission and philosophy of the St. Francis Athletic Department
- Team expectations and policies
- Scholastic eligibility standards
- Conflict resolution protocol
- Distribute parent permission slips with season schedule to cover all scheduled events

Sportsmanship-Negative Commentary

SFHS discourages and prohibits negative commentary towards officials and/or opponents. Disciplinary action will be taken if student-athletes or family members are found to be in violation of this policy.

CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Sportsmanship Resolution-Code of Ethics

It is the duty of all concerned with high school athletics:

- To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play
- To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game
- To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly
- To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials
- To establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts
- To respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials
- To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of rules of the game and the standards of eligibility
- To encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by the player on the team
- To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual players
- To remember that an athletic contest is only a game-not a matter of life and death for the player, coach, school, officials, fan, community, state or nation

Commitment of Athletes

All student athletes at SJHS are expected to uphold the highest standards of conduct toward teammates, officials, coaches, and opponents. Failure to abide by these expectations may lead to suspension or

permanent dismissal from the team. Student athletes are expected to attend practices and games during a given season, including playoffs. Unexcused absences from practices and games may result in suspension or possible dismissal from the team. Coaches of each sport will clearly state their policies at the beginning of each season of sport.

Contract P.E. Agreement

Students participating in athletic programs will be exempt from taking Physical Education in the semester during which their sport competes. Contract Physical Education is offered for the following sports: Cross Country, Golf, Tennis, Volleyball, Water Polo, Basketball, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Diving, and Track and Field.

The Contract P.E. guidelines are as follows:

- Academic Eligibility: League and Section rules require that each student must have a grade point average of 2.0 or above in the most recent grade reporting period. St. Francis also requires that a student cannot have more than one “D” or any “F”s on her report card.
- Each student who meets the academic requirements, turns in a completed St. Francis physical form, and is a member in “Good Standing” on one of the school teams (Varsity, JV, Frosh level) will be in Contract P.E.
- Each freshman (and any returning student) who hasn’t participated at St. Francis in the sport the previous year will be registered in a regular P.E. class until she is accepted on a team and the coach submits a roster to the Athletic Director.
- Each student must maintain “Good Standing” on the team for the entire season, including playoffs, in order to receive a Contract P.E. grade and 5 credits.
- Coaches will submit grades to the Athletic Director before the end of each quarter. Attendance is required and can affect the grade.
- A student is excused from attending the regularly scheduled P.E. class while on Contract P.E. If the student finished the entire season and remains in “Good Standing”, she will be excused from any remaining P.E. class for the semester.

NOTE: Physical Education is a requirement for graduation. A total of 20 credits/4 semesters are required for graduation. Only students who have participated on the team the previous year and fully completed their obligations may be recommended for that sport by the coach. A student who quits a team or chooses not to try out will need to make up the credit another semester, unless she is a senior. A student who is cut from a team must go into a P.E. class.

A senior who has acquired 15 credits and is on a spring contract sport must complete the season entirely. If she gets cut from a team or quits within the first two weeks of the semester, she must join a St. Francis non-cut sport or she will be placed in Cardio or Rec-Fitness. If she quits after the first two weeks of the semester, she will be placed in a Cardio or Rec-Fitness class with a grade reduction commensurate with the amount of class time missed.

Final Forms

Each student and parent must complete her/his profile on the Final Forms athletics clearing site. Information must be updated each year the student would like to participate in any sports program. Please click on the link or go to www.gotroubies.com and click on athlete registration. www.https://stfrancishs-ca.finalforms.com

Physical

An SFHS physical form for the corresponding school year must be on file with the Athletic Director before conditioning and/or team tryouts begin. Students who do not have a completed current SFHS physical form on file with the Athletic Director will not be permitted to participate in an athletics program and will be placed in Physical Education.

Return to Participation Policy

Students must provide written consent from a physician prior to returning to play following an injury that required a visit to the doctor/hospital. CIF regulations require a mandatory **MINIMUM** 7 day return to play protocol for a student athlete diagnosed with a concussion or head injury. The return to play protocol begins on the day of diagnosis, **NOT** on the date of injury.

Bylaw 524 Agreement for Student-Athlete and Parent/Guardian

Regarding the use of steroids

Due to the increase of steroid use by high school athletes, the California Interscholastic Federation adopted a new requirement under Bylaw 542. As a condition of membership in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) SFHS has adopted the following policy prohibiting the use and abuse of androgenic/anabolic steroids as specified below. CIF Bylaw 542 requires that all participating students and their parents/guardians sign the agreement. By signing the SFHS Student/Parent Handbook agreement form, we agree that the student shall not use androgenic/anabolic steroids or any dietary supplement banned by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, as well as the substance synephrine, without a written prescription of a fully licensed health care practitioner to treat a medical condition. We recognize that under the CIF Bylaw 200.D, the student may be subject to penalties, including ineligibility for any CIF competition, if the student and his/her parent/guardian provide false or fraudulent information to the CIF. We also understand that the SFHS policy regarding “Substance Abuse” will be enforced for any violations of these rules.

Concussion Information for Parents, Student-Athlete and General Students

Athletic concussion protocols generally apply to the student population as a whole. SFHS follows the dictates of CIF and the most recent laws (AB 2127) for the safety of your student. A concussion is a brain injury, and all brain injuries are serious. These are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. Concussions can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications, including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a “ding” or a bump on the head can be serious. You can’t see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away. Students who suffer a concussion may be placed on a Concussion Care Plan (CCP) through the Guidance Department, in order to facilitate necessary academic modifications and accommodations. CCPs are reviewed and updated in coordination with the student’s physician. The consent form for *Impact Concussion Testing* will be given to athletes at the beginning of each season they are to be tested. **For current information on concussions, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports/>.**

Uniform, Equipment, Evaluations and Financial Responsibility

Student-athletes are financially responsible for all uniforms and equipment loaned to them. Failure to return items constitutes financial obligation; lost items must be replaced or paid for at replacement cost. Uniforms and equipment should be returned in the same condition as they were received. Uniforms should be cleaned and washed before being returned. No clearance card or diploma will be issued, and PowerSchool grade reports will be blocked until coaches' evaluations and all equipment and/or uniforms are returned and/or paid for by the student-athlete. Students who leave a team prior to the end of the season must turn in their equipment and uniforms within one week.

Participation on Non-School Teams and Use of Non-School Coaches

CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Bylaw 600 restricts a student's participation on non-school teams within the same sport during the high school season. The varsity head coach determines the team policy on simultaneous team participation when exceptions are permitted by the Section office. Currently, there are no exemptions granted to any of the sports offered at SFHS.

The in-season use of non-school coaches and/or trainers is permitted. In order to safeguard student health and team integrity, parents and students who employ such services are expected to make every effort to ensure that these activities serve to complement and not distract from team activities. Failure to do so may result in the student's removal from the team.

Cuts and Tryouts

Golf, tennis, volleyball, water polo, basketball, diving, lacrosse, softball and soccer hold tryouts and make cuts. Cross Country, swimming, and track and field normally do not cut unless the team size is too large and/or the fitness and/or skill level of the student-athlete is not within a safe range. All student athletes are required to fully participate in both practices and meets/games as outlined by each coach. Students going from one season to the next will be able to finish out their current sport and then get a tryout for the next sport once their season is finished (e.g. SF Volleyball to SF Basketball). When tryouts occur, all students are subject to being cut. However, the head coach will first consult with the Athletic Director before cutting a senior who has previously participated in that sport program.

School Holidays and Practices and Games

Practices and games may be held during school holidays and breaks. Coaches will go over the requirements for practices and games during these times. If a student is planning to play a sport, she should anticipate this as she decides to go out for a team.

Senior Night Recognition

The Athletics Department will typically celebrate/recognize our senior student athletes with a simple ceremony on the date of the last home contest for each sport. The department is grateful for the assistance of team parent volunteers in coordinating these events. In order to ensure that the proceedings are consistent with St. Francis values, and in compliance with applicable league rules, and that no undue burdens are placed on team families, all plans for the ceremony, including themes, décor, and any possible gift collections must be submitted to the Head Coach and the Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Information for formal review and approval well in advance of the event date.

Important NCAA Rules

NCAA Eligibility Center: All high school students who plan to participate in college at a Division I or Division II school must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org. Students should check in with the Guidance office during their junior year to get the necessary information and deadlines.

Student Insurance

SFHS participates in the student insurance program of the Diocese of Sacramento. If the student gets hurt during school activities, the school provides insurance to help with the cost of medical treatment not covered by other insurance or coverage the student may have. This “school-time accident” insurance is designed to cover some, but not all, of the possible costs. All injuries suffered by an athlete must be reported immediately to the coach. This is the responsibility of the athlete. Accident claim forms will be provided by St. Francis Catholic High School.

Directions to Schools

Maps to all schools within the Sac-Joaquin Section can be found at www.cifsjs.org under maps on the left side of the home page.

Technology

Acceptable Use Policy

When a student is using technology (of any variety), she must always bear in mind that her actions reflect upon the school, our Diocese, and the Roman Catholic Church as a whole. It is imperative that all students conduct themselves in an ethical and responsible manner when using technology. There is no assumption of privacy on SFHS devices and networks.

Students who use school or personal electronic devices (including computers, tablets and phones) for any of the following misuses will lose their technology use privileges and be subject to disciplinary and legal action, up to and including expulsion or the involvement of law enforcement: to access unauthorized databases; send/receive messages that are unethical or illegal; procure access to inappropriate information or images; use inappropriate, sexist, racist, discriminatory or demeaning language; digitally harass or “cyber-bully”; damage of deface computer hardware or software; record/take images of students, faculty, staff and administration without expressed permission; offer, provide or purchase goods for personal use; violate academic integrity; gain unauthorized access to SFHS network/computers or another student’s computer; attempt to disrupt the network, or destroy data in any manner, including spreading of computer viruses; attempt to obtain another student’s logon information.)

Electronic Communications

Students are assigned a school-provided Google email account and are required to use this email account when contacting any school faculty, staff and administration. SFHS issued emails are for school purposes

only. Correspondence with colleges and parents should not be conducted through school email. Students are encouraged to set up a personal email address for college communication.

Students will not forward messages that are sent to them privately without permission from the person who sent them the messages. Each student is responsible for her account and should not provide her password to another person. Students should not post PINs (personal identifiable information) in any manner.

Chromebook 1:1 Program

The Chromebook is the property of SFHS and must be returned upon dismissal/withdrawal from the school. Students may keep their Chromebook upon graduation from SFHS.

Students are required to report Chromebook damage to the Technology Department (SFTech@stfrancishs.org). Students and their parents will immediately report any lost, missing, or stolen Chromebook to the Dean of Students. A police report must be filed for any incident of theft or vandalism to the Chromebook. Students are responsible for securing their Chromebooks at all times.

Students are required to bring their SFHS provided, fully charged Chromebooks to school daily for educational purposes. All students are responsible for managing Chromebook capacity, content, and settings. If a student does not have her Chromebook, or the battery is not charged, she is still responsible for completing all course work expected that day.

Students are responsible for securing their Chromebooks at all times. Students should:

- Keep track of the device at all times and not leave it unattended or unsupervised
- Use only the provided charger for charging the Chromebook
- Keep food and drink away from the Chromebook at all times
- Keep the Chromebook in its protective sleeve when it is not being used
- Ensure the Chromebook is protected and secure when transported, especially the screen side
- Not rest objects on top of the Chromebook
- Never lift the Chromebook by the screen or carry it with the screen open
- Lift from the center of the lid when opening the device; do not pull it open by grabbing one side
- Clean the screen only with a soft, dry, microfiber cloth or antistatic cloth
- Not deface, write on, or add stickers to the device; there are to be no markings on it
- Not remove the asset tag or in any way obscure the serial number of the device
- Use the Chromebook appropriately and for educational purposes only
- Not keep inappropriate material on the Chromebook
- Use only school-approved software (apps and extensions)
- Log into the Chromebook using her school-issued G Suite for Education account
- Parents are encouraged to purchase additional insurance for the Chromebook through the school's preferred vendor. SFHS assumes no responsibility of financial liability for any damage the student or parent suffers, including, but not limited to:
 - Theft
 - Physical damage
 - Loss (Parents are responsible for paying replacement value of loss/damages to Chromebooks)
 - Software malfunction
 - Loss of data

Chromebook Loaner Program

SFHS will not loan students Chromebooks except in the occurrence of the Chromebook being lost, stolen, or out for repair.

Monitoring

SFHS has selected a technology protection measure (Internet filtering) for use with the school Internet system. The filtering technology will always be configured to protect against access to material that is obscene, illegal (e.g. child pornography) and material that is harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. SFHS may, from time to time, reconfigure the filtering software to best meet the educational needs of the school and address the safety needs of the students. Files stored on the network are treated in the same manner as other school storage areas, such as lockers. SFHS reserves the right to inspect files stored on our network, including, but not limited to, all forms of electronic communications.

Video Conferencing

The use of video conferencing is necessary to further the education of students in St. Francis. We are using digital tools, Schoology, Zoom, and Google Meet, to establish an online environment for students and teachers to connect. The tools we use are vetted by our faculty and administrators for data privacy and safety.

It is important to ensure these tools are being used appropriately by students for a productive learning environment. Participating in video conferences is a great way to stay connected with educators and classmates, but it is important to follow these rules and guidelines. Video conferencing etiquette and digital citizenship are important. For many students, this may be the first formal introduction to video conferencing. Below are a few things to keep in mind:

- Be mindful of what the camera is showing in the background. Choose a safe and appropriate place.
- Students must dress in a uniform red/white polo (club shirts are acceptable only on Fridays. Seniors may wear college sweatshirts on Fridays) when video conferencing and should treat interactions with teachers and classmates as they would in person.
- Parents/guardians should be mindful that 1:1 meetings between students and teachers will require the presence of an adult to safeguard both parties during video conferencing. Please have your students use these tools somewhere near enough to you so you monitor, yet private enough so they can interact with their teacher/s.

Disclaimer

The policies stated herein are designed to express a framework and to form general principles for use of technology at SFHS. Any use of technology that is contrary to the Mission of the school, on or off campus, will be considered a punishable offense, including, but not limited to, those directly addressed in the policy. The policies, procedures and information in this document are school wide. Teachers/Staff may establish additional policies and requirements for use in their classrooms or situations. Electronic information resources, including access to the Internet, computers, network files (the use of SFHS network services is a privilege, not a right), and user accounts are available to all staff and students at SFHS. Our goal in providing electronic resources is to promote educational excellence.

Digital Identity

A person's online identity is her reputation. Writing, posting, pictures, etc., communicates many characteristics which may negatively affect a student's online identity. At no time should a student agree to meet with someone she has met online, without parent approval. Students must maintain the highest level of conduct regardless if the student is on or off campus.

Personal Computers/Non-SFHS WiFi-Enabled Devices

Students are not allowed to use their personal laptops in class or on the SFHS network. Students will not have access to the school's network for their personal computer, cell phone, or any other non-SFHS wifi-enabled device.

Attendance

Mandatory Attendance

All school days are mandatory, this includes during Distance Learning and Hybrid Learning. This includes special schedule days such as, but not limited to, Orientation and St. Francis Day. Students are required to attend these special community-building days. **Appointments should be made before class, during free blocks, during lunch block, after school, or on non-school days.**

If a medical appointment must be made during class time, we ask that parents provide a copy of the medical note.

Reporting absences

The attendance recorder is available 24 hours a day. Parents/guardians must call the **Attendance Office** at **916-737-5050** by **8:00 a.m.** on the day of the absence to explain the absence (emails or faxed notes are not acceptable). Absences not reported via the attendance line will not be accepted. **Parents/guardians may not call after the fact to clear a student from leaving campus. All calls must be received no later than 8:00 am.**

Be prepared to give the following information:

- Name of the absent student-please clearly spell the last name
- Specific explanation for the absence, e.g. illness, injury, legal, etc.
- Your name and relationship to the student
- It is critical that you notify the school as soon as possible if your student is a possible COVID-19 case or she has been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Parents Who have extended travel

Parents who plan to be away from home while school is in session must notify the school in writing as to who will be legally responsible for their daughter during this time.

Absence

Excessive absences can affect a student's academic standing and her ability to participate in co-curricular activities. **All absences (non-school related) will count in absence totals for attendance**

monitoring. Students who have a history of six (6) or more absences may be placed on an Attendance contract if a pattern of absences continues. Once a student is placed on an Attendance Contract, the student risks the loss of extracurricular privileges, credit loss, suspension, or expulsion from school.

Absences Loss of Credit

More than seven (7) absences in any one class during one semester is considered excessive. All students with excessive absences per class during a semester will receive notification from the Dean's office when they have more than seven (7) absences in a class. (Six absences equal two weeks of school in an individual class.)

- Twelve (12) or more absences in a semester, a student may lose all credit for the course.
- Long-term illness or family emergencies will be reviewed on an individual basis by the Dean and administration. In some cases, home courses and withdrawal may be required. Medical or personal situations are not automatic grounds for approval and credits may not be restored. The administration reserves the right to require a student to withdraw from SFHS due to excessive absences.
- Students determined to have COVID-19 or are required to miss due to COVID-19 will be reviewed for possible exemption.
- If a student is absent four (4) or more consecutive days, or in the case of an infectious or contagious disease, she must return with a medical release from a physician. Students without a medical release will not be allowed to return to class and will be sent home.
- Prior to credit loss, students with health issues (concussion, physical, mental, emotional, etc.) may be asked to withdraw from the school for the remainder of the semester. SFHS does not provide an independent study program. **Attendance credit loss appeal may be made to the Administration.**

College Related Absences

- Juniors are allowed two one-day college absences during their junior year (one day total in each semester). Seniors are allowed two one- or two-day college absences (up to two days each semester). Days cannot be combined into one semester or saved for future use. Parents/guardians must notify attendance when students are on a college visit.
- Recruited students: Students who are formally recruited under NCAA rules or within specified programs (Arts, Academics, etc.) shall meet with the Dean to create an attendance plan for their absences. Informal recruitment visits must be done on the student's personal time off. Formal letters for recruitment will be required, and the Dean will be responsible for determining if the student meets the criteria of formal recruitment.
- Auditions for University Arts Programs: Students who are auditioning for highly selective university arts programs shall meet with the Dean to determine an attendance plan for their absences.

School-Verified Absence

Some school-related events may require a student to miss a regularly scheduled class. Although we strongly encourage a student to participate in school related activities, she is in fact absent from her classes. The following are the current school verified absences:

- School-sponsored Campus Ministry, Athletic, Arts, Academic Team or other event as determined by administration (no non-SFHS events will qualify)
- Christmas Tree Lane (participants only-names on file in Dean's office)

SFHS does not accept as legitimate those parental explained absences which allow students to

avoid a class assignment or which allow students to prepare for another assignment or school-related activity such as AP tests, prom, a dance, a performance, or an athletic event. If it is determined that a student has been absent in order to avoid a class or to prepare for an assignment, test, or school activity, the student will be issued an absent cut for each class missed. A continued pattern of excessive absences may result in additional days of suspension, or expulsion from SFHS.

Attendance Requirements for School-Related Events

Any student who misses one-half of her scheduled classes on the day she plans to participate in an afterschool school-related event, including athletics, arts, or dances, may not participate in that event without prior permission from the Dean.

Accommodations for Students in Crisis

SFHS makes accommodations for students under extraordinary circumstances or in crisis. SFHS will make a reasonable effort to offer special accommodations to students who have short term issues that affect their attendance and academic performance. This accommodation is offered for one semester only during the student's four years at SFHS.

Absence-Ill Student on Campus

St. Francis does not have a school nurse or formal sickroom. If a student becomes ill during the school day, she must report to the main office in the St. Francis building, where the parent/guardian will be notified. A student who is too ill to attend class may not remain at school. Students who present with symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness will be required to automatically be picked up by their parents or designee. They may not remain on campus. **The school may not put a student into a UBER/LYFT type vehicle.**

Absence-Cuts

If an ill student misses a class before notifying the main office in the St. Francis building, the absence will be treated as an absent cut and detention will be assigned. Detention is assigned to a student who misses an assigned class without a legitimate cause. This includes students failing to sign into class when a teacher is not present or students falling ill and failing to report to the office.

Truancy

Truancy is any non-pre-authorized or unauthorized absence(s) from campus and may result in a multi-day suspension for the student.

Wellness Counseling

In the school context, wellness counseling, both individual and group, focuses on creating a safe place where students can talk openly about their personal issues or challenges, and get support and assistance in problem solving. It is important to distinguish school counseling from psychotherapy. Students who may require individual or family therapy will be referred to outside agencies for assessment and possible ongoing therapy.

Meanwhile, the wellness component of our counseling program provides:

- Education, resources, and support that foster healthy lifestyles throughout high school
- Short-term individual and small group meeting for personal issues
- Facilitation of programs and activities on teen issues
- Referral information on services available in the local community
- Education on mental health issues
- Crisis assistance and evaluation

Mandated Students

Students presenting with non-disciplinary issues may be mandated off campus by Wellness counselors and Administration. Mandated students are required to be off campus a minimum of 48-72 hours after a medical clearance, due to processing time. Wellness counselors and the Dean will meet with parent(s) upon their arrival at school. The following points will be covered:

- The seriousness of the situation will be discussed.
- The requirement for an immediate evaluation at a medical or mental health facility will be discussed.
- The student will be required to obtain a mental health evaluation by a licensed mental health professional, whether voluntary or involuntary, before being able to return to campus via re-entry requirements.
- The requirement to obtain follow-up mental health counseling before the student is allowed to return to school will be discussed.
- The request for parent(s) to sign a release of information form for communication between the school and the facility to which the student will be taken, the student's therapist and other individuals as appropriate will be addressed.
- SFHS will provide information about resources to the parent(s) for contact in case of an emergency.
- If the parent(s) refuses to come to school, or if they come but refuse to cooperate and/or if their response could be harmful to their daughter, the Wellness Counselor will contact law enforcement and/or Child Protective Services. The Administration reserves the right to dis-enroll a student whose parents do not work in partnership with the school for the health and safety of their daughter.

Return to School: Re-entry Meeting

This meeting will be set with parent(s), student and the student support team to evaluate if the student is able to return to class within 24 hours after re-entry meeting. Re-entry is not automatically granted.

Extended Absences for Illness and Homework Requests

Students who will be absent for four (4) or more days for illness (not trips) should request homework assignments from their teachers via teacher email and parents should contact the student's counselor for further assistance.

Although teachers make it a practice to work with students who have missed class due to illnesses, it is not the responsibility of teachers to make themselves available for students who miss classes due to discretionary absences. In addition, students should be sure they understand and follow each teacher's policy regarding makeup work.

It is the student's responsibility to follow up on any assignment or test missed. Failure to contact the teacher will result in no credit on any assignment given. If a student has knowledge that she will be gone, she should contact her teacher as soon as possible as some teachers require that students submit work or take exams prior to the absence. If this is not done, the student risks not being permitted to make up the missed work upon return to school.

Early Dismissal During Last Block of the Day

A student who has a free block scheduled for her last block of the day may have her parent/guardian request permission to leave campus. The parent/guardian must complete an ED form. **This form must be renewed for each semester.**

Tardiness

During regular school hours a tardy is issued to any student that misses 15 minutes or less in any class. After 15 minutes, the student is considered fully absent. A student who arrives late for school must report to the office prior to reporting to class. If a student is detained in a previous class, she should secure a note from her teacher and take the note to the main office to receive a pass to admit her to the next class.

For every tardy after the fourth, the student will receive detention, for the seventh through ninth time tardy the student will receive a Saturday school and a tenth tardy will result in suspension out of school.

Students who are continually tardy also risk the loss of co-curricular activities, including, but not limited to, dances, sports/art events, and/or participation in baccalaureate or graduation.

College Representative On-Campus Visit Policy

Juniors and seniors may attend college representative visits on a free block or with teacher permission, and:

- Students must ask for teacher permission at least two (2) days in advance of the visit.
- Students must sign up in Naviance Family Connection at least two (2) days in advance of the visit.
- Students must return to class immediately following the visit.

Freshmen and sophomores may attend college representative visits only during a free block.

Discipline

Because it is impossible to foresee all problems which arise, this handbook empowers the administration and their designees to take disciplinary action for any behavior (within or outside of the school community) which violates the spirit, philosophy or code of conduct of the school, even though not specified.

Authority for Student Discipline

St. Francis Catholic High School believes in the importance of setting high expectations for all of our students. The Code of Conduct is designed to support the mission and vision of our school. This Code of Conduct shall apply to any and all conduct: while on school property, including but not limited to; prior to, during and following regular school hours or when school activities are in operation. At all school sponsored events. The Code of Conduct shall also apply to out-of-school conduct by a student if the

school believes the nature of such conduct presents a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of other students. Such conduct shall include, but is not limited to:

- Conduct at school or elsewhere which could reflect adversely on SFHS, the Diocese or the Catholic Church.
- Any criminal activity
- Violations of the Harassment/Sexual Harassment/Substance or Technology policies.
- Discrimination, prejudice, bias or negative attitude of any sort via verbal, written, physical, on social media/text, intended, unintended, implied actions, or any manner that involves race, creed, color, national origin, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, mannerisms, physical/mental disabilities, fiscal or social status, etc., including jokes, songs, pictures, or emojis that can be perceived as detrimental to a student's experience. All students are held to the same standard and none may violate this rule regardless their individual race, creed, color, national origin, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, mannerisms, physical/mental disabilities, fiscal or social status, etc.
- Student non-cooperation, students who deceive, lie, or fail to cooperate with faculty or administration at any time, especially during a disciplinary investigation.
- Actions that may rise to the level of suspension or expulsion.

Formal complaints for investigation must be filed in a timely manner and will only be opened within 90 days of the initial incident. Any incident beyond that timeframe will be determined on a case by case basis.

Co/Extra Curricular Activity Penalties for Discipline

Students found in violation of school rules are subject to suspension from co/extracurricular activities including, but not limited to: Athletics, Arts, Academic teams, dances at SFHS or other schools, Homecoming events, Prom/Ball, Baccalaureate, and Graduation or Grad night events. Seniors found in serious violation may be restricted from participation in participation in the commencement ceremony and will receive their diplomas via the mail. Additional team penalties may be assessed by individual coaches.

Restorative Discipline

In any community, relationships can be harmed in various ways and to varying degrees. It is therefore essential that St. Francis Catholic High School is a community that promotes the resolution of conflicts between all community members and the restoration of relationships. The intent is "Godly restoration," restoring relationships with God and each other. When harm occurs, we must work with everyone involved. It is a commitment to a high standard of behavior with clear limits and disciplinary consequences, coupled with a high degree of support and care to restore the relationships. Restorative discipline practices generally do not advocate simply to remove students from the school. It inspires solutions that address the issues and shows care and respect for everyone.

The Restorative Discipline Policy is made:

- To create within the community an affirming climate valuing the Gospel teachings of love, justice, mercy, reconciliation, compassion, tolerance, acceptance, and forgiveness
- To give expression to the relationships of faith, and care in support of SFHS's mission
- To develop structures and practices that support the individual student and all members of the school community

- To promote resilience in both the person who is harmed in a given situation and in the person, who causes the harm
- To assist those who cause harm to learn from their mistakes, reconcile their differences and resolve problems with others
- To ensure the application of fair and restorative discipline at SFHS.
- To ensure that restorative practices are integral to the total environment and culture of the School
- To acknowledge that the responsibility to act justly is expected of all members of the school community
- To support, when the nature of the behavior or action of a student is so explicit, and/or deliberate that the consequences such as suspension or expulsion may be required

Goals of Restorative Discipline is to:

- Give voice to and focus on the person who has been harmed
- Acknowledge people make mistakes and need an opportunity to make up for the harm done and return to full acceptance in a community.
- Encourage accountability and responsibility.
- Understand the harm and develop empathy for both parties.
- Listen and respond to the needs of both parties
- Acknowledges that relationships are central to the building of the school community.
- Engage in collaborative problem solving.
- Empower change and growth for those involved.
- Enhance responsibility for actions and attitudes for those involved.
- If/when possible, repair harm and restore relationships.

Restorative Practices

- Seek to right the wrongs that have been done, so that victims feel safe and valued, and offenders feel restored to the school community.
- Address obligations of the offender resulting from those harms, as well as the community's obligations to both victims and offenders.
- Commit to being positive, which means dwelling on the positive rather than the negative.
- Teach and develop virtue.
- Use inclusive, collaborative processes.
- Involve all individuals who have a legitimate stake in a given situation.
- Focus on reconciliation rather than rules or persons and the consequent needs of victims, offenders and communities.

Components for Prevention

- Staff Development - Ongoing training, education and working to identify problems. To build communication and refine relationships to create safe classroom spaces.
- Student Development -- Commitment to helping students grow spiritually, mentally, emotionally and with an empathetic sense of respect and commitment to others.
- Parent Participation --To build stronger families committed to the process.
- Building Community -- Expanding efforts to build healthy relationships among adults.

Reporting

Victims or witnesses may report incidents directly to the Dean’s office, Wellness, or to any Administrator. They may also use the STOPIT confidential alert system. They may remain anonymous, however, SFHS will not penalize any accused student(s) solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

The Dean will investigate all alleged incidents and may discipline student(s) if there is evidence to support the report.

In the case of an anonymous report, if there is a lack of evidence to support the anonymous report, the matter will be determined to be unfounded and no disciplinary action will be taken.

Conflict Mediation:

Students may be required to participate in conflict resolution with the involved parties of a situation. These mediations may vary in length depending upon the issues and number of students involved. The mediation usually takes place during lunch, or after school. One or two mediators (adult or peer team members as designated by the situation) participate in conducting a session, as students will typically communicate with the aid of the mediator to help resolve issues in direct conversations or actions with each other.

Detention (Opportunity to Serve)

Detention is an action taken for misconduct by a student. OPS is the opportunity to serve SFHS to amend for any disciplinary action.

Detention is held after school and during lunch blocks on specific days. Detentions after school will last 60 minutes, beginning at 3:05 p.m. All detentions will be issued via Troubie email and students will be held accountable for arriving at detention on time. Students must serve or sign up within 72 hours (excluding weekends) after the notification of detention has been emailed.

Excuses for missing detention (e.g. athletics or other co-curricular events, work, medical appointment, carpool) will not be accepted.

One Opportunity (detention) will be issued for

Attendance	Uniform	Behavioral	Phone/Technology	Other
Attendance	Uniform violation	Disrespect to a student/staff (may be considered detention or suspension level)	Non silenced phone in class creating disruption.	Locker infraction
4th failure to participate	Free dress violation		Having a phone during liturgy, mass, assembly etc.	Parking
Absent cut	Mask violation		Having a phone during a test/quiz etc., whether used or not.	Littering
5th Tardy				Gum chewing; students may not chew gum at any time on campus
Failure to use Safescreen				Taking items from the garden

Two Opportunities will be issued for

<p>6, 7 Tardies</p> <p>Failure to serve detention (2nd failure to serve in semester will be automatic cause for Saturday school)</p> <p>Cutting online classes</p>	<p>2 or more uniform violations in the semester</p>	<p>Major disrespect to another student or staff</p> <p>Students violating the M Street/62nd Street or the Neighborhood Policy</p> <p>Any violation of school rules where a student fails to fully participate or cooperate in mediation or restorative discipline.</p>	<p>Use of cell phones in a classroom, or during Mass, prayer service or assembly</p> <p>Technology violation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chromebook • Misuse of computers 	<p>Food in classroom</p> <p>Any multiple violation of the same offence, or a compilation of 4 or more offenses</p> <p>Continuous violations of previous detention level conduct.</p>
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Saturday School

Students may be assigned to Saturday school by the school administration. Students who have been suspended and have been given the Saturday school option are at risk of losing partial or full financial aid as provided by SFHS.

Assignment of Saturday school may be initiated by, but is not limited to, a single day of suspension at the discretion of the Administration.

Saturday School Responsibilities

The program meets on Saturday morning from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. (unless directed specifically to afternoon per request from proctor.)

- Late students will not be admitted to the program.
- Students must report on time and remain for the full three hours. No credit for serving will be given to any student arriving late or leaving early.
- Students will not be provided meals.
- Students will be assigned essays or various campus cleanup opportunities, depending on the needs of the school at the time of discipline.
- Students who cannot participate in campus cleanup will be assigned a school research essay (students must make arrangements with the Dean prior to Saturday school to receive the research project.)

Continued violations will result in progressive disciplinary actions. If a conflict arises concerning continual discipline, the administration reserves the right to clarify and make all interpretations.

Suspension Policy

Suspension is a disciplinary action to be invoked at the discretion of Administration. A student shall be suspended for no more than five consecutive school days. If the student commits any additional

violation, she may be progressively disciplined up to suspension or expulsion. Additional grounds for suspension may become grounds for expulsion. The student will be placed on a single or multi-year behavioral contract.

Students who have been suspended are at risk of losing partial or full financial aid as provided by SFHS. During suspension, the student may not come to school without the permission of the Dean and the student loses the right to participate in any school activity during the suspension period (including sports/theatre productions/retreats). The student will be required to make up all school assignments or assessments missed. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain any missed assignments and to have these completed upon the day of her return.

Prohibited Behaviors

The following conduct - and any other issues that may arise - at the discretion of the administration, may subject a student to suspension, multi-day suspension, request to withdraw, or expulsion:

General Conduct	Inappropriate or Protected	Criminal or Substance Issues	Harassment Sexual/Technology
<p>Conduct at school or elsewhere which could reflect adversely on SFHS or the Catholic Church.</p> <p>Academic dishonesty. Refer to Academic Honesty Policy</p> <p>Any repeated offense will result in progressive discipline.</p> <p>Lying/ Non-cooperation/ serious disobedience/ insubordination/disrespect for authority. Students who deceive, lie, or fail to cooperate with faculty or administration at any time, especially during an investigation are liable for suspension or expulsion.</p> <p>Altering or forging information.</p> <p>Tardiness and/or truancy</p>	<p>Inappropriate, lewd, inflammatory, scandalous, pornographic, disrespectful, or seriously disruptive behavior or materials that devalue the dignity of a person.</p> <p>Students may not engage in personal attacks. Students will not post false or defamatory information about a person or organization.</p> <p>Discrimination, prejudice, bias or negative attitude of any sort via verbal, written, physical, intended/unintended or implied actions, that involves race, creed, color, national origin, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, mannerisms, physical/mental disabilities, fiscal or social status, etc., including jokes, songs, pictures, or emojis that can be perceived as</p>	<p>Any violation of substance abuse.</p> <p>Refer to Substance Abuse Policy</p> <p>Any criminal activity or report of the same may be automatic grounds for suspension and may invoke expulsion.</p> <p>Failure to report to a teacher or administrator knowledge of actions or plans of another student whose actions or plans, if carried out, could result in harm to another person(s) or damage to property</p> <p>Any parties involved in an incident are expected to refrain from any behavior that may be seen as intimidation, threatening, coercion, or retaliation against any person/s involved. All</p>	<p>Refer to Harassment or Technology Policies</p> <p>Taking or sharing pictures, video, recordings, without permission (applies to all students, staff or citizens).</p> <p>Conduct of a sexual nature, whether consensual or non-consensual, verbal, written, physical or any other form of communication.</p> <p>Any parties involved in an incident are expected to refrain from any behavior that may be seen as intimidation, threatening, coercion, or retaliation against any person/s involved. All parties involved automatically assume</p>

<p>Any unauthorized absence from campus may result in a multi-day suspension for the student.</p> <p>Sale of any material on school grounds without proper authorization</p>	<p>detrimental to a student's experience.</p> <p>All students are held to the same standard and none may violate this rule regardless of their individual race, creed, color, national origin, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, mannerisms, physical/mental disabilities, fiscal or social status, etc.</p>	<p>parties involved automatically assume the right to protection against any form of retaliation.</p>	<p>the right to protection against any form of retaliation.</p>
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Harassment Policy

Our St. Francis Catholic High School community works hard to ensure that our school is a welcoming and inclusive space for all. Any words or actions that are inconsistent with these expectations are prohibited. We denounce any students creating/using/participating in the use of blackface or any racial epithet or ethnic slurs. Any student's involvement in these actions will be thoroughly investigated. Students found to have been involved in the creating/using/participation of these actions may automatically appear before a Discipline Review Board to determine appropriate disciplinary action.

Any employee involved in these actions will be handled by Human Resources.

Any parent/guardian involvement in these actions directed at or involving student or employee will be referred to the Principal's office for an appropriate response. It is a condition of enrollment that the parents/guardians of each student adhere to standards of conduct as outlined in the Student-Parent Code of Conduct.

We encourage anyone who feels they have experienced or seen harassment or discrimination to report the incident immediately (to the Dean of Students, Administration, Wellness or Counseling). If there are specific teacher, parent or student concerns, our administrators are available to meet, in order to address any issue/s that are raised and work collaboratively to resolve them. SFHS is committed to providing a learning environment that is free from harassment in any form. Harassment or intimidation of any student, staff member, guest, or student from another school by an SFHS student will not be tolerated. Harassment can occur anytime an individual is subjected to treatment by another which may be hostile or intimidating, regardless of when or where such an action takes place. All actions intended or unintended may be considered within this policy.

Additionally, harassment on the basis of any protected characteristic is strictly prohibited. This includes any verbal, written (social media or text), or physical conduct that denigrates, or shows hostility or aversion towards any individual or their relatives, friends, or associates that involves race, creed, color, national origin, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, mannerisms, physical/mental disabilities, fiscal, or social status, etc., and that:

- Has the purpose of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance in school, or otherwise adversely affects an individual's school experience.

Harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Swearing, slurs, negative stereotyping, derogatory or demeaning comments, jokes, songs or any verbiage or picture a person finds offensive (including face/body painting with negative impact)
- Threatening, intimidating words or hostile acts spoken to or about a student, written (including any posted material on a computer network), graphic materials, inflammatory drawings, cartoons, posters, gestures, or altered media that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion towards an individual or group
- Unwanted physical contact, touch, impedance, blocking movements, assault, or intimidating interference, deliberately impeding, or blocking movements or any intimidating interference with normal student movement, or any other action deemed by the administration as such
- Cyberbullying includes harassing messages, direct or indirect threats, social cruelty, or other harmful text or images, on digital technologies, or by assuming another identity in order to create a negative or harmful situation;
- Sexual harassment or conduct: Unwelcome advances, verbal and/or physical, any conduct of a sexual nature that causes discomfort to a student at SFHS, including, but not limited to:
 - Sexting.
 - Unwelcome sexual advances or physical contact of a sexual nature.
 - Verbal, written, or any other form of communication requests for sexual favors (including asking for body pictures), sexually demeaning comments, sexual statements, questions, slurs, jokes, anecdotes or epithets, leering, gestures, displays of sexually suggestive objects or pictures, cartoons, posters, etc.
- Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behavior that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening. Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.
- Conduct of a sexual nature, whether consensual or non-consensual, that is unacceptable in the SFHS environment.
- Sexual exploitation: The taking of sexual advantage over another for one's own gain or the gain of others

Harassment - Racial Microaggressions, Microassaults, Microinsults, Microinvalidations.

Racial bullying, intimidation, or harassment of students based on actual or perceived race, color, or national origin, will result in disciplinary investigation and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken based on the outcome of the investigation.

- **A microaggression** - is verbal, behavioral, or environmental indignities that communicate hostile, derogatory, denigrating, and hurtful messages to people of color.
- **A microassault** - is the verbal or nonverbal attack meant to hurt the intended student through name-calling, or purposeful discriminatory actions.
- **A microinsult** - is the insensitive communication that demeans someone's racial identity, signaling that their contributions are unimportant.
- **A microinvalidation** - involves negating, ignoring, nullifying the thoughts, feelings, or the reality of a person of color's experiences or realities

Harassment - Related to COVID-19

Harassment - Related to COVID-19 is not at all connected to race, ethnicity, or nationality.

Bullying, intimidation, or harassment of students based on actual or perceived race, color, national

origin, or disability (including the actual disability of being infected with COVID-19 or perception of being infected) will result in disciplinary investigation and resolution

Any student that feels she has been the subject of sexual harassment or any other form of harassment should immediately bring the matter to the attention of a counseling, wellness, a staff member or the administration.

Substance Abuse Policy

The philosophy of SFHS emphasizes a commitment to those values that honor the sanctity of life and the importance of each human being. The use of alcohol and other drugs is in opposition to this belief and creates an obstacle to learning. Any student or parent who freely approaches a counselor, administrator, teacher, coach, or other staff member for help regarding a drug/alcohol problem will be assisted in the spirit of counseling (unless the student is found to be using the counseling mechanism to avoid disciplinary action). The same will be true for students referred to any staff member for intervention.

Any violation of the spirit or specifics of this policy can result in actions as deemed necessary by the administration. The administration and faculty of SFHS expect parents and students to support all policies on substance use:

- Parents and older siblings are both legally and morally responsible any time they knowingly or unknowingly allow alcohol and/or drug use by minors. Parents are asked to closely monitor the activities of their students and other students, especially at times when the parents cannot be present in the home. Students, with or without parent approval, found to have organized, hosted or whose home or designated area is where an event where alcohol or drugs are used, or who have provided alcohol or drugs to other students, are subject to expulsion.
- Students found in possession, dealing in or selling any controlled substance on campus or at school related activities will be expelled and law enforcement may be notified.
- Students found to have hosted an event where alcohol/drugs are used, or who have provided alcohol or drugs to other students are liable for expulsion.
- Smoking includes, but is not limited to, any tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes, juuls, vapes/vapor type equipment, with nicotine, non-nicotine, or other illegal substances; in addition, any item that may create aerosol, liquid, vapor or smoke in any manner.
- The trade, sale, or ingestion of medication prescribed to someone else is illegal and will result in suspension or expulsion.
- The consumption and/or possession of non-personal medication is illegal for all students.

Any violation of these policies may result in the following in disciplinary action.

Breathalyzers Used at School Events

Administration may use designated breathalyzers for the evaluation process as a systematic method of examining a student to determine whether or not she or he is under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Students found to be under the influence are in violation of school policy and immediate disciplinary action will be taken.

Academic Honesty

In keeping with the SFHS philosophy, students are expected to “learn academic skills, civic responsibilities, and Christian values”. The St. Francis faculty and administration believe in academic honesty and the principles of the honor code. Students must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Catholic values, a sense of integrity, honesty, accountability, and trust in all academic matters. **Students are expected to:**

- Do their own work/homework (no sharing physically, electronically)

- Work or test without cheating or using external resources
- Submit original work for all assignments
- Deny all requests to copy or “review” from their own work
- Immediately notify the teacher if others are cheating
- Know that sharing of information, not as part of a group project, is part of academic dishonesty

Because of our dedication to these values as an academic and spiritual community, we expect trust, honesty, and personal integrity. All academic dishonesties during a student’s four years at SFHS will be considered for progressive disciplinary action, including use of any part of another’s work. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarism
 - is the appropriation of another’s ideas (content) and /or language (form), in part or in whole, intentionally or unintentionally, without the necessary assignment of credit.
 - is the representation of someone else’s ideas as your own (e.g., copying text without using quotation marks, or not acknowledging in an in-text citation, a footnote, or a bibliography a scholarly source). Changing words to different words or sentence structure does not represent your original ideas, and thus is plagiarism.
 - Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, copying homework, labs, quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing another’s written work (including sources off the Internet), or oral statements without proper citation.
- Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
 - the use of another person’s test/answers either before or during the exam (e.g., giving information about a test or quiz that has already been taken to another student who is to take the same test or quiz or receiving of information), sharing of answers (orally, electronically, or in writing), or allowing one’s work to be copied in any manner
 - the use or possession of notes, answers, cheat sheets, electronic devices (including watches, phones, or translators), or any other source not pre-approved by the teacher during the exam, stealing/receiving test papers or information prior to the test
 - looking at another person’s paper or the person, talking during testing, copying assignments
 - marking or adjusting answers after the test period is over or after the paper should have been turned in
- Falsifying or preventing communication between home and school (e.g., signing parent’s name to progress reports, changing report card, etc.)
- Phones or electronic devices found to be accessible during testing will result in academic dishonesty discipline, whether in use or not.
- Homework is an integral part of the educational process to assist students in getting the most out of their high school experience. Homework is considered an individual activity to be completed outside the general school day. All homework is to be completed according to the specifications of the instructor.

Academic dishonesty will result in:

- “0” on the assignment or test
- Teacher notifies the Dean of Students
- Progressive discipline may be issued.
- Any repeated academic dishonesty may result in suspension and/or expulsion

Academic dishonesty during finals will result in:

- “0” on the final
- Teacher notifies the Dean of Students
- Parents(s) will be notified by the school within a reasonable amount of time (via writing, email or phone call). This affords a student the right to discuss the pending issue with her parents.
- Discipline may be issued, up to and including suspension
- Any repeated academic dishonesty may result in suspension and/or expulsion

Recommended Withdrawal

In certain cases, the Principal or designee may recommend that a student voluntarily withdraw.

Discipline Review Board

The purpose of the Discipline Review Board is to review and recommend to the Principal whether a student continues enrollment at SFHS and under what circumstances. Students may be sent before a review board for multi-day suspensions, recommendations for withdrawal, intention to expel, or at the discretion of the Dean or Principal.

Expulsion Policy

It is the policy of SFHS that actions to expel students from the school are taken in accordance with the policies and procedures that follow. Nothing in this expulsion policy shall limit, nor is intended to limit, the discretion or authority of the Dean of Students or the Principal to impose discipline upon any student for any violation of any of the rules or policies of SFHS.

The decision to expel a student, performed in accordance with this policy, shall be final and binding upon the student and her parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

Notice of Discipline Review Board

Whenever any grounds for multi-day suspension or expulsion exist, the Dean of Students shall provide the student who is subject to suspension or expulsion and her parent(s) or guardian(s) with a written Notice for a Discipline Review Board, which shall state clearly concisely, the reasons and grounds for such intended discipline. The notice shall advise the student and parent(s) of her right to an Informal Hearing before the Discipline Review Board.

Informal Hearing

A student with her parent(s) shall have the right to an Informal Hearing before the Review Board.

Timing of Informal Hearing

Unless requested by the student or parent(s), the Informal Hearing should be no later than five days following the receipt of the Notice of Intent to Suspend or Expel, unless an alternate date is agreed upon.

Rights of Students at the Informal Hearing

The Informal Hearing is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to be heard on the question of her pending multi-day suspension or expulsion and is not designed to be a formal hearing. As such, the student is not entitled to be represented by legal counsel at the Informal

Hearing, nor shall formal rules of evidence apply. However, the student shall be entitled to the following rights in the Informal Hearing:

- Right of parent(s) to attend - A student shall be entitled to have her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) attend.
- Right of student to attend and right to speak on her own behalf - A student shall be entitled to speak on her own behalf during the Informal Hearing.
- Right to be present during the deliberation - Neither the student nor her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall be entitled to be present during the deliberation of the Discipline Review Board.
- Restorative Discipline - Students who are not expelled will be required to participate in designated restorative discipline as well as discipline assigned by the Review Board.
- The decision resulting in a multi-day suspension or expulsion will be made by the Principal, in consultation with the President, within two working days following the Discipline Review Board Informal Hearing.

Discipline Review Board Members

The Discipline Review Board, is comprised of the Principal, an Assistant Principal, the Dean of Students (non-voting), one to five members of the SFHS faculty, and a counselor.

Families of students who are expelled may be given the right to withdraw prior to the Expulsion occurring. The right to withdraw will be decided by the Principal and President of SFHS. Students who are expelled from SFHS will not have their transcripts or cumulative files released until after the completion of all hearing processes or legal procedures.

Searches-Drug Dogs

St. Francis reserves the right to conduct random and specific drug and alcohol testing on campus or at any and all school events. In our continuing effort to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for all students, SFHS had adopted a program to detect the presence of illicit drugs, alcohol, gunpowder-based items, abused medications and other contraband normally prohibited from campus. A contraband detection and drug dog service will make periodic unannounced visits to our campus throughout the school year. They will normally check lockers, classrooms, common areas, gym areas, vehicles, parking lots, student bags and backpacks, and other areas identified by school administration.

If required, the dogs will also be provided for dances, graduation and grad night events. Failure to follow the requests of the dog service personnel or school administrator will result in the automatic notification of law enforcement. These areas may also be checked by school administrators or law enforcement as predicted by the situation.

Drug Testing

With reasonable cause, students may be drug tested while enrolled at SFHS. These tests will be required by administration at their discretion. When Administration determines that a student is required to be tested, the parent(s) will be notified. All fees associated with the drug test will be the responsibility of the parent(s).

Dress Code

The students of SFHS have the honor of wearing a uniform to school. An important goal of a dress code is to teach our young women that, in the larger arena of life, different types of dress codes are appropriate for different settings. As representatives of SFHS, student appearance reflects upon the image and good name of the school. To that end, students in this academic setting are expected to be clean and neat in their personal appearance, observing standards of modesty and moderation.

Ever changing styles of clothing and grooming, the different values of parents and students, and individual interpretations of what is acceptable school dress make judgment in such matters subjective. The school reserves the right to regulate against fads or fashions. Parents who send their daughters to SFHS, and choose the SFHS experience, accept the judgment of the administration as final in matters of school policies, including dress code for a high school college preparatory environment.

Students are to be in uniform in all areas of the campus, while in the classroom and on lunch, free periods, or in assemblies. Students must wear their uniforms during finals review, and finals. Regular and random dress code checks will be conducted during the school year.

During Distance or Hybrid learning students are to present themselves on camera with the red or white school polo shirt. Free dress Fridays rules will apply.

Respect for oneself and others is also shown through personal appearance and neatness. All students are expected to reflect pride in themselves and in the school by following the uniform policies. If the article of clothing is not listed below, it is not acceptable to wear to school:

- **Shirt:** *White or red polo with the SF logo in short or long sleeves.* The SF uniform shirt with a logo must be worn at all times, even under the uniform sweater or sweatshirt. Only a solid white shirt may be worn under the polo.
- **Skirt:** *SF checkered box pleat skirt.* It is to be worn in good taste, buttoned and zipped and not rolled at the waist. The skirt must be no shorter than three inches above the top of the knee. Skirts must be clean and not written on. Any student with an improperly fitting or damaged skirt will be required to purchase a new skirt and the parent account will be charged.
- **Pants:** *Khaki pants (no corduroy or denim).* Pants must fit properly, not skintight and have no cargo style pockets or drawstring waist.
- **Sweater/Fleece:** *SF red pullover, fleece, vest or cardigan only.*
- **Shoes:** *Shoes or sandals with backs (backs must be manufactured with the shoe, not handmade).* Shoes must be worn at all times. Laces must be tied and straps worn properly. **This also applies to modified dress days, unless specific permission has been given by the Dean or Principal.**
- **Socks/Tights/Leggings:** Tights or leggings must be black or grey and must be solid. No patterns or netting allowed. Socks may not be above the knees. Socks do not have to be worn with sandals.
- **Sweatshirt:** *St. Francis High School red sweatshirt with gold lettering.*
- **Layering:** *Students may layer with St. Francis uniform items only.* The top layer must be a long sleeved uniform sweatshirt, a long sleeved uniform sweater or a long sleeved uniform fleece. Layering is not allowed under the uniform vest sweater or fleece. Layering is not allowed on formal uniform days.
- **Jackets:** *Only an SFHS uniform jacket may be worn.*
- **Undergarments/shorts:** At no time may a student wear anything under her white polo or oxford that can be seen through the shirt, including, but not limited to, colored or patterned bras, sports bras, t-shirts, etc. Students are strongly encouraged to wear close fitting shorts under their uniform skirts.

If students need to change out of their free dress or uniform, only restrooms or locker rooms should be used. At no time may a student disrobe anywhere but these locations.

Formal Uniform Requirements

A formal uniform is required for assemblies, class meetings, liturgies, prayer services and special events. Formal uniform must be worn from the beginning of the school day until the end of the specific assembly, class meeting, liturgy, prayer service or special event. Students must come dressed for formal uniform day; parents dropping off items will not negate the detention for being out of formal uniform. The blue blazer is mandatory October 1st to May 30th, unless otherwise announced by the Dean of Students.

- SF blue blazer, white shirt, and red sweater or vest (mandatory for all classes). SFHS jackets may be worn with formal uniform after mass/liturgy/assembly or required event; blazer must be worn **BEFORE** and **DURING** the event.
- Checkered box pleat skirt or khaki pants
- SF white polo shirt or white long sleeve shirt (must not hang below the sweater)
- SF red sweater, cardigan or vest
- Solid black tights or leggings may be worn
- Socks must be solid white, black, grey or navy
- No layering with non-formal uniform items during gatherings on formal uniform days
- No hats, scarves, fleeces, or jackets

Additional Guidelines Regarding the Uniform and Personal Appearance

- **Hair:** Dyeing, bleaching, or tinting hair to an unnatural color or having severely contrasting colors is not permitted. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. (This includes partially or fully shaved heads, or razor cut style).
- **Hats:** Hats, caps, or sweatshirt hoods are not to be worn in class. Hats, caps, and hoods may be worn outside.
- **Sunglasses:** Sunglasses may not be worn indoors (unless deemed medically necessary).
- **Piercing:** Body piercing other than the ears is not permitted (e.g., nose, gauges and eyebrow rings, no bandages covering the piercings, etc.)
- **Jewelry:** Jewelry should be limited and in good taste. Decorations are not to be sewn on or attached to the uniform.
- **Tattoos:** Permanent or temporary tattoos are not permitted. (Henna with Administration pre-approval only).
- **Masks:** All students must wear appropriate cloth or surgical style masks (as designated by the administration) to help slow COVID-19 exposure. Students who refuse to wear a mask will be sent home and may not be allowed to return until they are in compliance with the school policy.
 - A cloth face covering is a mask that fully covers over the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face (**bandana** or “**gaiter**” style). It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand.
 - It cannot be made from such items as: open lace, mesh, metal, or **using face coverings which have one-way exhalation valves**. etc. shields may be deemed an alternative. All decisions about appropriate face coverings will rest with the Administration.
 - Wearing a cloth face covering does not eliminate the need to physically distance yourself from others.

Bathrooms/Handwashing: The number of students in a given bathroom should not exceed the number of sinks in that bathroom. Students should practice safe handwashing as designated by the CDC (a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and water) frequently throughout the day.

Special Event Dress Code

- Awards Assembly and Farewell Mass/Honor Guard: The same rules apply for “Dress Code/Open Dances” and seniors are encouraged to wear appropriate garments and must adhere to the dress code policy.
- Baccalaureate and Graduation: The same rules apply for “Dress Code/Open Dances.” However, light colored garments should be worn under the white graduation gown.
- Students must adhere to standard school policy pertaining to hair style, color and dress code.

Friday Dress Code

On Fridays, students may wear St. Francis t-shirts, sweatshirts or jackets that are school, sport or club related. These may be worn with the uniform skirt.

Free Dress/Modified Dress Days

There are occasional “Free dress or modified dress days” during spirit week, retreats, and special fundraisers for charities. Students may wear:

- St. Francis logo sweats or St. Francis logo team warm up pants
- St. Francis t-shirts, sweatshirts or jackets that are school, sport, or club related
- Personal shirts/pants/jeans/skirts/dresses in accordance with dress code and open dance rules
- **Shoes with backs are required**

Students may not wear:

- Short dresses/skirts/rompers/shorts. The length must be no more than three (3) inches above the knee. Note: Leggings do not change the length rule.
- Torn, soiled or ragged clothing
- Pajamas, yoga pants, leggings, or jeggings (as pants)
- Tops that expose the stomach, back or chest, strapless or tube tops, halter tops, tops that begin below the shoulder blades, tops that plunge too deeply, tops with straps less than one (1) inch wide. Clothing that exposes the midriff; tops and bottoms must overlap
- Clothing that is excessively tight; clothing must fit properly
- Clothing that sags, bags, or is low-cut, that exposes undergarments or excessive skin
- Clothing with references to alcohol, sex, drugs, racist or sexist sayings
- Clothing containing objectionable references, symbols, words, advertising, political or propaganda that is against the philosophy of St. Francis; these are not permitted at any time

The administration exercises full authority in the interpretation of issues pertaining to uniform regulations.

Expectation

It is expected that all students will adhere to the uniform and dress code regulations of the school and that parents will support the policies of the school by seeing that their daughters have appropriate uniform attire.

Dances

Smoking, drinking, drug use, inappropriate dance behavior, or inappropriate dress is not permitted. If a student is found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the procedures listed under the school's Discipline Policy will be followed. Any other inappropriate behavior will result in the confiscation of the student's I.D. card.

Date Policy

All students from the four participating Catholic High Schools are allowed to come to open dances. For the Homecoming Dance, Senior Ball, Junior Prom, and Frosh/Soph Formal, students may choose to bring a guest or come alone.

Interschool Policies for Dances

The four participating Catholic High Schools will enforce the following policies at all of the open dances:

- Dances are from 7:30-10:00 p.m., no entrance after 8:30 p.m., no dismissal before 9:30 p.m.
- Cost is \$10.00 and each student may only buy one wristband
- No admittance without a current Student Body Card
- Students may not arrive or depart in rented vehicles, limousines, buses, or RVs
- Students remaining 45 minutes after the end of the dance may be sent home by taxi at the family's expense
- Bags or purses may be inspected at the door, and there will be a coat check
- Testing for controlled substance use may be administered randomly
- School or law enforcement may use the services of security dogs and/or breathalyzers randomly to detect drugs, alcohol, or contraband items
- Student Body Cards will be confiscated for inappropriate behavior or dress. Cards will be held for six weeks or through the next scheduled dance, whichever comes first. Students will not be allowed to attend any dances during these six weeks or the next scheduled dance, whichever comes first. A second violation will result in the student being banned from any dances during that school year. Cards may be held into the next school year if the dance is held at the end of the year.

Guest Policy-Applies to Date Dances

- Guests may be no older than 20 years of age or younger than 9th grade
- A guest pass request form must be on file with the Dean of Students
- Guests must show a current picture I.D.
- Guests must enter with their host students
- The SF student is responsible for the actions of her guest

Dance Dress Code

Open Dances-Students wearing the following will not be admitted to the dances:

- Skirts, dresses, rompers, or shorts that are too short. The length must be no more than three (3) inches above the knees. Note: Leggings do not change the length rule.
- Tops that expose the stomach, back or chest, strapless or tube tops, halter tops, tops that begin below the shoulder blades, tops that plunge too deeply, tops with straps less than one (1) inch wide. Tops cannot be lower than the middle of the back.

- Clothing with references to alcohol, sex, drugs, racist or sexist sayings
- Clothing that sags, bags, or is low-cut, that exposes undergarments or excessive skin
- Clothing that is excessively tight; no body con, ruched dresses, or spandex
- Hand-decorated clothing (tops with slogans/sayings painted or printed onto a shirt)
- Glow, strobe, flashing, or light accessories of any kind
- Removal of clothing, revealing any of the above
- Clothing containing objectionable references, symbols, words, advertising or propaganda that is against the philosophy of St. Francis is not permitted at any time.

Date Dances

- Girls should wear semi-formal wear to Homecoming and formal wear to Junior Prom and Senior Ball.
- Dresses must be no more than three (3) inches above the knees.
- Girls may wear a strapless dress; however, no skin may be exposed on the stomach, back or chest.
- The male dates for semi-formal dances should wear dress shirts, dress pants or Docker-style pants.
- The male date for formal dances should wear a tuxedo or a shirt, suit and tie.
- All other rules as stated under open dance dress code will be enforced.

Appropriate dress is determined by school staff. Class level Dinner-Dances have modified dress codes specific to each dance. See bids and dance information for specific details.

Inappropriate Behavior

Students exhibiting the following will have their Student Body Cards taken and held for six weeks and will face disciplinary action:

- Straddling or wrapping legs around another person
- Inappropriate physical contact, lap dancing
- Lying or sitting on tables or floor
- Removal of clothing revealing a dress code violation
- Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, or other contraband
- Moshing, crowd-surfing, front-to-back dancing, grinding, sandwiching, freaking, break or circle dancing or other types of dancing that are lewd or potentially dangerous; dancing must be consistent with safe and appropriate practices.

Appropriate behavior is determined by school staff.

Dispute/Conflict Resolution Process (Mediation)

When conflict between school authority and an individual student and her family occurs, it is important that the following process be adhered to so that the rights of all are ensured. All parties involved in a dispute are expected to manifest good faith in their efforts to resolve disputes by maintaining an atmosphere of mutual understanding, confidentiality, and Christian charity. Every effort should be made between differing parties, through open and honest discussion at the onset, to resolve the dispute. In each case, the parties need to meet to provide the opportunity to state the issue(s) clearly and begin work on solutions.

Appeals occur in the following order:

- Teacher/Coach
- Department Chair/Athletic Director
- Assistant Principal
- Principal (The final appeal at the school level is the principal.)

General Student Information

Accidents

All accidents must be reported to the office of the Dean of Students. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

Age of Majority

Students eighteen (18) years of age and above must attend all assigned classes, homerooms, assemblies, and follow all school rules. Reaching the age of majority does not imply any specific rights, including the right to sign notes or call in absences. If the student is eighteen (18) or older and chooses not to follow the rules, regulations, and/or policies of the school, she will be subject to disciplinary action.

Assembly Information

Attendance at ***all assemblies and liturgies are mandatory for all students***. The following are some specific points about assembly courtesy:

- Courtesy means listening attentively. No student should talk when another is speaking.
- Homework should not be done during an assembly, nor should a student read during a presentation.
- Students will not bring food, drink, or phones to an assembly.
- Students should not call attention to themselves by arriving late or leaving early.
- Applause is appropriate behavior at informational, spirit, and recreational assemblies. Cheering at spirit assemblies is appropriate conduct.
- Appropriate behavior is determined by supervising staff.

Bicycles, Skateboards, Roller Blades, Scooters, Etc.

Bicyclists should always use pre-approved bike lanes and wear bike safety helmets as prescribed by law. All bicycles should be parked in the racks provided and should be locked at all times. Skateboards, roller blades, scooters, razors, etc. are prohibited on campus.

Blankets

Blankets are not allowed on campus or in the classroom with the exception of specific school-sponsored events.

Cameras

Surveillance cameras may be placed in public locations, such as school entrances, exits, lobby areas, hallways, cafeterias, athletic areas, parking lots or gathering spaces. All video recordings are the sole property of SFHS and the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

Classrooms/Staff Offices

Classroom use must be approved by the administration. Students may not use classrooms or staff offices without an adult chaperone.

Concussion Policy

Students who suffer from a concussion will follow strict protocols, as outlined in the SFHS Concussion Policy. Students who are under CCP guidelines may have their co-curricular activities limited until such time as they are cleared to fully resume school participation.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

Students are to be dropped off and picked up only at the front of the school in the designated area. Any student being dropped off or picked up in a non-designated area will be issued a **warning and Saturday school**.

Dropping Off or Sending of Non-School Related Items to Students

The office cannot accept items such as, but not limited to, balloons, flowers, gifts, etc., to be given to a student. Delivery of these items will be denied and returned to sender via the process of attempted delivery.

Early Dismissal

Students who wish to leave campus early must apply for and be granted an early dismissal pass. These passes are only issued for students who have a designated last block of the day free. Students leaving campus without an early dismissal pass or without signing out are subject to suspension.

Field Trips and Other School Sponsored Events Off Campus

Activity permission forms must be returned to the moderator of the trip at least 72 hours prior to the trip. When a field trip has been planned, the moderator(s) will notify the student of the dress code for the trip. Other teachers will be given notice of students attending the trip; teachers have the option to request that a student remain in school. **Parent chaperones and drivers must follow the transportation and parent volunteer fingerprint policies.**

Food or Drink

Students may eat only in specific designated areas of campus. Food or drink may not be taken into classrooms, foyers, the library, Fine Arts building, CLC, or gymnasium. Students caught eating in these areas are subject to discipline.

Garden

The St. Francis Garden is a place of sanctuary and reflection. Students wishing to use the garden must be supervised at all times. The fruits and vegetables being grown there are for use in the Dining Hall kitchen.

and not for personal consumption. Taking, eating, or throwing away the fruits and vegetables will result in disciplinary action.

Gym/Fitness Center

Any student wishing to use the gym or Fitness Center, regardless of time or purpose, must have the permission of, and be supervised by, a faculty member or designated authority.

Health and Medications

The physical well-being and safety of the students is necessary for efficient and satisfactory performance of school duties. Parents and students must bear the responsibility for contacting the school with any health-related concerns. Parents of affected students are encouraged to inform the Dean of their daughters' confidential medical conditions to best meet the needs of their children. **Students who use their electronic devices to notify parents to pick them up because they are ill must report first to the main office so that St. Francis personnel can assist them. It is imperative that students follow this procedure for their safety and welfare.**

- Immunization forms must be completed and on file or students will be denied admission to SFHS.
- Any student who has a severe allergic reaction, or a medical condition of any kind, who may have to take prescription medicine during the school day or during a school-related event, is required to complete the medical and parent authorization form and return it to the Dean. The student and her family are responsible for providing the proper medicine from her doctor with clear, written instructions for administering. *SFHS is not an allergen free environment and cannot meet all requests for accommodations. SFHS does not provide a school nurse.*
- Students with severe allergies, or other types of conditions that require the use of immediate medication, such as an EpiPen, Glucagon shot, or an inhaler, may carry these on or off campus. It is strongly recommended that students needing these types of medications have back up medications in the main office.
- Students may not carry any medications on campus, with the exception of personal use (3 or 4 pills) amounts of aspirin, or aspirin type substances, with parent authorization.
- Students may not share their medications with other students at any time or disciplinary action may occur.
- Medical release forms are available to parents to allow a school official, in case of emergency, to permit medical treatment for a student when parents cannot be contacted. It is important for parents to complete and return the forms by the first day of school and to inform the school of changes during the school year. If a student needs immediate medical attention, an ambulance will be called. The school will not be responsible for the fees involved in ambulance transport.
- Any student with hearing or sight problems or any other physical condition that may affect her learning process should inform her counselor. Teachers will be advised to make adjustments in classroom seating.
- Any student with a physical condition that would prevent her from participating in physical education classes should provide a physician's written statement to the P.E. Department Chair.
- Students who participate in field trips, retreats or overnight events should assure that their leader has received a copy of their medical form and that they supply any prescription medication needed during the event. Students may not carry prescription medications at off campus events (exceptions: inhalers, glucagon shots, EpiPens).
- **Contagious or Infectious Diseases**-Students whose absence from school is due to a contagious disease (e.g., chicken pox, pink eye, mononucleosis, strep throat, hepatitis or any other possible

contagious disease) will be asked to present a doctor's note before being allowed to return to school.

- Any student who has lice must stay home until she has completed at least the initial removal treatment.
- AIDS/HIV students do not pose a health risk to other students or staff in the classroom setting or involvement in co-curricular activities. Affected students shall be allowed to attend classes and participate in activities without restrictions as long as they are physically able and do not have compounded infectious diseases related to AIDS/HIV. School personnel have been trained in blood borne pathogen response.

Allergies

Numerous students on campus have life-threatening allergies to various foods (nuts, milk, shellfish, gluten, etc.), latex, plastic, nickel and many other items. *SFHS is not an allergen free environment and cannot meet all requests for accommodations.* High school students and their parents are expected to be proactive in regard to students' consumption of any food that is not prepared at home and brought to campus for the students. All students should be treated with respect concerning their medical conditions and should not be subject to any criticism or recrimination. No food should be dispersed to another student without her knowledge of how it was prepared (e.g., in a nut free environment or cooked in certain oils, etc.). Latex balloons are not allowed on campus without special permission from the administration, due to possible severe allergic reactions. If your student needs additional resources, contact the Dean of Students. Special tables have been dedicated for students with nut allergies. Students may not eat at these tables if they have any type of food that contains nuts or that may have been prepared with nuts. **STUDENTS WITH ALLERGIES, please ask the Dining Hall manager to determine food content.**

I.D. Cards

Student Body Cards are issued to all SFHS students. The card must be carried at *all* times during school hours, at *all Catholic high school* functions, and shown and surrendered upon request by authorized Catholic School personnel. Parents may not drop off cards in order to avoid detention for the student. The first replacement card is available for \$10 from the school office. The second replacement card will be \$50. The I.D. card may be taken from the student for violation of school policies and may be held for six school weeks. Electronic versions of both sides of the I.D. card will be accepted.

Legal Custody Issues

SFHS abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of noncustodial parents. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, SFHS will provide a non-custodial parent with access to academic records and other school information regarding his/her child. If there is a court order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the custodial parent's responsibility to provide the school with a court-certified copy. Never married parents should also have custody documents on file as needed. This information will help school officials in determining when, if ever, the child or her records may be released to the non-custodial parent.

Lockers

Each student is provided with a locker. Students may not trade lockers without clearance from the administration. Lockers must be kept locked at all times. Students may not use tape on or write on their lockers. Magnets may be used on the inside only. The school takes no responsibility for lost or stolen

articles. There will be a \$75 minimum charge each semester for any damage to the locker or if the locker is not clear at the end of the school year. A student should never give out her locker combination. Detention will be issued to students who violate the locker policy. Students must clean out their lockers by the last day of school. All items left after the last day will be donated or thrown away.

Lost and Found

Students should put their names on their books, clothes, or any other valuable items. SFHS is not responsible for lost items. Each day, items that have been misplaced will be taken to the Student Activities Office. Item taken from lost and found that do not belong to you is considered stealing.

M Street and Surrounding Neighborhoods

SFHS has a contract with the surrounding neighborhoods, and to that end, students may never be dropped off or picked up on M Street and surrounding neighborhoods, i.e. 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, Janey Way or in any of the surrounding neighborhoods. **Saturday school will be issued for any student in violation; a second violation will cause the student to be suspended.**

Only students who live in the St. Francis neighborhood and walk, bike, take public transportation, or those that pick up a sibling at St. Mary are eligible to use the M Street entrance gate.

Parking

Parking at SFHS is a privilege. A parking contract/registration form is available online to students who have a valid license that is, or will be, valid on the first day of school. The parking pass may be picked up on the designated day from the Dean of Students or a designee(s).

Physical Displays of Affection

Because physical displays of affection are exclusive behavior, these can distract from the St. Francis spirit. Therefore, it is inappropriate for students to engage in public, exclusive physical displays of affection on school grounds at any time. This includes, but is not limited to, prolonged holding, kissing, and caressing.

Prayer/Pledge

Students may stand or sit quietly (and respectfully) during the recitation of Prayers, the Pledge of Allegiance, or the National Anthem.

Pregnancy Policy

Human life at all stages, including the pre-born child, is a sacred gift from God and an abortion is never an alternative at any stage of pregnancy. Students who become pregnant deserve and need the full support of the administration, teachers, and other students. Therefore, ordinarily, the expectant student will be allowed to remain in school. This is not to condone unwed pregnancy, but rather to protect the sacred gift of life of the unborn child and to extend love and compassion to those involved. The school will continue to assist the student through graduation, including the ceremony and other related activities. However, if attendance in the classroom is judged not to be in the best interest of the student or the school community, other arrangements will be made. Counseling will be required of the student involved. Any student who publicizes and advocates an abortion, either planned or already obtained, will

be asked to leave the school. This policy pertains to any student spreading rumors about an alleged pregnancy or abortion.

Protests

It is the role of St. Francis Catholic High School to encourage active, engaged citizenship, including how to navigate the processes of our democratic system. We always encourage respectful dialog and debate. St. Francis Catholic High School does impose restrictions on the time, place and manner of the speech or activity in order to maintain a safe and orderly educational environment. It is imperative that students and Administration work together for the safety of all concerned. Students who fail to follow the directives of the school Administration and create a scandalous, rumor-driven, disruptive, threatening, hostile, or divisive environment, may be subject to disciplinary action.

Searches

The school administration has the right to conduct a search of a student and the physical plant and grounds of the school without notice when the general good of the student and/or school community is in question, and/or at the administration's discretion. This includes lockers, backpacks, cellular telephones and technology devices, and automobiles, on or at off-campus events. A student search occurs with a same sex supervisor and a same sex witness.

Senior Privileges

Senior privileges are just that, privileges. There is no expectation that students who receive discipline for serious events are entitled to any senior privilege. Any or all senior privileges may be removed from individuals or groups at the discretion of the Dean or Principal. Privileges available to senior students in good standing include:

- Wearing college sweatshirts or t-shirts on Fridays
- Daily college shirts and flip-flops can be worn after Easter break
- Full free dress begins May 1st
- Choosing and playing approved music using the system in Serra Court on Fridays
- Sitting as designated tables for "seniors only" in the Dining Hall and Serra Court
- Seniors dismissed from assemblies and liturgies prior to other classes
- Chair seating when available at Liturgies, if responsibility is taken to help set up and/or clean up
- Senior parking Painting Fundraiser
- Option for not taking finals in the 2nd semester, based on the guidelines listed in the Academic Policies section of this handbook

Smoking

It is the policy of the Diocese of Sacramento's Catholic School Department that smoking will not be allowed at any school function or anywhere on school premises. **A student found smoking will be suspended.** (Smoking includes, but is not limited to: any tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes, juuls, vapes/vapor type equipment with nicotine, non-nicotine or other illegal substances, in addition to any item that may create aerosol, liquid, vapor or smoke in any manner.)

STOPit

St. Francis is committed to the support of our students' well-being and personal safety. With that in mind, we have adopted technology to allow students to reach out in a safe and secure manner. The STOPit app is available on all student Chromebooks. One of the biggest obstacles to aiding a student in crisis or stopping an event is the student's reluctance to report it. The STOPit system encrypts information. Any person can choose to submit a form, anonymously, or with her contact information. The person retains control as it is entirely up to her how much information she wishes to divulge. The STOPit system should only be used to relay important or crisis information. **While a student can leave a message or report at any time, concerns and events will only be responded to during regular school business hours, Monday-Friday. Life-threatening events should be immediately reported to 9-1-1 and to parents.**

Student Property

Students are solely responsible for their own personal property; this includes students' vehicles. The school accepts no responsibility for non-school owned items.

Supervision of Students on Campus

School office hours are 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The campus is opened at 7:00 a.m. with a member of the maintenance staff and a school administrator on campus. SFHS does not provide organized supervision before or after school, with the exception of school organized activities. When classes are in session, faculty and staff are assigned to supervise students at lunch. Students who are not part of an after-school activity or event must leave campus by 4:30 p.m. Students may NOT remain on campus after 4:30 pm and must come to the front office prior to 4:30 pm if there is an issue.

When a student reports to her first class of the day, this is the school's first official notice that the student is on campus.

Teacher Late to Class

If a teacher does not arrive to class within five minutes after the start of class, a single student should notify the main office. In the meantime, the rest of the class must wait quietly. Students who leave the area are subject to detention.

Visiting the Campuses of Other Schools

Students may not loiter on or around the campuses of other schools, public or private, while they are in session. SFHS students guilty of unauthorized visitations to other schools, at any time, shall be suspended. SFHS students guilty of vandalism to the property of another school are responsible for all damages and are subject to expulsion.

Visitors

Upon arriving, visitors should report to the office; visitors are required to sign in and will receive a visitor's pass.

Visitors (Students)

Students who wish to visit SFHS during school hours must have clearance from Admissions, Administration or Guidance. The parent's written consent must contain the following information:

- Parent name
- Phone number
- Name of current school
- Emergency contact

Consent from the student's current school is sufficient if the student is from a feeder school. Students who have previously attended SFHS and are enrolled in a different high school **may not be** on campus during school hours without clearance from the Dean of Student's office. A St. Francis alumna may visit campus during school hours. She must sign in and receive a visitor pass.

Yearbook Picture-Seniors

The student is required to be in a drape or graduation gown for her senior portrait that is placed in the yearbook. The picture used for the senior portrait will be used for the graduation ceremony. Failure to take a senior portrait will result in the SFHS crest being used for the picture during all graduation events. Seniors are also required to obtain a picture for the mandatory student I.D. card.

Yearbook Picture-Junior, Sophomore, Freshman

All students are required to take a yearbook and student I.D. card picture. Purchase of pictures is optional. Students must take pictures on the designated picture day. Only students who were off campus on the scheduled day will be allowed retakes. No other retakes are allowed.

Parent/Guardian Information

Emergency Procedures

In case of an emergency, information regarding parent responsibilities during an on campus event can be found on the SFHS website.

Transportation Policy

This policy applies only in cases where the school organizes transportation. If participants are responsible for their own transportation, the policy does not apply. SFHS requires any students traveling for school purposes to be transported by an adult over the age of 25. All drivers must comply with the requirements listed below:

- Drivers must be 25 years of age or older.
- Drivers must have Volunteer Fingerprint Clearance on file at SFHS.
- Drivers must have a signed "Volunteers Code of Conduct" on file with SFHS.
- Drivers must have a signed "Driver Information Form" and a copy of proof of insurance on file with SFHS.
- Drivers must have a good driving history and must provide SFHS with a copy of a valid, unrestricted driver's license. Drivers may be subject to a Motor Vehicle Records check.
- The vehicle must have a valid and current registration and license plates.

- The vehicle must be insured for \$100,000 per person/\$300,000 per accident limit of liability for bodily injury, \$50,000 for property damage, \$5,000 per person medical, and \$100,000 uninsured motorist insurance.
- The vehicle must be equipped with working seat belts for the driver and every passenger transported. The driver and passenger(s) must use seat belts properly.
- No more than nine persons, including the driver, may be transported in a private vehicle.
- The driver shall observe all state driving regulations.
- Drivers shall follow route directions, caravan, or other directions issued by the coach, teacher or adult in charge of the group.
- The driver, or a passenger in the vehicle, is encouraged to carry a cell phone and the number of the school, in case of an emergency.
- SFHS assumes no liability for accidents which cause bodily injury or property damage, and which result from the use of any privately owned vehicle as described herein.
- Because SFHS is a commuter school drawing student from a large geographic area and because parents' work hours may prohibit them from driving, it may be necessary for students to drive other students to and from school. Be advised that SFHS assumes no responsibility for any of the "carpooling" arrangements and will not monitor nor supervise any such arrangements. All "carpooling" arrangements are entered into at the driver's and passenger's own risk and SFHS assumes no liability for any and all claims arising out of "carpooling" arrangements.

The school reserves the right to prohibit any student from driving and/or parking if either privilege is abused. All drivers are asked to observe the rules of careful driving, particularly when leaving and entering the school grounds, and when driving near neighboring elementary schools.

Student Insurance

SFHS participates in the student insurance program of the Diocese of Sacramento. If a student gets hurt during school activities, the school provides insurance to help with the cost of medical treatment not covered by other insurance or health coverage the student may have. This "school-time accident" insurance is designed to cover some, but not all, of the possible costs. Any injury incurred during the time of school-supervised activities must be reported to the office immediately; accident claim forms will be provided by St. Francis Catholic High School. The cost of insurance is incorporated into the activity fee, which is part of tuition.

Student Photo and Name Use Policy

SFHS produces and distributes a number of publications and electronic communications using photos or names of students or other members of the SFHS community. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Student Publications/Presentations: Produced by students for the enjoyment of students and their families, including the Yearbook, the student Newspaper (*The Mandolin*), slide shows and videos.
- School Advancement Publications: Publications mailed or otherwise distributed to households of current and past parents, alumnae, and friends of St. Francis, including the SFHS Magazine (*Pax et Bonum*), solicitation materials for the St. Francis Fund and other advancement programs, fundraising and activity invitations, programs and flyers.
- Publications developed for the Marketing and Enrollment Office, including a "viewbook", posters, videos, and advertisements to inform prospective students and their families about St. Francis.
- Other materials.

- Athletic or Academic team programs/posters, Arts programs/posters, photo enlargements to display on campus
- Website, Email, and Social Media; the school website, Principal’s Newsletter and other email communications, and social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.) are main sources of information for the members of the St. Francis community
- Based on current use of social media, we cannot guarantee a specific student’s image will not appear in group or background pictures. If requested, we will not identify the student by name.

SFHS reserves the right to include in its print or digital publications and materials photographs with or without identification of students, alumnae, and other members of the school community unless specifically requested not to do so by any individual (or parent/guardian, in case of a minor) in an email to the Dean of Students.

Parent Release

I give my permission for my student(s) to participate in high school sports and academic teams, realizing that such activities involve the potential for injury. I acknowledge that even with the best coaching, use of the most advanced equipment and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility. On rare occasion these injuries can be severe and result in total disability, paralysis, or even death.

I hereby acknowledge that SFHS has a School Time Accident Plan. I acknowledge that I have primary medical insurance on the above student, with medical benefits.

I am aware that high school sporting and academic team events will require off campus travel and I hereby give my permission for my daughter to travel to all off campus meets and practices, either by bus or any approved means of transportation. I understand the possibility of unforeseen hazards and know the inherent possibility of risk. I believe that the subject of this release is physically and mentally capable of taking reasonable precautions to protect her own safety and has the maturity and judgment not to put herself or others in dangerous situations. I agree to not hold the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento, SFHS, its leaders, employees, or volunteer staff liable for damages, losses, diseases, or injuries incurred by the subject.

Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement

In consideration for being permitted to participate in SFHS activities, to use the equipment provided, and to enter the premises and facilities of SFHS and the Diocese of Sacramento, for any purpose, including observation of and participation in activities, we, as parents or guardians, for him or herself and any successors in interest, and on behalf of the minor child, agree as follows:

- To release, waive, discharge, and promise not to sue the Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento, a Corporation Sole and SFHS, its affiliated entities, employees, agents, and volunteers (the “Diocese”) from all liability for any loss or damage, and any claim or demands therefore on account of injury of any kind including serious or mortal injury to the body, injury to psyche, or injury to property of the minor child, parent, or guardian, whether caused by negligence or other conduct by the Diocese while the minor child, parent, or guardian is participating in SFHS activities or in, upon, or about the premises of the Diocese or any of its facilities or equipment.
- To indemnify and hold harmless the Diocese from any loss, liability, damage, or cost it may incur due to the presence of the minor child, parent, or guardian in, upon, or about the premises of the Diocese, its facilities or equipment, or while participating in any SFHS activities whether caused by the negligence of the Diocese or otherwise.

- That he or she has read this agreement and voluntarily signs the Student-Parent Handbook Statement form, and that no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the contents of this consent form and agreement have been made.

Student Overnight Trips Sponsored by SFHS

The purpose of a student trip is to encourage the cultural and social growth of the student through new experiences while providing close supervision and support for the student by SFHS staff. The teacher chaperone may accept deposits only from students who are up to date in tuition payments to the school. Students usually eligible to travel with school-sponsored trips are those who pay tuition without assistance from the school. Students must have tuition paid to date in order to join the student travel group. The chaperone will check with the Student Billing Office for this information. The one exception to this rule concerns overnight retreats. The student must have a proven record of excellent citizenship. One or more letters of recommendation may be required. Student applicants who do not attend SFHS may be included on the trip with approval of the administration. Parents are also welcome. **Parent chaperones and drivers must follow the transportation and fingerprint policy. SFHS will not be held liable when students are on a trip under private travel enterprises.**

Use of School Name, Logo or Seal

The use of the SFHS logo or seal on documents or items other than official school materials is forbidden unless approval is granted in writing by the administration of SFHS.

Distance and Hybrid Learning

Students who are in full distance learning for a semester are required to participate in classes every day those classes are held.

Students who are unable to be on campus due to illness, are eligible to participate in the Distance learning with teacher or Administrator permission. Students who fully participate in DL will not be charged with an absence for that block.

Covid Symptoms & Case Response

Note: Each school has a designated contact tracer whose name is on file with the Catholic School Department and County Health.

Steps to Take in Response to Confirmed/Suspected COVID-19 Cases and Close Contacts (TABLE 1)

SCENARIO	IMMEDIATE ACTIONS	COMM.
<p>Scenario 1: A student or staff member either answers “yes” to a health screening question</p> <p>-OR-</p> <p>Exhibits the following COVID-19 symptoms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/staff are isolated at the site until they can be sent home or to a healthcare facility per CDPH guidance <p>To return to school: Wait at least 10 days after symptom onset AND 24-hours after symptoms begin to improve AND at least 24 hours without a fever (without the use of fever reducing medications).</p> <p>-OR-</p> <p>If medical attention is needed, the individual should contact their healthcare provider. The healthcare provider will determine if the individual needs a COVID-19 test.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If student/staff tests positive, see Scenario 3. • If student/staff tests negative, see Table 2 below. • In addition, the individual may have a medical note by a physician that provides an alternative explanation for symptoms and reason for not having a COVID-19 test (e.g., seasonal allergies) <p><u>School site will remain open</u></p>	<p>COVID-19 symptoms letter provided to individual or individual’s guardian</p>

<p>Scenario 2: A family member or someone in close contact with a student or staff member (outside the school community) tests positive for COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/staff sent home • RD & COVID-19 School Liaison notified • Student/staff instructed to quarantine/monitor for symptoms, even if they test negative, for a full 14 days after. <p>The date of last exposure to a COVID-19 positive non-household contact</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-OR-</p> <p>The date COVID-19 positive household member completes their isolation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If student/staff begin to show COVID-19 like symptoms, it is recommended to be tested. • If student/staff test positive, see Scenario 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>School site will remain open.</u> 	<p>Student (Guardian) or Staff: Immediately notify the COVID-19 School Liaison if they are defined as a close contact of a confirmed case</p>
<p>Scenario 3: A student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/staff sent home, if not already at home • School administration, RD and county COVID-19 School Liaison notified • Public Health – School Unit (PHSU) notified • Close off and clean any areas used by the person who tested positive, per CDPH and CDC guidance • <u>Student/staff that tested positive:</u> will isolate for 10 days after symptom onset or test date • <u>School-based close contacts:</u> identified and instructed to self-quarantine and monitor symptoms for 14 days. <p>*If close contacts begin to show COVID-19 like symptoms, it is recommended to be tested. Testing does not shorten 14-day quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>School site will remain open.</u> 	<p>COVID-19 positive</p> <p>Individual: Notify school administration and/or COVID-19 School Liaison immediately</p> <p>School Site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact PHSU • Close Contact letter and Self-Quarantine Instructions sent to school close contacts within 48 hours. • Confirmed COVID-19 case notification sent to school community

Steps to Take in Response to Negative COVID-19 Test Result (TABLE 2)

SCENARIO	IMMEDIATE ACTIONS	COMMUNICATION
A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19 after Scenario 1 (symptomatic)	Student/staff may return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medicine) and improvement in other symptoms.	Student family/staff to bring evidence of negative COVID-19 test or medical note if testing not performed
A student or staff member tests negative after Scenario 2 (close contact)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/staff must remain in quarantine for a full 14 days after: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The date of last exposure to COVID-19 positive non-household contact <li style="text-align: center;">-OR- 2) The date that COVID-19 positive household member completes their isolation 	No action is needed
A student or staff member tests negative after routine surveillance testing (no symptoms and no close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can return to school/work immediately 	No action is needed

The parent/guardian and the student assume full responsibility for absences and for all the academic consequences entailed. All non-school related student absences are factored into the total number of allowable absences, which is twelve (12) per class per semester.

Students must always check in and out of the attendance office when leaving and/or returning to school during school hours. The student must sign the attendance log in the attendance office. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

From the Diocese of Sacramento

2021-2022 COVID-19 School Protocol Acknowledgment

I have read and understand the current COVID-19 School Protocol which sets forth the procedures undertaken by the school to mitigate the spread of infection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I acknowledge that, despite the best efforts of students, parents, and faculty, a risk of infection at school is a possibility.

I agree to follow all procedures which are family responsibilities. These include the following:

- Conduct a daily health check of all family members (temperature below 100.4°F, presence of COVID-19 symptoms, etc.) before coming to campus
- Keep student home if there is a fever or illness of any kind and report this to the school
- Report any contact a student has had with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who is demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms
- Wear a mask and maintain social distancing on campus or at school/parish events
- Provide students with appropriate supplies including masks
- Pick up in a timely manner a student who becomes ill

I understand that the school administration may need to amend the Protocol as needed or required by authorities and that notification of such amendments will be made to parents and guardians in a timely manner.

I have read and understand the information contained in the COVID-19 Protocol: