

St. Vincent de Paul

Junior High

Handbook



Making a Difference for Christ:
YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW
— 25 YEARS —

Dear Parents:

Welcome to Junior High! We are looking forward to working with your child(ren) and with you. This guide has been developed to help answer some questions you may have about school and classroom policies. This information supplements the Parent/Student Handbook.

Our intent is to make you aware of changes your child(ren) may experience in junior high as they prepare for high school. Student responsibility will be the key to a successful year. Home and school communication is a priority for us as teachers as we partner with you so that your child will have a productive school year. Your help and support is appreciated and valued.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can help you in any way.

Sincerely,

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Cell Phone Policy:

If a student needs to have a cell phone, it should be in the off position and kept in the student's backpack during school hours. Once students leave school grounds, they may turn the phone on.

If a student's cell phone is visible at school, it will be confiscated and the parent/guardian will be asked to pick it up from the principal and the student will receive a card mark. If a cell phone is confiscated more than once, a conduct report will be issued.

Classroom Rules

1. Use appropriate voices.
2. Use your time wisely.
3. Raise your hand to speak.
4. Respect others and their property.
5. Ask permission to leave the room.
6. Respect the learning environment.
7. All books and supplies need to be stored in the bookrack under the desk during class and cleared from the rack at the end of each class.
8. Each textbook needs to have a paper bag book cover.

Code of Conduct

All students in Grades 7 and 8 will be issued a Code of Conduct Card every quarter. Students who have not filled their conduct cards or received a conduct report will be eligible for Honor Roll. Please refer to the School Handbook about the Honor Roll guidelines. Students will carry their conduct cards with them at all times throughout the school day. If a student receives a notation and does not have his/her card with him/her at the time, he/she will receive two notations, one for the original offense and one for not carrying his/her card.

Students are required to leave their cards at school every afternoon except Fridays when students take them home to obtain a parent signature to be returned on the next school day. Failure to do this will result in a notation.

Common problems:

- *Disruptive actions, such as interrupting, making loud noises, horseplay, shoving, etc.
- *Disrespectful behavior to others
- *Ganging up or bullying other students
- *Damaging or defacing school/parish property
- *Chewing gum and /or eating candy, etc.
- *Being in /leaving an area without permission
- *Repeatedly out of dress code (i.e. shirt untucked)
- *Dress code violation (i.e. unacceptable footwear)
- *Not having Code of Conduct Cards on their possession

- *Repeatedly not prepared for class
- *Bringing nuisance items to school
- *Tardy for class

Expected Behavior of Students

1. Do your work the best you can with your God-given talent.
2. Respect and be kind to everyone in a spirit of Christian charity.
3. Respect the property of the school, staff, and each other.

Field Trips

If a student's academic progress is in question or he/she receives more than one Detention or Conduct Report, participation in field trips/grade level events may be evaluated. Parents will be notified in advance regarding participation.

Examples: Eighth Grade Mahoney Field Trip, Seventh and Eighth Grade Christmas Movie, Class Parties, Assemblies, etc.

Gum

St. Vincent de Paul is a gum-free facility. A \$5.00 fine and a card mark will be given to student(s) not adhering to this policy. The fine is to be paid the following day or the fine is doubled and Saturday School will be assigned.

Junior High Assignment Policy

All work must be completed legibly in regular black or blue ink, unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Math must be done in pencil.

1. Students will be evaluated in many different ways. Not every assignment will be collected for a grade, but each assignment is valuable to their learning.
2. Every assignment is due when classroom teachers collect it.
 - Up to 1 day late (on graded assignments) = 50% off
 - More than 1 day late = No credit awarded
3. All work must have the proper heading. The heading should be written on the **left** hand side of the paper.

Name #
Subject
Assignment
Date

4. Assignments on paper torn from a spiral notebook will not be accepted.
5. Always do your best and do your own work! (Refer to Classroom Ethics Policy.)

Remember: 50% OFF - If an assignment is taken for a grade and is not given to the teacher when asked. The assignment is due by the next class period.

Zero - If an assignment is not turned in the next day by class time.

Grading Guidelines:

Art:

Project points: Each project is worth a certain amount of points. (i.e. - 10 pts, 40 pts, 50 pts....depending on the size and length of project) I do not down grade if the student does not show artistic talent. Rather, I look for effort in how the student works on the project and if he or she completes the project, meeting all the project guidelines. If a student is not very artistic but does make a genuine effort to complete the project, I will not down grade the project because it does not look like the gifted art student's artwork.

Participation/ weekly effort points: Each week every student in the 6-8 grade gets 5 points for participation / effort. These points can be lost if they:

Come to class unprepared

Become disruptive

Shows lack of effort on the project

Receives notation

Shows lack of respect to peers, adults, to art materials, and to art room

Usually if they are on task for each class, show effort and work to complete each project they will do well in the class.

Helpful Hints for Physical Education:

1. Always bring your gym clothes!! This includes Dress Down Days.
2. Do not bring cologne, perfume, or body spray.
3. If a class is missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out what he/she missed.
4. It might be a good idea to bring a small towel or extra under shirt to class on days of Circuit Training.

Grading:

Each class period will be worth 5 pts. This makes for a total of 10 pts. a week.

There are several ways in which a student can lose points. They are as followed:

1. One point will be taken off when a student's card is marked for not having all of their gym attire (shirt, shorts, shoes).
2. One point will be taken off if the student is tardy.
3. Two points will be taken off if a student earns a mark on their card for something other than not having all of their gym attire.
4. Points taken off for participation may vary.

Tardy Policy:

When students come to class, they will get dressed in two shifts. The students will be divided up according to their last names. For example, A-L and M-Z. Each group will be allowed two minutes to get dressed. A timer will be set for the two minutes. If the student is not dressed and in their assigned seat by the time the two minutes is up, they will receive a tardy mark on their. This policy is put into place to ensure that students are not taking up class time by hanging out in the locker room.

Music:

Music grades are calculated as follows:

Participation 70%

This includes singing, participating in discussion, and using work time effectively. Participation scores will be entered into PowerGrade 3 times per quarter.

Listen and Respond 10%**Quarter Project 20%**

Each quarter we will be working on materials for a project at the end of the quarter. Some projects include; compose and perform an original piece, a test on musical styles, a poster of science of sound experiments.

Concert Requirement- ALL STUDENTS are required to participate in the 6-8 concert. During the quarter that includes the concert, grades will be averaged as follows: Participation 50%, Listen and Respond 10%, Concert 40%. The only excused absences for the concert will be cases of student illness or family emergency.

Lockers:

All student supplies not being used are to be kept in lockers. Students may return to their lockers at designated times throughout the day. Teachers strongly encourage students to carry materials for no more than three subjects at a time.

Make-Up Work:

Extended absences are often detrimental to a student's progress. Please avoid them when possible. Students may request homework in advance for classes they know they will miss. If the teacher is able to provide the homework, they do so on the last day before the student leaves for vacation. Late assignment rules apply for students returning without homework complete. The make-up work may differ from the original assignment given in class. Study Buddies will do their best to collect information for their sick buddy on a homework sheet.

PowerSchool:

Junior High teachers will be posting student grades on-line. You will receive a copy of your student's ID number and password. If a student loses their password they will be charged \$1.00 to receive a new one from Mr. Bentzen.

Snacks:

Students can bring a snack to eat after their third class of the day. The snack can be fresh fruit or vegetables, goldfish, pretzels, and cheezits. Students will have five minutes at the beginning of the third class to eat their snack.

Tardies:

Students are to be in their assigned seat by the time the bell rings or they receive a tardy. Each time they are late, a mark will be given on their conduct card.

Water Bottles:

Students can bring a water bottle to school. The bottle needs to be clear so the contents can be seen and lid needs to be on the bottle at all times.