

Piqua Catholic School

Anti-Bullying Policy

Introduction

Piqua Catholic School's Code of Conduct is designed to enable students to work in an environment that will help them live their Christian beliefs. By following a code of conduct based on Christian principles (fairness, justice, and consideration for all), each student will have the opportunity and privilege to work in a problem free environment. A discipline code provides structure, clarification, and responsibility for proper behavior and direction for behavior modification. It is the staff's belief that the following code will assist the students in becoming aware of their personal responsibilities to their teachers, classmates, staff members and parents as well as themselves.

Anti-Bullying

Bullying has increasingly become a problem in our world. It takes many forms, including physical, verbal, and cyber bullying. Bullying can be emotional or physical. Bullying hurts individuals and our entire school. Students, staff, and volunteers all have the right to feel safe and comfortable on both Piqua Catholic Campuses. We are called to build up the Body of Christ within our school community.

Any form of bullying, whether physical or psychological, directed toward any member of our school community is not acceptable at any time.

Bullying is when a student or group of students tries to gain power over another. Bullying may be a single action or it may be repeated over time.

- **Physical Bullying** is defined as using physical force to hurt another student including but not limited to hitting, pushing, shoving, kicking, spitting, pinching, holding back, or getting in the way. Physical bullying also interferes with another student's belongings, stealing, taking, or breaking possessions.
- **Verbal/Emotional Bullying** is defined as directing words at another student in order to put that student down, including but not limited to threats, taunts, intimidation, sarcasm, name-calling, gossip, rumor, isolation (leaving out), and ridicule. Hostile gestures, facts, and staring also constitute verbal bullying.
- **Cyber Bullying** is defined as using cell phones, text messaging, e-mails, blogs and postings as on FaceBook, MySpace, and other social media to bully another student.

All reports of bullying concerns will be handled seriously and promptly by the staff and administration. Teachers may investigate and handle a report within a classroom. Every bullying incident will be reported to the principal with recourse to the pastor if desired.

Piqua Catholic staff and administration will take corrective action in the following ways:

- Calling parents
- Discussion within individual classrooms
- Corrective discipline within the individual classrooms, including loss of privileges

- Corrective discipline with the principal and/or pastor, including detention, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, or expulsion
- Referral to law enforcement
- Repeated monitoring to assure the incident will not recur

Factors for Determining Consequences

- Age, development, and maturity level of the parties involved
- Degree of harm
- Surrounding circumstances
- Nature and severity of the behavior(s)
- Incidences of past or continuing pattern(s) of behavior
- Relationship between the parties involved
- Context in which the alleged incident(s) occurred

Harassment is any type of behavior that targets an individual because of his/her personal attributes. While the most common form of harassment is sexual harassment, other forms of discriminatory behavior constitute harassment when the victim does not want and does not return the behavior that offends, embarrasses or in any way impairs the health of the victim. Some examples of unlawful harassment include but are not restricted to:

- Leering or staring
- Suggestive comments about a person's body or appearance
- Spreading sexual rumors
- Obscene telephone calls
- Persistent and unwelcome sexual references
- Sexual assault
- Any pornographic material, including online and social media pornography
- Verbal or written abuse or derogatory comments
- Gender-based insults or taunts
- Humor-based on stereotypes
- Abuse-based on a person's age
- Any sort of sexual or suggestive conduct, involving faculty or students, even when not deemed harassment, is nonetheless inappropriate at Piqua Catholic School and subject to disciplinary action

Consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment or bullying shall be unique to the individual incident and will vary in method and severity according to the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance, and must be consistent with the Board of Education's approved code of student conduct.

Examples of Consequences:

- Admonishment
- Temporary removal from the classroom
- Loss of privileges
- Classroom or administrative detention

- In-school suspension during the school week or the weekend
- Out-of-school suspension
- Legal action
- Expulsion or termination

Anti-Bullying Rubric for Behavior and Consequences

Behavior	First Offense	Second Offense	Third Offense	Fourth Offense
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teasing/Excessive Horseplay ▪ Name calling ▪ Insulting remarks ▪ Spreading rumors ▪ Poking ▪ Rude gestures ▪ Mean note ▪ Playing a mean trick ▪ Insulting or other behaviors that would hurt others' feelings or make them feel bad about themselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verbal intervention ▪ Peer mediation option ▪ Student calls parent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ Detention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ In-School suspension for one day ▪ Mandatory parent meeting within 24 hours* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ Out of School suspension for three days ▪ Mandatory parent meeting before student returns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moderate Physical Contact and Intimidation ▪ Hitting ▪ Pushing/Shoving ▪ Grabbing ▪ Slapping ▪ Intimidation ▪ Systematic exclusion ▪ Shunning ▪ Tripping ▪ Cyber bullying (minor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ Detention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ In-School suspension for one day ▪ Mandatory parent meeting within 24 hours* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ Out of School suspension for three days ▪ Mandatory parent meeting before student returns 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More Severe Physical Contact and Intimidation ▪ Punching/Kicking ▪ Knocking down ▪ Spitting ▪ Biting ▪ Extortion ▪ Teasing based on: race, religion, gender, handicap, other ▪ Harassment: race, religion, gender, sexual, handicap, other ▪ Threats of emotional or physical violence ▪ Planned exclusion of another ▪ Cyber bullying (severe) ▪ Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ In-School suspension for one day ▪ Mandatory parent meeting within 24 hours* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student calls parent ▪ Out of School suspension for three days ▪ Mandatory parent meeting before student returns 		
<p>*If the incident occurs on a Friday or before a vacation, a mutually agreed upon time will be established.</p>				
<p>**Note: Consequences may be more severe than those listed here based on either the seriousness of the action or discretion of the administration</p>				

