GROSS CATHOLIC

Student Handbook

2023 - 2024



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WELCOME TO GROSS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

INFORMATION ABOUT THIS HANDBOOK

This Student Handbook is provided for informational purposes only, and does not in any manner constitute a contractual agreement between Gross Catholic High School and any student (or any parent of any student). Any information contained in this Handbook provides a general description of rules and regulations. Gross Catholic High School follows the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and reserves the right to add to, modify, or abolish the enclosed rules and regulations at any time, with or without notice. Non-enforcement of any of the enclosed rules and regulations shall not act as a waiver of their future enforcement. This Handbook does not create any restriction upon Gross Catholic High School's right to institute any course of disciplinary action which, in Gross Catholic High School's sole discretion, it believes is necessary and consistent with its Catholic and educational mission.

HISTORY

In the late 60's Archbishop Bergan wanted to build an Archdiocesan high school to accommodate the needs of the Catholic communities of northern Sarpy County and southwest Omaha. He invited the Marianist Priests and Brothers and the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to bring their religious charisms to Omaha. Today the mission of education is continued by a very dedicated group of Christian lay women and men, and Diocesan clergy.

The late Daniel J. Gross, a prominent Catholic Omaha attorney and his wife, Louise Ortman Gross, had always been firm supporters of Catholic education. Mrs. Gross donated a substantial financial gift for the building of the new high school. In gratitude, the school was named after her late husband. On August 10, 1967, the late Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan blessed the cornerstone of a new Catholic high school for the Archdiocese of Omaha. On September 3, 1968, that school opened its doors to a freshman class of 175 students. In 1968, few people outside the immediate vicinity knew about the Cougar family, Cougar pride or Cougar spirit. Today, the name of Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School is synonymous with Christian Community, academic excellence, athletic achievement, and a tradition of outstanding school spirit and pride.

As of March 18, 2004, Gross Catholic High School officially became sponsored by the Marianist Province of the United States. We are dedicated to promoting the five characteristics of Marianist education. They are:

- Educate for formation in faith
- Provide an integral, quality education
- Educate in family spirit
- Educate for service, justice, peace, and the integrity of creation
- Educate for adaptation and change

MARIANIST PRAYERS

Marianist Doxology

May the Father and the Son
And the Holy Spirit
Be glorified in all places
Through the Immaculate Virgin Mary.

Three O'clock Prayer

Lord Jesus,
We gather in the spirit at the foot of the Cross
With your Mother and the disciple whom you loved.
We ask your pardon for our sins
Which is the cause of your death.
We thank you for remembering us

In that hour of salvation
And for giving us Mary as your Mother.
Holy Virgin, take us under your protection
And open us to the action of the Holy Spirit.

Saint John, obtain for us the grace of taking
Mary in our lives as you did,
And of assisting her in her mission.

May the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be
Glorified in all places through the
Immaculate Virgin Mary.
Amen.

MISSION STATEMENT
Gross Catholic High School is a faith and family based community committed to developing Christian leaders through educational excellence in the Marianist tradition.

MOTTO
Dux Esto, the school motto, means "Be a Leader." Students are challenged, encouraged and entrusted with a variety of responsibilities through which they can grow intellectually, spiritually, athletically, emotionally and socially.

ADMISSION/ACADEMICS/SCHEDULING

ADMISSION
Gross Catholic High School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origins to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities, generally accorded or made available to students at this school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. Students must have completed the 8th grade and agree to adhere to the inherent principles of a Catholic high school.

TRANSFER STUDENTS
As a general rule, Gross Catholic High School will accept transfer students if the following criteria are met:
1. Students moving to Omaha metro area from out of town
   - Any family who moves to the Omaha area may enroll their children at any time if an appropriate academic program can be designed.
2. Students transferring from an Omaha area metro high school
   - Transfers may enroll only at a natural break in the school calendar (i.e., beginning of year, beginning of a semester).
   - Student must be making reasonable progress towards graduation as defined by requirements completed and credits earned in line with their grade level.
   - Student's attendance record must be consistent with Gross Catholic policy which allows no more than eight absences the previous semester.
   - Student may not have been expelled from their previous school.
   - Second-semester seniors are not accepted.
3. Responsibilities of transfer student
   - At the time of registration, the family of the transfer student has the responsibility to provide Gross Catholic High School with the records including attendance and behavior as well as transcripts from the student's previous school.
4. Honor courses
   - If an honors course is not offered to Gross Catholic students, honors weight will not be awarded for the transfer credit, but the course will be designated as an honor course on the permanent transcript.

READMISSION POLICY

Any student who is returning to school after an extended period of time due to treatment, from any place which offered alternative education programs during treatment (such as hospitals, treatment centers, clinics, etc.), must request that the institution releasing the student provides a staffing for the appropriate personnel at Gross Catholic High School so that we may facilitate academic progress and/or rehabilitation.

SCHEDULING

The required class load for freshmen, sophomores and juniors is a minimum of seven (7) classes per semester and seven (7) credits per year. All seniors are required to be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) classes per semester and six (6) credits per year. Each student is encouraged to take courses that will give him/her the best possible educational experience and may choose to take more than the minimum class load.

DROPPING A CLASS

Any student who withdraws from a course before the sixth week of a semester will receive a "WP" (Withdraw Passing) or "WF" (Withdraw Failing). A "WP" or "WF" does not affect the student's GPA; however, it is reported on the student's transcript. Any student who withdraws from a course after the sixth week of the semester will receive an "F" for the course and it will be factored into the student's GPA.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

After a student has completed the registration process, there will be a $10.00 "change of schedule fee" payable at the time of the requested change unless the change is advised through mutual consent by the school and the student. Schedule changes at this time are not guaranteed to happen.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The school year is divided into four quarters; progress reports are usually mailed during the fifth week of the quarter and report cards are mailed at the end of each quarter.

GRADUTION REQUIREMENTS

Theology: 4.0
English: 4.0
Math: 3.0
World Language: 2.0
Life Science (includes Biology, Adv. Biology, AP Biology, Anatomy & Physiology): 1.0
Earth Science (includes Physical Science, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics): 1.0
Science Elective (listed above): 1.0
World History: 1.0
American History: 1.0
American Government: 0.5
Social Studies Elective (includes World Geography, Sociology, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Economics): 0.5
Personal Finance: 0.5
Intro. to Physical Education & Health: 0.5
Physical Education Elective (includes Individual & Team Sports, Cross Training Fitness, (Intro) Strength & Conditioning): 0.5
Communication / Visual Arts / Performing Arts (includes Speech, Yearbook, Band, Choir, and all Art Classes: 0.5
Technology (includes Intro to Technology for Business, Intro to Yearbook & Engineering Design & 3D Modeling): 0.5
Electives: 4.0

Total Required Credits : 25.5

Tuition and Fees:
Please see our breakdown of our current tuition and fees on our website HERE.

All obligations for seniors must be met by the designated day, prior to graduation in order to participate in graduation exercises. This does not apply to tuition payments that will be automatically withdrawn in May.

Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School Marianist Mission Program

The Gross Catholic Marianist Mission Program promotes and creates leaders in the Marianist tradition. Students are educated for service, justice and peace by offering their time and talents in service to God and others. The Marianist Mission Program promotes growth in discipleship and responsibility while encouraging students to become active Christian leaders who help transform our community. These stated objectives support the 5 Characteristics of a Marianist Education:

1. Educating for Formation in Faith.
2. Providing an Integral, Quality Education.
3. Educating in Family Spirit.
4. Educating for Service, Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation.
5. Educating for Adaptation and Change.

How does the Marianist Mission Program work?

- Each student is expected to participate in 2 Marianist Mission Program events each year.
- All students are required to complete and document this participation prior to the Cougar Cup/Field Day.
- Students will be guided through the documentation process at the beginning of the academic year.

As a school working to educate for compassion and leadership, we are dedicated to modeling and assisting students with their Marianist Mission hours. Faculty/staff will work alongside our students to complete the required service.

- 4 Freshman Mission Days will be coordinated by Campus Ministry during the summer. All Freshmen must attend 1 of these events. The purpose of these Mission Days are two-fold: care for our community and making new friends at Gross Catholic. Service conducted on this day will count for 1 event of service.
- Cougars on a Mission Day. All students, faculty, and staff will work at various service locations around the Omaha metro. Service locations/activities will be coordinated by Campus Ministry. Attendance at Cougars on a Mission Day is required and counts as a regular day of school. Service conducted on this day will count for 1 event of service.
- The theme of the Sophomore Retreat is Servant Leadership. All sophomores will complete 4 hours of service while on their class retreat. Service conducted on this day will count for 1 event of service.
- Juniors and Seniors will select 1 service event coordinated by Campus Ministry. Service conducted on this day will count for 1 event of service.
- Should a student or parent have any questions regarding the process they should contact the Principal.
- Gross Catholic High School Administration reserves the right to determine appropriate implementation of the Marianist Mission Program.

All students are encouraged to engage in additional service. Gross Catholic will continue to advertise service opportunities on the Marianist Mission Program Google Classroom.

In addition, all Houses will complete service as part of the Homeroom curriculum. These projects are part of the House curriculum and do not count towards completion of the Marianist Mission Program. Completion of the Marianist Mission Program will be noted on student transcripts.

Gross Catholic will continue to advertise service opportunities on the Marianist Mission Program Google Classroom.

What happens if I don't complete my Marianist Mission Program hours on-time?

- Any student who does not complete both events of service by the designated due date will not be allowed to participate in Cougar Cup and will instead spend that day in service.
- In addition, any student who does not complete both events of service will not be considered for honor-based awards or activities, including but not limited to National Honor Society, Student Council, LIFE Core Team, SALT, Student Ambassadors, and end of the year honor/leadership awards.
- All hours completed will be noted on the student's official transcripts.

The Marianists
PROVINCE OF THE UNITED STATES

WAIVING CREDITS

Under no circumstances may a state requirement be waived. However, those requirements unique to Gross Catholic High School may be waived by petitioning in writing for a waiver to the principal. Required courses are seldom waived and exceptions are only made for valid reasons. This will be up to the discretion of the administration.

CLASS FAILURES

Failures in required courses are generally made up by repeating the courses at Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School; however, a maximum number of two credits taken outside of Gross Catholic will be accepted based on administrative permission.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

As a general rule incompletes are not issued. In the case where an incomplete is issued with the consultation of an administrator, the student may only have until the next grading period to make up the incomplete work and finish the class. If the work is not completed, the course will be marked as a failure. Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis and will be determined by the administration.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Any student failing two or more courses for a semester will be placed on academic probation. If, at the end of the next semester, the student continues to receive a failing grade, and/or is not making reasonable progress towards graduation, continuation at Gross Catholic High School will be evaluated by the administration.

STUDY HALL/PROGRESS REPORTS

Any student who has an F or more than one D at the end of any grading period will be placed on an academic progress report and in a mandatory guided study hall during their study period. Study hall is considered class time and class attendance rules apply. Other students whose academic program may benefit from a study hall may by be placed in a study hall by their counselor and or parent. A parent must sign the Progress Report and the Progress Report must be returned to Administration weekly.

STUDY PERIOD

Time within a student's day which is unscheduled should be spent studying and completing homework in the media center or the commons. To ensure a safe, secure learning environment, all students are required to report to the commons supervisor for all periods except 5 where they will report to the supervising teacher's classroom for 5th period at the beginning of their study period and indicate where they are going if leaving the commons or media center.

COMMONS

The commons is designed as a place for all students to have time to study together, relax and socialize. It is an area used by students throughout the school day and after school for various activities. All students are responsible for keeping the commons clean and orderly.

LUNCH

Each student is assigned a 22-minute lunch during 5th period. Students may choose to bring lunch from home, purchase lunch from the vendor of the day, or purchase food from the vending machines. Lunch is to be eaten in the commons during the designated lunch period for the student. As a general rule, students should not be in the academic hallway or in classrooms during lunch period.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

Each student is assigned an academic counselor. Students may make an appointment to meet with any of the counselors anytime throughout the year. The Guidance Department is responsible for academic progress, testing, career counseling, college placement, and personal social counseling.

SEMESTER EXAMS/ASSESSMENTS

Semester exams/assessments are given in all courses. A special time will be scheduled for semester exams or major project evaluations. Exceptions may be granted by the Principal. Students may be withheld from semester examinations due to outstanding financial obligations and will be issued an incomplete for all courses until financial obligations are met.

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The Media Technology Center is a place for research and quiet study. Appropriate behavior is expected. Computers are to be used for academic purposes only.

GRADING SCALE

The following grading scale is suggested for each class. As educational professionals, teachers may adjust the grading scale for specific classes. Each teacher's grading scale will be located in their course outlines which can be found on their individual google classroom for that class.

Grading points will be given as follows:
A = 4 Points; B = 3 Points; C = 2 Points; D = 1 Point

Grading points will be given as follows for courses designated Honors, Dual Credit or Advanced Placement Courses:
A = 5 Honor Points; B = 4 Honor Points; C = 3 Honor Points; D = 1 Point

Grading scale for Dual Credit:
A = 90% B = 80% C = 70% D = 60% F = below 60%

Honors / Advanced Placement Courses

Honors English 2
Advanced Placement/Dual Credit American History
Honors English 3
Advanced Placement/Dual Credit American Govt.
Advanced Placement English 4
Advanced Placement Spanish
Honors Pre-Calculus with Trig.
Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Biology
Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Calculus
Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Calculus
Advanced Placement Physics
Honors Calculus II/III
Honors Chemistry
Advanced Placements Statistics
Advanced Placement Chemistry
Advanced Placement/Dual Credit World History
Advanced Placement Physics

HONOR ROLL

High honors will be awarded to students maintaining a 3.75 - 4.0+ average. Honors will be awarded to students maintaining a 3.25 - 3.74 average. No D's, F's, or U's are permitted for either honor.

TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are the permanent records of all semester grades and college entrance test scores. These include grades, grade point averages, credits earned, attendance figures, and standardized test scores. This record is the property of the school and a copy may be requested by the student. Official transcripts will be prepared and released only by mutual consent from the student and/or legal guardian and school officials. Transcripts contain only information regarding the academic assessment of a student.

STUDENT RECORDS

Parent or Guardian Requests for Student Records
In order to protect the integrity of student records, the school will not provide copies of student records to a parent (custodial or noncustodial) or guardian. However, a parent or guardian will be allowed to review his/her student's records at the School office in the presence of the Principal or his/her designee. All requests to review records should be made in writing to the Principal at least 48 hours in advance of the intended review.

If circumstances effectively prevent a parent or guardian from being able to review the records at the School office, the School will provide copies of the student's records to the parent or guardian or make other arrangements for the parent or guardian to review the student's records.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COLLEGE

Gross Catholic High School reports scholarships awarded to seniors to the Omaha World-Herald and the Bellevue Leader for publication. Scholarships are listed in the Graduation bulletin and announced and listed for Recognition Day. Copies of award letters should be given to the Guidance Office as they are received. To avoid any misunderstanding, students and parents should ask for written verification from all scholarship providers. Verbal offers and pre-award scholarship letters will not be listed. Students must have applied to the college and been accepted for the scholarship to be listed.

2023-2024 Bell Schedules

Gross Catholic meets and exceeds the minimum instructional hours of 1080 each school year.

Regular School Day Schedule
48 Minute Classes

7:40	8:28	Period 1
8:32	9:20	Period 2
9:25	10:13	Period 3
10:17	11:05	Period 4
11:05	**11:30**	**Lunch A**
11:34	**12:22**	**Period 5A**
11:09	**11:57**	**Period 5B**
11:57	**12:22**	**Lunch B**
12:26	1:16	Period 6
1:20	2:08	Period 7
2:12	3:00	Period 8



1 PM Dismissal Schedule
36 Minute Classes

7:40	8:18	Period 1
8:22	8:58	Period 2
9:02	9:38	Period 3
9:42	10:18	Period 4
10:22	10:58	Period 5
11:02	11:40	Period 6
11:44	12:20	Period 7
12:24	1:00	Period 8





2023-2024 Bell Schedules

Gross Catholic meets and exceeds the minimum instructional hours of 1080 each school year.

Mass/House/Homeroom/Recon. Schedule
40 Minute Classes

7:40	8:20	Period 1
8:24	9:04	Period 2
9:08	9:48	Period 3
9:52	10:32	Period 4
10:36	11:36	Mass
11:40	**12:04**	**Lunch A**
12:08	**12:48**	**Period 5A**
11:40	**12:20**	**Period 5B**
12:28	**12:48**	**Lunch B**
12:52	1:32	Period 6
1:36	2:16	Period 7
2:20	3:00	Period 8

Pep Rally Schedule
44 Minute Classes

7:40	8:24	Period 1
8:28	9:12	Period 2
9:16	10:00	Period 3
10:04	10:48	Period 4
10:48	**11:13**	**Lunch A**
11:17	**12:01**	**Period 5A**
10:52	**11:36**	**Period 5B**
11:36	**12:01**	**Lunch B**
12:05	12:50	Period 6
12:54	1:38	Period 7
1:42	2:26	Period 8
2:26	3:00	Pep Rally

Noon Dismissal Schedule
30 Minute Classes

7:40	8:10	Period 1
8:13	8:43	Period 2
8:46	9:16	Period 3
9:19	*9:49*	*Period 4*
9:52	*10:22*	*Period 5*
10:25	10:55	Period 6
10:58	11:28	Period 7
11:31	12:00	Period 8
12:00		Dismissal

CODE OF CONDUCT

ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

The possession or use of alcohol, drugs or inhalants during the school day, at any school activity, or at any non-school activity resulting in a citation or arrest, will, at the point of citation or arrest, incur the following:

1. Immediate suspension from school and all school related activities
2. Parents/guardian are notified
3. Probation contract
4. An alcohol/drug evaluation

The evaluation must be completed at a mutually agreed upon treatment center for chemical dependency. The family will be responsible for the cost of the evaluation, and the student must follow the recommendation.
If the administration has reason to believe that a student is involved in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol, the administration will follow the above policy.

If a student involved in activities or athletics is cited or arrested or tests positive on a breathalyzer test for the illegal use of alcohol or drugs, that student will be suspended from all extra-curricular competitions or non-athletic performances.

- 1st offense - 2 week suspension
- 2nd offense - 9 week suspension
- 3rd offense - 18 week suspension

Coaches and advisors may determine additional consequences.

Students must comply with this policy to remain at Gross Catholic High School and re-admittance to school is not automatic and is determined only after a parent conference with the student and administrator.

Any students involved in the distribution or sale of drugs, inhalants, or alcohol during the school day, at any school activity, or non-school activity will be immediately dismissed from school with no possibility of readmission. If there is reason to suspect that a student is in possession of or is observed selling or transferring suspected illegal drugs on school property, an administrator will notify the parents and the proper authorities.

Any item recovered which is suspected to be an illicit drug will be turned over to authorities for analysis. The above applies to all placebos or "look alike drugs," as well as drug paraphernalia.

Students hosting parties where drugs and alcohol are used by minors are subject to expulsion.

When school authorities have reasonable cause to believe or suspect a student is under the influence of alcohol at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored activity or event based on the student's observed conduct, demeanor, appearance or speech, the student will be required to submit a breathalyzer test. School authorities will also randomly submit breathalyzer tests to students at school functions; this also includes students who do not attend Gross Catholic. If the test discloses the student to be under the influence of alcohol to any degree or extent, the school will notify parents and the proper authorities. The student will remain with the school authority until the parents arrive. If parents are unavailable, another adult member of the student's family may represent the parents. Once the student tests positive for alcohol, school officials will follow the alcohol policy as written in the student handbook.
It is appropriate that school officials, law enforcement, and families work together to help students avoid drugs and alcohol. The Gross Catholic administration will enforce our policies according to the information provided by law enforcement, parents and others.

ARCHDIOCESE OF OMAHA
GENDER POLICY

All efforts to form and accompany young people, especially in relation to human gender, must recall the intrinsic dignity of the human person. It is necessary to affirm that "the dignity of the human person is rooted in [their] creation in the image and likeness of God." (1) Image and likeness find their expression in each of the two sexes as they provide an "image of the power and tenderness of God, with equal dignity though in a different way." (2) Thus, male and female are unique and complementary. Moreover, "biological sex and the socio-cultural role of sex (gender) can be distinguished but not separated." (3)

Today, this reality of creation, sex, and gender is sometimes misunderstood and ignored. Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children; therefore, Catholic schools partner with parents in communicating the Gospel and drawing young people closer to Jesus Christ. The Archdiocese of Omaha provides this school policy, rooted in the Catholic understanding of gender, to guide the accompaniment offered to those experiencing gender dysphoria and/or incongruence in our school communities.

1. In the Archdiocese of Omaha, all Catholic schools shall respect the biological sex of each student and shall apply all policies and procedures in relation to that student according to each student's God-given biological sex.

2. All students shall conduct themselves in accord with their God-given biological sex as it relates to the use of personal pronouns, dress code, use of public bathrooms, and participation in school-sponsored activities. All official school documents shall likewise reflect the student's biological sex.

3. Admission or retention will not be denied based solely on a student's experience of gender dysphoria. If a student experiences gender dysphoria and/or incongruence, school leaders and pastors shall partner with parents to establish an accompaniment plan. This plan must follow the teachings of the Catholic faith.

4. If at any time, parents, guardians or students desire accommodations or accompaniment that do not follow this policy, it may be necessary to begin the school transfer process for the good of the student and the school community. At every stage of this process, parents and guardians will be invited to their parish for pastoral support.

(1) Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1700.
(2) Ibid. 2335.
(3) Pope Francis, Amoris laetitia, 56.

Policy Approved: December 9, 2022
Implementation Date: August 1, 2023

FIGHTING
Students involved in violence will be automatically expelled and the parents may request a meeting with the appropriate administrator to determine the possibility of readmittance.

HARASSMENT/BULLYING
Harassment is behavior or words that:

- Are uninvited, unwanted, and unwelcome
- Cause a person to feel uncomfortable or offended
- Create an environment that makes learning difficult

Any student being harassed is strongly encouraged to report the harassment to a counselor or administrator. Any student found to be harassing another will be subject to disciplinary measures, including suspension and/or expulsion.

STEALING
Any stealing, possession, acceptance, or buying or selling of stolen goods at school will not be tolerated. A student who fails in this regard is subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

WEAPONS
A student bringing a weapon to school will be expelled and turned over to the proper authorities. Threats to use a weapon will be investigated and may be treated the same as possession of a weapon.

OFF-CAMPUS SCHOOL FUNCTIONS
The same norms and guidelines that apply at school, apply to off-campus school functions.

VANDALISM
Vandalism to school furnishings, building, property, and the property of others is an act which may subject a student to suspension and or expulsion.

TOBACCO USE/VAPING
Tobacco use and vaping, in the building, on the premises, or at any school-sponsored activity on or off school property carries with it the following penalties:
--1st offense $35.00 fine and 3 hours detention time
--2nd offense $70.00 fine and suspension results until a parent conference is held.
Fines must be paid within one week or suspension may result.
Students are not to be in possession of tobacco, lighters, cigarette packages, vaporize-cigarettes, or chewing tins. Confiscation will result and this will be considered a violation subject to the above penalties.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF AFFECTION
Public expression of affection during the school day is inappropriate.

VULGARITIES
Use of vulgar or obscene language or gestures is inappropriate at Gross Catholic High School.

CLASS DISMISSAL DUE TO DISCIPLINARY REASONS
Any student dismissed from class for disciplinary reasons must immediately report to the office and remain there until seen by an administrator. Parents will be notified by the faculty member and or administration.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Academic honesty and integrity is expected for every aspect of learning including each assignment, quiz, test, and project. Students are held to high academic standards of honesty and integrity. Any behavior that violates academic integrity and threatens the moral and ethical development of our students will not be tolerated.
We expect all students to conduct themselves appropriately and live out our motto “Dux Esto.

SUSPENSION/EXPULSION FROM SCHOOL

A student may be suspended for a period of time or, if the situation warrants, expelled from the school community. Offenses which warrant suspension from school are handled by an administrator and re-admission requires a conference with the student, at least one parent, and the administrator. Students suspended from school are readmitted on probationary status.

In a case of expulsion, the student and parent(s) may appeal the expulsion within three (3) days to the president. The president's decision is final.

As a general rule, when a student is suspended, teachers will post all work for the student in their google classroom or email it to them. These will be given to the student upon his/her return to school. In the case of suspension, the school does not gather work from teachers. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teachers for missing work or assignments. A student who is suspended from school is not allowed to participate in any school activities or be on school property during the suspension.

The following are grounds for suspension or expulsion from Gross Catholic High School:

1. Evidence of possession of drugs or alcohol with a reasonable suspicion of intent to sell or distribute.
2. Identification by law enforcement as being an active participant in a gang involved in illegal activities.
3. Willful destruction to property, malicious vandalism and/or arson.
4. Willful destruction of computer-created projects or the downloading/distribution of dangerous, harmful or inappropriate content.
5. Consistent and recurring violation of school policy, regulations and truancy.
6. Serious misconduct which interferes with the legal and personal rights of others, particularly a right to an education, and which presents a danger to the health, safety, welfare and esteem of any person in the school or at school activities.
7. The commission of any crime on school property or during a school sponsored event including, but not inclusive, theft, assault, possession of controlled substances. Such crimes will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
8. Consistent and recurring insubordination.
9. Any other good and sufficient grounds rendering the attendance of the student offensive to the educational, spiritual and social program of the school which results or may result in a disruptive influence on the educational, spiritual or social program, the student or school personnel.

Any crime committed on school property or at a school sponsored function will be reported to the appropriate authorities. A student who has been expelled from Gross Catholic for any reason other than academics will not be readmitted.

CLOSED CAMPUS

To maintain a safe, secure learning environment, Gross Catholic maintains a closed campus policy. Students who have a study period during the day must remain in the building and report to the designated supervisor for attendance. Senior students can leave school after 6th period if they have free periods 7th and 8th. Junior students can leave school after 7th period if they have a free period 8th. If a student leaves the building they must leave the school property and not return until after the school day. Freshman and sophomore students are required to stay in school until 3:00 pm dismissal.

PARKING /PARKING LOT

Any car brought to school, even if occasionally, must be registered with the business office and $30 parking permits will be issued at that time. Cars without permits will incur a $25.00 fine and be required to purchase a $30 parking permit.

Throughout the year, any additions or changes concerning cars brought to school will be handled by the business office. Students and parents should note that the entrances into the parking lots from Margo Street are one way. Reckless driving on school property will result in loss of driving privileges.

Students should not loiter in the parking lot or on school property after they have been dismissed from school and leave the school building.

SMARTPHONES/CELL PHONES/HEADPHONES/EARBUDS

A smart phone/cell phone/headphones or earbuds policy restricting the use of cell phones in any academic area is necessary in order to respect the important work of the classroom and the teaching and learning environment. Smartphones/cell phones/earbuds use will be restricted to the commons area before and after school, during lunch, and during a student's common period. Smartphones/cell phones/headphones or earbuds are not to be used in the academic areas (classrooms and the Media Technology Center (teacher discretion), during assemblies, mass, or during meetings at Gross Catholic High School. Smart phones/cell phones should be locked in the student's locker during academic class periods.

If a smartphone/cell phone/headphones or earbuds is used for any reason or is visible anytime except during the designated times and places, the students will surrender the smartphone/cell phone and it will be brought to the office. The student's parent will be contacted to pick up the cell phone after school. Other consequences for repeat offenses will be discussed with parents.

TECHNOLOGY: ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR STUDENTS

Purpose

Technology is a valuable and important tool to improve student learning and enhance the academic curriculum taught at the school. Gross Catholic High School's objective is to provide students and employees with a wide range of information technology to support higher-level learning and instruction in and outside of the classroom. All Gross Catholic High School employees and students are expected to contribute to a safe and productive learning environment while using technology and related network resources. The rules and guidelines governing the use of Gross Catholic High School's technology are outlined below.

Technology and Network Resources

For purposes of this policy, the term "technology" or "network resources" refers to all aspects of Gross Catholic High School's owned or leased electronic equipment (including computers, tablets, printers, scanners, cameras, etc.), email, internet services, servers, software, network files and folders and all other technology-related equipment and services. These rules apply to any use of Gross Catholic High School's technology or network resources, whether this access occurs in school (live or virtual) or outside of school. Students are expected to use technology and network resources in accordance with this policy.

Access to the Gross Catholic High School wireless network WILL be restricted to Gross Catholic High School approved electronic devices during the school day on school days. It may also be restricted entirely or at certain additional times whenever deemed necessary. The use of personal electronic devices may be allowed in the classroom (or library) at the sole discretion of faculty/staff. The use of personal electronic devices as a "hot spot" for students and others to bypass the school network is prohibited while on school premises.

Student Responsibilities and Acceptable Use

Student access to technology is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to use technology in a responsible manner consistent with Gross Catholic High School's educational and religious objectives. The following list provides some examples of student responsibilities and acceptable uses of technology:

- All technology must be used to further the educational and religious mission of Gross Catholic High School, and should be respected at all times. Students are responsible for reporting any misuse.
- Students must use his/her real identity when using Gross Catholic High School's network resources.
- The network is to be used to store and transmit school-related data only.
- Students may be assigned unique email and login usernames and passwords to protect the information on the network. Do not access or use other people's accounts. Do not access or use other people's computers, or folders, or any other electronic device without express permission from the owner.
- Do not share passwords with any other person. Gross Catholic High School faculty and parents should be the only exceptions. If a student believes his or her password has been compromised, the student must immediately report this concern to a faculty member.
- Students are responsible for all actions taken under a student's username and password.
- With the exception of an Apple ID, students should always use his/her Gross Catholic High School email address or username when utilizing online resources for digital storage or collaboration.

- Electronic communications (emails) between faculty and students must be made via Gross Catholic High School's internal email system. Electronic communications between faculty and students through personal accounts may be deemed inappropriate and result in disciplinary action.
- Students should obtain permission before accessing, posting, or transmitting information belonging to others.
- Students must respect network security and should not attempt to bypass any technological blocks placed on computers to protect students and filter content that the school has classified as objectionable. Faculty may request to unblock a website if the website is appropriate and relevant to school activities.
- There is no privacy online. Students should never provide personal information online or share any information the student does not want made available to the public.
- Students should back up his/her work often. Do not use technology as an excuse. If your computer fails at home, you are still responsible for completing all assignments on time.
- If applicable, students are responsible for regularly checking his/her Gross Catholic High School email account and teachers' course pages to stay updated on information shared electronically by the school or his/her teachers.
- All student files stored on the network may be deleted at the end of each school year.

Unacceptable Uses of Technology and Network Resources

The use of technology and network resources must be consistent with the educational and religious objectives of Gross Catholic High School. Examples of unacceptable uses of technology include, but are not limited to, the following:

- To access, post, publish or store any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, sexually-oriented, threatening, racially offensive or illegal materials that are inconsistent with the objectives and/or teachings of the school.
- To harass, intimidate, threaten or bully others, whether inside or outside of school.
- To steal or borrow intellectual property without permission.
- To plagiarize the work of others, or to use the work of others as your own without giving proper credit.
- To breach copyright laws by using unlicensed software or pirating audio or visual materials.
- To bypass Gross Catholic High School's content filter or network security.
- To knowingly spread computer viruses or malware.
- To send out "chain" emails, mass emails, and/or surveys not approved by faculty or staff.
- To misrepresent one's own identity or the identity of others.
- To take a photo, record through video or audio any student or faculty member without his/her knowledge and consent.
- To express profanity or any other inappropriate content online, including Gross Catholic High School's website, email program, social media or other internet sites.
- To share personal information or information about any student or faculty member to anyone via the Internet.
- To access another user's account or invade the privacy of others.
- To store or download unauthorized software programs, music, videos, game files or personal photos on Gross Catholic High School computers.
- To play games, chat on-line, or watch videos during the school day unless associated with a class and permission from a teacher is explicitly given.
- To utilize encryption or software to hide activity that violates Gross Catholic High School's Technology Acceptable Use Policy.
- To violate any federal, state, or local laws.

Social Networking (Facebook, Twitter, Texting, Snapchat etc.)

Although social networking and texting normally occurs outside of the classroom, it may have a negative impact on the school community. If a student uses social networking or a personal electronic device to convey offensive or disrespectful communications inconsistent with this policy and/or the objectives of the school, Gross Catholic High School reserves the right to take any disciplinary action it deems necessary to protect students and faculty. Gross Catholic High School encourages parents to routinely view and monitor their student's personal networking sites and electronic devices to ensure the information and content does not place any student at risk.

Guidelines for social networking:

- Be aware of what you post online. Social media venues, including wikis, blogs, photo and video sharing sites, are very public. What you contribute leaves a digital footprint for all to see. Do not post anything you would not want friends, parents, teachers, future employers, or God to see.
- Follow Gross Catholic High School's code of conduct when posting online. It is acceptable to disagree with someone else's opinions; however, do it in a respectful manner. Make sure that criticism is constructive and not hurtful. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.
- Be safe online. Never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, first and last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birth dates, and pictures. Do not share your password(s) with anyone besides your teachers and parents.

No Expectation of Privacy

Gross Catholic High School sets the terms and conditions of technology use. Students should have no expectation of privacy or anonymity while using technology and network resources provided by Gross Catholic High School. All content created, sent, accessed or downloaded using any part of Gross Catholic High School's technology or network resources is subject to the rules stated in this policy. Gross Catholic High School reserves the right to monitor the network and examine or remove electronic files and/or materials whenever it deems necessary. Students should never assume that emails, files, or other content created or stored on Gross Catholic High School's network will be maintained as private or confidential. Should Gross Catholic High School determine there is a reasonable need to do so, it reserves the right to search students' personal electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, etc.) brought on to school grounds.

Disciplinary Action

Violations of this Technology Acceptable Use Policy may result, at minimum, in the loss of technology and network privileges as well as appropriate disciplinary action (up to and including suspension or expulsion). Any violations of federal, state, or local laws will be reported to the appropriate authorities. Students who receive or learn of any harassing, threatening, or inappropriate electronic communications or postings should immediately notify the faculty member supervising the activity or Gross Catholic High School's administration.

Access to Inappropriate Materials on the Internet/Disclaimer

Gross Catholic High School currently utilizes an internet content filtering system that reduces student access to offensive and pornographic materials. However, no filtering system is foolproof and Gross Catholic High School cannot entirely control what students may or may not locate on the internet. While Gross Catholic High School allows students to access the internet for educational purposes only, students may have the ability to access inappropriate materials. Gross Catholic High School is not responsible for the content of the information or materials students may retrieve from the internet. Students who inadvertently access inappropriate materials must report the incident to the supervising faculty member or the school's administration immediately.

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF BUILDING

The building and classrooms are for the use of the students and staff. Students should use the building and classrooms with the supervision of a staff/faculty member. Gross Catholic is not responsible for any incidents occurring from the unauthorized use of building space.

Freshman parents should continue to familiarize themselves with the 1:1 handbook signed at Freshman Registration. Please visit THIS link for any 1:1 School Device Student/Parent Handbook.

HEALTH & CONDITIONING CENTER / GYMNASIUMS

The Health & Conditioning Center and the gymnasiums are available to all Gross Catholic High students. No student may use the Health & Conditioning Center and the Gymnasiums without the supervision of a representative of the Gross Catholic High School coaching/training staff. Gross Catholic is not responsible for lifting accidents due to improper training or technique or the unsupervised use of the equipment.

LOCKERS

Academic and gym lockers are provided for students' personal use. These lockers are considered the property of Gross Catholic and may be searched at any time. Each student is assigned a locker and is responsible for its upkeep. Students should not switch lockers with another student. Any necessary repairs should be reported to the office immediately. Repair costs due to abuse will be assessed to individual students. Each student is responsible to provide a lock for their PE or Athletic lockers. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure no one else knows their locker combination. Students should not reveal combinations to others, should keep lockers locked, and valuable items should be left at home. Lockers should be emptied and cleaned before final exams.

VALUABLES

It is highly recommended that valuable items and large sums of money not be brought to school. Lockers should be locked at all times to secure personal items. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION

Physical restraint and seclusion of students for behavior management shall be used in circumstances and under conditions that are in the best interests of students.

Physical restraint is appropriate when a student is displaying physical behavior which presents substantial imminent risk of injury to the student or others, and the student is demonstrating the intent and the ability to cause injury within a matter of seconds or minutes. The degree of physical restriction employed should be in proportion to the circumstances of the incident, the size and condition of the student, and the potential risks for injury to the student or others. Physical restraint does not include: (a) taking away a weapon; or (b) breaking up a fight.

Seclusion is appropriate when a student is displaying physical behavior that presents a substantial imminent risk of injury to the student or others, and the threat could be diminished if the student were placed in a safe environment away from other students and staff. Seclusion should only be used as long as necessary and should be discontinued when the student is no longer a threat to himself/herself or others. Time out procedures which do not constitute seclusion are permitted in school.

Immediately after the student has restored emotional and behavioral control following the use of physical restraint and/or seclusion, a staff member not involved with the incident shall examine the student to ascertain if the student has sustained any injury. The Principal will verbally notify the parent/guardian as soon as possible (no later than the end of the school day in which the physical restraint or seclusion occurs).

All use of physical restraint or seclusion must be documented in a memorandum within one school day of the incident. The Principal will send a copy of the memorandum to the parent or guardian within two school days following the use of the restraint or seclusion.

BOOK BAGS

Book bags and backpacks must be stored in lockers during the school day. Only laptop cases may be carried by students. A two-strapped backpack cannot be used as a laptop bag.

DRESS CODE

Gross Catholic High School recognizes the importance of establishing a dress code for its students. The dress code is intended to create a standard of dress that is neat, economical, modest and attractive. This uniform appearance promotes a visible sense of school unity and identity. A secondary goal of the dress code is to teach young people that in the larger arena of life, different types of dress are appropriate for different settings. Finally, a professional and clean standard of dress emphasizes the neatness and care appropriate to pursuits such as learning. We anticipate the cooperation of parents in ensuring their students' adherence to the dress code.

In all cases, the administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes proper dress code in accordance with good taste and modest contemporary standards for a Catholic high school.

Gross Catholic High School Dress Code

Uniform Pants: Only tan or khaki uniform dress pants are permissible. The uniform pants may be viewed on the Dennis Uniform Company or Education Outfitters website. This does not include any type of cargo, capri, corduroy, denim, painter, athletic, wind, hip huggers, baggy, bell bottoms, jogger pants for boys and leggings or jeggings for girls or olive green pants. Uniform pants may be purchased at any uniform store. Examples of uniform stores include Lands' End Uniform, Old Navy Uniform, JCPenney Uniform, etc....

Uniform Skorts/Shorts:
Young women may choose to wear a khaki skort purchased only from Dennis Uniform Company or Education Outfitters and the Spirit Store. Skorts or shorts must be of modest length, measured by the bottom of the skort touching the end of the fingertips, and worn as the manufacturer intended, for example, not rolled or hemmed. Young women may choose to wear tights under their skort. Tights must be a solid color with no pattern in the material. Fishnet materials are not dress code.

Uniform Shorts: Young men or women may choose to wear khaki uniform shorts only purchased from Dennis Uniform Company or Education Outfitters. Uniform shorts may be worn year round.

Uniform Shirts: Only solid orange, blue, or white long or short-sleeved uniform polo shirts are to be worn at Gross Catholic. Orange and blue uniform polo shirts must be purchased from Dennis Uniform Company or Education Outfitters and the Spirit Store. White uniform polo shirts may be purchased at any store as long as they are similar in design and fit to a uniform polo shirt. No colored or printed t-shirt may be visible under the uniform polo shirt. NO OTHER shirts are to be worn as part of the uniform at Gross Catholic High School.

Uniform Sweaters, or Under Armor/Nike Quarter Zips: Students may wear a solid-colored, navy blue or gray V-neck or crew neck pullover or cardigan uniform sweater over their uniform shirt. The uniform sweater may be viewed on the Dennis Uniform Company or Education Outfitters website. Uniform sweaters may be purchased at any uniform store. Examples of uniform stores include Lands End Uniform, Old Navy Uniform, JCPenney Uniform, etc.... If a student chooses not to wear a uniform sweater, he/she may purchase a quarter zip from the spirit store. The quarter zip will be clearly marked as approved to be worn during the school day on Monday – Friday. NO Previous Gross Catholic Fleece Quarter Zip will be allowed to be worn.

Shoes: Only shoes with a covered toe and heel may be worn at Gross Catholic High School. The following footwear is not acceptable at Gross Catholic:

- Athletic or shower-type slip-ons/"sliders"
- Flip-Flops
- Slippers/Slipper shoes of any kind, even those with a hard bottom
- Shoes with retractable wheels
- Sandals with open toe or open heel
- Crocs

Accessories and Jewelry: Any accessories must be modest and appropriate for the outfit. These items should not draw attention to the individual. Hats, scarves are NOT acceptable dress code items.

Hair: Hairstyles and color must be commensurate with modest contemporary standards and natural hair color. Hair styles should not draw attention to the individual. Hair must be out of the eyes and neatly combed. Young men must have their hair trimmed above their collar and may not wear any hair accessories.

Facial Hair: Young men must have NO facial hair. Sideburns above the earlobe are permitted.

Special Dress Mondays: Marianist or house shirts or other Marianist attire may be worn on Mondays. All other uniform guidelines should be followed. This is a show of support for our Marianist heritage or the student's house. Spirit gear consists of clubs, organization shirts but NOT hoodie sweatshirts to celebrate pride in a student's activities and sports. These items may be purchased only from the spirit store. Spirit wear hoodies may be worn on designated Orange and Blue Days only.

Special Dress Day: Other days may be designated for special attire. These days will be announced with the dress expectation. Students should always wear clothing that is appropriate for the school setting and that does not draw undue attention to the individual student.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

After-School Detention and Saturday School Policy are for students with a behavior infraction and/or truancy may be assigned either of these options as determined by the administration team. Parents/guardians will be notified when a detention/Saturday school is assigned.

The only permissible excuse for a student to not attend their detention and/or Saturday school is illness or a family emergency. In instances where a student misses detention/Saturday school, they will be subject to additional consequences as determined by the administration including detention rescheduled and further consequences. If a student incurs five after-school detentions, it will automatically result in an additional Saturday school detention.

Detention Times:

After School 3:00-3:45 PM (Monday through Thursday)
Saturday 8:00-11:00 AM (twice a month)
Students will not be admitted to their detention or Saturday school 5 minutes after the start time, which will result in an absence.

Expectations:
School Policies: All school policies remain in effect during detentions and Saturday school.
Required Materials: Students must bring their schoolwork, books, and study materials to detention or Saturday school. Failure to bring the necessary materials will result in the student being denied admission.
Prohibited Activities: Eating food, using earbuds, talking to peers, using phones, or sleeping are strictly prohibited during detentions and Saturday school. Students are expected to engage in productive work or study during these sessions.

It is important for students and parents/guardians to familiarize themselves with these policies and abide by them to ensure a productive and disciplined learning environment.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Daily attendance is an integral part of the learning experience and is required of all students to receive the maximum benefit of the educational program.
Students shall not be absent more than eight days in any semester.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to see that the child attends school and to inform the school of each and every absence. It is the responsibility of the school to notify the parent/guardian on each occurrence of an unverified absence.
Students must be at school for a minimum of six periods on the day of a practice, activity, athletic performance, or competition in order to participate. Exceptions may be granted by the administration.

Attendance Procedures

1. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are expected to notify the school regarding a student's absence on the day of the absence. An absence must be reported by phone call between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Students who were absent from school for any reason shall submit IN WRITING (phone calls will not be acceptable) the specific reasons for their absence, the specific days or times they were absent, verification by the doctor or dentist (where appropriate), and a signature of the parent/guardian. Once the student has turned in the note(s) at the main office they will be given a re-admittance slip.
2. Absences for the following reasons may be waived:

- Extended illness or hospitalization
- Death in the family or family emergency
- Court appearance or other legal situation beyond the control of the family

3. Classes missed because of attendance at a school sponsored trip or activity will be recorded as a school activity. Students will be required to make up missing work.

First Period Tardies

A student who is late for the first period any morning must first report to the office for a tardy slip. If a student is tardy to the first period a fifth time in a semester, regardless of whether the tardiness is excused or not, that student will be issued an after school detention. After the 10th tardy, students will be issued a Saturday School and every 5th tardy there after. If tardiness to the first period becomes chronic the student may be suspended from school. Tardiness beyond 8:00 a.m. in the morning will constitute an unexcused absence for the first class period.

All Other Tardies

1. Tardiness is defined as a student's initial appearance in a class at any time after the designated starting time. Tardiness of more than ten minutes to a class will be considered an absence.
2. All incidents of class tardiness will be the responsibility of the teacher after 1st period. Teachers will emphasize the importance of being on time and explain the classroom rules and procedures for tardies. The tardy sanctions should be consistently applied and should be sequential. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to: warning, teacher-monitored detention, parent contact and administrative referral.
3. If, for some reason, a teacher is not in class when the class is to begin, one of the students is to report to the office and verify if the class will meet. All other students are to remain in the classroom until instructed otherwise.

Truancy

1. Truancy is defined as any absence from school or an assigned class or classes without parent/guardian and school permission.
2. Class work missed because of truancy can be made up and treated the same as make-up work for all other absences.
3. Incidents of truancy will be recorded as part of a student's attendance record and will count toward the limit of eight allowable absences per semester.
4. Any student truant from any one class will serve three detentions and parents will be notified. If truancy becomes chronic the student may be suspended from school.
5. Students truant for an entire day may be suspended and may be issued six after-school detentions.

Excessive Absence

1. Excessive absence is any absence beyond eight days per semester.
2. When a student has been absent from school/class five times (days/class periods) during a given semester, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified via mail or phone regarding the student's absence record.
3. The student will be dropped from any class upon the ninth (9th) absence and a grade of "F" will be issued.
4. The student will be dropped from the regular school day when the ninth (9th) absence causes them to become a part-time student.

Re-admittance Process

1. When notified that the student has been dropped from a class or school, the student and parent/guardian may request, within two school days, a meeting with school administration to determine re-admittance. Should the request not be made within two school days, the student will be permanently dropped from class/school.
2. Following removal from class/school the student will remain in class/school pending completion of the re-admittance process.
3. The conference for re-admittance must be attended by the student, parent/guardian, an administrator, and may also include attendance personnel and a counselor.
4. The following will be considered in making a re-admittance decision:
   - Absences caused by documented chronic or extended illness, hospitalization, family death or emergency, emergency medical or dental care, court appearances or other legal situations beyond the control of the family
   - Attendance history of the student
   - Extenuating circumstances
   - Educational alternatives to removal from class or school
   - The total educational program for each individual student

LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE DAY

When it is necessary for students to leave school during the day, they should report to the office before first hour to make arrangements. Students should have a note from a parent specifying the reason for leaving and the time the student is to be dismissed from school. Students with permission to leave must check out in the office before leaving, and must check back in when returning.
Any student leaving the school building without permission at any time during the school day prior to official dismissal will be subject to disciplinary action.

FUNERAL POLICY

If a student wishes to attend a funeral during the school day, a note from a parent must be submitted to the main office before school begins the day of the funeral. Phone calls from parents will not be accepted. Students are to return to school after the funeral. It is not appropriate for students to stay for a luncheon unless they are personally invited. In order to stay for a luncheon, students must have prior written approval or communication to the school office from their parents.

LITURGIES

The celebration of sacraments, liturgies, and prayer experiences are central to our mission at Gross Catholic. Appropriate conduct and active participation is expected. If a student is asked to leave a liturgical celebration parents will be notified and the student will be subject to disciplinary action. Attendance at all liturgies is required.

ASSEMBLIES

Since school assemblies are looked upon as celebrations of who we are as a Christian community, all students are expected to attend. Appropriate behavior for the assembly is expected. Skipping an assembly will be considered the same as skipping a class. Juniors and seniors are not required to attend pep rallies scheduled at the end of the day.

HEALTH POLICY

If a student becomes ill during the school day, a parent will be notified and the student will be sent home. Special consideration may be given to a student with a diagnosed health problem, verified by a physician's note. In the interest of the health of others, students are asked to remain at home when they have a contagious illness.
The school takes no responsibility for medications self-administered by a student. If a student must take medication during the school day, the school nurse should be informed and the medication should be brought to school in the original container labeled by the pharmacy, and the proper medication form must be completed. Over the counter medications, such as aspirin or Tylenol, must be in the original container labeled with the student's name and manufacturer's directions legible. In other special situations, the guidelines established by the Nebraska Department of Health will be followed.

If a student becomes ill and therefore must miss a class, that student must report to the office or the absence from class will be considered a skipped class. In such cases, parents will be called and the student will be sent home.
In compliance with Rule 59, Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School has adopted an "Emergency Response to Life-Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions Protocol" and is equipped to implement the protocol while school is in session in the case of any student and/or school staff member.
Protocol:

- 911 is called first
- EP/Pen injection is given
- Albuterol is provided through a nebulizer

Parents must provide to the school staff for students having a known allergic condition or asthma:

- Written medical documentation
- Instructions
- Medications as directed by a physician

School health screening is not diagnostic nor is it intended to replace regular preventive health care. The goal is to assist parents in the identification of potential health problems so they may seek appropriate medical evaluation. Ninth grade health screening includes: height/weight, vision, hearing, and blood pressure. Students may be screened upon the request of a parent or teacher at any time. A copy of the student's birth certificate is required during registration.

ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

At Gross Catholic High School, every student has the opportunity and is encouraged to have a balanced school program. All freshmen are encouraged to participate in a fall sport or activity.

Numerous activities are available including clubs, service organizations, sports, spirit activities and fine arts productions. Students must be at school for a minimum of six periods on the day of a practice, activity, athletic performance, or competition in order to participate.

ACTIVITIES

Academic Decathlon
Art Club
Chess Team
Chorus/Liturgical Singers
Concert Band
Drama
Engineering Team
Jazz Band
Innovation Team
L.I.F.E. Team
Musical
Pastoral Ministry
Robotic Team
S.A.L.T.
Cyber Security
Student Council
Book Club
Trap Shooting

ATHLETICS

Boys Competition	Girls Competition
Cross Country	Cheerleading
Football	Cross Country
Tennis	Dance Team
Basketball	Golf
Swimming	Softball
Wrestling	Volleyball
Baseball	Swimming
Golf	Basketball
Soccer	Tennis
Track	Soccer
	Track

Each year the River Cities Conference presents an Academic All-Conference Award to sophomores, juniors, and seniors in athletics and activities who lettered in their sport/activity and had a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher the previous semester.

ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY

A student's eligibility for extracurricular activities will be determined by using the mid-quarter, quarter, and semester reports. **Students will be affected only during their sports/activity season.**

Ineligibility Process:
Students with an F or more than one D, will be required to do the following to stay eligible:

1. Attend a mandatory study hall to be scheduled during the day. A student will remain in the study hall until the next grade report is released.
2. Weekly progress reports will be completed on Thursday of each week and signed by parent(s)If the student does not receive a progress report from their first period teacher, it is the student's responsibility to pick up a progress report from their first period teacher.
3. The reports will be submitted to the Activities Director on Friday of that same week for evaluation of the student's eligibility. All reports must be signed by ALL parties and turned in no later than 7:40 a.m. Friday..
4. If, and only if, a teacher is absent on the day the progress reports are being signed by teachers, then a student must get the substitute teacher's signature.

The following constitutes a poor weekly progress report:

- A combination of any 3 NO's in either Homework, Behavior or Grade Improvement column
- A report not signed by an instructor or parent when turned in on time
- A report not turned in on time or not turned in at all

One poor weekly progress report: The student has until the end of the following week to show improvement in the categories on a weekly progress report. These include estimated grade for the week, completed work and class behavior.

Two consecutive poor weekly progress reports:
The student is declared ineligible for game participation the entire 3rd week (week running from Saturday through the next Friday) or until the student has earned a good progress report.

- If a student follows the first poor weekly progress report with a good weekly progress report the second week the student remains eligible.
- If the student follows the first poor weekly progress report with a second poor weekly progress report, the student will be declared by the Activities Director, ineligible for all game participation when the student submits his or her progress report. The student will remain ineligible until he or she submits a good progress report.
- A week consists of Saturday through the next Friday.
- Whatever the student's eligibility status, the student is still able to practice with the team or activity. However, if a student is ineligible for that week and the team is dismissed from school, he or she will not be allowed to leave early with the team.
- If the student does not make up missed time by Friday the student will receive a poor weekly progress report for that week.

ALL RESULTS FROM THE PREVIOUS SEMESTER WILL CARRY OVER TO THE FOLLOWING SEMESTER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.
In all cases the Gross Catholic High School Administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes eligibility.

SPORTSMANSHIP

As a member school of the Nebraska School Activities Association, we endorse the following NSAA sportsmanship code. All participants and fans should:

- Remember high school sports are a part of the educational process
- Maintain self-control at all times
- Show support and enthusiasm by cheering your team - not degrading the opponent
- Applaud the outstanding performances of all athletes
- Know, understand and appreciate the rules of the contest
- Respect the effort and decisions of contest officials
- Shirts must be worn at all indoor activities
- Artificial noisemakers may not be used at any activity.
- Newspapers and other reading material may not be displayed during player introductions
- Students who exhibit poor sportsmanship by way of inappropriate chants, cheers, and/or actions may be asked to leave the game

At no time are cheers, posters or spontaneous reactions to contain profanity, profane innuendo, sexual connotations or a denigration of our opponent.
When attending athletic events that are held outside of Gross Catholic High School, students must still follow all rules, procedures and regulations set by the school.
Students not following these rules may be asked to leave by Gross Catholic High School personnel.
In all cases, the Gross Catholic High School administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes good sportsmanship.

STATE COMPETITION POLICY

- School will not be dismissed for state competitions
- Students will be released and excused from school based on the purchase of a ticket to attend the event and parent permission
- Once arriving at the event it is the responsibility of the student to check in with a designated administration. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence and will be dealt with as such.
- Following parent notification, students skipping school receive 6 detentions after school.
- Transportation to and from state competition will be provided based on student interest and will be provided at student expense

OTHER INFORMATION

SCHOOL CLOSING

Local television and radio stations will broadcast any school closings as well as receiving notices via our School Messenger system and social media sites. Please do not call the school.

CHILD CUSTODY

Gross Catholic is utilizing the following procedures concerning child custody. Any questions concerning documents need to be directed to the main office.
In case one parent asks that the child not be allowed to leave the school with the other parent, a custody paper, restraining order, or other legal document should be in the child's folder at school.
Legal opinion states that either parent has equal rights to the child unless one of the above legal documents has been issued.

VISITORS

Students who are in the 7th and 8th grade at a feeder grade school and who are considering attending Gross Catholic may shadow a Gross Catholic High student at school.
Students wishing to bring a guest must contact the Gross Catholic Admissions Director at least one day in advance a date to attend to schedule.
Students presently attending other area high schools who may be interested in attending Gross Catholic should have their parents make an appointment with the Principal and/or the Admissions Director in order to visit the school. All guests must wear appropriate identification. All visitors must check in and check out through the main office upon arrival and departure.
Students who arrive at Gross Catholic without prior approval will have to return home.

MARRIAGE POLICY

The mission and purpose of Gross Catholic is not consistent with accommodating married students. Students are required to live with a parent or legal guardian. Therefore, any student who marries will be required to leave school and complete his/her education elsewhere or by other means.

PREGNANCY POLICY

Gross Catholic is a pro-life institution and is deeply committed to the belief that life begins at conception. Therefore, any student who becomes pregnant will be encouraged to carry the baby to full term.
Administration, guidance personnel, parents, and the couple will pursue all the options for counseling and f or completing the student's education.

IDENTIFICATION CARDS

I.D. cards are issued at the beginning of the school year. I.D.s issued at any other time during the year will cost the student $10.00. IDs are used for admission to home and away games and dances. I.D. 's must be presented at these events or the full cost of admission must be paid.

DANCES AND SCHOOL FUNCTIONS

School dances other than Homecoming and Prom are for Gross Catholic High students only. Students who bring a guest must follow appropriate procedures. Prom is restricted to juniors and seniors unless invited by an upperclassman.

Dances usually begin at 8:00 and end at 11:00. All students are expected to arrive at the dance within one hour of the start time. Once a student leaves a dance they may not return. Appropriate dancing and behavior is expected. Anyone whose conduct is not appropriate may be asked to leave. Students are expected to dress modestly and in good taste. All students must have a Gross Catholic I.D. in order to enter the dance. The school is not responsible for misplaced or lost personal items.

LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found area is in the main office. If an item is lost, please check with the receptionist. If an item is found, please turn it in at the main desk. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the end of each semester.

SAFETY DRILLS

There are four different responses to emergency situations: hold, secure, lockdown, evacuate and shelter. Safety drills are held during the school year and require everyone's cooperation. Students and teachers are required to follow the safety procedures for each situation. If a student should accidentally sound the fire alarm, that person should report it to the office immediately. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from school. Pranks regarding the use of the fire alarms will result in dismissal.

HOUSE SYSTEM

The primary objective of the House system is to enable all students, not just those who hold a specific title, to embrace their potential for leadership and to become part of a multi-grade community which is responsible for the academic, social, and spiritual growth of all its members. There will be four Houses. Each House will consist of a faculty Dean, faculty Mentors, senior Co-Captains, and students from various grades. Students will remain in the same House and the same Homeroom Group for all four years. Mentors and Deans also remain with the same group. Houses will meet for 31 minutes every other Friday of the month.This will be time designated for school announcements, tutoring, team/activity meetings, study time, or grade specific activities. Students should use this time for meetings or academic help.

RETREATS

Each year, Gross Catholic High School students are required to attend one of the Gross Catholic retreats regardless of their religious belief and experience. Retreats offered at Gross Catholic are rooted in the Catholic Christian faith and seen as a vital part of each student's religious formation. Retreats will provide all with a sense of belonging, as together we celebrate sacraments, create community, pray, worship, listen, share faith, examine, reflect, challenge, and respond to Christ in our lives. It is our hope that all students, Catholic and non-Catholic will use this opportunity to enhance their own spirituality.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is composed of representatives from the sophomore, junior, and senior classes who are elected in the spring of the previous school year. The student council executive council consists of two representatives from the sophomore, junior, and senior classes. The senior with the highest number of votes is elected president of the student council and serves as the student body president. The student council serves as the coordinating group for service, spirit and social events offered at Gross Catholic.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Empowering people to answer the call to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today, the pastoral ministry at Gross Catholic is the foundation of our school community. Students, faculty, and staff are collectively responsible for the participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community. A council of students meets regularly with the campus minister to plan, organize and facilitate faith sharing activities, liturgies, prayer services, Christian service opportunities, and social events. Open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and rooted in our Marianist tradition, all members of the Gross Catholic community are encouraged to grow in leadership and discipleship offering the Gospel message to others through the witness of faith in action, community and family spirit, and Christian service. Sacramental ministry and spiritual counseling are offered under the guidance of our campus priest/chaplain.
Campus Ministry provides an opportunity for current members of the Cougar family to be actively involved in the pastoral life of our community. Specific activities include: preparation for and celebration of all-school liturgies, prayer services and reconciliation services, morning prayer, the three o'clock prayer, the rosary and stations of the cross, service projects, student socials, and the design and maintenance of the Campus Ministry bulletin board. Juniors and seniors actively involved in Campus Ministry may also apply to serve the community as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and retreat leaders.
Marianist Life Team is a small community of disciples committed to Mary's mission of bringing Christ to the world. Rooted in community, sacraments and prayer, we are called to grow in faith and to build and strengthen our Marianist family.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Honor Society, founded in 1921, was created to recognize and encourage academic achievement by young people while developing other characteristics necessary to citizens in a democracy. These ideals of scholarship, character, service, and leadership remain as relevant today as they were in 1921. Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School has been a charter member of the National Honor Society since 1971 as the Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan Chapter, Gross Catholic's bylaws are in keeping with the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. Induction will take place in the fall of each year. An NHS member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the principal or chapter advisor to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.
Eligibility for membership includes a class standing of junior or senior; a minimum cumulative GPA requirement of 3.5 or above; membership of Gross Catholic High School for at least one semester; evidence of character, leadership, and service as provided through an official application; and good standing in the Dux Esto program. Eligible students will be presented an application in September. Students who desire membership will be required to complete an application and essay for consideration. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be advised that flagrant violations of school rules or civic laws may postpone or prevent membership into the National Honor Society. Each student who submits an application will be notified of the decision for induction.
A member of the National Honor Society is expected to maintain, at all times, the standards which were deemed necessary for selection. Any member who falls below the set standard for character, service, leadership or scholarship may be dismissed from the National Honor Society.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

In the Marianist tradition, Gross Catholic High School will use the resources necessary to better the environment for present and future generations. . Whenever possible, we will:
1. Reduce, reuse and recycle material
2. Set objectives for sound energy management
3. Utilize environmentally friendly and sustainable produced products
4. Minimize water use and pollution
5. Promote environmental awareness among staff, parents and students
6. Encourage car sharing among staff, parents and students
7. Educate regarding environmental issues
8. Encourage each other to limit the use of paper.

THE COUGAR FIGHT SONG

Here we are, we are the Gross High Cougars!
Fighters all and winners, too!
Here we are, we are the cagey Cougars,
Go with the Orange and Blue!
Hear 'em howl, Hear 'em growl,
Hungry Cougars on the prowl.
Hear 'em shout, hear 'em say,
We go winners all the way.
Rah!! Rah!! Rah! Rah! Rah!... Hey!
Come on Cougars, show 'em how we do it!
Show 'em how the game is won!
On your mark, get set, go to it!
GROSS HIGH! GREAT! GREAT!
BEST IN THE HUSKER STATE!
COUGARS ARE NUMBER ONE! HEY!

