



Fr. Tolton Catholic High School
Student/Parent Handbook
2023-2024

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Fr. Tolton Catholic High School community. At Fr. Tolton Catholic High School, we educate students within a community of faith founded upon the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church. As a college-preparatory school, we have high expectations for both behavior and academic performance. We are committed to providing students with a challenging curriculum and equipping them with a strong moral compass and sense of personal accountability to ensure their success in higher education.

By teaching respect for the dignity of every human person, we facilitate the growth of the whole student: spirit, heart, mind, and body. The curriculum and activities are structured to challenge students on their academic and spiritual journey so that they reach their fullest potential and cultivate their unique God-given talents into a lifelong devotion to learning and serving others.

We are proud of all our school has to offer and encourage each of you to become fully involved in our programs and activities. This Student/Parent Handbook provides you with important information about our policies, procedures, and programs. Please read the Handbook and keep it as a reference throughout the school year. This Handbook is also available on the school website: www.toltoncatholic.org

We look forward to working with you for the benefit of our students and school family. May God bless the Tolton Catholic community throughout this new school year.

Respectfully,

Dr. Daniel Everett, President/Principal

FATHER AUGUSTINE TOLTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
3351 E. Gans Road, Columbia, MO 65201
Phone: 573-445-7700
Fax: 573-445-7703

This Student/Parent Handbook contains established policies and procedures for the 2020-2021 school year. Since it is not possible for a Handbook to address every situation that may arise during a school year, the Administration reserves the right to amend or revoke the policies and procedures in this Handbook at any time as circumstances may require. When changes are made to the Handbook, parents and students will be informed of the change in a timely manner, and this will include a statement about when the change will take effect.

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ABOUT FR. TOLTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

MISSION

Inspired by the life of the Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton, Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is committed to providing a college-preparatory education rooted in the Catholic faith and designed to develop each student in Spirit, Heart, Mind, and Body. Its diverse, Christ-centered community seeks to ensure that all students are encouraged to blaze a unique trail in service to God, the Church, and the world.

VISION

The vision for Father Augustine Tolton Regional Catholic High School is that of a rigorous learning environment where each student is able to develop spiritually, emotionally, academically, and physically within a community of faith founded on the person of Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church. Building upon the values that Fr. Augustine Tolton exemplified in his own life, faith, courage, and perseverance to overcome tremendous obstacles, students are formed into Christian leaders whose lives reflect these ideals. Tolton Catholic embraces an environment where the home, parish, and school work together to model the Christian life which serves to dignify, unite and inspire the entire community.

SCHOOL HISTORY

Tolton Catholic exists thanks to the tireless efforts of Catholic families, local churches, and supportive members of the Mid-Missouri business community. After many years of grassroots fundraising and planning efforts, Tolton Catholic opened in August 2011 with only 9th and 10th grade and just over 50 students. We expanded in year two to serve grades 9-11 and were proud to graduate our first senior class in the spring of 2014. We now serve grades 9-12 and our enrollment has reached nearly 300.

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is fully accredited through the Missouri Nonpublic Accrediting Association (MNSAA) and the National Federation of Nonpublic Schools State Accrediting Association (NFNSSAA). Additionally, Tolton is a member of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA).

BIOGRAPHY OF FR. AUGUSTUS TOLTON

Born in Brush Creek, Missouri, on April 1, 1854, John Augustus Tolton began life with the odds stacked against him. He began life without his God-given rights of freedom, dignity, and equality; he began life not as a human being, but as someone is personal property-as a slave of a white Catholic family. Augustus Tolton's early childhood coincided with the Civil War; his father, Peter Paul Tolton, escaped slavery to join the Union Army while his mother, Martha, remained the maid of her owners. Some Black people were freed during these times, but most lived a life of inhumane cruelty and bondage. Many were baptized as Catholics, yet they still suffered in a way that was not condoned by God.

Augustus Tolton was raised in the Roman Catholic Church; his mother was baptized a Catholic because her owners were of the Catholic faith. Despite adversities, human cruelties and hatred by his fellow man, Augustus Tolton had the love of Jesus Christ in his heart. In 1862, he and his family found the courage to escape slavery by bravely crossing the Mississippi River into Illinois. According to one report, when they reached freedom, Tolton's mother turned to him and said, "John, boy, you're free. Never forget the goodness of the Lord." Perhaps this is when John Augustus Tolton decided to give his life to God. Perhaps this is when he realized that God is good all the time...all the time God is good.

John took his mother's advice and never forgot God's grace and mercy. Even though racial conflict haunted Tolton most of his life, he remained devoted to service in the Catholic Church. With the blessing of a loving man of God, Fr. Peter McGirr, Tolton was allowed to attend St. Peter's Catholic School, an all-white parish school in Quincy, Illinois. Fr. McGirr and others mentored and tutored him as they began to realize that Tolton was destined to greatness. After Augustus entered St. Peter, Fr. McGirr, who was the school's pastor, baptized him and prepared him for his first Holy Communion. God indeed had a plan for this young Black man's life and the will of God would be done.

Augustus Tolton devoted himself to serving God by making his life a living example of God's words. Unfortunately, no American seminary would accept a Black man. Without allowing his faith in the Lord to falter, Tolton graduated from high school and Quincy College. In 1880, with Fr. McGirr's continued support, Augustus began his studies for priesthood in Rome. Prayer to God and trust that God answers prayer guaranteed the success of Tolton as he completed his training. He was an excellent student because everything he did and all he accomplished were to glorify God.

Augustus Tolton, born a commodity to be bought and sold, owned as a mere piece of property, blazed a trail while following God's calling. He learned to speak fluent English, German, Italian, and Latin, Greek and African dialects. He became an accomplished and talented musician with a beautiful voice. For the first time in his life, Augustus experienced racial harmony and total acceptance within the church. By the grace of God, he finally came to experience the love of his Church, the Catholic Church.

In 1886, after six years of study in the seminary, Tolton was ordained to the priesthood in Rome at the tender age of 31. He had expected to serve in an African parish; surprisingly, he was directed to return to the United States to serve the Black community. Fr. Augustus Tolton became the first Black American priest in the United States of America! Born as a slave in America, he became an American hero! For a brief moment in history, racial differences that only ran skin deep were forgotten because of this great man of God.

Tolton held his first public Mass at St. Boniface church in Quincy, Illinois, and eventually he became pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church and school. Racial tension in Quincy still ran rampant and Father Tolton accepted a reassignment to Chicago in order to fulfill his calling to serve God. He gave service by helping the poor and sick, feeding the hungry and winning

souls for God. His endless, tireless, and devoted work led many to the Faith. In 1897, the first Black Catholic priest in America, lovingly known as “Good Father Gus”, died unexpectedly while on a priests’ retreat. Tolton was only 43 years old, yet he left a legacy that will live forevermore. He was called by God, but not chosen by the world. He refused to allow himself to be deterred from the path that had been mapped out for him by God...a path not yet well worn.

This beautiful school, Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School, is named in honor of Father Tolton. Tolton Catholic celebrates each of our differences because our differences make us unique individuals. We celebrate our divine likenesses because our likenesses make us all God’s children. We celebrate our common goal which is the same as was Augustus Tolton’s: to profess our love of God and to thank Him for giving His Son, Jesus Christ, so that we may be saved. Hand in hand with each other, we will continue in the tradition of Father Augustus Tolton: “Follow not the well-worn path. Go instead where there is no path and blaze a trail.”

Fr. Tolton’s cause for canonization began back in 2010. In 2011, he received the designation “Servant of God,” a title given to a candidate by the Vatican once a cause has begun. In March 2015, the Acts of the Diocesan Inquiry into the life and virtues of Tolton were officially opened at the Congregation for Causes of Saints in Rome which unanimously agreed a month later that he was a deserving candidate based on his extraordinary life.

The cause was then presented to the Ordinary Meeting of Cardinals and Archbishops, where a final vote was taken before presenting the Decree of Heroic Virtues to the Pope for his approval. On June 11, 2019, Pope Francis issues the declaration that Father Augustus Tolton lived a life of heroic virtue - living out the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity and the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance at a heroic level - thus advancing him to the title, The Venerable Father Augustus Tolton,

Locally, the Fr. Tolton Legacy Society, established at the St. Thomas More Newman Center, continues to work to promote Fr. Tolton’s works. An annual Mass and luncheon is held at the Newman Center in his honor. As a school, we continue to pray for his canonization.

SCHOOL PRAYER

God our Father, we offer You all of our prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day in union with the Church throughout the world.

May we be true witnesses to an ardent love for Your Son Jesus, and true Christian leaders like Fr. Tolton, with deep respect for the dignity of every human life.

Give us grace and strength in facing the challenges of this day, following Your call upon our hearts, knowing that You only call us to be faithful.

Father Tolton, Pray for us. Amen

ALMA MATER

Tolton Catholic, sons and daughters,
Raise our voices true,
To give God glory, praise, and honor,
As we fight for the silver and blue.

We blaze new trails in all endeavors
A light upon a hill
Lead by serving all His people
To fulfill the Father's will.

Mind and body, heart and spirit,
These the tools we use

Always blazing, we'll remember
Tolton Catholic High
All our lifetimes through.

SCHOOL COLORS

The official school colors are blue and silver.

SCHOOL MOTTO

Follow not the well-worn path. Go instead
where there is no path and blaze a trail.

SCHOOL CREST



Fr. Tolton Catholic High School



Tolton Athletics

LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THE SCHOOL

The school's leadership team is made up of the President/Principal, Vice President of Advancement, Director of Athletics and Activities, Dean of Academics, and CFO/Director of HR. All members of the Leadership Team share the responsibility to create an educational environment that fosters Catholic growth and formation within the school community.

HOUSE SYSTEM

The purpose of the House System is to enhance the school's mission by providing daily opportunities for development in the areas of our four pillars: Spirit, Heart, Mind, and

Body. Houses create smaller communities where students can interact with all grade levels which provides mentorship, encourages fellowship, and develops leadership.

The House System is organized into six Houses. They are:

- House of St. Blaise
- House of St. Ethelbert
- House of St. Gonzaga
- House of St. Maximilian Kolbe
- House of St. Sebastian
- House of St. Francis Xavier

Students remain in the same House during their four years at Father Tolton. Each House will be under the guidance of at least three mentor teachers. Each House is separated into smaller homerooms for regular meetings and activities which will focus on various aspects of the school's overall mission.

Houses have a yearlong competition for the House Cup. Points can be awarded for participation in academics, events, service activities, spirit, and other aspects aligned with the school's mission statement.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

In accepting students, we look for young people who can benefit from and contribute to the educational and Catholic mission of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. We admit students on the basis of standardized test scores, records from their previous school, and the recommendation of the Pastor, President, or Principal of their previous school as needed. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national/ethnic origin.

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. We expect parents to cooperate with the teachers and administration in the intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social development of their children. Likewise, families need to meet all financial obligations associated with attending Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. In extreme situations, school administration reserves the right to require the dismissal/expulsion of a student if this parent-school partnership is not sustainable.

Parents/Guardians who enroll their students at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School must agree to and abide by the **Covenant of Trust** as set forth by the Diocese of Jefferson City (included below).

COVENANT OF TRUST

Between Parents, Students, and the Catholic School/Religious Education Program

The Church identifies three authors of education: parents, the community, and the Church. Parents have the most serious obligation, provide the first knowledge of God, and lead their

child to a knowledge of the wider community. The community has certain rights and obligations in the education of youth for the common good of society and so provides schools. The Church has a duty to educate so that they "promote for all people the complete perfection of the human person, the good of earthly society and the building of a world that is more human." (Declaration of Christian Education, 3)

At Baptism, parents accept the responsibility of training their child in the practice of the faith. Godparents promise to assist them, and the whole community also promises to assist with this responsibility. "Catholic parents also have the duty and right of choosing those means and institutions through which they can provide more suitably for the Catholic education of their children..." (Canon 793.1)

Catholic schools are in partnership with the family in proclaiming and witnessing to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. They assist parents in fulfilling their responsibility as the primary religious educators of their children. This partnership works best when parents respect the beliefs of the Church and live lives in a manner that reflects these beliefs. If parents reject the beliefs of the Church or live lives in conflict with these teachings, catechizing young people becomes very difficult.

"Parents must cooperate closely with the teachers of the schools to which they entrust their children to be educated; moreover, teachers in fulfilling their duty are to collaborate very closely with parents, who are to be heard willingly...." (Canon 796.2)

Parents at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School, aware, then, of the dignity of the holy parental call, and with a reverent awe for that responsibility which is theirs, commit themselves to be, in word and example, the first and best teacher of their children in the faith. Practically, this means they will:

- Understand that the authentic teachings of Jesus as taught by the Catholic Church will be part of their child's education and formation;
- To the best of their ability respect the teachings of the Church and help their children respect the Church and its teachings;
- Regularly participate in the Sunday Eucharist with their family (if not Catholic, support their children's participation in the Church of Baptism), include prayer in their daily life and form their children in the faith;
- Commit to speaking frequently with their children about God and to include prayer in their daily home life;
- Participate in and cooperate with the Fr. Tolton Catholic High School in programs that enable them as parents to take an active role in the religious education of their children, including sacramental preparation for Catholic children;
- Support the moral and social doctrine of the Catholic Church to ensure consistency between home and school;
- Teach their children by word and example to have a love and concern for the needs of others;

- Practice stewardship of time, talent, treasure, and meet their financial responsibilities in support of the school and parish.

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School enters into a relationship of trust with each school family. This handbook provides the school's framework for this trust relationship, setting out policies and regulations for the orderly, safe, and effective spiritual and academic formation of children.

Parental/Guardian Custody

Divorced or separated parents must file a court-certified copy of the custody and educational obligations sections of the divorce or separation decree with the school office. The school will not be held responsible for failing to honor arrangements that have not been made known. Any changes to such decrees or documents must be immediately filed with our office in order for any changes to be recognized. The decree and documents must clearly stipulate custody arrangements and responsibility for financial liability.

Enrollment is not final until all necessary parties have completed the appropriate registration and financial obligation forms as well. Changes in custodial and/or financial obligation documentation may affect enrollment of the student until all documents and forms are adjusted accordingly. Tolton reserves the right to disenroll a student in cases where the custodial or financial agreements do not allow us to provide the educational partnership required.

Students who do not reside with an approved guardian will not be allowed to remain at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

Non-Catholic Student Participation

Non-Catholic students are required to respectfully participate in the religious life of the school, including mass, retreats, prayer, curricular, and extracurricular activities.

Parent Service

A Catholic school can only thrive with the dedication and commitment of a large group of volunteers each year, each serving in his/her own way. Every parent is strongly encouraged and welcome to offer volunteer time to the school to serve on committees, assist at special events, accompany field trips or the Day of Service, serve lunches, and more. Contact the main office for opportunities.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Credit Requirements

For a four-year student, graduation from Fr. Tolton Catholic High School requires the successful completion of no less than **28 credits**.

A year-long course earns 1.0 credit. A semester-long course earns 0.5 credits.

The following is a list of the minimum required credits by department needed for graduation.

Theology	4.0 Credits	Health	0.5 Credits
English	4.0 Credits	PE	1.0 Credit
Mathematics	3.0 Credits	Fine Arts	1.0 Credit
Social Studies	3.0 Credits	Personal Finance	0.5 Credits
Science	3.0 Credits	Practical Arts	0.5 Credits
World Language	2.0 Credits	Electives	5.5 Credits

Electives and other courses which students desire to take off-campus may be approved for credit on a case-by-case basis. Students and parents must obtain written approval from the Dean of Academics before enrolling in any off-campus or online courses to ensure that the course will be accepted for credit at Tolton Catholic.

Additional Credit Requirement Information

1. The State of Missouri requires all students to complete the following courses with a passing grade to receive a high school diploma:
 - a. Government (must pass Constitution Test) 0.5 Credits
 - b. United States History 1.0 Credit
 - c. Personal Finance (Practical Arts) 0.5 Credits
 - d. Health 0.5 Credits
2. Though only 3 credits are required, it is strongly recommended that students graduate with at least four credits each of Mathematics and Science.
3. Student class designation will be determined by the following credit completion requirements:
 - a. Freshman less than 7 credits
 - b. Sophomore between 7 and 13.5 credits
 - c. Junior between 14 and 20.5 credits
 - d. Senior greater than 20.5 credits
 - e. Diploma earned at 28 credits
4. If a student fails a required course, he or she must retake and pass the course during summer school or through an online course. Any arrangement for making up the credit must be approved by the Dean of Academics prior to taking the course. A make-up

course added to the regular school year schedule may require a fee comparable to summer school. This fee is added to the tuition statement.

5. Some courses are eligible for validation. Normally, a student will be required to retake any first semester course in which they receive an F. However, in a few skill-based/spiraled courses such as math, chemistry, and world language, validation may be possible. If the student earns an A in the second semester of the same class, their first semester grade will be considered validated, and they may be granted a waiver from having to make up the first semester F. It should be noted, however that the first semester F will still remain on the transcript, and it will still have a significant impact on the student's GPA.
6. A senior who has not made up failed required courses will be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony but will not receive a diploma until all requirements are met.
7. The President/Principal reserves the right to waive any credit requirements except those mandated by the State of Missouri.

Transfer Credit Policy

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School may accept, but is not obligated to accept, transfer credits.

For a course from another institution to be added to Fr. Tolton's transcript and for credit to be granted, the institution should be accredited and an official transcript from the institution must be provided.

For non-accredited institutions or for course work from homeschooling, Tolton may require student competency assessments before being added to Fr. Tolton's transcript and credit being granted.

In limited cases, the President/Principal may grant course credit through credit-by-exam.

Adding/Dropping Classes

The student should contact the Dean of Academics in order to change a course. Class changes should occur before the semester begins or during the add/drop period.

If a student remains in a course beyond the add/drop period and withdraws before the completion of a quarter, then a W for withdraw will be added to the transcript in place of the semester grade. If a student remains in a course beyond the add/drop period and withdraws after the completion of a quarter, then a WF for withdraw fail will be added to the transcript. A W on a transcript does not count toward a student's GPA; however, a WF on a transcript will count as an F toward a student's GPA. Neither a W nor a WF will grant any quarter or semester credits for the course.

To add or drop a course, a student needs to obtain permission from their parent/guardian and the Dean of Academics. The Dean of Academics will check availability of classes and advise whether the class change can take place. If the Dean of Academics approves the change, the student will then fill out the Add/Drop form and have it signed by their

parent/guardian. This form needs to be completed and returned to the Dean of Academics prior to the student changing classes.

Students will only be allowed to transfer into a class if there is room. Once a class is full, no more students will be added. After the add/drop period, the only changes allowed to a student's schedule would be those initiated by a teacher, counselor, or administrator.

Homework Assignments

Students regularly have homework assignments for their classes. The amount and length of these vary with each course. Students and parents should refer to each course's syllabus for policies regarding expectations for homework, late work, and projects.

Grading

In order to facilitate communication among parents, teachers, and students, Tolton uses RenWeb/FACTS. Students and parents have separate RenWeb/FACTS accounts. Student progress will be available online so that students and parents can monitor student progress at any time. It is recommended that parents check their student's academic status on a regular basis and communicate with the teacher via e-mail or a phone call as needed.

Grading Scale

Grading Scale			
Letter Grade	Score	GPA	Meaning
A+	100 - 98	4.0	Superior
A	97 - 95	4.0	
A-	94 - 93	4.0	
B+	92 - 90	3.7	Above Average
B	89 - 87	3.4	
B-	86 - 85	3.0	
C+	84 - 82	2.7	Average
C	81 - 77	2.4	
C-	76 - 75	2.0	
D	74 - 70	1.0	Below Average
F	< 70	0.0	Failure

Course Levels

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School has designed several levels of courses to meet the specific needs of the individual student at his/her ability. The distinguishing criteria between College Preparatory, Honors Courses, and Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Courses include the following: strategies of presentation, amount of content material, assignments, degree of independent work, and testing. The following can be used as a guide to the different levels:

- **College Preparatory** – Appropriate for any student; each student will be expected to assume some responsibility for working independently.

- **Honors** – Appropriate for the student who is capable of learning above the ordinary content of a course and who assumes the responsibility of working independently (GPA Weight=1.05).
- **Advanced Placement (AP)** – AP courses are courses that are designed to prepare a student for the annual College Board AP exam. In these classes, as in college, students are required to do an advanced level of independent work to supplement in-class instruction. AP classes are classes for which advanced standing or credits may be granted in college. Students enrolled in AP courses may choose to take the AP exam at their own expense. For AP students that take the AP exam, colleges may or may not grant college credit for a requisite score on their AP exam based upon their individual college policies (GPA Weight=1.10).
- **Dual Credit (DC)** – In DC classes, as in college, students are required to do an advanced level of independent work to supplement in-class instruction. DC classes are college level classes taught on Tolton’s campus in association with a local college or community college. DC courses provide credits at the college of dual enrollment but do not necessarily transfer to every college (GPA Weight=1.10).

Academic Integrity

The Fr. Tolton Catholic High School community is committed to academic integrity. Tolton Catholic upholds the highest standards of academic excellence and therefore expects academic integrity of all students. Cheating is a violation of personal integrity and contrary to Christian values. Students have an obligation to exhibit honesty in carrying out their academic assignments. Academic dishonesty or academic misconduct is any type of cheating that occurs in relation to a formal academic exercise. Violations of the Academic Integrity code can include the following:

- **Plagiarism:** The adoption or reproduction of ideas or words or statements of another person without due acknowledgment.
- **Fabrication:** The falsification of data, information, or citations in any academic exercise.
- **Deception:** Providing false information to an instructor concerning an academic exercise—e.g. giving a false excuse for missing a deadline or falsely claiming to have submitted work.
- **Cheating:** Any attempt to give or obtain assistance in an academic exercise without due acknowledgment, obtain unauthorized access to academic or administrative records or systems, obtain an unfair advantage; copy from another’s assignment or examination, or allow another to copy from one’s own work.
- **Sabotage:** Acting to prevent others from completing their work. This includes destroying the work of others or willfully disrupting the experiments or work of others.

It is the student’s responsibility to understand copyright infringement, plagiarism, and cheating. When in doubt, students should consult with the teacher in advance of the due date of the assignment. Consequences of violations of academic honesty may include a

failing grade, notification to parents, disciplinary/academic probation, detention, suspension, or in extreme cases, withdrawal for cause from Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

Academic Eligibility

All members of the school community must maintain an environment where academics come first. For this reason, students will be monitored internally on their academic progress. During any one-week time period during which a student is failing two or more classes, he or she will likewise be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities (including practices, club activities, etc.), in order that appropriate time and attention may be devoted to academic studies. Once a student's academic progress has reached a satisfactory, all-passing level, they may return to extracurricular participation.

All students must comply with MSHSAA requirements that 3.0 credits must have been earned the previous semester in order for the student to be eligible. Failure to do so results in ineligibility for the entire semester.

For those students who do not meet overall course expectations, information regarding summer or other credit recovery options will be provided. These opportunities may involve extra costs for families of students who need the credit recovery. This will not replace the original grade but will allow for credit to be earned and reflected on a student's transcript. Eligibility for fall extracurricular participation is dependent upon successful completion of summer credit recovery for any second semester or prior year failing grades.

Academic Probation

The Fr. Tolton Catholic High School administration may place a student on academic probation if that student's credit standing at the end of any school year is such that his or her accumulated credit is below what is needed to be classified for advancement to the next class. (See section on credit requirements.)

For example:

1. A student should accumulate 7.0 credits by the end of freshman year.
2. A student should accumulate 14.0 credits by the end of sophomore year.
3. A student should accumulate 21.0 credits by the end of junior year.

The goal of academic probation will be to achieve the recovery of credits. The Administration reserves the right, at any point, to determine whether a student may recover enough credits to remain at Tolton.

Academic Honors

Tolton Catholic emphasis on academic excellence is represented by two levels of honor roll distinction based on grades and the grade point average (GPA) achieved cumulatively. Students qualify for the Honor Roll with a semester-weighted grade point average of 3.75 or higher.

Grade Point Average

3.75 – 3.99

4.0 & above

Honor Roll

Second Honors

First Honors

This broad approach to recognizing the effort and achievements of Tolton students will reflect grades earned on semester report cards only. Quarter grades alone will not determine academic achievement levels.

Graduation (Latin) Honors

Beginning with the Class of 2019, Fr. Tolton will no longer recognize Valedictorian and Salutatorian awards. This is consistent with our practice of non-ranking students and belief in community. Students will be recognized based upon their cumulative weighted grade point average. The grade point average will be calculated on coursework completed only at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School, typically for 15 quarters. Students must attend for at least four semesters to be eligible.

Cumulative Grade Point

3.75 – 3.99

4.00 – 4.09

4.10 and above

Latin Honor

Cum Laude

Magna Cum Laude

Summa Cum Laude

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate from Tolton Catholic High School, a student must have attended Tolton Catholic for at least one full school year. Consideration will be given to extenuating circumstances, such as a family relocating to the area in the middle of a student's senior year.

In order to receive a diploma, a student must:

- Have successfully completed the required minimum (28) credits of coursework
- Have no un-remediated grades of "F" on his or her transcript
- Be in good standing regarding attendance and discipline
- Have completed all Christian Service obligations
- Have returned any school property, such as books, computers, or athletic uniforms
- Have no outstanding financial obligations with the Business Office

Seniors that do not meet these requirements at the time of graduation will still be able to participate in senior week activities and graduation ceremonies but will not receive their diploma until the above requirements are met.

Exams/Semester Assessments

1. All students are expected to take fall and spring semester exams.
2. All students are to be in the classroom during the ENTIRE length of the scheduled exam time.
3. Students who have study hall period during the semester do not need to be in school during the times scheduled for exams for that period, except when that period falls between two exam periods. If students are in school during those exam periods, they

are to report to the commons. They are not to be in the corridors, outside, on the parking lot, etc.

4. The nature of some classes may require that a large project take the place of a final exam. In this case, the project will still be weighted as a final exam. In this event, students are NOT expected to attend school during the regularly scheduled exam time.
5. Second semester seniors may qualify for a Second Semester Senior Exam Exemption. This exemption would waive the need for a senior to take a final in their class. In order to qualify for this, seniors have to have had a B- or better for both their 3rd quarter grade and their 4th quarter grade. Dual Credit and AP classes may be the exception and may require a final exam.
6. The semester exam is important because it affects the cumulative GPA, is recorded on the student's permanent record, and determines credit gained or lost.
 - The semester exam grade is recorded in the exam column of the student's report card; this accounts for 20% of the semester average.
 - Each quarter grade is 40% of the semester average.
 - It should be noted that any two F's (quarters and/or exam) would ordinarily result in a semester failure; that results in loss of credit.

ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

Attendance

Students are considered absent whenever they are away from school during school hours except for school-sponsored or school sanctioned co-curricular activities (e.g. field trips, enrichment, and remedial programs, etc.). Missing school may adversely impact a student's academic achievement and ultimately his or her grade. Excessive absences with substantial cause can be a factor in determining a student's continued enrollment in the school. **Students absent during the school day without prior approval by the President/Principal are prohibited from attending after school or evening functions that day.**

If it is necessary for a student to be absent from school for a whole day or a partial day, parents are asked to email the office at attendance@toltoncatholic.org. If emailing is not possible, parents may also call the office at 573-445-7700. Any absence, without previous notice from a parent, is followed up with a telephone call that day. If it is necessary for a student to leave school early or come late to school, parents should notify the office in advance by email or phone.

Students must sign out in the office before leaving school and sign in when returning or arriving. Students cannot be released from school without the approval of parents or another responsible adult listed in the School's Student Information System. Departure from school without permission of parents and Administration is considered truancy. If parents will be out of town or otherwise out of contact for any length of time, a note must be sent to the office indicating who has temporary custody of the student. In cases of prolonged illness, parents must send a note from the student's physician.

Before a student returns from a non-medical hospitalization, a report from an attending medical doctor or health care case manager is required. Serious reasons for missing school include illness, a death in the family, and serious personal reasons.

If a student wants to achieve A+ certification, missing more than 8 days a school year can place their qualification in jeopardy.

Penalties for absences and tardies from religious services will remain the same as for any other absence.

Daily Attendance

The school day begins promptly at 7:55 a.m. with the student's first period class.

Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in the classroom when the class bell rings.

A student will be considered absent from a class if they miss more than 30 minutes of the class period.

College Visits

College visits on school time are strongly discouraged. Students genuinely interested in visiting colleges are encouraged to do so on weekends or school holidays. Our college counselor will provide students with many opportunities to learn about various colleges and universities and to visit with college representatives on site at Tolton Catholic. However, having properly notified the school office, juniors and seniors absences may be counted as college visits if the student provides documentation from the college or university visited.

Retreat Program

In support of our mission, retreats allow students to grow in spirit and heart as they seek physical, emotional, and spiritual renewal through quiet time, communal prayer, and fellowship. Participation in the program offers students the opportunity to practice their faith while deepening their personal relationship with God, building trust among classmates, and considering life's directions and priorities by addressing who they are and why they are here. This allows the student to take time away from the daily demands of school and home for rest and reflection.

Early Dismissal of a Student

Parents, guardians, and students need to adhere to the following procedures when an early dismissal is required:

1. For appointments:
 - a. Parents/Guardians should notify the main office about the appointment and the required dismissal time.

- b. A doctor's note is not required but is appreciated.
2. Ill at school:
 - a. When a student is ill at school and feels that they need to leave, they must report to the main office, contact a parent, and have a parent speak with one of the office personnel.

No student may leave school for any part of a school day without first receiving permission from their parent/guardian and the main office. Students not following this policy will be considered truant, will receive no credit for work missed, and will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Extended Absence

Because daily attendance is so crucial to a student's academic success, we strongly discourage a student's absence for vacations, hunting/fishing trips, etc. However, when it becomes absolutely necessary for a parent to request a student's extended absence (one week or more) from school for reasons other than illness, please contact the President/Principal. Fr. Tolton Catholic High School will work with parents when a student is forced into a prolonged absence due to illness or injury. Parents are to contact the school office when these circumstances arise.

Make Up Work and Tests

Students must make up the work they have missed while absent. Students are responsible for contacting their teachers and checking Google Classroom to find out what was missed. In the case of illness, the student will receive a one-day extension for each day absent. This policy does not apply to major class assignments as designated prior to the absence by the teacher. Tolton's Late Work Policy does not apply to Dual-Credit classes. Dual-Credit classes will follow the policy of the higher education facility administering the class.

If student misses classes due to an extracurricular activity, they will not receive any additional time to make up missing homework or tests. All homework should be turned in the day they return to class and any tests scheduled for the day that they return should be taken.

Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities When Absent

Any student not at school by 9:45am will not be eligible to participate in practice, contests, or any co-curricular events that day, unless the tardy has been pre-approved by the President/Principal. A student may not leave school early to go home ill and then participate in an activity.

In the event that a student-athlete must miss academic time for doctor's appointments, physical therapy, etc., the student must return to school within 1 hour and 30 minutes from the time he/she leaves the school, or they may not participate in practice or contests that day. In addition, these appointments or rare exceptions must be pre-approved by the school administration.

This non-participation policy includes practices, rehearsals, dances, plays, games, etc. If a student misses class(es) on the day of a contest without being excused by the President/Principal or Director of Athletics, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes (or has an excused absence(s) from class) without an unexcused absence. (By-Law 212.0 MSHSAA)

Excessive Absence

Earning credit in any course requires regular attendance as well as a passing grade. Any student with more than ten absences during the semester is considered to be excessively absent. Extended illnesses or other extenuating circumstances will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Absences will be dealt with according to the following chart:

Number of Absences (per class, per semester)	Consequence
10	Letter to the student and family regarding excessive absenteeism.
15	Parent/guardian meeting with administration.
20	Student and family meeting with administration. Potential loss of credit for the class and other consequences as determined by administration.

Tardy to School

Tardiness is defined as arrival to class after the appropriate start time. It is the responsibility of each student, with the support of parents/guardians to be on time to school and to each class. All activities that take place during the school day are considered required school activities (class, Mass, rally, etc.). A school-sponsored night event is not an acceptable excuse for arriving late or missing school the following day. The consequence for being tardy to class and/or school (per semester) are as follows:

Num. of Tardies (per semester)	Consequence
4	Conference with principal
5-9	Detention
10-14	Saturday school
15-19	Saturday school and other consequences as determined by administration.

First Hour Tardy

Any student that arrives after 7:55 am will need to report to the office to sign in.

Class Tardy

Class tardy is defined as arriving to the classroom after the class bell rings. A student who is tardy to a class should report directly to that class. After five minutes the student is considered absent (or truant) and should be sent to the Office for a re-admit.

A student will be considered absent to a class if they miss more than 30 minutes of the class period.

Truancy/Absence from Class

A student is truant if they are absent from school for a day without the consent of the parent/guardian AND prior permission/consent of school officials. It is a violation of the law for a student to be truant. Truancy will result in the student receiving a disciplinary consequence.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

- Matthew 25:40

Service Requirement

The mission of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is to educate the whole student, including a heart for service, which is manifested in various ways, not the least of which is our service program. Students are encouraged to pursue interests and passions, which uphold and reinforce the Catholic Christian identity of the school. Students are required to perform a minimum of 20 service hours per year; these are necessary for graduation.

Tolton requires that **each student perform a minimum of 80 hours of service for graduation.** We suggest that you work at a pace of at least 20 hours per year to reach the requirement. Most students record well beyond this number. Students, who transfer in, will be required to perform a prorated amount for graduation, based on their time at Tolton.

It is the student's responsibility to document all service hours in a timely manner, using the school's online system. Verification is also done through that system, and it is the responsibility of the student to provide e-mail contact information of a non-parent/guardian adult for verification. Hours need to be verified before they can be approved. Students should submit service hours within 90 days of having performed the service.

At Tolton Catholic, we define **Christian Service as any activity done without payment that assists another human being to fulfill a basic human need.** A basic human need is one of the following: life, health, food, shelter, clothing, and education (the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, CCC 2447). Please note that life, health, food, and education can be interpreted on both a physical and spiritual level. In addition, caring for the earth and animals (through recycling programs, park and recreation events, or animal shelters) will count as service as it contributes to the interdependent health of all God's creation.

The campus minister will consider proposals for service that meet a basic human need other than the ones listed. If you are unsure whether your project will be considered service work, we encourage you to ask in advance. If you have any questions, you can contact the campus minister. All service hours submitted are subject to the approval of the campus minister.

Besides encouraging the Christian tradition of selfless giving, providing community service has many benefits for students. Some school organizations such as athletics, the house program, and national honors society, require regular service hours to qualify for membership. In addition, colleges and universities are interested in well-rounded students

who see and participate in the bigger picture, and service hours may be the deciding factor between students of similar academic caliber. Completion of 125 service hours earns special recognition at end of year; and 200 or more hours earns a highest service recognition at graduation.

Tolton Catholic hopes that, through exposure to service in high school, students will be inspired to serve and care for community needs throughout their lives. We would like every student to experience the satisfaction that comes from giving to those who need help.

Some Guidelines

We want the service experience to be an outreach into the broader community as well as broad-based learning experience for the student. As such, there are some recommendations we make to enhance a student's service experiences. Students can perform an unlimited number of service hours. In counting towards the required 80, we recommend the following:

1. Service associated with parish worship (altar server, lector, choir member, etc.) is limited to 25% of a student's total required hours.)
2. Coaching or helping coach a children's sport team is limited to 25% of a student's total required hours.
3. Service associated with a Tolton sports team, or any sports team, such as summer camps, statistics field clean up etc. is limited to 25% of a student's total required hours.
4. A+ requires 50 hours of tutoring and mentoring. Generally, all tutoring and mentoring can qualify as community service, but not all community service counts for A+.

What Is Not Service

While we cannot come up with a comprehensive list of activities that do not count as service, some common ones that we often receive questions about that we do not accept are:

- Any work done for a **family member or relative** (grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin) cannot be counted as service. The reason for this is family obligations coincide too closely with service work for us to fairly assess the service.
- Babysitting, dog sitting or housesitting is typically not service unless it is a response to a **medical emergency or an extreme situation**.
- Yard work or shoveling snow is not service unless the person for whom you are working cannot shovel or mow the yard himself or herself due to **old age or disability**.
- Any activity that earns money that benefits an organization that is a **for-profit business** such as a club sports team, a for-profit medical center, or restaurant is not service. Anytime you assist at a fundraiser, inquire where the money is going and whether it is going to a non-profit organization or a private person who needs assistance (i.e. for medical bills).

Common Examples of Accepted and Declined Service

Hours accepted: Working at a fundraising event for a charity, non-profit organization, or person in need

Hours declined: Working at a fundraising event to pay for your soccer team's upcoming tournament

Hours accepted: Working after school in the office of a charity or other non-profit organization

Hours declined: Working free instead of taking a paycheck at your after-school job

Hours accepted: Mowing the lawn for your handicapped neighbor

Hours declined: Mowing the lawn for your parents or another family member

Hours accepted: Time spent working at an overnight service project

Hours declined: Time spent sleeping or in recreation at an overnight project

Finally, while we do accept service hours from students' work with organizations such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, House programs, Tolton Service Days, and National Honor Society, not all activities done with these organizations will count as service according to the definition of service as fulfilling some basic human need.

Recording of Service Hours

Students are to use the MobileServe app to document service hours and submit them for verification. Submitted service hours will be reviewed, and approved hours will be updated on or by the end of each quarter.

HEALTH ISSUES

Communicable Diseases

In a Catholic school, compassion for the sick should be evident as well as a concern for their psychological and physical wellbeing. In addition, the school has an responsibility to seek balance between its obligation to the welfare of the infected individual and its obligation to the welfare of the larger school community of students and staff.

Health Records

A record of a physical exam immediately preceding a student's entering 9th grade and an official immunization record showing compliance with Missouri law MUST be on file at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School at the time the student begins attendance. The State of Missouri mandates this requirement. For students intending to participate in athletics while at Tolton Catholic, they will need to refer to Athletic Program Guidelines.

Immunizations

Missouri State law prohibits any student from attending school unless immunizations are current and filed in the main office. There will be no exceptions to this state law except documented legally recognized exemptions. For the protection of all students, Tolton Catholic will strictly enforce this law. Students will be sent home if documentation of immunizations is not sent to school. The State of Missouri Health Department monitors this process. In order to protect all students, state statute prohibits any child from attending school while afflicted with a contagious disease or if a child is liable to transmit a contagious disease. A child who is excluded from school may be readmitted either:

- With certification in writing by an attending physician that the child is not infectious, or;
- After a period of time, equal to the longest period of communicability of the disease.

A child who is not immunized is "liable to transmit" a disease during an outbreak, so that child must be excluded from school unless and until he or she is vaccinated or until the outbreak is over. (Statute 167.191)

Illness or Injury During the Day

Students who become too ill to remain in class report to the Main Office. The parents/guardians will be called. Parents'/guardians' up-to-date work phone numbers should also be on file in the school office.

Medication

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School follows the Diocesan policy on dispensing all medication (over the counter & prescription) to students during school hours by faculty/staff personnel.

- Medication MUST be brought to school in its original container with the student's name clearly visible on the outside.
- Students will be called to the office where they may take the medication dosage. School personnel will notify the student but will not administer the medication.

- Any drug, which may lawfully be sold over the counter without a prescription may be administered in compliance with the written instructions and consent of the student's parent or guardian. Administration of a prescription drug requires written instructions from a physician, dentist, or podiatrist and written consent from the student's parent or guardian.
- For prescription drugs, a copy of the signed doctor's prescription and a signature of parent/guardian with the time(s) of each dosage must be given and kept on file for each student.
- Medication will be locked and kept in the office.

DRESS CODE POLICIES

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School recognizes the importance of establishing a policy of dress for its students in order to foster a sense of discipline, self-respect, neatness, and to promote school spirit. The dress code is a direct reflection of the school's overall mission as a Catholic Christian educational institution dedicated to the development of the whole person. A dress code also helps ensure clothing does not become a distraction in the classroom. A student's dress and grooming must display appropriateness, respect, concern for oneself and for others, and be conducive to student learning. Upon admission to Tolton Catholic, students and their parents are expected to agree to abide by the dress code in its entirety. Failure to conform to the dress code, as set forth below and as interpreted by the school's administration, may result in disciplinary consequences. **In all cases, the administration reserves the right to determine standards of dress and appearance.**

When purchasing clothing items, refer to the dress code provided by Lands' End, Tommy Hilfiger, or Snow Creek Apparel. Purchasing clothing from the school's designated vendors will ensure compliance. More information about the school's vendors can be found on the school website at <https://toltoncatholic.org/uniform-provider-links/>

Shoes

Students may wear athletic shoes, dress shoes, or boots. Shoes are to be closed-toe, closed-heel, clean, and in good condition. Boots may only be worn inside pant legs. Heels for any shoe should never exceed one inch. The following shoes should not be worn: slipper-style shoes, sandals, croc-style shoes, slides, Wheelies, etc.

Socks

Any socks may be worn. For girls, tights or leggings may be worn under their skirt/skort in the school uniform colors (solid colors: navy blue, white, and/or gray). The tights/leggings must be plain with no logos or designs.

Pants

Both boys and girls may wear pants. Pants may be purchased from the Tolton uniform providers or from a store of your choice. Pants should be khaki or navy blue. Pants must have the look of dress pants, Dockers, or a trouser-style. The material should be twill and should appear pressed; permanently wrinkled material is not permissible. Pants may have either a pleated or plain front. Leg should be plain with no piping, excess pockets, loops, tears, etc. Pants must be worn at the waist. Pants should not have an elastic or drawstring waistband and should not have elastic at the ankles. No excessively tight clothing is

allowed. No jeans or corduroy should be worn. Leggings may not be worn as pants, but leggings may be worn under a skirt/skort.

Skirts/Skorts

Girls may wear a khaki or navy blue skirt or skort. Skirts/skorts may be purchased from the Tolton uniform providers or from a store of your choice.

Additionally, girls may wear the Land's End "clear blue plaid" skort or skirt. No other plaid skorts/skirts will be allowed.

Skirts/skorts should be worn at an acceptable length and should not be rolled at the waist.

Shorts

Both boys and girls may wear dress shorts. Shorts may be purchased from the Tolton uniform providers or from a store of your choice. Dress shorts should be khaki or navy blue with no other color showing. The material should be twill and should appear pressed; no jean, nylon, Spandex, knit, or sweatpants material will be allowed. Shorts may have either a pleated or plain front. Shorts should not have an elastic or drawstring waistband. Leg should be plain with no piping, excess pockets, loops, tears, etc. No cargo shorts will be allowed. Shorts should not be tight-fitting and should be of an acceptable length.

Uniform Shirts

All uniform polos and oxfords must be purchased from one of the approved uniform providers: Land's End, Tommy Hilfiger, and Snow Creek Apparel. All uniform polos and oxfords should have the Tolton Catholic embroidery or academic logo.

- Polos
 - Both short and long sleeves are acceptable.
 - Approved colors include gray, light blue, navy blue, and white.
 - Athletic team polos or shirts may not be worn during the school day.
 - Appropriate length polos may be untucked.
- Oxfords
 - Both short and long sleeves are acceptable.
 - Approved colors include light blue and white.
 - Athletic team button-down, oxford-style shirts may not be worn during the school day.
 - Undershirts should be solid white. No printed t-shirts may be visible through uniform shirts.
 - Appropriate length shirts may be untucked.

Sweatshirts/Hoodies/Quarter Zips

Students may wear a Tolton-branded sweatshirt, hoodie, or quarter zip. These items must be from a Tolton approved source. Approved sources are the Tolton Team Store, Snow Creek Apparel, or something that has been team or school issued. Non-Tolton sweatshirts, hoodies, and quarter zips may not be worn during the school day.

A uniform polo is NOT required to be worn under a Tolton sweatshirt, hoodie, or quarter zip; however, the shirt worn underneath the sweatshirt, hoodie, or quarter zip must be Tolton colors - white, gray, or navy. The shirt underneath should not be visible anywhere but at the collar and shouldn't be hanging down underneath or have a hood hanging out, etc.

If you are not wearing a polo underneath, the sweatshirt, hoodie, or quarter zip must stay on all day. It cannot be removed at lunch or if you are hot in any classrooms. If it is removed and you do not have a polo on underneath, it is considered a uniform violation, which will follow the existing uniform violation policy.

If you wear a Tolton hoodie, the hood should remain down throughout the day.

Sweaters

Navy uniform sweaters, sweater vests, and cardigans may be worn. All sweaters/sweater vests/cardigans should have the Tolton Catholic embroidery or academic logo. A Tolton uniform polo or oxford must be worn under the uniform sweater vests and cardigans.

A uniform polo is NOT required to be worn under a Tolton long-sleeve sweater; however, the shirt worn underneath the sweater must be Tolton colors - white, gray, or navy. The shirt underneath should not be visible anywhere but at the collar and shouldn't be hanging down underneath or have a hood hanging out, etc.

If you are not wearing a polo underneath, the long-sleeve sweater must stay on all day. It cannot be removed at lunch or if you are hot in any classrooms. If you take off the sweater and do not have a polo on underneath, it is considered a uniform violation, which will follow the existing uniform violation policy.

Jackets/Seasonal Outerwear

Students may wear Tolton-branded jackets over their uniform. These items must be from a Tolton approved source. Approved sources are the Tolton Team Store, Snow Creek Apparel, Jostens, or something that has been team or school issued. Since these items will

be worn over the student's uniform, students will still need to wear a Tolton polo, oxford, sweatshirt, hoodie, or quarter zip underneath.

Non-Tolton jackets or seasonal outerwear may not be worn during the school day. Coats, hats, gloves, etc. may be worn to school but must be kept in the student's locker during the day. Students may not bring blankets to school.

Physical Education Dress Code

Students enrolled in Physical Education classes are required to wear the following:

- **Shirts**: Any Fr. Tolton Catholic High School t-shirt or school appropriate shirt with sleeves. No tank tops, cut off shirts, or shirts with cut off sleeves.
- **Shorts**: Gym shorts must be worn, should rest on the hips, be modest in length and should be a solid color. Cut off shorts or excessively tight shorts should not be worn. Undergarments should not be visible above or below the short
- **Shoes**: Street or dress shoes are not allowed. Athletic shoes are required and should be appropriate for safe PE use.
- **Socks**: Must be worn

Accessories/Cosmetics/Hair

- The use of make-up should be tasteful, moderate, and appropriate for the educational setting.
- Hair must be neatly trimmed and clean. No hair colors or hairstyles that draw undue attention are allowed, such as a Mohawk or an unnatural color. Boys' hair length should be above the shoulders.
- Boys are to be well groomed. Mustaches, beards, and sideburns below the earlobes are not permitted.
- Modest jewelry may be worn. Jewelry is not to be excessive or distracting. Jewelry should not contain any inappropriate symbols or language. No septum piercings may be worn.
- Hats and scarves are not to be worn in the building.
- Inappropriate or offensive tattoos or other body art need to be covered.

Dress Down Days, Extracurricular Activities, and School Trips

Students are expected to dress appropriately during all school dress down days, extracurricular activities, and school trips. At such events, students should dress in an appropriate manner conducive to Tolton's expectations and values. Clothing at these events should follow any event specific guidelines or dress codes and should not contain any images that are vulgar, associated with drugs or alcohol, or inappropriate in any other

way. The appropriateness of clothing, hairstyles, and accessory items during these events will be subject to the discretion and approval of the Administration.

Special Exception Request for Dress Code

In some cases, a variance from the dress code may be granted for individual students. In these cases, administrative approval is required. Administrators have the final judgment as to what is appropriate or inappropriate.

Dress Code Enforcement Process

Dress code violations will receive the following consequences:

- The first two violations will be entered into the system as a warning.
- The 3rd and subsequent violations will each receive a detention.

The normal procedure when students are out of uniform is as follows:

- Students will be sent immediately to the office.
- If a dress code violation can be immediately remedied, students will be asked to correct the dress code violation.
 - For example, a student may be asked to remove a jacket or a non-Tolton sweatshirt, etc.
 - If a student is wearing a non-uniform sweatshirt, hoodie, quarter zip, jacket, or other accessory, it will be kept in the office until the end of the school day.
- If the dress code violation cannot be immediately remedied, for example, a student is wearing jeans, the student will either be sent home to change or remain in the office until the appropriate attire is brought to school.
- Boys that have a mustache, beard, or sideburn below the earlobes may be given a warning, given the option to shave at school, or sent home to shave.
- Boys that are not clean shaven, depending on the length of their facial hair, may be given a warning, given the option to shave at school, or sent home to shave.
- Multiple uniform violations may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

A student's enrollment at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is an expressed agreement on his or her part and the part of his or her parents or guardians to observe the student guidelines. Both parents/guardians and students commit to the goals and ideas of Catholic education as well as the philosophy and mission of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

Acceptance as a student at Tolton is a privilege. In all disciplinary cases, both the welfare of the student and welfare of the school are of paramount concern. The school reserves the right to review a student's individual performance in accordance with these expectations.

The purpose of this review is to determine if the student and the school can continue to benefit one another by allowing the student to continue at Tolton.

While it is impossible to write policies to address every circumstance and provide specific regulation or policy for every issue, Fr. Tolton Catholic High School does insist on certain standards of behavior. In all circumstances, the administration of the high school has the authority to enforce a code of discipline in the best interest of the school, including, but not limited to, determining the severity of the infraction and the level to which the infraction is assigned.

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is a tobacco and weapon free campus. Absolutely no tobacco, firearms, explosive devices, or weapons of any kind, including pocketknives or other items that could be used in a threatening manner will be tolerated at school, school functions, or on the premises. Serious consequences include suspension, withdrawal for cause, and/or legal action. Book bags, handbags, lockers, cell phones, and vehicles are subject to searches at the discretion of the Administration at any time.

Any student who poses a danger to persons or property, is a continuing disruption to the academic process, continually disobeys school rules and policies, whose behavior and/or actions in or out of school seriously conflict with Catholic values, or whose conduct inside or outside of school is detrimental to the reputation and good name of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is subject to suspension, dismissal, or expulsion.

Probationary Contract

Students with more serious or repeated conduct, disciplinary, attendance, or academic issues may be placed on a probationary contract. The President/Principal issues this contract. The contract is meant to clarify Fr. Tolton Catholic High School's expectations for the student and to assist the student and family in meeting these expectations. The student, the student's parents/guardian, and the President/Principal must sign the contract. Failure to meet the conditions of the contract may result in suspension or removal from school/withdrawal for cause.

Disciplinary Ineligibility

Students participating in extra-curricular activities are representatives of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School who have earned that privilege by meeting academic and behavioral standards. Serious infractions of school discipline policy shall be cause for temporary extra-curricular ineligibility. Such instances shall be determined by the school administration and communicated to the student and the parents/guardians.

Discipline levels

Students are required to follow the handbook rules while on campus and representing Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Teachers and administrators in the classroom, the building, and at Tolton Catholic related activities are the primary enforcers of the handbook rules. Certain handbooks rules may apply to student activity even when not on campus.

Violations will be dealt with through the school office and will generally be categorized into the following categories.

School Discipline – Level 1

Level 1 issues are infractions that are related to breaking local classroom rules. Each teacher has the leeway to establish particular rules in their classroom that help facilitate and organize learning. An example of an individual classroom rule might be “please raise your hand before speaking.” If a student violates an individual classroom rule, the consequence will be determined and assigned by the teacher of the class. Classroom consequences/detentions are given by individual teachers to be served at the convenience of the teacher, not to exceed 30 minutes. The detention is served in the teacher’s classroom. Students will be given 24-hour notice for when the detention is to be served. The teacher determines the length and nature of the consequence/detention. If a student does not complete the teacher’s consequence, they will receive a school detention in addition to the teacher’s consequence.

School Discipline – Level 2

Level 2, as with the subsequent levels, deal with handbook/schoolwide related issues, unlike level 1. Level 2 violations are considered minor violations and can be characterized as decisions that have a minor impact on the school and are related to a student’s personal responsibility. Examples of level 2 violations may include but are not limited to disregarding policies such as:

- Dress code violation
- Being regularly tardy to class (please see attendance section)
- Minor violation involving offensive language: written, verbal, or gestures
- Truancy on campus
- Use of any unauthorized electronic devices during class time
- Forgery
- Unauthorized use of elevator
- Failure to attend school detention
- Eating: gum/candy/food/drink outside of prescribed areas and times

A level 2 violation will usually result in a detention. More than 5 detentions in a given year for level 2 violations may be elevated to a level 3 situation.

School Discipline – Level 3

Level 3 behaviors are considered more substantial in nature and require the immediate involvement of the school administration. These are moderately serious violations of the code of conduct. Level 3 violations are characterized as decisions that have a direct impact on another person or to the school. Consequences for situations in this category may include but not be limited to a detention, Saturday School detention (SSD), and at most an in-school suspension (ISS). Parents will be notified by a teacher or administrator of any such behavior. Such transgressions may include, but are not limited to:

- Multiple or habitual level 2 violations
- Excessive missed detentions
- Excessive tardies to first hour
- Disruptive behavior inside or outside the classroom
- Disrespectful treatment of others or of others' property (to or of any faculty/staff or member of the Fr. Tolton community, including substitute teachers, volunteers, and maintenance personnel)
- Misbehavior during a Mass
- Lying
- Defiance
- Academic dishonesty
- Excessive speed or reckless driving on or off campus

School Discipline – Level 4

The following are considered among the most significant offenses. Consequences for actions in this category will result in significant disciplinary measures such as in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, probationary contract, dismissal, expulsion, and/or involvement of law enforcement authorities, depending on the severity of the violation.

Such transgressions may include but are not limited to:

- Multiple or habitual level 3 violations
- Bullying or retaliation
- Fighting/Violent behavior or threats of the same
- Racist actions or language: written, verbal, or gestures
- Throwing objects (including food)
- Vandalism
- Major violation involving offensive or vulgar language: written, verbal, or gestures
- Theft
- Truancy off campus
- Major violations of the drug and alcohol policy
- Violations of the weapons policy
- Serious forgery
- Assault
- Harassment
- Possession of materials that contradict Catholic moral values
- Actions which diminish the integrity of others in the school or which contradict those values inherent to a Catholic school
- Use of technological devices to record or distribute photographs, video, audio, messages, or conversations of Tolton personnel or students without their consent
- Media misuse as defined by policy (see page 43)

Outside-of-School Conduct

While outside of school, students are expected to act in ways that uphold the reputation and the code of conduct of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Inappropriate or irresponsible

conduct out of school that detracts from the reputation of the school or defames others either within or outside of the school community may result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary actions may include consequences from any of the three levels of school discipline depending upon the severity of the situation up to and including expulsion.

Parties/Alcohol and Drug Usage

Student should not engage in underage drinking or illegal drug usage. If the school becomes aware, in any way, of students using or possessing alcohol or drugs or being present at an outside of school event where alcohol and drugs are being used, then it will be investigated, and consequences may follow.

Parent Sponsored Parties

Parents put themselves at risk when sponsoring parties where alcohol and/or drugs are present. Taking students' car keys and allowing them to use alcohol in personal homes or on personal property is not condoned. Parents put themselves at risk of lawsuit or criminal prosecution. Parents who sponsor such activities with minors is not consistent with the partnership Tolton requires.

Disciplinary Review Committee

The Disciplinary Review Committee (DRC) shall convene for the following reasons:

- To review the behavior of a student who has committed an infraction or a series of infractions for which they may be dismissed or expelled from school
- To review students who, as a condition of their probationary contract, require an evaluation at the end of their probationary period

Whenever a student is subject to dismissal or expulsion from the school for misconduct, the President/Principal shall convene a meeting of the Disciplinary Review Committee to review, discuss, and decide on a course of action for the student. The Committee will consider all of the facts presented relevant to the behavior in question, the effect of the judgment on the rest of the school population, and the reputation of the school. The disciplined student and their parent or legal guardian may attend the meeting; however, no attorney or other third party may attend or represent the disciplined student or their parent or legal guardian in connection with the meeting. The student will be given an opportunity to explain their accounting of the situation. The President/Principal will present the facts of the case. Upon completion of the meeting, the student and parents will be asked to leave, and the committee will remain for a period of deliberation. A student's failure to appear at any Disciplinary Review Committee meeting will result in their automatic expulsion from Fr. Tolton.

The Disciplinary Review Committee is comprised of the President/Principal as chair and three voting members including the Athletic Director, the School Counselor, and a faculty representative appointed by the President/Principal or designees as approved by the President/Principal. The three voting members of the Committee will recommend a course

of action to the President/Principal. The President/Principal will make the final decision and notify the student's family of the committee's decision via a phone call after the deliberation period.

The student and their family may appeal the decision of suspension for more than five (5) days or expulsion to the diocesan Catholic School Office. For this process, please refer to diocesan Administrative Recourse process (DSR 1901), found in the last section of this document.

Disclosure Policy

The school expects all students to model a high level of citizenship and responsibility. Therefore, when students are asked on college applications about disciplinary actions, students are expected to answer truthfully and completely. The school reports to colleges any serious disciplinary actions that resulting in at least an out-of-school suspension during their time at Tolton. The school complies with the procedures outlined in the National Association for College Admission Counseling's (NACAC) Statement of Principles of Good Practice. Those principles include reporting to colleges any "change in status" in academic performance or serious violations of school rules or standards of conduct that result in disciplinary action during the senior year. "Change of Status" disciplinary action includes probation, out-of-school suspensions, and expulsions. Seniors are encouraged to work with their counselor when such actions occur. Seniors should initiate a letter to the Director of Admissions at each institution to which the student has applied. A general letter from the Dean of Academics will follow.

Discipline Related Definitions

Classroom Detention: Students who violate individual classroom rules and procedures may be subject to a teacher detention. Classroom detentions are given by individual teachers to be served at the convenience of the teacher not to exceed 30 minutes. The detention is served in the teacher's classroom. Students will be given 24-hour notice for when the detention is to be served. The teacher determines the length of the detention. If a student does not show up for a teacher's personal detention, that student will receive a school detention in addition to the teacher's detention.

School Detention: Typically, the first step in the disciplinary process is the assignment of a detention. Detention is a one-hour time period that a student is required to serve as a consequence for a first or minor violation of the discipline policy. Students may be required to write, to sit in silence, to study quietly, or to assist with school tasks or projects. Regular detention will be held Monday through Friday for one hour after school. Students will be given at least 24 hours' notice of the impending detention. Failure to attend detention will result in additional detentions. Teachers and/or staff members may refer a student to the Administration for a detention. Detentions will be assigned by the school's administration and will take place after school or during an alternate time as assigned by the school's administration. Detentions take precedence over athletic practices or other extra-curricular events.

Saturday School Detention (SSD):

Saturday School may be assigned as a disciplinary measure for any conduct violation for which the President/Principal deems it an appropriate consequence. Saturday Schools are scheduled Saturdays during the school year from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Students are not required to wear their uniforms, but students must dress in a manner that is appropriate for Fr. Tolton. Students are expected to report to Saturday School on time. Tardy students may not be admitted and therefore be considered a "No-Show" resulting in additional disciplinary measures.

Only the parent of a student assigned to Saturday School may request a reschedule. This request will be granted for family emergencies only. Work and extracurricular activities are not considered acceptable reasons to reschedule a Saturday School. When a reschedule is granted, it will be to the next Saturday School only.

In-School Suspension (ISS): During an in-school suspension, the student is separated from other students for the day but is sent assignments and permitted to make up work missed within a defined time period. Students who miss assigned detentions or whose behavior is flagrant may be assigned one or more days of in-school suspension. In-school suspensions are not reported to colleges.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS): During an out-of-school suspension, a student is asked to remain home for a specified amount of time. A student that receives an out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to attend any or all school activities either on campus or at other locations (such as away games). Students who consistently or repeatedly violate the disciplinary policies or whose behavior is of a serious nature, may be assigned one or more days of out-of-school suspension. When conduct threatens the physical or moral welfare of anyone in the school community, the President/Principal can immediately suspend a student until a final decision is made. Colleges may ask a student to self-report out-of-school suspensions. Out-of-school suspensions are reported to colleges (see *Disclosure Policy* above).

Dismissal and Expulsion: The dismissal or expulsion of a student from a Catholic school is a very serious matter and should be invoked only in extreme cases.

Dismissal is termination of a pupil as a student from the school less than permanently (indefinite or for a given term).

Expulsion is termination of a pupil as a student from the school permanently (no opportunity for reinstatement).

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICIES

Tobacco

The use and/or possession of tobacco in any form, smoking paraphernalia such as matches and lighters, on a student's person or their property anywhere in the school building, on the school grounds, or at a school-related event is forbidden. A student's presence in a group where tobacco is being used or openly displayed subjects the student to applicable penalties under this regulation. When discovered, all tobacco products will be confiscated.

For clarity in our policy and due to the ability of e-cigarettes and vaping devices (like 'Juuls') to be used for marijuana and other drug use all "vaping" and similar devices will be handled under our Drugs and Alcohol policies.

Student Substance Abuse Policy

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School strives to provide the best possible education for its students. We believe that education occurs only as students are actively engaged in the learning process. In that regard, the school recognizes that the use of illegal drugs while at school or away from school leads to increased accidents, injuries, illnesses, and medical claims and can lead to the deterioration of the health of students. Students who abuse controlled substances are dangers not only to themselves but also to other students, teachers, and members of the public. In light of these concerns, the school's goal is to maintain a safe, healthy, and productive environment free of substance abuse.

Our objectives include:

- To create and maintain a safe, drug-free learning environment for all students by prohibiting and disciplining substance abuse
- To prevent the problems of absenteeism, tardiness, carelessness and/or unsatisfactory performance related to substance abuse
- To reduce the likelihood of accidental personal injury and/or property damage
- To prevent and eliminate substance abuse and its effects from the school
- To reduce the likelihood that property of the school will be used for unlawful drug activities
- To identify substance abuse as early as possible
- To encourage students with substance abuse problems to seek professional assistance
- To protect the reputation of the school in the community

Prohibition of Drugs and Alcohol

The school prohibits the sale, purchase, transfer, or possession of any alcohol, controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia (including e-cigarettes/vaping devices) by a student on the property of the school at any time or at any school-sponsored or endorsed function. The school also prohibits any student from being under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance while on school premises or at any school-sponsored or endorsed function. Presence in a group where alcohol, a controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia is/are being used or openly displayed or presence in a vehicle containing alcohol, a

controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia may subject a student to the same penalties as the sale, purchase, transfer or possession of the alcohol or controlled substance.

Any use or possession of alcohol, drugs, or drug paraphernalia (including e-cigarettes/vaping devices) by a student on school premises or at any school-sponsored function is prohibited. This applies to students arriving at school or any school-sponsored function under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or drugs. Any offense will result in immediate notification of parents or guardians and disciplinary action that may include expulsion. If students are caught in possession of, distributing, or selling alcohol, drugs, or drug paraphernalia, the parents will be notified, and the student will be subject to disciplinary action. In some cases, the police may also be notified.

Drug Testing Policy

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School seeks to provide an environment that emphasizes moral decisions, healthy choices, wise decision-making, and safe living. For this reason, the school has implemented a random drug testing policy for all students.

Any student enrolled at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is eligible to be selected for testing as part of the school's random drug testing program. The description of the program is as follows:

1. An outside drug-testing agency will be employed by the school to administer the tests.
2. The ID numbers of the students will be provided to the agency, without identifying student information.
3. The agency will randomly select multiple numbers for testing, providing to the President/Principal of the school the ID numbers selected. The President/Principal will match the numbers to names of the students to be tested.
4. Students selected will be retrieved for testing. They will be asked to empty their pockets of all items, before meeting the agency representative for testing.
5. The test will be comprised of a urine drug screen. In the event of a non-negative result, the testing sample will be sent to a certified lab for confirmation of the results.
6. Any student who is using a prescribed medication that provokes a non-negative result on the test will be required to provide documentation to the drug testing agency from the prescribing physician regarding the medication prescribed and the duration of usage. When such appropriate documentation is provided, the consequences for a positive result will not be applied.
7. This process will be repeated multiple times throughout the school year.
8. Findings of a student's FIRST confirmed positive test will result in the following actions:
 - a. The President/Principal will notify the parents and student
 - b. The student will receive a one day out-of-school suspension.
 - c. The student will be required to meet with the school's outreach counselor for a minimum of three sessions.
 - d. The student will automatically be tested in all remaining drug tests for one calendar year.

9. Findings of a student's SECOND confirmed positive test at any time during the student's tenure at Tolton Catholic will result in the following actions:
 - a. The President/Principal will notify the parents and student
 - b. The student will receive a two day out-of-school suspension.
 - c. The student will be required to meet with the school's outreach counselor for a minimum of three sessions.
 - d. The student will automatically be tested in all remaining drug tests for one calendar year at the parents' cost.
10. Findings of a student's THIRD confirmed positive test at any time during the student's tenure at Tolton Catholic will normally result in dismissal from the school.
11. As the testing program is designed to be one of high quality, any attempt to alter or provide false samples will be detected. If any student attempts to alter the sample or the results, then the test will be considered a non-negative/positive result and the policy will be administered accordingly.

Use of a Breathalyzer

Tolton Catholic may employ the use of a Breathalyzer at school functions to ensure compliance with the school's alcohol policy as stated above. The administration may also use the Breathalyzer on campus or at any school-sponsored event when a student's behavior or other circumstances give the Administration "reasonable suspicion" to believe that the student may be under the influence of alcohol. Any positive reading on the Breathalyzer will subject a student to the discipline process as it relates to alcohol use and/or possession at school functions. In any situation, a refusal to be tested by the Breathalyzer will be handled in the same manner as a positive test.

Disciplinary Consequences

Compliance is a condition of continued enrollment at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. A violation of any provision of the drug and alcohol policy, a failure or refusal to cooperate or participate fully in the drug testing program, a failure or refusal to sign any required document (including but not limited to the handbook acknowledgement form or drug testing consent form), or failure or refusal to consent to a search of a backpack, purse, cell phone, laptop, vehicle or locker is grounds for dismissal.

TECHNOLOGY USAGE

Technology has fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. As a result, educators are continually adapting their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach student learning, to incorporate the vast, diverse, and unique resources available through the internet. Tolton Catholic utilizes technology so that students can acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live productively in a digital world. We provide students with access to the internet for limited educational purposes only and utilize online educational services to enhance the instruction delivered to its students. The school's internet system does not serve as a public access service or a public forum, and the school imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its limited educational purpose.

Students are required to bring a device (BYOD) for use at school. Recommended devices that interface well with Tolton's technology systems include Chromebooks and laptops (Macintosh and Windows).

Tolton is not responsible for the upkeep or repairs of any device. All students are to pay an annual \$200 technology fee to help defray the costs of bandwidth, servers, access points, and other network expenses.

Tolton Minimum Requirements for BYOD Devices

- Operating System: Mac OS 10.7 or above or Windows 7 or higher or Google Chromium OS (Chromebooks -- self-updating OS)
- Wireless Connection: Devices must have wireless capability.
- Battery Life: Devices should be expected to last the entire school day (minimum of 5 hours) with normal use. Opportunities to charge devices in school are limited and subject to teacher discretion.
- Storage and RAM: recommended a minimum of 16GB of storage on the device and 4GB of RAM for most operating systems, however 2GB of RAM may be sufficient for some devices.
- Screen Size: Tolton recommends a minimum 11" screen.
- Input Devices: A device with a keyboard is a minimum requirement as is a mouse, trackpad, or other pointing device. Some touch screens may meet this requirement, such as a Microsoft Surface Pro, but we strongly discourage use of tablets, both Android and Apple (iPads) at this time.
- Special Features: Camera and microphone will ensure students can participate in 21st century learning activities and collaboration. (Optional)
- Headphones / Earbuds (Optional)
- A protective case is strongly recommended regardless of the device.

We do not recommend tablets, such as an iPad for BYOD, as the screen size and platform limits the capabilities of the device and may not meet some of our online assessment requirements.

Document your device serial number at home. Place a label with the student's name on the device and all cables and accessories. Password protect your device.

Acceptable Use Policy

The school provides computing and network resources for the use of the students, employees and others affiliated with the school. Fr. Tolton Catholic High School provides internet access to all students and staff. Internet access allows classrooms and individuals to have access to information, software, news and opinion, and communication by electronic mail that originates from any point in the world. Members of the school community are encouraged to use electronic devices, software packages, and email for educational or school related activities and to facilitate the efficient exchange of useful information. However, the equipment, software, and network capacities provided through the school computer services are and remain the property of the school.

Appropriate or acceptable educational uses of these resources include:

- Accessing the internet to retrieve information from libraries, databases, and internet websites to enrich and expand curriculum is encouraged
- Use school issued email to post and share information
- Use proper email and internet etiquette
- Use electronic devices to complete classroom activities as directed by the teacher
- Use of personal computing devices to take notes during class
- Use of personal computing devices during study hall for studying or completing homework
- Use of Chromebook/Laptop to listen to music with headphones during study hall

This agreement applies to all electronic devices used at school. Once any student or staff connects to the school WIFI – regardless if using a school or personal device – any expectation of privacy is gone. The school has the right to confiscate any electronic device that violates the acceptable use policy of the school. Users consent to the confiscation and/or search of their device by the Administration or their agents should any suspicion of inappropriate or unacceptable uses arise. The decision of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School regarding inappropriate use of the technology or telecommunication resources is final. Monetary remuneration will be sought for damage necessitating repair or replacement of equipment.

Computer/Internet Usage:

Only students who have a signed Acceptable Use Policy Form on file are allowed to use any electronic device, including personal devices and devices owned by Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Students must be working on a school-related assignment to be able to use any

electronic device either provided by the school or brought from home. Any violation of the Acceptable Use Policy will result in the student losing the privilege of working on the computers in our building. This would cover electronic devices used both during study hall time and during any academic course in which the student is enrolled where the teacher has integrated technology into the curriculum.

Cell Phones, Smart Watches, and Personal Electronic Devices

Students are permitted to possess cell phones on school property and at school-sponsored events. Students may access and/or use cell phones only before school, during lunch, when given permission by a faculty or staff member, and/or after school. Cell phones may NOT be accessed and/or used during class time unless expressly given permission by the teacher, in the hallways, or during breaks of any kind. It is student's responsibility to ensure that the device is turned off or silenced and out of sight during unauthorized times.

- Students are allowed the use of cell phones during their assigned lunch period. Use of the cell phones during this time should be limited to school appropriate activities.
- Students are allowed to use earbuds when they are allowed to use their cell phone, but earbuds may NOT be used outside of the approved cell phone usage time. This means that earbuds may not be used during class time unless expressly given permission by the teacher, in the hallways, or during breaks of any kind.
- **Students who are ill and wish to consult with their parents or to go home are to report to the school office to report their illness.** Students will be permitted to use their phones from the school office in order to speak with their parents. Students are NOT to call their parents regarding an illness without reporting to the school office.

Should a student violate the cell phone policy:

- First Offense: The device is confiscated and turned into the President/Principal. The phone can be retrieved by the student after payment of a \$20 fine.
- Second Offense: The device is confiscated and turned in to the President/Principal. The phone can be retrieved by a parent after payment of a \$20 fine.
- Third Offense: The device will be confiscated and turned in to the President/Principal and a \$20 fine would be levied. A parent would need to come to the school to retrieve the phone upon payment of the \$20 fine. The student would be assigned one day of in school suspension and all of the conditions that go with an ISS.
- Any refusal on the part of a student to forfeit the phone on request would normally result in the assignment of one day of in school suspension and all of the conditions that go with an ISS.
- If a student has further violations of the policy, the cell phone will be turned in to the President/Principal, a fine of \$20 will be levied and a parent would need to come to the school to retrieve the phone. The student and parent will be required to meet with the President/Principal. An additional ISS will be assigned and the student will be placed on a behavioral contract that would outline the stipulations for continued attendance at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

Electronic Conduct

A safe environment and one that emphasizes the dignity of and respect for all persons is a hallmark of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Words, actions, or depictions, which violate the privacy, safety, or good name of others, are inconsistent with that goal. Whether occurring within or outside of school, when students jeopardize the safe environment or act contrary to those Gospel values, they can be subject to disciplinary action. All users are expected to conduct their online activities in an ethical and legal fashion. All postings on any social media are considered public and there is no expectation of privacy associated. The use of these resources is a privilege, not a right. Misuse of these resources will result in the suspension or loss of these privileges, as well as disciplinary, legal, and/or monetary consequences.

Inappropriate or unacceptable uses of these resources include, but are not limited to, those uses that violate the law, the rules of network etiquette, or hamper the integrity or security of any network connected to the internet. **Some unacceptable practices include the following:**

- Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state law, including, but not limited to: copyrighted material; threatening, harassing, pornographic, or obscene material; or material protected by trade secret is prohibited. The transmission of copyrighted materials without the written permission of the author or creator through school email or other network resources in violation of US copyright law is prohibited. As with all forms of communications, email or other network resources may not be used in a manner that is disruptive to the work or educational environment. The display or messages that are sexually explicit constitute harassment, which is prohibited by this school. It is also illegal for anyone to knowingly allow any telecommunications facility under their control to be used for the transmission of illegal material.
- The use for personal, financial, or commercial gain, product advertisement, political lobbying, or the sending of unsolicited junk mail or chain letters is prohibited.
- Vandalism is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any attempt to harm or destroy the data of another user, the network/internet, or any networks or sites connected to the network/internet. Attempts to breach security codes and/or passwords will be considered a form of vandalism.
- The creation, propagation, and/or use of computer viruses are prohibited.
- The forgery, reading, deleting, copying, or modifying of electronic mail of other users is prohibited.
- Deleting, examining, copying, or modifying files and/or data belonging to other users are prohibited.
- Anonymous or forged messages will be treated as a violation of this policy.
- Unauthorized attempts to access another person's email or similar electronic communications or to use another's name email or computer address or workstation to

send email or similar electronic communications is prohibited and may subject the individual to disciplinary action.

School users are expected to demonstrate the same level of ethical and professional manner as is required in face-to-face or written communications. All users must understand that the school cannot guarantee the privacy or confidentiality of electronic documents and any messages that are confidential as a matter of law should not be communicated over the email.

The school/institution reserves the right to access email to retrieve school-institution information and records, to engage in routine computer maintenance and housekeeping, to carry out internal investigations, or to disclose messages, data, or files to law enforcements authorities.

Willful destruction of computer hardware or software or attempts to exceed or modify the parameters of the system is prohibited. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the Administration or Network Administrator from intercepting and stopping email messages, and/or review information stored on the system to determine whether it is being used properly.

This policy applies to communications or depictions through email, text messages, or website postings, whether they occur through the school's equipment or connectivity resources or through private communications, which 1) are of a sexual nature; 2) threaten, libel, slander, malign, disparage, harass or embarrass members of the school community or 3) in the Administration's discretion, cause harm to the school, or the school community. Consequences for Inappropriate Electronic Conduct may include suspension, withdrawal for cause, and/or legal action.

Email

All students are issued a student email address. Appropriate use of the student email account falls within the Electronic Conduct policies. The email account will be deleted at the time of withdraw if prior to graduation. Graduate email accounts will be deleted at the beginning of August following graduation.

Chromebook/Laptop Policy

Students are expected to use a personally owned Chromebook/Laptop to work on and complete school assignments, research, and collaborate with other students. This device must not be used for illegal or unethical activities such as cheating on assignments or tests. The Chromebook/Laptop should be turned off during instructional times as directed by the teacher. Misuse of a Chromebook/Laptop will result in a detention.

Appropriate use of the Chromebook/Laptop at School

- Students may only use the Chromebook/Laptop for educational purposes.

- Students are responsible for having a fully charged Chromebook/Laptop with them in each class every day.
- Students are expected to come to class with all necessary apps installed and kept up-to-date on the Chromebook/Laptop. Students are responsible for all updates and backups to be done at home, not on campus.
- When students are not using Chromebook/Laptop, it should be stored in a secure place.
- Students are encouraged to take Chromebook/Laptops home every day after school, regardless of whether or not it is needed; students participating in activities are expected to follow standard activity guidelines regarding securing devices.

Appropriate Use of the Chromebook/Laptop in the Classroom

- Students are expected to clear their home bars before each class period.
- Students may not take pictures or record any other students or teachers without permission from a teacher or administrator in the room.
- Chromebook/Laptops are not to be used in the hallways during passing periods.
- Chromebook/Laptops may not be open in the cafeteria during contact time and lunch.

Chromebook/Laptops Left at Home

- If a student fails to bring the Chromebook/Laptop to school, he or she is responsible for getting the coursework completed on time as if the device had been in class. **The school will not provide a Chromebook/laptop to students who do not have their own device.**

Caring for the Chromebook/Laptop

- The student is responsible for the care of his/her Chromebook/Laptop and for any and all damage that might occur either at school or at home.
- Tolton Catholic recommends that students keep the Chromebook/Laptop in a protective case at all times. **The cases/sleeves should *not* have a handle.**
- Do not put books or heavy items on the Chromebook/Laptop.
- Keep food and drink away from the Chromebook/Laptop.
- Do not put anything in the protective case that will apply pressure to the Chromebook/Laptop and cause damage.
- Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is not responsible for damaged or non-working Chromebook/Laptops and does not repair damaged or non-working Chromebook/Laptops.

Chromebook/Laptop Undergoing Repair

- Students with Chromebook/Laptops undergoing repair are still responsible for preparing for class and completing all assignments as if they had the Chromebook/Laptop.
- The student is ultimately responsible for the Chromebook/Laptop and as such is responsible for ensuring that the device is not lost or stolen.
- In the event the Chromebook/Laptop is lost or stolen, the family will be responsible for the replacement of the device.

- Fr. Tolton Catholic High School recommends students do not leave the Chromebook/Laptop unattended or in unlocked lockers.
- The school recommends students should secure the Chromebook/Laptop with a pass code.
- Lost or stolen Chromebook/Laptops should be immediately brought to the attention of the President/Principal.

Screensavers/Background Photos

- Inappropriate media and/or photos may not be used as screensavers or backgrounds.
- Presence or suggestion of inappropriate, illegal, and/or immoral language and/or behaviors is not allowed. Behaviors that will be cause for disciplinary consequences include, but are not limited to, alcohol, drugs, weapons, and/or pornographic materials.
- The presence of inappropriate text, media, and/or photos on the Chromebook/Laptop may result in suspension from school.

Administrative Rights to Student Chromebook/Laptops

- The Administrators at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School reserve the right to search a Chromebook/Laptop if they suspect, observe, or otherwise are informed of inappropriate use; the Chromebook/Laptop may be confiscated, if necessary.
- If there is something in question in regards to the student Chromebook/Laptop usage and its contents and the student has the Chromebook/Laptop secured through a password, the student will be required to unlock the Chromebook/Laptop in the presence of an Administrator so that the Chromebook/Laptop can be searched.

Sounds, Music, Media, and Programs

- Sound must be muted at all time unless permission is obtained from the teacher for instructional purposes.
- Music is allowed only with permission of the teacher. Students can listen to music in Study Hall only if they have personal earphones and permission from the teacher.
- Students may also listen to music during assigned lunch periods only if they have personal earphones.
- Games and videos for personal use may not be played during the school day.
- Students should not use non-educational apps or the internet for non-educational purposes.

Managing Files & Saving Work

- Backing up files is necessary to ensure that work is not lost due to mechanical failure or accidental deletion.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is not lost due to mechanical failure or accidental deletion; device malfunctions are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting work.

Misuse of a Chromebook/Laptop

- Misuse of a Chromebook/Laptop will result in an automatic detention and/or consequence.

STUDENT CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Philosophy

Tolton provides a broad spectrum of student activities beyond the classroom as one means of implementing our core mission to “facilitate the growth of the whole student: spirit, heart, mind, and body.” We strive to bring each student to full potential in a Christian atmosphere that promotes growth, self-expression, and the discovery and acknowledgement of strengths and weaknesses. The activities program is designed to fulfill this Tolton objective. The classroom environment alone cannot accomplish all of the above goals and objectives. Therefore, Tolton offers a wide range of co-curricular activities to enable each student to have the opportunity for development in all of the above-mentioned areas.

Eligibility Requirements for Student Participation

Rationale

We maintain that academic pursuits must be the first pragmatic priority for students attending Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Yet, in order to achieve a total education, students are encouraged to participate in activities beyond the classroom, according to their talents and time. To assist the student in achieving the desired priority in his education, we abide by certain requirements for a student to be eligible to participate in activities.

Application

Following are the student eligibility standards for all student activity organizations unless the moderator or coach, with the approval of the administration has set tighter standards for a particular organization. Such standards are written, approved, and published prior to the semester in which they become effective.

Academic Standards

Students wishing to be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities must be making satisfactory progress toward graduation, as determined by Tolton policy.

Cumulative Studies: Students cannot be more than ½ credit deficient towards minimum requirement for graduation in their academic career. This is calculated at 3.5 credits per completed semester. (For example, a student just completing their sophomore year should have accumulated a minimum of 14.0 credits. If that student has successfully completed 13.5 credits, they are eligible for co-curricular activities. If they have successfully completed 13.0 or fewer, they are academically ineligible to participate in co-curriculars.) Also, students wishing to participate in co-curriculars and are behind in the minimum graduation requirements must also

have an approved plan in place with the President/President/Principal to make up those credits.

Current Studies: Students are not eligible to participate in any co-curricular activity, including practices, if they currently have any grades of “F” or two grades of “D’s”. Grades are checked at mid-quarter and quarter. Students may return to co-curricular activities when their current grades are improved and the new grade is posted by the teacher indicating they no longer have an “F” or two “D’s”.

Christian Service Requirement

Juniors and seniors who do not have minimum levels of service will be ineligible for activities and privileges until the hours are completed and approved. Activities include: Athletics, Plays, Clubs, and any other extracurricular organizations. See refer to the **Christian Service Program** section of the Handbook for the specific levels and consequences.

Conduct Standards

Though a student’s behavior problem might not automatically restrict his or her activity participation, it must be kept in mind that participation in student activities is a privilege not a right. It is possible that a disciplinary process would affect a student’s participation in student activities. For example, excessive discipline issues or involvement with alcohol and/or other controlled substances could result in a period of probation, suspension, or dismissal from an organization or activity. Since participation in high school activities is a valuable educational experience, it is not the usual channel through which student behavior problems are addressed. A student whose behavior is problematic will be dealt with through other appropriate channels in the school.

Determination of Eligibility

Student eligibility is determined immediately preceding the beginning of each semester. Each moderator verifies that each participant in his activity meets the eligibility requirements by checking students’ records in the office prior to the beginning of each semester.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Backpacks/Bags/Lockers - AMENDED FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 DISTANCING AND HYGIENE PROTOCOLS

Students are requested to keep all necessary academic and personal items in a backpack or briefcase/laptop bag to be carried with them at all times. Distribution of hard copy textbooks will be limited (instead, available online) and students are asked to refrain from bringing unnecessary personal items into the building. This year, students will not be provided locker assignments. Backpacks will be left in House classrooms on days when students attend House Mass.

Building/Facility Hours

On school days, students will have access through the front lobby doors by 7:15 a.m. Their access will end at 5:30 p.m. Students entering or leaving at any other time will need to be with an administrator, teacher, or coach. Access to the school building during the school day can only be made through the front lobby doors near the main office. ***Students are not to be left unsupervised. When students are waiting for pick up later than 5:30 it requires faculty or staff members to stay until students are picked up. Parents will be asked to meet with school administration if students are consistently left waiting for pick up past 5:30p.m.***

All visitors, parents, and vendors must sign in at the main office when entering the school. They will receive an identification badge that must be worn while in the buildings and returned when they leave campus.

When it is necessary for students to remain in the building after dismissal (i.e. waiting for a ride home), they should remain in the main lobby/student commons areas. For accountability purposes students will sign in upon arrival to the commons area and sign out when leaving. Students are not allowed in classrooms, athletic areas, concession areas, fine arts areas, labs, or offices unless accompanied by a teacher or administrator. Similarly, students should not be in the gymnasium or athletic facilities unless they are with a coach, teacher, or administrator. **If students have no specific purpose for being on campus after dismissal, they are expected to leave campus.**

Child Abuse

Tolton Catholic follows the policies and procedures regarding child abuse, as set down by the Diocese of Jefferson City.

Confidentiality

Rather than strict confidentiality in regard to student-school employee communication (verbal and written), the schools in the Diocese of Jefferson City operate under a “spirit of confidentiality”. This means that outside of the seal of confession between priest and penitent, strict confidentiality cannot be promised to the student if the information disclosed by the student includes, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- Information that concerns violation of the law;
- Matters involving the health and safety of the student or any person;
- Serious moral issues;
- Any other matter that raises serious enough concern in the mind of the employee that he or she believes it is important to share the information with school administrator.

The school administrator/President/President/Principal, after consultation with the Catholic School Office, may choose to disclose the information to parents, legal authorities, medical personnel, or other deemed necessary personnel.

Deliveries

If a student receives birthday gifts, flowers, balloons or any other commercial delivery to the school office, those items will be stored in the office, space permitting. The student will be notified of the delivery, but the items must remain in the office until dismissal. This policy applies also to the delivery of food by a non-parent/guardian. Deliveries of food for students is not permitted.

Emergency Plan

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School believes the safety and health of the students, employees, and visitors are primary concerns in the operation of the school. Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is committed to providing a safe and healthful environment in which all can best work together for the accomplishment of the school's mission. Tolton Catholic is committed to a safety program that complies as completely as possible with standards recommended and recognized by those agencies that exist to protect the common good. Therefore, Tolton Catholic has on file and in effect a comprehensive incident response plan and is in full compliance with recommendations of local fire and law enforcement officials and risk management personnel to secure the safety of the school community. Tolton Catholic has constant radio and internet access to emergency and weather information broadcast facilities. Students routinely receive required disaster, safety, and evacuation instructions. All staff members fully comply with Missouri Department of Family Services screening requirements as defined by policy of the Diocese of Jefferson City. In cases where the school is in an emergency situation, we will notify parents as quickly as possible. Instructions on any early dismissal or release of students will occur when the emergency is over and/or once we are able to relay that information.

Engagement/Marriage

There shall be no public or formal announcement of engagements to marry during the time of enrollment in high school. Married students are not permitted to attend Fr. Tolton Catholic High School

Facility Use

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School and all its facilities, furnishings, etc. are owned by the Archbishop of the Jefferson City Diocese and operated under the policies and direction of the Catholic Education Office. When these facilities are not needed for the school's

programs and maintenance/upkeep can occur in a timely fashion, the facility may be rented to groups on an occasional basis. The President/Principal must approve all use of the facility in advance. For safety, liability, and stewardship purposes, authorized access to the facilities only occurs in the presence of authorized school personnel. Unauthorized use of the facilities will be brought to the attention of the proper legal authorities.

Field Trips

Field trips are valuable parts of a well-rounded school experience. Certain procedures must be followed to insure the privilege of participation in any school-sponsored activity. Prior to the activity:

- Students are required to get any assignment from classes that will be missed due to the field trip.
- Students should arrange times for making up any material missed during the field trip.
- Students must complete the field trip permission form. Students failing to follow these responsibilities may lose the participation privilege. Factors that may render a student ineligible for the participation privilege include failing any class to be missed, previously assigned work has not been completed, conduct is not satisfactory, or failing to have the permission form completed. Telephone calls will not be accepted in lieu of permission slips. Faxed or emailed permission slips may be permitted.

Fundraising

Students and parents are expected to help defray the cost of education by actively participating in the major fundraising activities of the year, which include the Raffle and the Gala. No fundraising programs (by students, staff, or parents) may take place at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School or under the auspices of Tolton Catholic without the expressed permission of the President/Principal and VP of Advancement. We greatly respect the limited resources available to the school and want to maximize the benefits for all our students.

Gum

The use of chewing gum is not permitted at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

Lost and Found

Lost and Found items are stored at the bottom of the steps near the gym concession area. Students may also check with the Main Office and in the athletic office for lost or misplaced items. Items remaining in the Lost and Found will be donated at the end of each semester.

Messages

Only phone messages received directly from parents or guardians will be relayed to students. The student is not called from class for such messages unless the situation is an extreme emergency. The school cannot relay messages between students. The phones in the office may be used only in case of illness or emergency. Please go through the office to contact your student when necessary. Do not contact them on their cell phone.

Parking

Students driving to school are required to park on the school lot and must register their vehicles with the Main Office. Parking spaces in the school parking lot are rented for the school year at the current annual rate as reflected on the parking permit application. Official hangtags must be visible in parked cars at all times.

Students who participate in a carpool arrangement that involves multiple drivers and wish to share a parking space may request additional hangtags for carpool participant-drivers. Each person assigned a hangtag must complete a parking permit application.

Students who park in an incorrect location or spot risk losing the privilege of parking on school premises. Vehicles without an approved parking pass/hangtag may be towed at the owner's expense. After multiple parking violations have been issued to the same vehicle or student, all parking privileges may be revoked and/or additional disciplinary action may be taken.

Any student who rents a parking space in the Tolton Catholic parking lot who is unexcused tardy to school for the fifth time during a semester forfeits his/her right to park in the lot; the parking space will be reassigned and no refunds will be given.

Students should not expect a warning to let them know they are close to losing a parking spot. Students should come into school when they arrive in the morning; no sitting in cars or loitering near streets or in the lots. The administration has the right to inspect all cars parked on school property at any time without the owner's permission. Students are encouraged to lock their vehicles and not to have anything of significant value inside a vehicle when it is parked at or around the school. Students are permitted to go to their vehicle during the school day only with permission granted at the main office.

The convenience of a guaranteed parking spot is a privilege. Driving carelessly on school property may be cause for immediate loss of parking lot privileges and other disciplinary action. Tolton is not responsible for damages to vehicles on the parking lot and urges students to take appropriate security measures

Pets

No pets are allowed on the campus. Service animals may be allowed, however, only dogs that are individually trained to perform work or tasks on behalf of an individual with a disability will be considered service animals. Other animals are not permitted on campus.

Police Contact

The administration of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School will make every reasonable effort to cooperate with the civil authorities, while protecting both the rights of the student and the school's privacy. The administration will make every reasonable effort possible to contact the student's parents. Before the administrator permits the questioning of a student by a law enforcement officer the administrator will obtain the officer's name and title, the reasoning for the questioning, and proof that a juvenile authority will be present during

questioning if the student is less than 17 years of age. No student will be questioned by law enforcement authorities or officials of other public agencies unless a school administrator or parent is present. If a student is subject to arrest or apprehension by a law enforcement officer, the administrator will request to see the summons or warrant and will deliver the student into the officer's custody.

Pregnancy

A student who becomes pregnant may continue in school. A conference needs to occur with school administration. A doctor's note is required indicating the student's ability to continue in school and to participate in school activities. When a student cannot continue in school, according to the judgment of the administration, arrangements will be made for the student to continue courses outside the regular school setting. No parties or baby showers are to take place on school premises.

Religious Observance Policy

In accordance with Catholic tradition to keep Sunday as a day for God and family, no practices (sports or otherwise) or work should be scheduled. This would also include Christmas Day and the Easter Triduum (beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday). Individual moderators or coaches must ask school administration to make an exception. Anyone granted an exception must present a plan and timeline for the elimination of the need for an exception.

School Dance Policy

From time to time, Tolton Catholic will sponsor dances for its students and their guests. Behavior at these dances should always be in accordance with our Catholic and Christian values, includes modest attire, and sensible behavior.

Students will not be allowed into the dance after the designated beginning time. Once students have left the event, they may not return. Students must be off school premises 15 minutes after the dance is over. Any exception to these policies must be approved in advance by the President/Principal.

There will be a breathalyzer at all dances and students and guests will be tested. No one will be allowed into the dance under the influence of any drug/alcohol. Students who test positive for alcohol will have their parents called to come and pick them up from Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. The President/Principal will communicate with students and parents regarding appropriate consequences. School administration may search any vehicles transporting students to a dance.

All guests attending any Tolton dance must have permission from the President/Principal and a Guest Form signed by their parent indicating permission and signature of their current school administrator indicating they are students in good standing in both academics and discipline.

Junior/Senior Prom: This end of the year dance is a special privilege reserved for juniors and seniors. Freshmen and sophomores may only attend if invited by a junior or senior. Once students have left the event, they may not return. A permission slip is required for any participant not attending Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

Searches

The students' right to privacy is balanced by the school's responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all persons within the school community. In certain circumstances, the school administration may have cause to believe that a student is concealing material that is prohibited by law or may distract from or endanger the educational process. In such cases, the school reserves the right to search backpacks, book bags, cars, purses, lockers, cell phones, laptops, etc., in order to preserve the safety of each individual and the common good of the school. Administrators may seize any illegal, unauthorized materials or contraband found in such a search.

The school administration will initially request voluntary consent for a search of personal belongings. If a student resists or otherwise refuses to consent for such a search, the student will be reasonably isolated until parents and/or law enforcement representatives arrive to assist with the situation. The administration reserves the right to conduct random searches in accordance with DSP 5380.

A student or family's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the school.

School Video Surveillance Policy

In an effort to work towards increasing school safety, Tolton Catholic has installed video camera surveillance on property, including the school building and outside areas. Areas where there is an expectation for privacy will not be subject to video surveillance. Violations of school policy or rules may be captured through video surveillance and those recordings may be used by the school to enforce disciplinary action and, in the event of criminal activity, may be disclosed to law enforcement.

Severe Weather School Closing

Our primary concern is always for the safety and well-being of students and staff. Parents have similar concerns and may keep a student home when they deem the conditions warrant such action. Because our students come from many areas, conditions in one area are not always the same as conditions in the others.

In case of overnight bad weather, we will be using RenWeb, text messaging, and email communication system, to notify faculty, staff, and students when school is called off or if there is a late start. **We will utilize the late start schedule when conditions are not severe enough for school to be closed. In that case, school will start at 10:00 a.m. The building will be open at 9:30 a.m.** If the weather becomes problematic during the

day, we may close school early so that students can reach home before it becomes dangerous. Again, we will use RenWeb/FACTS for phone and email communication. We will also put the message on our website and other social media outlets. If we cancel school, athletic contests, practices and other events are automatically cancelled also. If the weather clears early enough, the Administration may allow an event to occur in the late afternoon or evening. However, student participation may not be mandatory.

Shadowing

Shadowing is an opportunity for students who are considering enrollment at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School to see the school in action on a regular school day, not on days when special activities are occurring. Students may shadow generally one time either during eighth grade or the second semester of seventh grade. Contact for shadowing must occur by the parents at least one week prior to the visit. The shadowing form must be completed and brought with the student on the day of the visit. Shadows are allowed only with freshmen or sophomore students. Forms are obtained from the main office, website, or a parent phone call to the admissions director.

Student Guests/Visitors

As a general rule, students are not allowed to have visitors in the school building or on the grounds during the school day. **Students who wish to bring a guest on campus during school hours must obtain permission for the visit from a school administrator prior to the visit.** Student visitors from the Columbia area who are seriously considering transferring to Tolton Catholic and wish to shadow a Tolton student for a partial or full day must have their parent(s) contact the Admissions Coordinator in order to set up a shadowing experience. Such guests are invited to attend Tolton Catholic only once during a school year. Student guests or former students may not visit just for lunch or assemblies.

Student Insurance / Accidents

All Fr. Tolton Catholic High School students are covered by a student accident policy that is included in the tuition costs. This policy is a secondary insurance to the parent/guardian health plan. Injured students or their parents are to contact the President/Principal or Athletic Director to report all pertinent accidents/injuries. All accidents involving Tolton Catholic students must be reported on the Fr. Tolton Catholic High School Accident Report Form that is turned in to the President/Principal or Athletic Director.

Textbooks

If a faculty member is using a textbook, they will distribute them to the students or online access will be provided. The student is responsible for the textbook assigned to them. If it is damaged, lost, or stolen, the student in whose name the book was issued will be fined the replacement cost of the book. Students should write their names in the book in the space provided. At the completion of the course, the books must be returned to Tolton Catholic in the same condition as they were received. Keeping in mind that the majority of our

textbooks are available online, it is unlikely that students will have need to have a physical copy of a textbook.

Unauthorized Activities

At times some Tolton Catholic students participate in activities which may appear to be school related but in reality are neither sponsored nor authorized by the school. Because of the unpredictability of such activities, the school does not always issue a statement concerning them. The absence of such a statement does not imply that the school sponsors, authorizes, or approves of the activity. Therefore, the school does not assume responsibility for the students at such an activity even if a Tolton Catholic teacher is present. Such activities include out of school parties, picnics, pre and post prom parties, etc. This list is not all-inclusive. However, if participation by Tolton Catholic students in such an activity is detrimental to the school in any way, it may be necessary for Administration to take disciplinary action, even to the extent of criminal prosecution, against such students.

Water Bottles

In line with brain-based learning best practices, we allow and encourage students to carry water bottles at school to remain hydrated. Water bottles do not need to be clear, but must have a closable lid to avoid spillage. Water bottles are only allowed to carry water and are subject to inspection at any point in the day. Coffee, tea, or other soft-drinks are not permitted.

Weapons or Other Dangerous Devices

In order to provide a safe environment, the carrying or possession of any type of firearm or other dangerous weapons on the premises of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School is strictly prohibited. This prohibition expressly includes those persons licensed to carry concealed firearms. A weapon is anything used or intended to be used to threaten, intimidate, and/or harm persons. Absolutely no firearms, explosive devices, or weapons of any kind, including pocketknives or other items that could be used in a threatening manner will be tolerated at school, school functions, or on the premises. Verbal threats suggesting the possible use of such items will be taken seriously. Consequences may include suspension, withdrawal for cause, and/or legal action.

SUPPORT OF TOLTON

As part of the partnership that exists between Fr. Tolton Catholic High School and our families, it is an expectation that parents volunteer and contribute to help promote the school in the community and in volunteer efforts. Advancement is a process which identifies, coordinates and expands on all the positive factors – people, events, programs and activities – at work within Tolton Catholic for the purpose of meeting the needs of our families and advancing the mission of the school. The participation of parents, students, faculty, alumni, and friends in the community – as volunteers, as donors, as ambassadors – is critical to the advancement process.

The Office of Advancement staff concentrates efforts on student recruitment, communications, community relations, alumni relations, and fund developments. Last year, special events and fund-raising projects are necessary to bridge the “tuition gap” - that difference between the real cost of educating each student and tuition income. The Gala dinner/auction and the Annual Golf Tournament are among the special projects that generate vital funds.

Trailblazer Fund

Contributions to Tolton’s Trailblazer Fund represent the most immediate and far-reaching means of supporting the school. The fund impacts the experience of every student, because it represents unrestricted gifts intended to support the school’s ongoing daily operations; Trailblazer fund giving also allows school administration the flexibility to support strategic projects, as well as unanticipated needs and/or maintenance throughout the school year.

Tuition Assistance and Scholarship Funds

Tuition assistance and scholarships for students make Catholic education more accessible. Awards are either need or merit-based and are funded almost entirely with income generated by specific fund-raising events and named endowments, which have been privately funded, but represent assets now held by Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Tributes and memorials also contribute to the growth of these important funds

Operations Endowment

Contributions to the school’s operations endowment (initially established by and named for the Drane family) represent sustaining contributions that support the school’s long term viability. This is a perpetual endowment, the annual earnings of which are used to supplement the school’s annual budget. So, a gift applied to grow the corpus of the endowment is truly a gift that keeps on giving.

Tolton Booster Club Involvement

The Fr. Tolton Catholic High School Booster Club is an organization open to all Tolton Catholic parents, staff, and alumni. They work closely with the President/Principal and Director of Athletics and Activities in their mission to support and promote all athletic teams and extracurricular activities. It is important for all parents, staff, and alumni to

understand that their contributions of time and talent are very important, and their participation will make a positive difference to our children and our school community.

Raising Awareness/Advocacy

Recognizing that strong enrollment spells stronger programs, Tolton parents have established a tradition of sharing their experiences with prospective parents. Whether on the telephone, at special events or at open houses, word-of-mouth is powerful. You, as a parent, are an especially credible source of information. Every day you have opportunities to boost Fr. Tolton Catholic High School. Lean across the backyard fence or take a moment after Mass to let family, friends and associates know what pleases you about the school. The school's website www.toltoncatholic.org provides comprehensive information about our school, events, curriculum, publications and more that's good for sharing.

TUITION POLICIES AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School believes that tuition payments are an investment in each student's future. They also provide the resources which enable the school to offer the best quality Catholic secondary education.

Tuition and Fee Schedule

CATHOLIC STUDENTS

First Child	\$7,920
Second child	\$5,920
Third Child	\$5,920

NON-CATHOLIC STUDENTS

First Child	\$10,170
Second Child	\$ 8,170
Third Child	\$ 8,170

OTHER FEES

Enrollment fee	\$100 (paid at time of enrollment/re-enrollment)
Technology	\$200 annual fee per student (paid with tuition invoice)
Fundraiser	\$840 per student or \$1,040 per family with multiple students tickets sales July - September

OPTIONAL FEES

Athletic fee	\$125 per season, max of \$250 per year (paid before season begins)
Parking permit	\$100 annual (paid before spot reserved)
Yearbook	\$60 pay at Tolton or Walsworth online when ordering (before March 2020)

TUITION PAYMENT OPTIONS

Option 1 – Full Payment (with 2% discount)

Full payment of tuition paid directly to the school by June 25, 2020 with a 2% discount on the net tuition (e.g., less awards). (No discount after June 25, 2020). If payment is more than five days late, you will be asked to pay through FACTS.

Option 2 – Two Payment Plan (with 1% discount)

A two-payment option with 50% of the tuition due by June 25, 2020 and the remaining amount due November 30, 2020 paid directly to the school. The 1% discount will be deducted from the second payment of the net tuition (e.g., less awards). If either payment is more than five days late, you will be asked to pay through FACTS.

Option 3 – Two Payment Plan utilizing 529 funds

A two-payment option with 50% of the tuition due by June 25, 2020 and the remaining amount due January 15, 2021 paid directly to the school. Only tuition may be paid with 529 funds in the calendar year. The technology fee is to be paid directly to the school by June 25, 2020.

Option 4 – 12-Month Payment Plan (July, 2020 thru June, 2021)

This payment plan is an automatic cash withdrawal from your personal checking/savings account on either the 5th or 20th of each month through the FACTS Tuition Management Company. There is a \$43 annual fee for per family and must be set up by May 28, 2020. Please see our website for enrollment instructions.

Families of senior students: please note all tuition and fees are to be paid before graduation.

Fundraising

The success of the school's extra-curricular activities depends not on tuition, but rather on a quality fundraising effort. There will be a **maximum** of three fundraising activities throughout the school year. **Each family is required to participate fully in each fundraiser.** Families have two options:

1. Active involvement; which requires fulfillment of the entire quota.
2. Buy out; paying the equivalent of active involvement.

The school will bill families who do not sell their quota or choose to buy out. This billing will be considered a fee due the school and is subject to the school's non-payment policy. The extra-curricular activities help establish the atmosphere of the school and therefore benefit all students. These fundraising endeavors succeed only through the cooperation and participation of all families.

Payment Policy

It is the goal of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School to provide an affordable Catholic education. Many families will be sacrificing a great deal in order to invest in their student's education. Local parishes, as well, have invested significant resources in the development of this high school as well as in its future. Therefore, it is critical to the financial health of the school that commitments to tuition payments are upheld, and that communication between families and the school remain clear and consistent.

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School provides multiple tuition payment options. All families are expected to meet their tuition obligations in a timely manner. If, at any time during the school year, a family is unable to honor a payment obligation, it is the responsibility of the family to contact the finance office **before** the payment is missed. Any bank fees associated with a family's late tuition payment will be added to the family's invoice, and not absorbed by the school.

Financial Aid Information

A limited amount of tuition assistance is available for school families with financial need. Normally, requests for such assistance should be made in March/April for the following year. However, since some circumstances are unpredictable, families should not hesitate to inform the President/Principal of their need whenever it may arise during the year. For the sake of a family's security and peace of mind, and for the general financial stability of the school, parents or guardians are encouraged to contact the school as soon as possible when

they are experiencing economic difficulties. It is the mission of Fr. Tolton Catholic High School to provide a Catholic education to families who want to send their child(ren) to our school, even those who cannot afford the full tuition. Funds for financial aid are available, but they are limited.

Financial Aid Applications are available to anyone who believes they need assistance in order to afford to send their student(s) to Tolton Catholic. Financial aid granted to a student is granted solely on the basis of the family's financial need. The services of FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment are used to assess a family's level of financial need. This is done by an application process by which the family provides the needed information so that their ability to contribute towards private school education expenses can be evaluated. Eligibility is determined by a completed FACTS Grant & Aid application accompanied by a copy of the relevant IRS Form 1040 with all schedules, W-2 forms, and an application fee. The annual deadline for filing with FACTS Grant & Aid is April 15, unless the family registers at a later date.

For returning students, Financial Aid application forms are available in January. For incoming freshmen, the application forms are available at the time of registration. A new application must be submitted each school year. Tolton Catholic will inform parents of the amount of tuition assistance to be granted by the middle of May. Tuition assistance is granted for a given school year. **Parents must reapply each year.**

Students who have excessive discipline issues in an academic year may lose eligibility for financial aid in subsequent year.

Non-Admission of Student Due to Tuition Delinquency

Families failing to pay tuition according to the agreement which they have made or who have been unwilling to make suitable alternative arrangements will be informed that their child/children will not be readmitted. All families must be current in their payment of tuition:

- By August 1: If not, students will not be admitted on the first day of school.
- By December 1: If not, students will not be eligible for semester examinations and will not be readmitted on the first day of class of the new semester. No grades/report cards will be released.
- By May 1: If not, students will not be eligible for semester examinations. Also, they will not receive report cards and permanent records/transcripts will not be released by the Administration. Seniors may not participate in graduation and related activities.

Students whose tuition balance is more than 60 days past due may be suspended from all school activities until a written payment agreement has been made. The payment agreement must be initiated by the family and made with the President and President/Principal. Prolonged failure to establish a payment agreement or failure to make payments according to the written payment agreement may result in further consequences not limited to suspension as determined by school administration.

Delinquent Tuition/Fees From Previous Year(s)

All previously unpaid tuition must be paid by August 1 if a student is to be readmitted on the first day of class for a new school year. Payments are to be made directly to the school. If payment is not possible, suitable arrangements must be made with the President/Principal.

Consequences of Non-Payment

Transcripts will not be sent unless tuition and fees are current. Students will also not be able to take exams if tuition payment is delinquent. Payment in full must be made for all financial obligations to the school before the day of graduation. Within the 10 days prior to graduation, the President/Principal has the right to require a specific method of payment. Students who do not meet these requirements may not participate in the graduation ceremony.

Late Registration

Families registering after June 30 shall be expected to fulfill their tuition obligation according to the tuition policy stated above.

Tuition Refunds

Families withdrawing students prior to the first day of school shall be refunded the entire amount of tuition which has been paid for the current school year. **Fees are not refundable.** After the first day of school, tuition refunds shall be prorated over the number of school days each student was in attendance according to an established formula.

DIOCESAN SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL OPERATIONS:

Educational Authority in the Parish

DSP 1305

The pastor of each parish, canonically appointed to be the head of the Catholic community, has pastoral authority and concern in all facets of parish life. In educational matters, he works with the school advisory board. The school advisory board is an advisory board established to assist the pastor, school administrator/President/Principal, parish pastoral council, and parish finance council in fostering the education mission, goals, and objectives of the Catholic school. It helps formulate and recommend policy and is consultative to both the pastor and the school administrator/President/Principal. The role of the parish pastoral council is to advise the pastor on all areas of the mission and direction of the whole parish. The school advisory board advises the pastor that the school is in harmony with the mission of the parish. The parish finance council advises in the temporal goods to insure the mission is sustained.

Home and School Associations

DSP 1430

There must be the closest cooperation between parents and the school faculty and staff. In fulfilling their task, schools are to collaborate closely with the parents/guardians. Associations and meetings of parents/guardians are to be established and held in high esteem. Each Catholic elementary school shall establish and maintain a home and school association to help parents/guardian in fulfilling their role as Christian educators and to provide educational assistance in Christian family living. *(School) Associations and meetings of parents are to be set up and held in high esteem. (Code of Canon Law, Canon 796.)* The home and school fulfills its purpose by supporting the school and collaborating with faculty and staff.

Use of Student Photos

DSR 1530

Much care must be taken in the use of photos of students (either of individual students or groups of students) for public relations purposes. Student photos may be used in brochures, newspapers, or other publications only if the parent/guardian of the student signs a release allowing such use. The Diocesan photo release can be found in Appendix #DSR 1530.

President/Principals, after obtaining permission from the appropriate pastor, may utilize photos of students (either of individual students or groups of students) on the school website or parish website only if the parent/guardian of the student signs the Diocesan release found in Appendix #DSR 1530. Similarly, Presidents of Diocesan high schools, shall obtain permission from the Diocesan Catholic School Office, before utilizing student photos

for the school website. If the pastor or representative of the Catholic School Office of the Diocese provides permission for the use of student photos on the school website or parish website, neither the first name of the student nor the last name of the student may be referenced on the website. To clarify, the Diocesan photo release allows for first names to be associated with student photos, however, this provision applies to hard copy print and does not apply to photos available on the internet

Parent Communication Agreement

DSP 1810

Enrollment in a Catholic school is a privilege, not a right. Especially in the Catholic schools, an expectation of a child's enrollment is the support and close cooperation of the parent(s) or guardian(s). Should disagreements, problems, or criticisms arise, all informal efforts between the parent(s)/guardian(s) and school(s) are to be used to resolve the concern. If informal efforts are unsuccessful, the Diocese of Jefferson City and the school have a fundamentally fair, formal process to resolve differences. It is called Administrative Recourse, and details of the process can be found in this handbook. (Schools are to indicate the page number on which this is found in their parent/student handbook.) A brief summary of the Administrative Recourse is: set up a face to face meeting with the teacher, and if unsatisfied, meet face to face with the school administrator/President/Principal, and if unsatisfied, meet face to face with the pastor. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are requested and expected to communicate any concerns they have directly to school administration and not to express them through social media or broadly distributed email.

If parent(s) or guardian(s) use any form of electronic media to defame or denigrate the school or any of its personnel, or use electronic media to post inappropriate negative statements about the school or its personnel, all as determined by the school in its discretion, this could be cause for the school to immediately end the enrollment of the child(ren) or ward(s) of the parent or guardian who has done so. By enrolling children in this private, Catholic school, parents are agreeing to abide by this policy as well as all other policies and regulations of the school.

Grievance

DSP 1901

Any serious grievance that cannot be solved through an informal process using the local chain of command (teacher, school administrator/President/Principal, pastor) shall be resolved through the Administrative Recourse Procedure. Since the school advisory board is advisory, it is not part of the process of reconciling differences, unless a pastor decides to consult some or all of the board for advice on a serious issue. The Administrative Recourse Procedure shall constitute the exclusive method for resolving such disputes after informal attempts at reconciliation have failed. The parties are bound by its determination as final

and binding. The Administrative Recourse Procedure is specifically limited to “Grievances” as defined within the Administrative Recourse Procedure policy and regulation.

Administrative Recourse

DSR 1901

A. Definition

A “Grievance” is a formal complaint about any serious issue regarding a school or its personnel that needs a formal process of reconciliation in order for it to be resolved.

B. Purpose

The primary purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to problems which may from time to time arise affecting the welfare or working conditions of persons associated with the school.

C. Basic Principles

1. Informal attempts using the local chain of authority (teacher, school administrator/President/Principal, pastor) have failed to resolve the grievance.
2. Since it is important that grievances be processed as rapidly as possible, the number of days indicated at each level should be considered a maximum and every effort should be made to expedite the process. The failure of a grievant to act within the time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal and an administrator’s failure to give a decision within the time limits shall permit the grievant to proceed to the next step. (*By mutual written agreement, however, the time limits may be extended.*)
3. The grievant agrees that discussions during the procedural stages of a grievance shall be kept confidential.
4. There is to be no retaliation against any party or participant in the grievance procedure.
5. Meetings held pursuant to this procedure shall be conducted by mutual agreement at a time and place that will afford a fair and reasonable opportunity for all persons, including witnesses to attend.
6. Records of formal proceedings at every Level shall be kept and made available to all parties involved.

D. Procedure

1. Informal Attempts at Resolution

Before differences become formal grievances, every effort shall be made to resolve local-level disputes by way of a free and open discussion between the parties involved in the grievance. Accordingly, a party may not pursue a grievance through the formal procedures outlined in this policy unless the party has first engaged in informal attempts with the local chain of authority to reconcile the difference beginning with the person whom the grievance is against. The normal chain of authority is: (1) teacher; (2) school administrator/President/Principal; (3) pastor. The school administrator/President/Principal or pastor may ask a third party to attend and assist the discussion.

2. Formal Grievance Procedures

In the event that informal attempts at resolving the dispute have been unsuccessful, the formal grievance procedure outlined below shall be observed. For complaints to be resolved through the Formal Grievance Procedures, the following shall apply: (i) if the complaint relates to a school administrator/President/Principal, LEVEL ONE will not apply, and the grievant will begin with LEVEL TWO; and (ii) if the complaint relates to a pastor, LEVELS ONE AND TWO will not apply, and the grievant will begin with LEVEL THREE.

LEVEL ONE: SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR/PRESIDENT/PRINCIPAL

The grievant shall reduce the complaint to writing and submit it to the school administrator/President/Principal within fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the event. In the complaint, the grievant must specifically request resolution through the Administrative Recourse Procedure. The school administrator/President/Principal will hold a meeting within seven (7) days following receipt of the written statement of grievance. The school administrator/President/Principal, a grievance representative designated by the pastor and the grievant shall be present for the meeting. Within seven (7) days following the meeting, the school administrator/President/Principal shall provide the grievant with a written decision.

LEVEL TWO: PASTOR

If the grievant is dissatisfied with the school administrator's/President/Principal's written decision, the grievant may appeal the decision in writing within five (5) days to the pastor. If the Formal Grievance Procedure begins with LEVEL TWO, the grievant shall reduce his/her complaint to writing and submit it to the pastor within fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the event. The pastor will hold a meeting within seven (7) days following receipt of the written statement of grievance or the appeal, as applicable. The pastor, a grievance representative designated by the pastor and the grievant shall be present for the meeting. Within seven (7) days following the meeting, the pastor shall provide the grievant and the school administrator/President/Principal with a written decision.

LEVEL THREE: CATHOLIC SCHOOL OFFICE

If the grievant is dissatisfied with the pastor's written decision, the grievant may appeal the decision in writing within five (5) days to the Catholic School Office. If the Formal Grievance Procedure begins with LEVEL THREE, the grievant shall reduce his/her complaint to writing and submit it to the Catholic School Office within fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the event. The Catholic School Office or a designated representative of the superintendent of Catholic schools will hold a meeting on the matter within

ten (10) days following receipt of the appeal. The Catholic School Office will render a decision in writing stating findings of fact and conclusions within ten (10) days of the hearing and a copy of the decision shall be delivered to the grievant, the pastor and the school administrator/President/Principal.

LEVEL FOUR: DIOCESAN SCHOOL RECOURSE COMMITTEE

If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at LEVEL THREE, a written appeal may be made within five (5) days to the Diocesan School Recourse Committee (DSRC), a committee composed of three members appointed by the bishop. The committee will review the entire record relating to the grievance and thereafter hold a meeting which shall not be later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of the written appeal. The grievant is entitled to attend the meeting. Evidence relevant to the grievance may be offered by interested parties, and questions may be asked pertaining to the cause by committee members as well as the interested parties. The DSRC will render and communicate its recommendation to the bishop who will notify the Catholic School Office and the grievant of his ruling. The decision of the bishop will be final and binding.

Penalty Status During Administrative Recourse

DSP 1902

The penalty for a violation of a school or diocesan policy or regulation is to be enforced during the recourse procedure. However, a request can be made to the pastor to speed up the procedure. Either the person(s) registering the complaint or the person(s) to whom the complaint is registered can make this request. The request, in consultation with the Catholic School Office, can be granted or denied.

Immunizations

DSP 5015

The Catholic Church supports immunization for the health of children and the common good of public health. Effective July 1, 2019, all students must be appropriately immunized or be in the process of being immunized. The number of doses required for each vaccine will be in accordance with the regulations established by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Each school administrator/principal is responsible for completing and maintaining the Summary Report, which is a record of the current immunization status of every student enrolled in the school. This Summary Report is required to be completed and submitted annually to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Students may not be enrolled in school unless they are in compliance with the immunization requirements or qualify for a medical exemption as confirmed by a statement from a duly licensed physician that is furnished by the parents or legal guardian of the student. Exemptions on the basis of religious beliefs will not be accepted.

Non-Discrimination**DSP 5101**

Every Catholic school in the Diocese of Jefferson City respects the dignity of each individual and, therefore, will not discriminate on the basis of race, nationality, or sex in regard to enrollment, except as permitted by law. The Diocese of Jefferson City has the obligation to publicize its non-discrimination policies, and this non-discrimination statement is to be a part of each local school's handbook.

Admission Requirements**DSP 5102**

Entrance requirements regarding age and medical records should be consistent with the local public school district.

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Jefferson City should also use the local public school as a model for any requirements regarding the admission of students that have been previously homeschooled.

STUDENTS

High School Admission Priority

DSP 5107

Ordinarily, families who reside in the following communities or send students to the following Catholic parish schools will enroll students in the designated diocesan Catholic high school. In case of special circumstances, families may appeal this designation to the Catholic School Office. Families in the “Choice of School” column may attend the high school of their preference.

Designated Catholic High School

Helias Catholic High School	Tolton Catholic High School	Choice of School
Immaculate Conception Jefferson City	Ss. Peter & Paul, Boonville	Ashland
Fulton	Our Lady of Lourdes, Columbia	St. George, Hermann
St. Andrew, Holts Summit	Sacred Heart, Columbia	Annunciation, California
St. Joseph Cathedral, Jefferson City	St. Thomas More, Columbia	St. Andrew, Tipton
California	St. Joseph, Martinsburg	Sacred Heart, Sedalia
St. Peter, Jefferson City	St. Brendan, Mexico	
St. Francis Xavier, Taos	St. Pius X, Moberly	
St. Martin, St. Martin	Immaculate Conception, Montgomery City	
St. Stanislaus, Wardsville		
St. Margaret Antioch, Osage Bend		
St. Michael, Russelville		
Sacred Heart, Eldon		
Our Lady of the Snows		
Mary’s Home		
St. Anthony of Padua, Folk		
Our Lady Help of Christians, Frankenstein		
Holy Family, Freeburg		
St. George, Linn		
Immaculate Conception, Loose Creek		
Sacred Heart, Rich Fountain		
St. Thomas, St. Thomas		

Proof of Guardianship

DSP 5201

- The school presumes that each parent has the authority to enroll the student, consent to various activities and programs, have custody of the student, or discontinue enrollment.
- In any situation where there is a custody agreement, the schools are to obtain the portion of that agreement that stipulates custody and any other information pertinent for the school.
- Schools are to indicate in their registration materials that this is a condition of enrollment. This is also to be stated in the parent/student handbook along with a statement that indicates the parents are to notify the school immediately of any change in the agreement.
- When consent by both parents is required by court decree in any/all matters relating to school, the consenting parent represents that the other parent has been consulted, and he or she consents to this registration.
- The school administrator/President/Principal will release the child(ren) according to the court documents and visitation documents the school has on file.
- Any non-parent having custodial rights must supply the school with complete documentation evidencing such rights.

Absence and Tardiness

DSP 5210

- Absence
- Excessive absenteeism may be indicative of educational neglect by the parent or guardian. Such neglect might warrant reporting in compliance with child abuse laws of the State of Missouri. (Refer to #5810.)
An absence of more than two hours is recorded as one-half day absence.
- Tardiness
- Excessive tardiness may be indicative of educational neglect by the parent or guardian. Such neglect might warrant reporting in compliance with child abuse laws of the State of Missouri. (Refer to #5810.)
- The school handbook specifies times for the beginning of the morning and afternoon sessions. Any pupil who arrives after either of the stated times is considered tardy.
- If a student is regularly missing Mass because of arriving late (morning Mass) or leaving early (afternoon Mass) this may be taken into consideration of allowing the student to continue to be enrolled in the school.

Written Excuses

DSP 5211

- When a child has been absent, the school requires a written excuse from his/her parent or guardian. All notes concerning absence are kept on file until the end of the school year. If a pupil is absent without an excuse or if the school has reason to suspect the validity of the excuse, the school administrator/President/Principal may investigate or delegates someone to investigate the situation.

- In addition, schools are encouraged to establish or continue procedures whereby a parent is expected to phone the school if a student will be absent. This call, however, does not replace the written excuse as a matter of record.

Written Excuses

DSR 5211

- When a child has been absent, the school requires a written excuse from his/her parent guardian. All notes concerning absences are kept on file until the end of the school year. If a pupil is absent without an excuse or if the school has reason to suspect the validity of the excuse, the President/Principal or athletic director may investigate or delegate someone to investigate the situation.
- In addition, schools are encouraged to establish or continue procedures whereby a parent is expected to phone the school if a student will be absent. This call, however, does not replace the written excuse as a matter of record. When a note is turned in, assuming that it constitutes an excused absence, the student will be given a permit for making up assignments. It is then up to the student to make arrangement for makeup work with all teachers no later than the second day back to school. Teachers will not allow makeup work without the permit.

Requests for Family Reasons

DSP 5220

Parents occasionally wish to take their children out of school for several days because of family plans. The school administrator/President/Principal and teacher(s) should discuss the child's progress and make recommendations to the parent. The school administrator/President/Principal keeps a record of the recommendations made to the parent. The final decision, however, is the responsibility of the parent. Conditions, procedures, and time limits for making up work are to be specified in writing.

Confidentiality

DSP 5260

Rather than strict confidentiality in regard to student-school employee communication (verbal and written), the schools in the Diocese of Jefferson City operate under a "spirit of confidentiality." This means that outside of the seal of confession between priest and penitent, strict confidentiality cannot be promised to the student if the information disclosed by the student includes, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

1. Information that concerns violation of the law;
2. Matters involving the health and safety of the student or any person;
3. Serious moral issues;
4. Any other matter that raises serious enough concern in the mind of the employee that he or she believes it is important to share the information with school administrator.

The school administrator/President/Principal, after consultation with the Catholic School Office, may chose to disclose the information to parents, legal authorities, medical personnel, or other deemed necessary personnel.

Catholic Faith and Moral Standard**DSP 5305**

As a condition of initial and continued enrollment as a student in schools that are part of the Diocese of Jefferson City, a student's conduct, both in and outside of school, must be consistent with Catholic faith and morals. Conduct which is inconsistent with Catholic faith and morals, which is a threat to the health, safety, reputation and welfare of other students or employees and/or which causes scandal, impairs or threatens to impair the reputation of the Church or its schools, is grounds for disciplinary sanctions up to and including immediate dismissal/expulsion.

If a student chooses to continually profess being an agnostic or atheist or hostile to the teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is belligerent and harming the institution's abilities to maintain a Catholic identity and promote the Catholic faith, this student may be expelled from school.

Prohibition of Corporal Punishment**DSR 5310**

Corporal punishment is not used under any circumstances in the diocesan schools. The school President/Principal or Athletic Director is responsible to report immediately to the superintendent of Catholic schools any violation of this prohibition. Any extreme or unusual form of punishment or any touching of a child in a manner that is considered punitive is to be avoided

Weapons and Dangerous Instruments**DSP 5315**

The possession, conveyance, use, or storage of weapons or look-alikes on school property, at school sponsored events, or in or around a school vehicle is prohibited. This ban applies to students, employees, and visitors, except for those acting in a law enforcement capacity. This prohibition expressly includes those persons licensed to carry concealed firearms. Schools are to formulate specific local policies regarding reporting weapons and dangerous instruments to law enforcement

Dismissal and Expulsion**DSR 5360**

If a dismissal or expulsion is pending, the Catholic School Office is to be notified immediately. The Catholic School Office will review the case, consult legal counsel if necessary, and make recommendations back to the school administrator/President/Principal and/or pastor of the school.

Dismissal and Expulsion**DSP 5360**

The dismissal or expulsion of a student from a Catholic school is a very serious matter and should be invoked only in extreme cases. Care should be taken that fundamental fairness is offered the student in the process of expulsion or dismissal.

The term "expulsion" is:

Termination of a pupil as a student from the school permanently (no opportunity for reinstatement).

The term "dismissal" is:

Termination of a pupil as a student from the school less than permanently (indefinite or for a given term).

In cases of serious misconduct which could lead to expulsion, the parents are so advised immediately and in writing. They are urged to take advantage of assistance from school, parish, or social service agencies which can help the student with his/her difficulties. Careful documentation must be kept of all disciplinary proceedings.

In extreme cases of incorrigible behavior or when conduct threatens the physical or moral welfare of anyone in the school community, the school administrator/President/Principal can immediately suspend a student until a final decision is made. (See DSP #5355.)

After the school has exhausted all avenues of assistance for the student, a recommendation may be made to the President/Principal regarding the dismissal or expulsion. All dismissal and/or expulsions must be reviewed with the superintendent of Catholic schools for compliance with the law and diocesan policies and regulations. A statement of dismissal or expulsion is made in writing, including the reasons for the dismissal and a complete listing of dates and efforts made to help the student to avert dismissal.

Release of Individual Students from School

DSP 5370

- Extraordinary care is taken in regard to early dismissal of individual students. Parents presume their child is under the care of the school during school hours. Consequently, an elementary student is never released early without explicit knowledge of his/her parent or legal guardian. Under no circumstance may a child be released to anyone other than the parent or guardian who is listed on the child's registration form or another person explicitly authorized in writing by the parent or guardian.
- In the case where only one parent has custody of the child, the school must be apprised of any existing court order that would affect release of the student from school. The school personnel must follow the most recent written agreement/order regarding custody.
- A student may never be sent home for assignments, books, or disciplinary reasons without parental communication, nor may any student be sent on errands outside the school and parish grounds for anyone.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences DSP 5405

It is highly recommended that each school plan to have conferences at reporting time at least once a year. These conferences provide the opportunity to discuss and explore various aspects of the student's growth and development.

Promotion and Retention

DSP 5410

All promotions, regular and special, are decided by the President/Principal and president in light of the teacher's recommendation and in consultation with the parents and with the

child, if appropriate. Such decisions are based on a total evaluation of a student's growth in all areas of development.

If a student's progress is unsatisfactory and the teacher believes the student may not satisfactorily complete the present grade, the teacher shall discuss alternatives with the President/Principal. As soon as possible, the teacher and/or the President/Principal or President shall talk with the parents/guardians and, as appropriate, with the student. Although the President/Principal always acts in consultation with the student's teachers and parents, the final responsibility for a student's promotion or retention rests with the President/Principal.

During conferences and in a follow-up letter, the parents/guardians and the student are informed of the pending decision at least six weeks before it is finalized. The decision, with its rationale, is to be communicated to the parents/guardian. If the parents/guardians do not agree with the President/Principal's decision, the President/Principal and the parents/guardians shall meet to discuss the rationale for the decision. While parent/guardian input is valued, it is ultimately the President/Principal's decision whether to promote a student.

If a student with special educational needs is accepted in a school that does not offer a special education program, at the request of parents who are aware that a special education program is not offered, the school President/Principal and parent sign a written agreement concerning promotion and retention procedures for the child as well as the type of diploma to be awarded upon termination of attendance.

The school's service coordinator and administration have the responsibility of approving the service hours once they have been submitted and verified. Questions about the service requirement should be directed to those offices. For questions and help logging hours, see the Tolton Catholic Service Website at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/toltoncatholic.org/blazers-serving-christ/>

Drug/Medication Administration

DSP 5520

Any drug which may lawfully be sold over the counter without a prescription may be administered in compliance with the written instructions and consent of the student's parent or guardian. Administration of a prescription drug requires written instructions from a physician, dentist or podiatrist and written consent from the student's parent or guardian.

Each school must have a written policy in regarding to oral medication administration. The policy shall include procedures for obtaining and filing in the school or other appropriate facility the written instructions and consent required. There must be procedures for the periodic review of the instructions, for the storing of the drugs, for record keeping and for the appropriate instruction of persons who may be authorized to administer the drugs. (For the proper protection of students and faculty, schools are required to keep medication in a locked cabinet.)

Alcohol Use at School Related Events**DSP 5545**

No alcohol may be present or consumed at events where children and youth are the primary focus. For example: field trips, school carnivals, school picnics, school sponsored athletic events, etc.

Students with Special Needs**DSP 5701**

If a student with special needs (categorized such as EMR (Educable Mentally Retarded), EEN (exceptional educational needs), or other similar classification, or having a serious physical disability) applies for admission and/or is in need of special placement and admission is going to be denied, or a current student is being asked to withdraw, or being referred to another school, the administrator is to immediately consult the superintendent of Catholic schools so that all necessary accommodations can be made in order to meet the need of the student and to help make a judgment as to whether or not, indeed, that is possible. Whenever possible, accommodations are to be made to meet the total needs of the student. A review committee can be convened by the Catholic School office, if deemed necessary, before a final decision is made. The review committee can include, but not be limited to the superintendent of Catholic schools, the local administrator(s), parent representative, counselor, pastor, and other designated professionals. It will be the purpose of the review committee to help the school make a local decision. The review committee can also be convened or reconvened by the superintendent of Catholic schools, if deemed beneficial, when a parent disagrees with a local school decision.

Sexual Abuse of Minors**DSP 5825**

PASTORAL POLICY REGARDING ALLEGED CASES OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS BY CLERGY OR OTHER CHURCH PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY

INTRODUCTION

Since 1990, the Diocese of Jefferson City ("the Diocese") has had a policy and procedures to give guidance to its employees, volunteers, religious and clergy in the Diocese on the subject of child abuse and to address the needs of persons affected by child abuse. The following policy and procedures have been adopted to address the particular situation in which a member of the clergy, or an employee, volunteer or religious working in the Diocese or in any parish, school or agency of the Diocese (the latter hereinafter referred to collectively or individually as "church personnel") is accused of sexual abuse of a minor. (1) For the purpose of this policy, any person under 18 years of age is considered a minor. An allegation of this type of abuse has serious consequences for the person alleged to have been abused and his/her family, for the person accused, and for the larger community.

II. ENSURING AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS

The Diocese has adopted a process to address allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy or other church personnel. By following the steps outlined below and by working with the person alleged to have been abused, his or her family members, and

appropriate civil authorities, this process will help to ensure an effective response to allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

BRINGING AN ALLEGATION

A person may bring an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy or other church personnel by calling the Chancery Office and asking to speak with the Review Administrator or by writing to the Chancery Office. The address and telephone number are as follows:

Connie Schepers
Review Administrator
Diocese of Jefferson City
Alphonse J. Schwartz Memorial Catholic Center
2207 W. Main
P.O. Box 104900
Jefferson City, Missouri 65110-4900
Telephone: 573-635-9127 (ext. 224)

The entirety of the policy can be found in the Policy and Regulation Manual for Schools.

Protecting God's Children

In order to create an environment which is safe for all students, the Protecting God's Children program has been chosen to supplement the existing laws for identifying, reporting and preventing child sexual abuse. All who have contact on a regular basis with Fr. Tolton Catholic High School students are required to undergo screening, submit proper clearances, and comply with standardized application and employment procedures. In addition to these screenings, all those who come into contact on a regular basis with Tolton students are required to participate in the Protecting God's Children program. This program fulfills the mandates of the USCCB charter for the Protection of Children and Youth.

Non Catholic Student Participation

DSP 6235

Non-Catholic students enrolled in a Catholic school are required to participate to the same extent in all school activities (both curricular and extracurricular) and courses of study as Catholic students, provided such activity is permitted by Catholic Church law.

INSTRUCTION

Educational Outings, Field Trips, 8th Grade and Senior Trips

DSR 6301

All field trips and outings must be pre-approved by the local school administrator/President/Principal. The written consent of parents must be obtained for every child participating in a field trip or outing. The consent is to include the basic information on the trip, such as where they are going, times, chaperones, and mode of transportation.

No student may participate unless a signed parental permission slip for the specific event is on file with the school administrator/President/Principal. The Diocese of Jefferson City sample Field Trip Permission Slip is included in Appendix #6301.

Chaperones and Drivers for Field Trips, Athletic Events and Other Off-Campus School Activities **DSP 6305**

Schools should take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of students when they are being transported for educational field trips, athletic events, and other off-campus school activities.

An adequate number of responsible adult chaperones are to accompany the students. Ordinarily, at least one adult will accompany every five students in the lower grades and every 10 students in the upper grades - but some situations or younger students may require more. Trips involving a great deal of travel should be discouraged.

When appropriate, schools should use bus transportation by an insured carrier for off-campus school sanctioned events. There are circumstances for which a school administrator may determine that transportation in private passenger vehicles is appropriate. These circumstances could include the fact that there is a small number of students involved in an activity and the cost of commercial transportation. If a private passenger vehicle is to be used, the following criteria shall apply:

1. drivers must be a parent/guardian of a student;
2. drivers must be experienced drivers over the age of 25 and demonstrate the maturity necessary to provide for the safety of those they are transporting;
3. drivers must have a valid, non-probationary driver's license and no physical disability that may impair the ability to drive safely;
4. drivers must sign a driving policy acknowledgement form agreeing to abide by certain safety practices; (Appendix 6305: Agreement to Transport Students);
5. regular drivers (those transporting students three or more times in one school year) must complete the *Protecting God's Children* program and read and sign the *Code of Ethical Conduct for Clergy, Employees and Volunteers Working with Minors*;
6. the vehicle must have a valid registration and meet state safety requirements; and
7. the vehicle must be insured for minimum limits of \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per occurrence.

All drivers should be given a copy of the above criteria. In addition, these criteria should be printed in the Parent Handbook.

Volunteer drivers must provide the school with copies of a valid driver's license, their vehicle registration, and proof of insurance coverage. The documents shall be kept on file by the school. The school shall also maintain record of each event and date when each volunteer driver transports students.

Chaperones and Drivers for Field Trips [Educational Outings] **DSR 6305**

All regular chaperones and drivers must complete the Protecting God's Children program.

Student Internet, E-mail, and Other Technology Use

DSP 6425

All schools allowing students to have access to the Internet, e-mail and other technology are to have a written policy regarding usage in their student and parent handbooks. This policy is to include at least the following:

1. Internet, e-mail, and other technology access and use in school is a privilege, not a right.
2. The use is always to be consistent with Catholic teaching, doctrine, morality, and values.
3. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail, or other technology for the purpose of transmitting or receiving illegal, illicit or obscene materials, or other materials in conflict with our Catholic mission.
4. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail, or other technology for the purpose of violating copyright law. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted software, text, graphics or music. Such action will be considered theft and is in violation of Catholic and legal standards.
5. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail, or other technology for the purpose of plagiarism.
6. Users shall not attempt to gain access to resources belonging to others. This includes, but is not limited to: passwords, e-mail, personal files, and restricted or secure Internet sites. This will also be considered theft and in violation of Catholic and legal standards.
7. Users shall not use the Internet, e-mail, or other technology to transmit information about the school or the school-governed facilities, other than their own email address. This includes, but is not limited to school personnel names and addresses.
8. The school reserves the right to review any materials (email, files, other correspondence) sent or received via the Internet, e-mail, or other technology for their appropriateness in light of legal, ethical and Catholic standards.
9. Any violation of this policy is also considered a violation of the general school discipline code and is subject to school disciplinary action.
10. The privilege of the Internet, e-mail or other technology use can be suspended or revoked at any time.

In addition to the above, the school, after consultation with the Catholic School Office, can take disciplinary action against any student who, either within or outside school hours and/or on or off school grounds, uses technology to defame, bully, or assault the character or being of the school, diocese, any of its employees and/or students. This includes any such negative postings, verbal, or pictorial, on such websites as *Facebook*, *YouTube*,

Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, and other social networking sites, etc. This includes any activity that would violate DSP 5305, Catholic Faith and Moral Standard