

FAMILY HANDBOOK
2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

THE MISSION OF ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL

St. Pius X / St. Leo School is a diverse community forming students in the Catholic faith to excel in academics and service to others.



TABLE of CONTENTS

	<u>Page Number</u>
Mission Statement of St. Pius X / St. Leo School	front cover
Belief Statements & Directed Learner Statements	4
Goals and Objectives	5
St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board Members	5
St. Pius X / St. Leo School Faculty and Staff	6
Absenteeism and Tardiness Policy	9
Academic Achievement	9
Academic Integrity	10
AIDS Policy	10
Asthma and Allergic Reactions	10
Attendance	11
Birthdays	12
Book Orders	12
Care of School and Personal Property	12
Child Abuse	12
Communication	13
Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies	13
Counseling Services	13
Curriculum	14
Dress Code	14
Education Committee	19
Emergencies	20
Extended Care Program	20
Faith Development/Cooperative Role	20
Field Trips	21
Google Apps for Education Agreement	21
Grading Scale	23
Health	23
Homework	24
Insurance	24
Key Expectations of St. Pius X / St. Leo Students	25

Lunch Program	25
Mission Statement for Annual FUNDRAISER	26
Multicultural Education Policy	27
Non-Custodial and Custodial Parent Policy	27
Personal Electronic Devices	27
Pictures	28
Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS)	28
Procedures for Placement on Honor Roll for Grades 7 & 8 Student	29
Promotion/Retention Policy	30
Recess	30
Registration Deposit Policy	30
Religion	31
Requirements and Priorities for Student Acceptance for St. Pius X / St. Leo School	31
Safe Environment Training	32
School Board Meeting/Visitors	32
School Structure	33
Selling and Endorsing Items	33
Special Academic Needs	33
Special Instructional Needs	34
Student Activities	34
Student Records Policy	34
Technology Use Policy	34
Telephone Use	34
Testing	35
Time Schedules	35
Transportation: Pick Up and Drop Off Procedures	35
Tuition	36
Visitors	36
Volunteers	36
Water Bottles	37

ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL IS A RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION BELIEVES ALL STUDENTS:

- will understand the gospel as a way of life and do their best to live it
- will know about and respect God's people from all cultures
- have unique learning styles, gifts, and talents and deserve the opportunity to succeed using those styles, gifts, and talents
- need a safe learning environment whereby they will be respected and encouraged to take risks and problem solve
- need to communicate effectively and work cooperatively
- will see learning as relevant to life and as a life-long process
- need respect and encouragement from all in the school community

**ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL BE DIRECTED DURING
THEIR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE TO BECOME:**

1. Adaptable, effective communicators who:
 - relate with an open mind to diverse cultures, families, language and values
 - express ideas and information to others
 - receive, interpret, and analyze information
2. Ethical problem solvers using Catholic values and principles who:
 - manage the world resources in an efficient manner
 - utilize advancing technology
 - demonstrate respect for self, others, and the environment
3. Collaborative community contributors who:
 - demonstrate leadership and organizational skills
 - exhibit skills to work as a team
 - demonstrate involvement in activities that address the needs of school, parish, and global communities
4. Creative, perceptive thinkers who:
 - Identify problems and state possible solutions
 - apply teachings of the Catholic Church to life situations
 - use multiple resources and skills
5. Self-directed learners who:
 - mesh various academic disciplines
 - accept responsibility and risks associated with learning
 - apply learning processes individually and cooperatively
 - evaluate and utilize individual and peer assessment
 - exhibit a need for life-long learning
6. Quality producers and performers who:
 - demonstrate high standards of performance and production
 - support the effort and work of others
 - model time management and organizational skills
 - implement relevant information obtained from research
 - reflect a knowledge of the core disciplines and the fine arts

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

As part of the St. Pius X / St. Leo School Improvement and Professional Development Plan, the school will be focusing on various goals directly tied to our mission statement. Those goals include: academic achievement, faith formation, and community engagement.

ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL BOARD

The St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board (“School Board”) is advisory to the Pastors of St. Pius X and St. Leo Parishes. The School Board shares in the responsibility, unity and stability of the school. School Board Members respond to a Baptismal call to be involved in the mission of the Church.

The School Board is comprised of the Pastors, the President, Vice President and Secretary (collectively the “Executive Committee”) and nine (9) School Board Members appointed by the Pastors. The administrators of St. Pius X / St. Leo School and the Recording Secretary of the School Board are non-voting members of the School Board. School board members serve for one term for the length of three years with the option for a second term of three years.

There are three (3) School Board Subcommittees: (1) Education Committee; (2) Development Committee; and (3) Finance Committee.

Sarah Crotzer	2508 N 53 St	68104	212-4904	St. Pius X
Alison De Bruhl	3315 N 125 St	68164	202-4599	St. Leo
Tiz Green	4655 N 139 Ave	68164	250-9659	St. Pius X
Chris Johnson (president)	1629 N 102 St	68114	578-2341	St. Leo
Sigrid Moylan	902 Dodge St	68102	871-7864	St. Pius X
Deana O’Hare	10354 Franklin Cir	68114	681-6685	St. Leo
Tim Sutton	timothyss@gmail.com			St. Leo
Grace Tollo	6960 N 88th St	68122	939-9312	St. Pius X
Desiree Nownes	7919 N. 116th St.		238-7125	St. Leo
Keith Williamson			201-5750	St. Pius X

In addition to the School Board members identified above, the pastors of both parishes are members of the School Board. The administrator(s) of St. Pius X / St. Leo School are non-voting members of the School Board.

ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL FACULTY AND STAFF

ROOM NO.	NAME	DEGREE	EXTRA DUTIES
PRE-K All Day	Mrs. Sarah Saucier	B.S.	Pre-K Coordinator
PRE-K All Day	Mrs. Catherine Logan	B.A.	
PRE-K	Mrs. Cat Flores		
KA	Mrs. Kelli Swift	B.A.	Gr. K Coordinator
KB	Miss Brianna Dufault	B.S.	
KC	Mrs. Jenny Hanna	B.A.	
1A	Mrs. Lisa Wilson	B.A.	Gr. 1 Coordinator
1B	Mrs. Maureen Williams	M.A.	
1D	Miss Shannon Buttell	B.A.	Gr. Pre-K-4 Language Arts Coordinator
2A	Miss Michaela McLeay	M.A.	
2B	Miss Ashanti Washington	B.A.	
2C	Mr. Jason Nelson	B.S.	Gr. 2 Coordinator
3A	Miss Brianna Gauss	B.A.	
3B	Ms. Mary Langdon	B.S.	Gr. 3 Coordinator
3C	Mrs. Sharon Maron	M.A.	
4A	Miss Caroline Adrian	M.Ed.	Gr. 4 Coordinator
4C	Mrs. Monica Stromberg	M.S.	
4D	Mrs. Laura Zabloudil	M.S.	
5A	Mr. Jake Vavek	B.A.	
5C	Mrs. Riley Pietryga	B.S.	
5D	Dr. Ann Adkins	Ed.D.	Gr. 5 Coordinator and PK-5th Social Studies Coordinator
6A	Miss Jennifer Long	B.A.	Gr. 6 Coordinator and Gr 5-8 Language Arts Coordinator
6B	Mr. Stephen Pesek	B.A.	
6B	Mrs. Annie Wise	B.A.	
6D	Mr. Dean Sullivan	B.A.	
7A	Mr. John McFarlin	M.Ed.	Gr. K-8 Religion Coordinator
7B	Mrs. Amy Jaros	M.A.	Graduation Coordinator
7C	Mr. Jerry Carreon	B.A.	Gr. 7 Coordinator, Gr. 6-8 Social Studies Coordinator
8A	Mrs. Rose Goergen	B.S.	
8B	Mrs. Sara Bowen	M.S.	Gr. K-8 Science Coordinator, Student Council Coordinator
8D	Mrs. Kate Lichtas	M.A.	Gr. 8 Coordinator
Spanish Teacher:	Srta. Miriam Renedo	M.Ed.	

Resource

Teacher: Miss Carin Andrew M.S. Coordinator
Mrs. Linda Harrison M.S. Gr Pre-K - 8 Math Coordinator and Math Counts Coordinator
Mrs. Natalie May M.S.
Miss Jenny Mckenzie B.A, M.A.
Mrs. Jennifer Schroen B.S., M.A., M.S.
Mrs. Maureen Fennessey M.A., Ph.D

ELL

Teacher: Mrs. Christy Vogel M.S. EL Coordinator

Special Ed:

Mrs. Laura Chouinard M.A., B.A
Miss Maddie Rinkacs B.A., M.S.

School

Liturgist: Miss Janet Drvol

Liturg

Assistant: Mrs. Mary Grenier

Music:

Mrs. Sara Fleming B.A. Show Choir
Mrs. Ali Parker B.S. Show Choir

Art:

Mrs. Maria Engresser B.A.

P.E.:

Mrs. Mary Morrison B.A.
Mr. Troy Nelson B.A. PE/Recess Equipment Coordinator

Speech/Drama

Mrs. Jen Martinez B.S. Speech and Drama Coordinator

Library/

Multimedia: Ms. Gina Fosco M.S. Coordinator of Specialty Teachers

Library

Specialist: Mrs. Tonya Maca

Technology

Specialist: Mrs. Mary Kay Nelson M.S

Extended Care

Director: Mrs. Cat Flores

Teacher Assistants: Miss Mackenzie Keogh (SpEd), Miss Rae Smits (SpEd) , Mrs. Anne Lindley (Pre-K), Miss Ashley Horton (PK), Miss Alexy Gillespie (PK), Mrs. Cheri Freese (K), Mrs. Melissa Pelley (K), Mrs. Gina Sturek (K), Mrs. Michelle Baldwin (PreK/1), Mrs. Monica Taylor (1), Mrs. Mary Grenier (2), Mrs. Diane Hancock (2), Mr. John Brannen (3), Mrs. Betsy Cowles (3), (4), Mrs. Angela Keogh (4), Mrs. Linda Walz (5), Miss Hailey Kamtz (6), Mrs. Linda Rix (7), Ms. Carmen Mainelli (8), Mrs. Sue Kurtenbach (EL)

Marketing & Recruitment Director:

Mrs. Emily Abboud

Development Assistant

Mrs. Jess Fisher

Substitute
Teacher
Coordinator: Mrs. Monica Taylor

Business/Personnel
Coordinator: Miss Nina Englin

Secretary: Mrs. Kathy Graney
Office Assistant: Mrs. Liz Burke/ Ms. Angela Ankenbauer

Sacramental
Coordinator: Ms. Colleen Ciciulla

Sacramental
Secretary: Mrs. Sheryl Fritz

Counselors: Mrs. Jody Jurgens-Byam, C.M.S.W., A.C.S.W
Mr. Jeff Keogh, L.C.S.W., L.M.H.P.

Nurse: Kimberly Doughty
Cafeteria
Manager: Mr. Jon Lanphier

Cafeteria
Personnel: Mr. Pat Dunlap, Mrs. Kiley Gallagher, Mr. Milton "Smitty" Kethan

Maintenance
Director: Mr. Brian Schiefen

Maintenance
Personnel: Mr. Marty Thornton

Assistant
Principal: Mrs. Terri Preston M.S., M.S.
Principal: Mrs. Katy Chattin M.A., M.S.
Director of Operations Mrs. Michaela Smith

PRIESTS

Fr. Mark Tomasiewicz, Pastor	St. Pius X Parish
Fr. Craig Loecker, Pastor	St. Leo the Great Parish
Fr. Michael Swanton, Associate Pastor	St. Leo the Great Parish

All priests celebrate liturgies and reconciliations with the students. The priests teach religion at various times in the different grades.

ABSENTEEISM AND TARDINESS POLICY

Any student who is absent excessively not continuously for 15 school days will be placed on failure status until all schoolwork is made up to the satisfaction of the administration and teacher(s). This work must be completed within one week of the end of the semester. Any child who is absent for more than 15 days continuously, because of family crisis or illness, must make special arrangements with the administration and teacher(s) for satisfactory completion of missed work.

Any time a child misses two hours anytime during the school day, he/she will be marked absent for 1/2 day. If a child misses part of the school day due to a doctor appointment, dental appointment, or other valid reason as determined by the administration he/she will not be counted as absent and will be documented as excused tardy, unless this time away exceeds two hours, then the child will be marked absent for 1/2 day.

Continuous absences could result in the suspension, expulsion of the student, or the notification of the proper legal juvenile authorities.

Students will be marked tardy if they are not sitting at their desk by 8:15 a.m.

Teachers are to notify the administration of excessive tardiness or habitual absenteeism so the following steps can be taken.

If a pattern of excessive tardiness or excessive absenteeism is developing, a contact to the parent(s) by the homeroom teacher will be made requesting action be taken to alleviate this problem. If the problem persists, the homeroom teacher will notify administration who will make a second contact with the parent(s).

1. Any absence or tardy requires notification to the office by written note or email. Tardy slips from the office are also kept. Please note that if a child arrives at school late, the only lunch choice available will be the yogurt and cheese option unless prior arrangements were made (e.g. calling the school the day before an appointment to pre-order lunch or pre-order lunch through Blackbaud).

2. A student who is absent is required to make up all assignments missed. Parents may request to pick up homework by sending an email to the homeroom teacher at the beginning of the day. The homework may be picked up in the office at the end of the day or sent home with a sibling.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The school's curriculum identifies the knowledge and skills which students are expected to master and teachers provide instructional experiences to assist the students in such mastery. Teachers assess each student's level of performance and encourage each student to achieve to the maximum of his or her potential.

Teachers also know that diligence and self-discipline are essential to academic success and the full realization of each student's potential. They expect diligence and self-discipline on the part of each student.

Parents who expect diligence and self-discipline of their students, who require development of good study habits, well-done assignments and supplementary reading greatly enable the academic achievement of their student.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Excelling in academics is a core tenet of the SPSL School mission. SPSL is committed to integrity and honesty in and out of the classroom. Cheating and Plagiarism at SPSL are defined as follows:

Cheating is to act dishonestly by claiming the work of someone else as your own, or by enabling or permitting another student to claim your work as their own. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) Having or providing knowledge of questions or answers prior to a test or quiz;
- b) Giving or receiving assistance during a test or quiz;
- c) Copying or claiming another student's work; and
- d) Using artificial intelligence (AI) software in any manner not authorized by the teacher. This includes completing an assignment using AI, misrepresentation of one's work using AI, and/or not giving acknowledgment of the use of AI on student work.

Plagiarism is the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own work and may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) Using a piece of writing that has been copied from someone else and presenting it as your own;
- b) Copying material from another source and adding it to your own work without appropriate citation from the original source;
- c) Paraphrasing material into your work without appropriate citation; and
- d) Using artificial intelligence (AI) in any manner not authorized by the teacher, including but not limited to using AI to create or write an assignment (in part or total) and claiming it as your own without proper citation.

School administration will be informed of academic integrity violations and an appropriate course of action will be determined. Repeated violations will magnify the consequences, increasing the likelihood of class failure, dismissal from school, or other disciplinary action.

AIDS POLICY

Admission and Enrollment

A current student or student seeking enrollment at St. Pius X / St. Leo School shall not be discriminated against on the basis of that person having AIDS, ARC, or HIV infection. No student shall be suspended or denied enrollment solely on the basis of AIDS, ARC, or HIV infection unless the nature and extent of the illness reasonably preclude that student from being able to continue the customary education responsibilities or the student poses a risk to other students or personnel in the school.

ASTHMA AND ALLERGIC REACTIONS

Catholic schools need to be prepared to implement an emergency treatment plan, known as a protocol, anytime a student or staff member experiences a life-threatening asthma attack or systemic allergic reaction.

St. Pius X / St. Leo School is in compliance with the state mandated "Emergency Response to LifeThreatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis) Protocol." The protocol involves the use of an IM EpiPen and nebulized albuterol and calling 911.

The protocol is to be administered by trained responders to ANY student showing life-threatening asthma attacks or other allergic reactions. Responders will be available during the course of regular school hours. This protocol and its emergency medication is not meant to replace the health care provider's plan for students with a diagnosis of asthma and/or anaphylaxis. The emergency medication (such as inhalers, epinephrine) prescribed for students with known asthma and/or anaphylaxis is provided by the student's parents to the school according to the school's Medication policy.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR DAUGHTER/SON TO BE TREATED FOR THESE LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCIES YOU NEED TO SEND THE PRINCIPAL A WRITTEN NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

IMPORTANT: The emergency EpiPen and Albuterol are not intended to replace a child's own prescribed medications for asthma/allergy control and management. Parents are expected to ensure their children have inhalers, EpiPens, etc. available at school (with a medication authorization form signed by both a parent and physician) and have an Asthma/Allergy Action Plan or emergency medical plan on file with the school, updated every school year.

St. Pius X / St. Leo School teachers, teacher assistants and substitute teachers are notified of the Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis) Protocol" for student(s) in their grade level. Certain foods may not be allowed in particular classrooms due to the allergies of students in those classrooms. The teacher will provide a list of appropriate food items, if any, that may be sent to school.

ATTENDANCE

1. The only recognized legitimate excuse for absence is illness. If a child will be absent from school, a parent or guardian must call the school office, 402-551-6667, by 8:45 a.m. each day to report this absence. If the school is not called, office personnel will be calling the home or place of work to seek the information on the absence.
2. We strongly encourage regular attendance by the students each school day except when ill. If for some reason, other than illness, your child will be gone from school three days or more, you may request assignments from the teachers ahead of time, but, it is our policy that the teachers do not have an obligation to get the work together before the absence. If they have the time and are able to do so they will, otherwise, the child will be given the assignments upon his/her return.
3. No student will be released from school during school hours without permission of the administrative staff. A sign in/out sheet for students is located in the school office. Students and/or parents are asked to sign in/out when arriving or leaving school. If you are calling for a child outside of regular dismissal time, please come to the school office to get him/her.
4. In bad weather, presume that there will be school unless otherwise notified by television or email from the school.
5. A student who is absent is required to make up all assignments missed. Parents may request to pick up homework by sending an email to the homeroom teacher at the beginning of the day. The homework may be picked up in the office at the end of the day or sent home with a sibling.
6. We will never allow a student to leave the school grounds during the school day unless the school has notified the student's parent/guardian first. In the event that a parent/ guardian cannot be reached, the school will refer to the Emergency Contacts listed in Blackbaud and notify someone delegated by the parent/guardian. In

case of an emergency and the school cannot locate the parent/guardian, the school will presume parent/guardian's permission to take the student to the closest emergency service.

7. If in the middle of dismissal there is a major storm (tornado, thunderstorm) SPSL will hold students until you come to pick them up. We will not let them walk home until the situation has cleared and improved.

BIRTHDAYS

Our school wellness plan suggests that you might want to consider nonfood items, like a pencil, eraser, etc. for birthday treats. Birthday treats must be store bought. Please take into consideration the time restraints and the learning environment of the classrooms. We do ask, though, that you **do not send pop for birthday treats** since we do not allow pop in the cafeteria either. The birthday treats will be sent home at the end of the day.

There is an option that allows students to bring treats to share with their classmates to celebrate their birthdays. If treats are sent to school for a student birthday, parents must communicate with the teacher in advance. Certain foods may not be allowed in particular classrooms due to the allergies of students in those classrooms. Teachers will communicate to classroom parents specific allergen(s) not allowed in the classroom (e.g. peanuts, tree nuts). Teachers will provide a list of suggested appropriate items for a classroom treat. Parents have the option of providing "safe snacks" appropriate for their child in the event a snack includes an allergen or is manufactured in a facility that contains an allergen. Please ensure the snacks are pre-packaged.

Invitations to birthday parties are NOT to be handed out at school. You will have to either mail them or deliver them somewhere other than at school.

BOOK ORDERS

Book order forms may be sent home by homeroom teachers in order to give you the opportunity to buy books for your children. We would like you to know that by sending the orders home SPSL does not endorsing any or all of the books on these orders.

CARE OF SCHOOL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

The books and materials provided to the student by the school are expected to be returned in good condition at the end of the term. Students will be held responsible for any damage to books, desks or other school property.

It is strongly recommended that personal property not be brought to school. If a student chooses to bring personal items to school, it is strictly their responsibility. We have "lost and found" areas located under the stairs in the hallway leading to the church and in the north hallway outside the gym. Students may look there for missing items.

CHILD ABUSE

The state law requires any person who has a reason to believe that a child has been abused or neglected to report their concerns to the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline at (800) 652-1999.

COMMUNICATION

1. The school phone number is 402-551-6667. If you would like to talk with a teacher or staff member, please send an email to ask them to contact you. You may also leave a message to call you through the school office. Please do not contact teachers at their homes or on cell phones.
2. If you need to reach your student for an emergency during the school day, please call the school office. Parents should not contact students directly through student cell phones during the school day, as student's phones should be turned off and in their backpacks in accordance with the school's cell phone policy.
3. Please inform the school office if your home phone number or work number has changed.
4. **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Regularly scheduled conferences for all parent(s) are held at the end of the first quarter, and "by request only" during the third quarter of the school year. We encourage parents to contact the school office if they see a need to schedule a conference with their child's teacher(s) outside of these two scheduled times. The teacher(s) involved will then schedule the conference.
5. Cumulative records will not be forwarded to a new school unless parent permission in writing is obtained.
6. A **School Newsletter** will be sent to the parents' e-mails so the parents or guardians of students can be kept current of school news.
7. **School events** will be listed on the *What's Happening This Week?* Link on the school's website. The lunch menu will also be included on the website on the *What's For Lunch?* Link. Parents are strongly encouraged to check the school website (www.spsl.net) frequently. Please note that if a child arrives at school late, the only lunch choice available will be the yogurt and cheese option unless prior arrangements were made (e.g. calling the school the day before an appointment to pre-order lunch or pre-order lunch through Blackbaud).
8. We are partners with parents in their children's education. We notify parents of concerns about student life or behavior, even when we hear about something that has not happened in school.
9. We strongly encourage an open communication between home and school to obtain the best moral and academic development of our children. St. Pius X / St. Leo School views the education of a student as a partnership between parents and the school. Staff have 24 hours to respond to emails, and may not respond to emails after 4:00 PM or on the weekends.

COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

In cooperation with Law Enforcement Personnel or other Government Agents requesting access to students, administrators will grant such access in accord with the expressed wishes of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian. Exceptions to parental wishes must be made in the case of warrants for arrest and in the case of suspected child abuse as defined in Nebraska statutes.

COUNSELING SERVICES

SPSL engages a local firm to meet the needs of counseling services for our students. Personnel from this firm are in the school five days a week.

The counselors are here to help out in the various situations that occur for individuals and between individuals in our school. The counselors may be called in to help mediate and deal with appropriate situations. There are also times when individual students will ask to see counselors. We will accommodate a student request to see a counselor one time without parent permission. If there is a need for continued individual work with the counselors, the parents will be contacted to complete a referral form and permission slip. This permission slip will give on-going permission for the student to be seen by a counselor during their years in our school unless the parent requests a different arrangement. Parents may also request that their child(ren) be seen by a counselor. Please contact the school office, your child's teacher, or school administration for that request.

CURRICULUM

Beginning in upper grades some students are placed in a math program that challenges those students excelling in math. This group is determined by a review of STAR Math averages, by math grades earned over the last years, end of the year math tests, and by teacher recommendations from the past year. This process of grouping is continued for sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. We have established criteria for Math Advancement to a higher grade. This is as follows:

1. Student must maintain an A average all 4 quarters.
2. Student has been identified as self-motivated, hard working and learning at an accelerated pace.
3. Student scored at 90% or above on STAR math placement test.
4. Students are recommended by their math teacher and math coordinator.

Note: Students are reevaluated for this placement on a quarterly basis.

We also have accelerated literature groups that start during the sixth grade and continue through eighth grade. Students are constantly reevaluated for placement. Students will be moved in and out of groups as their needs change throughout these years.

DRESS CODE

The dress code pertains to ALL Grade K-8 students of our school. Pre-Kindergarten has a separate dress code discussed at the end of this section.

This dress code has been developed by the Education Committee, made up of parents, with final approval by the School Board and Pastors. It attempts to be very specific in order to eliminate the necessity of our teachers spending a disproportionate amount of their time enforcing the dress code. We ask the cooperation of all parents to be certain that your child/ren conforms to these rules and presents a neat appearance. If a registered student is a member of a culture that conflicts with these dress code regulations, the student's parent(s) may approach the administration about dress code policies that may affect the student.

DiGiorgio's Sportswear and French Toast will be supplying our school uniforms for this school year. DiGiorgio's Sportswear will carry all items for boys and girls uniforms, while French Toast will carry skorts, skirts and jumpers for girls uniforms. Pants, shorts, boys and girls white shirts and girls blouses may be purchased at any store, but the navy blue color of pants MUST be of the SAME COLOR and uniform style as those available at DiGiorgio's Sportswear. Blue and red uniform sweaters already purchased may still be worn throught the school year.

Final interpretation of appropriateness in dress code will be handled by the administration.

Boys Dress Code

The following are the options for purchasing the uniform for the 2024-2025 school year.

1. Pants-

Plain (no design) navy blue pants

Navy blue pants may be purchased at any store. The style and color of the pants must be the same style and color as from DiGiorgio's Sportswear. Pants should not be cargo style or jogger style (no elastic at the ankles). Over the course of time, navy blue tends to fade. Faded navy is not an acceptable color for uniform pants.

2. Shorts-

May be worn in place of pants through October 31st in the Fall and then beginning April 1 in the Spring. Navy blue shorts may be purchased at any store. The style and color of the shorts must be the same style and color as from DiGiorgio's Sportswear. Shorts should not be cargo style. When shorts are worn as the uniform, boys MUST wear navy blue, white or red plain socks or SPSL spirit wear socks sold by SPSL School. No stripes or colored accents are allowed except for those on the SPSL spirit wear socks. The length of the uniform shorts may not exceed the knee and may not be shorter than three inches from the top of the knee. Final interpretation of appropriateness of length of shorts will be handled by the administration. *Beginning December 1, 2024 students in grades 6-8th may wear shorts all year long.

3. Shirts-

Plain light blue* or white oxford shirt, either long or short sleeved, pointed collars required **and/or**

Plain light blue* or white knit shirt, either long or short sleeved, pointed collars required **and/or**

White short sleeved knit shirt with SPSL logo or SPSL panther screen-printed or embroidered on upper left side of shirt – **MUST** be ordered through the school office

and/or

Plain light blue* or white long sleeved turtleneck, no buttons

*The style and color of the plain light blue knit shirts must be the same style and color as from DiGiorgio's Sportswear.

Plain white shirts/turtlenecks may be purchased at any store.

If T-Shirts are worn as undershirts, they **MUST** be SOLID WHITE, SHORT SLEEVED ONLY.

All shirts, regardless of style, are required to be properly tucked in.

Students are expected to be neat and clean in their appearance.

4. Sweater-

Red or navy blue crew or cardigan uniform sweater must be purchased at DiGiorgio's Sportswear. All sweaters must be worn with a uniform shirt or turtleneck.

5. Sweatshirts-

The navy blue sweatshirts/quarter zips, purchased through the school, may be worn as part of the school uniform. Uniform shirts/turtlenecks must be worn under the sweatshirt. No oversized or hooded sweatshirts will be allowed.

For current 8th grade students only, the 8th grade class sweatshirts approved by the school may be worn as part of the school uniform. Uniform shirts/turtlenecks must be worn under the 8th grade class sweatshirt.

6. Shoes-

Suitable shoes, dress or tennis, and socks are to be worn. Sandals, backless shoes, boots or similar shoes are not part of the uniform. Shoes must be tied, strapped or fastened and shoes with eyelets must have laces through the eyelets and must be tied. "Wheelies" shoes are not allowed. Croc-style footwear, "toe shoes", and moccasin style shoes are not allowed.

7. Socks-

Socks must be worn and visible above the tops of the shoes. They are to be plain navy blue, white, or red socks, except for small logos on the socks are acceptable. SPSL navy blue and white spirit wear socks sold by SPSL School may be worn. No stripes or colored accents are allowed except for those on the SPSL spirit wear socks

8. Jewelry-

Faddish or distracting jewelry such as long chains, large watches, multiple bracelets or wristbands (more than one per wrist), rings or ankle bracelets, etc. and buttons or pins are not allowed on any school day. Religious medallions, chokers, chains and/or other types of necklaces must be worn inside the shirt so that no part is visible. Boys may not wear earrings or have any other type of body piercings. Tattoos are not allowed. Sweatbands are not permitted.

9. Hair-

Hair must be clean, well groomed and not excessively long. Hair that is past the top of the collar of the boy's uniform shirt or that is hanging in the eyes is considered excessively long. No unusual haircuts, hairstyles, hair color, or **facial hair** is allowed. Hair coloring includes the coloring of the entire head of hair along with highlighting and partial coloring. Razor cuts, carvings, shaving, tails or hair that covers the face will not be allowed. No hair extensions are allowed. Final interpretation of excessively long and/or inappropriateness of hairstyle will be determined by the administration. Hats and bandanas are not to be worn upon entering the school or during the school day.

10. PE Uniform-

Boys wear their uniform shorts or pants for PE class. Athletic shoes that provide stability and support and fit securely on feet are required for PE class. Shoes must either tie or have velcro. Hiking shoes and shoes with metal are not allowed. Shoes with eyelets must have laces through the eyelets and must be tied. All jewelry (including watches) is to be removed prior to coming to PE class.

Girls Dress Code

The following will be the options for purchasing the uniform for the 2024-2025 school year.

1. Navy blue plaid jumper grades K-4

Navy blue plaid skort grades K-8 (can be worn the whole school year)

Navy blue plaid skirt grades 5-8

Must be purchased at DiGiorgio's Sportswear, or French Toast

The pattern of jumpers, skorts and skirts worn by girls must be an identical match to the pattern sold at DiGiorgio's Sportswear or French Toast (Navy/Red Plaid, either Item #1047 – jumper, Item #1397 – skort or Item #1065 – skirt). Skirts or skorts should not be rolled at the waist and may not be shorter than three inches from the top of the knee. Final interpretation of appropriateness of length of skorts/skirts will be handled by the administration.

2. Shirts-

Plain white tailored/oxford blouses, long or short sleeved, no lace, ruffles, extra trim, colored inner collars. Pointed or round collar with buttons down the entire front. **OR**

Plain white or navy blue* knit shirt, either long or short sleeved, pointed collars required. **OR**

Plain white knit shirt, either long or short sleeved, with banded bottom. **OR**

White short sleeved knit shirt with SPSL logo or SPSL panther screen-printed or embroidered on upper left side of shirt – **MUST** be ordered through the school office. **OR**

Plain white long sleeved turtlenecks without buttons, lace, or ruffles.

Plain white blouses/turtlenecks may be purchased at any store.

*The style and color of the plain navy knit shirts must be the same style and color as from DiGiorgio's Sportswear.

NO wrinkled blouses.

If T-Shirts are worn as undershirts, they MUST be SOLID WHITE, SHORT SLEEVED ONLY.

All blouses, except for banded bottom shirts, are required to be properly tucked in.

Students are expected to be neat and clean in their appearance.

3. Sweater-

Red or navy blue crew or cardigan uniform sweaters must be purchased at DiGiorgio's Sportswear. All sweaters must be worn with a uniform shirt or turtleneck.

4. Sweatshirts and Quarter Zips -

The navy blue sweatshirts/quarter zips, purchased through the school, may be worn as part of the school uniform. Uniform shirts/turtlenecks must be worn under sweatshirts and quarter zips. No oversized or hooded sweatshirts will be allowed.

For current 8th grade students only, the 8th grade class sweatshirts approved by the school may be worn as part of the school uniform. Uniform shirts/turtlenecks must be worn under the 8th grade class sweatshirt.

5. Shorts-

Shorts may be worn through October 31st in the Fall and then beginning April 1st in the Spring. Navy blue shorts may be purchased at any store. The style and color of the shorts must be the same style and color as from DiGiorgio's Sportswear. Shorts should not be cargo style. When shorts are worn as the uniform, girls MUST wear navy blue, white or red plain socks or SPSL spirit wear socks sold by SPSL school. No stripes or colored accents are allowed except for those on the SPSL spirit wear socks. Shorts should not be rolled at the waist and may not be shorter than three inches from the top of the knee. Final interpretation of appropriateness of length of shorts will be handled by the administration. *Beginning December 1, 2024 students in grades 6-8th may wear shorts all year long.

6. Pants-

Pants may be worn throughout the entire school year. Pants must be navy blue and of the uniform style. Pants should not be cargo style or jogger style (no elastic at the ankles). They may be purchased at any store. Over the course of time, navy blue tends to fade. Faded navy is not an acceptable color for uniform pants

7. Shoes-

Suitable shoes, dress or tennis, and socks are to be worn. Sandals, backless shoes, boots or similar shoes are not part of the uniform. Shoes must be tied, strapped or fastened and shoes with eyelets must have laces through the eyelets and must be tied. "Wheelies" shoes are not allowed. Croc-style footwear, "toe shoes", and moccasin style shoes are not allowed.

8. Socks-

Socks must be worn. Plain navy blue, white or red anklets, crew socks, tights or knee highs may be worn. Small logos on the socks are acceptable. SPSL navy blue and white spirit wear socks sold by SPSL School may be worn. No stripes or colored accents are allowed except for those on the SPSL spirit wear socks. Plain, not patterned, navy blue, white or red tights (no mid-calf or mid-thigh tights are allowed) may or may not be worn with anklets or socks. **Plain, not patterned, navy blue, white or red leggings (no mid-calf or capri leggings allowed) may be worn with socks.** Socks or anklets must be visible above the tops of the shoes.

9. Make-up/Polish

Make-up is not allowed on any school day except light make-up for grade 8 girls on picture day. **No nail polish or artificial nails are allowed.**

10. Jewelry-

Only small, non-dangling, non-hoop, smaller than the lobe style earrings are allowed. If earrings are worn, like earrings must be worn in each ear and only one earring per ear can be worn and only in the lowest part of the ear lobe. Faddish or distracting jewelry such as long chains, large watches, multiple bracelets or wristbands (more than one), rings, or ankle bracelets, etc. and buttons or pins are not allowed on any school day. Religious medallions, chokers, chains and/or other types of necklaces must be worn inside the blouse so that no part is visible. Body piercings, body jewelry, and tattoos are not allowed. Sweatbands are not permitted.

11. Hair-

Hair must be clean and well groomed. No faddish or unusual haircuts or hairstyles will be allowed nor will **hair coloring**. Hair coloring includes the coloring of the entire head of hair along with highlighting and partial coloring. Razor cuts, carvings, shaving, or hair that covers the face will not be allowed. Hair extensions may be worn, but must be the same color as the natural hair color. Feathers or other synthetic hair accessories (e.g. clip-in braids) will not be allowed. Final interpretation of hairstyle and objects in the hair will be determined by the administration. Hats and bandanas are not to be worn upon entering the school or during the school day.

12. PE Uniform-

Uniform skorts or uniform shorts and athletic shoes that provide stability and support and fit securely on feet are required for PE for girls in grades K-4. Shorts should not be too tight or too short and without words on the back side. For girls in grades 5-8, uniform skirts, uniform pants, or uniform shorts, along with supportive athletic shoes, are required for PE. Shoes must either tie or have velcro. Hiking shoes and shoes with metal are not allowed. Shoes with eyelets must have laces through the eyelets and must be tied. "Sperrys" shoes and moccasins are not allowed. All jewelry (including watches), with the exception of post earrings, needs to be removed and left in the classroom prior to coming to PE.

13. Dress down days-

"Dress-down" means casual attire including t-shirts, jeans, sweatpants, shorts, sweatshirts and blouses. We ask that the t-shirts are in good taste without offensive language/graphics. They may not display musical groups, advertise drugs/alcohol or display guns, weapons, or violence. Sleeveless shirts and bare midriffs are not allowed. Jeans, sweatpants, and shirts must be without holes and tears. Girls may wear leggings or yoga/athletic style pants, but they must be accompanied with an extra long sweater, blouse or skirt. Capri pants may be worn by girls only. Flannel pants and/or pajama pants may NOT be worn except for possible exceptions for themed 'dress-down' days. Students should not wear any clothing that is too tight or too short. Shorts are allowed on "dress-down" day when it is within the time frame when uniform shorts are allowed. Biker style shorts are not allowed. Final interpretation of appropriateness of shorts length on "dress down" days will be handled by the administration.

As with any school day, the sock, shoe and jewelry code are in effect on both "dress-down" and "dress-up" days, except that the students are allowed to wear any color of socks and shoes that have the heels and toes closed on "dress-down" days. Students should have tennis shoes available to use on days they have PE or for going out to recess.

14. Picture Day-

Picture Day is usually toward the beginning of the school year. Students in grades PreK-8 may "**dress up**" on picture day. On "**dress up**" for picture day, girls may wear dresses or skirts, slacks, blouses, and sweaters. Boys may wear dress pants, dress shorts and shirts, or sweaters. Also, a student may choose to wear any type of shoe while he/she is getting their picture taken, but the student must wear shoes that follow the dress code for the rest of the school day. Socks need to be worn on "dress up" day .Any color of socks is acceptable on "Picture Day."

Students may **NOT WEAR JEANS, ATHLETIC SHORTS, SLEEVELESS SHIRTS**, tank tops, sweatshirts, sweatpants or T-shirts for picture day.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN DRESS CODE

Uniforms are not required for Pre-Kindergarten students. Any type of comfortable and washable clothing may be worn. Pants that pull off easily and without belts are best. Tennis shoes are recommended because of the different activities that go on daily in the classroom. Shorts are allowed through October 31st and beginning April 1st.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee is a subcommittee of the School Board. The main purpose of the Education Committee is to act as a liaison between parents and the Administration/School Board. The committee is advisory to the Administration/School Board on such issues as school uniform, parental concerns, school policy formation, and makes related policy recommendations to the School Board.

The Education Committee is comprised of the principal, a number of school board representatives appointed by the President of the School Board, classroom representatives from each grade, Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade and a number of ad-hoc members. The school board representatives serve as long as the School Board President appoints them. The ad-hoc members serve for three year terms. The grade level representatives serve for two or three year terms. Empty positions are posted in the spring of each year in the school newsletter and on the Volunteer Sign Up Survey. In filling ad-hoc positions, efforts are made to select candidates representing the diversity of the SPSL School community. If more than one person is interested in an open grade level representative position, names will be picked at random to fill that position.

As a subcommittee of the School Board, meetings are held on the same schedule as the School Board. The committee generally meets in September, October, November, January, February, March and April. Minutes of the Education Committee are presented at the School Board meeting for review and/or discussion.

The names/contact information of all Education Committee members are listed below. If you have an issue (non-personnel) that you would like addressed at an Education Committee meeting, you may contact anyone on the committee. Your issue will be added to the agenda of the following meeting and discussed as a committee. If you desire a response regarding this discussion, a committee member or the committee chair will respond to you after the meeting. If more information is needed, or a vote is required regarding this issue, it may require several meetings for final resolution. If your issue is out of the scope of the Education Committee, it will be forwarded to the appropriate channels, such as the Finance Committee, the Development Committee, or to the Board President, who would bring it to the Executive Committee of the School Board, if it cannot be resolved by a teacher or administrator.

Education Committee Ad-Hoc Members:

LaDeidre Jackson (ladeidre.jackson@ops.org)

Laura Kinney (lkinneytherapy@gmail.com)

Allison Lampe (allie.k.leonard@gmail.com)

Erica Williamson (ericawilliamson13@gmail.com)

Grade Representatives:

Grade Level Representatives

(Pre-K) Shannon Peter shannondpeter@gmail.com

(K) Calli Sibilila cjsibilia@gmail.com

(1st) Andrew Wassinger andrew.wassinger@gmail.com

(2nd) Erin Henrickson e.danielson.rx@gmail.com

(3rd) Howard Edwards edwardshc@gmail.com

(4th) Deana O'Hare deana.ohare@gmail.com

(5th) Alex Shull pashull27@gmail.com

(6th) Lauren Helgerson laurenhelgerson@gmail.com

(7th) Sarah Owen sarahaowen@gmail.com

(8th) Sherita Samuels sheritasamuels@gmail.com

School Board Representatives (SB) Grace Tollo (SB) Desiree Nownes
Sarah Crotzer– Lead & School Board Member (sarahcrotzer@yahoo.com)

EMERGENCIES

1. In case of an emergency and we cannot locate the parent, we will presume the parent's permission to take the student to the closest Emergency Service. Ambulance transportation may be called in an emergency situation if deemed necessary by the administrator(s), school nurse, or designated personnel. The cost of this service will be the responsibility of the parent.

2. A student will never be sent home ill during the school day unless we have notified the child's parent(s) first. In the event that a parent cannot be reached, we will refer to the emergency contacts listed in Blackbaud and notify someone delegated by the parent.

EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM

St. Pius X / St. Leo School administers an Extended Care Program for students who are enrolled in St. Pius X / St. Leo School and will be in kindergarten through eighth grades. The program is held from 6:30 A.M. until 8:00 A.M. and 3:25 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. each school day. The program is also available on scheduled early dismissal days until 6:00 P.M. The program is NOT open on snow days or days when school is not in session. The school website (www.spsl.net) provides information about the program as well as gives information on the fees charged (For Parents/Extended Care Program).

*Please note that Pre-Kindergarten enrichment is a separate program. Program hours for Pre-Kindergarten enrichment are 7:30 A.M. until 8:00 A.M. and 3:20 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. There is no Pre-K enrichment offered on scheduled early dismissal days. Please be advised that habitual failure to pick up from enrichment care on time will result in a meeting with the Principal and may impact enrollment in the PK enrichment program.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT - COOPERATIVE ROLE

The school provides for all students:

- formal instruction in the Catholic faith
- opportunities for prayer and worship
- community-building and service activities
- knowledge and understanding of Catholic moral values
- encouragement to grow in virtue
- encouragement to live as disciples of Christ

All that the school provides is meant to complement the efforts of parents in providing similar faith development experiences at home. When both the family and the school community make continuous efforts to assist students

in the formation of their faith, students grow in and become committed to their faith. The Church is strengthened in its mission of proclaiming the Gospel through this partnership. If you are not currently a member of a Catholic parish, we encourage you to join St. Pius X (402-558-8446) or St. Leo the Great (402-397-0407).

We ask that you model all areas of faith development for your children. Your own commitment to attending Mass, prayer, to the Eucharistic liturgy, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to actively participating in St. Pius X or St. Leo the Great Parish, to service of others and to compassion and assistance to those in need, will form your children in ritual and practices that will enable them to deepen their relationship with God.

FIELD TRIPS

Grade levels may take up to two field trips a year. If there is a special reason for other field trips, permission must be given by the principal. A fee will be collected to cover transportation and admission for field trips. A written permission form will be sent home with the student prior to the field trip explaining the purpose of the field trip, where the field trip is being held, method of transportation, time of departure from the school, and time of return to the school. The permission form must be returned to the school with a parent's signature in order for the student to participate on the field trip.

Parents who go on field trips as requested by the teacher must have Safe Environment Certification through the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Other educational opportunities are provided throughout the year at no cost to the student. The school arranges for speakers, entertainers and demonstrations appropriate for the different grade levels.

Occasionally we will treat different grades of students to recess, fun day activities and/or educational activities at the adjacent public park to the west of our school property. If you object to your child(ren) going to the park, please inform us in writing within the first week of school so he/she will not go with the class or group.

GOOGLE APPS FOR EDUCATION AGREEMENT

St. Pius X / St. Leo School (SPSL) has implemented Google Workspace for Education for students and faculty.

Google Apps is a collection of free online applications. These applications do not reside on the computer itself, but rather they are accessed through a web browser. This is considered working "in the cloud." The benefit of this structure allows flexibility in accessing documents and projects from ANY computer with Internet access. Staff and students can access their school documents from any Internet connected device.

Google Workspace for Education is a special setup of the popular Google Apps, tailored specifically for educational institutions. For example, accounts are managed by the school (and not by Google) and all advertisements are turned off. This service is available through an agreement with Google St. Pius X / St. Leo School. Google Workspace for Education runs on an Internet domain purchased and owned by the school and is intended for educational use. Each student in Kindergarten and up will be issued an spsl.net email address which will serve as their login to the Google Workspace for Education. This account will be used by the student through 8th grade or when they leave our school.

The Google agreement with SPSL provides access to Google applications and storage. While Google hosts these services off-site, SPSL maintains the ability to manage users, groups and settings, much like other locally hosted systems. Students have no expectation of privacy in their use as school administrators have the right and ability to monitor user accounts for policy and security enforcement. This means that SPSL can grant and

revoke user access and control other settings to ensure a safe and secure collaboration environment for students and teachers.

SPSL students in Kindergarten and up will have access to the core suite of Google Apps which include Gmail, Calendar, Contacts, Drive & Docs, Sites. All students in Kindergarten and up and their parents are required to agree and adhere to the following:

- Agree to Google's Google Workspace for Education terms of service found at https://gsuite.google.com/intl/en/terms/education_terms.html
- Student Google Workspace for Education accounts are to be used for educational purposes related to St. Pius X / St. Leo School and may not use them for:
 - Unlawful activities
 - Commercial purposes (running a business or trying to make money)
 - Personal financial gain (running a website to sell things)
 - Inappropriate sexual or other offensive content
 - Threatening another person
 - Misrepresentation of SPSL's staff or students. Apps, sites, email, and groups are not public forums. They are extensions of classroom spaces where student free speech rights may be limited.
- Agree to SPSL's Technology Use Policy (AUP) found in the family handbook.
- School technology staff have access to student Google Workspace for Education accounts for monitoring purposes. Students have no expectation of privacy on the Apps system.
- Agree, but not limited to the following safety standards:
 - Students may not sign up for apps unless they have express permission from an SPSL teacher to do so.
 - Students may not post personal contact information about themselves or other people. That includes last names, addresses and phone numbers.
 - Students agree not to meet with someone they have met online without their parent's approval and participation.
 - Students will tell their teacher or other school employee about any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.
 - Students are responsible for the use of their individual accounts and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use their account. **Under no conditions should a user provide his or her password to another person.**
- Access to Google Workspace for Education is considered a privilege accorded at the discretion of the school. SPSL maintains the right to immediately withdraw the access and use of Apps when there is reason to believe that violations of law or school policies have occurred.

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

In order to meet its educational goals, St. Pius X / St. Leo School may utilize third party websites and online services, such as Google Apps, Prezi, Animoto, Overdrive, BrainPop, BrainPopJr, etc. for its students. Such services are used to assist with education specific needs both inside and outside of the classroom. Many of these services have education specific versions that enable teacher control/monitoring. The school, when possible and appropriate, will utilize the education specific versions and also restrict the use of the services and access to posted material to the classroom which your student is involved in.

SPSL may contract with publishers or online providers to offer online curriculum that aligns with Archdiocesan standards or services that support teaching and learning processes of the Archdiocese. These websites are offered for the benefit of students and the school system, e.g. web-based testing, supplemental curriculum. Online providers give SPSL full notice of their collection, use and disclosure practices. Use of the website and

collection of information from students are solely for the use and benefit of the school and for no commercial purpose.

Under COPPA, verifiable parental consent is required for students under the age of thirteen (13) if accounts containing personal information are created for them on third party websites or online services.

At most, SPSL enters only the following information about students when creating accounts in these services:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Student Library ID
- Email Address ending with spsl.net

SPSL utilizes this information, as opposed to randomly generated usernames, etc, to provide consistency for students and to leverage educational services. By doing this students can use the same username and password for ALL school technology resources and services regardless of whether they are local or hosted offsite. In some cases less information is entered, depending on the need.

To learn more about COPPA visit <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/coppafaqs.shtm>.

GRADING SCALE

In order for you to better understand our grading scale, we have included the numerical value range or the meaning of the letter grade that is on your child/ren's report card.

A+ = 100,99	B+ = 92,91	C+ = 86,85
A = 98,97,96,95	B = 90,89	C = 84,83,82,81,80,79
A- = 94,93	B- = 88,87	C- = 78,77
D+ = 76,75	F = 69-0	
D = 74,73,72		
D- = 71,70		

E = Excellent	M = Most of the time	+ indicates student excels
S = Satisfactory	P = Part of the time	no mark indicates average
N = Needs Improvement	N = Not yet	a minus or check indicates student needs improvement
U = Unsatisfactory		

HEALTH

1. A school nurse from the VNA visits St. Pius X / St. Leo School. The nurse organizes screening of vision, weight, height, and hearing and notifies parents if problems are suspected. The nurse assists with student health needs and sees that all current requirements of the state of Nebraska Health Department are met by the school. Volunteers from the school/parishes serve as Health Chairman and assist with screenings.

2. The following procedure will be used in the dispensing of medication in our school:

a. Medication will be given to a student only if the administration has in writing the permission of the parents or legal guardian **AND** a written statement from the doctor. The physician's written statement must include the name of the drug, the recommended dosage and time interval to be given.

b. The medication must be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.

- c. The medicine will be stored in a locked container in the office or in the refrigerator.
- d. Medications will be given by school personnel designated by the administration.
- e. No unauthorized medication **OR** over the counter medication (i.e. Tylenol, aspirin, cold medicine, etc. with the exception of cough drops) shall be administered by any school personnel, even with parent's permission. There must be written permission by both parent or legal guardian **AND** a physician. The school does not assume responsibility for non-prescription medications brought to school by students. It is against school policy for any students to carry unauthorized medications.

3. **PHYSICAL EXAMS** - Nebraska State Law requires a physical examination for all students entering both kindergarten and seventh grade. A dental examination is also recommended. Completed health forms must be on file in the school office for every kindergartner and 7th grader **before** the opening of school each fall. Nebraska State Law also requires a physical examination for all students entering Nebraska schools from other states. Also, all students entering kindergarten or transferring from an out-of-state school must provide proof of a vision evaluation prior to school entrance according to Nebraska State Law.

The Nebraska School Immunization Law requires that all students be immunized and provide proof of immunization against the diseases of diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus (DTP), polio, measles, rubella (German Measles), mumps (MMR), Hepatitis B, and varicella before entering school. The school must have a current record for these immunizations **before** a student may be admitted into classes. Immunizations can also be obtained through the Omaha/Douglas County Health Department's Immunization Clinic (444-6163). Covid vaccination updates may be emailed or brought into the office if not listed on your child's vaccination record.

4. **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE** - Students with rashes or other symptoms that are questionable as to whether the condition is communicable to other students are to be sent home at the discretion of school nurse or school officials. The student may return to school after the condition is identified and treated by a health professional and/or the condition is no longer present.

5. **FEVER OF 100 DEGREES OR HIGHER** – Take your child's temperature if he/she is complaining of feeling tired, headache, sore throat or stomach ache. A child should be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school.

HOMEWORK

It is our recommendation that a specific place be set aside where your child/children can study. The amount of time needed to do homework varies with each child. Many times, the assignments given will cause the average child to spend between 15-20 minutes for the lower grades to possibly 1-2 hours for the upper grades. If you feel your child is spending an excessive amount of time on homework or on a specific project, please call the teacher and talk about the situation.

If a child falls behind in classwork or homework, the parents will be contacted to make arrangements to help the student complete the work. These arrangements may include time outside of regular school hours.

INSURANCE

St. Pius X / St. Leo School does not offer student insurance coverage while the student is attending school. Any insurance claims for sickness or injury to students during school hours must be filed with the family's insurance agent.

KEY EXPECTATIONS OF ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO STUDENTS

- **R** - Ready to Learn
- **O** - Offer Respect
- **A** - Achieve a Safe Environment
- **R** - Respect for Others and Yourself

These expectations should be met by students before, during and after school hours, both on campus and off, and includes all digital forums. Parents and students are expected to comply with the school rules, policies and consequences for inappropriate behavior. Parents and students are expected to respect and support the leadership of school officials. Parents reserve the right to withdraw their children and the school has the right to cancel enrollment of a student if the administration determines that the parent or student demonstrates a refusal to maintain a partnership with the school. This family and school partnership includes, but is not limited to, support both on and off school campus, extra-curricular events and through online communication and social media.

LUNCH PROGRAM

St. Pius X / St. Leo School has contracted with Westside Nutrition Services to provide a hot lunch program with quality food and a balanced diet. Students who choose to bring sack lunches from home may purchase milk at school. The lunch count will be done at the time that attendance is taken each morning. Children will be asked to indicate whether or not they will be taking hot lunch. If a child arrives to school late, the only lunch choice available will be the yogurt and cheese option unless prior arrangements were made. It is strongly suggested that parents pre-order lunch through Blackbaud on the EZ school lunch section.

The process for purchasing hot lunches is as follows:

- The menu can be found on the school website each month.
- Initial deposits for school lunch accounts will be requested the first week of school. \$72.00 deposits are suggested but you may choose to deposit more or less.
- Clearly label the envelope with the student's name and homeroom number and the words "lunch money".

Lunch Prices:

We encourage parents to get on the volunteer cafeteria crew to help us keep lunches at the lowest prices possible. Hot lunch/milk prices for the 2024-25 school year are:

- Gr K-8 lunches are \$3.90/meal or \$78.00/20 meals (students in grades 7-8th have the option of ordering an extra entree for \$1.90)
- Extra milk or milk for cold lunch is \$.65/milk
- The price of hot lunch includes a carton of milk.

If a parent joins their SPSL student for lunch, the parent's cost for lunch is \$5.00. If the parent brings along one of their other children who is not a grade K-8 student at SPSL, the cost for that child's lunch is \$3.90. Parents will need to call the school office the day prior to when they would be coming for lunch to "pre-order" their lunch.

Low Account Notices:

- When a student’s lunch account drops below \$10.00, an email will be sent to the parent(s) each day until a deposit is made.
- When a student’s lunch account accrues a substantial negative balance, a phone call/letter will go to the parents.
- Students (and their parents) in grades Pre-K-8 can check their lunch balances on-line through their Blackbaud account.

Please Note: The hot lunch program receives funds from the federal government. As stated in USDA Policy: “Under the law, the regulations, and the guidance, there is no requirement that children paying the reduced or full price be given credit which permits them to charge the price of meals when they don’t have money with them to pay.” USDA Policy Memo 94-77

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Our Lunch Room Policies:

- Food from a restaurant may not be ordered to be delivered or brought in to students at lunchtime or any time during the school day. Any outside food that you bring in must be in a plain sack or bag. No identifying fast food sacks or containers are allowed.
- No pop or caffeinated drinks are allowed in the cafeteria.
- Parents may join their child for lunch. Parents will need to call the school office the day prior to when they would be coming for lunch to “pre-order” their lunch. We also ask that parents sign-in at the office upon arrival.

Lunch Schedule:

Grades 2, 3 & 4	11:00 a.m.
Grades PreK, K & 1	11:30 a.m.
Grades 5 & 6	12:00 p.m.
Grades 7 & 8	12:30 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board has established that the purpose of the annual FUNDRAISER is to encourage inter-parish fellowship through community building activities. It is also the intent that these activities will help to fund the extraordinary needs of the school and the Endowment Trust Fund with a certain percent used for the regular budget of the school.

The proceeds from this major fundraiser will be used according to the following:

- Capital Improvements - 32%
- Technology/Ed Resources - 20%
- Teacher Support - 10%
- Operating Budget - 30%
- Endowment Trust Fund - 8%

The development committee will evaluate the annual FUNDRAISER in accordance with the St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board stated mission. The committee will work with the development committee if there are any major changes.

MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION POLICY

It is the policy of St. Pius X / St. Leo School to utilize the resources of curriculum, instruction, in-service, counseling, and guidance to reflect the racial, ethnic, language, and cultural heritage of both historical and modern day United States of America by observing the following objectives.

1. Multicultural education allows, preserves, or celebrates differences between groups and provides individuals with the means to pursue their cultural differences.
2. To conduct in-service programs for our staff that will assist them to understand a multicultural approach and to reflect it in their teaching and administrative duties.

NON-CUSTODIAL AND CUSTODIAL PARENT POLICY

Unless such rights are restricted by a legally binding instrument or court order, the custodial and the non-custodial parent:

- is entitled to exercise all parental rights regarding student records;
- may obtain information from their child's records on a regular basis;
- may receive general notices;
- may attend regularly scheduled teacher conferences or have separate conferences scheduled.

A child may not be released during the school day to anyone except the custodial parent unless permission is provided by the custodial parent. If the parents are separated and/or neither is the primary custodian of the child, the school may release the child to either parent unless the school has evidence of a legally binding instrument or court order to the contrary.

Any contacts by non-custodial parents with the child during the school day will be governed by the legally binding instrument or court order in effect unless the school has received permission from the custodial parent providing for contact. Such permission must specify the type of contact.

If the parents have joint custody, each parent shall be afforded all parental rights, unless restricted in some way by a legally binding instrument or court order.

The school may require custodial and non-custodial parents to provide a court certified copy of the court document in effect that sets forth the rights and restrictions pertaining to the parent's rights.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

It is strongly recommended that personal electronic devices not be brought on school grounds or to school sponsored events. Students are not to use and/or have any personal electronic devices or wearable technology **connected to the internet and/or using a data plan** during school hours. Those personal electronic devices include but are not limited to cell phones, texting devices, iPads/tablets, smart watches, Fitbits or other comparable devices.

If a personal electronic device is brought to school during school hours, the following conditions must be followed:

1. Personal electronic devices must be stored in the student's backpack.
2. Personal electronic devices must be kept in the OFF position.
3. The personal electronic device may not be used for picture taking or recording.
4. Personal electronic devices may not be used for game playing, internet or email access, social media, texting, gambling or making purchases of any kind.
5. Use of any personal electronic device during instructional time will result in confiscation and possible disciplinary action. If any personal electronic device is taken away from a student, it will need to be picked up from the school office. On the 1st offense, the student may pick it up in the office at the end of the day. On the 2nd offense, it must be picked up in the office by a parent. On the 3rd offense, the student is no longer permitted to bring their device to school.
6. In the event a personal electronic device is found at school or at a school sponsored event, the school reserves the right to review all photos, text messages, voicemails, etc. on the personal electronic device.
7. If there is a specific reason a student needs to use a personal electronic device during school hours, a parent or guardian should seek permission from the administration.
8. At dismissal students should not be on their phones unless permission is given by a staff member. They may use their phones once they have left the school property.
9. Taking and videos pictures on school property is strictly prohibited.
10. Those who violate any of the rules regarding personal electronic devices may forfeit their privilege of bringing them to school.

No harassment or threatening of persons via a personal electronic device is permitted. St. Pius X / St. Leo School expects students to conduct themselves morally and with Catholic behavior when using personal electronic devices at all times. Students involved in using personal electronic devices in a way that violates the philosophy and policies of St. Pius X / St. Leo School are subject to disciplinary action.

If a personal electronic device is brought on school grounds or to a school sponsored event, it is strictly the student's responsibility. **St. Pius X / St. Leo is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal items brought on school grounds or to a school sponsored event.**

PICTURES

Grades Pre-Kindergarten through 8 have individual and class pictures taken at the beginning of each year. It is the option of the parents and students as to whether or not they wish to purchase the pictures.

In enrolling your child at St. Pius X / St. Leo School, you agree that the school or school hosted affiliates may publish the names and pictures of students on the appropriate website, social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X), in our newsletter, school emails, marketing materials, and any other school related public media, and may release same to the local media, such as the Catholic Voice. In the event that you do not wish your child's name and/or picture to be so used, you must notify the administrators in writing by September 1st.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORT (PBIS)

A separate handbook will be maintained for PBIS. Sections on Student Management Policy and Student Offensive Conduct, previously included in this family handbook, will be included in the PBIS handbook.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

When serious misbehavior occurs, it is always the desire of the school to assist the student and the parents in any way possible to alleviate the difficulty. However, in serious situations, it may become necessary to discipline a student by suspension and/or expulsion. Any full day in-school or out-of-school suspension will result in a student receiving a N or U in general conduct for that quarter's report card. The following list enumerates the conditions or circumstances that may lead to these disciplinary actions:

A student:

1. seriously disrupts a class or school situation.
2. uses any abusive, rude, disrespectful or inappropriate language and/or responds in an insubordinate manner to teachers, adults or students.
3. physically harms or harasses a teacher, adult or another student.
4. causes damage to the school or another's personal property.
5. possesses any dangerous weapon or substance.
6. is truant for all or part of a day.
7. is involved in any serious misbehavior that violates the philosophy and policies of St. Pius X / St. Leo School.

If any of the above situations arises and it becomes necessary to take further action, one or more of the following steps will be taken.

1. The student may be removed from the situation and taken to the office immediately.
2. The administration will inform the parents/guardian of the infraction and suspension.
3. If out of school suspension is necessary, the parents/guardian will be requested to take the student home.
4. If in-school suspension is warranted, the student will be removed from the classroom and given work to be completed in school. A conference will follow with parents/guardians, teachers, administration and student.
5. In either case, the student may be placed on a behavior management plan.
6. If and when the student and parents/guardian decide that the student is properly disposed to return to school, the administration is contacted for an appointment.
7. A conference with parents/guardian, teachers, student, and administration will determine the future course of action.
8. If expulsion is necessary, this decision will be made by the administration and communicated to the parents.
9. The only appeal of an expulsion decision is to the Pastors. The Pastors' decision will be final.

PROCEDURES FOR PLACEMENT ON HONOR ROLL FOR GRADES 7 & 8 STUDENTS

All subjects will be given numerical grades. These numerical grades will be averaged at the end of each quarter. The numerical grades from the major subject areas of religion, science, math, literature, English, and social studies will be given full weight; while the minor subjects of electives, physical education and Spanish will be given quarter weight. If the average of all of these subjects is 94.5% or above and there are no N's or U's in general conduct, the student will be placed on the First Honor Roll for the quarter. If the average of all of these subjects is 89.5% to 94.4% and there are no N's or U's in general conduct, the student will be placed on the Second Honor Roll for the quarter. Students who achieve either level of Honor Roll will receive a certificate with their report card for that quarter.

PROMOTION / RETENTION POLICY

The decision of retention or promotion will be made by the administration with the recommendations of the teacher(s) in accordance with procedures to be adopted by the administration.

PROCEDURE FOR RETENTION

Grades K - 4

If the student demonstrates the ability to do the academic work, but experiences serious difficulty in a consistent pattern a meeting will be held with the parent(s) to determine the assistance the child needs.

Grades 5 - 8

If a student demonstrates the ability to do the academic work, but fails, by averaging the percentage of four quarters of work in at least three major academic areas or two major and two minor academic areas he/she may be retained. Any average 69% or below is considered failing.

Major Subject Areas

Religion Social Studies
Science English
Math Literature

Minor Subject Areas

Elective in 7th and 8th grade
Physical Education
Spanish

If a student is doing failing or near failing work, much communication will be held between the parent, student, and teachers. If failure continues, there will be a notice of possible retention.

RECESS

Per school insurance provider recommendation, students are not allowed to play in the snow or any other recess area that has snow, is very wet, does not have good drainage or any other area not free of hazards. The safety of our students, faculty and staff is of the greatest importance, thus compliance with this recommendation is mandatory.

No one is allowed to play in or be inside the gaga pit outside of the times when school is in session.

Parents/siblings should not participate in recesses.

REGISTRATION DEPOSIT POLICY

A registration deposit of \$100 per child will be collected during online registration in the spring of each year. These fees are non-refundable. The remainder of the tuition price will be added to the Blackbaud payment plan.

Procedures on Refunding of Tuition

Up until the first day of school, the total of the tuition paid will be refunded in full if the parent changes their mind and the child is not coming to our school.

After the first day of school, the tuition will be figured on a 9 month basis. If the student leaves anytime during a month, the parents will have to pay for that month and any previous months their child has attended. If the child leaves during the following months, this is what will be charged.

August/September = 1 month
October = 2 months
November = 3 months
December = 4 months
January = 5 months

February = 6 months
March = 7 months
April = 8 months
May = 9 months

RELIGION

St. Pius X / St. Leo School is a religious organization with a heritage of strong faith formation for our students. We believe that the Catholic philosophy and faith-life must permeate our entire school day. Much emphasis is put on the development and growth of the faith-life of our faculty and staff so that this love and knowledge of God can be shared with those being taught. Students attend formal religion classes each day.

Students attend Mass weekly, and also participate in Reconciliation and other prayer services throughout the year. Students serve as ministers during school liturgies, and parents are encouraged to join when their child attends Mass. The dates and times for these Masses and prayer services are listed on the monthly calendar.

Students in second grade receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time, with students being confirmed in eighth grade. **We strongly encourage family celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but do have opportunities for each child to participate in this sacrament once each year with their class.**

The Seasons of the Church Year are emphasized along with devotions to Mary and the saints. Our students have many opportunities to grow in the image and likeness of Christ.

REQUIREMENTS AND PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT ACCEPTANCE FOR SPSSL SCHOOL

It is important that all present parents and parents of future students in St. Pius X / St. Leo School have a clear understanding of the requirements for continuance or first time acceptance into our school. In order to be admitted or to continue as a student in our school, the student and his/her parent(s) need to support the school's philosophy and agree to abide by the educational policies and regulations of the school and the Archdiocese.

- 1) Preference will be given to the admission of children of parents actively engaged in one of our two parishes. Actively engaged means:
 - a. One or both parents are Catholic and the child is being raised as a Catholic.
 - b. Registered member of one of our parishes
 - c. Active participation in supporting the parish
 - d. Supporting Church according to parish plan
- 2) Preference will be given to all students currently enrolled in our school.
- 3) If parents are active members of a neighboring parish, but due to filled classrooms in their parish school, need to have one or more of their children in our school, they would be able to remain in their present parish and pay the tuition price/student.
- 4) If a classroom has more than two openings, we will accept students of other faiths on a first come, first serve basis and with consideration to the ability of the family to pay the tuition charged/student. These students will attend religion classes and participate in religious practices as appropriate with Catholic Church teachings.

Students will be accepted into our school according to the following priorities:

- a. Brothers or sisters of present students.
- b. First child starting in our school. Length of time registered in either parish - - emphasis placed on greatest amount of time and working down to least amount of time.
- c. Child/ren from other parishes where they have previously been enrolled in a Catholic school or just planning to begin attendance at a Catholic school.
- d. Students of other faiths. (Once students of other faiths are accepted, they will be able to continue as long as all policies are being followed.

All acceptance or continuation in our school is contingent upon our school's ability to meet the child's academic and emotional needs. This will be determined by the administration.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

All employees and volunteers who have one-on-one contact and are alone with children in the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Omaha must receive the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Training and be approved by the Archdiocese of Omaha prior to having contact with the children in the schools.

A complete Child Protection Policy manual is available in the local school office.

Please know that the list of Nebraska Registered Sex Offenders can be found online at www.nsp.state.ne.us/sor/find.cfm

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS/VISITORS

According to our School Board policy, our meetings are always open to the public for observation unless we are in Executive Session. We want parents to feel welcome as observers of the meeting's procedures, but because you would not be on the agenda, you would not be recognized for comments and/or questions during the official meeting. If you do have concerns, the following are the procedures that we suggest you use to deal with them. They are as follows:

Discussion of Concerns-Resolution of Concerns:

If the matter of concern pertains to the classroom, the parent is strongly encouraged to first contact the teacher for clarification. If the teacher is not able to satisfy the concern, the parent would then contact the administration.

Concerns are most effectively addressed and resolved when parties to the concern speak from first-hand knowledge of events, remain open to and respectful of others' viewpoints, and focus their discussion on establishing the factual basis of the concern. Teachers are encouraged to be sensitive to and responsive to the concern parents have for their children. Parents are encouraged to be trusting of the teacher's professional competence and supportive of the teacher's role as an authority essential to effective instruction of groups of students.

The administration is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the school, and in accord with that responsibility, has authority to make final decisions relative to resolution of concerns. If the matter of concern is a non-classroom item, the parent is strongly encouraged to come to the administration directly since this is the responsibility of the administrators. Other options would be to take the non-classroom concern to one of the members of the Education Committee or the Board President. The Education Committee is made up of Board members and Ad Hoc members from both parishes. The Education Committee discusses non-classroom

educational issues such as uniforms, special activities, parent education, etc. They also recommend policies to the full School Board. The Board President would bring the concern to the Executive Committee of the Board.

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

Our school has a Pre-Kindergarten program for children that are 3 and 4 years old by July 31st and are potty trained. The rest of our school is composed of three classrooms of each grade in grades K-8.

The structure for fourth grade consists of homeroom classes for language arts and math. Departmentalized classes are held for religion, science, and social studies.

The structure for fifth grade consists of homeroom classes for part of the day in which language arts is taught. Departmentalized classes are held for religion, science, and math and social studies.

Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 have departmentalized classes for all subjects.

SELLING AND ENDORSING ITEMS

It has always been the policy of our school that the selling of items to students and staff is not encouraged.

We send home different book or math order forms so that you can have the opportunity to buy books or materials for your children. By sending the orders home we are not endorsing any or all of the books or math materials on these orders.

SPECIAL ACADEMIC NEEDS

Students who have special academic needs, but do not qualify for a special program with their local education agency, may be provided with some extra resources in our school.

Resource Room

- Students who qualify for this will receive this help on a weekly basis. The help is usually within the reading, language arts, and math academic areas. New students may be screened through our resource staff. This screening will be done without notification to parents. If ongoing service is recommended parents will be contacted. Students may qualify for resource support from testing, screening, and/or teacher recommendation.

OPS Title 1

- A teacher provides tutoring help in math or reading to students in grades K-8 who qualify for Title 1 according to public school attendance zone and achievement test scores. Math or reading tutoring is determined by the student's level of needs.

Local Education Agency (LEA)

- Westside offers services to SPSL students who qualify based off of testing by a Westside School Psychologist. Westside provides academic, behavior, and speech support determined by a student's Multidisciplinary Team. The supports would be included within the child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Equitable Service Plan (ESP).

Madonna School and Community- Based Services

- Madonna School and Community-Based Services offers inclusive special education for students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade at St. Pius X / St. Leo School. Students attending St. Pius X / St. Leo

School will work with on-site special education experts and will receive individualized special education instruction alongside their neuro-typical peers. This side-by-side instruction prepares those with disabilities for a lifetime of successful community inclusion and fosters acceptance and sensitivity in their classmates.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL NEEDS

The St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board supports the concept of Catholic or universal education for all of our students. When concerns arise for a student, a Student Assistive Team (SAT) will be held. The Student Assistive Team is a general education intervention team at St. Pius X / St. Leo School. The purpose of the team is 1) to provide a forum for teachers to discuss resources and develop intervention strategies for the student being discussed 2) to work together as a team with the parent to best serve the student at St. Pius X / St. Leo School, and 3) to help faculty serve as a "community of learners" themselves.

There are times that resources are unavailable to meet a student's educational needs at St. Pius X / St. Leo School.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Through the eighth grade, students have the opportunity to participate in the parish sponsored athletic program offering soccer, basketball, track, cross country, and girls volleyball.

Band instruction is available for students in grades five through eight through Music in the Catholic Schools, with honor band participation being a possibility after successful tryouts. The band program is a parent paid program with large group band instruction before school and small group instruction during the day.

There are numerous academic based clubs and competitions available to students, as well as Student Council for students in Grades 6th through 8th.

STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

St. Pius X / St. Leo School voluntarily complies with the provisions of the Buckley Amendment regarding student records.

Each student has an official file in the school office which contains the following: 1) academic transcript, 2) attendance record, 3) records of educational or related testing, 4) discipline related records, 5) emergency information, and 6) required health information. Only factual, not observational comments will be written in the student files.

TECHNOLOGY USE POLICY

Effective July 2020, the Catholic Schools Office revised the Technology Use Policy for students and staff. A separate policy statement and consent will be shared separately with school families to complete.

TELEPHONE USE

In an emergency, students may use the telephone in the office. The student must obtain a permission form and signature from his/her teacher. The student will bring the signed permission form to the office. After the student

has completed his/her call, a member of the office staff will sign the slip, note the time and return it to the student. The student must return the slip to the teacher when returning to class.

TESTING

Students take the STAR assessment in the fall, winter and spring as directed by the Archdiocesan Office of Education. This is a tool we find very valuable in assessing student progress and planning instruction to meet their needs. STAR results will be shared with parents after the fall and spring testing windows or upon request.

TEXTBOOKS

By enrolling in St. Pius X/St. Leo School, parents authorize the administrator of the school to act as designated agents for purposes of requesting and borrowing textbooks, pooling per-pupil allocations when requesting textbooks, and representing them in all other matters under Title 92, NAC, Chapter 4.

THREAT ASSESSMENT

In accordance with FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) and Title IX regulations, in the event that a threat is reported to SPSL (an Archdiocese of Omaha Catholic School), the Threat Assessment Team will convene to determine appropriate next steps. The team will consist of school administrators, a school counselor, law enforcement (if necessary), and grounds/facilities personnel. This team has been formally trained in threat assessment by Comprehensive Threat Advisors.

Upon the receipt of a threat, the Threat Assessment Team will notify the Pastors and collaborate with local law enforcement, mental health professionals, and other relevant entities as needed. However, in compliance with FERPA and Title IX, confidentiality will be upheld for the privacy of students and individuals involved in the investigation. As a result, some details of the investigation may need to be withheld from parents, staff, or others who are not directly involved in the threat assessment process. Efforts will be made to communicate as much information as possible on a case-by-case basis.

At no time will the safety of the school or individuals be compromised for the sake of confidentiality. The team will take all necessary actions to ensure the safety and well-being of all individuals involved, in full adherence to applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

TIME SCHEDULES

1. The school day begins each day at 8:15 a.m. for grades K-7 students and will dismiss at 3:25 p.m. Eighth grade students will begin at 8:15 a.m. and be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. Part-time Pre-Kindergarten academic sessions run from 8:15-11:15 a.m. and from 12:25-3:20 p.m. Full day Pre-Kindergarten runs from 8:15 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

2. Students will be allowed in the school building at 8:00 a.m.

3. Lunch periods are as follows:

11:00 - Grades 2, 3 & 4

12:00 - Grades 5 & 6

11:30 - Grades K, 1 and Pre K

12:30 - Grades 7 & 8

4. If your child is leaving for lunch, we must have a note from the parent(s) beforehand. The child must check out at the office upon leaving and check in at the office upon returning from lunch.
5. Students will be dismissed from school with their class unless there is a circumstance requiring the student to stay at school after dismissal, in which case the teacher will inform the parent beforehand.
6. In the event of inclement weather, please check local television stations for closing of school or early dismissal. In case of emergency dismissal, students will be sent home as per directions given on the emergency closing sheet unless we are notified otherwise. In the event of bad weather, children can be released early only if parents come to school to pick them up or have given written or phone permission for someone else to pick up their children. This also includes carpool rides.

TRANSPORTATION: DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

You may **drop-off** students in the morning in the following parking lots only:

- * Church front parking lot. You may not make a left turn from this parking lot when you exit. When exiting onto 69th street you may only take a right.
- * Lot east of 69th Street
- * South church parking lot

Please do not use the lot west of the north school building for dropping off students unless you have a Pre-K student. Parents of Pre-K students may park in the west lot and will be given a parking tag (at the start of the school year) to display on the rearview mirror.

Students are encouraged to use the following doors to enter the building, but we realize some may be walking siblings and entering at different doors:

- North doors (church front lot) – Grades 6 through 8
- East cafeteria doors – Grades K through 3
- South doors (behind the church) – Grades 4 and 5
- Pre-K doors (lower west lot) – Pre-K

You may use the following lots for **parking** if you need to come in the building in the AM:

- * Outside area of the lot east of 69th Street
- * Outside area of the south church parking lot

Please do not park in the church front (north) parking lot until school has begun at 8:15 A.M. Then you may use this lot in order to park for our school Masses.

For picking up your children after school you may park in any of the lots except the church front parking lot or the west parking lot. At dismissal time we need to keep the church front lot free of cars as all of the students come out of school directly into this lot. Safety is a major concern, so therefore, the lot must be free of cars. The west lot and the small north lot for pre-kindergarten are only for picking up Pre-K students. If you wish to meet your children, you may park in one of the other lots, and walk to meet your children.

Students will be dismissed at the end of each school day from the following doors:

- North doors (church lot) – Grades 3 and 6
- East cafeteria doors – Grades K, 1, 7 and 8
- South parking lot doors – Grades 4 and 5
- Pre-K doors (lower west lot) – Pre-K

TUITION

Tuition is charged for students attending St. Pius X / St. Leo School. Tuition must be paid in accordance with the terms of the tuition contract and the Blackbaud payment option selected. Some tuition assistance may be available if the family applies during the open application timeframe. Please contact the school office for more information.

VISITORS

We do encourage visitors in our school. Visitors should enter the main office doors to sign in and receive a nametag from the school office. While we do encourage parent involvement in our school, we also need to be mindful of the learning environment. We respectfully request that anyone wishing to visit a classroom contact the homeroom teacher and the school administration to schedule a suitable day and time.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are used extensively in our school. Parents, grandparents, and other parishioners work each day in our classrooms. Volunteers are also used greatly in the cafeteria (ten per day at lunch time), library, and for many committees and special events. All volunteers in our school must be Safe Environment Certified, and must display a name tag obtained from signing in at the school office.

WATER BOTTLES

Students are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles to school every day. No glass containers or glass water bottles are allowed at school. This includes lunch boxes. Containers should only contain water.

*** Please Note: This handbook details operational guidelines and expectations. The information contained in the Handbook provides a general description of rules and regulations. The school reserves the right to add to, modify or abolish any of the Handbook provisions without notice. Non enforcement of any of the rules or regulations does not serve as a waiver of their future enforcement. Also, please refer to the Policy Book of the Archdiocese of Omaha School Board for further policies and details. These policies have also been approved by the St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board.**

Be it resolved that St. Pius X / St. Leo School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origins to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at

this school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of our educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.