

DISCIPLINE POLICY

High School Philosophy

As a school, we recognize the value of an education. As a Catholic school, we recognize the value of a Christian community. To provide a solid education in a Christian community is the goal of Central Catholic High School. In order to promote both values, this Discipline Policy is intended to convey the behavior that is expected as well as to detail appropriate means of dealing with unacceptable behavior.

As a Christian community, we try to foster an atmosphere in which all people receive the respect they deserve. Relationships between students as well as between students and faculty ought to be based on the Gospel commandment that we “love one another”. The efforts of all should be aimed at building up rather than tearing down.

Many things contribute to an education. It is expected that students will be on time and prepared for class. Students should be in school for tests and exams and be prepared to make up any work that they miss. Behavior in class should be appropriate to the task at hand. Students should seek to understand what a particular teacher expects from them at the very beginning of the year.

Teachers will convey to students what is expected of them in the classroom. Most discipline matters will be handled in the classroom. This may include detention, extra assignments or a parent conference. Discipline matters that cannot be handled between teacher and student are to be referred to the Administration. A Discipline Report is to be submitted explaining the problem.

All students should be aware of the fact that at all levels of living in a society, certain behavior is expected and appropriate. If a person chooses to ignore the standards of accepted behavior, he or she should expect to incur the consequences of inappropriate behavior. To maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning and growth, certain guidelines for behavior must be spelled out, and students must realize that if they choose to ignore the guidelines, consequences will occur.

Middle School Philosophy

The Middle School student responds best to positive reinforcement. The discipline used by the teacher should reward – in a positive way – correct behavior. General rules of acceptable behavior will be agreed upon by the teachers and posted in every room. These will include such rules as: be on time for homeroom and class, be prepared with necessary homework, books and equipment, and that class behavior will be appropriate for the task at hand. Teachers may also add special rules for their own classroom. Teachers will remind students periodically of all the classroom and school rules.

The bond that our teachers have with the students and their respect for them is the best way to get good positive results. A structured environment with many types of learning activities will avert major discipline problems. Most discipline problems will be handled routinely by the classroom teacher. Direct commands and warnings for inappropriate behavior will be used. Minor problems will be handled immediately to avoid escalation of the problem. Students who are brought back to the matter at hand do not need further “punishment”. Having an orderly classroom with appropriate activities is the best method to avoid discipline problems.

All students will have in their schedule recess or “social time”. Students of this age need a break from regular classroom activities – a chance to “stretch their legs” and socialize with their friends. This time will be closely chaperoned by the teachers. As part of the discipline code, taking away all or part of

this free time will be an effective penalty for incorrect behavior. The teacher can determine how much time is owed for each offense (gum chewing, book not covered, late for class, mild class disruptions, dress code violations, etc.). Most offenses can be handled by the classroom teachers in this manner (or any other manner that they deem appropriate).

The following guidelines will be used by the administration in dealing with discipline incidents:

<p><u>Category 1 Offenses</u></p> <p>Cell phone, electronic device use</p> <p>Inappropriate behavior</p> <p>Inappropriate display of affection</p> <p>Inappropriate or vulgar language</p> <p>Gambling</p> <p>Minor disruption of class, Mass, assembly</p> <p>Unexcused absence from school or class¹</p> <p>Chewing gum</p> <p>Book uncovered</p> <p>Unexcused tardy from school or class</p> <p>Dress code violation</p>	<p><u>Category 1 Consequences</u></p> <p>1) 1 hour of detention for each infraction</p> <p>2) 1 demerit</p> <p>¹Possible attendance contract</p> <p>²See Cell Phone Policy</p> <p>*Possible probation</p>
<p><u>Category 2 Offenses</u></p> <p>Defacing school property⁵</p> <p>Disrespect towards teachers or students</p> <p>Disruption of class, Mass or assembly</p> <p>Possessing or distributing over the counter medication</p> <p>Improper classroom behavior⁴</p> <p>In unassigned area without permission</p> <p>Failure to follow school procedures</p> <p>Parking lot violation³</p>	<p><u>Category 2 Consequences</u></p> <p>1) 2 hours of detention for each infraction</p> <p>2) 2 demerits</p> <p>3) Notify Parents</p> <p>³Possible loss of parking privileges</p> <p>⁴Possible out of class with no credit</p> <p>⁵Possible payment for repair of damage</p> <p>*Possible probation</p>
<p><u>Category 3 Offenses</u></p> <p>Defiant or insubordinate behavior</p> <p>Fighting between students</p> <p>Unprovoked attack on a student</p> <p>Dangerous behavior in school or at a school function</p> <p>(Category 3 continued)</p>	<p><u>Category 3 Consequences</u></p> <p>1) 3 hours of detention for each infraction</p> <p>2) 3 demerits</p> <p>3) 1-3 weeks probation</p> <p>4) Notify Parents</p> <p>*Possible 3-10 days out of school suspension</p>

Forgery of signature	<p>*Possible expulsion ⁶Possible zero on project or test</p>
Plagiarism or cheating ⁶	
Harassment, Cyber bullying (pg.31)	
Internet policy violation	
Hazing	
Inappropriate sexual communication	
<u>Category 4 Offenses</u>	<u>Category 4 Consequences</u>
Truancy from class, activity, or school	1) 4 hours of detention for each infraction
Vandalism or theft from student or school ⁸	2) 4 demerits
Possession or use of tobacco during school or school function ⁷	3) 4-6 weeks of probation
	4) Notify Parents
Hazing	⁷ Possible \$50.00 fine per offense
	*Possible 3-10 days out of school suspension
	*Possible expulsion
	⁸ Possible payment for loss or damage
<u>Category 5 Offenses</u>	<u>Category 5 Consequences</u>
Physical violence toward any school personnel	1) 5 demerits
Hazing	2) Notify parents and authorities
Possession or use of a dangerous object	3) 3-10 days out of school suspension or expulsion
	4) 7-9 weeks of probation
	5) Refer to drug and alcohol policy
<u>Category 6 Offenses</u>	<u>Category 6 Consequences</u>
Possession or use of a deadly weapon	1) Expulsion (Automatic)
	2) Notify parents and authorities (Automatic)
Possession, use, distribution or under the influence of a controlled substance during school, school function, athletic or club sponsored event	

GENERAL COMMENTS

Students may or may not receive a verbal “Warning” or “Notice” for a category 1 offense. That decision is entirely up to the teacher.

The accumulation of 10 or more demerits during the school year will result in an immediate probation for a minimum of 9 weeks.

The accumulation of 15 or more demerits during the school year will result in a meeting with the student’s parents and the administration to consider possible expulsion.

Parents will be notified by the TEACHER of all discipline concerns (above category #1).

Central Catholic likewise reserves the right to take measures other than those listed if deemed in the best interest of the student and Central Catholic as a whole. Consistent, chronic misbehavior which conflicts with the values of Central Catholic constitutes grounds for suspension or dismissal.

Central Catholic intends that the discipline code is binding on all its students whenever they are on school property, are attending school-sponsored events off school property, or are engaged in any activity in which they publicly represent Central Catholic.

DETENTION

Typically detention will be held 3 days per week (Tuesday through Thursday) from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. Detention may also be held on any day of the week (except Sunday). The detention schedule will be set by the Dean of Students/Disciplinarian. Students receiving a detention notice must serve the detention the **day(s) specified on the discipline notice.** No excuses will be accepted (work, practices, meetings, games, events etc.).

Failure to report to detention will result in double detention and 2 additional demerits. Failure to report a second time will result in immediate probation until further notice.

Note: Students with after school jobs must notify their employers that they will not be available to start work until after 4:00 p.m.

PROBATION

Probation is a period of time during which a student is not permitted to participate in or attend any extra-curricular activities. This includes but is not limited to: Athletic events, musicals, or dances, etc.

SUSPENSION

Students serving out-of-school suspension are not permitted on school property or to attend any school sponsored event while they are suspended. Students will be given “Zeros” or “No credit” for work while they are serving a suspension.

BEHAVIOR CONTRACTS

For chronic misbehavior, tardiness, absenteeism, dress code violations or serious offenses against the discipline code, a student may be put on a behavior or attendance contract with specific stipulations on future behavior and consequences.