HANDBOOK APPLICATION

All policies in this Policy Handbook for Diocesan Catholic Schools will apply to all Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Davenport unless specifically stated.
Central Leadership

Bishop, Ordinary of the Diocese
The Bishop has responsibility for the spiritual formation of the faithful. With respect to schools, he shares his regulatory and supervisory responsibility with the superintendent of schools. All Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the Diocese of Davenport are canonically responsible to the Bishop and shall remain in true communion with the Catholic Church. The Bishop has the sole authority to recognize and designate a school as “Catholic”. He shares his regulatory and supervisory responsibility with the Superintendent of Schools.

Superintendent of Schools/Director of the Office of Catholic Schools
The Superintendent of Schools is appointed by the Bishop and serves as director of the Office of Catholic Schools. The superintendent shall respect the independent nature of certain major aspects of governance and management of Catholic elementary and secondary schools. Each local Catholic elementary and secondary school has its own corporate board, constitution and by-laws and hires an administrator to run the day to day operations. The superintendent represents the Bishop in preserving and promoting the Catholic identity of the school and adherence to state and federal regulations.
DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

POLICY 101

Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination

It is the policy of the Diocese of Davenport to provide equal employment and educational opportunities and not to discriminate.

The educational system of the Diocese of Davenport is committed to equal opportunities to the extent required by law, and does not discriminate on the basis on age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status in educational programs or activities which it operates. As a religious institution, we affirm the right to consider creed a bona fide qualification in certain cases. The educational system policy is not to discriminate in educational programs and activities extends to the employment in, and admission to, such programs, activities, and services. It does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, employment policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school and parish administered programs.

Further, the Board affirms the right of all persons to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment, thereby meeting the requirements of Title VI and VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments and the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Code of Iowa.

Ref: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as applied to diocesan schools)
Title I of the Americans of Disabilities (as applied to diocese)

Policy Adopted: September 13, 1975
Policy Revised: November 15, 2001
Policy Revised: August 15, 2006
Policy Revised: November 29, 2007
Policy Reviewed: May 17, 2010
Policy Reviewed: December 2015
Policy Reviewed: December 13, 2018
Policy Promulgated: February 11, 2018
EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Essential Learnings (Student Learning Goals)

It shall be the policy of the Diocesan Board of Education that all schools strive to attain the following Essential Learnings:

Students in the Catholic schools of the Davenport Diocese will be challenged as the result of their Catholic education to integrate Gospel values into their daily lives as they:

**Spiritual/Social Outcomes:**
- Accept church, civic and personal responsibility
- Anticipate and constructively react to change
- Communicate ideas and feelings appropriately
- Demonstrate global awareness, cross cultural understanding, and social justice principles
- Demonstrate personal wellness practices
- Cultivate an understanding of and appreciation for the arts.

**Academic Outcomes:**
- Witness Gospel values through a lifestyle of discipleship
- Develop an active prayer life
- Access and use information effectively
- Apply technology competently
- Think critically and creatively
- Solve problems independently and cooperatively
- Reason scientifically, mathematically and historically
- Appreciate the need to be stewards of their God given gifts

For State Chapter 12
Reference: Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 12

Policy Adopted: November 15, 2001
Policy Revised: June 4, 2008
Policy Reviewed: May 17, 2010
Policy Reviewed: December 2015
Policy Amended: February 28, 2019
Policy Promulgated: July 29, 2019
EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Curriculum Standards and Benchmarks

The Diocesan Board of Education has adopted the Common Core standards for Literacy, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science. It shall be the policy of the Diocesan Board of Education that the Office of Catholic Schools, in consultation with the school administrators and teachers, shall draft and publish the necessary Standards and Benchmarks for each remaining areas of the curriculum. These Standards and Benchmarks shall be the core of the teaching curriculum for which the students, faculty and administration will be held accountable. These benchmarks will be an alignment with the Iowa CORE requirements.

Further, these Standards and Benchmarks shall be submitted to the Iowa Department of Education as the approved Standards and Benchmarks by the Diocesan Board of Education. In addition, assessment and revision of the Standards and Benchmarks shall be a continual process.

Local and regional schools shall conform to both diocesan and Iowa standards as they implement their curriculum.

Reference: Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 12