

ADMISSION

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Every Catholic school student has a right to be treated as a child of God, with the love and respect that implies, regardless of family circumstances. In like manner, the believing community has the right to and education guided by Catholic teaching and identity, unimpeded by pressures contrary to Church teaching.

As parent/guardian of a student in a Catholic school, I understand, affirm, and support the following:

The primary purpose of a Catholic school education is two-fold: to strengthen the Catholic community in its faith, and to form students in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

Catholic schools are distinctive religious education institutions guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church. They are not simply private schools offering a positive moral code. Rather, they exist to advance the faith mission of the sponsoring Catholic parish(es), Archdiocese, or Catholic religious community.

While Catholic education places a high value on academic excellence and extracurricular achievement, its fundamental priority is fidelity to Catholic teaching and identity.

Attending a Catholic school is a privilege, not a right. The school and its administration have the responsibility to ensure that Catholic teaching and moral integrity permeate every facet of the school's life and activity and that the school is able to function as a community of faith.

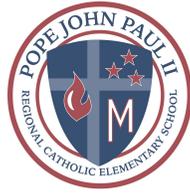
In all questions that involve Catholic teaching, morals, and Church law, the final determination rests with the Archbishop.

As a parent/guardian desiring to enroll my child in a Catholic school, I accept this memorandum of understanding. I pledge support for the Catholic identity and mission of this school and by enrolling my child I commit myself to uphold all principles and policies that govern the Catholic School.

ADMISSION POLICIES

Parents desiring admission of their Catholic children to our school must be registered in one of the partner parishes. Children of other faiths are welcome and accepted on a space available basis.

The age for admission of students complies with the policy of the local public school district. To enter first grade a child must reach the age of 6 years by September 1; to enter Kindergarten a child must reach 5



years of age by September 1; to enter the Pre-K 4 Program a child must reach 4 years of age by September 1.; to enter the Pre-K 3 Program a child must reach 3 years of age by September 1. All students enrolled at Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary must be toilet independent.

It is the philosophy of Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School that students be placed in an educational environment where they will succeed. Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School may not be able to meet the educational needs of every student; therefore, not all students who apply will be accepted. If your child is accepted, there is a non-refundable fee due at the time of registration. Registration is not complete until the registration fee is paid.

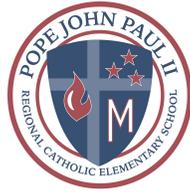
Requirements for entrance:

1. Completed application
2. Payment of the non-refundable registration fee
3. Birth certificate
4. Immunization records
5. Catholic students: Written notice of Parish registration, signed by the Pastor; certificates of baptism and any other sacraments received
6. Social Security number
7. Court ordered custody agreements (if applicable)
8. Tuition agreement form
9. Certificate of Individual Request for Loan of Textbooks and Instructional Materials
10. Signed copies of all required policy agreements: Responsible Use Policy, Family Handbook Policy Agreement, Photo Release Form, and Transportation Regulations

Academic and Conduct Requirements

The principal shall review the information provided by the Application/Registration form and other information deemed appropriate to determine whether a student should be admitted to the school. Factors to be considered by the principal include, but are not limited to, the following: proof of promotion to the grade to which the student is seeking entry; results of mathematics and language arts testing; any prior academic, conduct, or psychological records; the student's and parent's reasons for seeking admission to the school; and the prior identification of any IEP, 504, or specialized instructional plan. If the student is admitted to the school, the principal shall place the student at the grade level that is in keeping with the student's competence.

All students are admitted on probationary status. At times, a contract between Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School, the child and the child's parents will delineate continued enrollment at Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School. Should behavior problems surface and impede the academic and or social progress of the student or class, an alternative educational program may be



required. Admission is on the recommendation of the administration after the review of the necessary documents.

Admission of Transfer Students

In addition to the above requirements, transfer students must present a copy of the current report card, permanent record, most recent standardized testing and agree to the release of academic, conduct/behavior, and health records to Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School. A satisfactory academic and conduct record from the prior school is essential. If a student has an IEP, 504, or specialized instructional plan from any previous school, a copy of the plan must be submitted to the principal as part of the admissions process. Transferring students will be accepted on a probationary basis to insure a satisfactory incorporation into the academic and behavioral code of the school.

Parental Commitment to a Catholic Faith Life

The parents of our partner parish school children are expected to embrace the spiritual responsibility of modeling adult Catholic living by their commitment to regular and active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, to integrity and consistency in everyday moral decision-making, to a personal and family prayer life, and to a generous stewardship of time, talent and treasure in service of others, both within and outside our parish community.

Parents foster their children's faith development both by consistent encouragement of their children to continue learning about our Catholic faith and by their own personal example of living the faith day to day. These two together form a strong foundation and support to the religious education and faith formation provided to children enrolled in Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School.

The sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation are prepared for and administered in accordance with the Guidelines of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Requirements for reception of the sacraments is governed by the individual pastors. As the blessing of parents at the end of the Rite of Baptism proclaims: "May you, who are the first teachers of your children in the ways of the faith, also be the best of teachers, bearing example to the faith by all you say and do in Christ Jesus, our Lord."