

MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



SECONDARY STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

2015 – 2016

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**Daily Time Schedules
2015-2016 School Year**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Home Room 8:00 – 8:10
1st period 8:14 – 9:04
2nd period 9:07 – 9:57
3rd period 10:02 – 10:52

4th period and 5th period
L1 10:52 – 11:24
Pd. 4 11:27 – 12:17
Pd. 5 12:22 – 1:12

Pd. 4 10:55 – 11:45
L2 11:45 – 12:17
Pd. 5 12:22 – 1:12

Pd. 4 10:55 – 11:45
Pd. 5 11:50 – 12:40
L3 12:40 – 1:12

6th period 1:15 – 2:05
7th period 2:10 – 3:00

2 Hour Delay Schedule

Home Room 10:00 – 10:10
1st period 10:14 – 10:47
2nd period 10:50 – 11:23
3rd period 11:28 – 12:01

4th period and 5th period
L1 12:01 – 12:32
Pd. 4 12:35 – 1:08
Pd. 5 1:13 – 1:46

Pd. 4 12:04 – 12:37
L2 12:37 – 1:08
Pd. 5 1:13 – 1:46

Pd. 4 12:04 – 12:37
Pd. 5 12:42 – 1:15
L3 1:15 – 1:46

6th period 1:49 – 2:22
7th period 2:27 – 3:00

Chapel - Thursday

Home Room 8:00 – 8:10
1st period 8:14 – 8:57
2nd period 9:00 – 9:43
3rd period 9:48 – 10:31
Chapel 10:35 – 11:19

4th period and 5th period
L1 11:19 – 11:51
Pd. 4 11:55 – 12:38
Pd. 5 12:43 – 1:26

Pd.4 11:23 – 12:06
L2 12:06 – 12:38
Pd. 5 12:43 – 1:26

Pd. 4 11:23 – 12:06
Pd. 5 12:11 – 12:54
L3 12:54 – 1:26

6th period 1:29 – 2:12
7th period 2:17 – 3:00

End of Day Assembly

Home Room 8:00 – 8:10
1st period 8:14 – 8:59
2nd period 9:02 – 9:47
3rd period 9:50 – 10:35

4th period and 5th period
L1 10:35 – 11:05
Pd. 4 11:08 – 11:53
Pd. 5 11:58 – 12:43

Pd. 4 10:40 – 11:25
L2 11:25 – 11:55
Pd. 5 11:58 – 12:43

Pd. 4 10:40 – 11:25
Pd. 5 11:28 – 12:13
L3 12:13 – 12:43

6th period 12:46 – 1:31
7th period 1:36 – 2:21
Assembly 2:25 – 3:00

STUDENT & PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By being enrolled in Mansfield Christian School, you are acknowledging your responsibility to carefully read and abide by the policies and standards stated in this Student-Parent Handbook and the Academic Handbook.

TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

This handbook has been prepared to explain and clarify the procedures, policies, and regulations at Mansfield Christian School. It is essential that all parents read and discuss this material with their children. We believe that parental involvement and support is vital for the success of our students; therefore, we desire that all who have chosen to be a part of MCS are well aware of our purpose, goals, and policies.

Mansfield Christian School's biblical role is to work in conjunction with the home to mold students to be Christ-like. Of necessity, this involves the school's understanding and belief of what qualities or characteristics exemplify a Christ-like life. The school reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a student if the atmosphere or conduct within a particular home or the activities of the student are counter to or are in opposition to the biblical lifestyle the school teaches. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, participating in, supporting, or condoning sexual immorality, homosexual activity, or bisexual activity; promoting such practices; or being unable to support the moral principles of the school. (See Leviticus 20:13 and Romans 1:27.)

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

As with any institution, there is the potential for misunderstanding, disagreement, and even wrongdoing. Nevertheless, it is God's will that we work together in harmony, always giving a "good report" and striving for unity. When conflicts, concerns, and disagreements occur, the following principles should be followed. These principles are based upon Matthew 18:15-17:

1. Keep the matter confidential (no gossip).
2. Keep the circle as small as possible (two parties).
3. Be straightforward (face-to-face).
4. Be forgiving.
5. The individuals should agree to share the matter with the Principal if still unresolved.
6. The Superintendent should be brought into the process by the Principal if still unresolved.
7. The Superintendent will explain the conflict to the President of the School Board if still unresolved.
8. The School Board President will determine if the matter should be presented to the Board or resolved by the administration.

In summary, the Matthew 18 principle requires that parents talk to teachers about their children's problems before they talk to administrators. If unresolved at the two-person level, the matter should be prayerfully addressed at the next logical level.

POLICY FOR STUDENT USAGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Mansfield Christian School is pleased to provide students access to an interconnected computer system within the school and to the Internet. The school is providing access to its computer networks and the Internet for educational purposes *only*. The school reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store, at any time and without prior notice, any and all student usage of the computer network and Internet access, as well as all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage.

Netiquette

All users must abide by rules of network etiquette, which include:

1. Be polite.
2. Be safe. (Do not reveal personal information such as your home address and telephone number.)

Uses that are considered unacceptable and constitute a violation of school policy include:

1. Uses that are offensive to others
2. Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law
3. Transmission of offensive or harassing messages
4. Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property

5. Uses that jeopardize the security of student access and of the computer network or other networks on the Internet. (For example, do not disclose or share your password with others.)
6. Accessing controversial or offensive materials
7. Commercial transactions (Students may not sell or buy anything over the Internet.)

Failure to Follow Policy & Breach of Technology Agreement

Student use of the computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any student who violates the school technology policy and/or Internet agreement shall, at a minimum, have his or her access to the computer network and Internet terminated. The school may refuse to reinstate computer access for the remainder of the student's tenure. A student breaches his or her agreement not only by violating the policy but also by failing to report any violations by other students. Furthermore, a user violates school policy if he or she permits another person to use his or her account and/or password to access the computer network and Internet, including any user whose access has been denied or terminated.

Off Campus Internet Use

Consistent with the philosophies of this school, we expect our students to maintain proper Christian conduct when using the Internet off campus. Should the administration have reasonable suspicion of harmful or inappropriate content involving our students, public Internet sites may be examined for evidence. As both the school's testimony and the Lord's testimony are at stake, disciplinary consequences may be pursued.

Social Networking

Any MCS student who has a social network site must refrain from posting any material, content, pictures, music, or other communication on his site that would violate rules set forth in this handbook, be reasonably considered harassment, and/or damage the testimony of our Lord.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDY POLICIES

Because MCS has the legal responsibility to do all in its power to insure that each student receives the maximum potential benefit by school attendance, all students and parents shall comply with the following policies:

1. When a student is absent from school, the parent should either leave a message on the sick call line (756-5651 ext. 306) early in the morning of the absence, identifying yourself and providing the student's name and reason for the absence, or email the attendance secretary as soon as possible.

2. When the student returns to school, whether full day or half day, the student is required to bring a note from a parent stating the reason for his/her absence (without a note = unexcused). Notes are to be brought to the secondary school office prior to first period. (If the parent emailed the attendance secretary on the day of the absence, the email shall be considered the required note and no other note need be submitted.) A valid excuse should include:

- a. Student's full name
- b. Date(s) absent
- c. Reason for absence
- d. Parent/Guardian signature (not needed if parent sent an email)

3. A distinction will be made between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. Homework/classwork and tests missed during an excused absence can be made up; however, homework/classwork and tests missed during an unexcused absence will be graded down. In addition, disciplinary action may be taken. Excused absences or tardies are as follows:

- a. Personal illness
- b. Medical or dental appointments
- c. Family illness requiring student's help at home
- d. Death or funeral of relative or close friend
- e. Emergency at home
- f. Travel or vacation taken with prior administrative permission
- g. College visits with prior administrative permission

4. When a student arrives to school following an absence (even if after a partial day absence), the student must

report to the secondary office and receive an admit slip that must be shown to each of the student's teachers. The admit slip will indicate whether the absence or tardy is excused or unexcused. If the student is admitted to class with an unexcused absence due to lack of a parental note excusing the absence, then the student must report to the secondary office to receive another admit slip later when the absence has been excused. A student will be given three school days to produce a written excuse.

5. When a student is representing MCS in an approved school activity, class absence will not be charged against the student's attendance record. If a class absence is related to an accident or delay due to transportation, class absence will not be charged against the student's attendance record.

6. When a parent/guardian is aware of a special problem concerning a lengthy student absence (e.g., serious illness requiring medical treatment), he/she must notify the administration of the nature of the problem in order that an alternative educational experience may be developed which ensure that minimum course requirements are met.

7. Students may be denied academic credit for being absent more than 14 class periods for a particular course during a semester, whether excused or not.

8. Tardiness to School and Classes:

- Students who are unexcused tardy to school (8:00-8:20) will receive a detention upon the third unexcused tardy during a quarter.
- A warning will be issued for the 4th unexcused tardy to school.
- If a student is unexcused tardy for the 5th, 6th and 7th time during a quarter, the student will receive either an after school detention or a 7:15 a.m. detention for each of the tardy arrivals.
- If a student is unexcused tardy for an eighth time during a quarter, the student will be assigned to the next Saturday School.
- The administration will reserve the right to declare a day as risky due to weather or other events, and will not be counted in the total.
- The disciplinary procedures for unexcused tardies to school also apply to being unexcused tardy to each class period.

9. Early Dismissals: Students needing to leave school early for a valid reason must bring a note explaining the reason and signed by a parent or guardian. Notes must be brought to the secondary school office before school (8:00 a.m.). An early dismissal will be granted for the same reasons allowed for excused absences. Students must sign out upon leaving (and sign back in upon their return if they are planning to return during the same day).

10. In the event that a student becomes ill while in school, he/she must report to the health room (or office if the health room is not available) and a parent/guardian will be notified and permission to leave granted by an administrator. No student should ever sign out and leave the building without obtaining permission from an administrator for any reason.

11. Parents are asked to refrain from requesting that their child be allowed to "run errands" during the school day. No notes will be "kept on file" giving the student permission to leave "as needed."

12. On regular days, only seniors are allowed to leave the school grounds at lunch. Parents who do not desire to have their child with this privilege should individually instruct their child of that fact. Juniors are allowed to go out to lunch once per month.

DRESS CODE

Mansfield Christian School requires coordinated clothing for students called *Campus Wear*.

Campus Wear projects an atmosphere of solidarity, loyalty, and equality among the students. It works to eliminate unnecessary competition in dress and focuses attention on learning. Also, experience has shown that students required to maintain a neat appearance and to coordinate their wardrobe within the established parameters are likely to carry over these habits to the performance of their schoolwork. *Campus Wear* is a

positive method of helping to establish good habits and promote a climate for responsibility and discipline.

There are five major reasons for the use of *Campus Wear*:

1. Improve relations and promote peace by decreasing conflicts over clothing
2. Promote a more serious atmosphere for learning, increasing our focus on spiritual and academic objectives
3. Promote campus safety and security through quick identification
4. Promote a sense of school spirit, acceptance, and belonging
5. Promote the real individuality of the students as seen in their God-given gifts and abilities, not in appearance

School Closet, located in Columbus, is our exclusive provider of new **Campus Wear** (except for outerwear which is provided by more than one vendor). All Campus Wear must be purchased at School Closet unless otherwise noted in the handbook. Do not attempt to try to substitute other clothing for our school attire. This type of intentional deception is wrong, and students will be punished accordingly.

All students must be registered with School Closet prior to the new school year. Students are registered when they are fitted and place an order. Students may attend one of the scheduled fitting times on campus or they may go directly to the School Closet store in Columbus.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR 7-12 & INDEPENDENT STUDIES STUDENTS

The administration reserves the right to make discretionary judgments regarding dress code. If you have any questions about clothing or hairstyles, please check with the administration.

1. *Campus Wear* oxford shirts are to be tucked in.
2. Long-sleeved shirts may not be worn under short-sleeved shirts. Oxford shirts must be buttoned to at least the second button from the top.
3. Clothes must fit appropriately. Students may not intentionally order their clothing oversized (baggy) or undersized (tight/short).
4. Outerwear that is administratively approved may be worn to class. However, *Campus Wear* shirts must be worn underneath outerwear.
5. Sandals of any type are not permitted. Shoes must have an enclosed toe.
6. "Military-style" boots and knee high boots are not permitted.
7. There are to be no decorations or logos on *Campus Wear* other than those adopted by the school.
8. Shorts may be worn throughout the year.
9. Excessive jewelry is not appropriate.
10. Cut-off clothing and cutting-up pant seams are not permitted. All pants, skirts, and shorts must be hemmed.
11. Hats and bandanas are not to be worn in the school building at any time.
12. Chains (i.e. wallet chains, choker chains, dog chains) are not permitted.
13. Tattoos and body piercing are not permitted.
14. Sculptured hair or coloring that is unnatural (i.e. blue, green, orange, etc.) is not permitted
15. *Campus Wear* is not required at athletic events; however, attire must be modest.
16. *Campus Wear* is required for all award assemblies and special programs.
17. Boys may not wear earrings at any school function, on or off school property.
18. If a student needs to stay after school for some reason, he/she is to remain in regular school dress unless he/she is participating in athletics under the direction of a coach or faculty supervisor.

GIRLS' DRESS GUIDELINES—GRADES 7-12

Skirts – School plaid, khaki, navy or black *Campus Wear*. Skirts must be knee length. Longer skirts are also available. Girls violating the knee length rule on three occasions will no longer be permitted to wear skirts at MCS for the remainder of the school year.

Pants – Khaki, navy, or black *Campus Wear*

Walking Shorts – Khaki, navy, or black *Campus Wear*. Shorts must be near the top of the knee but not below the knee. Students violating the length rule on three occasions will no longer be permitted to wear shorts at MCS for the remainder of the school year.

Knit Polo Shirts – Long or short sleeved *Campus Wear* in white, navy, red, hunter green*, yellow*, and light blue. Long sleeved shirts may not be worn under short sleeved shirts.

Dri-Fit Shirt – Short sleeved *Campus Wear* in red, navy, white, or light blue

Oxford Shirts – Long or short sleeved *Campus Wear* in white, light blue, or yellow*

Belts – Belts are required with all pants and shorts in which the waistband is visible. Belts are not to be worn with skirts. (*May be purchased outside of School Closet*)

Shoes – Sandals of any type are not permitted. All shoes must have an enclosed toe. Shoes so designed must be laced and tied. Heels/soles should not exceed two inches in height. Boots are not permitted with shorts.

Socks – If they are visible, socks must be solid color in white, black, gray, red, or navy and without designs. (*May be purchased outside of School Closet*)

Tights/Nylons/Leggings – Must be solid color in white, black, gray, red, or navy and without designs and not mesh-like. May not be worn with shorts. Leg warmers may not be worn.

Scarves – May not be worn

Jewelry – Earrings are the only pierced jewelry permitted. No feather earrings are allowed.

Undergarments – Proper undergarments must be worn at all times. All undergarments must coordinate with the top. T-shirts worn under *Campus Wear* must be free from pictures or words, be solid colored throughout, and must be tucked in. Any other undergarment that extends below the bottom hem of the shirt must also be tucked in.

Hair Accessories – Must not be extreme or distracting. Feathers may not be worn in the hair.

**This color shirt is being phased out and will not be allowed after the 2015-2016 school year.*

BOYS' DRESS GUIDELINES GRADES 7-12

Pants – Khaki, navy, or black *Campus Wear*

Walking Shorts – Khaki, navy, or black *Campus Wear*. Shorts must be near the top of the knee but not below the knee. Students violating the length rule on three occasions will no longer be permitted to wear shorts at MCS for the remainder of the school year.

Knit Polo Shirts – Long or short sleeved *Campus Wear* in white, navy, red, hunter green*, yellow*, and light blue. Long sleeved shirts may not be worn under short sleeved shirts.

Dri-Fit Shirt – Short sleeved *Campus Wear* in red, navy, white, or light blue

Oxford Shirts – Long or short sleeved *Campus Wear* in white, light blue, and yellow*

Belts – Belts are required with all pants and shorts in which the waistband is visible. (*May be purchased outside of School Closet*)

Shoes – Sandals of any type are not permitted. All shoes must have an enclosed toe. Shoes so designed must be laced and tied. Soles should not exceed two inches in height. Boots are not permitted with shorts.

Socks – Must be solid color in white, black, gray, khaki, red, or navy. (*May be purchased outside of School Closet*)

T-Shirts – T-shirts worn under *Campus Wear* must be free from pictures or words, be solid colored throughout, and must be tucked in.

Jewelry – No earrings or other pierced jewelry of any kind

Hair – Must be kept well groomed. Hair length must be cut and styled so that the hair does not fall into the eyes. Hair may be no longer than the bottom of the ear on the sides and collar length in the back.

Facial Hair – Boys must be clean shaven at all times, with the exception that mustaches are allowed, if kept neatly trimmed. Beards, goatees, or shadow looks are not permitted. Sideburns may not extend below the bottom of the ear.

**This color shirt is being phased out and will not be allowed after the 2015-2016 school year.*

EXPECTED CODE OF CONDUCT

Obedience, respect, and responsibility are key virtues that students must develop. Obedience to rules and guidelines is essential to the development of maturity (Luke 2:51, Hebrews 5:8). It results in genuine freedom in life (John 8:32). Respect is necessary for all successful and meaningful relationships (Luke 10:36-37, Romans 12:18). And the building of personal responsibility fosters a sense of achievement. Both responsibility and

achievement are necessary ingredients to the development of self-worth (I Corinthians 10:31, Ecclesiastes 9:10, Romans 14:12).

As we seek to provide a balanced and disciplined learning environment for the students of Mansfield Christian School, we realize that human wisdom falls short of God's standards. We do not claim to be perfect in all our decisions, but we do try our best to discipline in a way that is biblical and pleasing to God. As partners in the discipline process, it is important that the school and the home work cooperatively for the students' good. Since we teach the students to obey and submit to their parents, it is imperative that parents maintain that continuity by upholding and teaching the principles taught at school. We can instill in students proper Christian educational and moral principles only through a program that includes clear disciplinary procedures, and as students and parents, your cooperation in that program is crucial. (Please be aware that the administration reserves the right to make discipline decisions on an individual basis.)

Our goal should always be to obey the Scripture that says, "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17, NIV). In the best interest of the entire school community, certain guidelines of conduct must be maintained by all students of MCS, both on and off campus, so that we might all live and work happily together.

These general guidelines for student conduct (Code of Conduct) are listed below:

1. Practice courtesy and consideration in your association with teachers, school employees, fellow students, and visitors. Respect their person and property. (See Ephesians 4:28-32.)
2. Respect the authority of teacher, administrators, and staff members, and treat them courteously, respectfully, and obediently as unto the Lord. (See Hebrews 13:17 and I Thessalonians 5:12-13.)
3. Abstain both on and off campus and at all times (24/7/365) from the use or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, and pornography as well as from gambling and other undesirable practices that are generally recognized to be harmful to health and Christian character. (See I Corinthians 6:19-20.)
4. Abstain from profanity and vulgar or abusive speech and actions. Such speaking and acting is harmful to others and is certainly not appropriate or conducive to your moral and spiritual development. (See Ephesians 4:29.)
5. Refrain from a public display of affection on campus. As students, you are expected to conduct yourself in a discreet and Christian manner. Therefore, while on campus, you should follow a "hands off" policy.
6. Leave all annoying or dangerous items such as knives, water pistols, lighters, and matches at home. Radios, CD players, and other electronic devices (except cell phones) are not allowed at school either. Cell phones are not to be used during the day without express staff permission and should be used only in the school office during the school day.
7. Do your own work – do not give or receive help on tests or homework unless the teacher has granted this privilege on a particular project. Your record should reflect your individual effort. Since honesty is a Christian virtue that should be displayed by all students, we consider cheating a serious offense. During a test, a quiz, or an exam, it is your responsibility to avoid every appearance of cheating. All books and papers must be out of sight. No talking is allowed. In fact, talking during a quiz or test may be dealt with in the same manner as cheating.
8. Avoid plagiarism, which is a serious offense. The definition of *plagiarism* is "the use of another writer's ideas or words without giving the writer credit for them."
9. All school rules apply on all field trips and on all school-sponsored events, both on the school campus and away from it.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR CODE AND DISCIPLINE ENFORCEMENT

1. Students are expected to represent MCS in a positive manner even when they are not on school grounds and/or attending school functions or extracurricular activities. Students and parents acknowledge and understand that students are subject to disciplinary action by the school for conduct occurring off campus or during non-school hours, including weekends, holidays, and summers. MCS reserves the right to suspend or dismiss a student for misconduct on or off the school campus 24/7, and without regard for whether the form of discipline is identified specifically herein, and without regard for whether it is specified

as improper off campus. While MCS has no control over student activity off campus that is not school sponsored and does not supervise student conduct off campus during an activity which is not school sponsored, misconduct during such activity may come to the attention of school authorities and may result in the administration of discipline, including suspension or dismissal.

2. School property shall be protected. Defacing or damaging school property which is malicious or careless in nature, and which results in destruction or damage will result in both appropriate disciplinary action and the replacement of such property (or fair market value) by the student and/or his parents or legal guardians as deemed by the school.
3. MCS reserves the right to invite law enforcement to visit at any time during the school year to search for drugs. It also reserves the right to search any property, including automobiles, brought onto MCS premises. Any alcoholic beverages, drugs, or drug paraphernalia found in lockers, cars, or other items under the student's control will constitute possession.
4. No student on Disciplinary Probation is eligible to hold a class office.

DETENTION POLICY

It is the responsibility of the students to check with the office and see when they are to serve. Detention will normally be held on Wednesdays from 3:15 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. No student will be admitted after 3:15 p.m. No one will be excused from serving his detention or allowed to change their detention date without the written permission of the administration. No homework, sleeping, reading books, talking, listening to iPods, or cell phone activities will be allowed during detention.

Offenses that may result in detention include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Three (and more than four) unexcused tardies to any one class or to school during the quarter
2. Three (and more) unexcused missing or poorly done homework assignments from the same class during the quarter (This applies to junior high classes only. However, see number three for all students.)
3. Failure to be prepared for class after warnings
4. Unwholesome language or profanity
5. Littering anywhere on school property
6. Meddling with another student's property
7. Failure to sign-out or sign-in of the office
8. Continued talking or disrupting class
9. Bringing prohibited items to school: water pistols, water balloons, comic books, computer games, playing cards, lighters of any kind, or laser pointers
10. Fines not paid by due date
11. Food, candy, gum, or drink in the classrooms
12. Use of cell phone, iPod, tablet, etc. without permission
13. Dress code violations
14. Leaving book bags or other material in the hallways

SATURDAY SCHOOL

Saturday Schools are scheduled three times each year for students who have received more than four detentions in one quarter or have more than seven tardies to school during one quarter. Saturday School operates from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. The time will be spent doing silent reading from a supervisor-approved book. Students failing to attend Saturday School will be suspended. Dress may be casual but must be appropriate for campus.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

During an In-School Suspension the student will be isolated from his peers for the day. The student will sit quietly in the assigned room and work on his assignments for the day. Students may make-up any homework, tests, or quizzes missed during this time. Any student athlete placed on suspension will be required to sit out at least one game (next game on schedule) for any sport then in season. This game may or may not be during the suspension.

Examples of offenses that may lead to suspension include fighting, flagrantly abusive language and/or disrespectful conduct, Code of Conduct violations, skipping class or leaving school without permission, repeated detentions, possession or use of tobacco (as well as supplying or selling of tobacco or tobacco products),

possession of pornography (including misuse of MCS computer usage), and any computer use for defiant, bullying, or vicious purposes.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Students suspended out-of-school for any length of time may only return under probationary status and will be asked to sign a probationary contract. Suspended students are not to be on school property at any time during the suspension. Students may make-up any tests or quizzes missed during this time according to teacher timelines. Homework or other in-class work missed may not be made-up as a result of the suspension. Any student athlete placed on suspension will be required to sit out at least one game (next game on schedule) for any sport then in season. This game may or may not be during the suspension.

DISMISSAL

MCS reserves the right of suspension or dismissal at any time during the school year. Any student who persistently neglects work, who fails to meet academic or other standards or qualifications or who exercises poor conduct, one who fails to cooperate, or whose parents fail to cooperate, may be asked to withdraw from the school. Dismissal will be administered by the Principal with the advice and approval of the Superintendent. Appeal of a dismissal must be made in writing to the Superintendent within three days of the dismissal notification. A student may not attend classes during an appeal.

A student who has lost the privilege to attend MCS may attend MCS related events at the discretion of the administration. If the administration deems that a student may attend school events, a parent must accompany the student. If the administration permits, the student may drop off or pick up siblings from school.

Dismissals may occur when any of the following take place: possession, distribution, solicitation, or use of illegal drugs of any kind (including counterfeit drugs or drug paraphernalia), or the misuse of any prescribed drugs of any kind, on or off school property; possession, consumption, supplying, or selling of alcoholic beverages on or off campus; repeated conduct violations that resulted in suspensions; failure of parents to cooperate with MCS in the discipline of their children; assault or battery of staff or students; sexual misconduct such as physical conduct and/or contact of a sexual nature; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; sexual innuendoes and gestures or other serious sexual misconduct; computer/internet use for immoral purposes; possession or use of a weapon of any kind in a threatening or dangerous manner, which is perceived to be capable of inflicting serious harm; or possession, transfer, sale, or discharge of any gun (including a starter or pellet gun), firearm, or any other explosive device, of any type, whether loaded or unloaded, on or off campus.

DISCIPLINARY PROBATION

1. **Purpose:** Disciplinary Probation is to prevent the possible dismissal of a student due to behavioral issues and to create a viable, tangible incentive for the student and parents to seek out behavioral and spiritual reform.
2. **Criteria:** This program should be initiated at the discretion of the Principal in concert with the Superintendent. It is to be administratively subjective. Some criteria to direct the administration in making this decision are 1) the student has manifested a physical threat to other students or faculty, 2) the student has become a negative influence on his peers to the extent of drawing his peers into similar actions (i.e. smoking, disrespect, impacting the learning environment negatively, inappropriate behavior, etc.), 3) the student has been a habitual offender of the disciplinary policy of the school, or 4) the student has been suspended for a serious breach of conduct.
3. **Program:** A written notice of possibly placing a student on disciplinary probation will be initiated by the Principal. The Principal will notify the parents of the possibility of the probation. At the administration's discretion, a conference will be held with the parent and student in regard to disciplinary problems. Based on this conference, the administration will decide whether or not this particular student merits a probation or expulsion. If the administration deems it beneficial to place the student under a disciplinary probation, a Disciplinary Probation Contract will be drafted for the student outlining the behavioral guidelines that the student is expected to maintain, the duration of the probation, and the consequences of fulfilling the probation or failing to fulfill the probation.
4. **Procedure:** The Disciplinary Probation Contract is to be signed by all parties involved (i.e. student, parent(s), Principal, and Superintendent). Copies are to be distributed to all parties. It will be the

responsibility of the Principal to ensure that the contract is being upheld. Violation of the contract by the student will be noted by the Principal and submitted in writing to the Superintendent. The student will then face other consequences, including possibly expulsion.

RESTORATION

MCS reserves the right to deny readmission to any student whose actions demonstrate that it is in the school's best interest not to allow readmission. The request for readmission should be in writing to the Superintendent. Restoration at a Christian school is always a difficult matter. Students who have been expelled from MCS or other schools must present evidence of genuine repentance and carry out a school-designed restoration program. If a student has been dismissed or asked to withdraw, been given due consideration, and desires reinstatement, the student must wait a minimum of six months before reapplying. During that time, the student must be involved in a program of church attendance and youth group involvement as well as student and parent counseling. During the restoration period, schooling must continue at another school or home school. Upon completion of the reinstatement restoration program, recommendations by the student's pastor, youth pastor, and school-designated counselors will be considered by the Principal and Superintendent to determine the student's reinstatement. Students returning will be on disciplinary probation for one year.

READMISSION

Any student dismissed from MCS, or allowed to withdraw, will not be allowed to apply for readmission for at least one semester. Requests for readmission should be made in writing to the Superintendent. MCS reserves the right to deny readmission.

CONTINUED ENROLLMENT

MCS reserves the right to deny continued enrollment to any student whose actions and/or attitudes demonstrate that it is not in the best interest to allow reenrollment. Students who have demonstrated through detentions, progress reports, and poor attitude a lack of interest in being at MCS will be interviewed by the Principal. A poor attitude may be reflected through a lack of compliance with the dress code, response to discipline, respect for authority, etc. After this interview, a conference with the parent(s) will be scheduled. Students may be placed on disciplinary probation with enrollment for the following year withheld until a review of the student's progress has been evaluated.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

Mansfield Christian School believes that the consumption, buying, selling, or transfer of drugs and/or alcohol by our students cannot be tolerated and will result in dismissal of the offending student or students. The administration of MCS reserves the right (as per the safety of that student or any other student) to require random drug testing with the understanding that confidentiality will be maintained. If the parents and/or student refuses, then the student's privilege to attend MCS will be revoked.

NON-VIOLENCE POLICY

MCS has a no tolerance policy involving threats or perceived threats of violence by students. Parents should understand that the school's first responsibility is the protection of all of its students. The school takes this responsibility very seriously.

Students are not allowed to talk about committing an act of violence, threaten to commit an act of violence, or joke about committing an act of violence toward anyone at MCS. Students are also not allowed to possess any instructions on how to commit an act of violence. If the administration determines that a threat of violence is credible and specific (directed toward particular students or staff), the student will be immediately suspended and a recommendation to expel may be delivered to the school board. For the purposes of this policy, credible means a reasonable belief or suspicion, determined by the administration, that the threat was or might be genuine, or that the student was or might be capable of carrying out the threat.

In those circumstances in which the administration determines that the threat is not likely credible, the school may suspend the student pending a parent meeting. These include all cases in which the student was "just joking." If circumstances warrant, the school may conduct further investigation. The school may require students in this circumstance to obtain counseling from a Christian counselor or other professional agreeable to the school

until the counselor advises the school that the student, in the counselor's opinion, does not present a threat of danger.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

In order to maintain order and discipline in the school and to protect the safety and welfare of students and personnel, school authorities may request a search of a student, student lockers, or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials in the search.

1. **Personal Searches:** A student and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. Students may be asked to empty their pockets, pocketbooks, wallets, book bags, etc. without the parent's permission or the student's permission. Registration of the child constitutes parental consent to such searches. If the student refuses and the school feels a personal search of the student's person or belongings are required (as per the safety of that student or any other student), then the parents will be phoned and must come to the office to perform the search. If the parents fail to come to the school to perform the search within a reasonable time (one hour) and/or the student refuses to empty his/her pockets or remove from his or her person what is suspected, then the student's privilege to attend MCS will be revoked.
2. **Locker Searches:** Student lockers are MCS property and remain at all times under the control of MCS; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. MCS exercises exclusive control over school property, and students should not expect privacy regarding items placed in school property because school property is subject to search at any time by MCS officials. Students are responsible for whatever is contained in desks and lockers issued to them by the school. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, without parental consent, and without a search warrant.
3. **Automobile Searches:** Students are permitted to park on MCS premises as a matter of privilege, not a right. MCS retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student vehicles on campus. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. The same procedures will be followed as in a personal search.
4. **Seizure of Illegal Materials:** If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to the proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Everyone at MCS is committed to making our school a safe and caring place for all students and employees. We will treat each other with respect, and we will refuse to tolerate bullying in any form. Examples of bullying include, but are not limited to:

- Malicious intent to cause physical or emotional harm
- Ganging up on someone
- Teasing, humiliating, or intimidating actions/language.
- Insulting someone's race, family status, culture, gender, size, or appearance

Students found to be bullying others may be subject to immediate suspension and/or expulsion. Students at MCS will be taught the following:

1. be respectful
2. refuse to bully others
3. refuse to let others be bullied
4. refuse to join in when another is bullied
5. report bullying to an adult. Bullying is a behavior that is clearly not consistent with the Biblical philosophy of MCS.

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

It is the policy of the MCS Board of Education to maintain an educational environment which is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. Such behavior is inconsistent with the Christian tenets and Biblical philosophy of MCS. This policy applies to unlawful and immoral conduct occurring at any time, on

or off school property. Students who believe that they have been unlawfully harassed by another student or member of the school community or a third party are entitled to utilize the formal investigation and complaint process. Initiating a complaint will not adversely affect the student's participation in educational or extracurricular programs.

Students are encouraged to promptly report incidents of harassing conduct to a supervisor, teacher, or administrator, so that the administration may address the conduct before it becomes severe, pervasive, or persistent. The administration will meet with the student and contact the parents to advise them of the intent to investigate. The administration will make every reasonable effort to protect the rights of parties and maintain the confidentiality of the investigation.

The administration will take immediate steps to impose disciplinary action, which may include dismissal, on any student engaging in any of the following prohibited acts:

- a. Retaliating against a person who has reported alleged harassment or has participated as a witness
- b. Reporting a malicious or knowingly false account or complaint of harassment
- c. Purposefully delaying the investigation of allegations of harassment

Sexual Harassment Defined

Sexual harassment between students is defined as "any unwelcome sexual conduct by any other student that is severe, persistent, or pervasive enough to limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity, or that creates a hostile or abusive educational environment." This conduct can be nonverbal, verbal, or physical, and the behavior in question does not necessarily have to be aimed at the student who is complaining of harassment.

Prohibited acts that constitute sexual harassment may take a variety of forms. The administration will determine if the offense constitutes sexual harassment. Sexual harassment does not include legitimate non-sexual touching or conduct, and simple horseplay, childish vulgarities, adolescent flirting, or other simple childish behavior. Examples of the kinds of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- a. Sexual advances including propositions, invitations, flirtations, or obscene gestures
- b. Physical assault or unwelcome physical contact
- c. Using words, pictures, objects, gestures, or other actions relating to sexual activity or a person's gender that have the effect of causing embarrassment, discomfort, or reluctance to participate in school activities.

Reports and Complaints of Harassing Conduct

Students who feel they have been unlawfully harassed should file a formal written complaint with an administrator or counselor. All complaints should be in writing and signed by the complainant. Once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed within 30 calendar days of the complaint being received, unless a greater amount of time is deemed necessary due to extenuating circumstances.

The parents or guardian of the complainant will be contacted immediately. If the alleged harasser is a student, the parents of said student will also be contacted. The investigation may include interviews of witnesses to provide any evidence they believe to be relevant to the situation. A written report will be prepared by the administration, summarizing the evidence gathered and providing recommendations, and presented to the school board at the conclusion of the investigation.

Consistent with the board policy manual, the school board and administration will determine if the offense warrants immediate dismissal from MCS. If either the complainant or student accused of harassing conduct is dissatisfied with the decision, an appeal may be made to the Superintendent who will review the case with the board.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Positions of leadership within the school or class will be reviewed by the administration and advisors/coaches should a student be suspended from school. The student may then be removed from this position. No student on probation is eligible to run for class office. Students desiring to run for class office and hold a position of leadership must possess a minimum grade point average of 2.0. All candidates for office will be reviewed by the

administration and the appropriate advisors.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND POLICIES

A. BUILDING HOURS AND SECURITY

The building is opened in the morning by 7:30 a.m. Students are expected to clear the building by 3:30 p.m. each day unless supervised by a faculty member. MCS has developed a Crisis Response Manual that addresses procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency. Copies of this information are available in the secondary office. To further ensure safety, we lock all doors at 8:15 a.m. Visitors to the school are only allowed after being photo identified by a secretary or administrator.

B. CARS

Students who drive to school are to observe safe driving practices. A 10 mph speed limit is to be observed on the property. Students are to park in the back parking lot of the school, **away from the back gym entrance**. Sitting in cars (“hanging out”) is not permitted before school, during lunch, or after school.

In order to promote campus safety and quick identification of visitors, students who drive to school must have their cars registered with the office. Students will be issued parking passes and must park in the marked student areas (red) of the back lot. Cars will be routinely checked for passes, and students will be fined if the pass is not visible or they are driving an unregistered car. Repeated issuance of fines may lead to the revocation of parking privileges. Students may purchase as many passes as needed according to the number of cars registered in their name. Parking permits are \$2.00 each.

C. CELL PHONES/SMART PHONES/LAPTOPS/TABLET DEVICES

Understanding that parents sometimes need to communicate with students, students are permitted to bring cell phones, including smart phones to school. However, these are not to be on or used during the school day unless administrative permission has been obtained. Students are allowed to use their cell phones before and after school. Cell phones in use during the school day will be confiscated by the teacher or administration and may be examined if there is reasonable suspicion of usage that is illegal, immoral, harmful, or of a cheating nature. Students may bring their own laptop computers or tablet devices to school only with administrative approval. School laptop computers and personal computers are available for student use during the day.

D. CLASS DUES POLICY

Class dues are the responsibility of every student enrolled at Mansfield Christian High School, including Independent Studies students. It is the intent that dues may be worked off using fundraising, work events, or may be paid in one lump sum. These events and opportunities must be communicated to each family well in advance, ensuring Independent Studies students have the same opportunity to work off their dues. Class dues are used to fund student events such as Homecoming, Spring Formal, and the Senior Class Trip.

Dues are assessed according to the following guidelines:

Freshman (9 th) grade year	\$ 50
Sophomore (10 th) grade year	\$ 50
Junior (11 th) grade year	\$100
Senior (12 th) grade year	\$100 (<i>see exception below</i>)

Exception: Independent Studies students that choose not to go on the senior trip will be charged \$50 their senior year.

Parents and students will be notified of this expense via communication from the class advisors at the beginning of the school year. The class treasurer is responsible for collecting these dues.

Half of the dues are due by the end of the 1st semester and the remainder is to be paid by the end of the 3rd quarter. *Dues may be paid using SCRIP credit.*

E. COUNSELING

Guidance and counseling services are available to all students. These services include social and spiritual

counseling, assistance with educational planning, testing and the interpretation of test scores, occupational information, career information, school concerns, or other concerns the student may wish to discuss.

F. FIRE DRILLS

Periodic fire drills are required by state law. Signs are posted in each room giving evacuation directions to follow. Please observe the following points during a fire drill:

1. Lights out
2. Windows closed
3. No excessive talking
4. Walk rapidly, single-file, do not run
5. Take purses and valuable items with you, leave books
6. Do not wait for others to join you
7. Do not re-enter until an all clear signal is given
8. Stay with your group or class

G. HALL PASSES

Students are required to have a hall pass whenever they are in the halls during class time. Passes may not be used so one may purchase food or drink.

H. HEALTH ROOM

If a student becomes ill, he/she should obtain a pass from his/her teacher and report to the health room or office. Parents will be contacted if necessary to come and get the student. If the school nurse or appropriate administrator gives permission for the student to go home, he/she must sign-out in the secondary office.

I. LIBRARY

When students receive permission from their study hall or classroom teacher to go to the library, they must obtain a pass and go with an academic purpose - having work that needs to be done. Books are checked out for two weeks. Late fines are five cents per day.

J. LOCKERS

Lockers are the property of the school, with locker assignments made to all students. Students are responsible for maintaining clean and neat lockers. Students should not keep valuables or money in their lockers. No stickers of any kind are to be put on the outside or inside of lockers.

K. LOSS OF DRIVER'S LICENSE

1. Under Ohio Law (3321.13) the Superintendent must report any student less than 18 years of age who drops out of school to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and Juvenile Court. This will result in the suspension of license or temporary instructor's permit.
2. Students involved with the selling or distributing of drugs will be reported to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, resulting in the loss of their license or temporary permit.
3. Students under the age of 18 who are expelled from school for any reason will be reported to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and lose their license or permit.
4. Students under the age of 18 may be reported to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles if they are habitually absent, or found in possession or under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or a school function.

L. LOST AND FOUND

Label all belongings with your name. Do not leave money and valuables lying around. Articles found in classrooms, hallways, window sills, or closets will be taken to the Lost and Found area. Unclaimed property will be disposed of if not claimed within a reasonable length of time. Do not leave clothing in the restrooms. Students who find articles should take them to the secondary office. MCS is not financially responsible for loss or damage to clothing or personal items brought to school.

M. LUNCH AREA AND PRIVILEGES

Food is to be confined to the lunch room area. Students are held responsible for leaving their table area clean. All food should be eaten at the lunch tables on the stage. Students are permitted to eat outside on school grounds

only with permission. Students found outside the designated areas may be issued a detention. **Only seniors** are permitted to leave for lunch each day. Juniors will be notified when they are permitted to do the same. The privilege of going out to lunch lies at the discretion of the administration. It may be evaluated and removed based on proper behavior and timing.

N. OFFICE TELEPHONE

Students are permitted to use the office telephone to contact parents for important matters only. During school, students must have the permission of a teacher, in the form of a written pass, and/or the permission of the office to use the office phone. Limit calls to two minutes or less.

O. POLICE PRESENCE

Should the police or other law enforcement officer or agent seek to interview a student at MCS during the school day, the administration will attempt to contact a parent or guardian to inform them of the circumstances and establish if the parent/guardian desires to be present at the interview.

P. RESIDENCY

Because our school exists as an extension of the Christian home, students are required to reside with their parents or legal guardians while attending MCS. Students are not permitted to “move out” and live on their own or with anyone other than parents/guardian specified on the student application.

Q. SCHOOL CLOSING

In the event of severely inclement weather or mechanical breakdown, the school may be closed or starting time delayed. **School closing, delayed starting time, or early dismissals will be announced over the following radio and TV stations:**

Mansfield—WMAN, WYHT, WVNO, WVMC (after 7), WMFD (TV) www.NorthCentralOhio.com
Ashland—WNCO
Shelby—WSWR

If no report is heard, it can be assumed that school will be in session. Do not call a faculty or staff member for school closings: you will receive an automated phone call.

R. TEXTBOOKS

At the beginning of the school year, students must write their name on the inside front covers of their issued textbooks and notebooks. In the event that textbooks are lost and not found within one week, the student should report it to the teacher. The replacement cost must be paid by the student before a second book will be issued. Students are to avoid marking in their textbooks. Excessive wear and damage will result in a fine when the textbook is returned at the end of the year.

S. TORNADO DRILLS

Whenever there is a tornado drill or evidence that a tornado has been spotted, we will follow these procedures as quickly as possible:

1. A continuous bell will sound or back-up alarm system.
2. All teachers will take attendance.
3. Students should move quickly and without talking. Do not take books.
4. Students should face an inside wall, bend over, and place their hands on the back of their heads.
5. Students are to remain in that position until an “all-clear” announcement is made and follow the teacher’s instructions and return to the classroom.
6. If students are outside away from school, they should take cover in a ditch or low area. They should lie flat and cover their head.

T. TRIPS

Discipline: If the MCS supervising personnel determine that a violation of the rules has occurred during a school trip, the school Superintendent or Principal will be first notified. The student will then be sent home immediately and parents will be responsible for their transportation and all expenses. Disciplinary action at the school will then proceed.

1. Any MCS student who is under Disciplinary Probation or has received seven or more detentions during the course of the year will not be permitted to participate in overnight trips.
2. Seniors who have missed more than 14 days of school and/or class during either semester will not be permitted to attend the Senior Class Trip. Rather, those students must make up the lost time at school during those days.

U. VISITORS

Any student desiring to visit MCS must abide by the following policies:

1. Report to the secondary office and obtain a "Visitor's Pass."
2. Visitors from schools that are in-session that day must bring a note from their school administration granting permission. If the school is not in-session, permission must be granted by an MCS administrator.
3. Visitors must dress similar to the guidelines for Campus Wear.
4. Students previously dismissed from MCS or those who have been on probation must call the Principal before planning to visit.
5. In most cases, visitors must be prospective students.
6. No visitors are permitted during the last two weeks of school

V. WORK PERMITS

State law requires that every student under the age of 18 who obtains a job must first get a work permit from the school.

CUSTODY POLICIES

The splitting of a family is traumatic for parents and particularly for students. Consequently, the focus of MCS is on the safety and well-being of your student, and our instituted policies are to further those goals.

Custody Documentation

At the time of enrollment, parents shall provide all relevant documents concerning custody or visitation of each student enrolled at Mansfield Christian School. Parents of enrolled students shall have an ongoing duty to provide any documents and information relevant to a change in current custody or visitation rights to MCS within seven days of change or at the time of reenrollment if the school has dismissed for summer break.

School Records

A noncustodial parent shall have the right to access school records related to his or her student unless prohibited by a legally binding instrument.

Dismissal and Early Releases

No student shall be released to any individual other than a custodial parent unless express written permission is first given to MCS by a custodial parent or a valid legally binding instrument granting release is on file with MCS. All early dismissal requests shall go through the Principal's office. A parent cannot ask the school to withhold release of his or her student to the other parent or parent's representative without a legally binding instrument.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

It is MCS's policy to provide separate parent-teacher meetings if the need arises and if the school is informed in a reasonable time.

School Communications

It is the custodial parent's duty to communicate with the noncustodial parent regarding school announcements and notes.

ATHLETIC AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY POLICY

Students must be in good academic standing to participate in extra-curricular activities. Points are accumulated on received grades of "D's" or "F's" for each quarter. A "D" is worth 1 point, while an "F" is worth 2 points. A student may not accumulate three or more penalty points. If a student receives three or more points, he/she will be placed on probation until the next time report cards are issued (unless certain circumstances arise). At the discretion of the Athletic Director, Principal, and/or coach, a student can be placed on probation at any time. Eligibility will begin/end at noon on the Friday following the end of the quarter.

1. A student who is on probation may practice with his/her team at the discretion of the Athletic Director, Principal, and/or coach.
2. A student on probation may not dress in his/her uniform or participate in games during the probationary period. The student may travel with the team at the discretion of the coach.
3. If tryouts for a particular sport occur during a student's probation and cuts will be made, the student will be permitted to participate in the tryout process.
4. Eligibility will be determined on the day grade reports are sent home.
5. Students receiving an incomplete ("I") will have two weeks to complete assignments so a grade can be posted. Incompletes turn into an "F" after this time.
6. Spring grades in the eighth grade apply to eligibility in the ninth grade.
7. All OHSAA rules and regulations for eligibility apply and must be met in addition to MCS guidelines. **According to OHSAA guidelines, summer school courses may NOT be used to determine eligibility.** However, a student may retake a course over the summer in order to meet the eligibility requirements established by MCS under the following conditions:
 - a. The student has passed five one credit courses in the fourth quarter in accordance with OHSAA rules.
 - b. The student agrees to repeat the entire course in order to replace the 4th quarter "F."
 - c. The student received only one "F" during the fourth quarter; students receiving two "F"s" are not eligible.
 - d. Summer courses must be pre-approved by the administration and grades must be documented and verified before eligibility is officially reinstated.
8. Athletic consequences for school-related discipline issues will be administered according to the guidelines listed in the Athletic Code of Conduct.
9. A student who is a part of the MCS Independent Studies program is required by Mansfield Christian School to take at least one class at the Mansfield Christian campus in order to qualify for participation in any Mansfield Christian High School sport. These classes can include the weekly after-school class program provided for Independent Studies students and supervised by the Independent Studies Principal.