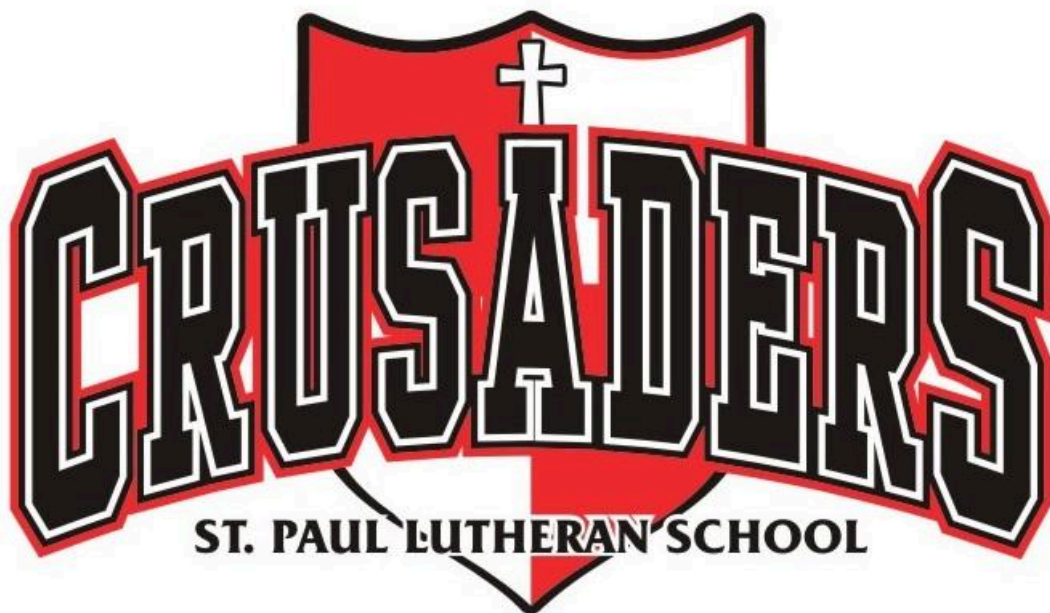


**PARENT – STUDENT
HANDBOOK**
St. Paul Lutheran School
2025-2026



St. Paul Lutheran School proclaims the good news of Jesus through academic excellence while reflecting God's love in all His children.

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL - ROCHELLE, IL
PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK (Updated February, 2023)**

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THE ST. PAUL SCHOOL HANDBOOK

I. CREDO OF OUR SCHOOL

In response to God's love, the people of St. Paul are committed through Word and Sacrament ministry to make disciples of all ages in the congregation, community, and world.

We believe that Christian education is a vital aspect of God's mission, commanded by Him to the church through the Great Commission. Because Christian education is a vital part of Christ's Commission, it must be a working place of and for the Holy Spirit. This is accomplished through the pupil's contact with Christ-centered instruction and instructors.

We believe that a Christ-centered education is committed to provide a complete education for God's people by meeting their spiritual, social, and emotional needs.

The child's learning his proper relationship to God and to his fellowman mirrors the effect of the Holy Spirit's work in a Christian Day School.

We believe that the Lutheran School's uniqueness lies in: adequate time for Christian instruction; the impact of professional teachers who are Christians; the "Body of Christ" at work; and the fact that the Lutheran School tries to meet the learner's educational needs in a single school setting.

We believe that the family exerts much influence on a child's total education, and that the church and school must equip adults for their important role in Christian education.

II. PHILOSOPHY OF OUR SCHOOL

The basic premise for Christian Education is that the teaching must be aimed at the WHOLE child, for in each child there is evidence of God's wonderful love. A child is redeemed through baptism, an heir to eternal life; and through Christian Education, will reflect God's love through his service to God.

Our school seeks to transmit a cultural and religious heritage that is both Lutheran and Christian. Staffed by mature Christian persons, our goal is to guide the young learner toward Christian maturity. We strive to teach Biblical concepts and endeavor to teach each child to evaluate all knowledge, events, history, science, and relationships from a Christian point of view. We seek to work cooperatively with the home and other agencies in meeting the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of each child as (s)he grows to maturity.

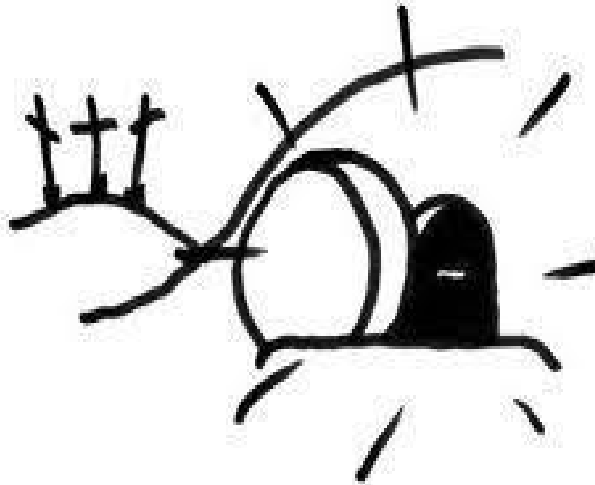
Finally, we hold that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom, and that each individual will be blessed to the degree in which each of us applies the admonition, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all those things will be added unto you." Matthew 6:33

III. OBJECTIVES OF OUR SCHOOL

THE PRIMARY AIM OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS:

1. To teach each child through the use of God's word -
 - a. That he/she is a child of God, a redeemed soul, and an heir of eternal life.
 - b. That God truly loves him and cares for him.
 - c. That he must respond to God in faith and love.
2. To impress upon the children the power of prayer, the meaning of prayer in life and what a great source of strength and comfort this affords.
3. To strive to motivate in the children a desire:
 - a. to develop ever stronger Christian personalities and Christian attitudes.
 - b. to develop civic responsibilities, and the importance of applying Christian truths and principles in their lives as Christians of this land.
 - c. to develop their God given talents for the purpose of serving God and their fellowman.
4. To strive to integrate Christian truths and principles in all learning to the extent that the child fully realizes that the spiritual life and the earthly life are one and that Christ must be a part of our everyday lives.

5. To teach the child to realize that he must live his whole life in constant awareness of his Lord's return.



NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

St. Paul Lutheran School is owned, operated and supported by St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and is open to all who desire a Christ-centered education for their children. It admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, employment policies, admissions policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

St. Paul Church is a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, whose congregations and schools are found throughout the world.

This guide was prepared as a means to help establish a Christian setting at St. Paul Lutheran School, Rochelle, Illinois. It is a guide and not meant to be interpreted as a complete set of rules. Other statements of policies and procedures may be given from time to time as the need arises. It is hoped that this booklet will be beneficial to our students, parents, and teachers as we live together under God's mercy and grace.

ADMISSIONS

Families interested in enrolling their children at St. Paul are requested to arrange for an appointment with the principal. Applications will be given to the families along with a release of information letter, which will allow St. Paul to view the records of the student(s) at the former school. Priority will be given to members of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

State of Illinois enrollment guidelines are followed in regards to age requirements for Kindergarten and first grade. A child must be five years of age by September 1 in order to qualify for Kindergarten enrollment (six years of age by September 1 for 1st grade). Exceptions will only be made in cases where the parent has written proof that the public school district in which they reside has accepted the child for early enrollment. Students should be 3 years or 4 years of age by September 1 for Pre- Kindergarten classes.

ARRIVALS & DISMISSALS

School begins promptly at 8:30 AM. Classroom doors are opened at 8:15 AM. Students should not arrive before 8:00 AM unless brought by the bus or requested by a teacher. Students arriving between 8:00 A.M. and 8:15 AM should wait quietly outside the school doors or in the gym in cases of inclement weather. A teacher will supervise students during this time. Teacher supervision is provided for bus riders and for the convenience of parents who work outside the home. Please do not bring students before 8:15 AM unless it is necessary. After 8:15 A.M., students should go directly to classrooms and quietly prepare for the school day. Please be sure your child knows how they are getting home each day.

Kindergarten through 8th grade dismiss at 2:55 PM. Students should be picked up within 15 minutes. Students staying after school must have a teacher's permission. Students are to proceed to their pickup area north of the gym. A phone call or an email should be sent to the office if your child will be leaving before the appointed time.

Arriving and Leaving During School Hours

- Beginning at 8:30 a.m. and continuing throughout the school day, all outside doors will be locked. In addition, the doors separating the school lobby from the gym and hallway will also be locked.
- All parents must exit the school immediately after dropping off their children or go to the school office. **After the first week of school, only preschool parents are to escort their children into the school building.**
- Afternoon preschool parents bringing their children to class between 12:00 p.m. and 12:15 p.m. will use door D outside the second grade room to gain entry into the school and take their children directly to class.
- Any other visitors, including parents, who are permitted into the school after the start of the school day, must go directly to the school office to check in.
- Anyone allowed entry into the school hallways will be given a visitor's badge to identify themselves. The visitor's badge must be returned to the school office before leaving.

- Anyone in the school between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. without permission will be directed immediately to the school office.
- Children arriving late to school will need to sign in at the office.
- Children leaving before the end of the school day will need to be signed out at the school office unless other arrangements are made with the secretary and/or the principal.

ATHLETICS

St. Paul participates in the Fox Valley Lutheran Athletic Conference and the Meridian Conference. All fifth through eighth grade students may participate in basketball, track, cheer, volleyball and cross country. Fifth and sixth graders compose the JV teams and seventh and eighth graders compose the varsity teams. In the event that there are not enough seventh and eighth graders to fill out a roster, students in the lower grades may be brought up. Lower grade students will only be brought up if their skill level indicates that they are ready for the competitive requirements of varsity sport.

Children in grades three and four will be given the opportunity to participate if more athletes are needed, fourth grade first and then third grade. Whenever this occurs, all students in the class will be informed by the athletic director and given the chance to participate.

Each athlete must receive a physical examination from his family doctor or have a signed waiver prior to participation. Parents have the responsibility for getting their children to the practices and games. The athletic director administrates the whole program and teachers or parents qualified in the sport help in the coaching areas.

Participation fees are required to be paid prior to being a part of a team. These fees are published and available at registration, in the St. Paul Athletic Handbook, or by requesting a copy from the school office.

The Athletic Director will make every effort to schedule no more than 4 total games and/or practices for a team during a regular school week, Monday through Friday, and no more than three during a calendar week, Sunday through Saturday. Due to our participation in two conferences this is sometimes impossible. **Individual JV teams are limited to no more than 3**

tournaments during a season. Varsity teams are limited to no more than 4 tournaments during a season (not including the Meridian Conference Tournament). *The Athletic Director reserves the right to petition the school board for additional tournaments.* St. Paul teams are limited to one tournament which requires a hotel stay per season. These limits may be exceeded for varsity teams in the event a team qualifies for state or national tournaments. ***

Athletes are reminded that being a part of a St. Paul team is a privilege and not a right and may be asked to sign a behavioral contract. They are reminded that they are representing their school and their Lord, and therefore are expected to conduct themselves accordingly during all athletic events, both home and away. *Any student who does not participate fully in PE class on a given day cannot participate in any extra-curricular sports activity for the remainder of that day.*

(See EXTRA CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY POLICIES)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The regular school day begins at 8:30 a.m. Students that are not in attendance and in their seats at the time of morning attendance will be counted tardy or absent. Students arriving after the 8:30 bell but by 10:00 a.m. are considered tardy. Those arriving later than 10:00 a.m. or leaving prior to 1:30 p.m. will be considered one half day absent.

In the event a student will be absent, **the parent should notify the school office by 8:45 AM.** Chronic unexcused absences (over 10% of days) may be referred to the County Superintendent and Truancy Intervention Services. A letter will notify parents that this action will take place.

Valid cause for absence shall be illness, including the mental or behavioral health of the student, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, or family emergency and shall include such other situations beyond the control of the student, as determined by the board of education in each district, or such other circumstances which cause reasonable concern to the parent for the mental, emotional, or physical health or safety of the student,

(NEW FOR 2025-2026) ****

Excessive tardiness produces disruptions, which place a burden on the child, the school office, the teacher, and the entire classroom. Being tardy more than five times within a school quarter, unless validated by a doctor's statement, is considered excessive tardiness. ***In grades 4-8, a child's first four tardies will earn an after school detention. A child's next four tardies will also result in an after school detention. An additional four tardies will result in an out of school suspension and a meeting with the school board. For grades K-3, after 4 tardies and subsequent 4 tardies, the parent will be asked to meet with the school board.***

Planned Absence/Vacation

Your child's attendance at school is very important to his/her education. Families should plan vacations so as not to conflict with school, but prearranged family absences may be excused under the following conditions.

- Notify **the teachers and the office** of the planned dates of absences in written form at least one (1) week prior to departure.
- Assignments will be given no sooner than two days before departure in keeping with the sequence of classroom lessons.
- All homework is due no later than the 2nd day after their return for full credit and is subject to a 10% grade deduction per day until it is turned in.
- The teacher's professional judgment will be used to establish a timeline for completing missed tests, quizzes, and other class work completed by class during student's absences.

AWARDS

Following each quarter, students in grades 5-8 will be recognized for their academic achievements (see Honor Roll). At the end of the year, students will be recognized following the closing chapel service for various levels of academic achievements.

BICYCLES & MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

Children are requested to use the bicycle rack for their bicycles, scooters, skateboards, skates, and roller blades. Once a child arrives on the school premises, these items must remain at the bike rack. REMEMBER:

1. Park in the bicycle rack provided.
2. Lock your bike.
3. Use the sidewalk for entering and leaving the school grounds, not the grass or the neighbor's lawn.
4. Ride straight home after school.
5. Beware of reckless automobiles on the street and obey all traffic laws.
6. Don't ride double unless you have a bicycle built for two.
7. Do not play with bicycles during school hours or practice hours.
8. Walk your bicycle on school property.

BUSING

Children living outside the city limits, more than 1.5 miles from school, and within District 231 are eligible to ride the public school bus free of charge. Parents must contact the D231 bus barn to arrange their child's bus transportation.

BUS RIDERS

Bus riding is a privilege which may be lost if rules are not followed. Buses will not wait for late students before or after school. Board your bus as soon as you have been dismissed and stay there! Follow these simple rules to make your ride a safe one:

1. Students must obey bus drivers promptly as they are in full charge of buses and peers.
2. Students must be on time at the designated bus stops. Buses cannot wait.
3. Students must stay off the roadway at all times while waiting for buses.
4. Students must cross in front of the bus when crossing a highway, not in back of the bus.
5. Bus riders must keep their hands and heads inside the bus at all times.
6. There must not be any moving around or changing of seats in the bus.
7. There must not be any loud talking, shouting or singing in the bus.

8. Any student causing trouble by teasing, pulling hair, scuffling or unfit language will be warned and on a second offense suspended from riding the bus.
9. Throwing articles of any kind in a bus is more dangerous than anything else, and will not be tolerated.
10. Any damage to a bus should be reported to the driver at once.
11. Any student disfiguring or mutilating a bus will be required to pay for the damage, and will be suspended from riding the bus.
12. Bus riders must help to keep buses clean, sanitary, and orderly.

CALENDAR

School year calendars are emailed when available in March or April. Should you need an additional copy, please contact the school office. An updated calendar is available on our website at www.stpaulrochelle.org.

CHAPEL

Weekly chapel services give us a chance to worship God in a more formal setting. Parents are invited to attend. Enter and leave God's House quietly and respectfully.

CHOIR

As part of our music curriculum each student may participate in a choir. Rehearsals are held during the school day. All children are encouraged to attend St. Paul on weekends when their choir sings.

(POINT OF EMPHASIS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR)

Attendance records are kept and families need to give a **written** excuse by the Friday before the service or event when they will not be in attendance. Attendance is especially expected at the annual Christmas program and for the musical presentations at our annual Curriculum Fair. Much of the child's music grade is based on these two programs during the 2nd and 4th grading periods. Non-attendance at choir events not accompanied by a written excuse are subject to a reduction in a student's music grade.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

We encourage regular and faithful church attendance by our school families both at regular and special services.

COMMUNICATION

We will make every attempt to keep you informed through our weekly newsletter, The Crusader Corner. Important information is disseminated through this newsletter and also via special emails.

COMPUTERS

Chromebooks are provided to our students for educational use. Students must have permission from a teacher and must use the software made available from the school. Programs from home or from the internet may not be used in school or on Chromebooks without permission. In normal circumstances, Chromebooks stay at school. With teacher permission, they may be taken home. Each student and their parents must sign an Agreement for Internet Access form before the student is allowed to access the internet at school. Students are required to use the Chromebooks provided by the school and should. Parents are responsible to reimburse the school for any damages to Chromebooks up to and including paying for a replacement.

CONDUCT

1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are doing." To that end students are expected to:

- 1) conduct themselves in a God-pleasing manner.
- 2) show concern for others in all actions inside and outside the building.
- 3) be considerate of the needs of others and let their light shine before men, that they may see your good works."

General rules of conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Students will walk quietly on the right and be courteous at all times.
2. Students will respect all building personnel.
3. Students will respect school and personal property.
4. Students will carry playground equipment in the halls.
5. Dangerous objects or toys of any kind are not allowed and will be held until a parent picks it up.
6. The use of profanity will not be tolerated and will result in an immediate detention.
7. Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in failure on the assignment and a parental contact.

8. Electronic devices that connect to the internet and/or cellular service, may not be used by students during the school day (8:00-3:15) unless they receive permission from the teacher or principal.
9. There will be no selling of anything on school property unless permission is received from the office.
10. Students should not email, text, or otherwise contact parents during the school day without the permission from the classroom teacher or principal.

SERIOUS INFRACTIONS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES

To insure a Christian educational environment, the following actions may result in an immediate suspension. Depending on the severity, this suspension may take place in or out of school. The teacher and principal in consultation will determine the severity.

1. Fighting or physically harming others.
2. Use of bad language or obscene gestures.
3. Disrespect to classmates, teachers, or others in authority.
4. Vandalism or destroying school property or property belonging to other people.
5. Possession of or use of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol.
6. Stealing, possession of, or selling stolen property.
7. Possession of or use of any type of weapon or firearm.
8. Unwanted or inappropriate language toward and/or touching of another student in a potentially suggestive or sexual manner.
9. Inappropriate use of technology in any manner.

Repeated offenses may result in the student being brought before the Day School Committee who will determine if expulsion is warranted.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

Parents who feel that their child has been treated unfairly have the right to request a hearing by the St. Paul School Board to appeal the decision. Parents may exercise this right by contacting the chairman of the board. In any case, Matthew 18 should be followed.

CONFERENCES

At the end of the first quarter, parents are required to confer with teachers. A schedule will be sent home to each parent indicating time of appointment with each teacher for each pupil. Parents are encouraged at any time to contact the teacher for a conference. Optional Parent/Teacher conferences may be arranged at the end of the 3rd quarter of the school year.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

All new employees of the school are required to undergo fingerprint criminal background checks through the FBI national database via the Illinois State Police. All new coaches and all new chaperones for overnight trips will submit to a non fingerprint background check. The cost of all background checks is covered by the school.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

St. Paul has a Crisis Management Plan which guides our actions in the event of an emergency.

DRESS

Students are expected to be dressed appropriately for the weather at all times and should be prepared to go outside in many types of weather. (For playing outdoors in wet and snowy weather, children must be equipped with boots and snow pants.) It is very important to mark both boots as well as other items such as mittens, scarves, caps, etc. Students may wear dresses, skirts, slacks, jeans, shorts, or clothing, which is appropriate for school. Students' hair should be neatly combed.

1. Wear neat, clean clothing.
2. Soft-soled or gym shoes are required for gym and play activities. If hard-soled shoes are worn, a change of shoes is necessary.
3. Special gym clothes and shoes are required for grades 5-8. Fifth through eighth grade students must wear St. Paul PE uniform available from the St. Paul school office.
4. Students at all grade levels may wear T-shirts. Parents and students are reminded to wear only those types of shirts that are in good taste. Care should be taken that any pictures or slogans are Christian in thought and word.

5. Modesty in dress is the rule. Therefore tight-fitting clothing, clothing which exposes bare midriffs when arms are raised, tank tops with straps less than two inches wide, short shorts, and short skirts will not be allowed.

Students with inappropriate clothing will be asked to call home.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY POLICIES:

1. Attendance:

****A student who arrives later than 10:00 a.m. due to illness or leaves school early due to illness is ineligible to participate in an event that evening.***

*Other absences on the day of an event would be individually evaluated by the principal to determine the student's eligibility to participate that evening. In these cases, students must receive permission from the principal, or his representative, in order to participate.

2. School Suspension: School suspension is given for behavior patterns, which warrant more severe disciplinary action. School suspension includes in-school suspension.

*A student serving school suspension is ineligible for participation or attendance at any school functions.

*The time frame of this ineligibility will begin at 3:00 on the day the suspension is given, through the day(s) of suspension, to include the evening of the last day of the suspension.

3. Academic Standard: The following criteria are not set to keep students from participating in valuable extra-curricular activities, but to ensure that the students are applying themselves to make the best use of their academic skills.

* This academic criterion will be calculated at the end of each school week

* A composite 69% or below average at the end of a minimum of three (3) school weeks in any subject will deem a student ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the following week (beginning on Monday and continuing through Sunday)

4. Poor sportsmanship at an extracurricular activity will be reviewed by the principal and may result in ineligibility or expulsion from the team.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

St. Paul Lutheran School generally follows the decision of Public School District 231 regarding school closing due to weather although there are exceptions. Parents and faculty will be informed through the Sycamore system and by listening to area TV stations. In the event of an early closing, no student will be sent home unless a parent has been notified.

EQUIPMENT

All school equipment should be taken care of and used for its intended purpose. Any damage of equipment deemed to have been caused by misuse may result in the parents being held responsible for the replacement/repair costs.

FERPA - This website lists parent's rights under FERPA.

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

FIRE, SEVERE WEATHER AND SAFETY

Fire drills, tornado drills and other safety drills are to be taken seriously. Talking, playing, and running are forbidden.

FINANCIAL AID

The Frieda Pickreign/Jane Reineck Scholarship Fund has been established to assist those K-8 families who are unable to pay the full tuition. The fund is subsidized primarily by donations and fundraisers. After the family completes the necessary applications, funds are dispensed on recommendation of a subcommittee consisting of representatives of the Day School Board and the Principal. Financial needs of the family as well as the family's commitment to volunteering to the church and school will be considered when dispensing funds.

PROCEDURE FOR ST. PAUL SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS

1) Parents complete an application for financial aid through the online service Tuition Aid Data Services (TADS). (mytads.org) Costs of the application are paid by the families.

2) The principal will prepare a report of the recommendations for aid from TADS.

3) Before the August registration, the financial aid subcommittee will review the report and award financial aid based on need and the anticipated money available each year.

4) Parents will be notified of the financial aid awarded by mail before the August registration.

GRIEVANCES

St. Paul uses Matthew 18:15-20 in the case of grievances. Should an occasion arise where a family is dissatisfied with a decision, **it is their Christian responsibility to talk directly to the person involved.** If they do not reach a satisfactory agreement they should go to the next level of administration. In which case, your concern must be documented in writing. Teachers are under the supervision of the principal. The principal is under the supervision of the Day School Committee. The Day School Committee is under the Church Council of St. Paul Lutheran Church. No person, committee, or board can act on matters which have not followed the proper chain of command or do not include the people involved.

Remember, out of respect for the reputations of others, be discreet about discussing the concern in the presence of other people.

HEAD LICE

If any head lice (egg, nymph or adult) are found on a child, the child will be removed from the classroom and the parent will be contacted to take the child home for treatment. The treatment will include removal of all lice (egg, nymph or adult) from the child's hair. Upon return to school, the child will be checked by the Parish Nurse and allowed to return to class if all lice (egg, nymph or adult) are removed.

HEALTH EXAMS

All children entering preschool, kindergarten and sixth grade must present evidence of having successfully completed a thorough physical examination by a doctor and the shots required by law. Students in kindergarten, second grade and sixth grade must present evidence of a dental exam. Kindergarten students must complete an eye exam given by a licensed optometrist. Students will not be allowed to attend school unless the health requirements are fully met. Our school health program is coordinated through the Parish Nurse Ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church. The associate parish nurse, also a certified school nurse, reviews the school physicals, provides vision and hearing screening, and coordinates all health services required by the Illinois School Code. The parish nurses provide

many additional health screening and educational programs. Our school secretary assists the school nurse in keeping health records current.

Students who participate in athletics must receive a physical examination from his family doctor or have a signed waiver prior to participation.

HOMEWORK

Assignments are to be turned in by the assigned due date and time. Late assignments may not be given full credit. If the assignment is not turned in the next day, the student may be required to complete the assignment at a time decided by the teacher. The teacher should be contacted if there are extenuating circumstances.

HONOR ROLL

Each quarter in grades 5-8 students will be recognized for the following:
High Honor roll: All "A's" in the major subjects with no grade lower than an A- in the other subjects. Honor roll: All "B's or A's" in the major subject areas with no grade lower than a "B-" in any of the other subjects.

Major subjects are Reading or Literature, Math, English, History or Geography, and Science.

ILLINOIS SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION

The State of Illinois wants all parents to be aware of the sex offender registration which is open for viewing by all parents in the state. Parents may view the registry through a link on the Illinois State Police Website. The URL is www.isp.state.il.us/sor/sor.cfm

LIBRARY

Library rules will be posted in the library. A student may only have one book checked out at a time unless they are given permission from the librarian. Check out all books or magazines with the librarian or your teacher.

Reference books must remain in the library. If you lose or damage books or materials, they must be replaced at your expense.

LOST AND FOUND

Items that are found are stored in the supply room across from the office. Ask permission to hunt for lost articles. Don't leave unnecessary clothes or items at school. Unclaimed clothing will be donated to those in need.

LUNCHES

St. Paul will not be offering a hot lunch program for the 2025-2026 school year. Students will need to bring lunches from home. They are to eat only the lunches that they have brought and **should not share food**. Please do not send lunches which require extensive preparation. Special lunch days (Aldo's pizza and other options) will be scheduled throughout the school year.

Students should respect the rights of others by limiting the volume of their conversation to the table. Students are encouraged to finish their lunches unless they have a health problem. Standards for a government required Type A lunch are met by our lunchroom personnel. Milk is included with the lunch or may be purchased separately for those who bring their lunch. Pop is discouraged from being included in lunches; however, fruit juices are acceptable.

MAKE-UP WORK

When a student is absent, he/she is responsible for doing make-up work. Check for missed assignments with your teacher and make sure that all work has been turned in from the day missed plus the next day's assignments. Generally, you will be given a one-day grace period for each day you are absent. If you know that you will be absent for some reason, ask your teacher several days before for your assignments in order to give sufficient time to get them ready. Regardless of absences, long term assignment due dates are set. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests if ample time is given. On the day students are absent, that day's assignments will be available after 3:15 PM in the school office.

MEDICATION

If a child requires any dispensing of medication, the school office should be notified and the medication kept in the office. The school cannot dispense any medication, including any over-the-counter drugs, without parental permission and physician's orders. Appropriate forms must be completed by the parent and physician. The forms are available from the school office. A more detailed description of the medication policy is also available in the school office.

MEMBER TUITION

Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church pay a lower tuition rate due to their support of the church through their time and talents. The member tuition rate only applies to members with church attendance of 60% or higher. The attendance percentage is determined every six months, January-June and July-December. Church attendance January-June determines the tuition rate for the following September-December payments while July-December determines the tuition rate for January-May. Only weekly Saturday and Sunday services are considered when calculating church attendance. Attendance is based on the parent's attendance. However, we strongly encourage parents to attend with their children. Records are kept through attendance slips turned in during worship services.

PARTICIPATION POLICY

This school Policy of Participation is to serve as a reminder to all that God has commanded us to attend church regularly and He has also told us to share our first fruits with Him so that His work can be done.

All families are expected to:

1. Support the programs of the church and school.
2. Set a good example for their child by attending worship service regularly.

The following premises reflect the desire of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School to do the best possible job of training young Christians to become sincere and dedicated servants of the Lord.

Premise #1: The Christian Day School is organized and designed to assist the home and church in the training of children in religious values and

beliefs for the purpose of sharing the Good News that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

Premise #2: With very few exceptions, the influence of the church and school will be able to accomplish very little in raising the child's spiritual growth above the level of the child's home, therefore, the home is the major influence in shaping the religious attitudes, values, and degree of participation in church work.

Premise #3: The school and church teach that attendance at church services is commanded by God and is meant to be a regular activity in response to what God has done for us. It is the hope of St. Paul Lutheran School that families attend church regularly and give of their time, talent, and treasure.

PARTIES

Private party invites should not be given out at school unless all students (all boys and/or all girls) are invited. If your child is celebrating their birthday and would like to bring treats, please check with the teacher due to dietary restrictions of some children.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Tuition payments are due the first week of each month. Prompt payment is appreciated. A late fee of \$10.00 will be assessed if payments are not received by the 16th of the month. A reminder email will be sent out if payment is not received by the 20th of the month. Families who are delinquent in their payments at the end of a quarter will be contacted by the principal and their children may be removed from the classroom until payment is made. When this situation is imminent, parents are required to discuss their financial situation with the principal and arrange a mutually acceptable payment plan. This plan will include an automatic bank draft administered by the school office for tuition payments and a signed statement promising to fulfill the plan. In the event the initial payment plan is broken, the family will have the option to come before the Day School Board at the next regular scheduled meeting to arrange a final payment plan. Report cards and records cannot be given out unless all fees are paid.

PETS

Unless arrangements have been made in advance, pets may not be brought to school.

PHONE CALLS / CELL PHONES

The school and church phones are used each day for important business. Phones should be used for emergencies only. If you need to give your parents a message or make a phone call you must get permission from your teacher and the call must be made from the school phone. Cell phone use by students is not allowed from 8:00-3:15 unless they receive permission from the principal or teacher.

PLAYGROUND

All playing which would "hurt or harm our neighbor in his body" cannot be allowed. Teachers or other appointed adults supervise the playground. Students should stay on school property for all playground time. The playground is off limits for all students immediately before and after school. (Before 8:30 a.m. and between 3:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. UNLESS SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT)

Some simple rules to follow:

1. Use equipment solely for its intended purpose. Equipment may not be brought from home without permission.
2. Do not play rough games (such as wrestling, tackling).
3. Do not stand on the slide or swings. No more than one student on a swing at a time. Slides are one-way implements; do not go up the slides.
4. Do not fight.
5. Play only in designated areas.
6. Do not throw snowballs on school property at any time.
7. Do not play hard ball.
8. Playing in the snow requires proper snow attire.
9. Swings should be left at the level they are installed.

REGISTRATION AND TUITION REFUND POLICY

Registration fees ensure a child's enrollment at St. Paul. If a child's family moves out of the area prior to the start of the school year and notifies the school office by June 1, the K-8 pre-registration fee may be refunded. After June 1, there is no refund of K-8 registration fees. In the case of a K-8 tuition family moving out of the area, prepaid tuition monies may be refunded pro-rata. Preschool registration and tuition is not refundable unless a spot is

not found for the child in a class.

REPORT CARDS

Preschool progress reports are issued two times per year. (January and May) Access to grades (4th-8th) is available on Sycamore and parents are strongly encouraged to check the child's progress regularly.

Report cards are issued four times a year.

The grading scale for grades K-2 is:

E = Excellent
G = Very Good
S = Satisfactory
N = Needs Improvement

The grading scale for grades 3-4 is:

90 - 100: A - Superior
80 - 89: B - Above Average
70 - 79: C - Average
60 - 69: D - Below Average
Below 60: F – Failing

The grading scale for grades 5-8 is:

100-96.5	A+	12 points
96.4-93.5	A	11 points
93.4-89.5	A-	10 points
89.4-86.5	B+	9 points
86.4-83.5	B	8 points
83.4-79.5	B-	7 points
79.4-76.5	C+	6 points
76.4-73.5	C	5 points
73.4-69.5	C-	4 points
69.4-66.5	D+	3 points
66.4-63.5	D	2 points
63.4-59.5	D-	1 point
59.4-0	F	

Parents are urged to call upon the teacher anytime there seems need.

Final Report cards will be withheld if there are any outstanding fees.

ST. PAUL SCHOOL BOARD

The school is under the supervision of the St. Paul School Board. Meetings are open to the public. Meeting times are announced on the church calendar and school newsletter. Visitors who wish to address the School Board should contact the chairman or the principal, prior to the meeting date, to be put on the agenda. (Please follow grievance procedure found on p. 16)

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

On days of bad weather the school may be closed at the discretion of the principal. Generally, St. Paul will follow the lead of the local public school district. On such days, TV Stations 23 & 13 will be notified to broadcast the closing. Generally, we will follow Rochelle Elementary School District 231. Five snow days are allowed. After five snow days remote learning will be instituted. This does not necessarily mean live internet classes. Rather, materials which can be done at home will be provided by teachers. Google Classroom and other platforms will be used for remote learning so a student should have internet access at home.

SCHOOL GROUNDS

The school grounds are bordered on the east by the line of trees, the parking lot on the west, the street to the south, and the bushes surrounding the parsonage to the north. The students should refrain from going on private property. All students must leave the school grounds after school is dismissed or after their school activity has ended.

TARDINESS (See Attendance)

TESTING

MAP (NWEA) testing will be administered each year in grades K-8 in order to assess the student's progress and to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the curriculum. The ACT test will also be administered to 8th grade students in conjunction with RTHS. The test dates will be announced in advance so that the students can be prepared for success both mentally and physically.

VISITING

Parents are encouraged to visit classrooms. Please notify the teacher or teachers a day in advance of your visit or make an appointment if a more

specific conversation is needed. All visitors must report to the office. Please respect the teaching day and make an appointment. Unplanned visits can be disruptive to the learning process.

WELLNESS POLICIES

Screenings - Every school year St. Paul Lutheran School conducts vision and hearing screenings for all children PK – 8th grade.

Infectious Diseases - A child who has a chronic infectious disease including Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), related complex (ARC) or is HIV positive is entitled to a Christian education in the least restrictive environment so long as the risk of transmission of the disease and/or the risk of further injury to the student is sufficiently remote.

PLEASE NOTE: A student should be fever free (W/O medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.

ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL

BULLYING

Definition-Bullying is aggressive behavior that is intentional and that involves an imbalance of power or strength or intent to harass or embarrass another student. Typically, it is repeated over time. Bullying can be physical, cyber, verbal, relational, sexual, racial, etc.

Physical Bullying – using physical force or intimidation to hurt another student.

Cyber Bullying – bullying through the use of technology, social media, or any electronic communication.

Verbal Bullying – directing words at another student with the intention of putting down or humiliating.

Relational Bullying – when a student influences other students' friendships and relationships.

Bullying Policy-In that all students are considered a child of God and given value through Christ alone, bullying behavior or any type will not be tolerated. Teachers will actively and consistently encourage and model positive behaviors and will not tolerate aggressive or harassing behavior.

All students, parents, and teachers have the right and responsibility to report any incident of bullying or unsafe negative behavior. Teachers are not always present to witness incidents or areas of concern, and therefore can only intervene when they are informed about them. If there is an issue, please inform a teacher.

Bullying Discipline -Depending on the severity and/or the frequency of the offending behavior, students who are bullying are subject to various levels of disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Should the offense warrant higher level of attention the principal may contact local police authorities.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
1415 TENTH AVENUE
ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS 61068
815-562-6323
August 2022

Dear Parent:

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). That law requires all schools, kindergarten through twelfth grade, to be inspected to identify any asbestos-containing building materials. The law further requires the development of a Management Plan, based upon the findings of the inspection, which outlines our intent in controlling the potential for exposure to asbestos fibers in our school.

In the past, asbestos was used extensively in building materials because of its insulating and fire retarding capabilities. Virtually any building built before the late 1970s contains at least some asbestos in pipe insulation and structural fireproofing. Our building does contain some asbestos material. The primary concern arises when these materials begin to deteriorate or become damaged.

The inspection of our school was completed in July of 1989 and some asbestos-containing materials were identified. Re-inspections are done every six-months by Ideal & Associates, Bloomington, IL, our asbestos management company. The materials are distributed in various locations and include floor tiles, pipe insulations and mechanical areas not readily accessible to building occupants or students.

Our Management Plan was drafted, submitted to the Illinois Department of Health, and approved. It outlines in detail the methods we will use to maintain the materials in a safe manner. It also includes a schedule for the phased removal of these materials as applicable.

A copy of the Management Plan and Building Inspection report is on file for your review in the school office at 1415 Tenth Avenue. Should you have any questions concerning the asbestos report, please contact the school office.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Hall; Principal

Donald L. Curry, Designated Person, Ideal & Associates