

A Prayer for Back to School

Our Heavenly Father,

In a season of life when parenting decisions seem to loom larger than life itself, we humbly ask for your guidance. While the shoes still smell new... and the pencils point crisply, our hearts sense the need for a stronger connection with your love and a deeper reliance on your grace. Would You help us to remember that You know every thought we have as a parent? Would You remind us that the feeling of having our hearts walk around outside our bodies is one You are ever so familiar with? And would You provide the wisdom from above as we walk this new ground for a new school year? We praise Your name for doing so.



In Jesus' Holy Name, Amen.

rachefwojo.com

+

2023-2024 Parent/Student Handbook

Excerpts from St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parent Addendum
(See full version on the Webpage: www.smmcdunmore.org)

MISSION STATEMENT

OF ST. MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel School builds a faith-filled foundation for a successful life.

Belief Statements

We believe:

- Each person in our school community is a valued member of God's family.
- Our students will be prepared to serve society actively and productively, proclaiming and living the Gospel message of Christ.
- Parents are a child's first teacher and that education is a joint venture between home and school.
- Our school provides an educational program designed to prepare a child for the future, working to fulfill their needs and develop their gifts and talents.

PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION OF ST. MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL

Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School is a private, Catholic educational community. As Catholic educators, we believe that it is our mission not only to prepare our students to be productive members of society but also to prepare them to better serve the

Lord through the fourfold dimension of Catholic Education: Message, Community, Worship, and Service. In order to meet these objectives, we believe that it is incumbent upon us to: impress upon our students an understanding of our Catholic philosophy, the need to understand the purpose of our existence and the need to understand the truths, the heritage, and the tradition of our Catholic faith.

We at St. Mary of Mount Carmel realize that we have secular responsibilities to our students as well. The entire School family is committed to the education and the development of the whole child- spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally. Moreover, as Catholic educators, the faculty realizes that we must not only serve as role models for our students through the daily practice of our Catholic faith, but also that we must challenge our students to fully utilize their God-given talents.

Further, we believe that parents are the child's first teacher, and the education of our students is a joint responsibility of both teachers and parents. In order for a more effective education to exist, we believe that partnerships between the school and the home and between the school and the community are essential and vital components. Moreover, as Catholic educators, we strive to create a school climate of mutual understanding, trust, and respect through open lines of communication.

Finally, we believe that the ultimate mission of our school is to develop well-educated, morally and ethically conscientious students, who are prepared to serve society actively and productively, as well as to proclaim and to live the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

2023/2024 School/Dress Code Policy

Boys (See Flynn and O'Hara webpage for St. Mary of Mt. Carmel)

Pre-K

- All pieces must have the school logo:
- Navy/ White Tee (Short or long sleeve)
- Navy shorts
- Navy sweatpants
- Navy Crew Neck Sweatshirt
- St. Mary's Quarter Zip over uniform shirt
- Sneakers

Boys Grades K-3 Formal/Winter Uniform

- Khaki Twill Pants- **No Cargo or Carpenter Style Pants.**
- White Oxford shirt, short/long sleeves
- Navy V-neck sweater vest with school logo
- Navy V-neck pullover sweater with school logo
- School Plaid Tie
- Belt
- **Saddles/Bucks ONLY**

Boys K-3 Fall/Spring Option Aug-Oct.6/April 15-end

- Khaki Boys' Twill Walking Shorts
- White/Navy Short/Long Sleeve Polo Shirt w/school logo,
- **Sneakers (Worn with khaki shorts or gym clothes ONLY), saddles, or bucks (worn with pants)**
- Belts required for 3rd graders and up

Boys Grades 4-8 Formal/Winter Uniform

- Regulation Uniform Khaki Twill Pants- **No Cargo or Carpenter Style Pants.**
- Oxford Shirts (White, Yellow, Blue, Pink) Short/Long Sleeves
- Navy V-neck sweater vest with school logo
- Navy V-neck pullover sweater with school logo
- Appropriate tie and belts are required
- Belt
- Navy Sport coat- grades 6-8 only
- **Saddles/Bucks ONLY**

Boys Grades 4-5 Fall/Spring Option Aug-Oct.6/ April 15-end

- Khaki Boys' Twill Walking **shorts/long khakis- No cargo or carpenter style shorts/pants.**
- White/Navy Short Sleeve Polo Shirt w/school logo
- **Sneakers with shorts; saddles or bucks with long pants**

Boys Grades 6-8 Fall/Spring Option Aug-Oct.7/April 12-end

- White/Navy Short Sleeve Polo
- Regulation Uniform Khaki Twill Pants – **No Cargo or Carpenter Style Pants.**
- **Saddles or Bucks ONLY**

Boys-Any Day:

BOYS MUST BE CLEAN-SHAVEN; HAIR MUST BE CLEAN, NEATLY COMBED, AND CUT ABOVE THE COLLAR AND BEHIND THE EARS, AND EYEBROWS MUST BE VISIBLE. UNUSUAL HAIRCUTS AND/OR HAIR COLOR ARE NOT PERMITTED.

BOYS MAY NOT WEAR ANY UNUSUAL JEWELRY -- NO EARRINGS OR NECKLACES (WHICH ARE VISIBLE).

BOYS MAY NOT WEAR PIERCED JEWELRY OF ANY KIND. HATS MAY NOT BE WORN IN THE BUILDING.

2023/2024 School/Dress Code Policy

Girls (See Flynn and O'Hara webpage for St. Mary of Mt. Carmel)

Girls Grades K-3 Formal/Winter Uniform

- Plaid Drop Waist Jumper
- White Oxford/ Peter Pan Collared Shirt, short/long sleeves,
- **Flat headbands, no ears, horns, etc.**, Bows Allowed
- Navy Crew Neck Cardigan Sweater w/logo
- **Saddles/Bucks/Mary Janes ONLY** (No ballet-type shoes, loafers, clogs, or open toes allowed)
- Navy Blue/White/Grey Socks/Tights **OR** Navy Blue or Grey leggings worn under jumper (Pants are NOT an option)

Girls K-3 Fall/Spring Option Aug-Oct.6/April 15-end

- Khaki Girls' Skort (Front Panel)
- White/Navy Long or Short Sleeve Polo Shirt w/school logo **flat headbands, no ears, horns, etc.**,
- **Sneakers, saddles, bucks or Mary Janes**

Girls Grades 4-8 Formal/Winter Uniform

- Grey Kilt (**length-no more than 3 inches above the knee**) **SKORTS are NOT a part of the winter uniform.**
- **Flat headbands, no ears, horns, etc.**, Bows allowed
- Oxford Shirts (White, Yellow, Blue, Pink)
- Navy V-Neck sweater vest with school logo
- Navy V-Neck pullover sweater with school logo
- **Saddles/Bucks/ Mary Janes ONLY** (No ballet-type shoes, loafers, clogs, elevated heels, or open toes will be allowed)
- Navy Blue, White, or Grey knee high socks/tights **OR** Navy Blue or Grey leggings worn under kilt (Pants are NOT an option)

Grades 4-8 Fall/Spring Option Aug-Oct.6/April 15-end

- White/Navy Short/ long Sleeve Polo
- Grey Kilt (**length-no more than 3 inches above the knee**).
- Grey Skort (front and back panel) **No more than 3 inches above knee. THE SKORT is a FALL/SPRING option ONLY.**
- **Saddles/Bucks/Mary Janes ONLY** (No ballet-type shoes, loafers, clogs, elevated heels, or open toes will be allowed)
- Navy Blue, White, or Grey Knee High socks/tights

Girls- Any Day:

No makeup, lipstick, or unnatural hair colors and/or haircuts
****Natural makeup, lightly applied, will be allowed for girls in grades 7 and 8**

Clear or light pastel nail polish only – No unnatural lengths or fake nails

Small jewelry, in moderation

Only small, non-dangling earrings (safety reasons)

Dress Code Policy Continued

SMMC Quarter Zip Sweatshirt and Full Zip Jacket

** The SMMC quarter zip (previously sold) and the full zip jacket are the **ONLY** sweatshirt/jacket allowed for daily wear.

It **MUST** be worn over the school uniform top.

** The SMMC quarter zip or full zip jacket are **NOT** considered formal uniform. Vests, cardigans, sport coats must be worn on official formal uniform days.

PLEASE NOTE: Boys in grades K-5, and girls in grades 4-5, are allowed to wear the long sleeve navy/white polo shirt as part of the winter (not formal) uniform.

All students will be required to wear formal uniforms for liturgy and other noted events.

Boys/Girls Gym Uniform (K-8) Gym on Mondays

- Navy School Logo Gym Shorts
- White School Logo T- shirt
- Navy Blue School Logo sweatpants
- Navy Blue School Logo sweatshirt/fleece
- (Boys in Grades 6-8 may wear **plain** navy gym shorts -No Logo)

Mindfulness Fridays

Students may wear SMMC logo spirit wear OR SMMC gym clothes **ONLY**.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Parent will be called to bring appropriate attire and a demerit will be given after the second uniform offense and thereafter for grades 4-8.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL:

Parents are asked to establish regular dismissal procedures with their children—walkers, bus or private car. **If for some reason, the regular procedure changes, the teacher and office must have a note with the signature of a parent or guardian noting the change.**

Students must be IN the building by 8 AM for Assembly. The school will be open to receive students at 7:30 AM.

Morning Drop Off:

Enter the parking lot from Willow Street, behind the school. Exit onto Chestnut Street on the side you plan to turn. Turning left exit on the left side of the building
Turning right exit on the right side of the building.

If you must leave your car to enter the school., park in the back along the fence and bring your child in with you.

Afternoon Pick Up:

Student in Grades Pre-K- 8 will dismiss at 2:25.

- **Parents will enter the school parking lot on the left hand side of the school from Chestnut Street.**
- They will proceed around the back of the school following the staff who will direct them into rows.
- Teachers will accompany students who will exit the back of the building in grade order.
- Parents will come to the sidewalk, claim their children and return to the cars.

- When students are all inside their vehicle, the staff will signal each row to depart through the Willow Street exit.

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT

- **No child will be released during school time to the non-custodial parent unless the custodial parent gives written permission.**

INCLEMENT WEATHER

- Monitor local media if bad weather is forecasted
- St. Mary's follows Dunmore School District for delays and closures.
- Watch for WNEP TV and our REMIND text message system
- Have an emergency pick up person available
- **Follow your local district's early pick up schedule as districts will vary.**
- Notify the school if you do not want your child taking a bus home either by note or call.
- **In the event of a 2-hour delay, please do not bring students to school before 9:30 A.M.**
- If inclement weather develops quickly and you want to take your child home early, **Report** to the School Office.

Keep calls to a minimum as we need to receive notification from School Districts.

SCHOOL DAY

The school day begins at 8 A.M. with Assembly. **Students who arrive after 8:00 AM are considered tardy, and must report to the School Office for a late slip before reporting to the classroom.**

If there are acceptable extenuating circumstances causing tardiness, a parent must contact the office.

Please keep the following points in mind:

- **The school will not be opened until 7:30 AM**
- **Students should be picked up no later than 2:30 PM**
- **Repeated tardiness will result in a conference with the homeroom teacher and/or the principal.**

Attendance at school is a State Law. Excessive absence and/or tardiness may result in contacting Children and Youth Services, being summoned before a magistrate, and fines or arrest.

Once the school day has begun, no student may leave the school grounds without the explicit permission of the Principal.

Parent Requested Early Dismissal:

- **Parent/guardian sends in a written request or calls in case of an emergency**
- **Parent/guardian must enter building and sign the child out in the secretary's office**
- **Student will be called from class by the secretary**

Whenever possible, doctor or other appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours, on early dismissal days, or on school holidays.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

The Saint Mary of Mt. Carmel School has a pre-kindergarten program. It is designed to encourage and enhance the "natural" hands-on learning experiences.

We have five sessions—Two Day-All Day-- Three Day All Day—Three Day ½ Day A.M—Five Day ½ Day A.M –Five Day all day. A.M. Session is 8:00 to 11:15 A.M.—All Day Session is 8:00 A.M. to 2:25 P.M._

KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarten Program at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel School will begin their school day each morning at 8 A.M. and end the day at 2:25 P.M.

ABSENCE RULES:

- **Due to sickness**
- **Written excuse when child returns**
- **Avoid vacations during school time**
- **If work is requested before a trip, it may be given at the teacher's discretion.**
- **Missed work is due according to the teacher's discretion.**

TRANSPORTATION

- Bus Transportation is provided by your school district.
- Children should be made aware of behavior and language is expected while riding on a school bus
- Bus privileges may be suspended or lost due to poor behavior or rude language
- Due to insurance stipulations, **the school districts do not permit children to ride buses other than the ones assigned.** Please do not make this request from the school office.
- The homeroom teacher should be notified in writing if a student who regularly rides the bus is to be transported by any other means.
- No student will be penalized if the bus is not running on time.
- **By law we have to indicate when and whether a child was at school on any given day.**

Bus riders will be dismissed at 2:15pm

Cell Phone Usage

- Students **are allowed** to bring a cell phone to school
- It **must be turned off and kept in the cellphone caddy in their homeroom.** Upon entering the building, cell phones can neither be audible nor visible, including prior to homeroom as well as during dismissal.
- **All student calls MUST be made through the office.**
- **Parents MUST contact their child through the office phone.**
- Disciplinary measure **will be enacted** for improper phone usage.

- **Wearable technology such as, Apple Smart Watches, must also be placed in the homeroom caddy during the day.**
- **No Bluetooth headphones/airbuds**
- **Please refer to the SMMC cell phone contract for offenses concerning cell phone usage**

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Students are welcome to enter school starting at 7:30. They will be supervised until they move to their classes at 8:00.

The Saint Mary of Mount Carmel “After School Program”

provides extended care for students who require after school supervision during the hours from 2:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

The programs will provide the students with opportunities for:

- **homework help**
- **large motor skill development in playtime**
- **games, art, and socializing with their peers.**

The service is available for Pre-K through eighth grade on a regular, or as needed, basis.

- **Registration is required to participate in the program for both regular and occasional participation.**
- **Payment will be deducted biweekly through your FACTS Family Portal. Please contact the school office for more information (570-346-4429).**
- The program will **not operate on snow days or early dismissals due to inclement weather.**

- The program will not be opened on school holidays, weekends, or scheduled early dismissals before holidays.
- It will only run until 2:30 on normal early dismissal days.

HEALTH SERVICES

Parents should notify the school of any serious chronic health problems, (diabetes, epilepsy, food allergy etc.), so that appropriate attention may be given the student

- Dunmore School District provides health services.
- The school nurse is on-site 1x a week but available when necessary.
- The nurse keeps health and medical records up to date, and also performs such tasks as administering vision screening, and hearing tests, tine tests and screening for scoliosis.
- The nurse is also available for health educational programs for various grade levels according to their needs.

Accidents

In the event of an accident or illness on school grounds,

- Students should report to the office.
- Immediate first aid and emergency treatment is available until either the parent or guardian is called.
- In the event of an accident and/or if hospitalization might be required, parents are called so that authorization may be received for appropriate care.
- In case the parents cannot be located, students will be taken to the nearest hospital. Parents are asked to complete emergency cards listing the name of the family physician.

Illness

In the event of illness,

- Parents are called to make arrangements for the student to be picked up. Please plan ahead.
- A child who has had a fever should not come to school or return to school until they have had a normal temperature **without needing fever reducing medicine for 24hrs.**
- Students with persistent coughs should be seen by a doctor and have the cough under control before returning so as not to spread illness or interrupt learning
- **If a child vomits at night or in the morning before school, that child should remain home to be sure it won't happen in school.**
- The legal right to make medical, religious, and educational decisions about the child **belongs to the parent or parents having legal custody, not physical custody, of the child.**

Medication:

- Students needing medication while at school must have a statement of permission signed by a parent/guardian.
- If the medication is to be left at the school or taken for a prolonged period of time, a request must be obtained from your family physician.
- **All medication, including EPI Pens, must be labeled with the name of the student and dosage required. All medication, except EPI pens and Benadryl, must be left in the school office. At no time may a student keep medication of any kind—even aspirin or cough drops—on his/her person, belongings or desk.**
- **EPI pens and Benadryl must be transported by teacher when student leaves the classroom.**

- Medication forms must be completed for any medication that a student may need.

Infectious Diseases – Exclusion and re-admission policies regarding children suspected of or diagnosed as having communicable or infectious diseases, are regulated by the Pennsylvania Board of Health. The terms of exclusion for such diseases are available by contacting the school nurse. In all cases, re-admission to school is by certificate of the attending physician.

CAFETERIA:

The Carmel Café, our school cafeteria, is available to our students daily.

- Meals are either freshly cooked on-site or brought in by local vendors
- Lunch can be ordered monthly
- Parents will select the days their child(children) would like to order for the month
- Cost is \$5.00, per meal.
- Students may order more than one meal per lunch.
- Students not ordering must bring their own lunch.
- Drinks are available for purchase.
- No soda is allowed
- Microwaves are NOT available to heat lunches.
- Volunteers are always welcome to help in our cafeteria!

LUNCHROOM

In the lunchroom and on the playground, students should:

- Sit at the assigned table.
- Remain seated or raise your hand if help is needed.
- Ask permission to leave the lunchroom.

- Stand, clean your lunch area, push chairs in, and walk to the exit when called.

PLAYGROUND

- Stay in the assigned areas on the playground.
- Refrain from wild running, pushing, shoving, fighting or mistreatment of another student.
- Be respectful toward others at all times.
- Never use abusive language.
- Keep the school property neat and clean.
- Return any equipment you took out at the end of recess. If you took it out you are responsible to return it.
- Do not interfere with the games of others.
- Invite those who are alone on the playground to join you.

HOMEWORK:

- is a daily requirement.
- is an integral part of the learning process allowing for reinforcement of skills learned on a daily basis
- should be written down daily and available online
- is to be completed neatly, with attention to detail, and turned in on time
- should be supervised and checked by parents to insure the good study habits are being developed.
- will be documented and incomplete assignments, for students in grades 6-8, will receive a demerit for every **third** missing or incomplete assignment. Demerits will be given across subjects.

In case of school absence:

- **Phone calls requesting homework must be placed no later than 9:00 A.M. to ensure the request being accommodated**
- Homework will be available at the end of the school day and may be given to a sibling
- Students must make up missed assignments according to the teacher's discretion
- **Service hours must be turned on the day the student returns to school to receive credit. Ample time is given in advance for completion.**

PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Communication between parents and teachers is an integral part of the education process. Parents are made aware of their child's academic standings through the issuance of progress reports, report cards, and FAST (Ren Web) online.

Report cards are issued quarterly in accordance with the school calendar. Parents are requested to examine the report card carefully and call the school if there is a concern or problem.

Progress reports are sent home to inform a parent that his/her child is failing to meet subject requirements for that quarter. These reports are sent home at least three weeks prior to the close of the quarter to allow the student ample time and opportunity for improvement.

The teachers, at their discretion, will periodically send **tests** home for parents to examine copies or meet with parents/guardians to review tests.

With any concerns educational, behavioral, social, etc. please use the following procedures:

- **First, call the school office and leave a message for your child's classroom teacher.**
- **If the matter is not resolved, make an appointment to meet with the classroom teacher(s) and principal**
- **If more input is required, arrange a conference with school team: Resource Math/ Reading Specialist, Guidance, Nurse, Teachers, and Principal.**

GRADING – REPORT CARDS

Grading Scale

Grades 1-3 will use letter grades on the report card.

Grades 4-8 will use numeric grades on report cards

A = 95-100 B+ = 90 – 94 B = 85 – 89

C+ = 80 – 84 C = 75 – 79 D = 70 – 74

F = Below 70

* = with accommodations I = Incomplete

Specials (Phys. Ed., Music, Art, Computer Ed., Library, etc.)

O = Outstanding S = Satisfactory

I = Improvement Needed

Pre-K and Kindergarten will use Basic Skills Based Assessment for report cards and are distributed during the 2nd and 4th marking periods

Report Cards for Grades 2-8 are issued at the end of every quarter. First grade receives a report card beginning with the second quarter.

Conferences are held after the First Quarter and then by appointment with your child's teacher.

Interim Progress Reports are issued in the mid-quarter to alert parents to difficulties/successes the student is having.

SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

- Grades 6-7-8 will be eligible for the Honor Roll. Major subjects are all subjects other than music, physical education, art, computers, and library.
- High Honors: Overall average of 92.5% - 100%, in all major subjects, with no grade lower than 88, no I's.
- Honors: Overall average of 87.5% to 92.4%, in all major subjects, with no grade lower than 83, no I's.

If a child receives two I's in the subject areas of music, physical education, art, or computers, he/she is not eligible for the Honor Roll. A mark of U will also result in a student being ineligible for the honor roll.

If any one of the following comments is on the report card, the student would be ineligible for the Honor Roll. Please see Discipline and Demerit Policy.

- Inattentive
- Unprepared for class
- Incomplete, missing or poorly completed work/project
- Lacks disciplined study habits
- Low test scores
- Performance is hindered by absences
- Performance is hindered by tardiness
- Disruptive
- Displays uncooperative behavior
- Displays disrespectful behavior,
 - Misuse of Cellphone

At the end of the quarter the honor roll student will receive a certificate and be awarded mention in the Scranton Times/Tribune

Students in grades seven and eight who fail major subjects will be required to attend summer school in order to be promoted.

DISCIPLINE AND DEMERIT POLICY

Our goal is to maintain an atmosphere of safety and trust so that the prime directive, educating students, is possible.

Students in Pre K- Third Grade, please review Teacher's Discipline Policies.

Discipline and Demerit Policy for Grades 4-8 is as follows:

The SMMC disciplinary system is administered through a code called the "Demerit System," which is based on our discipline rational. Each infraction results in one or more demerits. The number of demerits depends upon the seriousness of the offense as indicated in the demerit code outlined in this section.

Demerits are issued by the principal, faculty or staff member in writing, and through the FACTS system. If a student violates a school rule, he/she will be given a demerit slip. The demerit slip is to be signed by the student and parent in order to acknowledge that he/she has received it.

The signed demerit slip will be returned to the principal, faculty, or staff member that issued it. Parents will also receive an email notification through FACTS. It is important that both the students and parents/guardians understand the gravity of different demerits.

All minor infractions result in ONE to TWO demerits. All major infractions result in a minimum of THREE and a maximum of FIFTEEN demerits. This number will be assigned by the principal. **Every accumulation of THREE demerits will equal a detention.** Parents will be telephoned for serious violations, or high accumulations of demerits.

When a student has accumulated 13 demerits, he/she will receive an In-School Suspension.

When a student has accumulated 15 demerits, he/she will receive an Out-of School Suspension. Once a student receives 15 or more demerits, he/she will be put on a Disciplinary Probation Contract which will outline a specific code of conduct for the student.

Listed below is the Demerit Code:

Minor Offenses – Level 1 (1-2 demerits)

- Dress Code Violation
- No Absence/Tardy Excuse
- Food/Drink Outside Café
- No Required Parent Signature
- Gum
- Prohibited Items (iPod, etc.)
- Inappropriate Language
- Tardy to Class
- Tardy to School (after 3 tardies)
- Locker Violation
- Inappropriate behavior

Major Offenses (1 Detention)

- Forging Signature
- Defacing Property
- Disruptive
- Misuse of Technology
- Sent from Class due to behavior

Major Offenses (Detentions/Suspension)

- Bullying
- Poss./Use of Cell Phone
- Cheating/Plagiarism
- Poss./Use Tobacco Products/Banned Substances (Including E-cigarettes, vapes, & such devices)
- Possession of Weapons
- Disrespect
- Stealing
- Fighting
- Truancy
- Harassment
- Vandalism
- Vulgarity

A student waiting for a parent to arrive will experience an **In-School Suspension** unless there are more serious complication that require medical, psychological, or police assistance.

At the time of a suspension, or as soon as possible, parents will meet with the principal to discuss the behavior which prompted the suspension. The school guidance will be asked to participate in the meeting. At that time, steps will be discussed as to how best to help the student become a functioning member of the school body.

A suspended student may not participate in sports, field trips, or any school related actives.

Any student suspended must earn back the privilege to participate in school activities by acting in a consistent appropriate manner.

Students with disciplinary problems will be placed on PROBATIONARY STATUS for a period of ONE Quarter.

If persistent disciplinary problems occur, a student will be placed on **Behavioral Contract**, which will be signed by the Parent, Student, and Principal. **Failure to follow the conditions of the Behavioral Contract will necessitate possible dismissal from the school.**

Terroristic threats and/or physical violence for all Grades:

- **ALL verbal threats will be considered real**
- **Police will be called**

WITHDRAWAL/DISMISSAL

Offenses, which make a student liable for immediate withdrawal/dismissal, include the following:

- Assault of a teacher.
- Using, taking, selling, or possessing drugs or alcohol of any type at school, on the school grounds, or at any school function.
- Possession of any type of weapon at school, on the school grounds, or at any school function.
- Repeated suspensions or failure to follow conditions of Behavioral Contract
- Disciplinary Board Decision

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY:

To increase leadership skills through activities and events within the school community, we have membership in the National Junior Honor Society. The selection process is as follows:

1. Students may not apply for membership. They must be selected by the faculty.
2. The student must be 7th or 8th grade at the time of selection.
3. Students are not chosen on academic achievement alone, but must also display qualities of character, service, leadership, and citizenship activities.

Requirements include:

-Scholarship

Students chosen **must** for at least **have a scholastic average of 92.5% or higher for three consecutive quarters.**

-Character:

1. Takes criticism willingly.
2. Exhibits cooperation.
3. Displays good morals and ethics.
4. Respects others.

-Service

1. Contributions of self to school, community and classmates.
2. Participates in extra-curricular activities.
3. Displays school spirit.
4. Involved in community service

-Leadership

1. Holds elected positions.

2. Promotes and participates in school activities
3. Exemplifies positive attitudes.
4. Helps build relationships and encourages others

-Citizenship

1. Participates in community organizations
2. Participates in school clubs
3. Follows school rules
4. Demonstrates courtesy.
5. Respects and takes care of school property and grounds
6. Can explain basic workings of our government and us country's ideals.

Credentials for Students being considered for Membership:

1. Write a rhetorical composition:
"What are the Most Important Qualities of a Leader"
2. Present their Student Application (Application will be available on our school webpage).

Members will be expected to participate in activities that represent our school such as:

- Diocesan Celebrations
- Advisory Board Activities
- Sports, as a player or a supporter in the stands
- Participating in activities that inform student body about the meaning of Character, Service, Leadership, Citizenship and Scholarship
- Missed work is due according to the teacher's discretion.

****Acceptance will be based on the last quarter of the previous year and the first and second quarter of the current year.**

STUDENT COUNCIL

The St. Mary of Mount Carmel Student Council is an active part of our school.

- It encourages leadership, support, and enthusiasm
- Students promote school projects and activities
- Planning helps students learn to set goals and delineate the steps required to achieve them
- Classroom representatives are elected from Grades 1-8
- Officers are elected from Grades 6-8.

FORENSICS

Forensics competition is available to students in the 5th and 6th grades on a junior varsity level and to students in the 7th and 8th grade on a varsity level. Competition is among Catholic schools on a regional and diocesan level.

The focus of Forensics is not only the preparation of interscholastic competition, but also learning the practice of speaking skills and for a variety of occasions, in addition to the development of poise and personal confidence.

SPORTS:

Our Sports Program includes

- Varsity and JV Basketball Teams for boys and girls
- Cross Country Varsity and JV Teams for boys and girls
- Cheerleading Varsity and JV
- Junior High Baseball, Softball, Soccer, and Track and Field through our affiliation with Holy Cross High School

We encourage all students to be involved in extracurricular activities, but, educational progress takes precedence.

All students involved in sports activities and cheerleading will have their grades evaluated weekly on the basis of report card requirements as soon as the activity begins.

Coaches are notified if any student:

- Is not achieving a C or better average,
- Or has received an I or U in the specials,
- Or has served a detention or been suspended

A student not meeting the above criteria will be suspended from the sport or cheerleading activity for a one-week period.

At the end of one week, the student's status will be re-evaluated and the student will continue with the weekly evaluation.

If a student is absent from school, he/she may not participate in any practice/game on that day.

Missing practices for any other reason than illness or emergencies will demonstrate a lack of dedication to and support for the rest of the team.

Holy Rosary Hall is our home court and is where basketball practice will be held.

Ms. Cathy Vanderbeck

Aide

Mr. Peter Scochin

Maintenance

Administration:

Mrs. Maryelizabeth Shattin, Principal

Ms. Alison Fazio, Admin. Assistant

Mrs. Sharon Golden, Secretary

570-346-4429

Faculty:

Mrs. Jessica Savero

Pre K

Miss Regina Matarazzo

Kindergarten

Mrs. Eileen Herbert

First

Mrs. Hannah Kozerski

Second

Miss Mara Gallagher

Third

Mrs. Kimberly Art

Fourth

Mr. John Swarts

Fifth

Ms. Emily Johnston

Sixth

Mrs. Betheny Cholish

Seventh

Mrs. Deborah Coval

Eighth

Mrs. Michelle Dudley

Grades 6,7

Ms. Carol Lee McDonald

Resource

Mrs. Jennifer Lubinski

Art/ Computer

Mrs. Kristyn Polishan

Music

Mrs. Faith Ann Bartholomew

Gym

Mrs. Lisa Genello

Aide

Mrs. Ann Marie Fazio

Aide

Diocesan Office:

Mrs. Kristen Donohue

Superintendent

570-207-2251

Mrs. Michele Long

Assistant Supervisor

570-207-2251

Ms. Charlene Krushinsky

Assistant Superintendent

570-207-2251

Mr. Michael Slesinski

Assistant Superintendent

570-207-2251