

# OUR REDEEMER'S CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## STUDENT HANDBOOK 2025-2026



#### **OUR REDEEMER'S CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Our Redeemer's Church is to proclaim God's love in the good news of Jesus Christ every day and everywhere!

#### **OUR REDEEMER'S CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Redeemer's Christian School provides Christ-centered education with the goal of building strong minds rooted in Truth, faithful hearts guided by grace, and servant leaders living for the glory of God.

#### **Core Values**

Our Redeemer's Christian School seeks to shape the whole person through Christ-centered education.

HEARTS TO SEEK CHRIST . . . fostering deep and personal relationships with our Savior.

MINDS TO KNOW TRUTH . . . rooted in God's Word and the pursuit of excellence.

HANDS TO SERVE OTHERS . . . reflecting the love of Jesus through compassion and action.

LIVES TO GLORIFY GOD . . . encouraging students to honor God in all they do.



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#### **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

Our Redeemer's Christian School, as a ministry of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Brethren Church, subscribes to the Church of the Lutheran Brethren Confession of Faith as follows:

- The Bible, including both Old and New Testaments as originally given, is verbally and plenarily inspired and free from error in the whole and in the part, and is therefore the final authoritative guide for faith and conduct.
- There is one God eternally existent in three distinct persons in one divine essence, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- God the Father has revealed Himself to us as the Creator and preserver of the universe, to whom the entire creation and all creatures are subject.
- God created Adam and Eve in His image to live in fellowship with Him.
  They fell into sin through the temptation of Satan and thereby lost
  fellowship with God. Through their disobedience the entire human race
  became totally depraved, that is, self-centered sinners who oppose God,
  and who by nature are unable to trust, fear or love Him. They are subject
  to the devil, and are condemned to death under the eternal wrath of
  God.
- Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son, is the image of the invisible God. To accomplish our redemption, He became fully human, being conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus Christ, who is true God and true man, by His perfect obedience and substitutionary death on the cross, has purchased our redemption. He arose from the dead for our justification in the body in which He was crucified. He ascended into heaven, where He is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, as our interceding High Priest. He will come a second time personally, bodily, and visibly to gather the believers unto Himself and to establish His millennial kingdom. He will judge the living and the dead and make an eternal separation between believers and unbelievers. His kingdom shall have no end.
- The Holy Spirit is a divine person eternally one with the Father and with the Son. Through the Word of God, He convicts people of sin, persuades them to confess their sinfulness to God and calls them to faith through the Gospel. He regenerates, sanctifies, and preserves believers in the one true faith. He comforts, guides, equips, directs, and empowers the church to fulfill the great commission.

- The knowledge and benefits of Christ's redemption from sin is brought to the human race through the Means of Grace, namely the Word and the sacraments.
  - Through the Word of the Law God brings sinners to know their lost condition and to repent. Through the Word of the Gospel He brings sinners to believe in Jesus Christ, to be justified, to enter the process of sanctification, and to have eternal life. This occurs as the Holy Spirit awakens them to see their sin, convicts them of their guilt of sin, and calls them to repent and believe, inviting and enabling them to accept God's grace in Jesus Christ. Each one who thus believes is instantly forgiven and credited with Christ's righteousness. The Word then teaches and guides the believer to lead a godly life.
  - In the Sacrament of Baptism, God offers the benefits of Christ's redemption to all the people and graciously bestows the washing of regeneration and newness of life to all who believe. God calls the baptized person to live in daily repentance, that is, in sorrow for sin, in turning from sin, and in personal faith in the forgiveness of sin obtained by Christ. By grace we are daily given the power to overcome sinful desires and live a new life in Christ. Those who do not continue to live in God's grace need to be brought again to repentance and faith through the Law and Gospel. Because the sinfulness of human nature passes on from generation to generation and the promise of God's grace includes little children, we baptize infants, who become members of Christ's believing church through baptism. These children need to come to know that they are sinners with a sinful nature that opposes God. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, they need to confess their sinfulness and yield to God; and possess for themselves forgiveness of their sins through Jesus Christ, as they are led from the faith received in infant baptism into a clear conscious personal faith in Christ as their Lord and Savior and being assured of salvation, rely solely on the finished work of Christ, and the power of the Gospel to live as children of God.
  - In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, Christ gives to the communicants His body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. He declares the forgiveness of sin to all believers, and strengthens their faith.
- Eternal salvation is available to every living human being on earth by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. This salvation consists of an instantaneous aspect and an ongoing, continual aspect.

- Justification is God's gracious act by which He, for Christ's sake, instantaneously acquits repentant and believing sinners and credits them with Christ's righteousness. At that moment, God gives each one who believes a new and godly nature and the Holy Spirit begins the process of sanctification. There is no place for human effort in justification.
- Sanctification is God's gracious, continual work of spiritual renewal and growth in the life of every justified person. Through the means of grace, the Holy Spirit works to reproduce the character of Christ within the lives of all believers, instructing and urging them to live out their new nature. The Holy Spirit enables believers more and more to resist the devil, to overcome the world, and to count themselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit produces spiritual fruit in and bestows spiritual gifts upon all believers. He calls, empowers and equips them to serve God in the home, in the community, and as part of the Church Universal. The process of sanctification will be completed only when the believer reaches glory.
- The Church Universal consists of all those who truly believe in Jesus Christ as Savior. A Lutheran Brethren congregation is an assembly of believers in a certain locality among whom the Gospel is purely taught and the sacraments are administered. The confessing membership of the local congregation shall include only those who have been baptized into "the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," confess personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, maintain a good reputation in the community and accept the constitution of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. It cannot, however, be avoided that hypocrites might be mixed in the congregation; that is, those whose unbelief is not evident to the congregation.
- The Church of the Lutheran Brethren practices the congregational form of church government and the autonomy of the local congregations. The office of pastor and elder is to be filled by men only. The synodical administration has an advisory function as it relates to the congregation and an administrative function as it relates to the cooperative efforts of the congregations.
- The Lutheran confessions are a summary of Bible doctrines. We adhere to the following confessional writings:
  - The Apostles' Creed
  - Nicene and Athanasian Creeds

- Unaltered Augsburg ConfessionLuther's Small Catechism

#### 2025-2026 ORCS BOARD MEMBERS

Kyle BittleHeather GravleyAnn JermiasonMatthew OlsonAmber PankratzJohn NeissCarolyn MooreShannon KnutsonNathan Green

Sami Winkels Andria Mueller

Jodi Hall, Lead Administrator Pete Pederson, Executive Pastor Jay Zimmerman, Business Administrator Doug Panchot, Elder Board Representative

#### **OUR REDEEMER'S CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:**

Our Redeemer's Christian School is a ministry of Our Redeemer's Church, a Lutheran congregation committed to a strong Christian education program of which this school is a part.

Although housed in the church, the school's intent is to offer an educational opportunity to all Christian families in the community and surrounding area. The church provides its facilities and leadership for the operation of the school, the costs of the program are covered by registration, tuition, fees, gifts, and fundraising. Contributions to the school's ministry are needed and are very much appreciated.

#### NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

In view of the fact that the Bible teaches that "God is no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34) and that "there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free; but Christ is all and in all" (Col. 3:11), Our Redeemer's Christian School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

#### **Security**

All exterior doors will be locked 8:30AM-3:00PM. Access during those hours will be through door #1, where you will press the button on the wall and be identified. The Administrative Assistant will then release the door for your access.

2025-2026 SCHOOL STAFF		Preschool	("Mrs. H")
		Preschool <i>N</i>	Mrs. Routledge ("Mrs. R")
TEACHERS		Preschool	Mrs. Olson ("Mrs. O")
Preschool	Mrs. Bratvold ("Mrs. B")	Kindergarten	Mrs. Hall / Mrs. Hovde
Preschool	Mrs. Knutson ("Mrs. K")	Kindergarten	Miss Johnson

Grade 1	Mrs. Jacobs	Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Altschuler
Grade 2	Mrs. Swensrud	Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Thompson
Grade 3	Mrs. Ciak	Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Roedocker
Grade 4	Mrs. Havig	Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Tschritter
Grade 5	Mrs. Beckman	Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Wheeler
Junior High Classes	Mrs. Ripple	Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Jones
Junior High Classes	Mrs. Lindquist	Interventionist	Mrs. Weekley
Junior High Classes	Ms. Vix	Librarian	Mrs. Tschritter
Music K-3	Mrs. Miller	Head Cook	Mrs. Zearly
Music 4-12/Band/Choi	r Miss Capp	Asst. Cook	Mrs. Sullivan
HS History	Mrs. Fandrich	Custodian	Mr. K. McPeak
HS Math	Mrs. Ramos	Custodian	Mr. D. McPeak
HS English	Mrs. Heydt	Custodian	Mr. Wagner
HS Business	Mrs. Hoffman	School Nurse	Mrs. Vibeto
HS Science	Mrs. Elliot	Reading Intervention	Mrs. Vix
HS Bible	Pastor Hussey	ADMINISTRATIVE STAI	FF
K-12 PE	Ms. Krebsbach	Lead Administrator	Mrs.Hall
Spanish	Bea Baglietto	Elementary Principal	Mrs. Hall
		Asst. Administrator	Mrs. Weekley
		Administrative Asst.	Mrs. Hussey
SUPPORT STAFF		Activities Director	Mrs. Vibeto
Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Bertsch	Business Admin	Mr. Zimmerman
Teacher's Aide	Mrs. Lauf	Bookkeeper	Mrs. Visoscky

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

The school office will be open each school day from 7:45 am - 4:00 pm.

- 8:30 am 12:35 pm Half-Day Kindergarten
- 8:15 am 3:00 pm 6th-12th Grades
- 8:30 am 3:10 pm Full-Day Kindergarten
- 8:30 am 3:15 pm 1st-5th Grades

#### PARKING AND TRAFFIC FLOW

Please be sure to park only in marked spaces to allow traffic to flow properly. Enter the parking lot from the west (off of 6th St) and exit through the north

driveway (onto 16th Ave). Remember to always keep a watchful eye for students in the parking lot.

#### CANCELLATIONS AND EMERGENCIES

**Text Message Notifications** – Sign up on our website to receive text message notifications. We will send a notification whenever there is a time-sensitive cancellation or postponement of school or a school-sponsored activity that affects the general school population.

**Website** – If cancelled or delayed, our web site will be updated.

**Facebook Page** – The ORCS Facebook Page will be updated with important information and cancellation/postponement decisions as soon as they are made.

**Local News** – Local news and media services will be notified, but the above options are more timely and accurate.

#### **VISITORS**

Any person(s) to include parents, grandparents, family and friends, visiting the lunchroom, chapel, a classroom or any place where there may be potential student contact - must notify the school office. Upon arrival, visitor(s) will sign in and receive an I.D. badge which is to be worn while in the school. The badge is to be returned to the office when the visitor(s) sign out. Again, your cooperation is appreciated in this security effort of ORCS students and staff. Parents are welcome to visit their child's classroom. Parents must contact the teacher in charge to arrange a time so as not to run into conflicts with testing or other classroom activities.

#### **BELL SCHEDULE**

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AM Preschool Begins	8:35 am	JUNIOR HIGH / HIGH SCHOOL	
AM Preschool Ends	11:05 am	1st Hour	8:15-9:00 am
PM Preschool Begins	12:25 pm	2nd Hour	9:03-9:48 am
PM Preschool Ends	2:55 pm	3rd Hour	9:54-10:39 am
<b>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</b>		4th Hour	10:42-11:27 am
AM Supervision Begins	7:50am	5th Hour	11:30-12:15 pm
School Begins	8:30 am	Lunch	12:15-12:45 pm
Morning Recess	9:45 am	6th Hour	12:48-1:33 pm
Lunch	11:15 am	7th Hour	1:36-2:21 pm
½ Day K Ends	12:35 pm	Study Hall*	2:24-3:00 pm
Afternoon Recess	1:45 pm	*Chapel held at this	time on Wednesdays
School Ends	3:15 pm		

\*Chapel Wednesdays from 8:40-9:15am

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to be in attendance whenever the school is in session. Parents are responsible for informing the school office and provide a reason for the absence of their student(s). If parents do not provide either a verbal or written excuse for an absence the absence will be recorded as unexcused. All absences are counted.

Students absent more than 10 days per semester may not receive credit for the class or grade level. Should a student exceed 10 absences in a given class the student must make arrangements with the classroom teacher to make up each absence over 10 before the end of the semester in order to be eligible to receive credit. Exceptions are:

- Extended illness documented by an attending physician.
- Extended family emergency documented by the immediate family.

Students receiving instruction at home or in a hospital under an approved instructor must first obtain pre-approval from the administration, and will be considered to be in attendance.

#### ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Students may begin arriving at 7:50AM and picked up by 3:30PM.

**Kindergarten through Grade 5** - Supervision is provided in the old gym beginning at 7:50 am. Students will be dismissed to their classrooms from the supervisor.

**Grades 6 -12** will report to the Cafeteria beginning at 7:50 am and will be dismissed at 8:10 am to their lockers.

Because it is our desire to keep our students safe, we have set forth the following guidelines in order to provide a safe and orderly dismissal for our elementary students:

#### Kindergarten to Grade 5 –

- Students in ½ day Kindergarten will be escorted to the new gym entrance at 12:35 pm and will line up and wait for their rides.
- Students in grades K-5 will be escorted to the Gathering Grounds by their classroom teacher at the end of each school day. Students will remain lined up inside the main entrance and be dismissed by the aides as their rides arrive.
- Students are expected to wait quietly in line with their classmates in order to allow the aides to call students to the front as their rides arrive.

- All students are expected to be picked up by 3:30 pm unless other arrangements have been made.
- Drivers need to keep the line moving and may be asked to "loop around" if their child is not ready.
- All drivers must enter via the West entrance of the parking lot and exit via the North entrance during school hours.

#### Grades 6 to 12 -

- Students in grades 6-12 will be dismissed by the 3:00 pm bell, gather their things and exit the building on their own.
- All students are expected to be picked up or leave the building.
   immediately after dismissal. No loitering is permitted before or after school.
   Students should wait for rides at the main entrance.

#### **END OF DAY**

All books, physical education equipment, and clothing must be in the lockers. Any items left on the floor, the benches, or in the hallway will be confiscated. Some act of service may be required to retrieve a confiscated item(s).

#### **CHAPEL DAY**

Chapel meets one day per week. Speakers will be selected from within the Christian community and the ORCS family. Wednesday is Chapel day for the school. Elementary chapel meets from 8:40 am - 9:15 am. High school chapel meets from 2:24 pm – 3:00 pm.

All students are required to attend chapel as a part of their class schedule.

High school chapel is student led with a faculty advisor. Study Hall will not be held on Chapel Day.

#### **ABSENCE / TARDY**

When a student is planning to be absent or tardy, the parent must contact the office by 8AM via phone, email, or written note, defining the dates and/or times of the absence. Once the information is received, the appropriate teacher(s) will be notified. Teachers will attempt to provide work for a planned absence, but students are encouraged to check with the teacher upon returning for any additional work.

All students are expected to be on time. A student is marked tardy when he/she does not arrive in the classroom prior to the scheduled class start time. Being punctual is a life lesson and also allows classroom teachers to utilize time effectively. The following consequences will be applied:

- Students will receive 60 minutes of detention after being marked tardy five times. Detention will begin at the end of the school day on the day of their 5th tardy. If the student is involved in extra-curricular activities, they may miss practice or game time if serving detention.
- Following a first detention for tardiness, the student will serve detention (60 minutes) a second time after three or more times being tardy.
- If a second detention has been served, the student will receive an in-School suspension for one day after being tardy an additional two times.
   Students in extra-curricular events will not be allowed to participate in practice or games on a day that in-school suspension is served.

Tardies are not counted toward a student's total count for the following reasons:

- Appointment outside of school (parent notice required)
- Conference with the school administrator or office (tardy slip required)
- Conference with another teacher (tardy slip required)

#### **ADMIT POLICY / MAKE-UP WORK**

Many variables exist with regards to school work when absences occur. The desire to have students complete missing work as soon as possible is for their benefit. The spirit of this policy focuses on student responsibilities and accountabilities that come due to absences.

- Families anticipating a student absence will communicate the absence with the office. Once the office is notified, the student will let the classroom teacher know of the absence prior to being gone. Students will be expected to have work completed either prior to their absence or upon their return to school depending on teacher discretion. The burden is on the student to communicate anticipated absences, and to comply with the deadlines set forth by the teacher.
- If students miss school unexpectedly for illness, bereavement, or other reasons, they shall receive 2 calendar days for each day missed to make up work assigned while absent without penalty. New work assigned once a student has returned is expected to be completed on the same timeline as the rest of the class, the 2 calendar days for each day missed is only for work assigned while absent. These make-up days are measured as calendar days, as opposed to school days.
- Missing class due to either participating or attending a school function (sports, field trip, etc.) will be treated the same as an anticipated absence, and work shall be completed prior to leaving or immediately upon return.

#### RIGHT TO INSPECT

- Our Redeemer's Christian School reserves the right to inspect lockers and desks whenever the need arises.
- Students who damage desks, lockers, or other school equipment or furnishings may be required to pay for repairs.
- Students will be charged \$10.00 for lost padlocks.

#### SIGN OUT POLICY

Our Redeemer's Christian School is a closed campus.

- Students must sign out of school on the dismissal log in the main office whenever the student leaves campus during school hours.
- Students must sign into school when they return from an appointment or arrive at school after the start of the school day.
- Phone calls to leave for lunch are not allowed.
- Students must have hand-written permission from a parent excusing the child from campus for lunch, or the parent may come to the office to sign their child out.
- Seniors are allowed to complete a senior privilege form at the start of the school year to serve as permission for the entire year to leave during off hours and lunch. To leave for appointments during class hours, parental permission is still required. Parents and students – please respect this as it is a senior privilege only.

#### CHILD PROTECTION LAW POLICY

ORCS is bound by N.D. Law to comply with interview requests from Human Services. However, the Administrator will urge the agency to meet with the child where parents can be present.

#### **CURRICULUM**

**Basic Curriculum** -- Whenever it is possible, ORCS will use Christian curriculum. This is one of the tools used to shape a Biblical Worldview in our students. There will be curriculum used from Bob Jones Press, Abeka, Summit Ministries, and others. There will be occasions when there is not a Christian curriculum offered (ND Studies, Cybersecurity, etc). Students will be exposed to some literary classics that are not written as a Christian text, but present opportunities to teach Biblical truths.

**Bible Classes** -- Bible study is recognized to be of fundamental importance and is a requirement for all students at ORCS. It provides a foundation for the other subjects being taught. A knowledge of the Bible is one of the greatest educational assets any person can have in addition to the moral and spiritual values resulting from such study.

#### **DRESS CODE**

As Christians, we should honor God with our bodies (1Cor 6:19-20[1]) and as members of a community, we strive to serve one another in humility and love (Phil 2:3-5[2]). Keeping both in mind, the dress code at Our Redeemer's Christian School exists to provide clear guidelines for respectful, school-appropriate attire and to promote unity within our school. Parents are integral partners in helping their students to not only follow these guidelines, but also to understand why doing so shows respect for both themselves and others.

Dress code guidelines apply to both male and female students and are expected to be followed **during the school day and at school functions**, unless otherwise specified (ie: spirit days, special occasions, theme nights for sporting events, etc.).

#### **Clothing Guidelines**

- Clothing should not display slogans or insignias pertaining to sex, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, gangs, etc.
- Attire should be safe, modest, decent in repair, and nondisruptive/offensive.
- Clothing should fit comfortably-not overly tight or excessively baggy.
- No undergarments should be visible at any time.
- No strapless, spaghetti strap, or off the shoulder tops allowed.
- No low-cut tops exposing cleavage.
- No midriff visible at any time (even when raising arms; includes crop tops).
- No hats, caps of any kind, or hoods worn up on hoodies.
- Pants may not have holes above fingertip length when arms are at the side.
- Dresses, shorts, and skirts must be at least fingertip length when arms are at the side.
- Leggings are only permissible as pants if paired with tops long enough to cover the backside (the entire shirt on all sides must at least be this length—no tucking in material on sides or front).
- No spandex shorts allowed.
- No shorts allowed in school anytime the "feels like" temperature is below 32°F at the start of the school day.

#### Formal Attire

- Formal attire must still be school-appropriate.
- All dresses should have adequate coverage and be no shorter than fingertip length at any point (including slits or other openings).
- Strapless/spaghetti strap dresses are allowed if other guidelines are followed.

- Cleavage, low backs, wide-open backs (side-to-side), or midriff-baring dresses are not considered school-appropriate.
- Formal attire guidelines apply to all students attending school-sponsored events.

#### **Violation Procedures**

In keeping with our commitment to fostering a respectful and Christ-centered learning environment, all students are expected to adhere to the school dress code. When a dress code violation is observed, the following steps will be taken:

#### 1. Initial Response:

A staff member or administrator will speak with the student privately and respectfully to address the concern. The student will be asked to correct the violation before returning to class. Reasonable accommodations (e.g., borrowing appropriate clothing from the office) may be provided when possible.

#### 2. Repeat Violations:

Continued disregard for the dress code will result in further disciplinary steps, which may include:

- A formal meeting with the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Detention or loss of privileges
- Suspension from extracurricular activities (sports, clubs, etc.)

#### 3. Ongoing Support:

Our goal is to guide students toward personal responsibility and mutual respect. Staff will approach all dress code conversations with grace and understanding, while maintaining high standards that reflect the values of our school community.

#### PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Technology brings both positive and negative aspects to our school setting. Our goal is to teach appropriate use of personal electronic devices. Our expectation of appropriate use includes research, important communication with family or others, educational apps, or checking PowerSchool or Google classroom. Since technology is here to stay, our focus is to help students develop responsible digital habits.

• Students in grades K-5 are encouraged to either not bring personal electronic devices to school, or to have them turned off and stored in lockers or backpacks throughout the school day.

- Students in grades 6-8 may have personal electronic devices in their lockers and may check them between classes for messages. Personal electronic devices are not allowed in class, at lunch, or in study hall.
- Students in grades 9-12 will dock personal electronic devices at the door in each class. Students may check them between classes and before lunch, but devices will not be allowed in the lunchroom. Teachers may allow high school students to access devices during class as needed.
- Smartwatches must be in schooltime mode for the duration of the school day. (No notifications/messaging)

Any misuse of personal electronic devices will result in confiscation.

- No electronic devices are allowed in restrooms.
- No electronic devices are allowed in locker rooms.
- No electronic devices are allowed in the sanctuary (unless otherwise requested).

#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES – SCHOOL OWNED**

With administrative support, the teacher acts as a gatekeeper for their own classroom and should determine when the use of devices is appropriate. Because these guidelines will change depending on the class, they should be clearly communicated to students. However, it should be assumed that every student who is issued a school-owned Personal Learning Device will bring that device with them to each class. Personal Learning Devices will be viewed by teachers and administration as a curricular resource (similar to a textbook).

Any abuse of a school-owned electronic device shall be reported to the administrator as soon as practical.

**Content Access** - The appropriate nature of content accessed while in the classroom is to be monitored by the classroom teacher and is subject to their discretion. If it is suspected that a student is accessing inappropriate content, school administration will take the disciplinary and/or redemptive action they deem necessary. The classroom teacher shall refer all inappropriate content issues to the administrator as soon as practical.

**Area Restrictions** - Personal Learning Devices are allowed anywhere on church and school property, with the following exceptions:

- No electronic devices are allowed in restrooms.
- No electronic devices are allowed in locker rooms.

 No electronic devices are allowed in the sanctuary (unless otherwise requested).

**Damage**, **Loss**, **Replacement** - Students shall be held responsible for the cost of any damaged, lost, or stolen device.

#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES – STUDENT OWNED**

With administrator support, the teacher acts as a gatekeeper for their own classroom and should determine what student-owned electronic devices are allowed, and when use is appropriate.

**Content Access** - The appropriate nature of content accessed while in the classroom is to be monitored by the classroom teacher and is subject to their discretion.

If it is suspected that a device contains inappropriate content, school administration will make a determination whether continued use of the device is permissible during school or while at school sponsored activities.

**Non-Academic Device Access** - Our Redeemer's Christian School recognizes the right and prerogative of parents to provide personal learning and communication devices to their children. Students are allowed use of these devices during non-academic segments of the day. E-mailing, text messaging, and social networking are not allowed during academic segments unless approved by the classroom teacher.

#### **Student-Owned Device Etiquette**

- Devices shall be silenced at all times during the school day.
- Phone calls can only be made and received in the Gathering Grounds area.
- When devices are allowed in the classroom, they shall be kept in plain view at all times.
- If a student has a device in a class in which it is not allowed, it shall be placed on the teacher's desk for the remainder of the class period.

**Damage – Loss – Replacement** - Our Redeemer's Christian School is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged student-owned devices. The sole responsibility for the care of student-owned devices rests upon the student and family.

#### **TELEPHONE**

Students will be allowed to use the school phone only in emergencies. Please refrain from calling your child unless it becomes absolutely necessary. During

non-academic times, the student may place a cell phone call from the Gathering Grounds area near the school office.

#### **IMMUNIZATIONS**

North Dakota Law requires that all children be properly immunized or have an exemption on file before they can be admitted to school. A Certificate of Immunization must be presented and signed by a physician or public health authority indicating the immunization status of the student. A health form is provided upon request from the school.

#### **ILLNESS**

The symptoms of a student will be evaluated by school personnel. If it is determined that the student is ill, an isolated location will be provided, and parents will be notified to pick the child up.

#### MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

The school board and staff of Our Redeemer's Christian School wish to ensure that students with medication needs receive appropriate care and support at school. The Administrative Assistant will supervise students taking prescribed medication during the school day provided the following criteria has been met:

- Parents have provided administration with comprehensive information regarding the student's condition and medication.
- Parents have provided and signed complete instructions for the administration of the medication.
- Parents have provided only a reasonable amount of medication (maximum 4-week supply). Initial quantity must be recorded.
- Parents have provided medication in a secure and labeled container as originally dispensed.
- Medication is labeled with student name, medication name, dosage, frequency of administration, date of dispensing, storage requirements, and expiration date.
- Parents will provide written notice if they wish their child to carry their medicine with them in school.

#### Other restrictions

- Staff will not give "over-the-counter" medicine to a child without specific written permission or verbal consent. Verbal consent will suffice only when a prior permission form has been signed and the request and dosage has been recorded in a log. Occasionally, staff may contact parents via text or phone call for permission to give medication.
- Staff will not make changes to dosages on parental instruction. A new container must be supplied with the updated dosage.

- Staff will not dispose of medications. Medicines, which are in use and in date, shall be collected by the parent at the end of each term. Date expired medicines will be returned to the parent for disposal.
- Medication will be kept in a locked cabinet.

#### **HOMEWORK**

Homework, if effectively administered, occupies an important place in the educational program. Through homework, classroom instruction is reinforced, high expectations are supported, students are motivated toward self-direction, and the relationship of school and home in the learning process is strengthened. Homework is an important part of every student's instructional program. Accordingly, teachers may assign regular homework and students will be held accountable for completing the work.

Missing instructional time is detrimental to student learning and should be avoided whenever possible. Students shall be given the opportunity to make up school work missed because of an excused absence (ex. family vacation, illness, dr. appointment, or parent authority) or suspension and shall be graded based on full credit if the work is turned in according to a make-up schedule agreed on by the teacher and student.

Work turned in outside the agreed make-up schedule may be subject to deductions or in extreme cases may receive a zero in accordance with the teacher's classroom policy.

If an eligibility-reporting period falls within the make-up days, the student is not reported ineligible based on missing assignments incurred by the excused absence.

Students in grades K-12 who will be absent from class due to a school activity shall request assignments prior to leaving for the activity. The assignment is due on the scheduled due date when the absence is caused by the school activity.

Work requested in advance of a planned absence that is not school sponsored, will be provided at the discretion of the classroom/subject teacher.

**Elementary** – As a general guideline, teachers are asked to limit homework to 10 minutes per grade level when assigned for the average student (ex. Grade 1 = 10 minutes, Grade 2 = 20 minutes, etc.). It should be noted the occasional class project may require additional time.

Homework will not be assigned to students on Wednesdays (Grades K-5) in an effort to encourage student participation in local church activities.

**Junior High and High School** – Junior high and high school teachers may assign work according to the rigor of their class. We recognize that students vary in ability and motivation so homework time will vary. Additional homework may be expected of students enrolled in AP classes.

Teachers work to ensure homework doesn't interfere with Wednesday night church activities. Junior high and high school teachers (6-12) may assign work to be completed in class on Wednesdays. Teachers may provide time to complete the work at the beginning of class on Thursday. Students with regular homework on Wednesday night should visit with the classroom teacher.

#### **LOCKER ROOMS**

High school students will have use of the lockers in both the boy's and girl's locker rooms. At the end of each school day, all physical education equipment and clothing must be in the lockers or on top of the lockers in an orderly fashion. Any items left on the floor or the benches will be confiscated. Some act of service may be required to retrieve a confiscated item.

#### LOST AND FOUND

Articles of clothing should be labeled so they can be returned when lost or misplaced. Items not claimed will be given to a charitable organization.

#### MUSIC

Music is recognized as important to life and enhances one's appreciation of finer things. Vocal and instrumental music are a part of the curriculum.

#### **LUNCHROOM**

- Seating arrangements for students are set up by class. Table tents with the grade numbers are placed in the center of the table. Students may sit at any table designated for their class.
- Teachers will direct each class on how they will proceed through the line.
- Lunchroom guests are welcome. Guests must be included in the lunch count by contacting the office by 9:00 am. Adult lunches are \$4.45 each and can be paid for in the school office or added to the student's monthly lunch bill.
- Eating out if upper classmen leave for lunch, they are expected to accomplish this within the 30 minutes allotted, which is 12:15-12:45 pm.
   They will be marked tardy or absent if needing more time than this. See tardy and attendance policies.
- Eating out if you take your child out to lunch please remember to sign the student out in the office and sign them back upon returning.

- Tables will be dismissed for recess when they are clean and quiet.
   Students may be dismissed late or lose some of their recess time for misconduct.
- Enjoy your lunch time and remember that it is a blessing to have a great place to have your lunch with friends. Let's make it a pleasant area!

#### MOMS IN PRAYER

A time of prayer, praise, asking for God's blessings and giving thanks! Moms, grandmothers, aunts, and friends are welcome to join in this powerful time of prayer. They gather on a weekly basis to pray for our students, families, and staff.

#### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

This is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of the national organization. Membership is open to students who meet the required standards in four areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office of NHS and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs. Students are selected by a five-member Faculty Council and appointed by the principal each September. Students in grades 10, 11, or 12 are eligible for membership. The required standards for the four areas of evaluation are as follows:

- **Scholarship**: A student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.
- **Leadership / Service**: Students who meet the scholarship criterion are invited to complete a Student Activity Information form no earlier than April or May of their sophomore year. This provides the Council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service.
- **Character**: Two forms of input are considered in this area: school disciplinary records and input from members of the faculty who can provide information regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's character and leadership.

Once the faculty evaluation and Student Activity Information form is received, it is carefully reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine membership. A majority vote is necessary for selection, and candidates are notified regarding the results. Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held to recognize the newly selected members. Once inducted, students are required to maintain at least the same level of performance that led to their selection. This includes regular attendance at chapter meetings and participation in the chapter service projects and obligations.

#### **PLAYGROUND**

• Rules are in place to keep all children safe.

- Obey those in authority and listen to directions carefully.
- Treat each other the way you would like to be treated.
- Any activity that is deemed too rough or dangerous by the playground supervisors may be stopped immediately.

**Misbehavior** - When a student misbehaves, they will be sent to stand 'on the wall'. This could be for 5 minutes, ten minutes or the entire recess depending on the severity of the infraction.

**Lining Up** - Once the bell rings or whistle blows all play stops and it is time to line up. Students will line up by grades on the basketball court. Students are asked not to talk in line to allow everyone to hear instructions and enter the building quietly. Students may be asked to step out of line and be the last to enter the building if they fail to listen to the supervisors.

Winter Apparel - North Dakota weather is unpredictable. It is important that students have the proper clothing to be in the elements during recess. Once the weather grows cold, students will need to have a warm coat, hat (must cover ears), gloves, and snow boots in school every day. If the student does not have the necessary items, they will be asked to stand in the sheltered area for their protection. This expectation will remain in effect until we determine it is no longer necessary. Students will not always be required to wear all of the gear, but they are expected to have it available every day. Snow pants are not required unless the student chooses to play in the snow or on the snow hill.

**Winter / Spring Criterion** - We will plan to go outside when the actual temperature is at or above zero. If the Real Feel is at or below -10°, we will use discretion and either stay inside or go outside for a shortened duration. If the playground is deemed too wet or muddy, inside recess may be considered as well. Please know that these are general guidelines and that the weather is watched closely to ensure the safety of our students. We follow the National Weather Service guidelines regarding frost bite risk.

#### **GRADING**

**Grading Scale** A......92 – 100

B.....82 - 91 C.....72 - 81

D.....67 - 71

F.....66 and below

**Semester Grades** - These are calculated from the two 9-weeks grades (40% each) and the semester test (20%).

#### Example:

1st 9 weeks = 89% times .40 = 36 2nd 9 weeks = 92% times .40 = 37 Sem. Test = 96% times .20 = 19 Final Semester Grade = 92%

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Our Redeemer's Christian School recognizes the need for strong academic preparation with a Christ-centered worldview. The school will continue to review curriculum and instructional strategies to provide well organized programs of study. Our Redeemer's Christian School believes that students learn best when excellence is expected of them and they are encouraged by teachers and mentors to achieve it. With increased graduation requirements and scholarship opportunities, it is critical that parents/guardians take an active role in student's course selection.

Our Redeemer's Christian School makes every effort to assure students get the academic classes needed for graduation, however, students are ultimately responsible for checking their credits and course selection to make sure that they meet all graduation requirements.

Students enrolled at Our Redeemer's Christian School need 24 units for graduation:

- Four (4) units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature, composition, and speech. English 9, 10, and 11 are all required of ORCS students.
- Three (3) units of mathematics.
- Three (3) units of science, including:
  - One (1) unit of physical science
  - One (1) unit of biology
  - One (1) unit {or two (2) half-units} of any other science
- Three (3) units of social studies, including:
  - One (1) unit of US history
  - ½ unit US Government and ½ unit Economics; OR one (1) unit of Problems of Democracy; and
  - One (1) unit {or two (2) half-units}) of any other social studies
- One (1) unit of physical education; OR  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of physical education and  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of health.
- Three (3) units of foreign language, Native American Languages, fine arts;
   OR career/technical education courses. Note: One (1) unit foreign language required.

- One (1) unit of theology for each year enrolled.
- Any five (5) additional/elective units. Note: Two (2) of these may be theology units.

**North Dakota University System Entrance Requirements** - High school graduates planning to attend a four-year school in the North Dakota University System must have the following credits:

- Four (4) language arts credits;
- Three (3) mathematics credits Algebra I and above;
- Three (3) credits of social studies; and,
- Three (3) science credits Two must be in biology-chemistry-physicsphysical science

**Note**: A student who takes general math or pre-algebra in the freshman year could fulfill the N.D. University entrance requirement by taking Algebra in the 10th grade, Algebra II in the 11th grade and Geometry in the 12th grade.

**Valedictorian and Salutatorian** - Following the posting of the first semester grades, a student or students will be selected for valedictorian and salutatorian from the senior class. The following criteria will be used in making the selection:

- The students being considered must be enrolled as a full-time student at Our Redeemer's Christian School no later than the first day of their junior academic year.
- Grade point shall be determined by the average of grades during the seven (7) semesters of a student's high school career. (Grades earned during the final 8th semester shall not count for the purpose of this policy).
- GPA calculation shall be rounded to the nearest hundredth.
- The student(s) with the highest GPA shall be designated Valedictorian while the next highest GPA shall be recognized as the Salutatorian.

Students awarded early graduation privileges may be considered for valedictorian/salutatorian honors but may not displace a conventional student.

#### RETENTION

Retention is the repeating of a grade and is applicable to students in grades K-12. The consideration of retention will occur only when all other remedial avenues available have been utilized.

Factors to be considered in retention shall include a student's age, mental health, physical health, sensitivity, need for success, need for status, need for self-confidence, size, maturity, mental ability, level of achievement, and the

attitudes of parents. No student shall be retained in a grade without consultation between the school and the parents.

Every attempt will be made to notify parents in writing of the final decision made in cases of retention. The school administration will have the final authority in the matter of student retention or promotion.

#### STUDENT CONDUCT

It is our goal to live for Christ each day. Students should always strive to behave in a manner pleasing to God. God desires for us to love Him with all our heart and all our soul and all our mind. He also desires for us to love one another. Our conduct should reflect these attitudes. {Matthew 22:36-40 and I John 4:11}

- Respect and prompt obedience is expected to be given to pastors, administrators, teachers, supervisors and all staff persons in every situation. {Romans 13:1-3}
- Students will have respect for one another both in words and in actions.
   {Ephesians 4:29 and Romans 12:9-16}
- Honesty must be observed at all times.
- Students will refrain from a negative and complaining attitude.
   {Philippians 2:14-15}
- No offensive language or conversation will be allowed at any time.
   {Ephesians 4:29}
- Classroom, lunchroom, and playground rules set forth by supervisors and teachers must be cheerfully observed.
- Running, shoving, and excessive loudness in the classrooms, hallways and restrooms is never tolerated.
- No eating is permitted in the school classroom areas except during lunch time and special classroom functions. Exceptions may be made for medical reasons, please notify the teaching staff.
- It is expected that the students take pride in the appearance of their school. Defacing or misusing school property will not be tolerated.
- Public displays of affection are not acceptable.
- As a matter of safety, students will not be allowed to carry backpacks from class to class. Backpacks must remain in the lockers.

#### **DISCIPLINE POLICY**

The position of ORCS is to provide a safe, orderly, and spiritual environment where students can be taught God's principles to use in modeling their character to a Godly life. Students can best learn individual and collective responsibility and gain maturity if they are provided with opportunities for exercising responsibility within the school activities.

The ultimate goal of ORCS is to develop students who are wise and see life from God's point of view. It is our goal to discipline in love according to God's instruction (Psalm 94:12). The result of discipline should be a change toward a more Godly character (Eph.4:20-22, Prov. 1:7). God puts people in authority to carry out His will (Rom 13:1-5, Prov. 10:17). It is necessary for our students to obey the leaders of our school if they are to develop into self-disciplined individuals who desire to serve God (Hebrews 12:7-15, 13:17). Parental support is essential to disciplining God's way. Although God puts people in positions of authority, they will make mistakes. An attitude of love and forgiveness is always necessary on the part of teachers, students, and parents.

**Classroom** - Each teacher has a classroom discipline plan which has been submitted to the administrator. Copies may be seen by asking the teacher or administrator.

**All School** - All students are expected to respect and respond to the authority of all ORCS staff. Referrals for discipline beyond the classroom setting will be handled by administration. Consequences will be determined based on both the rule infraction and frequency of infractions.

**General Rules** - Verbal directions from staff or supervisors will be promptly followed in a polite and courteous manner. Disrespect in speech or action toward another student or staff member will not be tolerated. Bullying in any form by one student to another is strictly prohibited.

**Disciplinary Actions** - Discipline is intended to change a student's behavior so that it is in line with school policy, and more importantly God's will. There are a variety of methods used to discipline, these methods usually vary in severity based on the level and/or frequency of a problem. The use of the various discipline methods will be at the discretion of the administrator.

**Detention** - Detention is issued as a consequence for misbehavior or for repeated failure to complete assignments. Work duties or written assignments may be assigned during detention. Detention slips will be issued to the parents stating the reason for the detention and when it is to be served.

**Loss of Privileges** - Students may lose the privilege of checking out for lunch or having an unsupervised study hall as a consequence for misconduct or failing grades. Disobedience of school policy could result in suspension from extracurricular activities if deemed necessary and appropriate.

**In-school Suspension** - Students may be separated from other students and required to do their daily assignments. Partial credit may be given for work completed.

**Out-of-school Suspension** - Students will not be allowed on school property or allowed to attend school activities for a designated time determined by the school administrator. All missed work must be completed and partial credit may be given.

**Behavioral Probation** - This form of discipline will be used by the school administrator for the purpose of guiding and controlling future behavior of student(s). It is preventative in nature and is designed to remind student(s) of their responsibility to act appropriately in the future. Terms of probation could be as follows: a) loss of student leadership roles. b) loss of, or suspension from designated extra-curricular activities. c) other follow-up counseling or special assignments. d) other consequences as determined by school administration.

**Expulsion** - Persistent or disruptive misbehavior and noncompliance with the school's rules and guidelines, or violation of the student covenant may result in expulsion. School administration will have the final say regarding the terms of an expulsion.

**Refusal of Re-enrollment** - Students that have exhibited persistent or disruptive misbehavior, noncompliance with the school's rules and guidelines, or violation of the student covenant may be refused re-enrollment at the discretion of the school administration. In the event of a refusal of re-enrollment, the re-enrollment fee will be returned to the family and they will be notified of the decision.

**Bullying** - Bullying is an intentional, repetitive pattern of harmful behavior initiated by one or more persons with the intent to intimidate, frighten, hurt or ostracize another individual. (Ephesians 4:29, 31 - 5:2; James 3:9-12)

Behavior may be classified as bullying if:

- The behavior is so severe, pervasive, or objectively offensive that it substantially interferes with the student's educational opportunities
- The behavior places the student in actual and reasonable fear of harm
- The behavior places the student in actual and reasonable fear of damage to property of the student or,
- The behavior substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school

For our purposes, it takes place in the school, on school property, or on school sanctioned activities.

Forms to report bullying may be found on the school website, outside the school office or by communicating the act of bullying to a school staff person.

#### DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT REDEMPTION

ORCS reserves the right to evaluate situations regarding student issues of morality and participation in illegal activities on a case-by-case basis. These situations include, but are not limited to issues related to pregnancy; abuse; sexual activity; pornography; inappropriate solicitation; abortion; harassment; and the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, etc. A redemptive approach should be considered for a student and his/her family who exhibit a repentant and humble heart and if ORCS Administration has determined that continued enrollment is in the best interest of the student(s) and ORCS student body.

Redemptive Disciplinary team includes: ORCS Administrator, ORCS Spiritual Life Director, one ORCS Board member, and a Pastor/Elder of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Brethren Church or the student's home church.

Possible requirements for continued enrollment may include, but are not limited to the following--The student:

- is willing to meet with pastoral counsel on a regularly scheduled basis;
- has parents who are cooperative with ORCS and supportive of its expectations;
- is willing to meet with an ORCS faculty member on a regular basis for a specified number of weeks or months in which the faculty member will require specific scripture reading, journaling, accountability, etc.;
- is willing to sign a contract with ORCS requiring specific elements of cooperation of the student and parents; this agreement can be cancelled at any time by ORCS if the elements of the agreement are not fulfilled. Failure to meet the conditions of this agreement can result in suspension or termination of enrollment.
- is willing to undergo necessary testing or ongoing random testing with results sent to the school if requested by ORCS administration;
- is willing to provide legal disclosure as needed and requested by ORCS administration;
- is willing to be home schooled for a specified period of time in which the student completes lessons assigned by ORCS staff and lessons are returned to ORCS for grading;
- is willing to pay an additional fee assessed to the family to compensate the ORCS staff for the additional time spent assisting the student in the items described in above;
- is willing to agree that ORCS may set limitations regarding student involvement in extra-curricular activities or leadership roles.
- is willing to agree that ORCS may require a physician, counselor, attorney, or legal authority's opinion regarding continued attendance at ORCS. If

continued attendance is not advised, the ORCS administration will provide guidance that will assist the student and parents with further education.

Re-enrollment, probationary periods, graduation status, and participation in commencement exercises will also be considered on a case-by-case basis.

#### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Beyond the guidelines and regulations that Our Redeemer's Christian School is obligated to follow, it is the hope that everyone associated with our athletic programs recognize the purpose of our sportsmanship policies; namely that as a Christian community we are called to mirror the love that God has for all people, including those we compete against.

Anyone associated with an athletic contest has a responsibility to uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship before, during, and after a contest.

Sportsmanship includes, but is not limited to:

- Respect for teammates, opponents, officials, and coaches.
- Treat opponents as guests in the facility.
- Accept both victory and defeat with grace and dignity
- Refrain from heckling, jeering, or profanity.
- Be positive in words and actions.
- Acknowledge authority of the coach in determining strategy, player selection, and playing time.
- Acknowledge the authority of the officials.

Parents are the primary role models for their children. It is critical that parents set the best example of sportsmanship, particularly when they are spectators at an athletic contest.

The following are some ways to ensure you are part of a positive youth sports culture:

- Offer supportive encouragement to all the players, coaches, and teams.
- Show respect for the decisions made by contest officials. Refrain from refereeing from the stands or making derogatory remarks toward game officials.
- Respect the fans, coaches, and participants from opposing schools.
- Support the team in prayer and various team ministry opportunities.
- Avoid criticizing the decisions of athletes or coaches at events or in your home.
- Attend parent meetings.

The administration, staff, and supervisory personnel of Our Redeemer's Christian School will hold all spectators at our athletic events to the highest ideals of good sportsmanship. Spectators who are unable to exhibit the necessary self-control to attend our athletic events may be subject to one or more of the following:

- Verbal reminder
- Removal from the site for the remainder of the contest
- Meeting with ORCS administration
- Permanent banning from ORCS events and athletic contests

Should you ever become aware of or concerned about issues of poor sportsmanship on the part of our students, coaches, or parents, please do not hesitate to contact the supervisory personnel on duty at the game or the Activities Director.

#### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Approved July 2004 ~ Materials used to develop this policy were obtained from the Josephson Institute of Ethics "Honor Above All" program 2004. (Josephson et al, 2004)

Forms of Academic Dishonesty - The following acts are strictly forbidden and will result in disciplinary action:

**Cheating on tests or daily assignments** specified as individual assignments. Using or attempting to use unauthorized assistance, materials or study aids during tests or daily assignment completion, including but not limited to:

- Copying from others.
- Having or using notes, formulas or other information in programmable calculator or other electronic device without explicit teacher review and permission.
- Having or using a communication device such as a cell phone, pager, PDA or electronic translator to send or obtain unauthorized information.
- Asking another person for improper assistance, including offering money or other benefits.
- Providing or receiving information about all or part of a test, including answers (such as telling someone in another period what was on the test, or being told this information).
- Having or using a "cheat sheet" (i.e., a piece of paper with answers, formulas, information, or notes) that is not specifically authorized by the teacher.
- Altering a graded test or assignment and resubmitting it for a better grade.
- Sharing the work with another student to complete the assignment.

- Working together on an assignment or take-home test unless specifically authorized by a teacher.
- Gaining or providing unauthorized access to test materials.

**Note**: Simply possessing and prohibited or unauthorized information or device during a test, whether or not it is actually used is an act of academic dishonesty and will be dealt with as such.

**Plagiarism in Paper and Assignments**. Using the ideas, data or language of another without specific or proper acknowledgement, including but not limited to:

- Giving or getting improper assistance on and assignment meant to be individual work.
- Including in any assignment turned in for credit any materials not based on your own research and writing. This includes:
  - o Using the services of a commercial term paper company.
  - o Using the services of another student.
  - o The use of artificial intelligence as if it were the student's work.
  - o Copying part or all of another person's paper and submitting as your own.
- Providing research, writing or other work that others use and credit as their own.
- Submitting substantial portions of the same academic work for credit in more than one course without consulting with both teachers (selfplagiarism).
- Failing to use quotation marks where appropriate.
- Failing to properly acknowledge paraphrased materials via textual attribution, footnotes, endnotes, and/or bibliography.
- Citing nonexistent sources such as articles and books.

#### Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty

- Deceiving a teacher or making up a false reason or excuse to get special consideration on a test or an extension on a test or assignment.
- Failing to promptly stop work on a test when the time allocated has elapsed.
- Forging a signature.
- Hoarding or damaging library materials.
- Facilitating academic dishonesty (i.e., knowingly helping another violate any provision of the Honor Code).

**Note**: Attempted academic dishonesty, even if unsuccessful, will still be treated as such.

Consequences - may include but are not limited to actions listed below. Disciplinary action will be commensurate with the offense. All teachers and administrators are expected to enforce the rules and consequences of the Academic Integrity Policy uniformly.

#### First Offense

- Warning for a minor infraction only such as glancing at another student's paper;
- Score of zero (F) on the test, paper, or assignment;
- Conference with teacher, parent, and student;
- Assignment of additional work or retesting; and/or,
- Maximum one (1) day in school suspension.

#### **Second Offense**

- Drop of one letter grade in the class;
- Conference with teacher, parent, student and principal;
- Disciplinary probation; and/or,
- Maximum one (1) day in school suspension.

#### **Third Offense**

- Grade of F in the class;
- Conference with teacher, parent, student, and principal; and/or,
- Suspension or expulsion.

**Note:** Instances of clearly premeditated attempts at cheating, of schemes that reveal attempts at coordination beyond the individual level, may warrant treatment of first offenses as second offenses.

### Testing Procedures - To ensure testing security, teachers will follow these procedures:

- Access to Tests. Keep the test secure by locking it up in a drawer or cabinet.
- Modify Former Questions. If teachers intend to reuse any objective questions that have been used before, change the wording slightly and change the order of the options to foil any cheater who might try to memorize answers without understanding the question.
- **Alternate Versions**. If the test includes objective questions, make at least two versions of the test, putting questions in different order. Distribute tests so that student sitting next to each other will have different versions.

- Counsel Students. Periodically and immediately before the test, explicitly
  discuss the academic integrity policy and student honor code. Seek to
  inspire personal commitment by stating high expectations and
  confidence that the students will not betray teachers' trust, seek unfair
  advantage over their classmates, jeopardize their future, or dishonor
  themselves, their families, and God.
- Proctor Test Vigilantly. Teachers shall move about the room as the student's test.
- **Cover Sheets.** Provide a blank sheet of paper for students to cover their answers, and remind them periodically throughout the test to use it.

#### Promoting an Atmosphere Conducive to Integrity

- Provide information to all students equally about what the test will cover, how it will be graded and how that grade will affect the student's final grade.
- Ensure your expectations are reasonable for what students can demonstrate and accomplish given their age and any special circumstances.
- Establish clear grading criteria and announce the criteria to the entire class for each assignment or test.
- Base the course on multiple assessments. Do not have one test that makes or breaks a student's grade. When the stakes are that high, students feel cheating is justifiable.
- Accept valid excuses for late assignments and absences.
- Make sure students have adequate time to complete each assignment, project or test. The goal is learning not completing the text book.
- **Do not let cheating become acceptable** or allow a culture of tolerance toward cheating to develop.

#### **ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

It is the desire of Our Redeemer's Christian School to provide Christ-centered education for students with special needs when we are able. In some cases, the needs of the student may be greater than we are able to provide for or the needs of the student diminish the effectiveness of the teacher's ability to work

with the rest of their class. Therefore, enrollment of students with special needs is determined case by case. ORCS works cooperatively with Minot Public Schools to assess whether or not we have the staff and tools needed to meet student needs.

The placement of students with special needs may be evaluated at any time during the school year to ensure that we are able to meet the unique needs of the child with our limited resources. The teacher, parent, and administration will work together to set goals for the child and shall include the child in goal setting when appropriate. In the event that the child is not able to meet the goals agreed upon by the team with parent and teacher support, or it has been determined that the needs of the rest of his/her students, withdrawal may be required in the best interest of all parties involved and shall be communicated in writing.

Administration will have the final say regarding a required withdrawal. If withdrawal is required, two weeks will be allowed for the parents to make other arrangements for the education of their child.

#### **RE-ENROLLMENT**

Each year families are required to fill out the online re-enrollment form and pay the annual registration fee of \$125.00 per student. Families currently enrolled will be billed the registration fee unless formal withdrawal steps are completed. This re-enrollment fee is non-refundable.

#### **ENROLLMENT/TUITION**

**Registration Fee** - New applicants must pay the \$125.00 registration fee if they wish to proceed with enrolling upon completion of their interview and receipt of their determination letter.

**Tuition** - The cost of tuition is determined annually by the school board. Tuition is billed over twelve months beginning in July. Any exceptions to this policy will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the business office. Please contact the Business Administrator if an alternate payment schedule is needed.

#### **TESTING**

**Standardized Testing** - Each year students take part in certain required testing.

**ASVAB** - Testing is done for students in Grade 11. This test provides an interest inventory as well as some aptitude testing. If you do not wish to have your child take this test, please inform the office.

**ACT** - Students should take it for the first time during their junior year. Many scholarship awards are based on scores on this test. Prepare for college by completing your ACT. Take note of the available test dates and register online at www.actstudent.org.

#### **TRANSCRIPTS**

A student may request an official or a non-official transcript at any time.

A student's official transcript may not be changed unless adequate evidence can be provided indicating a mistake was made. A committee consisting of the principal, registrar, and classroom teacher will review supporting evidence and determine if a change is warranted.

Class names and course codes will be reviewed annually. Every effort will be made to align course names and curricular descriptions with their corresponding codes as indicated by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. Errors shall be reported to school administration.

**Current Students** - Current students must complete a "Transcript Request Form" which can be found near the school office or on the school website. Transcripts are ready for pick up 1-2 business days\* after the date of the request and will be provided in sealed envelopes, which should not be opened prior to mailing.

Our Redeemer's Christian School will mail an official transcript to the requested school when provided a complete address or the student may elect to mail the transcript to his/her college.

A student can request electronic transcripts be sent to participating colleges.

**Former Students** - Former students may request transcripts in person following the directions above or in writing by mail or fax.

Transcripts requested by mail or email will be mailed to the address provided within 1-2 business days\* of receipt of the request.

Provide the following information when requesting transcripts:

- Student Name
- Student Birthdate
- Student Phone Number
- Student graduation year
- Complete mailing address for Transcript

\*Current students with delinquent accounts or former students with balances due may not receive their transcript until all outstanding balances owed to ORCS are paid.

#### **JUNIOR / SENIOR BANQUET**

- The Junior/Senior Banquet is a dinner sponsored by the Junior Class.
- The banquet is exclusively for the juniors and seniors of ORCS, and staff that choose to attend. Dates are not expected for this event.
- The purpose of the Junior/Senior Banquet is for fellowship and reminiscing of time shared in high school. It is also during this time that the Senior Class passes the torch of leadership to the Junior Class.
- Any event planned following the banquet or spring formal is not school sponsored.

**Junior/Senior Formal** - Spring Formal shall be an activity for sophomores, juniors and seniors of Our Redeemer's Christian School.

- Only juniors and seniors along with their dates will be allowed to participate in a Grand March.
- Dates only juniors or seniors will be allowed to ask participants as dates.
   Those attending as a date may be from grades 10-12 from ORCS or other schools.
- ORCS sophomores are allowed to attend the formal without the request of an upperclassman but may only be in the Grand March if accompanied by a junior or senior.
- No admittance is allowed to graduates.
- No date is required to attend the Spring Formal.
- Spring Formal will conclude at midnight (12:00 am).
- Students that leave the Spring Formal at any time during the evening will not be allowed to return and parents may be informed of the student's departure.
- The Junior/Senior Banquet is a pre-requisite to attending the Formal. Individuals may not attend the Formal if they were absent for the Banquet, unless they must miss for a school-sanctioned event.

Junior/Senior Spring Formal shall take place following the Junior/Senior Banquet.

#### TECHNOLOGY - RESPONSIBLE USE

Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School views the use and implementation of technology as essential to the fulfillment of our mission. In order to best leverage the potential educational benefits of technology, Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School makes a variety of resources available to our students, staff, and public.

The following is an outline of our expectations for responsible use of these resources. Unless impractical or stated otherwise, all provisions and expectations below apply to all of the following:

- School owned computers.
- School owned personal learning devices.
- Any software, online services, or application used while on the property of Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School.
- Privately owned computers while on the property of Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School.
- Privately owned mobile devices of any kind (including cell phones) or any other electronic device while on the property of Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School.
- Network or internet traffic of any kind while on the property of Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School.

Please note that all subjectivity will be settled at the discretion of the Technology Director in conjunction with the School Administrator and the Business Administrator.

#### **General Expectations**

- Students will avoid activities that have the potential to interfere in any way with the educational process.
- We expect students to avoid any activity that may threaten, offend, demean, manipulate, or hurt another person.
- Electronic devices will not be used in areas that have been designated as a restricted area in the ORCS policy manual.
- Students and staff should not assume privacy or anonymity while using networks or devices owned by Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School.
- Any email address or other account provided to a student or staff member is subject to suspension, content review, deletion, or any other act, at the discretion of the Technology Director.
- Any electronic device owned by the school or church may be locked, cleared, reviewed, monitored, or removed from service at any time at the discretion of the Technology Director. There should be no assumption of privacy while using a device owned by the school or church.
- Any electronic device that has been assigned to a student or staff
  member must be returned to the Technology Director when the student's
  enrollment ends or when the staff member is no longer an employee of
  the church or school. In addition, the Technology Director may remove a
  device from the possession of students or staff members without reason.

 Students and staff are expected to respect intellectual property rights and obey all applicable copyright laws while using technology. All questions regarding this should be directed to the Technology Director for review.

#### **Device Content**

- We expect that all devices used on ORCS property (both school owned and privately owned) will not contain, display, or be used to view pornographic, sexually suggestive, drug-related, violent, or other morally and ethically inappropriate content. If any inappropriate content is mistakenly viewed, the Technology Director should be notified immediately. If the appropriateness of content is in question, a student should ask their teacher or the Technology Director.
- All devices used on school or church property will only contain content
  that has been legally obtained by the owner of the device. This includes
  music, videos, software, and other content. If a device contains any
  content, which has not been obtained legally, we reserve the right to ban
  the device from our property.
- We expect that no software or applications will be installed on or removed from any school owned device without the express permission of the Technology Director.
- Any personal data (academic or non-academic) that is stored on any electronic device owned by the school or church is subject to deletion or manipulation at any time. All personal data should be backed up.
- The school or church will not be responsible for any lost or damaged data.

#### **Online Behavior**

- We expect that all online interaction conducted while on the property of Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School will be representative of the standards for interpersonal behavior that we expect.
- Students should protect their own personal privacy, as well as the privacy
  of other students and staff, at all times. This means that students will not
  post potentially damaging or compromising personal information of
  themselves or other people online at any time. This includes full name,
  telephone number, email address, date of birth, and other personal
  information.

#### **Network Access**

- Access to any network and/or internet connection provided by Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School may be terminated or restricted at any time without notice.
- The Technology Director may throttle, block, or manage the internet traffic of specific users without notice.
- Illegal, questionable, or unethical network on internet use of any kind is strictly prohibited.

- Students and staff should expect no anonymity or privacy while using any network and/or internet connection owned or provided by Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School. All data and/or internet traffic is subject to review at any time without notice.
- We take precautions to filter and/or restrict access to questionable and objectionable material on our network. However, given the dynamic nature of internet content, it is simply impossible to completely restrict such content. Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School cannot be held responsible for students or staff accessing such content. In addition, the school or church is not responsible for any consequences that are incurred as a result of a student or staff member accessing questionable or objectionable content.
- Tethering services, internet hotspots, or any similar services may not be used on school or church property without approval from the Technology Director.
- We expect all network users to refrain from any activities that could cause potential security problems.

**Violations of this Policy** - Any violation of the Responsible Use Policy will be handled by the Technology Director, in conjunction with the School Administrator and the Business Administrator.

#### **Legal Disclaimer**

Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School makes no guarantee of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for any provided services. We will not be responsible for any damages suffered by users. Use of any information obtained via the Internet while on our network is at your own risk. We deny any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services. Since all transactions conducted through technology resources provided by Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School could be perceived as authorized district activities, users of our technology resources are responsible for respecting and adhering to local, state, federal and international laws. Any attempt to break those laws through the use of district technology resources may result in legal action against the offender by Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School, injured third parties and/or governmental authorities. If such an event should occur, the district will fully comply with any requests for information related to the legal proceeding, subject only to prohibitions of law. Our Redeemer's Church and Christian School will not be held liable for the actions of users violating the conditions of this document.