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TUITION POLICY

Tuition pays only a portion of the total cost of educating a child at St. Patrick School. However, because it is part of the mission of Our Catholic faith to spread the good news of the gospels, the parish willingly supports the financial requirements of the school. It is also the tradition of St. Patrick School and Parish that no child should be denied a Catholic education because of a parent's inability to pay tuition, if there is a significant effort to participate in the areas of ministry of the parish on the part of the parent and child.

There must, however, be a partnership between the school and the parish for the financial aspects of operations to work smoothly. Therefore, parents, who enroll their children in St. Patrick School must accept the terms of the tuition policy outlined below.

St. Patrick School does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnic origin, religion, or ability to meet tuition payments. **Children of all faiths are welcome at St. Patrick School.** Families who are active parish members, however, have a different tuition rate because they are expected to contribute to the parish in a variety of ways.

PARISHIONER STATUS

It is a goal of the St. Patrick's community to create an environment that focuses on the growth of Catholic faith, of attending Mass on a regular basis and of supporting the parish with your time, talent, prayer, and offering. Toward that end, we have defined the standard for granting in-parish status to families for the purpose of tuition rate for their children attending St. Patrick School.

Only those families who are deemed to be **registered**, **active**, and **contributing** parishioners will receive the in-parish rate for their Catholic children. These three criteria are defined as follows:

1. **Registered**: A family must be formally registered with St. Patrick Parish.
2. **Active**: the standard for this criterion is regular Sunday Mass attendance and active participation in the life of the Parish. All families are encouraged to become involved in one or more of the many ministries offered through the school and the Church.
3. **Contributing**: The Parish provides a substantial amount of financial support to the school on an annual basis. Without that support, the tuition would be much higher, and the programs offered would be severely limited.

TUITION PAYMENT

There are several payment options for paying tuition. Each plan, with accompanying dates is outlined below. Families are asked to select the plan that best fits their needs when completing the Tuition Agreement form at the time of enrollment.

- One payment due on July 1
- Two payments due on July 1 and Nov 1.
- Four quarterly payments due July 1, Sept. 1, Nov. 1, and Feb. 1.
- Ten equal payments beginning July 1 and ending April 1

The school will send out monthly or quarterly tuition statements.

In all payment plan choices, tuition balances should be paid in full by **May 1**. Accounts not paid in full by this date will be considered delinquent.

FINANCIAL AID

Families who struggle to meet the cost of tuition are encouraged to apply for financial aid. There are several programs in place to assist families whose income or situation justifies financial assistance. In addition, there are also scholarships that are awarded to help offset the cost of tuition.

LATE TUITION PAYMENT

While there are circumstances that may prohibit a family from paying tuition according to their selected plan, it is the responsibility of each school family to keep the principal or pastor informed of their need to make any changes in their preferred tuition payment plan as they occur. Without such information, payments not made according to the selected plan will be considered delinquent.

TUITION DELINQUENCY

All families must be current in their payment of tuition. School families failing to pay tuition according to the agreement which they have made with the school or who have been unwilling to make suitable alternative arrangements with the school will be informed that their tuition account is delinquent. It is the responsibility of the parent to contact the principal or the pastor to make arrangements for payment. An agreement between the parent and principal or parent and pastor must be made in writing. Parents who do not meet the agreed upon obligations by August 1 will be informed that their child/children may not be allowed to re-enroll at St. Patrick School.

DELINQUENT TUITION FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

All previously unpaid tuition must be paid by August 1, if a student is to be re-admitted on the first day of class for a new year. If payment is not possible, suitable arrangements must be made with the principal or pastor prior to the first day of school.