

***KCSS Grades 5-8***  
***Virtue-Based Discipline 2015-***  
***2016***



Kaukauna Catholic School System – Forming a  
community of disciples in Christ through  
Catholic faith and academic excellence

Living in time of change can be confusing. Middle School students are familiar with the STRIDE Program of Discipline. Our classical system is calling us to change to a behavior system with a strong emphasis on virtue. The two are not mutually exclusive, nor are they the same. Our goal is to make the transition as smooth as possible. This year, KCSS staff members are studying, learning, and implementing the Virtue-Based Discipline program. In turn, students will be learning virtues and virtue based vocabulary as they strive to make sure their actions and interactions with others are virtuous.

Parents play a pivotal role in this process. Throughout the year you will be provided with more information about the program so that you can be an informed participant. At this time we will continue to use the credit and debit cards that were used in the past.

Virtue-Based Discipline is designed to grow students in virtue and to provide every student with opportunities for success. This program, based on the book Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline by Lynne M. Lang, provides a spiritual approach to discipline that cultivates virtue and provides a foundation for growing in faith both at home and at school.

## ***Principles To Live By***

- 1. We will dedicate ourselves to living virtue.***
- 2. We will support others in living virtue.***
- 3. We will commit to constructive thoughts, words, and deeds.***
- 4. When faced with challenges or conflict, we will find solutions that cultivate virtue for ourselves and for one another.***

Jesus told us that we must love and forgive one another. This program helps students to do this by:

1. Identifying injustice.
2. Restoring equity.
3. Enabling students to make positive changes.

# ***Credit/Debit Cards***

Credit/debit cards will be issued to all students in grades five through eight and will be utilized to keep track of each student's progress. All students are expected to carry these cards with them inside their assignment notebook at all times. Staff will record credits and debits on the cards. Staff members will keep a record of each debit given. New cards will be issued each semester.

***Credits-*** *When a student is caught being good he or she earns a credit. Credits do not cancel out debits. Virtuous actions may earn a credit.*

***Debits-*** *When a student chooses to demonstrate an act which results in a Mid or High Level Incident, he/she will earn a debit. One warning may be given prior to the student receiving a debit.*

## ***Incentives***

### ***1. Individual Incentive:***

*Students who acquire credits may "purchase" incentives. Credits can be used to "purchase" the following incentives:*

- ***Bring your own healthy snack pass = 2 credits***
- ***"Let's Make a Deal" pass = 6 credits***
- ***Casual day pass = 7 credits***
- ***Merchant gift certificates (based on availability)***

### ***2. Group Incentive:***

*Students with two or less debits each semester will be allowed to participate in any planned incentive.*

## ***Parent Notification***

*Parents are encouraged to review their child's card and praise the virtuous actions for which they earned a credit. Parents will be notified via phone or e-mail in the event that their child receives a debit.*

# ***Low Level Incidents***

Low level incidents are actions that minimally affect others. Low level incidents will involve conversation about expectations.

# ***Mid Level Incidents***

***Mid Level Incidents will warrant the issue of a debit. Mid Level Incidents may include repeated low level incidents such as:***

- ***Minor loud, unruly conduct***
- ***Minor unsafe conduct***
- ***Chewing gum***
- ***Minor disrespectful behavior***
- ***Minor inappropriate language***
- ***Uncooperative behavior***
- ***Unauthorized use of electronic devices during school hours (i.e., phones, cameras, etc.)***
- ***Habitually failing to follow dress code***
- ***Loitering in unsupervised areas***

## ***Consequences of Mid Level Incidents:***

*Each debit results in parent notification. More than two debits will result in the student being ineligible to participate in the semester group incentive.*

**3 Debits** = parent notification and headmaster meeting

**4 Debits** = parent contact and detention

**5 Debits** = meeting with parent, headmaster, and teachers involved and two detentions; completion of a reflection assignment (parent signature will be required upon viewing); discussion of reflection with detention advisor

**6 Debits** = parent contact and after school detention

**7 Debits** = parent meeting with headmaster and teachers involved to write up behavior contract

**8 Debits** = suspension (in school or out)

# ***High Level Incidents***

***The following are examples of High Level Incidents and will warrant more serious consequences, as well as debits, determined by the headmaster or designee:***

- Disrespect to a teacher/adult
- Fighting/unsafe physical contact
- Vandalism
- Severe improper language or profanity directed toward another person
- Cheating
- Stealing
- Sexual, physical, or verbal harassment and or threats
- Use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, drugs or paraphernalia
- Possession of or threats to use a weapon, or an item that can be utilized as a weapon
- Misuse of technology
- Skipping class
- Continual mistreatment and/or exclusion of others physically, emotionally, and/or socially

***Consequences of High Level Incidents will be determined by the headmaster and may include one or more of the following:***

- Parent notification
- Noon or after school detentions
- Meeting with those involved, apology letter, service or other action that will help the student learn from the situation
- Loss of co-curricular privileges
- Police intervention
- In-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Expulsion