Manhattan Christian School

2024-2025 High School Handbook



Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Academics	6
Grading and Assessment	6
Semester Exams	6
College Requirements	6
Academic Honors	8
Class Schedule of 2023-2024	9
Attendance	10
Excused Absences	10
Excused Absence Policy	10
Extended Absences	11
Leaving Campus	11
Athletics	12
Safety and Security	12
Medications	12
Visitors	12
Exterior Door Locking Schedule and Security	13
Bus Transportation and Student Car Use	13
Bus Rules	13
Lockers	14
Dangerous Weapon	14
Fire and Earthquake Drills, and Warning Signals	14
Technology	14
Student Cell Phone Usage	14
Use of Electronic Devices, Cell Phones, Wearables, Laptops, Etc:	15
Social Media	15
Social Media/Cyber Bullying Student Relations	16
Computer Use Contract	16
Student Relations	16
Campus Policies	17
Guiding Principles for Dress and Appearance	17
Nuisance Items	18
Gum, Candy, and Food	18
Discipline Policy	18
Purposes	18

20
20
21
21
21
21
21
21
21
22
22
22
22
23
24
24
24
25
28

Welcome Thank you for enriching our community with your family!

The expectations of students and staff at Manhattan Christian School can be summed up quite easily from Micah 6:8:

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

God has given each of us unique gifts and abilities. To act justly means that He expects that we will develop and use them to help others flourish. To love mercy recognizes that we will fail from time to time. When this happens, God forgives us and expects we will do the same with those around us. To walk humbly with our God means that we use justice and mercy in ways that bring glory and honor to His name.

The following guidelines are offered to help you understand what it means to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.

Mission

Manhattan Christian inspires students to live God-glorifying lives by teaching Christ's lordship in faith, learning, and living.

Vision

Manhattan Christian School seeks to:

- Grow together with our students in knowledge, conviction, and maturity
- Create a dynamic vision of Christ's lordship
- Nurture a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that develops a Christ-like love demonstrated to all people
- Inspire each other to strive for His glory in all of life

Portrait of a Graduate

Manhattan Christian School is seeking to develop lasting characteristics in its graduates. It is our goal that our graduate will:

- Practice godly discernment
- Sacrifice themselves as servant leaders
- Dare to think deeply and take action
- Walk humbly in Christ's footsteps with obedience and joy
- Create in thankful response to our Savior

School Traditions

Colors

Our school colors are maroon and gold

Mascot

Our school mascot is the Eagle.

Yearbook

Our school yearbook, The Messenger, is written and created each year by high school students.

School Song

(Notre Dame Victory March)

Cheer, cheer for our Christian High Sing out its praises, let them ne'er die. Fight, fight, fight for maroon and gold. Stand up for them with courage bold. Hail, hail to our Christian High. Lift up your voices, let them ring high. Pledge a new allegiance true to Manhattan Christian High!

School Publications

Connections

The school produces a monthly newsletter, *Connections*, which is distributed to all parents/guardians and supporting community members. It features school activities and opportunities. It is also available online at the school's website.

Weekly

Each week thes school produces the *Weekly* to provide ongoing updates on school activities and opportunities. It is also available online at the school website.

Academics

Visit our website at https://www.manhattanchristian.org/parent-central/handbooks.cfm to view the complete High School Academic handbook.

Grading and Assessment

Student evaluations for academic progress and behavior are made by teachers and based on classroom and written performance. Following is the key to our marking system of A, B, C, D, F, and I:

A- SuperiorD- Below averageB- Above AverageF- FailureC- AverageI- Incomplete

Following is a general guideline for converting letter grades into percentage scale:

Grade j	point Average			Scale			
А	4.00	С	2.00	А	94-100	С	73-76
A-	3.67	C-	1.67	A-	90-93	C-	70-72
B+	3.33	D+	1.33	B+	87-89	D+	67-69
В	3.00	D	1.00	В	83-86	D	63-66
В-	2.67	D-	.67	B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	2.33	F	.00	C+	77-79	F	0-59

Incomplete Grades

Students who receive an incomplete (I) grade at the end of a marking period have two weeks from the end of the marking period to complete the work. After that date, the "I" grade automatically becomes an "F".

Semester Exams

All students will take semester exams. Exams account for 20% of the semester grade. It is important that students adequately prepare for their exams. MCS requires students to take exams within the provided exam schedule.

A senior will be exempt from second semester exams if the senior's second semester GPA is at or above his cumulative school GPA which must be at least 3.4. Seniors not meeting the GPA requirements will take final exams in the classes in which they do not have an A average.

College Requirements

Students should check with the school counselor and the college(s) of choice for possible requirements that go beyond our graduation requirements. For example, Montana State University requires 3 credits of mathematics at the high school level. Some colleges have foreign language requirements. It is highly advisable for students thinking of going to such a college to take foreign language in high school. Students should be aware of the requirements for colleges they may consider attending early in their high school years. The high school counselor will help students with this concern.

Ke	quired Courses for Graduation			Subject	1
Subject	Course	CR		Math	T
Bible	Old Testament Survey	1/2		1.012.20	Ī
(2 credits Required)	New Testament Survey	1/2			Ī
	Ethics	1/2		1	Ī
	Apologetics	1/2		Social	Ī
English	English 9	1		Studies	Ī
(4 credits required)	English 10	1		Science	1
Contrast of the state of the	English 11	1	-	and the second second	
	English 12	1			1
Mathematics	Algebra	1		Fine Arts	T
(2 credits required)	Geometry	1			Ī
Social Studies	World History	1			Ţ
(3 credits required)	U.S. History	1			Ī
- The second sec	Principles of Democracy	1			1
Science	Biology	1			Ī
(2 credits required)	Physical Science	1			Ī
Physical Education	Health 9	1/2			Ī
(1 credit required)	Health 10	1/2			Ī
Fine Arts (1 cr.)	Art or Music	1			Ī
Practical Arts (1	Computer Applications	1/2			Ī
credit required)	Personal Finance (12th grade)	1/2			ī
Other	Speech	1/2			Ī
	Senior Project	1/2			Ī
Electives	Elective	1			Ī
(7 credits required)	Elective	1			Ī
	Elective	1			1
	Elective	1		World	1
	Elective	1		Language	-
	Elective	1			S
	Elective	1			
	TOTAL CREDITS	24		Practical	1
Sugg	ested College-Bound Requirements			Arts	(
(meets Montand	a's "rigorous core" requirement for scholarship	s)			
	All of the above, plus:	1			[
	2 additional credits of Mathematics				
	1-2 additional years of Science				
2 years of Spanish					
1 add	litional year of Fine Arts or Practical Arts				ŀ
	TOTAL C	REDITS	28	PE	١
Vale	dictorian/Salutatorian Requirements			Other	1
All of the above	and at least four semesters of attendance at MCS				Ī

Graduation Requirements and Course List

Electives Ø Course CR Pre College Algebra 1 Pre Calculus 1 Calculus 1 Statistics 1/2 Economics 1 World Issues 1/2 Chemistry 1 Physics 1 Sci. Explorations* 1/2 Choir 1/2 Band 1/2 Art Appreciation* 1/2 Ceramics 1 1/2 Ceramics 2 1/2 Ceramics 3 1/2 1/2 Ceramics 4 Drawing 1 1/2 Drawing 2 1/2 Drawing 3 1/2 1/2 Drawing 4 Painting 1 1/2 1/2 Painting 2 Painting 3 1/2 1/2 Painting 4 Crafts 1 1/2 Crafts 2 1/2 Spanish 1 1 Spanish 2 1 Spanish 3* 1 Spanish 4* 1 Desktop Publishing 1/2 Computer Animation* 1/2 Web Design* 1/2 Information Systems* 1/2 Robotics 1/2 Drafting 1 Accounting 1 Yearbook 1 Weight Training 1/2 Teachers Aide 14 Praise and Worship* 14

* not offered every year

Academic Honors

Honor Roll

The Honor Roll is determined after each marking period. To be on the Honor Roll a student must have at least a 3.5 GPA and be carrying six (6) or more credits in that marking period. A certificate will be awarded at the end of the year to the student who achieves the Honor Roll every marking period.

Scholastic Award

A Scholastic Award is given at the end of the school year to the junior, sophomore, and freshman student who holds the highest GPA in their respective class. To qualify, students need a minimum of two semesters at MCS.

Citizenship Award

A Citizenship Award is presented to the senior who best represents the ideals and goals of Manhattan Christian School.. This honor is awarded by teaching staff.

Christian Leadership Award

A Christian Leadership Award is awarded by the board to the senior who has best demonstrated leadership and service. Seniors must apply for this award. See the Principal for an application.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Providing the class and attendance requirements have been met, MCS presents these awards to the two students who have earned the highest GPA in their course of studies. In order to qualify for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must complete a minimum of four semesters at MCHS and earn at least 28 credits. In addition to the normal graduation requirements, 1-2 additional credits in math, 1-2 additional credits in science, 2 years of Spanish, 1 additional credit in fine or practical arts.

National Honor Society

Membership is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Faculty members evaluate and induct students based on their: 1) academic performance, 2) leadership, 3)character, and 4)service. Nominations are made during the second semester. Sophomores must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, juniors and seniors must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.3. Qualifying seniors, juniors, and sophomores are rated for membership by the faculty.

Class Schedule of 2024-2025

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAF		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
6:50 - 7:40	Strength & Conditioning	6:50 - 7:40	Chapel Band	6:50 - 7:40	Chapei Band Strength & Conditioning	6:50 - 7:40	Strength & Conditioning	6:50 - 7:40	
7,45 · 8:05	Break	7:45 - 8:05	Break	7:45 - 8:05	Break	7:45 - 8:05	Break	7:45 - 8:05	Break
8:10-9:15	Biology 9 Geometry AP Literature/Bible 11 POD	8:10 - 9:15	Spanish I English 10 US History English 12 Study Hal (Honors Option)	8:10 - 9:05	Spanish I English 10 US History English 12 Study Hall (Honors Option) 5 Mindes	8:10 - 9:15	Spanish I English 10 US History English 12 Study Hall (Honors Option)	8:10 - 9:15	Spanish I English 10 US History English 12 Study Haf (Honors Option)
	5 Minutes		5 Minutes				5 Minutes		5 Minutes
9:20 - 10:20	English 9 Spanish II Pre-Calculus AP Language Art II Economics	9:20 - 10:20	Biology 9 Geometry AP Literature/Bible 11 POD	9:10 - 10:00	English 9 Spanish II Pre-Calculus AP Language Art II Economics	9:20 - 10:20	English 9 Spanish II Pre-Calculus AP Language Art II Economics	9:20 - 10:20	English 9 Spanish II Pre-Calculus AP Language Art II Economics
	10 Minutes		10 Minutes	10:00 - 10:50	Chapel	_	10 Minutes	_	10 Minutes
10:30 - 11:30	Algebra Biology English 11/Speech Bible 12/Personal Finance	10:30 - 11:30	Algebra Biology English 11/Speech Bible 12/Personal Finance	10:50 - 11:40 10:0	Biclogy 9 Geometry AP Literature/Bible 11 POD	10:30 - 11:30	Algebra Biology English 11/Speech Bible 12/Personal Finance	10:30 - 11:30	Algebra Biology English 11/Speech Bible 12/Personal Finance
	5 Minutes		5 Minutes				5 Minutes		5 Minutes
1135 - 1235	Computer App World History AP Statistics Physics Technical Writing Study Hall	11:35 - 12:35	Computer App World History AP Statistics Physics Technical Writing Study Hall	11:45 - 12:35	5 Minutes Computer App World History AP Statistics Physics Technical Writing Study Hal	11:35 - 12:35	Biology 9 Geometry AP Literature/Bible 11 POD	11:35 - 12:35	Computer App World History AP Statistics Physics Technical Writing Study Hall
1235- 105	Lunch	12.35 - 1:05	Lunch	12:85 - 1:05	Lunch	12:35 - 1:05	Lunch	12:35 - 1:05	Lunch
1:05 - 2:20	Choir Mythology STEM Animal Science Yearbook	1.05 - 2:05	PE 9 Bible 10 Chemistry AP Calculus Strength & Conditioning Art Appreciation 5 Minutes	1:05 - 2:20	Choir Mythology STEM Animal Science Yearbook	1.05 - 2:05	PE 9 Bible 10 Chemistry AP Calculus Strength & Conditioning Art Appreciation 5 Minutes	1:05 - 2:20	Choir Mythology STEM Animal Science Yearbook
	5 Minutes				5 Minutes				5 Minutes
225 - 325	PE 9 Bible 10 Chemistry AP Calculus Strength & Conditioning Art Appreciation	2:10 - 3:25	Band Art I College Algebra Theater Study Hall (Honors Option)	2.25 - 3.25	PE 9 Bible 10 Chemistry AP Calculus Strength & Conditioning Art Appreciation	2:10 - 3:25	Band Art I College Algebra Theater Study Hall (Honors Option)	2:25 - 3:25	Band Art I College Algebra Theater Study Hat (Honors Option)

Attendance

Manhattan Christian is committed to the philosophy and practice of classroom academic instruction. Each school day provides new learning experiences and opportunities to grow. In addition, the social and relational aspects of the learning process are as significant as the content and subject matter. While some elements of a missed classroom experience may be repeated or recovered, certain other facets are lost, to the student's detriment. Therefore, it is expected that students attend and participate in all classes and we expect and desire parental support in this. Some absences, however, are inevitable and unavoidable. The following attendance policy will be utilized to encourage faithful attendance and ensure student learning.

General Principles:

- You are expected to be in school every day unless there is an emergency such as illness, or a death in the family.
- Once at school you are expected to be in every class, chapel, and scheduled activity, on time and with all necessary materials.
- If you must miss a class or a day of school, you are expected to follow the correct reporting routine (below). You are responsible for making up any work missed while you were absent. It is up to you to find out what was assigned, and to arrange with the teacher for makeup of any schoolwork, tests, or projects that came due.

Excused Absences

If a student must be absent on a school day, a parent must notify the office before 9:00 am with the reason for the absence at office@manhattanchristian.org or 406-282-7261. This is considered an "excused absence". All students will be limited to five excused absences per class per quarter without penalty. For each excused absence in excess of eight (8), administration may request a meeting. The school will make a good faith effort to notify students when they are close to this threshold.

In the case of severe and/or prolonged illness (for example, when hospitalization is required), exceptions to the maximum absence policy may be made at the discretion of the school administration. A doctor's note is required within one week of any extended absences. Students who experienced unplanned absences should plan to turn in all issued assignments and take all missed tests/quizzes within the number of days equal to the number of days absent.

Unexcused Absences

When a parent fails to contact the office to excuse his/her student's absence, it is considered an "unexcused absence." Additionally, organized "skip days" by classes or groups of students, without administrative approval, are considered unexcused absences. If a student is discovered to have 9 or more days or 54 or more parts of a day in 1 school year of unexcused absences, the child may be referred to youth court as habitually truant, per Montana Law.Appeals of unexcused absences must be made within one week of the absence. Students who are absent are required to hand in all missed assignments and take all missed tests/quizzes within the number of days equal to the number of days absent.

Excused Absence Policy

We believe that classroom instruction plays a vital role in a student's education and that it is very difficult to compensate for absences from school. It is for this reason that students must meet certain attendance standards to receive credit for a class. Therefore, the following will apply in the case of excessive student absences:

- Any student who exceeds 15 absences of any kind per semester class, excused or unexcused, may not receive credit for the class.
- The school counselor or administrator will contact the student's parents when the student's absences have reached an initial level of concern in any one semester (generally after 6 absences)
- A conference between the student's parents, school counselor, and administrator will be convened if a pattern of absences continues. At 10 absences, the administrator may refer the student and his/her parents/guardians to the Education Committee. All cases are judged on an individual basis. At 15 or more absences of any kind, credit will not be awarded for the class.
- A long-term illness exemption may be approved via a written appeal from the parents that includes a doctor's signed statement indicating that the student is unable to be in school
- School-sponsored events will not be treated as absences.

Extended Absences

Students who have family circumstances causing them to be absent from school for more than two days must make prior arrangements with the school office. A Planned Absence Form must be filled out and the completed form must be returned to the office in advance of the absence (at least five school days prior to the trip is recommended). After reviewing the reason for the requested absence, the input from the teachers, and the current academic status of the student, a decision will be made as to the advisability of the absence. The excused absence policy (maximum of eight days per semester) applies to extended absences. Students who are absent are required to hand in all missing assignments and take all missed quizzes before the due date, on the due date, or the day they return to classes.

Leaving Campus

While we understand that there are circumstances that require a student to leave campus during the school day, we would ask families to help us limit these instances.

- If a student must leave campus during the school day for an appointment, a parent must call the school office at 406-282-7291, or send a note to the office at the beginning of the school day. In the event of something unforeseen, a parent must call the office with permission before a student will be allowed to leave campus.
- Students are not allowed to leave campus to run errands or for lunch.
- If a student becomes ill, he/she must report to the office to call his/her parents for permission to leave campus. Students should not use personal cell phones for this purpose. Parents must give permission to the office before a student leaves campus.
- Prior to leaving camps, students must sign out at the office. Students must report to the office when returning to be admitted back to class.
- Students who leave school without permission will receive an unexcused absence for all class time missed. Additionally, a conduct detention may be issued.
- Between 8:10 and 3:25 pm, students must enter and leave from the main entrance. All students must sign in and/or out at the office when entering and leaving the building.

Being on Time

In order to best develop and utilize their God-given talents, students must be wise stewards of their time in school each day. Punctual arrival to school each day and to all classes is crucial for learning, demonstrates respect for classmates and teachers, and helps each individual grow in self-discipline. It is for this reason that the staff records tardies and responds to you when you are late. When it is determined that there is a chronic problem, a plan of improvement will be implemented. It is therefore important to fully understand and support the following tardy policies and expectations.

Tardy to School

Students who arrive late to the morning gathering after 8:10 am are tardy to the school day. They must sign in at the office and receive a pass to go to class. Tardies to the school day will be treated separately from tardies to individual class periods, and will be handled by the principal.

Students are allowed five tardies (excused or unexcused) to the school day per semester. Each tardy after the fifth may result in a 1 hour detention.

Students who arrive late to school due to an appointment will be exempt from the tardy as long as they have proper documentation.

Tardy to Class

Individual teachers determine the definition of tardy, whether it is being in the room, being in a seat, or being ready to learn. All tardies are logged and placed on student transcripts. Students who arrive more than five minutes after the bell may receive an unexcused absence.

In general, tardiness to individual classes/flex time will be treated on a quarterly basis in the following manner:

1st-2nd: Teacher response/consequence

3rd: Office contacts the parents and notifies the principal 5th and any additional: Detention

Athletics

Athletic Handbooks

Each student athlete is given access to a copy of the MCS Athletic Handbook. This handbook contains full details for all aspects of organized athletics at the school. Please consult that handbook for full policy.

Safety and Security

Student Campus Access Permission

Students need permission to be in any school area not properly designated for them.

Medications

If a student requires prescription or non-prescription medication during the school day, a parent/guardian must notify the school office in writing to specify the medication, dose, and duration of its use. Prescription medications must be kept in the office. If a student is to store non-prescription medications in their locker, and/or self-administer non-prescription medications, the school must be notified of the drug's presence in their locker. The school does not allow the presence or use of medical marijuana at any time.

Visitors

If a student wishes to bring a visitor to class, prior clearance must be made with the Principal. If a parent or guardian wishes to visit a class or classes, the teacher(s) should be notified of the visit. All visitors must check in at the office and are required to wear a visitor lanyard.

Exterior Door Locking Schedule and Security

Students should not be at school before 8:00 am unless they have a class, are at school for supervised practices, have music lessons, or have an appointment. If a coach or teacher schedules an early morning activity or practice, they will open the appropriate door and relock it. During the day all parents and students must enter the building through the main entrance. Please do not knock on windows to request

that someone let you in as it disturbs work and classroom activities for those involved. Following is an access schedule for exterior doors:\

Main Office: open at 7:30 am, locked at 8:15 am, open at 3:15 pm, locked at 3:45 pm High School (west hall): open at 7:30 am, locked at 8:10 am, open at 3:15 pm, locked at 3:35pm Elementary doors: open at 7:30 am, locked at 8:15 am, open at 3:15 pm, locked at 3:45 pm

Bus Transportation and Student Car Use

Bus transportation is available to certain communities in the area, based on availability of drivers and number of students needing transportation. Please contact the Transportation Coordinator for more details.

When a student needs to drive a vehicle to school, they must comply with the following rules:

- Students who drive must obey all traffic rules. Parking in unauthorized areas will result in a fine.
- Students must register each vehicle they plan to drive on campus, with the administration. Failure to register their vehicle(s) will result in a fine and may result in losing driving privileges. Registration is required for both safety and security.
- Reckless driving involves traveling at a speed of more than 15 mph, unnecessary spinning of tires, swerving/fishtailing, or driving in a manner that endangers the safety of others. This includes motorcycles.
- Reckless driving will result in the following disciplinary action:
 - **First Offense:** Driving privileges suspended for two weeks
 - Second Offense: Driving privileges suspended for six weeks
 - **Third Offense**: Driving privileges suspended for the remainder of the school year.
- Loitering in the parking lot is prohibited. Students must leave campus 15 minutes after home games, or following the return of buses from away games. In addition to security and safety considerations, our no loitering policy is aimed at maintaining a healthy community with our neighbors who live in proximity to our school.

Bus Rules

For safety, the following bus rules apply to all students:

- Refrain from loud talking and yelling while on the bus. Conversational level talking is fine.
- Sitting in the seat means sitting down and facing forward at all times.
- Aisles are to be kept clear at all times.
- There is to be no standing up or moving around while the bus is moving.
- Individual drivers will decide whether eating and drinking will be permitted on the bus.
- Enter and exit the bus in an orderly manner.
- Take pride in the bus and keep it clear. A student is responsible for paying for and damages he/she does to the bus interior.
- No student is allowed to hang any part of their body out of a window. No student is allowed to throw anything out of a window, or yell at anyone on the street or in another vehicle.
- The driver may assign seats to students.
 - First offense: Offense will be reported to the driver and respective administrator.
 Parents/Guardians will be contacted. Students may be suspended from riding the bus for one (1) day.
 - Second offense: Offense will be reported to the driver and administrator.
 Parents/Guardians will be contacted. Students may be suspended from riding the bus for three (3) days.

• **Third offense:** Offense will be reported to the driver and administrator. Parents/Guardian will be contacted. The student may be suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the year. Parents/Guardians may appeal suspension to the administration.

Lockers

All lockers and desks on campus are the property of Manhattan Christian School and remain so, even though temporarily assigned to students. The school office will assign each student a locker as a place to store books and personal belongings. Students are to keep their assigned locker unless permission is obtained through the office for an alternative locker assignment. Physical education teachers and coaches will assign lockers and combinations for students in physical education classes and/or on athletic teams. All lockers and personal possessions are subject to inspection at any time for cleanliness, missing property, evidence of vandalism, and presence of illicit materials. Fire code requires that backpacks, musical instruments, or other large items not be left in the hall. Any such items will be brought to the office.

Dangerous Weapon

Any student who brings a dangerous weapon, device, or instrument, including any knife, material, or substance (animate or inanimate) that is used for, or is readily capable of causing death or serious bodily injury will be suspended immediately. This policy covers the entire school premises, including automobiles in the parking lot. The school board and administration will meet to decide the length of the suspension or to decide if the offense warrants expulsion.

Fire and Earthquake Drills, and Warning Signals

- A prolonged horn sound sent across the campus PA system indicates fire, earthquake, or a drill procedure.
- Students are to take their designated route from the building in an orderly manner.
- Fire and Earthquake drills will be conducted regularly throughout the school year.
- At least once a year the school will practice an all-campus evacuation.

Technology

Student Cell Phone Usage

Students are allowed to use cellphones when permission is given. Use of voice or messaging capabilities is not allowed in classrooms. <u>Cellphones (or any devices with a camera) are not to be used in bathrooms or locker rooms at any time.</u>

Use of Electronic Devices, Cell Phones, Wearables, Laptops, Etc:

Cell phones, laptops, electronic devices and wearables (i.e. Apple Watch) are allowed to be brought to school. Students may not use these devices in classes or hallways during class time. Please check with administration as to the current policy about use of these devices during breaks and lunch, or other times.

These devices may be used in class with teacher permission for class-related activities (which may include but is not limited to, research, Bible reading, taking pictures of whiteboard material). However, teachers may deny student use if the device is being used inappropriately and/or for non-class related learning activities.

Cell phones (or any device with a camera) are not to be used in bathrooms or locker rooms at any time. In the event a device is used without permission in class, the teacher may treat it like any other disruption of learning in the class. If a student continues in their disruptive use of a device, then the device may be confiscated and given to the Principal with an explanation. The student can retrieve their device from the Principal at the end of the day and depending on the situation, consequences will be administered. Repeated violations may involve parents having to pick up the device, detention, and/or other consequences.

In addition, cell phone use during a quiz or exam compromises academic integrity. If, in an emergency, a student needs to place or receive a phone call/text message during class time, the student must 1) ask the teacher for permission and 2) use the cell phone outside of the classroom.

Audio/video recording or photographing another individual without their consent is strictly prohibited. Audio/video recording of classroom activities is permitted only with the permission of the classroom teacher and the Principal, and only for uses that support education- related activities. Audio/video recording or photography in bathrooms or locker rooms is not allowed at any time. Publication of pictures, videos, or audio recordings without consent of the subject may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Social Media

The use of social media on and away from MCS campus is a part of student life. Social media presents many opportunities for communications, and our students are daily participants on a variety of social media platforms, for good or for ill. We recognize that many activities can affect the student body even when the activity occurs outside the school campus or away from school activities. MCS has no intention of attempting to monitor students behavior outside normal school functions, yet periodically matters come to the attention of the administration that may raise concerns.

When a student posts potentially damaging images or messages about self and/or others that may be interpreted as threatening and/or concerning, whether such posts occur during or outside of school, MCS administration reserves the right to respond in order to assure the safety of our student body is maintained. Students are to be reminded to use discretion, discernment, and wisdom when posting thoughts and images on social media, regardless of where the posting originated. Inappropriate messages, postings, and images may be reviewed by school officials.

MCS administration may take disciplinary and/or legal action for conduct by students that is illegal, obscene, immoral, threatening, of the occult, sexual or otherwise would reflect disgracefully on the student or MCS. A violation of this policy will be grounds for discipline up to and including expulsion. Any such discipline will be done in consultation with the parents/guardians of the student(s) involved.

Social Media/Cyber Bullying Student Relations

We live in a rapidly changing world. There is no privacy when posting thoughts and images on social media sites. Students must use great wisdom when on social media sites and be ever-aware of what is represented about self and God while posing on these sites, remembering that Christ is to be honored in everything we do.

Cyber bullying refers to any harassment that occurs via the internet, cell phones or other devices. Communication technology is used to intentionally harm others through hostile behavior such as sending text messages and posting ugly comments on the internet.

The National Crime Prevention Council defines cyber-bullying as "the process of using the Internet, cell phones, or other devices to send or post text or images intended to hurt or embarrass another person." Cyber-bullying could be limited to posting rumors or gossip about a person on the internet bringing about hatred in other's minds; or it may go to the extent of personally identifying victims and publishing materials severely defaming and humiliating them.

Computer Use Contract

All students will be required to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement and a Google Education Service agreement in conjunction with their use of school computers in the classroom or library. A student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign this contract in order for the student to use the computers at the school. Each student will get a Google Education Account in 1st – 12th grade and each student in 6th – 12th grade will be issued permanent email accounts with MCS email addresses. Teachers will use these accounts to communicate assignments and other course details with their students. Teachers will not accept any other email account for the student.

Student Relations

Demonstrating Respect and Dignity; Maintaining a Safe Environment

At Manhattan Christian High School, God's command to love our neighbor is taken seriously. Students deserve to feel safe at MCS. All conduct should contribute to a learning environment where each student feels valued and appreciated regardless of gender, race, physical characteristics, academic ability or age. All interpersonal conduct must demonstrate sincere love for others. Any behavior that makes another student feel unsafe – socially, physically, or emotionally – thereby making learning difficult, will be dealt with in an appropriate manner ranging from verbal reprimands to expulsion.

Bullying is one type of behavior that is contrary to God's command to love. Bullying destroys the environment we are trying to establish on campus.

Definition: Bullying is repeated behavior intended to demean or hurt another student. The bully's goal is to target another student and physically, emotionally, or socially harm them, often in order to gratify his or her own social standing.

Scope: While MCS is not liable for activity and conduct that takes place off of school grounds, outside of the school day or at non-school-related activities, if the learning environment for a student is negatively affected by conduct and behavior that occurs outside of the school day, corrective actions may be taken.

Discipline: When reports are investigated and validated, corrective measures will be taken. The ultimate goal is to re-establish healthy relationships. Corrective measures may include detentions, suspensions, and recommendations for expulsion, depending on the severity and the repetition of the offenses.

Notes: When living in community, like on a school campus, conflicts arise. Sometimes conflicts are not resolved in an appropriate manner – a punch might be thrown or hurtful words could be exchanged. Those actions will result in disciplinary measures, too, but they are not all examples of bullying.

Teachers and staff are encouraged to be vigilant in observing student interactions, not only in their classrooms, but during lunch time, at breaks, and before and after school.

The bystander to bullying incidents is the ideal person to report it. It's difficult for the victim to report abuse, but the bystander who witnesses the interaction has much less at stake.

Most high school students have access to and participate in social media sites. Bullying also occurs with these electronic means and parents are encouraged to be aware of what their high school children are sending and receiving.

Campus Policies

Guiding Principles for Dress and Appearance

When you were very young, your parents celebrated that you could dress yourself. They walked alongside you helping you select what looked good, was appropriate for the occasion, and that what you wore reflected who you are. While you are a bit older and make most of these selections yourself, there are still guidelines that help us make these choices.

At Manhattan Christian School, we strive to help students walk humbly in Christ's footsteps with obedience and joy. We are teaching our students how to practice Godly discernment. We want to inspire students to live God-glorifying lives. So, at MCS, we want to practice modesty. In the big picture, modesty is putting God and others first. It is making less of yourself, and more about God and our neighbor. Modesty flows out of humility; remember our true place of service. It does not boast about self, but boasts in God. As people called to image God instead of the world, we want to be aware of the messages we are sending about God and ourselves to others through our clothing and appearances. We want to dress in such a way that we can practice loving our neighbor by putting others' needs in front of our own. We want to be dressed so that we are able to serve others.

The following guidelines are some of the ways we practice these things in our dress and outward appearance during the school day, field trips, and other school day activities.

- Necklines should not be too low. No tank tops or halter tops. No bare midriffs.
- No undergarments should be visible at school.
- No leggings or similar clothing where bottom is not completely covered by a longer top.
- Shorts must extend past the fingertips, skirts must skim the knees.
- Clothing should be free of excessive rips, tears or holes (skirts/shorts rule applies here too).
- Choose your footwear with activity in mind.
- Clothing displaying alcohol, drug or tobacco advertising or implying the use of violence, intimidation, discrimination, or ridicule, racist, sexist, gang, drug, and weapon related themes are inappropriate. Clothing with band logos are subject to the discretion of staff.
- Please remove hats and hoods in the classroom and chapel

If you're not sure if what you're wearing is appropriate, we would strongly advise you to wear something else, or ask the Principal <u>before</u> you wear it.

If you choose not to follow these guidelines, you will be asked to fix the issue before being allowed to return to class. A few items of used clothing are available for use. If you need to go home to change your

apparel, parents may be notified and the student may receive an unexcused absence for the period(s) missed. Infractions may result in a conduct notice.

Nuisance Items

Nuisance items include, but are not limited to, water pistols, matches, lasers, and lighters and must not be brought to school. Such items will be confiscated and returned at the teacher's/principal's discretion. No knives are allowed on the school campus.

Gum, Candy, and Food

As a gift from God, we have a responsibility to take care of our facility and its contents. The students, faculty, and staff work hard to keep Manhattan Christian a clean and orderly place to work and learn. Please use gum, candy, beverages, and food with care. Clean up wrappers, food spills, crumbly messes, and old food left in lockers. Wrap chewed gum in a piece of paper and place it in the wastebasket. Take care to follow teacher and staff guidelines about these items in their classrooms.

Discipline Policy

Our discipline policy communicates the boundaries we have as a community; which things help us love God, our neighbors, and ourselves – leading to flourishing; and which things hinder these important relationships and cause strife. Our conduct and speech should always seek to follow God's directive to love Him above all and our neighbor as ourselves. Because Manhattan Christian School heartily acknowledges the restorative work of Jesus Christ, His reconciliation of the world to God, and the redemption of our life in its entirety, we are dedicated to honoring Jesus Christ in all we do. We uphold our community standards through a partnership with the home, church, and school. Behaviors that violate these standards will be corrected through a relational process with an ultimate goal of restoration and growth.

Purposes

- To develop and maintain the optimum learning environment.
- To correct behavior which is disruptive or destructive to the learning environment.
- To train students in behavior patterns that will be helpful to them individually and to the school community in supporting and achieving the communally-held goals of spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development.
- To remove as a last resort, recalcitrant students, so that the learning environment may be maintained.

As in all processes, any or all of these tools may be utilized:

- Parent contact
- Teacher Concern Form
- Mentorship
- Maintenance work
- Restitution
- Conduct Notice
- Detention
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Behavior contract
- School-approved counseling

• Other means as appropriate

Based on Manhattan Christian's desire to nurture a relationship with Jesus Christ that develops a Christ-like love demonstrated to all people, the school does not allow:

- Racial or ethnic slurs, discrimination, hazing, intimidating others, or engaging in hate acts/remarks and all other verbal or physical conduct of a racial, ethnic, or otherwise offensive nature.
- Bullying: meaning any systematic or chronic conduct that physically, emotionally, or mentally harms a student or creates an intimidating or hostile environment that interferes with a student's educational opportunities.
- Sexual harassment: meaning unwelcome sexual advances and all other verbal (e.g. sexually offensive jokes, innuendoes, and other sexually oriented statements or behavior) or physical conduct of a sexually or otherwise offensive nature.
- Spoken or written threats against students or teachers that affect the learning environment.
- Fighting
- Public display of affection.
- Insubordination or disrespect.
- Inappropriate use of social media, including taking and/or posting pictures or video without permission .
- See also our Human Dignity Policy in the handbook.

Based on Manhattan Christian's community beliefs relating to living a life of integrity, the school does not allow:

- Honesty infractions such as, forgery, plagiarism, or cheating
- Stealing
- Lying
- Skipping school/class
- Inappropriate access to the MCS computer network, misuse of school technology, or violation of the MCS Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)/Internet Use Policy
- Entry into certain "off limits" areas of the building or grounds: kitchen, maintenance areas, closets, storage areas, and buses.

Based on Manhattan Christian's standards related to righteous living, the school does not allow:

- Inappropriate physical/sexual contact between students
- Possessing, requesting, or sending of sexual or pornographic messages or images
- Profanity, obscenity, and/or vulgar speech

Based on Manhattan Christian's standards related to students becoming servant leaders, the school does not allow:

- Possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, vaping devices, or other drug paraphernalia on campus or at school-sponsored activities.
- Possession and/or use of matches, lighters, fireworks, explosives, and dangerous chemicals (Violations will be reported to the Sheriff.)
- Possession and/or use of guns, knives, weapons, or facsimiles of weapons (Violations will be reported to the Sheriff.)
- Possession of child pornography
- Damaging of school or school property
- Setting a fire or pulling the fire alarm

- Vandalism
- Reckless driving in the school parking lot or parking violations (See 'Student Care Use' in handbook)
- Trespassing

Students who engage in other serious misconduct in or outside of school not expressly covered by the foregoing standards (e.g. social media, internet abuse, or other digital communication), but which is disruptive to school operations and detrimental to good order and discipline, may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

Student Search and Seizure

The administration recognizes that incidents may occur that jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of students and staff and necessitate the search and seizure of students, their property, cars, their lockers, cell phone, or any other electronic device by school officials. Students shall be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by school officials. School officials may search a student's outer clothing, pockets, or property by establishing a reasonable cause or securing the student's voluntary consent. The search is reasonable if it meets both of the following criteria:

- The action is justified at the inception, i.e. the school has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will uncover evidence of a rule and/or criminal violation.
- The scope of the search is reasonably related to the objectives of the search and are not excessively intrusive in light of the age and gender of the student and the nature of the infraction.

Discipline Procedures

MCS operates most effectively in partnership with the home and the church. At the center of our educational philosophy is the collaborative partnership between the home, church, and school. MCS claims to be neither the primary educator nor the primary spiritual caretaker of the children we serve. Parents have been entrusted by God to be the primary educator, and the church was established to be the center of worship and discipleship in the life of each child. MCS was created to be an extension of both the home and the church, created for the specific purpose of educating children from Preschool through 12th grade. The mission of MCS is most effectively implemented in the life of the child when the partnership between the child's home, church, and school is most closely knit together in a cohesive learning community. Executing the mission of MCS in situations where discipline is necessary is most effectively accomplished with there is a collective understanding of the significance of the home/church/school partnership.

Teachers and administrators are responsible for the lives placed under their care. They have the authority from the parents to administer discipline. It is their responsibility to work with the parents in the matter of discipline, informing them in a prompt manner of disciplinary action taken, and making themselves available to the parents and students involved for discussion and counsel of discipline situations.

Student Responsibility

Teachers and administrators will also follow the Matthew 18 guidelines when aware of violations of school standards. Individual teachers will handle inappropriate behaviors in their classrooms. It is expected that most disciplinary problems will be resolved between the student and teacher. The teacher, administration, and parents should work together in partnership as much as possible.

Communication

Teacher Concerns

This form is filled out by the teacher when a student's behavior is determined to be inappropriate, but not an infraction. It is shared with the student and kept in the teacher's file for each student as needed. This form is meant to facilitate clear communication and boundaries between teachers and students. Teacher determines how many Teacher Concern forms will lead to a Conduct Notice.

Conduct Notice

Conduct Notices are issued for all infractions to maintain a record of behavior, enabling us to correct, train, and restore students to community life. Students, teachers, administration and parents all have a responsibility in the use of this form. Completed forms are kept on file. Conduct Notices do not always lead to a detention. An accumulation of Conduct Notices may lead to suspension or expulsion. Normally, the following is the progression for conduct notices:

- First: recommended action/consequence to resolve situation
- Second: recommended action/consequence to resolve situation
- Third: Parent meeting to resolve situation, recommended action/consequence
- Fourth: In-school suspension
- Fifth: Consideration of withdrawal

Detentions

Detention will be held each Thursday morning from 7:30-8:00 a.m. Students will be notified the week prior when they have detention and which teacher to report to. Students who are more than ten minutes late or fail to report for detention will be assigned two more detentions.

Behavior Contract

A behavior contract is a tool to help all affected parties deal with targeted, specific behaviors that are outside of our community standards. The following conditions will define this procedure:

- Students will be placed on a behavior contract at the discretion of the school administration after careful evaluation, and consultation with parents.
- The contract will describe the behavior problem and the conditions and expectations for improvement. The behavior contract will also stipulate tools the student should use to change the behaviors.
- A behavior contract may specify that the student on probation will not represent Manhattan Christian as a member of any team, organization, activity, or group.

Suspension

A student may be suspended for violating school standards. When possible, in-school suspensions will be issued. On the day of an in-school suspension the student must report to the office by 8:00 a.m. with enough academic work to occupy his/her time for the day. Students suspended from school are not permitted to participate in after-school practices, rehearsals, performances, or athletic contests on the day(s) of their suspension. The student is released at 3:20 p.m. A reentry meeting with parents, administrators, and/or teachers may be required. Suspensions are considered unexcused absences. Therefore, a grade reduction penalty may be issued.

Expulsion

Students who do not respond to corrective measures and continue to exhibit negative behavior and/or attitudes, are involved in very serious misconduct, or who bring discredit to Manhattan Christian School, may be expelled or asked to immediately withdraw and the School Board will be given an expulsion recommendation. Parents may appeal the expulsion of their child to the School Board. Examples for which separation/expulsion may occur include, but are not limited to:

- Possession, use or distribution of controlled substances of any kind, or the misuse of any prescribed drugs of any kind, on or off school property.
- Possession, consumption, supplying or selling of alcohol, tobacco, or tobacco-related products on school property or at school sponsored events.
- Repeated violations or patterns of misbehavior.
- Failure of parents to cooperate with the school in discipline of their children.
- Actual or implied threats related to the school environment and/or to people; assault or battery of a teacher or student.
- Possession and/or use of guns, knives, weapons, or facsimiles of weapons.
- Sexual misconduct, including but not limited to:
 - Verbal abuse of a sexual nature
 - Sexual innuendo and/or gestures
 - Possession or distribution of pornographic material
 - Sexual harassment or other sexual misconduct

Expulsion/Returning to Campus

A student who has lost the privilege to attend Manhattan Christian School will not be permitted to attend school-related events on or off campus. These events would include, but not be limited to: Prom, Graduation/Commencement, extracurricular events, athletics or fine arts events, etc.

Human Dignity Policy

Harassment

Manhattan Christian School is committed to providing an environment in which every person is recognized and treated as an image bearer of God. Manhattan Christian School is committed to providing a learning environment that is free from harassment in any form. Harassment of any student, employee, or parent by any other student, employee, or parent is prohibited. The school will treat allegations of harassment seriously and will review and investigate such allegations in a prompt, confidential and thorough manner.

- 1. A charge of harassment shall not, in and of itself, create the presumption of wrongdoing, However, substantiated acts of harassment will result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal. Students, employees, or parents found to have filed false or frivolous charges will also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.
- 2. Harassment occurs when an individual is subjected to treatment or a school environment that is hostile or intimidating because of the individual's race, creed, color, national origin, physical disability, sexual orientation, or gender. Harassment can occur any time during school or during school related activities. It includes, but is not limited to, any or all of the following:
 - a. Verbal Harassment: Derogatory comments and jokes, threatening words spoken to another person.
 - **b. Physical Harassment:** Unwanted physical touching, contact, assault, deliberate impeding or blocking movements or any intimidating interference with normal work or movement.

- c. Visual Harassment: Derogatory, demeaning or inflammatory posters, cartoons, written words, drawings, gestures and/or graphics on clothing.
- **d. Sexual Harassment:** Includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Specific examples of sexual harassment includes, but are not limited toL:
 - i. Making unsolicited sexual advances and propositions.
 - ii. Using sexually degrading words to describe an individual or an individual's body
 - iii. Displaying sexually suggestive objects or pictures.
 - iv. Telling inappropriate or sexually related jokes.
 - v. Making reprisals, threats of reprisals or implied threats of reprisals following negative response to sexual advances

It is the responsibility of Manhattan Christian School to:

- A. Implement this policy through regular meetings with all administrators, ensuring that they understand the policy and its importance.
- B. Make all faculty, staff, students, and parents aware of this policy and the commitment of the school toward its strict enforcement.
- C. Remain watchful for conditions that create or may lead to hostile or offensive school environments.

It is the student's, employee's and parent's responsibility to:

- A. Conduct himself or herself in a manner which contributes to a positive school environment.
- B. Avoid any activity that may be considered discriminatory, intimidating, or harassing.
- C. Consider immediately informing anyone harassing him or her that the behavior is offensive and unwelcome.
- D. Report all incidents of discrimination or harassment to the Principal.
- E. If informed that he or she is perceived as engaging in discriminatory, intimidating, harassing, or unwelcome conduct, he or she is to discontinue that conduct immediately.

Complaint Filing and Investigation Procedures

The following procedures must be followed for filing and investigating a harassment claim:

- A. The student may first choose to tell the individual causing the harassment that his/her conduct is offensive and must stop. If the objectionable behavior does not cease immediately, the student must report the harassment to the Principal, or to a teacher who will report it to the Principal or Administrator.
- B. The student alleging harassment will be asked to complete a formal, written complaint. The claim will be investigated thoroughly, involving only the necessary parties. Confidentiality will be maintained as much as possible.
- *C.* If the incident involves an Employee– The investigation will include a meeting with the person alleged to have harassed, sharing with that person the nature of the allegations as well as the name of the person bringing the allegations. If appropriate, the alleged harasser will be placed on administrative leave during the course of the investigation. The administrative leave will be with pay until such time as a determination regarding the incident has been decided by the appropriate authority.
- D. Once the facts of the case have been gathered, the Principal, in consultation with the Head of School will decide what, if any, disciplinary action is warranted. Appropriate civil authorities will be contacted when deemed appropriate by the administration. The disciplinary action will relate to the nature, context, and seriousness of the harassment and can include all disciplinary actions

up to and including immediate termination. All recommended disciplinary actions must be approved by the Board of Directors of Manhattan Christian School.

E. If the complaint is against a non-employee or non-student, such as a parent, volunteer, or vendor, the school will take steps, within its power, to investigate and eliminate the problem. Criminal charges will be handled by civil authorities.

All such reports will be handled discreetly to maintain confidentiality in order to avoid embarrassment and to protect the student making the report. However, it should be understood that this school is required by law to report child abuse to the appropriate social agency that protects the rights of individuals in such cases.

Grievance Procedure

Involving Students Only

- A. An effort shall be made to resolve the conflict by having the two students get together. The supervising teacher may help facilitate the procedure.
- B. Appeal or help may be sought from the administrator in charge.
- C. In the event that the conflict is still not resolved, the parents of the students will be called in.
- D. Parents may appeal the situation to the School Board on a written complaint form.

Involving School Community and School Staff or School Programs

- A. Review of Services of Staff or Programs: Constructive criticism can be helpful to the school. At the same time, the Board has confidence in its staff and programs and shall act to minimize unwarranted criticism or disruptive interference of its staff and programs.
 - a. Complaints received by the Board or an individual Board member shall be referred to the Administrator for investigation.

Position State of Human Sexuality

Because human beings are created in the image of God their creator, we affirm that all humans, male and female, homosexual and heterosexual, have inestimable value and must be treated with dignity and respect.

As a community that seeks to be an authentic Biblical community, Manhattan Christian School is committed to addressing all issues of human sexuality with grace and truth within a Biblically nurturing environment centered on God's word as our rule for faith and practice.

We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

- We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen 1:26-27.) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
- B. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4.) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

- C. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).
- D. We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).
- E. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accordance with Scripture nor the doctrines of Manhattan Christian School.
- F. MCS is committed to handling issues of sexual immorality by telling the truth in love based on our view of Scripture as our rule for faith and practice.
- G. We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Manhattan Christian School as the local Educational Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the Manhattan Christian School members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Manhattan Christian School in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14–16; 1 Thess. 5:22).

With Grace we commit to:

- A. Exercising patient understanding of and compassion for all students with issues of sexual immorality and practices contrary to God's created order.
- B. Ensuring an environment that is filled with grace and respect.
 - a. No student, heterosexual or homosexual, will be forced to admit their sexual orientation.
 - b. No student will be expelled or excluded on the basis of their same gender attraction provided they do not advocate or promote such a lifestyle within the Manhattan Christian School community.
- C. Insisting upon an atmosphere that is a safe learning environment for students.
- D. Physical assault, harassment (snide remarks, jokes, innuendo, slogans, disparaging terms), or bullying on the basis of one's sexual orientation will not be tolerated.
- E. Gay or anti-gay militancy is regarded as incompatible with Christian community and will therefore not be tolerated. Accusations of such will be investigated and if found true will be dealt with through discipline that could include suspensions and/or expulsion from MCS.
- F. Providing students whose sexuality does not align with God's perfect intent:
 - a. A humble, compassionate understanding venue in which to engage in authentic dialogue regarding human sexuality.
 - b. School Counselor who will offer biblical guidance, resources and options for referral for counseling.
 - c. An assurance that the dignity of all students and families will be guarded.
- G. Acknowledge our own human frailty and dependence upon Christ for his humility, grace and wisdom in our consideration of human sexuality, seeking always to love one another as He loved us.

Application for Community

- A. Teaching staff and other employees:
 - a. Based on Biblical beliefs Manhattan Christian School will not knowingly employ any individual who is living in open violations of the school's Biblical standards regarding human sexuality.

- b. Should it become evident that an employee is found to be in violation of our Biblical standards in relation to human sexuality, s/he will be asked to cease or correct such activity or face separation from Manhattan Christian School.
- c. In the employment process the potential employee will be asked to affirm their understanding of our policy standards related to human sexuality.

B. Parents and Family:

- a. Based on our Biblical beliefs Manhattan Christian School will not knowingly admit any individual who is living in open violation of the schools Biblical standards regarding human sexuality.
- b. Should it become evident that a family structure is found to be in violation of our Biblical standards in relation to human sexuality they will be asked to cease or correct such activity or face separation from Manhattan Christian School.
- c. If a single parent is found to be in violation of our stance on sexual immorality, s/he may remain in the community so long as they do not advocate or act upon their sexually immoral desires.
- d. In the admissions process parents will be asked to affirm their understanding of our policy standards related to Human Sexuality.

C. Students

- a. Based on our Biblical beliefs, Manhattan Christian will not knowingly admit any student who is actively engaged in sexually immoral behavior.
- b. Should it become evident that a student is involved in sexually immoral activity that is in violation of our Biblical stance on such matters, the student will be asked to cease such activity or face separation from Manhattan Christian School.

D. Association and Board Membership

- a. Individuals who are actively engaged in sexually immoral behavior do not qualify for Board membership.
- b. Individuals who are found to be actively engaged in sexually immoral behavior while serving on the Board do not qualify for continuation of membership on the Board.
- c. Individuals who are found to be engaged in sexually immoral behavior do not qualify for Manhattan Christian School Association membership.
- d. Individuals who enter into a sexually immoral relationship while a member of the Manhattan Christian School Association do not qualify for continuation of membership in the Manhattan Christian School Association.

Contacts

Manhattan Christian School 8000 Churchill Road Manhattan, MT 59741 406-282-7261 406-282-7701, Fax Manhattanchristian.org

Nathanael Hope, 9-12 Principal nhope@manhattanchristian.org

Joel Westa, Head of School jwesta@manhattanchristian.org

Revised August 2024