ST. PETER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

…where children learn about Jesus

Athletic Handbook
2020-2021

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St. Peter Lutheran School Mission Statement

By the grace of God, St. Peter Lutheran School exists to nurture and educate God's children in a Christ-centered environment. Through the guidance of parents and teachers, students learn to interpret their world in the light of God's Word.

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Introduction

The athletic department at St. Peter Lutheran School is happy that you have chosen to be a part of the athletic program. This can be an enjoyable and meaningful experience for you as a player, coach, or parent. The purpose of this handbook is to outline and explain the policies and procedures of the athletic program at St. Peter Lutheran School.

Philosophy

Paul says, "You know that at sports all runners run the race, though only one wins the prize. Like them, run to win." (1 Corinthians 9:24).. We play to win, and we want this desire to be found in our athletes at St. Peter. However, as rewarding and self-satisfying as winning is, we must note also with Paul, that to strive to win in sports is a pursuit after a "…fading wreath," whereas the goal of a Christian is the pursuit after a "…wreath that never fades."

It is with a far greater purpose, that of a life in Jesus Christ, that we conduct our athletic program at St. Peter. God has never promised that we will win an athletic contest because we are His faithful followers, but He has promised to be with us, to guide us, and to strengthen us.

We firmly believe, as Paul states, that our body is a temple of the Holy Spirit and we should honor God with our bodies. Therefore, we feel that it is the responsibility of our athletic program to nurture the growth of the child not only in their athletic ability, but also as they grow spiritually.

Objectives of the St. Peter Athletic Program

1. Athletics provide players, coaches, and parents alike an opportunity to witness for Christ through actions and words.
2. Athletes are taught to accept decisions and responsibilities in a Christ-like manner, whether it be in victory or defeat.
3. Athletics provide for focused skill development and give participants satisfaction in accomplishment.
4. Athletics provide for a student's growth in physical ability and the opportunity to use his/her God-given talents.
5. Athletics strive to develop technically correct physical skills, physical conditioning, commitment to team concepts, self-discipline, priority setting, the encouragement of others, perseverance, and the learning of playing as a participant of a team.

Responsibilities of Athletes

Athletes at St. Peter Lutheran School are expected to…

a. treat their body as the temple of the Lord.
b. treat teammates, schoolmates, parents, coaches, fans, and referees with the highest respect and honor.
c. give their best effort, play fair, promote good sportsmanship, and be attentive to directions and rules.
d. maintain respectable appearance both in and out of uniform.
e. refrain from wearing jewelry or plastic/metal hair ties during practice or games.
f. take good care of their assigned uniform. Please pay close attention to washing instructions. Athletes will be charged new uniform prices for any part of the uniform that needs replacing or is not returned. Athletes should refrain from wearing uniforms to and from the games (except soccer).
g. remain on the dark gray areas of the gym until a coach arrives. Students are not allowed in the gym storage room.

h. obtain a proper and thorough physical by a medical doctor, signed by the parent, for their child prior to the first day of practice. In addition, athletes must pay an athletic fee for every sport that they participate in prior to the first day of practice.
i. secure proper practice clothing and footwear. Clothing should be appropriate and follow the dress code. Athletic shoes must be worn at all times and athletes are encouraged to wear shoes with non-marking rubber soles.
j. treat all school equipment with respect and care.
k. leave the locker room and athletic grounds in a clean and safe condition.
l. arrive no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of practices and arrange for a ride home to arrive approximately 10 minutes before the end of practice.
m. follow the coach's team, practice, and game attendance rules.
n. refrain from chewing gum during athletic activities.
o. leave school once school is dismissed unless written permission is given by a parent and teacher or an athletic function is held immediately after school.
p. refrain from having unsupervised siblings or friends at practices or athletic contests.
q. return their uniform to the athletic director within one week of the last scheduled event of the season. Any student who does not return their uniform within the given week may be given daily recess detention for each day that the uniform is missing, or until amends are made. A new uniform will not be issued for the next sport until the previous uniform has been accounted for.

Responsibilities of Coaches

Coaches of St. Peter Lutheran School are expected to…

a. serve as a Christian example to all of our athletes. This includes regularly attending worship services.
b. communicate, first, with the athletic director and then, if needed, with the principal any enforcement of rules and regulations as all coaches are under the supervision of the aforementioned individuals.
c. communicate with the athletic director, parents, and athletes the responsibilities and expectations of team members as stated in his/her team guidelines, if any. Any changes in guidelines should be reported to the above groups immediately.
d. assume responsibility for all students who are under their guidance. This includes being at practices and games before students arrive and remaining after until all players have left.
e. supervise all practices at all times by ensuring a safe environment for players at all times. This includes supervising locker rooms before and after all practices and games and using discretion upon entering a locker room of the opposite sex.
f. make every attempt to get every player in the game.
g. keep all discussions, disagreements, etc. with assistant coaches within the coaching staff. All assistant coaches of the team are under the direction of the head coach.
h. stress good sportsmanship throughout all athletic events (practices and games).
i. complete and publish a practice schedule in collaboration with the athletic director. This schedule will be on the gym calendar in the school office and sent home with the athletes. No practices will end after 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays during the Advent and Lenten church seasons. No practice shall be longer than two hours in duration nor shall they conclude after 8:00 p.m.
j. have in their possession at all practices and games a copy of each athlete's emergency medical form.
k. keep equipment in its proper area and put all equipment away at the end of practice.
l. keep athletes out of the storage room.
m. check to make sure that all lights are off in the gym, locker rooms, storage room, restrooms, etc. and all doors are locked. Also, the heat should be turned off if it is was used.
n. return school/gym keys within two weeks of the last game to the athletic director, principal, or school secretary.

Responsibilities of Parents

None of the interscholastic programs are possible without the support and help of the parents. Assistance is required in every area: operating concession stands, clean-up, coaching, supporting the individual athlete, attending athletic activities, and reinforcing the responsibilities of the student in Christian behavior and understanding. As a result, parents of athletes at St. Peter Lutheran School are expected to…

a. teach, by example, a Christian attitude towards all. This includes regularly attending worship services.
b. support their child, school, coach, and team to the best of their God-given abilities.
c. help your child understand that their athletic participation is secondary to their spiritual and academic obligations.
d. assist their child in making responsible choices for the demand of time placed on them as student athletes by supporting their commitment to the team.
e. help their child(ren) understand how to handle problems, the need for discipline and rules, and how to react to criticism in a positive manner.
f. develop within each athlete foresight, which enables them to accept responsibility for both individual and team actions.
g. make a commitment to help the athletes by attending athletic events, working concessions stands, assisting in cleanup, and encouraging coaches.
h. instill in the athlete(s) good health habits toward food, sleep, and exercise. Forbid the use of cigarettes, liquor, and illegal drugs.
i. demonstrate Christian sportsmanship by enthusiastically supporting teams at athletic events without being overzealous or critical of coaches and/or officials.
j. provide a ride to and from games and practices. Parents are requested not to drop off their children more than 10 minutes prior to the start of practice, and to arrange for a ride home to arrive approximately 10 minutes before the end of practice or a game. This is a safety precaution for their child(ren) and a courtesy to coaches who must remain until all athletes have left the building. Please make necessary ride arrangements before game day.
k. obtain a proper and thorough physical by a medical doctor, signed by the parent, for their child prior to the first day of practice. In addition, athletes must pay an athletic fee for every sport that they participate in prior to the first day of practice.
l. understand that it is strongly recommended that every athlete be covered by their parent/guardian's health insurance policy.
m. provide adult supervision for any child of theirs who attends an athletic event.

24-Hour Policy

Parent and student-athletes should wait at least 24 hours following a game and/or athletic event to speak with a coach regarding concerns. This allows all parties involved to take time away from a game/event situation to collect their thoughts and address concerns calmly.

Procedures for Addressing Concerns

When frustrated about a situation on a team, including but not limited to playing time, athletes and parents should follow the Biblical principal found in Matthew 18. Here we are exhorted to go to the individual with whom we have a misunderstanding or disagreement and discuss it with the individual personally. At no time should talking to other parents about private concerns be considered acceptable. As a result, the following procedures should be followed when raising concerns with a coach:

1. The athlete should ask for a personal meeting with the coach. Remember that there is an appropriate time and manner in which to request a meeting.
2. If the issue is not resolved, then the athlete may come with a parent/guardian to request a meeting with the coach.
3. In extreme situations in which the issue is still not resolved, then a meeting between the athlete, parent/guardian, and athletic director may be requested.

Athletic Contract

Each student-athlete and a parent will be required to read the handbook and sign the Athletic Contract indicating that they have done so prior to his/her child being allowed to participate in a sport. It is hoped that this will effectively communicate the key athletic information for the upcoming year. It also includes this statement: I hereby waive and release St. Peter Lutheran Church and School, the faculty and staff, facilities, boards and councils from any and all liability for any injury incurred during a St. Peter athletic event. I certify that my child(ren) is physically able to participate in the athletic program.

Academic Eligibility

St. Peter Lutheran School believes that the athletic program at St. Peter can be beneficial to the emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual development of its students. It is also our belief that participation in athletics should in no way restrict, reduce, take the place of, or be an excuse for a student's academic performance. Since academics are foremost in importance, and since it should be an added or extra privilege to participate in athletics, the following policy has been established:

1. In order to participate in athletics, a student must have a grade of "D" or higher in each subject listed on their academic report or report card (grades are on Fast Direct and are updated weekly). A student must also have homework assignments completed for the week. A student with two or more missing assignments may be considered ineligible.
2. Failure to meet these requirements on an academic report will constitute immediate termination of that student's participation in athletics to begin on the following Monday. This termination will remain in effect for 5 calendar days provided that the student is earning at least a "D" in all subjects on his/her next academic report.
3. Failure to meet this requirement on a report card will constitute immediate termination of that student's participation in athletics on the Monday following the end of the quarter. This termination will remain in effect for 5 calendar days.
4. During the time in which a student is ineligible for athletics, he or she may not attend practices.
5. The athletic director, teacher, and principal reserve the right to limit or terminate a student's athletic participation at any time, for any length of time, when deemed necessary because of academic performance or improper behavior.
6. Any exceptions to this policy to allow for individual differences will be decided upon by the athletic director, principal, and teacher.
7. Any concerns about this policy, or the administration of this policy, shall be registered with or appealed to: firstly, the athletic director; secondly, the principal, and thirdly, the Board of Christian Education.
8. Parents will be notified in writing of any termination of participation. This notice will contain the reason for the ineligibility of the athlete as well as the dates that they will be ineligible to participate in athletics.

First Aid Policy of St. Peter

In the case of any severe injuries, bloodshed, or head injuries, the athletic director or principal must be notified immediately. Also, accident forms must be completed by the coach. This is to ensure prompt and efficient communication between the school and the family of the injured party. For minor accidents, there is a medical kit in the gym storage room and ice in the kitchen freezer. Soccer coaches are responsible for transporting this equipment to all games and practices.

Participation

1. Students may be offered a maximum of three contacts per calendar week, (Monday through Friday). The only exceptions to this are team tournaments.
2. Students who participate in sports at St. Peter are expected to put their responsibilities for practices and games before the obligations of another sport that they may be involved with

outside of St. Peter. This helps to ensure team unity and fluency in the St. Peter athletic program.

3. All athletes must have a physical form on file in the school office and the sports fee paid before they may participate in a practice or a game.
4. Open rosters (no size limit) will be maintained for students in Grades 4-8.
5. A student absent from school on a game day for reasons of illness, or without a written or verbal excuse from his/her parent, shall be ineligible to participate in an athletic contest or practice that afternoon or evening. Students absent in the morning, but present for the afternoon, will be allowed to participate. Students who are absent with an excuse for such things as funerals, dentist appointments, etc. will be eligible to participate.
6. Any personal use of tobacco, illegal drugs, alcohol, or other controlled substances will result in immediate removal from the team for that sport's season.
7. Any suspension from school disqualifies an athlete from participating in practices and games that may be scheduled during the suspension. Reinstatement to the team will come after the school suspension has been served.

Sports Offered

St. Peter is a member of the Tri-County Lutheran League-North Division. The following sports (subject to change based on the number of students participating) are offered to students of St. Peter Lutheran School:

Sport	***Grades***	***Season***
Soccer	Grades 4-8	Fall
Girls Volleyball (A&B)	Grades 4-8	Fall
Boys & Girls Basketball (A&B)	Grades 4-8	Winter
Girls Cheerleading	Grades 5-8	Winter
One Day Girls Soccer Tournament	Grades 4-8	Spring
One Day Boys Volleyball Tournament	Grades 4-8	Spring
Coed Track	Grades 4-8	Spring

Members of the Tri-County Lutheran League (T.C.L.L.)

West Blue	West Red	East White	East Gold
Faith, Bay City	Bethlehem, Saginaw	Christ the King, Sebewaing	Immanuel, Frankentrost
Peace, Saginaw	Holy Cross, Saginaw	St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth	St. Paul, Flint
St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth	Immanuel, Bay City	St. Michael's Richville	St. Paul, Lapeer
Trinity, Monitor	St. Paul, Saginaw	St. Paul, Millington	Trinity, Reese
	St. Peter, Hemlock		

Tri-County League Sportsmanship Policy

The athletic directors of the Tri-County Lutheran League are happy that you have chosen to be a part of your school's athletic program. This can be an enjoyable and meaningful experience for you as an athlete, parent, fan, or coach.
Athletics provide wonderful learning opportunities for everyone. Consider the following:

- Athletics provide players, coaches, and parents alike an opportunity to witness for Christ through actions and words.
- Athletes are taught to accept decisions and responsibilities in a Christ-like manner, whether in victory or defeat.
- Athletics provide for focused skill development and give participants satisfaction in accomplishment.
- Athletics provide for a student's growth in physical ability and the opportunity to use his or her God-given talents.
- Athletics strive to develop technically correct physical skills, physical conditioning, commitment to team concepts, self-discipline, priority setting, the encouragement of others, perseverance, and the learning of playing as a participant of a team.

The Tri-County Lutheran League expects that everyone will uphold and exemplify the highest standards of behavior and sportsmanship both on and off the fields of competition.

Acceptable behaviors for all associated with our league including athletes, coaches, parents, and fans:

1. Serve as a Christian example.
2. Follow the instructions and rules of league officials and coaches.
3. Respect the efforts of officials, coaches and all athletes.
4. Respect the rules of the game including the rulings of the officials.
5. Use encouragement to athletes, coaches, and referees without profanity.
6. Follow all safety rules.

What a privilege we have to be a part of a Lutheran athletic league. We pray that God will protect our athletes from injury as they compete, help us to witness our faith through our words and actions, and that we would have safety in all of our travels.

The Tri-County Lutheran League and St. Peter Lutheran School would like to thank our athletes, coaches, referees, parents, and fans for exemplifying the highest standards of Christ-like behavior and sportsmanship. Christian sportsmanship gives our games educational value that sets them apart and teaches values that last for a lifetime.

2020-2021 Sports Calendar

Sport	Date	Day	Time	Opponent	Location
Sports Meeting					
	8/26/2020	Wed	6:00	*Info passed out during Back to School Info Night*	
	10/19/2020	Mon	6:30		Cafeteria
Soccer					
	9/1/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ Trinity Monitor	Away
	9/10/2020	Thu	4:30	St. Paul @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/15/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ Bethlehem	SSCX
	9/16/2020	Wed	4:30	Faith @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/17/2020	Thu	4:30	Holy Cross @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/22/2020	Tue	4:30	Peace @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/29/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ St. Paul (Saginaw)	SSCX
	10/1/2020	Thu	4:30	Bethlehem @ St. Peter	HOME
	10/6/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ Holy Cross	SSCX
	10/8/2020	Thu	4:30	TCLL League Tournament	St. Lorenz
	10/10/2020	Sat	T.B.D.	TCLL League Tournament	St. Lorenz
Girls Volleyball					
	8/31/2020	Mon	4:30	St. Peter @ Immanuel, BC	Away
	9/2/2020	Wed	4:30	Peace @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/9/2020	Wed	4:30	St. Peter @ Holy Cross	Away
	9/10/2020	Thu	4:30	St. Peter @ St. Lorenz	Away
	9/11/2020	Fri	4:30	St. Peter @ Midland Christian	Away
	9/14/2020	Mon	4:30	St. Paul @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/16/2020	Wed	4:30	St. Peter @ St. Paul (Saginaw)	Away
	9/21/2020	Mon	4:30	Faith @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/23/2020	Wed	4:30	St. Peter @ Trinity (Monitor)	Away
	9/28/2020	Mon	4:30	Bethlehem @ St. Peter	HOME
	9/29/2020	Tue	4:30	Immanuel @ St. Peter	HOME
	10/5/2020	Mon	4:30	St. Peter @ Imm/Trinity	Frankentrost
A-Team ONLY	10/9/2020	Fri	T.B.D.	TCLL A-Team Tournament	St. Peter
A-Team ONLY	10/10/2020	Sat	T.B.D.	TCLL A-Team Tournament	T.B.D.
	10/12/2020	Mon	4:30	Midland Christian @ St. Peter	HOME
B-TEAM Basketball					
Girls & Boys	11/4/2020	Wed	4:30	St. Paul @ St. Peter	HOME
	11/11/2020	Wed	4:30	Bethlehem @ St. Peter	HOME
	11/13/2020	Fri	5:00	Peace @ St. Peter	HOME
	11/17/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ Holy Cross	Away
	11/20/2020	Fri	6:00	St. Peter @ Trinity, Monitor	Away
	12/1/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ St. Paul, Saginaw	Away
	12/8/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Peter @ Bethlehem	Away
	12/11/2020	Fri	4:30	St. Peter @ Faith	Away
	12/15/2020	Tue	4:30	St. Lorenz @ St. Peter	HOME
	12/18/2020	Fri	5:00	Holy Cross @ St. Peter	HOME
A-TEAM Basketball					
Girls ONLY	1/6/2021	Wed	5:30	St. Peter @ Holy Cross*	Away
Girls ONLY	1/8/2021	Fri	6:00	St. Paul @ St. Peter	HOME
Girls ONLY	1/12/2021	Tue	5:30	Bethlehem @ St. Peter	HOME
Girls ONLY	1/13/2021	Wed	5:30	St. Peter @ Bethlehem	Away
Girls ONLY	1/15/2021	Fri	6:00	St. Lorenz @ St. Peter	HOME
Girls ONLY	1/19/2021	Tue	5:30	Trinity @ St. Peter	HOME
Girls ONLY	1/22/2021	Fri	6:00	Peace @ St. Peter	HOME
Girls ONLY	1/29/2021	Fri	5:30	St. Peter @ Holy Cross*	Away
Girls ONLY	2/3/2021	Wed	4:30	St. Peter @ Faith	Away
Girls ONLY	2/10/2021	Wed	5:30	St. Peter @ St. Paul, Saginaw	Away
Girls ONLY	2/11/2021	Thu	T.B.A.	TCLL Girls Tournament	T.B.A.
Girls ONLY	2/13/2021	Sat	T.B.A.	TCLL Girls Tournament	T.B.A.
Track					
Boys & Girls	5/1/2021	Sat	TBA	St. Michael's Invitational (7th-8th)	Reese HS
	5/8/2021	Sat	TBA	VLHS Meet	VLHS
	5/15/2021	Sat	TBA	Faith Meet	VLHS
	5/22/2021	Sat	TBA	Regionals	VLHS
	5/25/2021	Tues	TBA	TCLL Relays	Reese HS
	6/5/2021	Sat	TBA	States	VLHS
	****These meets are subject to change and there may be more.*				

ADDRESSES TO TRI-COUNTY LUTHERAN LEAGUE SCHOOLS (& OTHERS)

BETHLEHEM, SAGINAW: 2777 Hermansau, Saginaw, MI 48604.

CHRIST THE KING, SEBEWAING: 612 E. Bay St., Sebewaing, MI 48759.

FAITH, BAY CITY: 3033 Wilder Rd., Bay City, MI 48706.

HOLY CROSS, SAGINAW: 610 Court St., Saginaw, MI 48602.

IMMANUEL, BAY CITY: 249 N. Lincoln St., Bay City, MI 48708.

IMMANUEL, FRANKENTROST: 8220 Holland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48601.

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: 4417 W Wackerly St, Midland, MI 48640.

PEACE, SAGINAW: 3161 Lawndale, Saginaw, MI 48603.

SAGINAW SOCCER SPORTS COMPLEX: Follow the same directions as Valley Lutheran. It will be across the street.

ST. LORENZ, FRANKENMUTH: 140 Churchgrove, Frankenmuth, MI 48734.

ST. MICHAEL, RICHVILLE: 9444 West Saginaw, Richville, MI 48757.

ST. PAUL, FLINT: 402 S. Ballenger Hwy., Flint, MI 48532.

ST. PAUL, LAPEER: 90 Millville Rd., Lapeer, MI 48446.

ST. PAUL, MILLINGTON: 4935 Center St., Millington, MI 48746.

ST. PAUL, SAGINAW: 2745 West Genesee, Saginaw, MI 48602.

TRINITY, REESE: 1935 Rhodes St., Reese, MI 48757.

TRINITY, MONITOR: 20 East Salzburg Rd., Bay City, MI 48706.

VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL: 3560 McCarty Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603.