

Monsignor Slade Catholic School

Parent & Student Handbook

2025-2026



www.msladeschool.com



Dear Parents and Guardians:

In enrolling your child in a Catholic School, you agree to certain important responsibilities. These include:

1. to be a partner with the school in the education of your child.
2. to understand and support the Catholic mission and identity of the school.
3. to read all communications from the school and to request clarification when necessary.
4. to know who your child's teachers are and to observe parent-teacher conference dates and any special requests for meetings.
5. to discuss concerns and problems with the person(s) most directly involved.
6. to be as actively involved as you can be in the life of the school and to volunteer assistance when possible.
7. to promote your school and to speak well of it to others.
8. to meet your financial obligations in a timely manner and to support the fundraising efforts of the school when possible.
9. to appreciate that Catholic education is a privilege that many persons do not have.
10. to keep the school updated regarding your child's health conditions and to provide current physician's orders and required medications in a timely manner.
11. to provide the school with any updates regarding a change in family life or living conditions (divorce, change in custody or change in address or phone contacts).
12. to maintain a professional and respectful demeanor in all interactions with faculty and staff. Any form of intimidation, harassment, or inappropriate tone—whether in person, over the phone, or through written communication (including email)—is strictly prohibited. Aggressive behavior or unrealistic expectations of communication from teachers may result in restricted access to the campus for the parent/guardian and could impact the student's continued enrollment.

We welcome you to Monsignor Slade Catholic School. The entire school community pledges its support to you. May Jesus, the model of all teachers, be our encouragement in this important ministry of Catholic education.

Sincerely,

Mr. Cameron Stehle

Principal

Parent and Student Handbook 2025-2026

Monsignor Slade Catholic School

120 Dorsey Road

Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061

www.msladeschool.com

School Office: 410-766-7130

Edu-Care: x 2502

Extended Care: x 2500

Health Room: x 2122

Guidance Office: x 2203

Maintenance: x 2412

Admissions: x 2118

Advancement: x 2116



“Let us do the work of the Lord with great faith, in a great spirit of charity.”

~ St. Julie Billiart

Right to Amend Handbook

As per page , we reserve the right to amend the Parent & Student Handbook at any time. As changes in the policies occur, the online handbook will be updated. Changes will be highlighted and accessible on our school website. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to regularly review the handbook for any updates.

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Foundational Documents

Archdiocese of Baltimore Catholic Schools Mission Statement

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore provide a Christ-centered education that is academically excellent and empowers students to reach their full potential—spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and morally.

Fostered through robust collaboration among all stakeholders, the mission is accomplished through accountable leadership at all levels, ongoing and coordinated strategic planning, centralized efficiencies, and financial stability.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School Mission Statement

Rooted in Catholic faith and committed to academic excellence, Monsignor Slade Catholic School is dedicated to forming the whole child to know, love, and be a disciple of Christ.

Belief Statements

We believe in the value and dignity of each person and the importance of accepting and nurturing children from all backgrounds.

We believe that the knowledge of religious truth and values is necessary to respond to the Church's call to meet local, national, and global needs.

We believe that the school, in partnership with parents, promotes students' development and awareness of their relation with God and others.

We believe a nurturing and safe environment is essential for learning.

We believe in encouraging critical thinking, leadership, and civility, by providing learning opportunities that meet the needs of the developing person.

Accreditation

Monsignor Slade Catholic School is accredited by Cognia through June 2027. In accordance with standards set by the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Monsignor Slade Catholic School met the requirements established by the Cognia Accreditation Commission and Board of Trustees and was thereby accredited by the SACS Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

History

Ground was broken at the site of Holy Trinity School in October 1952, and construction was begun in May 1953. On Sunday, June 20, 1954, the official dedication of the school was held with the Most Reverend Francis P. Keough, DD, presiding and the Rev. Michael W. Hyle as featured speaker. Opening day, September 7, 1954, saw a student enrollment of 504 and a staff of six Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur assisted by three lay teachers.

With the division of Holy Trinity Parish into four separate and independent parishes, the parochial affiliation of the school was no longer practical. In July, 1973, the Northern Anne Arundel Regional Catholic School was organized under the Archdiocesan Board of Education, using the facilities of the Holy Trinity school-convent education complex and serving the parishes of Good Shepherd (Glen Burnie), Crucifixion (Glen Burnie), St. Bernadette (Severn), Our Lady of the Fields (Millersville), and St. Joseph (Odenton), as well as Holy Trinity (Glen Burnie). During the 1977-78 school year, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Crofton) became the seventh member of the Regional School parishes. During the 1991-92 school year, Our Lady of the Chesapeake (Pasadena), became the eighth member of the Regional

School parishes. In 1994 -95 St. Lawrence Martyr (Jessup), became our ninth parish. The parishes of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Joseph, and Our Lady of the Fields disincorporated with Monsignor Slade Catholic School in 2001 to form a new regional school which serves families in the southern part of Anne Arundel County.

Renamed the Arthur Slade Regional Catholic School by Lawrence Cardinal Shehan at dedicatory ceremonies on February 24, 1974, the school continued its fine tradition of service to the people of Anne Arundel County, providing a religious-oriented education for kindergarten and grades 1 through 8 in the primary, intermediate and middle school levels. Since 1975, a state-approved Edu-Care Center has functioned providing services for 3-4 year olds. The expansion of the Edu-Care center in the fall of 1994 brought the addition of a part-time nursery school program for children ages 2-4. In the fall of 2014, a full day two year-old program was established.

A major renovation of the school auditorium was completed in 2004 in honor of the 50th anniversary. The school was re-named Monsignor Slade Catholic School in 2004 to honor the priestly ministry of its founder.

In 2018, the parishes of Crucifixion, Good Shepherd and Holy Trinity merged into one parish, named Christ the King Catholic Church.

The year 2019 marked the 65th anniversary of the school. Monsignor Slade is proud of its continuing reputation for academic excellence in Anne Arundel County.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School stands today as a living tribute to the faith and foresight of its founder, Msgr. Arthur C. Slade, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish from 1946 to 1968. A vision of the necessity of Catholic education for the children of his parish was a compelling force motivating his life. Monsignor Slade died on November 12, 1971. The school personnel and parent communities strive to develop a quality, faith-filled program in tribute to the legacy passed on by Monsignor Slade.

School Colors: Green and White

School Mascot: Roadrunner

Regional Parishes of MSCS

Christ the King Catholic Church

126 Dorsey Road
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
Rev. Austin Murphy, Pastor
410-766-5070

Our Lady of the Chesapeake Church 8325

Ventnor Road
Pasadena, MD 21122
Rev. Stephen Hook, Pastor
410-255-3677

Church of St. Lawrence Martyr

7850 Parkside Blvd. Hanover, MD 21076
Rev. Tom Dymowski, O.S.S.T., Pastor
410-799-1970

Church of St. Bernadette

801 Stevenson Road
Severn, MD 21144
Rev. Austin Murphy, Pastor
410-969-2783

Church of St. Jane Frances de Chantal

8499 Virginia Avenue
Pasadena, MD 21122
Rev. Stephen Hook, Pastor
410-255-4646

MSCS School Board Members

Mrs. Molly LeQuang, Board Chair

Mrs. Maria D'Ambrosio, Vice Chair

Rev. Austin Murphy, Pastoral Rep

Mrs. Mary Helfrich, Board Member

Mr. Bill McMahon, Board Member

Mr. John Olson, Board Member

Ms. Evelyn Chapman, Board Member

Mr. Antonio Alaimo Board Member

Mrs. Lisa Lally, Board Member

Mr. Dewan Clayborn, Board Member

**Foundress of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur,
Saint Julie Billiart
“*Making Known God’s Goodness*”**

Saint Julie Billiart, was born in Cuvilly, France, on July 12, 1751. Julie gave evidence of her future apostolate, when playing school as youngsters are wont to do, she actually taught her friends the catechism and hymns. As a teenager, Julie even instructed the reapers in the fields, answering their questions and explaining many truths of faith. Despite paralysis, which claimed Julie while still in her teens, she continued, gathering the children of the neighborhood around her bedside to hear the Word of God. During the French Revolution and its aftermath Julie was hounded from village to village as Public Enemy Number One because of her steadfastness in adhering to the true faith, and her 'wickedness' in instilling that faith into the hearts of others.

It was during this tragic time that Julie was given a vision of her future work. In ecstasy she beheld the crucified Christ surrounded by a group of women dressed in a religious habit she had never seen before. A voice proclaimed that these would one day be her daughters, going all over the world to teach little children to know and love the good God. The fulfillment of such a prophecy seemed impossible but the earnest prayers of a missionary priest, who implored the Sacred Heart of Jesus for Julie's cure, proved effective. Henceforth every ounce of her newborn strength was used for God's glory. When it became possible to teach the faith openly again, missionary priests conducted missions throughout France. Julie was asked to prepare the women and the children for the sacraments. So successful was this endeavor that more and more parishes requested her assistance. Meanwhile, a noble lady, Mademoiselle Francois Blin de Bourdon, who had escaped an appointment with the guillotine by the timely fall of Robespierre, offered her fortune and services to Julie, to be used in furthering the work of the apostolate. Together they opened a small school for the poor children of the district, and gradually other young ladies sought to join them. It was then that their spiritual director suggested the formation of a religious congregation. On February 2, 1804, the first vows were taken, thus officially giving birth to the new institute and shaping the fulfillment of Julie's vision.

Many pastors sought to obtain the help of Julie's Sisters in rebuilding their scattered flocks. Bishops of other dioceses added their entreaties. Julie's immediate superior, however, looked with disfavor upon this branching out of the institute. Julie felt the necessity of being true to her vision, but cost what it might, obedience to authority was ever her watchword. After many misunderstandings and vicissitudes, which virtually amounted to persecution, including the expulsion of the Sisters from their native France, the obstacles were gradually cleared away by Divine Providence. Today we find the Sisters of Notre Dame on every continent.

The order in the United States has spread from the first Ohio Convent in 1840 to six provinces in the United States.

Julie Billiart was beatified in 1906 by Pope Saint Pius X and canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1969.

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

'How good is the good God' is the maxim of St. Julie Billiart, foundress of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SND) in 1804. St. Julie envisioned her Sisters as teachers proclaiming God's goodness while addressing students' individual needs. Believing as St. Julie did that children must be taught what they need to know for life, the Sisters of Notre Dame are committed to the following tenets: · Proclaiming the goodness of God

- Creating unique communities
- Providing opportunities for life-long learning
- Cultivating global perspectives
- Cultivating respect for the human dignity of every person, especially the poor

While the SND order no longer oversees Monsignor Slade Catholic School, we espouse these noble calls as part of our mission to promote Catholic faith and intellectual development in our students.

Faculty 2025-2026

Administration:

Mr. Cameron Stehle, Principal
Mrs. Laura Briggs, Assistant Principal

Support Staff:

Mrs. Sharon Wible, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Suzanne Peters, Director of Edu-Care and Extended Care
Mrs. Jessica Palumbo, Advancement Director
Mrs. Joanna Buchanan, Admissions Director
Ms. Karyn Valero, Receptionist
Mr. Cody Champion, Educational Technology Manager
Mr. Mike Sutor, Facilities Director
Mr. Lee Schwarzenberg, Maintenance

Student Resource Staff:

Mrs. Stephanie Holmberg, Registered Nurse
Ms. Jennifer Hubers, Registered Nurse
Mrs. Andrea Burke, School Counselor
Mrs. Emily Schmitz, Resource Specialist
Mrs. Gina Herbert, Resource Specialist
Mrs. Lisa Urbas, Middle School ELA Resource Teacher
Mrs. Cheryl Lemanski, Middle School Math Resource Teacher

Special Area Teachers:

Mrs. Kelly Murphy, Art
Ms. Linda Abrams, Media Spec./PowerSchool Local Admin
Mr. Jason Carter, Music
Ms. Elizabeth Blade, Physical Education
Mrs. Michelle Bozek, Spanish (gr. 4-8)
Mrs. Kathleen Oleszczuk, Technology/STEM Specialist
Mr. Wes Osment, Band Director, Instrumental Music Program

Edu-Care Center:

Part Time Pre-Kindergarten 2
 Ms. Gale Ford, Childcare Teacher
Pre-Kindergarten 2 - Full-Day
 Mrs. Julie Browne, Childcare Teacher
 Mrs. Beth Barnes, Childcare Teacher
Part Time Pre-Kindergarten 3
 Ms. Gale Ford, Childcare Teacher
Pre-Kindergarten 3 - Full-Day
 Ms. Shanda Miller-Burgess
 Ms. Madelyn Berry

Classrooms:

Pre-Kindergarten 4

Mrs. Rebecca Padencov, Teacher - Room 107
Mrs. Taylor Adams, I.A.
Ms. Michele Cameron, Teacher - Room 109
Mrs. Cheryl Wieland, I.A.

Kindergarten

Mrs. Natalie McFarlane Room, Teacher - 106
Mrs. Shelda Flanagan, I.A.
Ms. Bridget Kilkelly, Teacher - Room 108
Mrs. Terri Cosey, I.A.

1st Grade

Mrs. Morgan Reem, Teacher - Room 102
Mrs. Lisa Tavener, I.A.
Miss Alyssa Palazzo, Teacher - Room 103
Mrs. Michele Gardiner, I.A.

2nd Grade

Mrs. Tasia Schmitz, Teacher - Room 104
Mrs. Janet Fenwick, I.A.
Ms. Perez-Sosa, Teacher - Room 105
Mrs. Jessica Vargas, I.A.

3rd Grade

Mrs. Kristi Ogilvie, Teacher - Room 208
Mrs. Rae Horner, I.A.
Mrs. Beverly Winter, Teacher - Room 210
I.A.—Mrs. Rita Zienkiewicz

Classrooms (cont)

4th Grade

Mrs. Lisa Benitez, Teacher - Room 206
Mrs. JoAnn Tschiffely, Teacher - Room 204

5th Grade

Mrs. Jennifer Rosari, Teacher - Room 202
Mrs. Valerie Williams, Teacher - Room 203
Gr. 4-5—Mrs. Lynn Brennan, I.A.

6th Grade

Teacher—Mrs. Gina Keil Room, Teacher - 304
Teacher—Ms. Alison Alberts, Teacher - Room 305

7th Grade

Teacher—Ms. Katie Cortina, Teacher - Room 307
Teacher— Mrs. Kelly Johnson, Teacher - Room 306

8th Grade

Teacher—Mr. Joseph Bauer, Teacher - Room 311 & Room 404
Teacher—Ms. Lisa Jaklitsch, Teacher - Room 310
Teacher—Ms. Heather Kittiver, Teacher - Room 308
Ms. Maura Oleszczuk, I.A. Gr. 6-8
Mrs. Cheryl Lemanski, Math Resource Teacher - Gr. 6-8
Mrs. Lisa Urbas, ELA Resource Teacher - Gr. 6-8

Monsignor Slade Catholic School

Monsignor Slade Catholic School, as a school in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, fulfills and adheres to federal, state, and local government requirements for non-public schools.

Status of Students

Monsignor Slade Catholic School prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of sex, race, color, and/or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarships and financial aid, and other school administered programs. The school reserves the right to deny attendance to anyone whose behavior is contrary to the teachings and ideals of the school, or whose behavior or attitude is disruptive to the functioning of the student body. The school reserves the right to amend the Parent & Student Handbook. Parents and legal guardians will be notified promptly of any changes.

Student Records

Student records are maintained in the school office or a designated administrative area. Access to records is governed by the records policy.

Records Policy (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

Monsignor Slade Catholic School complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. In general, FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to education records. (The rights granted to parents under FERPA automatically pass to the student when the student turns 18 or enrolls in college.) These rights and related procedures of Monsignor Slade Catholic School are as follows:

- Parents have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the School. Parents should submit to the Admissions Director a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School will make arrangements for access and notify the parent of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- Parents have the right to request that the School correct records they believe are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. Parents who wish to request an amendment of the student's records should write to the Principal and clearly identify the part of the record they believe is inaccurate or misleading and the information they believe should be included in a correct record. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested, the School will notify the parent of the decision and the parent's right to request a hearing.
- Parents generally have the right to consent in writing to disclosures of information from a student's education record. However, there are certain exceptions to the consent requirement, including disclosures under the following conditions:

To School officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the information. A school official is a person employed by the School or the Archdiocese as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff); a person or company with whom the School has contracted to provide a service (e.g., attorney); or a parent or student serving on an official committee,

such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibilities or duties to the School.
◊ To other schools to which a student is transferring. In connection with financial aid under certain circumstances.

- To specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes.
 - To organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school.
 - To accrediting organizations.
 - In order to comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena.
 - To appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies.
- Non-custodial parents, in the absence of a court order to the contrary, will be provided access to the educational or legal agreement records and other school-related information regarding the student.

It is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of any court orders or legal agreements regarding access to educational records. The school reserves the right to notify the custodial parent of any request to review records.

The school also may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent unless a parent objects in writing. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School to include this type of information in certain publications. Examples of such publications include the parent directory, showing the student’s role in a drama production, the annual yearbook, honor roll or other recognition lists, graduation programs, and sports activity sheets.

The school has designated the following as directory information:

- Student’s name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports

Parents who do not want the school to disclose the above directory information without their prior written consent must notify the administrative assistant in writing by September 15th of the current school year.

- A log must be maintained of each request for access to and each disclosure of education record information other than disclosure to parents or students 18 or older or school officials. The log should contain the name of the person, the date, and the legitimate interests the person had in requesting or obtaining the information.
- Parents have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Monsignor Slade Catholic School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202-8520.

Parental Support/Compliance

In cases of disregard of the direction of staff members, threats or threatening behavior, serious or repeated noncompliance with school policies or procedures, or other demonstrated lack of support or cooperation, whether by parent, child or other family member, the administration reserves the right to withdraw child/children from the school and/or Edu-Care/Extended Care. Depending on the severity of the breach of partnership with the school, parents or other family members may be prohibited from entering the campus.

Right to Amend the Handbook

Monsignor Slade Catholic School reserves the right to amend the Parent & Student Handbook at any time. As changes in the policies occur, the online handbook will be updated. Changes will be highlighted. This Parent & Student Handbook is an informative booklet for parents and students setting forth the rules and policies of the school and is not intended as an expressed or implied contract.

I. Admissions

Non-discriminatory Policy

"It is the policy of the State of Maryland that all public and publicly funded schools and school programs operate in compliance with:

- (1) Title VI of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- (2) Title 26, Subtitle 7 of the Education Article of the Maryland Code, which states that public and publicly funded schools and programs may not:
 - a. Discriminate against a current student, a prospective student, or the parent or guardian of a current or prospective student on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability;
 - b. Refuse enrollment of a prospective student, expel a current student, or withhold privileges from a current student, a prospective student, or the parent or guardian of a current or prospective student because of an individual's race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; or
 - c. Discipline, invoke a penalty against, or take any other retaliatory action against a student or parent or guardian of a student who files a complaint alleging that the program or school discriminated against the student, regardless of the outcome of the complaint."

The State of Maryland does not require a nonpublic school that is religiously affiliated to enroll, retain, or extend privileges to a student or prospective student who does not meet the usual and regular qualifications, requirements, and standards of the program or school or to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with the program or school's religious or moral teachings provided that the denial, rule, regulation, or policy is not based on discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. Requests for reasonable accommodations for a student with a disability may be directed to the administration or the school counselor.

The following are requirements of admission to Monsignor Slade Catholic School:

- Children entering any grade level, particularly preschool and Kindergarten, must be the appropriate age that will enable them to comply with MSDE regulations regarding entrance to school. · Educational readiness is the primary criterion in determining the acceptance of a student into the Kindergarten program. Children entering Kindergarten must be in compliance with Maryland regulations regarding age of readiness.
- An admissions test will be administered to children entering grades Pre-K4 - 8
- The birth certificate and baptismal certificate for Catholic applicants must be presented to complete application, prior to admission.
- The Parish Verification Form for Catholic applicants must be filled out by the pastor and must contain his signature and the parish stamp.
- The child's physician must complete a Medical Evaluation Form and Maryland Immunization Certificate DHMG 896.
- Written permission to obtain previous school's records is to be given.
- In case of foreign-born students, immigration documentation is required.
- If a student has been identified through Child Find or has an existing IEP or 504 Plan, a copy must be provided to the school at the time of application.
- Children in the Pre-K4 program MUST be potty-trained.

Priority of Admissions

Acceptance of new students in grades Pre-K2 - 8 is based on the completion of all admission requirements, the results of admissions testing (students grades K-8) and possible openings in the following priority:

- 1) Siblings of current students
- 2) Catholic parishioners of any of the incorporated parishes
- 3) Catholic students transferring from other Catholic schools
- 4) Catholic students transferring from a non-Catholic school
- 5) Non-Catholic students

Please note: Siblings of students already attending Slade are given priority of admission if parents have applied during the period of re-registration for their current student(s). If a parent applies after the re-registration deadline of January 5, 2026, priority of admission will be given only if seats are available in the applicant's grade level.

Registration for New Students

Registration for Monsignor Slade Catholic School is based on a rolling admissions process. Applications are completed online. New students for grades Pre-K-8 will pay application and testing fees of \$100.00 (non refundable). Incoming 8th grade students will be assessed a graduation fee of \$145. This fee will be added to your FACTS account. Potential applicants are encouraged to attend our Open Houses on November 11, 2025, and February 1, 2026.

Please note: Applications for siblings of current students should also be submitted during the re registration time period to be given priority of admission.

Application Process

Applications for students in grades Pre-K2 - 8 can be found online at:

<https://msladeschool.fsenrollment.com>

The following procedure is required to complete an application for admission:

- Provide student's birth certificate, baptismal certificate (if applicable), and parish verification form (if applicable) by uploading through the SchoolAdmin parent portal or by hard copy to the school office. · The parish verification form for Catholic applicants must be completed by the parish office and must contain an official signature with the Church seal/stamp.
- Provide copies of most recent final report cards (students entering grade three and up must submit the three most recent final report cards), standardized tests, and any IEP or 504 plans by upload or in hard copy form at the time of application.
- A non-refundable \$100 application fee is required and is submitted online.

Upon admission, the following documentation is necessary to complete the enrollment process:

1. MSDE Emergency Form (OCC 1214).
2. Maryland Health Inventory Form (OCC 1215).
3. Maryland Immunization Certificate (DHMH 896) completed by the student's physician
4. Technology Acceptable Use/Media Release
5. Written permission to obtain the previous school's records must be given.
6. In the case of foreign-born students, immigration documentation is required.
7. Custody papers must be supplied, if applicable.

Student Placement

Upon admission, students will be academically placed using the following criteria:

- MSCS placement test results
- Prior report cards or progress reports
- Standardized test results
- Teacher recommendations from sending school

Grade Retention and Reclassification Policy

In accordance with the academic and developmental standards of the school, no student shall be retained or reclassified beyond one academic grade level during their enrollment. A student may not be held back or placed more than one grade level below their chronological peers. All final decisions regarding retention or reclassification remain at the sole discretion of the school principal, based on academic performance, developmental readiness, and consultation with faculty and staff.

Grade Advancement Policy

Students may not advance or skip academic grade levels unless such advancement is formally initiated and approved by school administration. Parents may not request, initiate, or unilaterally attempt to place their child in a grade level beyond their current academic placement. Any consideration for grade acceleration will be based on multiple academic, social-emotional, and developmental factors and must be recommended by school faculty and approved by the school principal. The final decision regarding grade advancement rests solely with the school administration.

Class Size

Class sizes at Monsignor Slade Catholic School are set forth as follows: Based on the current circumstances to include registration demands, classroom capacity, and fiscal requirements, the maximum class size of Kindergarten is 25 students, grades 1-5 is 27 students, and grades 6-8 shall be 30 students per classroom. However, the principal has the authority to deviate from the standard class size.

II. New Students

Probation Policy

All new students are continually evaluated throughout their first year. If, at any point, the administration determines that the school is unable to meet the academic, social-emotional, or behavioral needs of the student(s), or if for any reason it is deemed in the best interest of the school community that the student not continue, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified. The administration will work with the family to identify alternative educational placement. Such recommendations would occur only after conferences with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and after all reasonable methods of support have been exhausted.

III. Level Placement for Instruction

Monsignor Slade Catholic School delivers its instructional program and curriculum in concert with the Archdiocese of Baltimore Curriculum Standards and the regulations of the Maryland State Department of Education for non-public schools.

Students are grouped in all grades, Pre-K4-8, for instruction. In grades Pre-K4-8, whole group and small group instruction is given. Small groups are fluid and are organized for instruction, skill reinforcement, and/or enrichment. At the end of grade 2, students are grouped by ability for grade 3. Mathematics is emphasized in the grouping process. Students are grouped as approaching, on, and beyond.

Children are placed for instruction using the following criteria:

1. Standardized test results, to include the pre-HSPT and Algebra Readiness test for 7th graders
2. Grades
3. End-of-year tests in grades K-6
4. Teacher judgment
5. Work habits
6. Motivation
7. Maturity

Group assignments are reviewed regularly by the faculty and administration to assure that the instructional needs of each student are being met. Students may be re-assigned as deemed necessary by the administration in consultation with the teachers; although re-assignment will not occur until mid-first trimester or later. A pattern of academic performance must be established before re-assignment will be considered. Grouping is done for academic reasons and will only be changed for that reason.

IV. School Curriculum

Educational Programs

The educational community of Monsignor Slade Catholic School is committed to the total Christian education of the child. It serves children from 2-year-old preschool through eighth grade. In addition to full-time classroom teachers in grades Pre-K4-8, the faculty consists of full-time instructional assistants in preschool, and part-time instructional assistants in grades K-8. Additional faculty and staff includes teachers for physical education, music, art, library, computer, and Spanish, as well as two resource teachers, a school counselor, and a registered nurse.

In order to provide maximum opportunities for learning, the academic structure allows for three divisions, primary grades (Pre-K4-2), intermediate grades (3-5), and middle school grades (6-8). While each division functions separately, unity in procedures and policies is maintained through weekly department meetings, monthly faculty meetings and professional development sessions.

Preschool for Two and Three Year-Old Children

Edu-Care Center (see Parent Guidelines on page xx)

There are several programs offered at MSCS for two- and three-year-old children. A full-day program is available for two-year old children during the academic year from September through May. Summer care is available for an additional fee. A part-day and a full-day program are available for three-year old children during the academic year from September through May. Summer care is available for an additional fee. The growth and developmental needs of early childhood students are addressed through a rich variety of educational activities and experiences. A warm and accepting atmosphere is created in an effort to instill in each child a sense of self-worth and love of learning. Children are challenged and are provided opportunities for success as they explore their environment so that they establish a foundation of healthy attitudes and habits for learning. Well-planned activities will enable the children to learn about sharing, respecting the needs and rights of others, following directions, and actively listening. The development of these skills will shape each child into a responsible and productive student.

Pre-K4 through Grade 8 Instruction

Instruction occurs in both large and small group settings, utilizing differentiated instruction based on learners' needs. Teachers at Monsignor Slade Catholic School provide instruction based on logically organized and sequential presentation of material and are encouraged to develop individual styles of teaching. Classroom instruction is enhanced through cooperative learning, the integration of technology including Ben-Q and other interactive board technologies; interactive textbooks; Chromebooks; a STEM lab, which includes a computer lab and a makerspace; as well as document projection systems. The selection of teachers is based upon high academic, social, and spiritual values and dedication to the teaching ministry. As educational leaders, teachers project values that are consistent with the philosophy of the school and must be positive role models to the students.

Curriculum

Curriculum policy is developed under the leadership of the administrators and guided by the Archdiocese of Baltimore Curriculum Standards and the regulations of the Maryland State Department of Education for non-public schools. Curriculum content is determined through faculty selection of appropriate grade level materials. Students at Monsignor Slade Catholic School are instructed with a goal of developing lifelong learners. The curriculum is as follows:

Pre-K4

Religion and Family Life; Math Readiness; Language and Literacy; Reading Foundations; Communication Skills; Gross Motor Development; Fine Motor Development; Social and Emotional Development; Physical Education; Art; Music; Library

Kindergarten

Religion and Family Life; Math Readiness; Language and Literacy; Reading Foundations; Science; Social Studies; Technology; Physical Education; Art; Music; Library

Grades 1-8

Religion and Family Life; English/Language Arts (Reading, English, Vocabulary, Spelling, and Writing); Penmanship (K-5); Math; Science; Social Studies; Spanish (4-8); Physical Education; Music; Art; Library/Media (1-5); Technology

Textbooks

Textbooks are used by teachers as one of many teaching tools that provide resources for student learning. Therefore, a textbook is not purchased for the sole use of each individual student in every academic subject area. Sufficient numbers of textbooks are ordered for classroom use and a textbook may be checked out by the student for individual use at home. Many subjects also incorporate the use of on-line textbooks.

A current list of textbooks used in grades Pre-K4-8 can be found on the Monsignor Slade Catholic School website at www.msladeschool.com under the Parent tab. In recent years, the State of Maryland has funded (based on a per student figure) money for textbook purchases. This funding infuses much needed income into the budget for purchase of state-approved textbooks. We strongly encourage parents to write to their representatives in the state legislature to support the continued funding of textbooks for non -public schools.

Religion Classes

Religion is required for each year a student attends Monsignor Slade Catholic School. All students enrolled in Monsignor Slade Catholic School must attend religious classes and services. The School will always teach and act consistently with the tenets of the Catholic Church.

As directed by the Archbishop of Baltimore, it is the student's home parish which is responsible for the immediate sacramental preparation. The school is only responsible for the remote sacramental preparation of the students. Religion classes do not take the place of sacramental preparation, which is completed through the family's parish. Catholic families are responsible to inform their parish of their child/children's registration at MSCS. Parishes need to be informed so that the necessary sacramental information can be forwarded to the parents.

Family Life

An integral part of our faith formation curriculum, we will be teaching Catechesis for Family Life. This age-appropriate program about Christian living, chastity, character formation, and safe environment training promotes communication between you and your child. You are encouraged to review the program materials that the teacher/catechist will be using in the classroom. After examining the program, if you have any questions or concerns about your child participating in this program, please contact the school's religion chairperson.

The primary role of parents in educating their children in human sexuality is certainly recognized. Parents have the right to decide whether their child/children should participate in this program. Copies of the text used are available in the library for review. If parents would like to formally request that their children be excused from human sexuality class, please contact the school office for the appropriate Archdiocesan form, which will need to be completed and signed by a parent/guardian.

Field Trips

Field trips are considered an integral part of the school's educational program and a valuable learning experience for students. Field trips are scheduled at various times during the school year. In advance of the scheduled field trip, a permission form, required by the Archdiocesan Department of Catholic Schools, is sent home outlining all pertinent information for the trip. A student will be permitted to attend the trip only if the permission form is signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher by the specified date. The cost for field trips will be processed through your family's FACTS account.

If, for some extraordinary reason, a student is unable to participate, the student is expected to attend school on that day and fees must still be paid since the rates we are quoted reflect total participation. Work will be supplied by the teacher(s), and the student will be assigned a classroom in which to work under the supervision of a staff member. If a student is unable to attend because of illness, we cannot promise a refund. The teacher must be notified if a child will not participate in the field trip experience. Students who are kept home from the trip will be marked absent. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are encouraged to participate as chaperones on field trips as the need arises. However, because of safety and liability factors, pre-school siblings and other school-age siblings are not allowed. We do not permit parents not selected as chaperones to join the group at the trip destination as this creates confusion. All chaperones are required to complete VIRTUS training.

Report Cards and Interim Reports

Progress Reports will be issued three times a year to students in Pre-K4 - Grade 8. Interim reports will be issued for students in Pre-K3 - Grade 2 halfway through each trimester. Grades 3-8 will be provided a mid trimester grade report by the teachers from PowerSchool. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to cooperate in remedying situations relating to academic concerns. It is the responsibility of the teacher to keep parents informed of the student's academic progress.

The final progress report of the year will not be released prior to the last day of school.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School uses the standard progress report of the Archdiocese of Baltimore in grades 3-8, which uses the academic achievement conduct and effort codes as follows:

Letter Grades:

A+ = 97-100	C+ = 80-84
A = 93-96	C = 75-79
B+ = 89-92	D = 70-74
B = 85-88	E = 69 and below

Archdiocesan Progress Report Grading Codes by Grade Level			
Course	PreK - 2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8
Language Arts	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Math	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Science	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Social Studies	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Religion	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Spanish	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Technology	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Physical Education	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Art	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Music	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
All Classes	Effort and Conduct	Effort and Conduct	Effort and Conduct

PreK-Grade 2 Progress Codes		
Grade		Description Comments
I	Independent/Proficient	The student understands the concept/skills and works with little or no reinforcement or assistance. The student shows the ability to apply the knowledge or perform skills accurately without instructional support. Student is able to do more challenging work.
P	Progressing	The student's understanding of concepts/skills are developing and are in need of occasional reinforcement and assistance. The student is retaining material and shows the ability to apply the knowledge or skill with little instructional support.
E	Emerging	The student's understanding of the concepts/skills are still at the beginning level and/or need reinforcement and assistance. The student is being introduced to the skill and is beginning to use the skill in context with extensive instructional support. The student needs re-teaching/reinforcement.
N/A		Not assessed at this time

Grades 3-8 Core Subject Subcategories and Specials Classes Achievement Comments		
Grade	Description	Grade
I	Independent/Proficient	97-100
V	Very Good Progress	93-96
P	Progressing	85-92
S	Satisfactory	75-84
N	Needs Improvement	70-74
U	Unsatisfactory/Not Proficient	1-69
NA	Not Assessed at This Time	0

Achievement Comments

I = Independent/Proficient

- Always applies skills or processes with ease and confidence in completing grade level and above academic performance tasks.
- Always demonstrates a thorough understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester.
- Always uses knowledge to skillfully communicate complicated ideas and concepts within the content area.
- Always completes and turns in accurate class work and homework.

V = Very Good Progress

- Consistently applies skills or processes with ease and confidence in completing grade level appropriate academic performance tasks
- Consistently demonstrates an above average understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Consistently demonstrates the ability to use knowledge to effectively communicate difficult ideas and concepts within the content area
- Consistently completes and turns in above average class work and homework

G = Good Progress

- Demonstrates above average uses of skills or processes in completing required grade level and appropriate academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates above average understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Demonstrates above average understanding of important information
- Usually accomplishes purposes of academic tasks
- Demonstrates average ability to use required knowledge to communicate important information.
- Completes and turns in above average class work and homework

S = Satisfactory

- Demonstrates meeting the level of expectation.
- Demonstrates average application of skills or processes required to complete grade level academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates average understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Demonstrates average knowledge of important information
- Demonstrates average ability to use required knowledge to communicate ideas
- Completes and turns in average class work and homework

N = Needs Improvement

- Makes many errors when applying skills or processes required to complete grade level academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates an incomplete understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Demonstrates an incomplete knowledge of important information
- Unable to use acquired knowledge to correctly communicate important ideas
- Performance is markedly below grade level
- Class work and homework fail to meet teacher criteria

U = Not Progressing

- Unable to perform any understanding of skills or processes required to complete grade level academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates no understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught during this trimester
- Demonstrates no knowledge of important information
- Unable to use acquired knowledge to correctly communicate ideas
- Class work and homework fail to meet teacher criteria

Effort & Conduct Achievement Comments		
Grade	Description	Grade
O	Outstanding	93-100
G	Good	85-92
S	Satisfactory	75-84
N	Needs Improvement	70-74
U	Unsatisfactory	0-69

Effort Comments:

O = Outstanding

- Always exceeds the level of expectation
- Immense amount of effort put forth
- Highest level of class participation
- Class work/project/assignment criteria meets highest standards

G = Good

- Most of the time exceeds the level of expectation
- Admirable amount of effort put forth
- Above average level of class participation
- Class work/project/assignment criteria meet above average standards

S = Satisfactory

- Meets the level of expectation
- Adequate amount of effort put forth
- Adequate level of class participation
- Class work/project/assignment criteria meets standards

N = Needs Improvement

- Below average amount of effort put forth
- Below average level of class participation- almost always called on, rarely volunteers
- Class work/project/assignment criteria sometimes meets standards/not all criteria met

U = Unsatisfactory

- Little or no effort put forth
- Little to no class participation- always called on, never volunteers
- Classwork/project/assignment criteria rarely meet standards/criteria barely met

Students failing two or more core subjects may not be advanced to the next grade level

Conduct Comments

O = Outstanding

- Always exceeds the level of expectation
- Demonstrates highest level of self-control
- Follows classroom rules
- Makes good choices
- Role model to other students

G = Good

- Most of the time exceeds the level of expectation
- Demonstrates self-control, rarely needs reminders
- Follows classroom rules, rarely needs reminders
- Makes good choices, rarely needs redirected

S = Satisfactory

- Meets the level of expectation
- Demonstrates self-control, sometimes needs reminders
- Follows classroom rules, sometimes needs reminders
- Makes good choices, sometimes needs redirection

N = Needs Improvement

- Has trouble demonstrating self-control, needs reminders
- Has trouble following classroom rules, need reminders
- Sometimes has trouble making good choices, needs redirection

U = Unsatisfactory

- Has difficulty demonstrating self-control, needs constant reminders
- Has difficulty following classroom rules, needs constant reminders
- Has difficulty making good choices, needs constant redirection

Achievement Codes Progress Codes (Effort/Conduct)

I	Independent	O	Outstanding
V	Very Good	G	Good
P	Progressing	S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement	U	Unsatisfactory / Not Progressing

Pre-K - grade 2 uses a developmental progress report as approved by the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Honor Roll

Students in grades 6-8 who demonstrate high academic achievement and who positively impact the learning environment are placed on Honor Roll based on the following criteria:

1. **Principal's Honor Roll**—All As and Satisfactory or better in all special classes, standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time
2. **Second Honors**—More As than Bs and Satisfactory or better in all special classes, standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time

PowerSchool and Parent Access

As a means of further enhancing the meaningful communication between the school and parents/guardians of our students, Monsignor Slade Catholic School utilizes the Parent Access part of PowerSchool for students in grades 3-8. Parent Access is intended to inform both student and parent of the student's academic progress to date and to show if there is a need for academic improvement. For initial access, parents will be provided a temporary user id and password and asked to set up an account at arch.balt.powerschool.com/public. The password will not change from year to year. Parent Access will be denied if tuition and fees become delinquent. Early in the school year, parents of students in grade 3, and all new Slade parents with students in grades 3-8, will receive information as to how to use PowerSchool. The purpose of this information is to inform parents/guardians how to log on to the PowerSchool server to access information such as grades and attendance. At the New Parent and Back-to-School Nights, the following issues will be explained more fully:

- *Confidentiality* of your username and password.
- *Security* of the information contained on the PowerSchool servers.
- *Reliability*, as with all technology, a PowerSchool server may not be available to be accessed from time to time.
- *A unique username and password for each child* will be provided by PowerSchool and distributed by the school administration.

DISCLAIMER: Parent Access to PowerSchool is provided as a convenience. Grades and other information provided by this system are not official records and may or may not be accurate. Neither the School, the Archdiocese of Baltimore, nor PowerSchool Group, LLC, accept any responsibility for information provided by this system and/or for any damages resulting from information provided by this system. To obtain official grades and student records, or to request correction of information on the system, please contact the School.

Class Status, Promotion, and Retention

- Students are promoted to the next grade upon successful completion of all subjects in a given year.
- A final year average in a subject less than 70% constitutes a failure of that subject. The subject must be successfully repeated through a private, approved tutor, or through Anne Arundel County Public Schools before the student may be readmitted to Monsignor Slade Catholic School for the following year. An 8th grade student who fails one subject for the year may not participate in graduation exercises.
- Repeated poor performance in any concept area may also require summer tutoring.
- Failure of two or more subjects, for two or more marking periods, constitutes a failure of the grade and that grade must be repeated. Any student who fails in grades 6, 7, or 8, may not be encouraged to repeat the grade at Monsignor Slade Catholic School.
- Any 8th grade student failing two or more subjects has failed the grade, may not attend graduation, and will not receive a diploma.
- In any case where retention is a possibility, a conference with the administration, teachers, and parents will be scheduled. Each case will be treated individually.
- It is the policy of Monsignor Slade Catholic School not to advance any student working above grade level to the next grade. No skipping of grades will be considered.
- Students will not be retained more than once at Monsignor Slade Catholic School. Should a second failure of a grade occur, the student will not be re-enrolled.

Graduation Requirements:

Students in eighth grade who successfully complete the course of study as outlined by the Archdiocese of Baltimore will be awarded a diploma at the end of the school year. An eighth grade student must be in good academic, financial, and behavior standing in order to participate in the end-of-the-year graduation activities.

Retention:

If a student fails to successfully complete the required educational program, after appropriate interventions have been provided, the principal reserves the right to retain the student at the current grade level or recommend alternative placement. To retain a student in the same grade for the next academic year, the following procedure is observed:

- The teacher addresses the student's problem at the earliest possible date and provides the student all possible assistance to remedy this situation.
- The teacher communicates with the parents on a regular basis regarding the child's progress. · The teacher informs the principal by the midpoint of the second trimester of the possibility of the student's retention.
- By or during the second trimester, the teacher, principal, parents, (and student) review the student's work performance to date and discuss his/her educational needs for the remainder of the year and the possibility of retention. This meeting is followed by a written communication to the parents reviewing the content of the meeting, including the educational plan.
- No later than the end of the second trimester, the school informs the parents in writing of the possibility of failure/retention/alternative placement during the next academic year. · The teacher continues to provide appropriate interventions and maintains regular communication with the parent.
- By the mid-point of the final marking period, the school informs the parent in writing of its decision regarding the student.

Evaluation and Assessment:

The evaluative process relies on formal and informal assessments. Formal student evaluation is obtained primarily through fixed standards of achievement including teacher-designed assessments and standardized testing. Tests, projects, homework, class work, and creative presentations are inclusive to student evaluation and assessment. Informally, students are evaluated on the basis of teacher observation and verbal response to observed behavior.

Testing Program:

ACRE:

All students in grades 5 and 8 are given the ACRE (Assessment of Child/Youth Religious Education) the spring of each school year. This assessment gives information for growth to each school as it assesses how well the religious education program is forming Christian disciples. This is a school assessment and no individual scores are given.

Standardized Tests:

All Archdiocesan schools administer the achievement test designated by the Department of Catholic School in the prescribed grades. Elementary school students in grades 2-8 are administered the MAP Assessment three times a year to measure growth. MAP Assessment results are provided to families at the end of the year. Pre-K and Kindergarten students are administered the Brigance Developmental Screenings.

V. Standards

Homework:

Homework is an outgrowth of class work. It is assigned as reinforcement of what has already been taught in class. Students are expected to complete all assigned homework on time and in a careful manner.

Suggested time allotments for homework may vary based on a student's academic level, age group, and individual needs. Homework time includes written assignments, study and review, as well as preparation for long-term projects or papers.

Parents/guardians are expected to see that their children fulfill their homework responsibilities. If home assignments cannot be completed because of home conditions, e.g., sickness in the family, death of a relative, etc., students may be permitted to defer doing the prescribed work. A written explanation should be provided to the teacher in order to obtain this permission.

At all grade levels, homework may be included in determining the subject area grade on the progress report. When a teacher notices that a student is consistently missing assignments, he/she will notify the parents and offer appropriate suggestions to remedy the situation.

Parents/guardians support the teachers and fulfill their supervisory responsibilities by attending to the following:

- Reviewing the assigned work with the child
- Providing a quiet, well-equipped place of study
- Providing the time required
- Providing assistance to the child as needed
- Emphasizing with the child the need for study
- Assuring the return of the homework to school
- Helping their children plan their time so as to complete long-term assignments* by the due date

*Some long-term work or projects may be due a week or more from the date assigned.¹⁸

A late homework policy will be communicated with families in various ways, to include the homework website (Pre-K4-Gr. 3), Google Classroom (Gr. 4-8), and back-to-school nights.

Work Habits

- Written assignments must be neat, legible, and complete.
- Books and notebooks should be free of scribbling inside and out.
- Notebooks, folders, and other supplies must be replaced when worn or depleted.
- Students must always have a library/chapter book to read.
- At all levels, students are required to do homework.
- Homework is important for the reinforcement of skills, for developing good study habits, and a sense of responsibility.
- Requirements for homework are determined by the staff and communicated to the parents annually.

Make-up Work/Assignments

Students and parents can stay abreast of homework assignments by accessing Google Classroom (Pre-K4–8). While intermediate and middle school students may choose a “homework buddy” as a contact for missed assignments, it remains the student’s responsibility to check with each teacher upon their return. Additionally, middle school follows a universal late assignment policy established by the middle school team. It is the student’s responsibility to regularly check online platforms for any missed work. If an assignment is not posted online and the student was absent, they will not be penalized until the work is made viewable to the family.

In cases of absence due to illness, it is the student’s responsibility to obtain, complete, and submit missed work. Students will be given one day for each day absent to make up daily work. If a long-range assignment is due when students are absent, it is to be turned in the day the child returns to school, as these are assigned well-in-advance. Any long-range assignments not handed in on the return day, will be downgraded for each day late. Missed tests and quizzes will need to be taken within a reasonable amount of time of the student returning to school. Students should consult teachers for that make-up schedule. For prolonged absences due to medical issues, the school will work in concert with the parents to determine how missed work will be addressed.

In cases of absence due to vacations, assignments will not be provided ahead of time. Students will need to consult the homework website and Google Classroom to obtain and complete homework assignments. Homework and long-range assignments are due on the day of return. Any missed classwork, quizzes or tests, will need to be made up in a reasonable amount of time. Students should consult teachers for that make-up schedule.

VI. Attendance

Arrival:

Doors will open for students no earlier than 7:35 a.m., daily.

All students in grades Pre-K4-8 are to be at school no later than 8:00 a.m. Upon arrival, all students proceed directly to their homerooms. All students Pre-K4-8 will attend a daily morning prayer service in the gym starting promptly at 8:05 a.m.

All students will be marked late after 8:00 a.m..

Dismissal:

Pre-K4 (full-day program) through 8th grade - Monday through Friday - 3:00 p.m.

Pre-K4 (half-day program) - 11:30 a.m.

Pre-K4 (full-day program) through 8th grade - Scheduled half-days - 12:15 p.m.

Tardiness

Any student arriving after the designated time is considered late and must report to the front office for a late slip. Teachers will not admit students to their homerooms without this pass. Tardiness is entered on a student’s permanent record. It is the responsibility of the student to check with the homeroom teacher to receive the necessary communication or work that may have been missed due to lateness. Tardiness will disqualify a student for perfect attendance.

Should a student incur three tardy arrivals during a trimester, the school will contact parents to determine a plan for prompt arrival. For each subsequent tardy arrival, students in grades 4-8 will receive a study status. Please see page 32 regarding detentions related to accumulated study statuses. If a student is consistently tardy, the Administration has the right to consider retention for the following academic year.

The school is not responsible for supervision of students before or after the times previously stated. The school is not liable for any injuries or accidents, which may occur before or after the times stated above.

This is required by insurance coverage and is done for the safety of the children. Parents are advised, therefore, to follow the times as stated above when dropping off or picking up students. Violation of this policy will result in the assessment of fees and disciplinary action up to and including suspension or dismissal of the student. Late pick up fees will be strictly enforced, beginning at 3:15 p.m. on full-days and 12:30 p.m. on half-days.

If the student is participating in a scheduled, supervised activity before or after the hours noted above, specific arrangements must be made for drop-off and/or pick-up at the designated times.

Any parent picking up a student early for an appointment or other reason is encouraged to do so prior to 2:15 p.m., so as not to interfere with the regular dismissal process.

If children are participating in before- or after-school Extended Care, parents must comply with the rules established by the program for dropping off and picking up children.

Absences

Whether your child is absent, tardy, or leaves early, his/her attendance becomes part of his/her permanent record. Regular attendance is considered essential for learning at Monsignor Slade Catholic School. Students need to develop work habits and responsibilities required of all of us as we go through life. When a student is absent from school for any reason (sick or well), a parent/legal guardian must notify the health room by phone (410-766-7130 x 2112) or by email (absences@mssladeschool.com). Please make sure to call or email by 9:30 a.m. with the following information: child's name, your name, relationship to student, the reason for the child's absence, and a phone number where you can be reached. Students who are present for two hours or less on a scheduled full-day will be marked absent for that day. For scheduled half-days, any student present for one hour or less is marked absent for that school day.

Students who leave early due to illness or are absent from school may not participate in any after school or evening school-sponsored activities, such as sports, band, dances, etc.

When the student returns to school, he/she must bring a written note to his/her homeroom teacher signed by a parent/legal guardian stating the reason for absence and validated by a doctor, if applicable. A child may not be permitted to return to school until he/she is well enough to participate in school activities, including recess. Since there is no indoor monitor, a student must be well enough to participate fully in outdoor play. The school reserves the right to require a doctor's note for absences due to illness or injury or need for assessment/evaluation.

Absence during the year due to family vacations is strongly discouraged. Work will not be provided for students going on vacation. Any assigned homework can be accessed through the homework website (Pre-K4-Gr. 3), and Google Classroom (Gr. 4-8); it is expected that all homework will be handed in upon a student's return to school. Missed classwork may only be obtained upon return.

If a pattern of excessive absence develops, parents will be required to attend a conference with a school administrator. Excessive absence may jeopardize continuing enrollment.

More than 20 days absent in one school year is considered excessive. Any student who is absent 20 school days will be considered for retention, and the Associate Superintendent at the Department of Catholic Schools will be notified.

If a student will be out of school for an extended period, whether continuous or intermittent, parents must contact the administration regarding appropriate support of the student in fulfilling the school curriculum. It may be necessary to arrange for a temporary withdrawal from Slade. Parents may then register for the Home and Hospital Program in the student's local public school district.

Early Dismissal Requests

The school discourages early departures and requests that families arrange medical and dental appointments, etc., either after school hours, on early dismissal days, or during vacation periods. Check the calendar for days when school is not in session. Only emergency medical and dental appointments are to be scheduled during school hours. All students must be signed out by an authorized adult.

A written request by a parent for early dismissal is required before a student will be excused from class. Parents are asked to send an email to (earlydismissal@msladeschool.com). If the email is being sent on the same day as the student's early dismissal, parents must provide ample advanced notice to ensure that the student will be ready for pickup. In the event of an early dismissal request, we strongly encourage parents to pick up their students no later than 2:15 p.m. so as not to interfere with the dismissal process. If a request for early dismissal occurs more than ten (10) times per year, a conference with an administrator may be scheduled.

Leaving early for illness, appointments, vacations, etc., will disqualify a student from perfect attendance.

Late Pick-up Fees

Any student remaining on school property after 3:15 p.m. on regular school days, or after 12:30 p.m. on early dismissal days, will be taken inside and supervised by a staff member. A fee based on the length of time under supervision will be charged per family. The fee is \$20.00 for the first 15 minutes (or any portion thereof), and \$20.00 for each subsequent 15-minute increment (or portion thereof).

In place of signing a paper log, parents/guardians will now be required to park, enter the front of the school building, and complete the electronic dismissal form via a QR code posted on the exterior front doors. This form must be completed before the student is released. The QR code system allows the school to track the exact time of pick-up and monitor the frequency of late dismissals. This change ensures accurate documentation and enhances student safety and accountability.

It is important to note that a supervising adult must be paid for this additional time, which extends beyond their contracted hours. As such, this policy is enforced consistently and late fees will be charged to the family's FACTS account. These charges are considered a financial obligation. Failure to resolve outstanding balances may result in the withholding of progress reports, re-registration, yearbooks, and/or school records until the balance is cleared.

Students participating in band, clubs, or other after-school activities must be picked up within 15 minutes of the activity's end time. Any late pick-up from an after-school event will also result in late fees in accordance with the above-stated policy.

Truancy

Truancy is defined as a student absenting himself/herself from school without parent or legal guardian permission, or leaving school grounds without authorization during the school day. Truancy is a violation of school policy and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion. In accordance with state law, repeated or unexcused absences may require the school to report the matter to appropriate authorities, including possible contact with Child Protective Services or other relevant agencies.

High School Visitation Policy

Eighth graders are encouraged to visit high schools on vacation days. In addition, each eighth grader is authorized to use up to three school days for this purpose; however, students will be required to submit a completed MSCS high school visitation form for attendance purposes. We strongly discourage multiple days out of school for high school visits. Eighth grade students are encouraged to attend the high school open houses, both virtual and in-person. It is the student's responsibility to get any missed homework assigned on the day they "shadow" at a high school. This work must be turned in to the teacher(s) on the

assigned due date.

Withdrawals

When withdrawing a student, parents must contact the Admissions director and complete the necessary paperwork. Parents must sign an Archdiocesan Release of Records form and complete the Withdrawal and Exit Interview form. All financial obligations must be met, and books and materials must be returned before records are forwarded to another school.

VII. Health and Safety

Emergency Closings/Inclement Weather/Snow Days

Visit www.aacps.org or monitor radio/TV stations for inclement weather postings for Anne Arundel County Public Schools. As a school, we will also post on our social media pages as soon as we receive confirmation. Monsignor Slade Catholic School, the Edu-Care Center and the Extended Care Program will follow the delayed opening or school closing announcements given for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, with the exceptions listed below. All communications will come from Monsignor Slade Catholic School regarding delays, early dismissals, and/or closures. These will come via text, phone call, and/or email.

- On days when Anne Arundel County Public Schools are not in session, or for school-specific emergencies, the Department of Catholic Schools will make an independent decision regarding closing. In such cases, delayed opening or school closing information will be provided through the electronic notification system and on the homepage of the Monsignor Slade Catholic School website as a red banner alert.

Emergency Drills

Monsignor Slade Catholic School has a Crisis Response Team composed of School and Archdiocesan personnel. The team is responsible for the implementation of a Crisis Intervention Plan.

Fire drills and crisis safety drills are conducted on a regular basis during the school year. Fire drill routes are posted in each classroom. Crisis safety drills include evacuation; reverse evacuation; lock-down; shelter -in-place; drop, cover, and hold; and other weather-related drills. Students will be taught the expectations and procedures of all types of drills. It is the responsibility of each student to pay attention to the directions given during all drills. Silence during drills is required.

Emergency Information

It is imperative that we have emergency information for each child, including parents/guardians phone numbers. Parents/guardians must return a completed emergency card for each child by the first day of school. Should any changes occur, the parents/guardians are expected to immediately update this information by contacting the school office or completing a Change of Contact Information form found on the school's website. Parents who have a restricted work phone number should supply the school with an alternate number where they can be reached during the day.

Parents whose phone numbers are unlisted must give the school either the unlisted number or a number where the parent(s) can be reached. It is essential that the school have this information in case of an emergency. It will be kept in the strictest confidence. Any change of phone number or home address is to be given to the school office and the homeroom teacher in writing within a one-week period after the change occurs using the Change of Contact form found on the MSCS website.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

In October 1986, the U.S. Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations require most schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop management plans that address asbestos hazards in school buildings, and implement response actions in a timely manner.

Our program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in our asbestos management plan. This plan contains information on our inspections, re-inspections, response actions and post-response action activities, including periodic surveillance activities that are planned or are in progress. The plan is kept in the principal's office and may be viewed upon request during normal business hours.

Accident-Sickness

Students should not be sent to school if they are sick in the morning. Do not send your child to school if he/she has: fever (100° F or higher), has been having repeated episodes of diarrhea or vomiting, or is not feeling well enough to participate in school activities.

Students must be fever free without the administration of fever-reducing medication (Tylenol, Advil, etc.) for 24 hours before returning to school.

Children with strep throat must have been taking an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

Children with other communicable diseases will be kept home in accordance with the disease-specific health department recommendation. All cases of communicable diseases must be reported to the health room.

If a child becomes ill or injured at school and the school nurse feels the child is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, parents will be notified and asked to have the child picked up promptly.

Children are prohibited from self-administering medications on school grounds. If it is known or suspected that a student has self-administered medication, the administration will investigate the matter as a disciplinary concern. Parents/guardians will be contacted, and the school nurse will be involved as a precautionary measure to ensure the student's health and safety. In certain cases, the school reserves the right to require that the student be picked up by a parent or guardian that same day.

If children are sent to school, it is understood that they are well enough to participate in all regularly scheduled activities from P.E. to outdoor recess. The school does not have adequate personnel for individual supervision, so a student must be well enough to fully participate in the regular school schedule. Only those students bearing a doctor's note will be permitted to miss a P.E. class.

Any chronic conditions, illnesses, hospitalizations, or at home student medication changes should be brought to the attention of the school nurse as soon as possible.

Allergies

Parents must notify the school of their child's allergies including food allergies. A child's physician must renew school medication orders each year and the order must be signed on or after July 1. If a student carries an EpiPen with him/her, the physician's order must state this requirement.

All K-8 classrooms in Monsignor Slade Catholic School are peanut/tree nut free. Please do not send in any peanuts, peanut butter, or foods containing nuts or nut products to be eaten in the classroom. Please do not send in birthday foods, party snacks, holiday treats, or any other foods to be eaten in the classroom that contain any tree nut or peanut ingredients. There will be an area in the cafeteria identified as "peanut/tree nut safe" so that children with these allergies will not risk being exposed. Children who have nut products at lunch can enjoy them at the other tables.

If a child has a friend with a nut allergy, parents may pack a nut free lunch so they can eat lunch together. Please indicate that the lunch is nut-free. Children may also be asked to pack a nut-free lunch when going on a field trip, depending on the circumstances, or when eating in the classroom.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School cannot guarantee a nut-free environment. If a child has a nut allergy, parents should pack his/her lunches and snacks.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School has a policy allowing the availability of stock epinephrine in the health suite for use in the event of an anaphylactic emergency. This epinephrine is for emergency use during normal school days and is not dependent on allergy history. It is not available outside of normal school hours or on field trips. Students with a known history of severe allergies are still expected to maintain emergency action plans, medical orders, and their own supply of emergency medication.

Birthday Celebrations

Student birthdays may be recognized by sending in treats (please see the previous section entitled Allergies before selecting any items) or non-food items such as pencils, stickers, or erasers to be shared with classmates. Parents/guardians who are VIRTUS-compliant are welcome to join their child for lunch on their birthday, provided they notify the front office in advance.

To promote fairness and inclusivity, we kindly ask that if parents/guardians join their student for lunch, they bring a treat only for their own child. Group treats intended for a specific group of students are not permitted in the cafeteria.

No additional items such as balloons, gifts, or decorations may be sent to school. All birthday items must be dropped off at the front office in the morning if the student is unable to carry them independently. Parents may not deliver items directly to the classroom. In addition, party invitations may not be distributed at school unless all students in the class are receiving one.

Food delivery policy (ie. DoorDash, Uber Eats, etc).

For reasons related to student safety, allergy management, and school security, students are not permitted to receive food deliveries from third-party vendors, including but not limited to services such as DoorDash, Uber Eats, Grubhub, or direct restaurant delivery.

While we understand that most delivery orders are initiated by parents or guardians, the school must maintain a controlled food environment to ensure the well-being of all students. Deliveries brought to campus for individual students create unnecessary disruptions and introduce unverified food items that may pose significant allergy risks.

No student may receive delivered food at any time during the school day or after-school. Any unauthorized food delivery that arrives at the school will be declined by the front office and not distributed to the student. Parents will be contacted as necessary.

Blood-borne Pathogens

A complete blood-borne pathogens standard exposure control plan has been established by the school, can be found in each faculty handbook, and is kept on file in the office.

Child Abuse and Neglect Policy and Procedures

Maryland Law requires that all educators and other school employees, including volunteers, report suspected abuse or neglect to the proper authorities in order that children may be protected from harm and the family may be helped.

Our school policy supports Maryland laws in this regard and requires that all school staff report suspected abuse and neglect to the Department of Social Services, Protective Services Division, and/or the local police department, as well as to the principal.

Communicable Diseases

Parents must notify the school if their child is diagnosed with a communicable disease. The school is required to notify the Anne Arundel County Health Department of certain communicable diseases. All reports are confidential.

The following communicable diseases/conditions are necessary to report:

- Animal bites/Rabies Adverse reactions to Pertussis vaccine
- Measles – regular or German Tuberculosis
- Meningitis Influenza
- Mumps Whooping Cough (Pertussis)
- Hepatitis Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
- Food Poisoning Human Immune Deficiency
- Pediculosis (head lice) Virus Infection (AIDS and all other symptomatic infections)
- Chicken Pox (varicella) COVID-19 or other variants
- Lyme disease

Any student with drainage from the eyes, associated with conjunctivitis (pink eye) must be kept at home until under treatment from a doctor. A doctor's note is required for readmission to school. Students who have chicken pox are excluded from school until all lesions are scabbed over.

Students with head lice will be excluded from school at the end of the school day. Each child must be examined by school personnel, have received lice treatment, be completely free of live lice, and be nit free within ¼ of an inch of their scalp before he/she can return to school and classes.

Students with Temporary Limitations

The health room should be notified if a student has any temporary physical limitations. In addition, a doctor's note stating type and length of limitation should also be provided. Examples of temporary physical limitations include but are not limited to: casts, medical boots, crutches, slings, braces, and out of uniform shoes. The health room should also be notified if a student is absent due to a long-term issue with surgery, immobility, or anxiety (ex. school avoidance or separation anxiety). The nurse should be informed of the student's status and any limitations or doctors' orders related to their injury or illness.

Head/Serious Injury

If any injury to the head or any other serious injury occurs to a student, the nurse will call the parent and send home a written report. The report is to be signed by the parent or guardian and returned to the school. If a parent/guardian or emergency contact cannot be reached in an emergency, the school will contact the police/ambulance for assistance.

Health Records

Upon entering Monsignor Slade Catholic School, students must have a complete physical and required immunizations. Information on these required immunizations can be obtained from the school office or the Anne Arundel County Health Department.

Parents are required to complete a Health Form listing all allergies, serious medical conditions, medications, and emergency contact information. The school must be notified of any changes that occur during the year.

State Immunization Requirements

A child may not enter school unless s/he has submitted an official immunization record or other appropriate documentation of immunization status. The immunization record must have the month, day and year of each vaccination, be signed by a physician or health department official, and be approved by the admitting school. Students who are not up-to-date on the required immunizations will not be allowed to attend school. In the case of religious objection or medical contraindication, form DHMH 896 must be submitted and kept on file. Exempted students are to be excluded from school if there is an outbreak of the disease for which they are not immunized.

The following chart explains the Minimum Vaccine Requirements as per the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for children entering preschool programs and any grade, kindergarten through the twelfth, in a Maryland public or private school:



Vaccine Requirements For Children Enrolled in Preschool Programs and in Schools — Per DHMH COMAR 10.06.04.03 Maryland School Year 2023 - 2024 (Valid 9/1/23 - 8/31/24)

Required cumulative number of doses for each vaccine for PRESCHOOL aged children enrolled in educational programs								
Child's Current Age	Vaccine	DTaP/DTP/DT ¹	Polio ²	Hib ³	Measles, ^{2,4} Mumps, Rubella	Varicella ^{2,4,5} (Chickenpox)	Hepatitis B ²	PCV ³ (Prevnar™)
Less than 2 months		0	0	0	0	0	1	0
2 - 3 months		1	1	1	0	0	1	1
4 - 5 months		2	2	2	0	0	2	2
6 - 11 months		3	3	2	0	0	3	2
12 - 14 months		3	3	At least 1 dose given after 12 months of age	1	1	3	2
15 - 23 months		4	3	At least 1 dose given after 12 months of age	1	1	3	2
24—59 months		4	3	At least 1 dose given after 12 months of age	1	1	3	1
60 - 71 months		4	3	0	2	1	3	0

Required cumulative number of doses for each vaccine for children enrolled in KINDERGARTEN - 12 th grade								
Grade Level Grade (Ungraded)		DTaP/DTP/Tdap/ DT/Td ^{1,6}	Tdap ⁶	Polio ²	Measles, ^{2,4} Mumps, Rubella	Varicella ^{2,4,5} (Chickenpox)	Hepatitis B ²	Meningococcal (MCV4)
Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, 3, 4 5 & 6	(5 –11 yrs)	3 or 4	0	3	2	2	3	0
Grades 7, 8 & 9	(11 -13 yrs)	3 or 4	1	3	2	2	3	1
Grades 10, 11 & 12	(13 - 18yrs)	3 or 4	1	3	2	1 or 2	3	1

Dispensing of Medication

The administration of medication in school is discouraged. However, if a student's physician recommends that the student receive prescription or over-the-counter medication during the school day, a medication form signed by the student's licensed health care provider is required, specifying the start and stop date. Forms are available in the health room or on our school website. Medication, both prescription and non-prescription, can only be dispensed with this medication form, signed by the health care provider and parent, specifying start and stop dates.

All medication must be delivered to the school by the parent/guardian in its original box or container. The boxes or containers should include the following: name of medication, directions for use, time for dispensing, name of doctor ordering the medication, date of prescription, expiration date as stated by the pharmacist, strength of medication/dosage, and student's name and grade. The first dose of non-emergency medications must be given outside of school without problems.

The administration of medication in school is discouraged. However, if a student's physician recommends that the student receive prescription or over-the-counter medication during the school day, a medication form signed by the student's licensed health care provider is required, specifying the start and stop date. Forms are available in the health room or on our school website. Medication, both prescription and non-prescription, can only be dispensed with this medication form, signed by the health care provider and parent, specifying start and stop dates.

All medication must be delivered to the school by the parent/guardian in its original box or container. The boxes or containers should include the following: name of medication, directions for use, time for dispensing, name of doctor ordering the medication, date of prescription, expiration date as stated by the pharmacist, strength of medication/dosage, and student's name and grade. The first dose of non-emergency medications must be given outside of school without problems.

Students may not possess, dispense, or distribute medication on their own. Under special circumstances, individual students may be authorized by their physician to carry and self-administer emergency medications (e.g. inhaler, epi-pens). In this case, the school nurse must be consulted. All medication must be delivered to school by a parent/guardian.

Non-medicated cough drops may be administered to a student with a note from his/her parent. Students must bring them in a bag with their name on it to the health room. A physician's order is not required.

Pictures

During the year, pictures will be taken of students involved in school activities for publicity purposes, including Monsignor Slade Catholic School's website. A technology Acceptable Use/Media Release form is available through SchoolAdmin. This form must be signed, granting permission for your child's likeness to be used in publications. Should you wish that your child not appear in any publication, please indicate that on the Talent Release form and return it to the school.

Vision/Hearing Screening

The school follows the directives of Anne Arundel County Health Department and responds to parent's requests for individual testing. This testing is usually done for:

1. All new students who have not provided documentation for screening in the past year
2. All students the year they enter the school in Grades PreK, Kindergarten, 1, and 8; Grade 3 or Grade 4 if funding is available
3. Any student with a suspected hearing or vision problem as reported by school staff or parents/ guardians.

Visitor Entry to School

In order to ensure a safe environment for your child, all school doors will remain locked during the school day including the carport or main doors by the front office. Visitors can only gain entrance to the building by ringing the doorbell at the carport entrance. All visitors are required to sign in at the front office and obtain a picture identification badge before visiting any part of the school building. The visitor must supply his/her driver's license to be scanned into the Raptor Visitor Management System, which will produce a picture identification badge. Visitors can assist the school in this effort by making sure to sign in at the front office, wearing the picture identification badge while in the building, and making sure that they sign out at the front office before exiting the building. Please do not try to gain entrance to the building by knocking on one of the side doors. Advance Notification of attendance for an event, please email:: visitor@msladeschool.com

Non-Custodial Parent/Change in Custody

Monsignor Slade Catholic School does not allow a non-custodial parent physical access to his/her child during school hours unless the custodial parent has consented or the school has a court order permitting access. The school will adhere to the specifics of the individual custody order/visitation agreement.

Emergency card information for each child is to be kept current. Children will only be released to the person(s) designated on the emergency card, unless otherwise instructed by the custodial parent/guardian.

If there is a change in custody of a child, a copy of the court order that describes the custody arrangements must be submitted to administrative support at l.briggs@msladeschool.com in a timely manner and will be kept in a confidential file at the school.

VIRTUS for the Protection of Children and Youth

The Archdiocese of Baltimore is committed to providing a safe environment for our children and youth and has developed a process of screening volunteers who have substantial contact with children and youth. This program is called VIRTUS. All volunteers are required to complete the Archdiocese of Baltimore online compliance management system, VIRTUS. All documentation will be kept in a confidential, safe and secure location with controlled access.

Instructions and a link to VIRTUS can be found on the Monsignor Slade Catholic School website under Parent Volunteering. You may not volunteer in any activity in which you may come in contact with children until the process is complete.

Please be advised that if an applicant fails or refuses to complete any part of the screening procedures, then he/she cannot serve as a volunteer with students at Monsignor Slade Catholic School. This 'volunteering' includes working in the classroom in any capacity, serving as a chaperone on a field trip, a coach, assistant coach, team parent for any of the athletic teams, as well as any fundraiser where you could come in contact with children. Training or screening offered by any other organization, e.g. Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, Little League, area public schools, or area athletic organizations, etc., and may not be substituted for this Archdiocesan Children and Youth Protection training. If you have any questions, please contact the main school office at 410-766-7130 and your call will be directed to the appropriate individual.

Safety Restrictions

When school is in session, students may not be outside the school building unless they are involved in class or recess and are accompanied by a staff member. The faculty room and empty classrooms are restricted areas. Corridors are to be generally clear of traffic except for movement at the change of class.

VIII. Communication

Communications between Parent(s) and School

In the best interest of students, the school welcomes and encourages communication between parents and teachers. For it to be effective, communication must be appropriate, constructive, and not demeaning, belittling, or aggressive in any way. There are many necessary forms, including emergency contact information, which are available through SchoolAdmin and on the school website. Parents are required to submit these forms on or before their child's first day of school. During the school year, the Monsignor Slade Catholic School "take home folder" system will be used as a means of communication between parents and school. Please make it a habit to check your child's take home folder every day. Notes from the teacher, or any other special notices, will be sent home via this folder. In turn, anything you wish to return to school may be sent back in the take home folder.

Parent Conferences-Requested and/or Mandatory

Whenever a situation occurs where parents feel it is necessary to contact the school, communication should begin at the level at which the situation arose. Teachers are seen by appointment. Parents are not to call teachers at home. If a conference with an administrator or teacher is needed, please contact him/her directly by email or phone to schedule a mutually convenient time to meet. Formal conferences will be scheduled and are mandatory for the first marking period for all new families. Conferences for returning families will not be mandatory, but will be held at teacher or parent request. Parent conferences may also be scheduled at other appropriate times throughout the school year. A parent who wishes to schedule a conference with a teacher should call or email the teacher. Any concerns which parents have should first be addressed with the teacher, as the teacher who works daily with your child, can better address most issues or concerns. Parents can request a conference with an administrator to address these same concerns after meeting with their child's teacher first.

To facilitate the cooperation needed between the home and school, parents are requested to comply with the following guidelines:

- For communication to be effective, all must realize it is for the benefit of the student. It must be grounded in mutual trust and respect, be forthright and honest, and be informed by a clear understanding of roles, responsibilities, processes, and appropriate and respectful behavior. Rude or anonymous communication will not be answered.
- If your child comes home seriously upset about a school situation, we ask you to listen openly to the child. We caution you not to offer an opinion until you have contacted the teacher involved in the situation. The discipline in this action is one of calm and passive listening. The time taken for this communication will show the interest in the child's viewpoint. At the same time, the need to view the situation, as completely as possible, requires that the parent confer with the teacher openly.
- If you disagree with a teacher's action, please express your disagreement and concern directly to the teacher. Your cooperation and support are necessary for an effective discipline and guidance program. It is important not to place the child in opposition to the teacher, which may result in defiance.
- Interest in your child reinforces his/her interest in school. If you feel that your child is not working to his/her capacity, contact the homeroom teacher in order to arrive at a mutually agreed upon program. Homework is for the child's benefit, and should be done completely by him/her. It is most important that the child grow in independent study habits as s/he moves from grade to grade. The most effective means of assisting your child's scholastic growth can be checking homework, reviewing for tests, inquiring about projects, test results, and school activities.
- Responsibility is learned behavior. If we exemplify responsibility, our children will practice it. We are not always able to communicate personally; therefore, we ask you to value communication

and respond promptly.

- Request to see test papers; sign papers when requested.
- Attend all parent meetings of any nature.
- All school-related business should be conducted at school. Parents should not contact teachers or staff members at home.

Please adhere to the following guidelines when you email the teachers:

- Messages should be short and to the point, and signed by the sender.
- Messages should be polite and courteous.
- Messages should not deal with personal or non-school related information.
- Email should not be used to relay personal messages to children.
- Since technical problems may occur, a phone call or note should be sent to the teacher if a reply is not received within a reasonable period.

Homeroom Parents

In grades Pre-K4 - 3, each homeroom has a room parent who is responsible for coordinating classroom parties for various holiday celebrations, which have been initiated by the homeroom teacher. Any communication being sent out in regards to these celebrations must first be approved by the assistant principal. Room parents and/or helpers assisting with celebrations may not bring siblings to the classrooms.

Parent Aides/Parent-to-Parent Communication

The school encourages the assistance of parents in the classroom. All volunteers in the classroom must be VIRTUS-compliant.

Confidentiality is a must when parents assist in the classroom. Parent aides must wear a picture identification badge issued by the receptionist when assisting in school. Parent aides and volunteers should refrain from photographing any individual other than their own children. Parent aides and volunteers are not permitted to post images and or words about any individual student other than their own on social media.

Parents acting as classroom aides should sign-in daily at the window of the front office, and must wear a picture identification badge.

Only room parents are permitted to solicit teacher gifts, etc., through notes sent home with the students or by emailing or telephoning the parents. If monetary donations are requested, please submit them in an envelope addressed to the room parent in care of the front office. Any communication directed to parents must be reviewed and approved by the assistant principal.

Electronic Notification System - Bright Arrow

The school's electronic notification system provides important information to parents. This service will automatically send e-mail and telephone messages detailing any announcement from the school.

All parents in grades Pre-K2 - 8 will need to register for a notification account. For initial access, parents will be provided a temporary user id and password and asked to set up an account at arch.balt.powerschool.com/public. The password will not change from year to year. When selecting your e-mail addresses and phone numbers, remember they may be used during or after school hours, so please choose accordingly.

Change of Address and/or Contact Information:

If you should have a change of address, or if any of your contact information should change during the year, please update your account using the Change of Contact Information form found on the MSCS web site under Documents and Forms. Please send this completed form to the Educational Technology Manager at c.campion@mrladeschool.com. Additionally, please update address change information in your School Admin portal.

Change of Name or Family Status:

If you or your child should have a name change, or if there is a change in your family status, please contact the administrative assistant at s.wible@mrladeschool.com with any updated information.

Weekly Update

The school publishes a weekly update to inform parents of relevant information, including the current week's school calendar and other important reminders and news. This will be emailed weekly through the electronic notification system. Any school organization that would like to include information in the weekly update should submit this to the administrative assistant.

Status Reports

Status reports are issued as a form of communicating student difficulties to parents. There are three types of status reports: Study Status, Behavior Status, and Uniform Status. The parent/guardian must sign and return the Status Report if administered on paper or recognize receipt of notification electronically. In most cases, a phone call, email, and/or conference is not necessary after the issuance of a Status Report.

Telephone/Cell Phone Use

Neither a student nor a teacher will be called to the telephone during the school day except in the case of an emergency. Students should not be texting, calling, or otherwise communicating with family members or others during school hours. If a student needs to contact home, they will be permitted to do so using a school-issued phone—no child will be denied the opportunity to call home when necessary.

If a student brings a cell phone to school, it must be turned off and kept away in their backpack for the entire school day. At times, a school official may grant a student express permission to use their phone for a specific purpose; outside of that, phones should not be in use.

If a cell phone is visible or being used without permission, the student will be issued a disciplinary status, and the phone will be confiscated by administration. The phone will be returned to the student or their parent/guardian at the end of the school day.

Visitors

All parents or visitors are to report to the receptionist at the front office upon entrance into the building. No parent or other person should appear at a classroom door before school, during the day or at dismissal unless it is his/her assigned day to be the classroom aide. All business should be dealt with in the office. Teachers will conference with parents at a mutually agreed upon scheduled time.

IX. Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy

Monsignor Slade Catholic School strives to develop responsible, courteous, self-disciplined students whose pride in themselves, their parents, their school, and their community is reflected in their behavior. The development of such young people requires a consistent practice of thoughtful, responsible behavior during these formative years. Students are made aware that they are an integral part of the faith community and that their actions reflect themselves as well as the entire community. The ultimate purpose is to develop true Christian character and a sense of responsibility; to establish an atmosphere conducive to academic excellence; and to protect the welfare of the individual, as well as the school community.

It takes the collaboration of all – parents, teachers, and students – to achieve success in this most important area of growth and development. In guiding the child's growth in habits of virtue and Christian attitudes, emphasis is on the positive rather than the negative. Children need to understand that they choose one behavior over another and must take upon themselves the consequences of that chosen behavior.

All students at Monsignor Slade Catholic School are expected to

- show respect for administration, teachers, staff, students and school facilities.
- uphold behavioral expectations in their actions and words.
- obey rules, regulations, and procedures established by school and administration.
- obey rules, regulations, and procedures established by each teacher.
- be present and punctual daily.
- complete projects and homework assignments daily.
- participate appropriately and fully at prayer, liturgies, field trips, civic activities and school assemblies.
- practice courtesy and good manners at all times.
- abide by the dress code established in the handbook.

Public Conduct

Every Monsignor Slade Catholic School student must be aware that his/her actions reflect upon his/her reputation and the reputation of the school in the local community. Students must refrain from any type of public misconduct or illegal behavior that will damage their reputation or the reputation of the school. Students may be disciplined for conduct that occurs on school premises or at school-sponsored events, through social media, or for other conduct that adversely affects the interests or reputation of the school regardless of where the conduct occurs. After-school activities, while riding on buses to sports games, field trips, and other such activities, are included in the definition of on-campus conduct. When it comes to social media, whether posted during school hours and on school property, or while occurring outside of the school property, if it creates a substantial disruption, the school can take action relative to in-school discipline.

Student Character and Behavior Expectations

At Monsignor Slade Catholic School, we nurture the whole child—spiritually, academically, socially, and emotionally. To foster a Christ-centered, safe, and productive environment, students are expected to mature in four core areas:

Spirituality

We begin and end each day with prayer, participate reverently in Mass and liturgies, and grow closer to God through faith-based choices. ***“Pray without ceasing.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:17***

Students are expected to:

- Participate prayerfully and respectfully in services.
- Treat sacred symbols with reverence.
- Recognize goodness in others.
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity.
- Contribute to service projects.

Stewardship

We care for others and God’s creation by showing kindness, compassion, and respect. ***“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.” – Psalm 24:1***

Students are expected to:

- Use gentle, sensitive words and actions.
- Resolve conflicts peacefully.
- Respect people and property.
- Play safely and fairly.
- Show empathy through action.

Scholarship

Learning is a gift from God, and students give their best effort with active engagement and responsibility. ***“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.” – Colossians 3:23***

Students are expected to:

- Complete work on time and with care.
- Follow directions and participate fully.
- Stay attentive and prepared.
- Seek help when needed.

Safety

We maintain physical, emotional, and spiritual safety through thoughtful, respectful behavior.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” – Joshua 1:9

Students are expected to:

- Use kind, respectful language.
- Exercise self-control and think before acting.
Report unsafe behavior or bullying.
- Handle materials responsibly.
- Keep personal devices off and stored unless permission is given.

Super Slades

Each week, students have an opportunity to earn tickets for demonstrating exemplary spirituality, stewardship, scholarship, and safety pledged through the student conduct pledge. Every ticket is placed into a drawing where one student per grade is randomly picked during prayer service in the morning. Each winner is also recognized in the Weekly Update. In addition, students get to choose from among several prizes as an expression of thanks for the student’s contribution to the school program.

Classroom Behavior Policies

The following standards apply in all classrooms. Teachers may have additional rules, and students are expected to follow both the general and teacher-specific policies:

- Students must be in their seats and ready when class begins. Leaving the classroom or seat requires explicit teacher permission.
- All necessary materials for class must be brought beforehand.
- Students are expected to pay full attention and actively participate in class activities. Work for other classes or unrelated reading is not allowed unless explicitly permitted. Non-class materials should not be on desks.
- Talking without permission, speaking to others during instruction, study periods, or tests is prohibited.
- Any actions distracting to the learning environment, including harassment of other students, will not be tolerated.
- Students are responsible for keeping their desks and surrounding areas clean. Trash should be disposed of at the end of each class period.
- Insulting language, disrespectful gestures, or overt demonstrations of disapproval that disrupt the classroom will not be allowed. Issues related to tests, grades, or discipline should be discussed privately with the teacher during recess or homeroom.
- Classroom environment controls (desk arrangement, windows, blinds, lights) are managed by the teacher and should not be adjusted by students unless directed.
- Students must enter and exit the classroom quietly.
- Eating and drinking are only permitted in the cafeteria at lunch, except for PreK-4 or as approved by administration.
- Chewing gum is prohibited anywhere on school grounds at all times.

Conflict Resolution

Conflict is a natural part of growth. The administration promotes healthy conflict resolution focused on reconciliation. Students are encouraged to face conflicts responsibly rather than avoid them. School staff will support and guide this process.

Unacceptable Behaviors

While we celebrate students' personal growth and progress, certain behaviors are unacceptable and interfere with a positive learning environment aligned with our Christian values. These include, but are not limited to:

- Tardiness and lack of responsibility
- Failure to bring necessary materials
- Disrespectful language or behavior
- Rowdiness and disruptive actions
- Unauthorized use of others' property
- Dishonesty, theft, or extortion
- Dress code violations
- Dangerous play or fighting
- Gum chewing
- Vulgar or rude behavior
- Defacing or damaging school property
- Harassment or bullying in any form—verbal, physical, or through gestures
- Unchristian behavior in school or during school-related activities (field trips, assemblies, sports events)
- Racial comments, slurs, or discriminatory behavior are strictly prohibited and will be fully investigated.

Any other behaviors not specifically listed but deemed seriously disruptive by administration will also be considered unacceptable.

Enforcement and Consequences

Teachers will generally handle minor infractions, but serious or repeated issues will involve parents and school administration. Monsignor Slade Catholic School is committed to applying fair and just consequences for behavior that disrupts learning or violates our values.

Statuses

Most disciplinary matters will be handled in the classroom by the teacher. Students may be issued a status for behavior, academic, and/or uniform infractions. Failure to return any status with a parent signature will result in a parent contact.

Behavior Statuses:

When a student in grades 4-8 accumulates three behavior statuses in a trimester, the student will be issued a detention. Unacceptable student behaviors that warrant a behavior status include, but are not limited to:

- disrespect toward students or adults
- presence in unauthorized areas of the school
- misuse of materials/school property
- gum chewing or eating during class
- failure to observe school/classroom rules
- deliberate cruelty to another person; malicious behavior
- name calling
- passing notes in class
- disruptive behavior
- lying
- inappropriate use of electronic devices

Study Statuses:

If a student obtains five study statuses, a detention will be served. If a student has a diagnosed learning disability, this will be taken into account when teachers issue study statuses. An effort will be made to develop a plan to resolve the student's difficulty.

Improper study habits that warrant a study status include, but are not limited to:

- not following instructions
- missing or incomplete assignments
- coming to class without proper materials
- careless or messy academic work
- not cooperating in classroom activities
- not being attentive in class
- tardiness

Uniform Statuses:

Uniform statuses will be given for not following the uniform code. When a student accumulates five uniform statuses, a detention will be served.

Detentions resulting from the accrual of five uniform statuses will not be used to determine the possibility of suspension or expulsion.

Detention - Grades Five through Eight

Determining Severity and Consequences of Behaviors

The severity of student behaviors will be determined at the discretion of the teacher and/or administration. While detention is the minimum consequence for certain infractions, more serious or repeated offenses may warrant suspension or expulsion.

Behaviors that typically warrant an automatic detention include, but are not limited to:

- Stealing
- Vandalism
- Lying
- Disrespect toward authority
- Use of improper language—oral, written, or gestures
- Bullying behaviors such as name-calling, intimidation, or harassment
- Academic dishonesty, which is considered a very serious offense. This includes plagiarism, forgery, cheating on tests or assignments, copying another student's work, or allowing one's work to be copied. Academic dishonesty may result in a zero on the assignment and further disciplinary action.

Detention Policy

Unless otherwise noted or serving a lunch/recess detention for minor offenses, all detentions will now be held before school, starting promptly at 7:15 a.m. This replaces the previous practice of after-school detention. Scheduling will depend on administrator availability.

Students are responsible for arriving on time and prepared. Missing detention or arriving late may result in additional disciplinary consequences.

Accumulating detentions can lead to escalating consequences including probation, suspension, loss of privileges, and potentially expulsion. An automatic detention counts as three behavior statuses toward these limits. Parents are notified in writing at key milestones of status accumulation.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Students will not be permitted to use Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) for any reason. This includes but is not limited to ChatGPT, OpenAI, Microsoft Bing AI, or any use of AI to produce or distribute harmful, inappropriate, or offensive content. Students are not permitted to employ AI to deceive or manipulate other students, staff, or any member of the school community. Any use of AI on school-issued devices and/or assignments/assessments will result in both disciplinary and academic consequences. Multiple offenses could result in suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary actions are at administrator discretion.

Probation/Suspension/Expulsion

In addition to the standards for student behavior described previously, whenever a student's behavior deviates too far from the limits of acceptability, or his/her conduct is such that it endangers the property, health, or safety of others, action may be taken to restrict privileges and rights of school attendance.

Such action may be of four kinds:

- **Disciplinary Contract**: A conditional enrollment during a trial period as stated by a behavior agreement.
Responsibility of placing a student on probation rests with the administration.
- **In-School Suspension**: A temporary restriction of activities, privileges and interaction with other students for a specified length of time.
Responsibility for the stipulated conditions and length of in-house suspension resides with the administration.
- **Out-of-School Suspension**: A temporary termination of enrollment, not to exceed three consecutive school days, until stipulated conditions are met.
Responsibility for suspending a student resides with the administration.
- **Expulsion**: A termination of enrollment permanently or for an extended period of time. In cases of expulsion, the student has a right of review in accordance with the procedure established by the Department of Catholic Schools.

Offenses Subject to Above Procedures

Behaviors that can result in suspension or expulsion include, but are not limited to the following:

- Possession or consumption of any drug or look-alike drug while at school or while attending a school function
- Possession or consumption of alcohol while at school or while attending a school function
- Possession of knives/weapons or look-alike knives/weapons
- Possession and/or use of firecrackers, ammunition, or other explosives
- Continued and willful defiance or disobedience of authority
- Possession of pornographic material(s)
- Smoking/using matches/vaping/gummies
- Willful destruction of school property
- Leaving school property without permission
- Theft or extortion
- Fighting/serious acts of aggression/threats of violence
- Harassment (sexual or otherwise)/bullying behaviors
- Inappropriate public displays of affection, or any gestures of a sexual nature
- Inappropriate postings on websites or any social media platform concerning any member or aspect of the school community
- Any serious action not in keeping with the philosophy of Monsignor Slade Catholic School

While on suspension, the student is still responsible for missed work. After the specified amount of time for suspension, the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) will meet with the Administration for reinstatement. Administration reserves the right to determine the conditions for reinstatement.

Expulsion

The school reserves the right to expel any student in cases of serious or repeated violation(s) of school rules and regulations or policies. Any illegal activities, including but not limited to, the possession, use or, selling, or distribution of alcohol/drugs, may be grounds for expulsion. Any expelled student forfeits all privileges of the Monsignor Slade Catholic School student. The Administrator reserves the right not to readmit an expelled student at a later date. If a student is to be expelled, the student is entitled to a prompt review procedure established by the Department of Catholic Schools. A written request for review must be submitted to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools within 10 working days of the notice of intent to expel. Parents MAY be given the option to withdraw the student in lieu of expulsion.

Reasons for Dismissal

- Poor academic achievement
- Serious misbehavior that shows disregard for stated school policies and/or disrupts the teaching learning environment in the school
- Parents' noncompliance with the teacher and/or administration's recommendation regarding referrals to the Health Department and/or other agency deemed necessary for more thorough evaluation of the child
- Parents' noncompliance with school policies
- Parents' falsification of records or withholding pertinent information regarding child's current and/or past physical, emotional, or academic problems
- Parents' failure to meet tuition obligations as detailed in their contract

Policy Regarding Bullying

Bullying, harassment, or intimidation (as defined below) of any student is prohibited in all Archdiocese of Baltimore Schools. Retaliation or reprisal against anyone who reports such behaviors or participates in an investigation of a report is also prohibited. Such behaviors are contrary to school life in a Christ centered community, which respects the dignity and uniqueness of all of God's children. To foster a school environment where all students are educated in a safe and caring atmosphere, all Archdiocesan schools will follow established procedures for bullying prevention, intervention, and response.

Harassment of students on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability or handicap, and/or gender identity or expression are also addressed under the Archdiocesan Student Harassment Policy in the Code of Conduct. Suspected abuse or neglect of students is addressed under the Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth.

"Bullying, harassment, or intimidation" means intentional conduct, including written, verbal, or physical conduct or an intentional electronic communication, that:

1. Creates a hostile education environment by substantially interfering with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance or with a student's physical or psychological well-being and:
 - a. Is motivated by an actual or a perceived personal characteristic including race, origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, attributes, socioeconomic status, familial status, or physical or mental ability; or
 - b. Is sexual in nature; or
 - c. Is threatening or seriously intimidating, and
2. Occurs on school property, at a school activity or event, or on a school bus, or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

Electronic technology means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including a telephone, cellular phone, computer, pager, etc

Retaliation means an act of reprisal or revenge, i.e., getting back at a person for an act he/she committed (such as reporting misconduct).

Reporting forms are located in the front office and on the school's website.

The principal or designee will notify the parent/guardian of the alleged victim of a report of bullying, harassment or intimidation within three (3) business days after the incident is reported . The principal or designee will notify the parent/guardian of the alleged perpetrator of a report of bullying, harassment or intimidation within five (5) business days after the incident is reported.

Harassment

Harassment or abuse of any kind is not acceptable behavior in Monsignor Slade Catholic School and will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension/expulsion.

Policy

It is the policy of the Archdiocese to prohibit discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability or handicap, gender identity or expression, or protected activity (i.e. opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in the complaint process) in its education programs and activities. Each Catholic school shall adhere to this policy with respect to students. (Employees are similarly protected from harassment by a separate Archdiocesan policy.) A school is not required to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings.

Scope

This policy applies to all students in Archdiocesan elementary, middle and secondary schools. The Archdiocese neither condones nor tolerates harassment of students at school, at school-related activities, or functions, or in any school-related setting. Harassment of students, whether engaged in by other students, teachers, administrators, or others, is prohibited. Violation of this Policy is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or suspension or expulsion from school, depending on the nature and severity of the offense and the individual's disciplinary record.

Prohibited Conduct

For the purposes of this Policy, "harassment" means verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his or her race, color, gender, national origin, religion, age, disability or handicap, gender identity or expression, or protected activity, that:

- Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance, or otherwise adversely affects an individual's educational opportunities.
- Harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to, epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts that relate to race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, handicap or disability, gender identity or expression. "Sexual" harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for educational decisions or has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Procedure

Any person who believes that a student is being subjected to harassment should immediately report the harassment to anyone or more of the following individuals: the student's teacher, the principal of the school, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

- Individuals are encouraged to report harassment early, before it becomes severe or pervasive, so that preventive action can be taken. All complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly and impartially, and will remain confidential to the extent possible.
- Any retaliation, reprisals, or intimidation, whether by the alleged harasser or from another source, directed toward the complaining party or anyone else as a result of the filing or investigation of a harassment complaint is considered a serious violation of this Policy and should be reported immediately.
- Once the investigation is complete, the school will take immediate and appropriate corrective action when it determines that this policy has been violated. The complaining party and the complained-of party will be advised of the investigation's findings and conclusions. A report of the findings will be forwarded to the Department of Catholic Schools.

Search and Seizure

Monsignor Slade Catholic School reserves the right to search school property (e.g., lockers, desks), a student's belongings, and areas under the student's control in order to enforce school policies, rules and regulations or otherwise to preserve a safe and orderly learning environment.

Electronic Devices

Any personal electronic devices including, but not limited to, FitBit, SmartWatches, etc., are prohibited in school unless authorized by administration. Cell phone use by students is prohibited in school, on school property, or during any school-related activity under the direct supervision of school employees.

Playground

Students are encouraged to organize non-violent/non-competitive games. Although students may bring in their own sports or playground balls, hard balls, softballs, and bats, are not permitted. Grades 3-8 students may elect to bring lacrosse sticks with soft practice balls in order to play catch. Lacrosse games are not permitted. Students are not to play near parked cars. They are to be aware of through-traffic. Ball playing is not permitted before or after school while cars are arriving and departing. The use of playground equipment is available to classes when a teacher is on duty. There are three teachers/staff members assigned to supervise the students during recess.

Recess

Weather permitting, all students have at least one outside recess break. During inclement weather, children are encouraged to bring quiet-type games into school. Video game devices and other electronics are not permitted.

Students are permitted to stay in from recess only if they are in possession of a doctor's note. We do not have personnel available to supervise children with colds, etc. Therefore, if a child is well enough to come to school, he/she will be expected to participate in outdoor recess unless he/she is in possession of a doctor's note.

Use of School Grounds

The use of school property is restricted to use by MSCS organizations and/or Christ the King Catholic Church.

X. Academic, Psychological, and Support Services for Students

Resource Team

As part of Monsignor Slade Catholic School's commitment to its students and families, the school offers the services of a resource team. The team consists of a resource specialist, reading resource teacher, certified school counselor, and a registered nurse.

School Counselor

The school counselor helps students achieve success through academic, personal/social, and career development. The school counselor holds a minimum of a Master's Degree in School Counseling and is required to complete ongoing professional development. The school counselor is a professional educator with a mental health perspective who assists students in the development of their self-concept, decision making skills, communication skills, and character. The school counselor is a part of the total education program and collaborates with students, parents/guardians, teachers and administrators. The school counselor is an advocate for students and works with other educators to create a caring school culture.

The school counselor often provides services including individual counseling, group counseling and classroom lessons/activities. School counseling is available to students without parental consent. Confidentiality is maintained for students who receive school counseling support, unless there is a concern involving the student's safety or the safety of someone else. For students who receive outside counseling services, parents/guardians may choose to sign a release of information to allow for collaboration between School Counselors and outside professionals.

Reading Resource Teacher and Resource Specialist

A reading resource teacher and a resource specialist are available to assist the teachers in developing different reading programs to assist students to improve their reading level, fluency, and comprehension. This will assist teachers in addressing different learning styles so that the children can maximize their learning potential. The resource teachers will do in-house educational testing based on the recommendation of the resource team and will be part of the IEP Process.

Registered Nurse

The registered nurse consults with the resource team regarding students with medical needs.

IEP Process

The administration, teachers and support staff of Monsignor Slade Catholic School continually work with parents to provide the best academic program for students. However, if a child is not progressing academically, the school may ask the parents/guardians to initiate, or the parents/guardians may initiate on their own, the process to request a professional consultation and/or evaluation through the local public school system. The evaluative process is generally called the IEP Process (Individual Educational Plan) and begins when a parent/guardian calls 'Child Find'. Following the initial phone call to the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Child Find, parents/guardians are given an initial meeting date within 30 days. At this initial meeting, parents/guardians and school faculty are invited to share their concerns, present information, and discuss whether an evaluation will take place. Catholic school staff, in particular the student's teacher, is a vital part of the process.

If an evaluation is deemed warranted and takes place, recommendations and an academic plan are developed and given to the parents/guardians at the summative meeting following the academic evaluation.

If such a plan is developed and the test results determine that there is a need for accommodations and/or modifications within a student's learning environment, the school resource team will consult with the parents/guardians to determine what accommodations, resources, plans, and school placements may be implemented. When appropriate, a Student Accommodation Plan (SAP) is developed at MSCS. Please note, a psychoeducational evaluation is required in order for a SAP to be developed.

Pediatrician and Other Professional Forms

Parents may request in writing that progress updates, behavior reports, or screening forms be completed for pediatricians, psychologists, psychiatrists, occupational therapists, professional tutors, and other specialists. However, the forms must be sent directly to the Admissions Director or the case manager. In order to keep the school's records current, parents should provide the name, address and phone number of the specialist along with the forms. Please submit these forms at least three weeks prior to the due date. Please inform the providers not to mail the forms directly to the teachers; they should be sent directly to the Monsignor Slade Resource Team. A Consent to Release Records form must be signed and on file at the school.

Students' Rights Policy

While every student is entitled by law to the personal rights and protections guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution (e.g., freedom of speech), proper recognition has also been given by the courts to the prerogatives of the non-public school to maintain its own particular philosophy and goals and to require behavior that is congruent with these aims and objectives. Therefore, it is the policy of the Archdiocesan elementary schools that proper fundamental precautions be exercised in both the administration of the school program and the management of the classroom to safeguard the constitutional rights of students and, at the same time, that proper requirements be made to insure that the behavior of students will conform to the Christian ideals and the expectations of a Catholic school.

Involuntary Withdrawal Policy

Monsignor Slade Catholic School is a community of teachers and students working together to pursue knowledge and the development of individuals. Sometimes the unusual needs of students are beyond the professional expertise of the teachers and affect the rights of the other students. Monsignor Slade Catholic School reserves the right to require the involuntary withdrawal of any student who is unable to perform academically or to conform his/her conduct to the school's standards, due to psychiatric, psychological, or emotional problems.

When such a circumstance exists, Monsignor Slade Catholic School shall have the right to require that the child be examined by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist selected by the School, but at the parents' expense. This evaluation will determine his/her mental status, and ability to continue at Monsignor Slade Catholic School. Should the evaluation indicate that the child is unable to continue, or should the parents of the child in question refuse to permit the child to undergo the required evaluation, Monsignor Slade Catholic School has the right to require the involuntary withdrawal of the student in question.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School will take into consideration any evidence submitted by the parents relating to the psychiatric, psychological or emotional well-being of the child, when making its determination to require involuntary withdrawal.

XI. Finances

Money Sent to School

All funds sent to school for any purpose—including but not limited to tuition assistance contributions, out-of-uniform day fees, snack sale, lunch—should be enclosed in a sealed envelope clearly labeled with the student's name, room number, amount enclosed, and the specific purpose of the payment. Loose cash will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Tuition payments should never be sent directly to the school. The school expressly disclaims any responsibility or liability for money of any kind sent to school with a student. Any such funds sent at the risk of the parent or guardian will be considered the sole responsibility of the sender. Parents and guardians are advised to use the approved official tuition payment channels.

Financial Obligations

Monsignor Slade Catholic School considers the mutual agreement between the parents and the school with the utmost seriousness. In all interactions, the school fulfills its commitment to provide a quality Catholic education for each student. In return the parental obligation is to maintain support of these educational efforts and to fulfill the financial obligations explained below.

Tuition

In order for Monsignor Slade Catholic School to budget its funds properly for school obligations, it is necessary that the school receive tuition payments when they are due. The school utilizes the FACTS Tuition Management System, to maintain an accounting of a student's tuition charges, as well as the collection of tuition payments. Each family is required to establish a FACTS Tuition Management System account. Since Monsignor Slade Catholic School must ensure that tuition accounts are paid timely in accordance with payment plans and not delinquent, the School Board has found it necessary to adopt the following regulations and has instructed the school administration to carry out the following policies:

1. No student will be admitted to school at the beginning of the new school year unless all accounts are paid in full from the previous year and all accounts are current for the upcoming school year.
2. All families must have a FACTS account activated by May 1st of the coming school year. Upon activation of the FACTS account, a non-refundable \$200 per student tuition deposit will automatically be deducted from your FACTS account.
3. In order for a family to re-register their children for the following school year, all tuition accounts must be current at the time of re-registration. If the account is brought up-to-date after the re-registration date, the children may be placed on a waiting list as necessary.
4. If a family's FACTS account is in arrears, delinquent, or has a collectability issue, the school will notify parents via one or more of the following methods: email, mailed letter, phone, or Kid-mail. If the situation has not been resolved within fifteen (15) days of the original school notification to families, the student(s) may not be allowed to attend classes until the issue is settled.
5. The school reserves the right to deny access to PowerSchool and withhold student progress reports for those FACTS accounts that are in arrears, delinquent, or uncollectable.
6. For students transferring from Monsignor Slade Catholic School during the school year, all accounts must be current before transcripts of the student's records will be released or before a student will be permitted to register/continue playing for Slade Sports.
7. All debts to the school including, but not limited to, tuition, service hours, H.A.S.A. membership fee, sports fees or equipment, library books, and/or textbooks, must be paid and/or returned to the school by or before May 15th of the current school year, or:
 - a. Final progress reports will be withheld for the student(s).
 - b. Yearbooks will not be distributed to the student(s).
 - c. Student's transcripts of school records will not be released.
 - d. Students will not be allowed to return to school in the fall.
 - e. Students will not be allowed to register for Slade Sports.
8. Families with 8th grade students must be paid in full before that student can participate in field day; 8th grade activities such as a theater production, graduation social event, graduation activities and exercises; and receive a diploma.
9. Regarding tuition refunds, refer to item #5 of your enrollment agreement for more specific information. Please note: If notice to withdraw an enrolled student is received on or after June 1st of your contractual year of enrollment, but prior to the end of the first academic trimester, then one-third the annual tuition amount will be due. In the event of withdrawal after the start of the second academic trimester, the full annual tuition will be due. Again, please refer to your enrollment agreement for additional information regarding tuition refunds.
10. Students are expected to treat all school materials and books with respect. If during the course of the school year a textbook is lost or damaged, the student is responsible for payment to cover the replacement of the textbook before the next progress report will be distributed.
11. The school reserves the right to require a payment by cash, certified check, or money order if a FACTS account is in arrears, delinquent, or uncollectable.
12. The school reserves the right to bill your FACTS account for any fees, such as service hours, late pick -up fees, graduation fees, etc.
13. The school reserves the right to seek legal action to collect outstanding debts. Parents will be obligated to assume all debts, which arise from such legal action, such as court costs, attorneys' fees, etc.

MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Tuition 2025-2026 School Year
Full-day Pre-K4 - 8th Grade

PAYMENT OPTION 1:

FACTS Monthly payment plan (choose 1st or 15th for withdrawal; there is also a twice-monthly option)
-1st of ten payments begins in July 2025 and Ends in April 2026

	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children
Registered Catholic	\$8,692.00	\$16,694.00	\$24,525.00	\$32,181.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
Monthly Payment	\$849.20	\$1,629.40	\$2,392.50	\$3,138.10
Non-Catholic	\$9,628.00	\$18,566.00	\$27,333.00	\$35,925.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
Monthly Payment	\$942.80	\$1,816.60	\$2,673.30	\$3,512.50

PAYMENT OPTION 2:

FACTS Quarterly payment plan (choose 1st or 15th for withdrawal; there is also a twice-monthly option)
-1st payment August 2025, 2nd payment November 2025, 3rd payment February 2026, 4th payment April 2026

	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children
Registered Catholic	\$8,692.00	\$16,694.00	\$24,525.00	\$32,181.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
Quarterly Payment	\$2,123.00	\$4,073.50	\$5,981.25	\$7,845.25
Non-Catholic	\$9,628.00	\$18,566.00	\$27,333.00	\$35,925.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
Quarterly Payment	\$2,357.00	\$4,541.50	\$6,683.25	\$8,781.25

MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Tuition 2025-2026 School Year
Full-day Pre-K4 - 8th Grade

PAYMENT OPTION 3:

FACTS Semi-annual payment plan (choose 1st or 15th for withdrawal; there is also a twice-monthly option)
-1st payment July 2025, 2nd payment January 2026

	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children
Registered Catholic	\$8,692.00	\$16,694.00	\$24,525.00	\$32,181.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
Semi-Annual Payment	\$4,246.00	\$8,147.00	\$11,962.50	\$15,690.50
Non-Catholic	\$9,628.00	\$18,566.00	\$27,333.00	\$35,925.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
Semi-Annual Payment	\$4,714.00	\$9,083.00	\$13,366.50	\$17,562.50

PAYMENT OPTION 4:

FACTS Quarterly payment plan (choose 1st or 15th for withdrawal; there is also a twice-monthly option)
-Single Payment July 2025

	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children
Registered Catholic	\$8,692.00	\$16,694.00	\$24,525.00	\$32,181.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
July Payment	\$8,492.00	\$16,294.00	\$23,925.00	\$31,381.00
Non-Catholic	\$9,628.00	\$18,566.00	\$27,333.00	\$35,925.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$400.00	-\$600.00	-\$800.00
July Payment	\$9,428.00	\$18,166.00	\$26,733.00	\$35,125.00

MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Tuition 2025-2026 School Year
PRE-SCHOOL **

MONTHLY RATES:

FACTS Semi-annual payment plan (choose 1st or 15th for withdrawal; there is also a twice-monthly option)
-1st of ten payments begins in July 2025 and Ends in April 2026

	1/2-day 4s	Full-day 3s	1/2-day 3s	full-day 2s	1/2-day 2s
Total for School Year	\$4,427.00	\$10,434.00	\$3,926.00	\$11,782.00	\$3,307.00
Less tuition deposit - \$200 per child	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	-\$200.00
Monthly Payment (less \$200 tuition deposit)	\$422.70	\$1,023.40	\$372.60	\$1,158.20	\$310.70

* These tuition rates include a \$85 per child Technology Fee

** Tuition rates listed for pre-school 2s and 3s are for the program which runs from September to May.

The Summer Care program, which runs from June through August has a separate fee.

Re-registration Fees

All returning families must be re-registered by completing an Intent to Enroll Form and paying the re-registration fee of \$150 per student through the SchoolAdmin portal on or before 11:59 p.m. of January 5, 2026. If re-registration occurs after the aforementioned date, an additional \$100 per child processing fee will be assessed. All re-registration fees are non-refundable. An early-incentive program may be offered.

If a parent re-registers after the re-registration deadline of January 5, 2026, priority of admission will be given only if seats are available in the student's grade level.

Please note: Applications for siblings of current students should also be submitted during the re-registration time period to be given priority of admission.

Returning 8th grade students are assessed a \$145 graduation fee. This fee will be added to your FACTS account.

Any returning family's FACTS accounts activated after April 1 will incur an additional processing fee of \$100 per child. If activated after June 15, families may experience a compressed payment schedule.

Home and School Association Fee

An annual membership fee of \$75 will be charged to each family, as all families are part of the Home and School Association. This fee will be added to your oldest child's FACTS account as part of the annual tuition contract issued through your School Admin portal.

Tuition Assistance/Tuition Grants

There are several forms of tuition assistance available to our families. Parishes incorporated with Monsignor Slade Catholic School have made a commitment to provide financial support to their families, and tuition assistance is granted through the Archdiocese of Baltimore. In addition, MSCS has a tuition assistance program to help provide financial support to families in need.

In order to be considered for tuition assistance, you must apply through FACTS Grant-and-Aid Program. The deadline for returning students is February 27, 2026.

There are other outside resources for tuition assistance, including State-funded programs such as BOOST. For additional information, call the school office or check the Archdiocese of Baltimore's website.

Registered Catholics

In order for Monsignor Slade to deem a student eligible for the Catholic faith discount, it is required that the custodial parent/guardian provide a parish verification form for the family and a baptismal certificate for each child being enrolled in the school. It is the family's responsibility to acquire the necessary documents. Families will not receive the Catholic discount until these documents are on file. All verification forms must be received by October 31 of the current school year in order to receive the discount.

Service Hours Program

Service Hours requirement per family - 12 hours or \$300

A unique opportunity called the Service Hours Program has been established at the school in an effort to help the school raise funds and/or to help defray costs for services needed throughout the school.

Each family is required to give twelve hours of service during the school year or pay an additional fee based on the following payment schedule:

If paid by the December 31, 2025, deadline : \$300.00
After December 31, 2025: \$360.00

All families are required to complete the Service Hours Program's Google Form indicating events in which adult family members would like to participate and submit it by September 8, 2025. If your family does not submit its form, we will assume that you agree to pay the \$300.00 fee by December 31, 2025.

Please remember when completing your form that we cannot guarantee that you will be able to work in all areas of interest, but we will do our best to accommodate your requests. If you have not been contacted within two weeks prior to an event you chose, it is your responsibility to contact the proper chairperson listed in this handbook or the front office.

Please Note: Most activities require that volunteers be VIRTUS-compliant to participate. We encourage parents to contribute their service, and require that they complete their time by the last day of the Flower Mart. Any hours not completed by this date will be calculated at the maximum hourly rate of \$30 (maximum amount of \$360 divided by 12 hours equals \$30 per hour). This hourly rate will then be multiplied by the total number of service hours still owed to the school. Those families that have worked zero hours as of May 10th will be charged the maximum rate of \$360.

Statements with Service Hours accumulated will be issued in January. No further report of hours earned will be issued. A letter will be sent out in May indicating the total number of hours served and balance due, if any. Please note: All families must have all debts paid by May 20, 2026.

Each family with children enrolled in the school is part of the Service Hours Program. To follow is a detailed list of areas and/or services available for fulfilling your commitment. Families do not receive hours for helping with field trips, field days, or class parties.

Explanation of the Service Hours Program for 2025-2026

Each family with students enrolled in grades Pre-K4 (Full Day) - 8 will be responsible for completing its own hours. Participants must be 21 years of age or older. Any high school age child that assists for any school function will only be able to receive credit towards his/her high school community service hours. Service hours cannot be shared among families or friends.

Please note: It is your responsibility to sign in with the chairperson so that you receive proper credit for hours worked.

Only activities listed below, or approved by the Support Programs Coordinator in writing, will qualify for Service Hours Program credit. Excess hours cannot be carried over to the following school year.

- **Advancement Committee** -
Volunteers are needed with experience in areas such as marketing, advertising, publishing, communications, relationship-building, and/or grant-writing, to assist the Advancement Office in promoting and increasing the visibility of Monsignor Slade Catholic School. Requires attendance at monthly meetings and participation in sub-committees. Meeting and subcommittee work will involve after-school and/or weekend volunteer time.
- **Baking for Events** -
Volunteers are needed to bake for events. You will be notified of upcoming events and the type of baked goods needed. You must send in one cake, two dozen cupcakes, or two dozen brownies, etc. to receive one hour of credit for each event. No credit will be given for store-bought items. A list of the baking events include: Open Houses, Christmas at Slade, Grandfriends & Special Friends days, as well as other possible events. (Note: The student snack sale is not included in the 'baking for events' committee. The explanation of the Student Snack Sale can be found below)
- **Classroom Aide/Volunteer** -
You may work any day, Monday through Friday, in the kindergarten through 8th grade, as needed by a teacher. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher for further information as to dates, times, etc. Aides assist the teacher by working with individual students or small groups of students. Hours will be credited for services performed between 8:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. In order to receive proper credit for your service hours, you must indicate "Classroom Aide" and the homeroom number for which you are assisting when you sign in at the Front Office. Participants must be 21 years of age or older. All participants must be VIRTUS complaint
- **Club Volunteer** -
Parents volunteer to run or assist the club moderator in various capacities. All participants must be VIRTUS compliant.
- **Hospitality Committee** -
This committee is responsible for set-up, including making coffee and drinks, serving and clean-up. The hospitality events for this year include but are not limited to: New Parents' Night, Muffins with VIP! (Formerly Muffins with Mom), Donuts with VIP! (Formerly Donuts with Dad), Open House, Grandfriends & Special Friends Day. You will be scheduled by the Hospitality Committee Chairperson to work for these receptions and/or socials. All participants must be VIRTUS-compliant.
- **Maintenance** -
Assist our maintenance engineer with the grounds work, painting, hauling, and more. Week day and weekend opportunities are available. If interested, you are responsible to contact our Facilities Director at (410) 766-1598 and leave a message. Be sure to include your daytime phone number.
- **Office Volunteer** -
The school office needs volunteers who can do occasional clerical work. At-home volunteer work would include: making phone calls, stuffing envelopes, applying labels and postage to mailings, etc.
- **Parent Cleaning Days** - Whenever parent cleaning days are scheduled, parents come to school to do some general cleaning and/or yard work. This event takes place from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday mornings. You will receive one hour of credit for every hour worked.

- Student Snack Sale -
Parents can earn one hour for sending in one dozen store-bought, pre-packaged treats. Only one hour of time can be earned for each snack sale. Eight snack sales are scheduled throughout the year.
- Sports Programs -
Sports hours are earned as follows: Officers: Athletic Council Officers - 12 hours; Sports Commissioners - 12 hours; Teams: Coach - 12 hours; Assistant Coach (up to two per team) - 10 hours; Event Monitor - 10 hours; Team Parent - 5 hours. Any questions may be directed to the Athletic Council members listed in the Handbook or on the Slade sports website—www.sladesports.com. All participants who are planning to volunteer in the sports program must be VIRTUS-compliant.
- Uniform Exchange -
Volunteers are needed to help sort and organize donated uniforms prior to the scheduled uniform exchange sale. During the event, volunteers help shoppers locate desired uniform items. The Uniform Exchange is held two times per year with volunteers expected to work from 2:00-6:30 p.m. All volunteers must be VIRTUS-compliant.

Home and School Association Activities

For the following Home and School Association activities, the Service Hours Program will credit your account as follows: For every hour worked, you will receive one hour of credit, with the exception of those people who are appointed chairperson. The chairperson will receive a full 12 hours of credit for chairing these activities.

- Designer Bag Bingo -
This event requires a chairperson to plan/organize the event, as well as volunteers to help set-up, work during the event, and clean-up. All participants must be VIRTUS-compliant.
- Halloween Trunk or Treat -
This event requires organizing and/or working on the committee with set-up, working during the event, and clean-up. All participants must be VIRTUS-compliant.
- Christmas at Slade -
This event requires volunteers to help set-up, work during the event, and clean-up. All participants must be VIRTUS-compliant.
- Race for Slade -
This event requires organizing and/or working on the committee with set-up, working during the event, and clean-up. All participants must be VIRTUS-compliant.
- Flower Mart -
This event requires people to assist with set-up in the morning and to sell plants to the students, parents, faculty and staff throughout the school day. All participants must be VIRTUS-compliant.

Advancement and Outreach

Monsignor Slade Catholic School established a development program to assure the school's continued growth and advancement. Today, this program is implemented by our Advancement Office. Long-range planning and development is a concept which assumes the involvement of people. It involves the clarification of the school's philosophy and goals, the ongoing effort to provide Catholic education of the highest quality and the communication of the school's values and achievements to its various publics. Using sound business management techniques, we are creating the future financial stability of the school.

Everyone has a part, parents, past parents, alumni, grandparents, administration, faculty, students, all share in the development of Monsignor Slade Catholic School. There are many opportunities for giving. Donors may wish to consider several plans for making tax-deductible charitable contributions. The administration is available to help donors select projects to match their philanthropic interests with Monsignor Slade Catholic School's needs. Contributions may be made in various forms:

- Direct contributions
- Matching gifts from employers
- Pledges over a period of time
- Bequests
- Gifts of securities or real property
- Life insurance policies

XII. Dress Code

A. Uniforms

Students must be in the approved school uniform at all times, unless given permission by the administration to dress otherwise. The complete, clean uniform is to be worn properly (shirts tucked completely in, slacks belted, etc.) whenever a student is on the school property. All uniforms need to be in good repair. Please label every piece of your child's uniform attire. Any uniform item depicting the old school logo (known as the rocking cross) is not acceptable. Colored undergarments or shirts with any type of logo or printing which can be seen through the uniform shirt or blouse are not allowed to be worn.

The complete school uniform must be purchased from **FlynnO'Hara Uniforms** by:

Visiting the local store: 1608 W. Furnace Branch Road
Glen Burnie, MD21061
410-684-2816

Ordering by Phone: 800-441-4122

Ordering Online: www.flynnohara.com/school/md178

Pre-K4- Girls' and Boys' Winter Uniform - (Nov. 1, 2025 - Feb. 27, 2026)

Children in Pre-K4 are required to wear the Slade sweatshirt, Slade sweatpants, and gym shoes to school each day. No musical, flashing lights, or Heely-style tennis shoes are permitted. Black or white above-the-ankle socks are required. The gym uniform may only be purchased through the uniform company.

Pre-K4 - Girls' and Boys' Summer Uniform - (Aug. 25 - Oct. 31, 2025, and Mar. 2 - Jun. 10, 2026)

The optional summer uniform consists of Slade gym shorts and Slade gym t-shirt. No musical, flashing lights, or Heely-style gym shoes are permitted. Black or white above-the-ankle socks are required. The gym uniform may only be purchased through the uniform company.

Kindergarten - Grade 5 - Girls' Winter Uniform - (Nov. 1, 2025 - Feb. 27, 2026)

The winter uniform consists of a red and green plaid jumper, blouse (white, short or long sleeves, Peter Pan collar), and green, white, or black knee-high socks, as well as solid green, white or black tights. A green cardigan sweater (optional) with the school emblem completes the uniform. Shorts, worn under the jumper, but not visible, are optional. No sweatshirt or sweatpants may be worn as part of the uniform. During the winter months, gym sweatpants may be worn under the jumper at recess time.

As an option, girls may choose to wear the uniform khaki slacks with the white school blouse and a sweater or sweater vest with the school emblem.

Kindergarten - Gr. 5 Girls' Summer Uniform - (Aug. 25 - Oct. 31, 2025, and Mar. 2 - Jun. 10, 2026)

The optional summer uniform consists of khaki shorts, slacks, or skorts and a yellow polo shirt with the school emblem. Uniform shoes will be worn with the summer uniform. White or black socks above the ankle or solid white or black knee highs are required.

Kindergarten - Grade 5 Boys' Winter Uniform - (Nov. 1, 2025 - Feb. 27, 2026)

The winter uniform consists of dark green pants, a yellow polo shirt with the school emblem, white, green or black crew socks. A green V-neck sweater (optional) with school emblem completes the uniform. No sweatshirts may be worn as part of the school uniform.

Kindergarten - Gr. 5 Boys' Summer Uniform - (Aug. 25 - Oct. 31, 2025, and Mar. 2 - Jun.10, 2026)

The optional summer uniform consists of khaki shorts and a yellow polo shirt with the school emblem. Uniform shoes will be worn with the summer uniform. White or black socks above the ankle are also required.

Grades 6-8 Girls' Winter Uniform - (Nov. 1, 2025 - Feb. 27, 2026)

The winter uniform consists of a red and green plaid kilt, a white, short- or long- sleeved oxford button down shirt, a red sweater vest or long-sleeved sweater with the school logo, and either white or black socks above the ankle or solid green, white or black knee-high socks or solid green, white or black tights. No sweatshirt or sweatpants may be worn as part of the uniform. Girls are not permitted to "roll" their kilts to shorten the length.

As an option, khaki slacks may be worn instead of the plaid kilt. Shorts, worn under the kilt, but not visible, are also optional.

Grades 6-8 Girls' Summer Uniform - (Aug. 25 - Oct. 31, 2025, and Feb. 27 - Jun. 10, 2026)

The optional summer uniform consists of the plaid kilt or khaki slacks, khaki shorts, or khaki skort, a white knit polo shirt with the school emblem, and a red V-neck sweater (optional) with the school emblem. White or black socks above the ankle or solid green, white, or black knee-high socks are also required.

Grades 6-8 Boys' Winter Uniform - (Nov. 1, 2025 - Feb. 27, 2026)

The winter uniform consists of khaki pants and a white oxford cloth button-down shirt with the school emblem, and Slade green striped tie. Solid white or black crew socks are also required. A red V-neck sweater or sweater vest (optional) with school emblem completes the uniform. No sweatshirts may be worn as part of the uniform.

Grades 6-8 Boys' Summer Uniform - (Aug. 25 - Oct. 31, 2025, and Feb. 27 - Jun.10, 2026)

The optional summer uniform consists of khaki pants or shorts, a white knit uniform polo shirt, and a red V-neck sweater (optional) with the school emblem. White or black socks above the ankle are required.

Physical Education (Gym) Uniform

All students in grades K-8 will be expected to wear their gym uniform to school on their scheduled gym days.

The gym uniform may only be purchased through the uniform company. All students are required to have a complete gym uniform, which includes the following items: green gym shorts, grey t-shirt, grey sweatshirt (crew neck or zip-up hoodie), and green sweatpants. During the warm months, students may opt to wear only gym t-shirts and shorts. (Please note: the zip-up hoodie does not replace the school sweater as part of the regular school uniform.)

Students may wear either black or white above the ankle socks. Please note: “No-show” socks are not permitted.

Students must wear a pair of athletic shoes of the same color. These shoes may not have wheels, lights, or sounds. Gym shoes must be laced and tied or velcroed securely at all times.

Special notes:

If wearing the khaki uniform slacks or shorts, students must also wear a solid-colored black or brown belt.

When standing straight and tall with arms at their sides, girls’ kilts, jumpers, and/or skorts must be no shorter than fingertip length. Khaki shorts should not be worn below the knee.

Students may opt to wear disposable masks such as the N95 mask. If a disposable mask is worn, it must be in a solid Slade uniform color of white, black, red, hunter green, or yellow. If students opt to wear cloth masks they, too, must be in a solid Slade uniform color.

B. Shoes

Children in grades K-8 must wear one of four school-approved shoes which may be purchased through the uniform company or a private vendor. All shoes must fit snugly and worn properly so as not to create a safety hazard when moving throughout the building and the grounds.

C. Hair Policy

Students are expected to come to school with neatly groomed, clean hair in the natural color with which they were born. Highlighted, dyed, bleached, frosted, or fad hair colors (e.g., yellow, orange, purple, etc.) are not permitted for boys or girls.

Hair must not be trendy or distracting. Prohibited styles include, but are not limited to: mohawks, mullets, partially shaved heads, spiked hair, and any designs cut into the hair on the sides, top, or back. No channels, rows, hair extensions, wraps with colored threads or beads, tinsel, or shaved sections are allowed.

Hair must be kept away from the face. When at rest, it must remain above the eyebrows without needing to be tucked or tossed. Boys’ hair must be clean-cut, above the uniform shirt collar, and allow the earlobes to remain visible. Boys must be clean-shaven.

Hair accessories should be simple and non-distracting. The administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes an unacceptable or fad hairstyle.

The school recognizes and respects hairstyles tied to racial, ethnic, spiritual, or cultural identity. In such cases, individual families may choose appropriate hairstyles so long as they do not interfere with learning or the school environment.

D. Hair Accessories for Girls

Hair accessories should be simple and not provide a distraction. Girls are permitted to wear ribbons, barrettes, or headbands only in solid school colors of green, white, red, yellow, or black. Headbands made from the uniform material are also acceptable. Hair accessories should be plain and should not be embellished with additional bows, jewels, flowers or other decorative items.

E. Jewelry/Nail Polish

Girls are allowed to wear only one (1) post earring per ear, positioned on the ear lobe only (no cartilage, etc.). For safety reasons, hoop or dangle earrings are not permitted. Only one simple religious necklace or medal is allowed. One simple ring may be worn on either hand. One simple religious bracelet is permitted. Bracelets are allowed for boys or girls. No earrings of any description are permitted for boys. No make-up or face decorations are permitted. Girls and boys may wear a watch, with the exception of Smartwatches or fitness trackers. Students are not permitted to wear nail polish. No press-on, sculptured, French manicures, gel, overlays, or designs of any kind are permitted. Nail length should be reasonable in length; nails should not extend beyond the tips of the fingers for safety and hygienic reasons.

F. Book bags/Backpacks

These items are required for all students and the required supplies are listed in the summer bulletin. Students should have their names clearly written on all of their possessions. Backpacks on wheels are not permitted due to the multiple levels of the building.

G. Out-of-Uniform Days

Out-of-uniform days are a privilege and not an opportunity to ignore school policies regarding hair, nails, shoes, jewelry, or clothing style and length. Students must dress appropriately for school: clean, neat jeans or slacks, knit sport shirts, and above-the-ankle socks. Pajamas, onesies, ripped clothing, leggings (unless paired with a top covering to mid-thigh), crop tops, tank tops, halters, miniskirts, and tight or revealing clothing are not allowed. No rips, tears, sheer fabric, or offensive/political/graphic logos or messaging are permitted.

Footwear Rules:

Students may never wear Crocs, Yeezy slides or foam runners, Kanes, UGG (or similar brand) slippers without raised backs. Backless shoes, sandals, moccasins, clogs, high heels over 1", platform shoes, shoes with wheels, lights, or sound effects are also prohibited. Shoes must be secure, safe, and school-appropriate.

Temporary/permanent tattoos, nail polish, unnatural hair colors, and fad hairstyles remain prohibited on out-of-uniform days. Hats/caps may only be worn to and from school, not indoors.

On out-of-uniform P.E. days, students must still wear proper athletic footwear.

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in the student being required to call home for a change of clothes and could jeopardize future out-of-uniform privileges.

H. Slade Spirit Wear Days' Attire

Spirit wear days are distinct from out-of-uniform days. Spirit wear days are special days designated by the principal when the students, faculty, and staff may come to school dressed in official Monsignor Slade Catholic School spirit wear. These days usually fall on a Friday but may be designated to other days as decided by the principal. All spirit wear days will be listed on the calendar. Spirit wear days are optional, and if a student does not choose to dress in spirit wear on these days, he/she should come to school in the regular school uniform. The following are guidelines for spirit wear days:

- Students should wear an official Monsignor Slade Catholic School spirit wear shirt, quarter-zip, sweatshirt, or other top (as purchased from the Slade Spiritwear Store [Homepage Here](#))
- Any other Monsignor Slade Catholic School spirit wear can be worn on these days with the exception of hats which may not be worn inside the building.
- Spirit wear that is defaced, torn, altered or written on is not permissible.
- Dresses and skirts must be of reasonable length and not too tight. No thin straps or bare shoulders.
- Pants - Presentable jeans (except on PE days; see policy below) or pants are acceptable, but not pants that are tight. Sweatpants and joggers are acceptable. Opaque leggings or spandex are allowed only with an accompanying top which covers to mid-thigh. Pajama pants are not permitted. No rips, tears, or shear sections of any kind.
- Shorts may be worn during the months that regular uniform shorts are permissible. Otherwise, students must be in pants.
- Hair may not be dyed or combed in an unusual fashion.
- When wearing shorts or skirts, these must be visible below the shirt. (i.e. the shorts must be a modest length and should be long enough to be seen below the bottom of an oversized t-shirt or hoodie.)
- Bike/spandex shorts for students in grades 3-8 are not permitted unless accompanied by a top which covers to mid-thigh. The shorts must be visible below the top.
- When the weather turns cold, spirit wear must be visible. For example: it would be unacceptable to be wearing a Slade t-shirt which was completely covered by a Spalding sweatshirt.
- For students who have PE on Fridays, are permitted to wear athletic Spirit Wear, and must also wear athletic shoes. (For example, they may wear a Slade t-shirt with PE shorts/sweatpants, or other athletic shorts/sweatpants). Students are not permitted to wear jeans or other non-athletic apparel on PE days. Opaque leggings or spandex are allowed only with an accompanying top which covers to mid-thigh. Pajama pants are not permitted. No rips, tears, or shear sections of any kind.
- When wearing shorts or athletic skorts/skirts, these must be visible below the shirt. (i.e. the shorts should be long enough to be seen below the bottom of an oversized t-shirt or hoodie.) If non compliant, students will be asked to change into the PE uniform and issued a status. If a student is improperly dressed, they will be given alternate clothing to wear or their parents/guardians will be called to take them home or bring a change of clothes.
- Any shoes may be worn, except open-toed sandals, flip flops, clogs, thick-soled or high-heeled shoes.
- Earrings: Boys are not allowed to wear earrings at any time. Earrings for girls should be small posts only.

I. Middle School Formal Event Attire

Girls should wear a simple dress of modest neckline and length. Length should be no shorter than two inches above the knee. All dresses should cover the back completely. Sleeveless dresses are permitted, but the shoulders must be covered in their entirety. One-shoulder, halter, or strapless dresses are not permitted. Additionally, no cut-outs in any part of the dress, slits in the skirt, or sheer fabrics without a slip underneath are permitted. If a dress fails to meet any of the requirements, a sweater must be worn for the duration of any event. Girls should either wear flats or shoes with a minimal heel (about 1" high). Athletic, tennis, cloth, or canvas shoes are not acceptable and should not be worn.

Boys are required to wear a button-down shirt, tie, dress slacks, and dress shoes. Athletic, tennis, cloth, or canvas shoes are not acceptable and should not be worn.

These same attire guidelines apply to all upcoming school-sponsored activities, including, but not limited to, the graduation picture and graduation. All graduates will wear green robes over their outfits for the graduation ceremony.

J. Uniform Exchange

Please remember to save uniforms that your children have outgrown. They can be contributed to or traded in at the Uniform Exchange. The Uniform Exchange will not accept uniforms which are not in good repair. There are generally two used uniform sales throughout the year. For further information, please contact Shannon Scriba at sscriba8@gmail.com

XIII. School Services

Cafeteria

The cafeteria is available for all students in grades K-8. Students may bring a packed lunch from home, or purchase lunch in advance from our school lunch provider.

Students are requested to follow proper etiquette in the lunchroom. Please provide a napkin and any needed utensils with your child(ren)'s packed lunch. Students are not allowed to bring sodas, coffee, or energy drinks to school (ie. Celsius Fitness Energy Drink, PRIME energy, Monster, Red Bull, Starbucks drinks, etc). There are no facilities in which to heat children's lunches brought from home.

The hot lunch program offers students a choice of purchasing the daily entrée by ordering online in advance or purchasing items a la carte in person each day. The school lunch menu is provided weekly.

Pre-K4 (Full-Day) students are required to bring lunch from home each day. Milk is provided daily.

This year, our school lunch provider is:

Heaven Sent Catering
Catonsville, Maryland

443-527-5566 / jford@heavensentcaters.com

Order lunches online: <https://heavensentcateringllc.h1.hotlunchonline.net/>

Health Room

Monsignor Slade Catholic School has a registered nurse and several part-time medication technicians on staff to assist students in daily healthcare needs. The health room is fully staffed during normal school hours.

Library

The library is open for student and teacher use during school hours each day school is in session. Classes for Pre-K4 through 5th grades are scheduled to visit the library on a regular basis. In addition, middle school students are invited to visit the library at other available times with teacher permission.

All students in grades Pre-K4-8 may borrow non-reference books suitable for their grade level for a period of two weeks. No student should have more than two books borrowed at any time unless special arrangements have been made with the Media Specialist. Students are encouraged to be aware of the grade level designation of books so that the materials they choose are suitable to meet reading and interest levels.

Students are encouraged to return books by the due date. Overdue notices will be sent on a regular basis. There are no fines charged for overdue books. However, the student will be unable to borrow an additional book until the overdue book is returned or arrangements have been made for a replacement. Books that are four weeks overdue are considered lost and should be paid for immediately. No refunds will be made for books that are consequently found and returned. The student must also pay for any damages to books in excess of normal wear and tear.

There will be no check out of books before a long holiday, such as Christmas or Easter. All books are to be returned to the library the last day before those long holidays. Approximately 2-3 weeks before the end of the school year all books are to be returned to the library.

The library sponsors two book fairs each year. Please check the school calendar for dates.

Lost and Found

Articles may be claimed in the front office from 8:00 to 8:20 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:15 p.m. from our receptionist. All articles belonging to a child must be labeled. Quarterly, unclaimed articles are donated.

Pictures

Each year the school contracts with a photographer for individual and group pictures. Purchasing information will be distributed by the photographer.

XIV. Transportation

Car Riders

Please adhere to the posted speed limit of 5 M.P.H. while on Monsignor Slade Catholic School's property. This speed is not only for your child's safety but also for the safety of all our students, parents, and staff. For the safety of all, please do not engage in cell phone conversations if your car is in motion in the parking lot.

As outlined in this handbook, the school day ends at 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at 12:15 p.m. on designated half-days. Timely pickup is expected.

All students being transported by car must be picked up from the school parking lot only. For safety reasons, parents are not permitted to park or pick up students from off-site locations such as the Armory, the Parish Center, or along Dorsey Rd.

Parents may not choose alternative drop-off or pick-up locations on campus. Meaning, to avoid traffic, parents/guardians cannot create their own drop off or pick up locations. Designated areas are staffed specifically to ensure student safety. Please refer to the diagrams below for proper traffic flow.

Use of unauthorized locations is strictly prohibited. Parents who fail to comply will be contacted. Repeated violations may result in further action, including disciplinary consequences affecting both parent and student privileges.

The school cannot be responsible for students left on school property or the parking lot before 7:35 a.m., after 3:15 p.m., Monday-Friday, or after 12:30 p.m. on half-days.

Rideshare Policy

To ensure the safety and security of all students, **students at both the elementary and middle school levels are not permitted to be picked up from school grounds or any school-sponsored event by ride-sharing services (e.g., Uber, Lyft, etc.).** This policy applies to regular dismissal times, early dismissal times, as well as any after-school programs, extracurricular activities, or special events.

Authorized Pick-Up Persons:

Students may only be picked up by the following individuals:

1. **Legal Guardians:** As listed in the student's enrollment records.
2. **Emergency Contacts:** Individuals listed on the student's emergency contact list.
3. **Pre-Authorized Individuals:** Persons who have been explicitly authorized in writing by a legal guardian.

Special Pick-Up Arrangements:

If a legal guardian wishes to arrange for an individual not listed on the emergency contact list to pick up their child, the following procedure must be followed:

- **Written Notification:** The legal guardian must provide the school with a written notification detailing the name of the individual who will be picking up the student.
- **Verification Process:** The school may verify the identity of the individual picking up the student by checking a government-issued photo ID. The authorized individual must present this ID at the time of pick-up.

Enforcement:

Failure to comply with this policy may result in the following actions:

- The student may be held at school until a legal guardian or authorized emergency contact can be reached.
- A financial charge will be assessed to the legal guardian.
- Repeated violations of this policy may lead to a meeting with school administration to discuss further action.

Exceptions:

Any exceptions to this policy due to emergencies or extenuating circumstances must be approved by school administration. For example, if a student is escorted by an ambulance or emergency vehicle due to a need.

Traffic Procedures

For the safety of our students and community, all families are required to follow Monsignor Slade's established traffic patterns. Parents may not create their own rules, traffic flow, or drop-off/pick-up locations. Exiting through the entrance-only driveway (near the Armory) is strictly prohibited, as it is dangerous, illegal, and irresponsible. Repeated violations may result in law enforcement involvement and may jeopardize your child's continued enrollment at the school.

There are two authorized entrances to campus:

1. The Armory-side entrance is for cars turning right only from Dorsey Road or for vehicles entering from Central Avenue.
2. The main entrance at the light across from the Pascal Senior Center accommodates both right and left turns from Dorsey Road and handles two-way traffic to and from the parking lot.

Families using Extended Care may use either entrance.

Upon entering campus, drivers must follow all directional signs, student safety patrols, and staff instructions. At dismissal, please park within marked lines. Oversized vehicles (vans, trucks) may use end spaces to avoid blocking others.

All vehicles must exit via the main driveway (Pascal Center side), traveling along the back of the lot by the trees, past the Edu-Care Center, and out to Dorsey Road. Do not exit via the Armory driveway, which is an entrance only.

Your full cooperation is essential to maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all families.

Safe Driving Policy

All drivers on Monsignor Slade's campus are expected to operate their vehicles safely, responsibly, and in accordance with school procedures.

Drivers must:

- Obey all traffic signs, directional arrows, and parking lot diagrams
- Follow the instructions of **safety patrol students** and **staff on duty**
- Enter the **correct lanes** for drop-off or pick-up without attempting to bypass the process
- **Remain in line** and refrain from cutting, passing, or entering the wrong line intentionally
- Never ask their child to **misrepresent** their dismissal group (e.g., claiming to be a single rider when they are a multiple) to avoid waiting

Unsafe driving, disregarding established procedures, or manipulating dismissal protocols creates a hazardous environment for students and staff. Repeated or serious violations may lead to administrative action and could impact **continued enrollment** at Monsignor Slade.

Morning Drop-off Procedure

Please refer to the chart below for a detailed diagram of this a.m. procedure.

REMINDER: Students are not supervised prior to 7:35 a.m., unless they are enrolled in our Extended Care Program. This simply means that all students, unless a morning safety, are to remain in cars until the staff reports to traffic duty at 7:35 a.m.

If you use the armory entrance:

1. Extended Care Drop-Off (7:00 a.m. to 7:35 a.m.)

Those parents dropping their children off at Slade's Extended Care are strongly encouraged to use the "Armory Entrance" each morning. There are a few parking spaces designated for this purpose alongside the cafeteria; however, if you should find these spaces completely in-use, you are asked to park along the tree line on the right side of the driveway next to the Armory and walk your child down to the cafeteria to sign in.

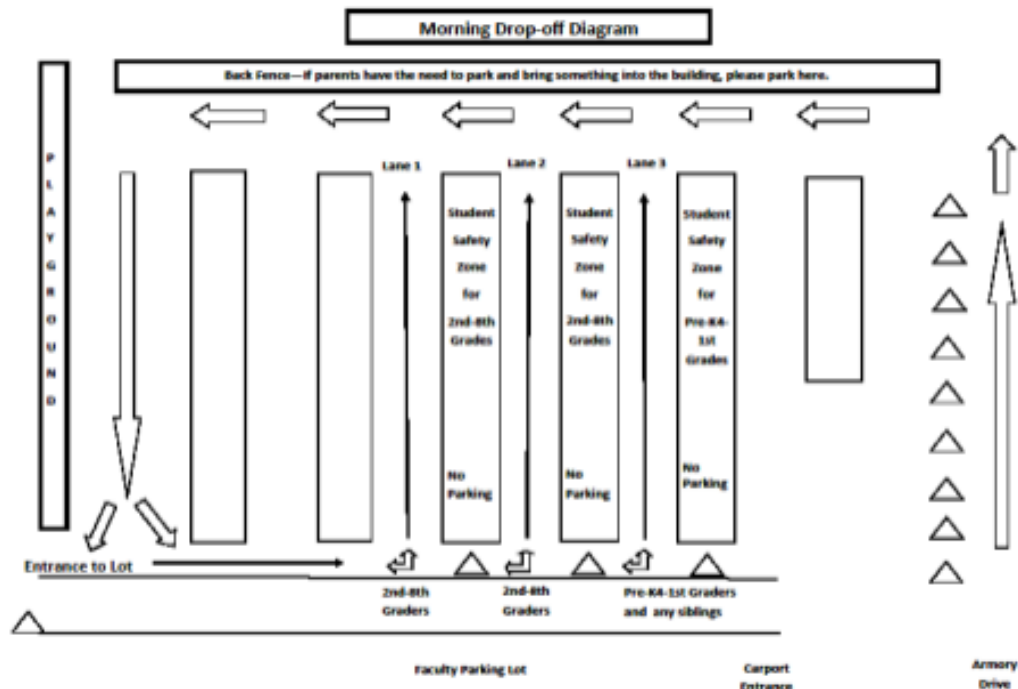
If you arrive after 7:35 a.m., you will need to proceed through the regular drop-off line, park your vehicle as directed on the parking lot diagram and then proceed into the building.

2. Drive & Drop-Off

If using the Pascal Center entrance, proceed to the driveway where parents will be directed into one of the three available lanes. The third lane is for students in grades Pre-K4-1st grade and any siblings/riders they may have in the vehicle. The first and second lanes are for any cars containing only 2nd-8th grade students. Follow the blue lane markings, as well as the directions of the staff on duty. Do not stop if there is room to advance in the lane. This will allow for a smoother flow of traffic and prevent back-ups in the driveway.

All students in the first three lanes should exit their vehicles on the right once the traffic is stopped by staff or student safeties on duty. They should follow the yellow lines to the yellow cones in the nearest 'Student Safety Zone'. Please be vigilant and watch for students crossing any traffic lane. Please remain in your car. There are staff and student safeties on post to assist children in Pre-K4-1st grades. All students should be prepared (coats on, book bags in hand, etc.) to exit the vehicle once it comes to a complete stop.

The Armory entrance is available for cars containing students only in grades 2-8 students. Parents should proceed past the cafeteria and follow the orange cones slightly to the left and into the fourth available lane. All students in the Armory entrance lane should exit their vehicles on the left once traffic is stopped by staff or student safeties on duty. Students should follow the yellow line to the yellow cone in the nearest 'Student Safety Zone'. Again, be vigilant and watch for students crossing any traffic lane.



Active supervision of students by staff on the parking lot ends by 8:00 a.m. If parents arrive after supervisory staff has left the parking lot, they must park and walk their student to the carport door.

If you use the Pascal Senior Center entrance:

Parents entering the school property using this entrance will need to follow one of the following options when dropping off students:

1. Edu-Care Parents

Upon entering the school property, please turn right into the Edu-Care parking area (the area just after the 1st STOP sign). When ready to leave, you must rejoin the incoming flow of traffic by turning right at the stop sign closest to the Edu-Care learning cottages. A teacher is posted in this area to facilitate this merger. Once you have rejoined the line of traffic, please follow the directions of the teacher on duty and proceed through the traffic pattern and exit our parking lot.

2. Extended Care Parents

Before 7:35 am, parents may park and walk their child(ren) down the steps to the cafeteria and sign in their child(ren). After 7:35 am, the children are to be dropped off through the main parking lot. Children should use the Student Safety Zones and proceed to the school entrance. The children are to report to their classrooms.

3. Drive & Drop-Off Parents

These parents proceed past the Edu-Care learning cottages and are directed by a teacher into one of the three designated 'Drive & Drop-Off' lanes. Follow the directions of the student safeties and teachers on duty. All students are to exit their vehicle as directed by those on duty and proceed down the yellow lines in the 'Student Safety Zone' and await permission to cross safely.

For the safety of everyone, do not let your child out of the vehicle prior to the designated drop-off area to 'cut across' or walk along the faculty parking area.

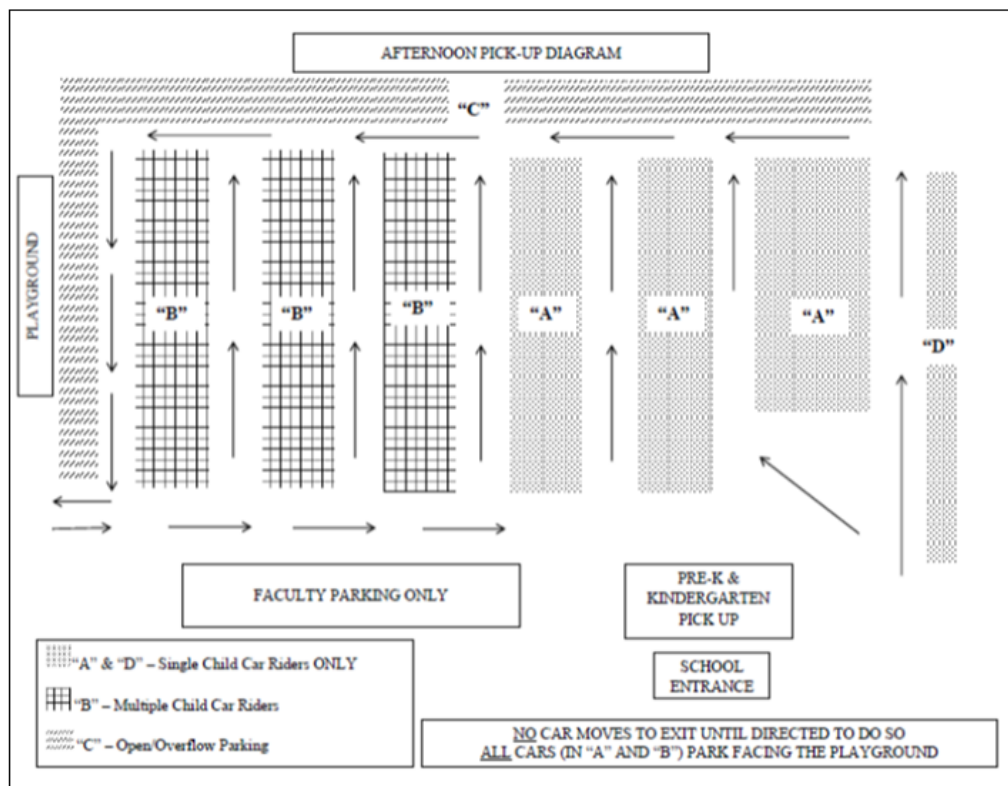
Please remain in your car at all times. There are student safeties on post to assist your child with his/her coat, book bag, musical instrument, lunch, etc. All students should be prepared (coats on, book bags in hand, etc.) to exit the vehicle once it comes to a complete stop.

Please be patient while waiting for the cars in front of you to finish unloading. For the safety of our students, please do not pass a stopped vehicle for any reason.

Afternoon Parking/Dismissal Procedure

Please refer to the chart below for a detailed diagram of this p.m. procedure.

Parents are reminded that the following procedures are designed with the safety of all in mind. Therefore, please be diligent in following these guidelines, as you are a role model for your children. (NOTE: Parents are not allowed to park in the Parish Center parking area, the Edu-Care lot or the Armory parking lot during Slade dismissal)



A. Armory Entrance

All parents entering the parking lot from this entrance should proceed up the driveway and wait behind the cones. Once student safeties have removed the cones, parents may park in the first row closest to the Armory. Once parents have their child(ren), they are to proceed to the back of the parking lot where the late pick-up line forms along the fence.

B. Pascal Center Entrance

All parents entering the parking lot from this entrance should proceed past the Edu-Care Center parking area, up along the 'front aisle' (area between the faculty parking area and the parent parking area), turning left down either a single-child car-rider (three rows nearest the Armory) or a multiple-child car rider aisle (three rows nearest the playground).

Please remember that vehicles are to park facing the playground end of the lot. Each parking aisle has been designed for two-way traffic.

We also ask that you, out of courtesy to your fellow Monsignor Slade Catholic School parents, park between the designated lines for the spaces. Do not straddle two parking spaces. There are plenty of spaces along the back row if your vehicle needs additional room. Also, larger vehicles such as full sized vans or trucks may park at the end of the rows where you will obviously have more room.

C. Pets

As children or adults may be allergic to or fearful of certain animals, as well as the risk of diseases, bites, or injuries, no animals are allowed to be outside of the vehicle while on the Monsignor Slade Catholic School campus.

Parking Directions for All Parents (Singles and Multiples)

Please do not arrive before 2:00 p.m. for dismissal as students may still be using the blacktop area for recess or PE classes.

The first three parking areas closest to the Armory are for single-child car-riders only (cars containing one Monsignor Slade student). These areas are labeled Section "A" on the dismissal diagram. If all of these spaces are filled, you will need to park in one of the Section "B" areas, but be aware that you will be dismissed by the teacher on traffic duty with those cars in Section "B".

Triple parking is allowed in the first row/section of "singles only" (section closest to the Armory) rather than the 'double parking' allowed in all other rows. Please be advised that if parking in this area, you agree to be ready to leave on time when it is your turn. Should you miss your turn, you will be required to wait to leave until the very end of the dismissal process.

All perimeter parking, including by the cafeteria, is overflow parking. All overflow parking will be dismissed after the main parking lot of singles and multiples is dismissed. Overflow will be dismissed in clockwise order beginning by the playground. Late arrivals will follow overflow parking.

The next three parking areas are for multiple-child car-riders (cars containing two or more Monsignor Slade Catholic School students). These areas are labeled Section "B" on the dismissal diagram.

Please refrain from parking in the "reserved" parking spaces on the parking lot, unless you are the authorized user of such space for the school year. There are two reserved spaces in the 'singles' and two spaces in the 'multiples' sections of the parking lot.

Once dismissal of students from the building has begun, all traffic will be stopped until such time as it is deemed safe to resume parking cars. If your car should be held in a "waiting area", please be patient. Do not leave your vehicle to go meet your children. There are procedures in place to keep all students with a

teacher until parents can park and pick them up.

All parents of children in grades Pre-K4-K must walk to meet your child/ren. Please stand and wait for your child/ren in the designated pick up area. Do not wait up near the carport entrance or the faculty parking area, as the children need clear passages from the school in order to dismiss in a timely fashion.

Students and parents should report to their cars immediately to enable the staff on dismissal duty to begin moving vehicles off the lot. No cars are to move until directed to do so.

Once traffic has begun to move, parents and students may cross to their cars only after being signaled by staff or safety on duty to do so.

Staff on duty will indicate when cars are to begin to move out of the parking area as well as which direction they are to move. Please wait until you are directed to move by the staff.

If a child is normally a single-child car-rider, but will have other Monsignor Slade Catholic School students riding home with him/her on any given day, the parent **MUST** park their vehicle in the multiple child parking section (Section "B"). This child should also come out with the multiple-child car-riders.

The reverse of this is true for a child who is normally a multiple-child car rider, but who will be a single child car-rider on any given day.

Overflow Parking, Late Arrivals and Parents Arriving for After-School Appointments

Once dismissal of students from the building has begun, all traffic flow onto the parking lot will be halted. Parents are asked to remain in their vehicles patiently until the "lates" are given the "go ahead" by the safety or teacher on duty to proceed into a parking space. *Please note:* Teachers will remain on duty watching over any (Pre-K4-8) student whose parent may be in the "late line."

The driver of any students in grades Pre-K4-K is responsible to walk to the square pick up area, which is indicated on the afternoon pick-up diagram.

Parents picking up their child/ren from the Extended-Care Program during regular dismissal time will not be allowed to drive through the parking lot after picking up their child. These parents will be directed to line up and wait for their turn to exit the parking lot.

Any parent picking up a student for an appointment (doctor, dental, etc.) must do so prior to 2:15 p.m. Otherwise, you will be dismissed from the parking lot in the usual time schedule.

XV. Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-Curricular Activities

A variety of activities are available for students including clubs, band, sports, and field trips.

Please be advised that the school nurse, health room supplies, and student medications stored in the health room, are not available during after-school, extra-curricular, and weekend activities. Therefore, it is the parent's responsibility to coordinate with the adult(s) conducting any extra-curricular activity to assure that their child's medication is available during the activity.

Students involved in band, or other after-school club or activity, must be picked up within 15 minutes of the activity's end time. Any student with a late pick-up from an after-school activity will incur a late fee in accordance with the above-stated policy.

Band

Students in the intermediate and middle school grades are eligible to participate in the school band. Monsignor Slade Catholic School has three bands: beginner, concert, and symphonic. Lessons are held during school hours, once a week for one-half hour. It is the child's responsibility to make up any work missed during band lessons. Full band practice is held one day a week, after school, for students in the concert and symphonic bands.

Rental fees for an instrument depend on the store from which the instrument is rented. The usual procedure is that rental may go towards purchase of the instrument. Once a student is a contributing member of the band s/he is expected to participate in all concerts.

Buddies

Teachers match students in grades 4-8 with students in grades Pre-K4-3 to allow students to develop positive relationships throughout our campus. Buddies work on joint activities and frequently send communications, which encourage socialization.

Clubs

A variety of clubs are available for students to join at varying grade levels.

Safety Patrol

This service organization plays an important role in helping school staff provide adequate safety procedures for children who attend our school. Parental permission is required.

Slade Ambassadors Program

The Slade Ambassadors Program consists of middle school students who are selected to represent Monsignor Slade Catholic School in some capacity, either at internal or external affairs. Students will be selected to be ambassadors based upon their outstanding level of responsibility, volunteerism, and commitment to the school community. All Monsignor Slade Catholic School ambassadors are subject to administrative approval and will serve as needed.

Sports

A variety of sports are available for students of all grade-levels. Please see the Athletic Council section for a complete listing of available sports programs.

Student Council

Students from the intermediate and middle school sections are eligible to participate in the Student Council. are held annually according to their constitution and by-laws. The focus of the Student Council is to provide leadership and service to our school community.

XVI. School Programs and Associations

Athletic Council

This Council is accountable to the school's administration. This board is open to recommendations, which will improve the athletic program in the school. Membership is open to adults. Monies necessary for implementing the total extra-curricular programs are obtained through registration fees.

The Monsignor Slade Catholic School athletic philosophy is:

- to develop a wholesome attitude towards a competitive spirit and the desire to win.
- to develop character.
- to develop team spirit, sportsmanship, and fair play.
- to develop each child's God given abilities.
- to develop a sense of respect for oneself, others and authority.

Children in sports need understanding, acceptance and praise. As children grow and are nurtured and encouraged by their parents, coaches and other volunteers, it is our job to assist in providing a solid foundation for further physical activity as they mature into young adults. As we encourage sports participation at Monsignor Slade Catholic School, we must be aware that moral, ethical behavior emphasizing the value of sportsmanship on the part of adults will provide the best example for our children.

Athletic Council Officers

President: Gabby Quitanilla sladeacpresident@gmail.com

Duties of the Council

Duties will include but are not limited to: assure implementation of the MSCS athletic philosophy

- determine when implementation of new programs is in order and in keeping with the school's philosophy
- approve financial disbursements
- set disciplinary policies and rule on any action taken

Listed below are service hours that may be earned through the athletic program.

Position Hours

- Athletic Council Board Members 12
- Team Coach 12
- Assistant Coach 10
- Event Monitor 10
- Team Parent 5

Athletic programs offered at Monsignor Slade Catholic School:

1. basketball league play for boys' and girls' teams, ages 7 to 14
2. basketball clinic for boys and girls in grades K-2
3. cheerleading for grades K-8
4. field hockey for girls in grades K-8
5. lacrosse for boys and girls in grades K-8
6. soccer league play for boys and girls ages 8 to 14
7. soccer clinic/intramurals for grades K-3

Please refer to the MSCS sports website for the latest information, including current fees, for all sports programs. The web address is www.sladesports.com.

Extended Care Program (see Parent Guidelines on pg. 69)

This licensed child care program is designed for children enrolled in Monsignor Slade Catholic School in grades Pre-K4-8 who need care before and/or after school hours. Morning care is provided from 7:00 to 7:35 a.m. Afternoon care is provided from school dismissal until 6:00 p.m. It is expected that all parents will be prompt in picking up children by 6:00 p.m. The program is open on scheduled half-days and on some days when Monsignor Slade Catholic School is scheduled to be closed. Please refer to the school calendar for specific closings. For fees and further information, please call the Edu-care Office (410-760-2024).

Supervised by caring adults, the Extended Care program offers students the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities including outdoor play, crafts, and games in a safe and nurturing environment. Students are provided a snack and time to work on homework in the afternoon. The program does not offer tutoring services.

Summer Program (see Parent Guidelines on pg. 69)

Beginning on the first weekday of summer vacation and continuing until the first day of school in the fall, this program provides full day care for students in grades Pre-K2-4. Space is limited. For fees and further information, please call the Edu-care Office (410-760-2024).

Home and School Association (HASA)

President contact: hasa@msladeschool.com

It is an organization that:

- helps parents, school administration, and faculty develop a mutual understanding and appreciation of the mission of Catholic education as lived in the local Catholic School within the Archdiocese of Baltimore.
- provides a formal avenue for parents/caregivers of current students to participate with the faculty and administration in their children's education.
- develops supportive systems for communication and service to the local Catholic School. · works with the Principal to provide programs and processes that engage the School families in spiritual, educational, outreach, social, legislative, public relations, service, and fundraising activities that further the mission of the School.
- collaborates with the other parish, civic, and School organizations.
- is rooted in prayer, discernment, and the contemporary vision of the Church of Catholic education. · is accountable to the Principal of the School.
- provides positive and energetic communication for the Administration and School community. · displays positive Public Relations/Marketing on behalf of the School.
- supports financial endeavors of the School.
- observes the School's mission and vision.

All parents are members of the Home and School Association and are encouraged to be active in this organization.

With the cost of Catholic education rising yearly, a continued concentrated effort is needed to provide assistance to Monsignor Slade Catholic School. Each year, the HASA provides funding toward the school's budget in an effort to keep yearly tuition lower, thus lightening the financial burden on each school family. Parent participation in these fundraisers will help HASA in reaching that goal.

Parents are responsible for fundraising items sent home with a student. Articles or money received from selling articles should be returned to school within the time allotment. All outstanding debts and/or returned checks must be paid by the end of the school year. Failure to do so will result in your child(ren)'s yearbook, report cards, records, etc., being withheld.

The Constitution and By-laws of The Home and School Association can be found on the school's web site at www.msladeschool.com.

Archdiocese of Baltimore

Acceptable Use Policy for the Internet and Technology Tools

Technology skills are necessary to ready our students for their future. Access to the Internet and technology tools (including software tools, web-based applications and services, computer equipment, I-Pads, and other personal electronic devices) allow students to conduct research, produce digital content, and communicate with classmates and teachers. The Internet and technology tools put enormous power at the fingertips of users. As such, they also place a great deal of responsibility on users.

It is imperative that technology resources be used to build community, encourage critical reflection, and foster readiness for future learning. Developments in technology at the School are to be used ethically, legally, and responsibly. As in other areas, our students are expected to make good choices with regard to their behavior.

Individual users are responsible for their activity on the Internet and technology tools, including the material stored and information shared. In order to protect private and personal information, unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information is prohibited. The School reserves the right to edit Internet accounts for child-only configurations and to run filtering software for students' protection.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that student users (and their parents) recognize the limitations the School imposes on the use of the Internet and technology tools and that they understand the standards of behavior the School expects of users.

All users of the School network and technology tools, whether on a School-owned or personal device, are responsible for adhering to the following guidelines for acceptable use.

Acceptable uses of the Internet and technology tools are for authorized academic and school-related activities that support learning and teaching and:

- Respect the privacy and property rights of others and the well-being of the School
- Are consistent with Roman Catholic values and morals
- Treat technology tools and computer equipment with respect.

Unacceptable uses of the Internet and technology tools include but are not limited to:

- Violating the rights or privacy of others, including by photographing or filming an individual without consent
- Posting or distributing videos or photographs without consent of the persons depicted and the School
- Using technology to send profanity, obscenity, or other offensive or harmful language · Unauthorized copying, downloading, or installation of content, software or applications (including plagiarism or "pirating" music)
- Sending false information or sending messages to the School community that fail to identify the sender (including anonymous messages or messages using a pseudonym)
- Using any program designed to disrupt network performance or breach network security, such as software designed to capture passwords or break encryption protocols
- Revealing personal information beyond what is required for login while using Internet or web-based resources
- Posing as another person with the use of technology
- Responding to inappropriate messages from others (which should be reported to the School)
- Downloading or copying information onto disks or hard drives without prior teacher approval
- Accessing, downloading, storing, or printing files or messages that are inappropriate or may be offensive to others (including pornography and other inappropriate images)
- Sharing of passwords or attempting to discover another's password (passwords should be

- changed frequently)
- Using or accessing another's account (network accounts are to be used only by those for whom the account has been established)
- Intentionally writing, producing, generating, copying or introducing dangerous codes or programs designed to cause harm, including, but not limited to viruses, bugs, 'worms', etc.
- Intentionally damaging, altering, or tampering with any hardware, software, printers, keyboards, speakers, etc.
- Accessing or searching files, directories, or folders for which the user does not have authorization · Intentionally erasing, renaming, or disabling of anyone else's files or programs · Accessing social media, email, or other off-task websites or apps during School without explicit permission of a teacher or adult supervisor
- Violating School conduct rules or the law.

Harassment/cyber-bullying of others online, whether against a student, non-student, or employee, is serious, is prohibited, and is contrary to the School's policy and values. Harassment/cyber-bullying whether it is initiated on campus or off campus, online or in person, should be reported immediately to a faculty member, and may lead to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution under **Maryland's law prohibiting the Misuse of Computer Service ("Grace's Law")**.

Parents are responsible for

- Reviewing and discussing this policy with their child as well as supporting the School in its enforcement
- Partnering with the School in monitoring their child's technology use
- Modeling appropriate Internet behaviors for their child
- Reporting any concerns regarding this policy or their child's use of the Internet or technology tools to School personnel.

Failure to adhere to the policy guidelines may result in a revocation of a student's Internet access and other technology privileges and disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Web-based Services

The School uses Google Apps for Education as well as other web-based education tools, sites, and services ("web-based services") to provide students with important web-based educational experiences and enhanced opportunities to communicate and share collaboratively with one another. As part of students' use of web-based services, certain educational records may be created, collected, or stored. Directory information, such as a child's name, email address, grade/age, and enrollment status, may also be shared with web-based services. The School may access, monitor, and review children's use of web based services and Internet use and children shall not have any expectation of privacy with respect to any communications or activities through such services. Use of web-based services is for educational purposes only and subject to the conduct and acceptable use guidelines set forth in this Handbook. A list of the School's web-based services and corresponding privacy policies are available upon request. By enrolling a child in the School, the parent consents to the child's participation in the School's academic activities and programs, including the child's use of and access to web-based services as described in this paragraph. In order to withhold or withdraw consent for the use of web-based services, parents must contact the school principal in writing.

Parent Guidelines

for families participating in the following programs:

Edu-Care Part Time Pre-K 2

Edu-Care Pre-K 2 Full Day

Edu-Care Part Time Pre-K 3

Edu-Care Pre-K 3 Full Day

Extended Care for Full-Day Pre-K4 - 8th

Summer Program for Pre-K 2 - 7th Grade

MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDU-CARE CENTER

Monsignor Slade Catholic School includes a child care center, known as the Edu-Care Center, which is licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education. The Edu-Care Center ("Center") has been open since 1975.

Philosophy:

As a Catholic licensed child care center, we accept each child as a child of God, recognizing that each is capable of growing in his or her own unique way. We provide an atmosphere of love and trust in which each child is free to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically, and socially. Our curriculum provides structure and guidance needed for our students to grow in a fun, safe and nurturing environment. Staff participates in on-going, professional development to keep abreast of current best practices in Early Childhood education.

The Edu-Care Center provides educational care for children ages 2-5. We consider the needs, growth, and development patterns of young children. Through our child-oriented environment, we hope to instill a sense of self-worth and a love of learning. We believe that each child is an unique individual created by God.

Our program provides a rich variety of activities and experiences. We endeavor to create a warm, accepting atmosphere in which the child can feel secure. We offer the child challenges without pressure as well as opportunities for success. A child learns through play. Through examination and exploration of his/her environment, the young child establishes the foundation for future attitudes, habits, and intellectual competences. Through well-planned activities, the child will learn to share and take turns, to respect the rights and needs of others, the art of listening, and the art of following directions. The child will begin an educational process which, if correctly nourished throughout life, will enable him/her to become a productive, worthwhile, responsible person.

Inclusion Policy

Whereas: The Philosophy of the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore is based on the Christian Social Principles of the Gospel Message- to love and respect the rights of all people.

It is the policy of the Department of Catholic Schools that the Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color and/or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarships and loan programs, athletics and other school programs.

Children entering preschool must be the appropriate age that will enable them to comply with the MSDE regulations regarding entrance to school. In the case of a foreign born student, immigration documentation is required.

If a student has been identified through Child Find or has an existing IFSP, IEP or 504 plan, a copy is requested at the time of application. Monsignor Slade Edu-Care has a strong working relationship with Anne Arundel County Child Find, and our teachers and staff collaborate with the Anne Arundel County Public School professionals who work through the Community Based Services Program (CBS) and Single Services programs; we are inclusive of children with special needs and disabilities to the best of our abilities.

We strive to work with students, families, and professionals to steward each child in developing their gifts and strengths. Monsignor Slade Edu-Care has a two-month evaluation period for all students, and uses the Brigance Screening Assessment to benchmark each student's development. If observations are made about a student's behavior, academic progress, speech, or occupational skills that may warrant a referral to Anne Arundel County Child Find, our staff or Director will have a conversation or conference with the parents/guardians about the appropriate strategies to benefit the student's development.

Monsignor Slade Catholic School has a full-time school counselor and a partnership with the Kennedy Krieger Institute for additional support and input in guiding the development of each student.

Admission:

The Edu-Care Center accepts children beginning at two years of age. We follow the age qualification guidelines set forth by the Maryland State Department of Education; therefore, the cut-off for age of entrance into all preschool programs is September 1st. Children with birthdays on September 2nd and after will be placed in the next year's program.

The following MSDE-required forms must be submitted prior to start date:

- Health Inventory (OCC 1215), which includes Blood Lead Testing (DHMH
- 4620) Immunization Record (DHMH 896)
- Birth Certificate
- Emergency Card (OCC 1214)
- Medication Administration Authorization Form (OCC1216) - if applicable for prescription and non prescription medication
- School-aged children must also complete the MSCS Authorization form for medication

Programs:

Edu-Care - Full-Day - Preschool program for children ages two and three years of age.

Edu-Care - Part-Time - Morning-only pre-school program for children two and three years of age.

These programs run from August to June.

Extended Care for children in grades Pre-K4 (full-day) through 8th. Includes Before and After school care during the school year, care on scheduled half days, and care on some full days when school is closed. This program runs from August to June.

Summer Program for children in Pre-K 2 to 7th grade. This program runs for 8 to 9 weeks throughout the summer months.

Hours:

The Edu-Care Center is open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Pre-K 2 Full Day and Pre-K 3 Full Day.

Part Time Pre-K 2 and Part Time Pre-K 3 run from 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Extended Care is open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:35 a.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. during the school year.

Extended Care is open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. during the summer.

We reserve the right to alter hours of operation if necessary.

Curriculum:

The following curriculum is used: *Archdiocese of Baltimore Curriculum, Creative Curriculum, God Made Me, and Image of God Series: Who am I?*

Extended Care Programs:

Extended Care (during the school year) - This program is designed for MSCS children enrolled in full-day Pre-K4 through 8th grade who need child care before and/or after school hours. We offer a variety of activities to supplement the school day. Though we are not able to provide tutoring services, we do provide your children with the opportunity to do their homework in a safe, nurturing environment. The extended care program is designed to promote a positive self-concept in each child. The Center is staffed with warm, caring adult models with whom to identify, who will give your child emotional support and a great deal of encouragement to be imaginative, creative and resourceful. The children have opportunities to celebrate holidays and special occasions and regularly engage in projects or age-appropriate crafts.

Summer Program - This program provides full-day child care during the summer months for children ages two through 7th grade. This program runs for 8 to 9 weeks throughout the summer. The program includes water play, sports/games, arts & crafts, theme weeks, field trips, etc. Information regarding the summer program is released in February for the upcoming summer.

Arrival:

Edu-Care Children (2s & 3s) - During school arrival time, please obey all traffic directions and keep to the 10 mph speed limit. Park in the Edu-Care lot and walk your children into the appropriate building. Children are to be signed in and out by an adult using the QR code.

Extended Care Children (Pre-K 4 through 8th grade) - From 7:00-7:35 a.m. parents may park by the cafeteria by entering the school at the armory entrance. Then escort their child into the building through the double doors at the bottom of the steps. After 7:35 a.m. children should be dropped off in the school parking lot in the school drop-off lanes. Traffic control must be obeyed at all times. Children in the cafeteria will be escorted upstairs at 7:35 a.m. where they report to their classrooms. Children are to be signed in and out by an adult using the QR code.

Departure:

Only parents, legal guardians, or authorized designees may pick up and sign out a child from the program. If someone other than the parent or guardian will be picking up the child, written permission must be provided, previous to picking up. Persons not recognized by staff will be asked to provide identification. Emergency Cards (OCC Form 1214) must be kept current and updated annually. Children are to be signed in and out by an adult using the QR code.

The Edu-Care Center (2s and 3s) closes at 5p.m. Extended Care closes at 6 p.m. If running late, please give the Center a call. Picking up after closing time will result in a late pick-up fee of \$20 per every 15 minutes, or any portion thereof. Late fees will be added to the family's FACTS account.

Health and Safety:

To promote physical fitness and gross motor skill development, students will have unstructured physical activity daily. When the weather is appropriate, the outdoor playground areas will be used. For full day students, they will go outside in both the morning and afternoon.

The safety of our students is our top priority, but it is the nature of physical activity that accidents will occur. For minor accidents, staff will administer first-aid and send home a written note to the parent/ guardian. Staff may call the emergency contact to alert them to a health concern. In health emergencies, the staff will call 911 and then the emergency contact. MSCS has a registered nurse on staff and she may be consulted as well.

Students with disabilities and/or special health care needs should have documentation on file through the Health Inventory, IFSP/IEP or other documentation. This information will be shared with our preschool director, principal, school nurse and classroom staff. Communication about special needs and accommodations is key to the successful care and education of the student, and a conference of concerned parties may be arranged to discuss implementation of special considerations or accommodations.

Safety:

Safety for your child, yourself, our staff, and all who use our facilities, is a prime concern. Please make note of the following safety measures:

- No child will be released to any person that appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. An alternate person will be contacted to pick up the child. If necessary, the person under any apparent influence will be reported to the police.
- All traffic directions (either in writing or as directed by traffic control) must be strictly followed. The speed limit is 10 mph and will be enforced. No driving down the cafeteria hill. Obey stop signs and one-way designations.

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- Under no circumstances is a car to be left unattended with the motor running.
 - Small children must be accompanied by a parent at all times.
 - Slade is a smoke-free campus, including field trips and school activities.
 - Premises are monitored by security cameras.
- Doors are accessed by security codes. These codes should not be shared with children. At no time should the door be held open for a stranger.
- Park in designated parking spaces only.
 - Children up to age eight need to be in a car seat and older children in a seat belt. · At all times, please drive in a safe and judicious manner, following all signage and traffic controls.
 - Lunches must not contain potentially hazardous foods. If in doubt, please see a staff member. The use of cold packs is recommended.

Sick Policy/Absences:

If a child becomes ill while at the Center, a parent/guardian will be notified and arrangements must be made to pick up the child immediately. No sick child is to be brought to the Center. Symptoms that indicate illness may include fever over 100 degrees, vomiting, diarrhea, unspecified rash, general malaise, severe coughing, etc. If any of the symptoms above appear while the child is in our care, the child will need to be picked up immediately. This is health department policy. Please let us know if your child will be absent and for what reason. Children who are sent home with a fever cannot return to school until they are fever-free for twenty-four hours without medication. Children sent home with diarrhea may return after twenty-four hours if diarrhea free.

Medication:

To request that medication be administered to your child during school hours, including over-the-counter medication, please provide a doctor's written authorization on form #DHR/CCA 1216. All prescription medication must be in the original container and have the name of the child receiving the medicine on the label. Once brought to the Center, all medication should be turned over to a staff member as medication may not be in your child's lunch box, backpack, or cubby. The child must receive one dose prior to attending school. School-aged children requiring medication must also complete the MSCS Medication Authorization Form.

Fees:

Edu-Care Program fees are paid monthly using the FACTS Tuition Management System. Parents have several billing options available through their FACTS Tuition Management System account. Failure to keep one's account current may result in dismissal from the Center. Specific questions about the FACTS Tuition Management System account should be directed to the MSCS Business Office.

This program begins on the first day of school and runs through the last day of school.

To withdraw from the Program, please provide written notice two weeks in advance.

We also participate in Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN) for DoD and US Coast Guard families. For more information please visit their website at <https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/mcchome>. Our provider number is 3000074514.

The state of Maryland offers a child care scholarship program. For more information about qualifications, please call 1-877-227-0125 or visit their website at www.Money4ChildCare.com

Food:

Edu-Care Children (Part-Time) - Families provide a daily snack. The center provides milk and water.

Edu-Care Children (Full-Day) - Families provide a bagged lunch and two snacks per day. Please label AM and PM snacks. The center provides milk and water. Lunches must not contain potentially hazardous foods. Lunch boxes/bags should be insulated and include an ice pack. Please be reminded that we cannot heat food for your child in the microwave. Sippy cups should not be brought to the Center. In addition, only children arriving early (before 7:35 a.m.) may bring a snack to be eaten immediately. If the child chooses not to eat the snack, the food will be put away and offered at the next scheduled eating time. Morning snack is at 9:00 a.m. for all children. Foods that are a potential choking hazard must be cut into smaller pieces (grapes, hot dogs, etc.).

Extended Care Children - Extended Care children must bring a lunch on half-days and days when school is scheduled to be closed. Lunches from home must not contain potentially hazardous foods and should have an ice pack for safe storage. Please be reminded that we cannot heat food for your child in the microwave. Families must provide one or two snacks a day depending on the schedule. Please label snacks, "Extended Care." The center provides milk and water.

Children arriving before 7:35 a.m. may bring a snack to eat immediately upon arrival. If they choose not to eat the snack from home, it shall be put away. Exceptions to this rule will be made only for medical reasons.

Please discuss with staff if your child has food allergies.

Please be sure you are sending whole grains, fresh fruits, and vegetables for balanced meals, as well as limiting fat, sugar, and salt content.

Naps:

Full-day 2s and 3s are required to rest each day. Each child is provided with a cot. State regulations require that each child have a top and bottom cover for the cot. A small sleeping bag or nap mat may be used. All bedding must be clearly labeled and taken home weekly for laundering.

Cubbies:

Each child in the Center is assigned a cubby, hook, or basket for coats and backpacks. Other supplies as needed will be kept at the center in cubbies or classrooms.

Clothing - Edu-Care Children:

Children ages 2-5 should always keep a change of clothing at the center.. We do not recommend belts or straps that the child cannot manage. It is important for children of this age to have easy access so that removing clothing does not hinder toileting. All children go outside every day unless the weather is extremely unsuitable. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. All clothing must be labeled. Sandals or flip-flops are not allowed because of the danger of tripping or injury when trying to run or climb. **Tennis shoes are mandatory at all times.** School uniforms are not required. Casual play clothing is recommended for everyday wear.

Clothing - Extended Care Children (Grades Pre-K4-8):

Extended Care children remain in their uniforms until they are picked up for the day. Students may, however, choose to bring a pair of tennis shoes to wear after school. Children in Pre-K4 should always keep a complete change of clothes in their cubbies.

Diapering Supplies:

Families of children requiring diapering must provide all supplies needed by the child (diapers, wipes, etc.). Parents must sign an authorization form to have any topical ointment applied. Please provide extra clothing for children transitioning to toileting. Children in Pre-K4 must be toilet-trained.

Parties:

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at the Center, we are more than happy to do so. Please make arrangements with the staff. We request that you keep it simple. Items must be peanut-free. During the year, staff members will plan holiday celebrations and request donations. Sign-up sheets will be posted or electronically shared.

Toys from Home:

Except on designated "Show & Share" days, we ask that children not bring toys from home. The full-day children may bring a small doll or stuffed animal for naptime, as long as they understand that it must stay in the cubby at other times. Books may be brought in to share at story time. If a child insists on bringing something, please tell them that they must ask permission to do so. The Center is not responsible for toys brought from home. Pacifiers are prohibited. For preschool children, electronic devices should remain at home.

Change in Status:

Please notify us, in writing, of any change in work status, telephone number, address, marital status, custody status, etc. Parents wishing to withdraw their child(ren) should give the Center two weeks' notice in writing.

Parent-Staff Communication:

Areas of concern relating to your child may be discussed either informally at drop-off or pick-up or at a formally-requested conference. Other formal, teacher-requested conferences will be scheduled. Monthly calendars and weekly newsletters are provided. Appointments for conferences should be made for a time that is convenient for those concerned and to also allow for complete supervision of the children. At no time should a parent confront a child or another parent. Inappropriate adult language and behavior will not be tolerated and may result in the dismissal of the child.

The telephone number for the Edu-Care Center is 410-766-7130 ext 2502.

You can call 410- 766-7130 ext 2411 to reach the extended care office directly. Inquiries may also be sent to s.peters@msladeschool.com. Important announcements regarding emergencies, early closings, etc., will be made through the school's electronic notification system.

We cannot always answer the telephone. Please leave a message. Staff members will check for messages periodically or upon returning inside.

Family Engagement:

At Monsignor Slade Catholic School, we have many opportunities for family engagement during the school year. We encourage families to be a part of activities such as Muffins with VIP! (Formerly Muffins with Mom), Donuts with VIP! (Formerly Donuts with Dad), Grandfriends and Special Friends Days, etc. We participate in community outreach through our work with local food banks, homeless shelters, etc. We encourage families to be a part of our Home and School Association, and to participate in school fundraisers. Through our partnership with Christ the King Church, we reach out to the local Hispanic community, working with church leaders to translate for families who may speak English as a second language, and we also have bilingual teachers who help to keep accurate communication flowing with our families.

Discipline:

When we discipline children, we are teaching them two things: to use desirable behavior and to avoid undesirable behavior. We believe the most effective method of discipline is a positive reward system. Praise and kindness will be used as encouragement.

Teachers help promote self-discipline by modeling positive and appropriate behavior, encouraging children to "use their words" during peer disagreements, and redirecting behavior when it is appropriate. Children are given developmentally-appropriate choices to allow for independent thinking.

On occasion, when warranted, a child may be asked to use a "quiet area" to settle and will be there for one minute for every year of age; then he/she will speak with the teacher about the behavior. Parents are made aware of discipline concerns through notes, emails, phone calls or informal conversations. The Center or parents may request a conference to discuss concerns, work on behavior goals, and develop an action plan. We work together towards developing positive behaviors.

For behaviors that do not respond to the above techniques, removal from the program may be necessary. Types of behavior that could result in dismissal are: repeated physical and/or verbal abuse (hitting, biting, hair pulling); constant refusal to follow directions and obey staff; leaving the group without staff permission; offensive language and/or actions. All of these situations are potentially hazardous to your child and/or others. Every attempt will be made to work with the child and family to correct misbehavior, but if the behavior continues, the child will be dismissed from the Center.

Positive Behavioral Practices:

At Monsignor Slade Edu-Care, it is our goal to help each child learn in a developmentally appropriate way, starting with social-emotional development, which gives the student the foundation for future academic success. To help a child learn positive behavior, we use praise, behavior modeling, and redirection to achieve our goal. We strive to observe positive behaviors and give him/her praise and be clear that these are the desired behaviors to help the child feel a sense of accomplishment.

In some instances, we may implement a behavior chart with stickers to show the child the progress that they are making toward a desired behavior goal. We will work in conjunction with the child's parents to set achievable goals so that the student experiences a sense of accomplishment in school and at home.

In each classroom we develop classroom rules at the beginning of the year, asking for input from the students so that the rules and expectations are clear and understandable.

We also work with the students on personal problem solving skills. We want to help develop empathy for other children, resilience and self-confidence. If a child is having difficulty with a skill, we will model it for them, then give them the opportunity to try it for themselves.

Inclement Weather:

Visit www.aacps.org or monitor radio/TV stations for inclement weather postings for Anne Arundel County Public Schools. Monsignor Slade Catholic School, the Edu-Care Center, and the Extended Care Program will follow the delayed opening or school closing announcements given for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, with the exceptions listed below.

- If the County schools announce no A.M. Kindergarten due to a two-hour delay, our Pre-K4 (full-day) and Kindergarten will be in session as ours is a full-day program. The Part Time Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 Half-Day students will not report.
- If Anne Arundel County closes early due to excessive heat, Monsignor Slade Catholic School will remain open, as our classrooms are air-conditioned.
- If Anne Arundel County announces a two-hour delay on a day that we have a scheduled half-day, Monsignor Slade Catholic School will not open that day.
- All after-school activities are canceled if school is closed for inclement weather.
- On some occasions, school may not be closed for inclement weather during the regular school day, but after-school activities will be canceled because of inclement weather. In cases such as that, Monsignor Slade Catholic School follows the decision of Anne Arundel County Public Schools.
- On days when Anne Arundel County Public Schools are not in session, or for school-specific emergencies, the Department of Catholic Schools will make an independent decision regarding closing. In such cases, delayed opening or school closing information will be provided through the Electronic notification system and on the homepage of the Monsignor Slade Catholic School website as a red banner alert.

Screen Time Policy:

Children ages two and older utilize screen time for educational instructions, physical activities, and purposeful interactions to enhance the curriculum and planned lessons. Directed and supervised by the teachers, an interactive BenQ Board and a teacher computer may be used. Teachers engage the students with active participation, interactive hands-on experiences, classroom dialogue, and exploration in the classroom.

According to the Academy of American Pediatrics, passive, excessive, and inappropriate screen time is directly related to a child's learning. Screen time impacts a child's cognitive development, overall health, physical development, and social/emotional development. The Center supports the AAP recommendations on limiting screen time. When screens are utilized, the children have the option of using their bodies (movement and voice), instruments, ribbons, signs, pointers, and to participate in dialogue (Q and A).

Electronic Device Use:

Cell phones are not permitted to be used during center hours. Electronic devices such as Ipads and chromebooks may be used at the discretion of the teachers, but must be signed into the school's wifi to ensure that proper firewalls are in place.

Sunscreen:

Sunscreen should be applied before the children arrive. We strongly encourage sun safety and recommend longer sleeves and hats as well as teaching the child to apply sunscreen as needed. With parent requests and permission, staff will assist younger children with sunscreen applications. For staff to reapply sunscreen, a signed consent form must be on file. Families will label and supply the sunscreen.

MSCS Priority of Admissions:

Acceptance of new students in grades Pre-K 2 – 8th is based on the completion of all admission requirements, the results of placement testing (students grades K - 8) and possible openings in the following priority:

- Siblings of current students
- Catholic parishioners of any of the incorporated parishes
- Catholic students transferring from other Catholic schools
- Catholic students transferring from a non-Catholic school
- Non-Catholic students

Please note: Siblings of students already attending Slade are given priority of admission if parents have applied during the period of re-registration for their current student(s). If a parent applies after the re-registration deadline of January 31st, priority of admission will be given only if seats are available in the applicant's grade level.

Right to Amend Handbook

As per page 11, we reserve the right to amend the Parent & Student Handbook at any time. As changes in the policies occur, the online handbook will be updated. Changes will be highlighted. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to regularly review the handbook for any updates.