



SOUTH OLIVE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CHRIST-CENTERED AFFORDABLE PARENT PARTNERED

Family Handbook 2024-2025

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Mission Statement

Equipping students with the wisdom and knowledge to become effective Christ-followers and bring peace and restoration to Earth.

Core Values

SOCS Education emphasizes:

1. Biblically-based, God-glorifying, Christ-centered values throughout the entire life of the school.
2. A close, supportive, and unified community that
 - a. works together to build God's kingdom within the school and
 - b. witnesses to the wider community, leaving our God-honoring footprints wherever we go.
3. An excellent education that equips our students to live as effective disciples of Christ, committed to continuous improvement and empowered to be agents of transformation in the world.
4. A commitment to make SOCS education available to all families, regardless of income or background.

Constitution

The [South Olive Christian School Society's Constitution](#) is a document that cannot be changed. [Bylaws of the organization](#) are updated by the board of directors when necessary, through a process of board and society approval. We encourage families to review these documents and participate in the annual Society Meeting to share questions, vote on important issues, and provide input to the board.

School Operations

School Hours

Pre-Kindergarten 4's/Young 5: 8:35 am - 11:15 am
Afternoon Extension Program: 8:35 am - 3:15 pm
Kindergarten & Grades 1 - 8: 8:25 am - 3:25 pm

After school hours, parents are expected to pick up their children, and inform the office and/or teacher in advance if other arrangements have been made.

Annual School Calendar

See Separate Document, or SOCS Google Calendar, both available at sochristian.org/parents

Supplies

Each classroom has a list of student supplies that need to be purchased by the family for the school year. All textbooks and workbooks are supplied by the school. Costs for lost or carelessly damaged books will be charged to the student.

Daily Work

1. Be sure that your child is taking home the marked papers and work which his or her teacher has returned to him or her. If you have reason to believe that s/he is not doing so, please check with the teacher.
2. Take time to inspect and discuss these items with your child. If a student realizes that parents and teachers are both vitally interested in his or her work, s/he is more apt to do the best of which s/he is capable.
3. Church night: No school functions will be scheduled on Wednesday evenings. This night is reserved for church activities. School activities will cease by 5:30 P.M. Every effort will be made to limit the amount of homework assigned on this day.
4. Homework may be assigned at the teacher's discretion.

Lunch

1. Hot lunch is offered through West Ottawa. Parents must sign a form to begin receiving this, as well as order which meals the child would like. A Meal Magic account must be set up through West Ottawa Public Schools before a student can receive hot lunch. Any student going more than three meals in the negative on their account will result in hot lunch stopping.
2. Normally, all children are expected to arrive with a "cold" lunch. If they are getting Hot Lunch- please include a snack for your child to have at AM recess. If packing your children's lunches is a hardship, let the staff know, so that your children get lunches and snacks.
3. Middle Schoolers may leave the premises with a pre-approved adult for lunch. The student must be back in time for class or will be counted as tardy.

Report Cards

1. Report cards are issued every quarter.
2. Contact your child's teacher or the principal regarding any area in which you feel your child is not doing well or about which you may have questions. It is not necessary to wait for conferences for these questions.

3. God gives each talent differently. It is important that each child uses his or her talents to the best of his or her ability. Try to avoid comparing marks between brothers, sisters, and friends, etc.

Conferences

1. Parent/Teacher conferences are held every quarter and these will be scheduled at the discretion of the Parent and the Teacher.
2. Individual conferences can be held at any time at the request of a teacher or parent, and are arranged by parents and teachers directly (not through the office).

In-School Services

Newsletters (The Beacon)

1. A school newsletter is published regularly during the school year, typically on Thursday, containing news about school events, dates, and other announcements.
2. During the summer months, there may be fewer newsletters with timely and necessary announcements.

School Pictures

Pictures of the students and faculty will be taken annually. Purchasing these pictures and/or a yearbook is voluntary.

Testing

1. Reading and Math Progress K-8 is assessed quarterly.
2. Hearing and vision screening is done by the Ottawa County Health Department. If there is a need for further testing the parents will be informed.

Special services

Special services, including speech therapy for students, are provided through West Ottawa Public Schools. They have an assessment process for determining the necessity of these services.

Absence Policies

Excused Absences

1. Since state law requires students to be in school every day unless prevented by illness, parents are asked to avoid requesting excuses for other reasons unless absolutely necessary.

2. If absent because of illness or some other reason, please call the school that morning and let the office know.
3. If absent for a reason other than illness (medical and dental appointments should be avoided as much as possible during school hours), an excuse should be obtained in advance and presented to the teacher and office (family vacations, e.g.).
4. Students are required to make up work they missed upon returning to school.
5. If a student becomes ill or needs medical attention, parents will be notified immediately. If the parent is not at home, the school will call the emergency contact listed on the registration form.
6. If a child must stay indoors during recess time, a note is required and the child must stay in the classroom (not go into the gym to play).
7. To participate in or be present at a school athletic event, the student must be in attendance at least half of the school day.

Unexcused Absences

1. If none of the above conditions are fulfilled, the absence is considered unexcused.
2. In such a case the **student is required to make up the time missed as well as all work.**
3. Make-Up Work
 - a. Tests: If students are absent one day, they will make up tests on the date of return. If the absence is for more than one day, tests will be made up with a two day grace period per day absent with a maximum allowance of four days.
 - b. Papers/essays are due on the day of return to school.
 - c. Daily assignments will follow the general pattern as for tests.
4. Tardiness
 - a. Students are considered tardy if they are not in their seats when class is ready to begin.
 - b. The teacher may keep the student in during recess to finish work that was missed.
 - c. After three tardies the School has the right to have the student make up the missed time after school, at lunch, or at recess per the Administrators discretion, and a conversation will be had with parents to find solutions to the problem.

Communicable Diseases

1. Whenever a child is not well, s/he must be kept home until it is determined that no contagious disease is present. We appreciate it if pupils are able to maintain a good attendance record, but it is better that one child be absent for an extra day than to expose an entire classroom or the school to some communicable disease. Your cooperation is appreciated.
2. Our school is required to report all communicable diseases to the County Health Dept. Please, contact us immediately if your child contracts a communicable disease, such as

strep throat or pink eye. For protocols regarding COVID-19, see the latest updated information from the school administrator.

Communicable Disease Control

1. South Olive Christian School will work cooperatively with local, county, state, or federal agencies to enforce and adhere to the County, State or Federal Health Codes for prevention, control, and containment of communicable diseases in our school.
2. The principal will exclude a child who is out of compliance with the required immunization schedule. School personnel will complete and coordinate all immunization data, waivers, and exclusions including the necessary Immunization Assessment Program forms to provide for eventual communicable disease control.
3. The Principal may exclude students and/or personnel from school who are suspected or diagnosed with a communicable disease, or whose exposure to a communicable disease may threaten the well-being of that individual. All reportable communicable diseases will be referred to the local health unit by appropriate school personnel.
4. The decision to close schools due to communicable disease outbreaks is at the discretion of each local school's administration. If desired, consultation on such decisions may be provided by a committee from the School Board and/or Communicable Disease Review Panel.
5. Communicable disease is a serious concern in the community. The affected individual may be asked to submit information to appropriate consultants, including the Communicable Disease Review Panel and the local health unit.
6. Communicable Disease Review Panel. The purpose of this panel is to serve as a resource to the local school for specific communicable disease instruction and procedures for major concern regarding epidemic control with any communicable disease occurrence. The Communicable Disease Review Panel will be comprised of the following:
 - a. Principal or Designee
 - b. A designated school nurse/public health nurse
 - c. A physician with expertise in the related diseaseIn addition, one or more of the following may be added to the panel:
 - d. Local Health Unit Director or Designee
 - e. A physician treating the individual
 - f. Parent/Legal Guardian of the afflicted individual
 - g. Legal counsel for the afflicted individual
 - h. Legal counsel for the affected school
7. Diseases which may be communicable and may call for the application of this procedure include but are not limited to:
 - a. AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
 - b. ARC - Aids Related Complex
 - c. HTLV-III/LAV - Human T-Cell Lymphotropic Virus/Lymphadenopathy Associated Virus
 - d. Hepatitis B
 - e. Mononucleosis

- f. Other like diseases that may be included by the local health unit which may present potentially serious problems for those who come in contact with the disease and/or the disease carrier.
- 8. Each communicable disease case will be judged on its individual merits and consequences. A main function of the Ottawa County Human Services Communicable Disease Program is to prevent and control the spread of communicable diseases. Walk-in clinics are available at each office to assist you in evaluating a child's illness.

Disease Control in the Home and School

DISEASE	ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Acute cold	3 days at least	Upon recovery
Chicken pox	7 days	Upon recovery
Impetigo	Variable	Crust is off & dry
Head lice	According to school policy	According to policy
Flu	Variable	Upon complete recovery
Rubella (3 day measles)	5 days at least	Upon complete recovery
Rubella (red/hard measles)	7 days at least	Upon complete recovery
Mumps	9 days	When swelling is gone
Pink eye	Variable	When eye is clear
Ringworm	Not necessary if being treated	
Scabies	2 days if under medical treatment	
Strep Throat	3 days if under medical treatment	
COVID-19	At least 5 days	Follow health dept. guidance

Administering Medicine to students

Generally, the staff of South Olive Christian School will not administer any medications, prescription or non-prescription, to students. Parents are encouraged to administer medications to their children before school or after school if possible. However, South Olive Christian School realizes that there are circumstances under which students must take medication, prescription, and non-prescription, during school hours.

No student may self-medicate at school except under the direct supervision of an administrator, his/her designee, or parent/guardian. This includes all prescription and non-prescription medication including aspirin, other pain relievers, and cold medications.

Section 380.1178 of the Michigan School Code of 1976 states: "A school administrator, teacher, or other school employee designated by the school administrator, who in good faith administers medication to a pupil in the presence of another adult pursuant to written permission of the pupil's parents or guardian in compliance with the instruction of a physician is not liable in a criminal action or for civil damages as a result of the administration except for an act or omission amounting to gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct."

Therefore, South Olive Christian School authorizes the administration or provision of non-prescribed and prescribed medication to students by administrators, teachers, or other school employees designated by the administrators when:

1. The written permission of the child's parent or guardian has been attained. (see Medication Administration Form)
2. Medication is administered in compliance with the written instructions of a physician.
3. Medication is administered in the presence of another adult.
4. The medication will be administered by an administrator or a staff member designated by the administrator in the following manner:
 - a. The medication will be administered in an appropriate location to preserve the dignity of the student
 - b. A permanent written record will be kept of all medication administered
 - c. Medication will be kept in a locked container, drawer, or cabinet
 - d. Administration of the medication will cease only when a written request from the parent/guardian is received or at the end of the time period of the prescription.

Non-prescription medications including pain relievers, cold medications, and other over-the-counter medicines will not be administered to students except when a parent/guardian completes the Medication Administration Form listing each illness and each different medication.

Transportation Information

1. When dropping off or picking up students,
 - a. Students enter and exit at the main doors and middle school doors.
 - b. If NOT parking or exiting your vehicle, follow the yellow arrows on the pavement and continue from south to north entrance/exit drive.
 - c. If parking to exit your vehicle, use the main parking lot (not the drive, grass, or bus drive near the preschool door).
2. Students will be released to parents and those whom parents have verified are authorized to pick up students, through written or verbal (documented) consent.
3. Busing is provided by West Ottawa Public Schools for elementary students in the North Holland zone, and middle school students in West Ottawa district.
 - a. Our students are expected to be examples of our Christian principles.

- b. Students must obey the bus rules.
- c. Emergency drills will be practiced for unloading and all students are expected to participate.
- d. Communication to families about busing comes directly from West Ottawa.

Field Trip Drivers

Drivers are responsible for students in their vehicles, and they must adhere to the following rules when driving, to ensure fairness to all and to make the trip run smoothly and profitably:

- e. Require seatbelts and/or government mandated child restraints for all children in the car (legal requirement)
- f. Take no extra children along
- g. No unplanned side trips
- h. No treats in the car, unless teacher-approved
- i. When in doubt about plans and policies, call the office for assistance

School Rules

We are focused on ensuring that the attitudes and actions of our students reflect positive growth in line with Christian values.

Since this is true, the following are not acceptable in our school: profanity, vulgarity, lying, cheating, bullying, fighting (even “play fighting”) or other such activities that are offensive to God and to us as His children. We teach, model, and expect respect for all persons as image-bearers of God and it is our mission to equip students with wisdom and knowledge to be effective Christ-followers who bring peace and restoration to earth.

Basic Rules

1. Students are supervised by school staff after the first bus arrives or beginning at 8:15 am. They may be indoors during inclement weather. Students should leave the building immediately after school.
2. Students, staff, and parents are part of the community and have a responsibility for keeping spaces clean and well-cared for. We strive to leave a place better for our having been there.
 - a. The gym and all equipment is for school use, by permission and to be handled with care (no climbing or unauthorized use). Food and floor-marking shoes are only allowed by permission (gym shoes are to be worn for PE).
 - b. All rooms and other spaces are to be used only by permission, for school-supportive purposes, and are to be treated and maintained with care.

3. Students walk (and do not run) in school.
4. Personal devices (iPod, phone, tablet, etc.) and items (toys, sports equipment, etc.) are for personal use, and will only be allowed during school hours and events if express permission is given by teachers or administration.
5. Ground materials (snow, pea gravel, rocks, woodchips, etc.) stay on the ground and are not to be thrown.

Class Visitors

We encourage student and parent visits by prospective families, as well as from others in our communities.

1. Arrangements should be made with the administration in advance. We may not allow visitors on field trip days, days of special events/parties, or for multiple days.
2. Parents of SOCS students are, by law, allowed to visit their child's classroom at any time, without advance notice.
3. Anyone entering the school must enter via the main entrance, following all safety protocols and supporting our behavior expectations (Be responsible. Be respectful. Be ready to learn.).

Dress Code & Clothing

We want our school to conform to the Christian principles of moderation and appropriateness in attire. Please, check the way students are dressed before they leave the house.

1. Neat slacks and jeans are very appropriate.
2. Shorts are appropriate. As styles change, we will be critiquing them according to the standard stated above (neat, clean, and modest). Parents will be contacted if students are judged to be inappropriately dressed. Very short skirts, shorts or dresses are not appropriate.
3. Bare midriffs or tank tops are not acceptable. Shirts must have a modest neckline with no cleavage visible. Shirts must not have open backs or sides.
4. The upper body garments must be tucked in or long enough to completely cover the waistband of the pants, regardless of movement. Undergarments should not be visible regardless of movement.
5. Wording on clothing must not be offensive.
6. Hats*, caps, or sweatshirt hoods are not to be worn in the building without permission.
*Approved hats can be worn on Fridays. This is a privilege and can be revoked at any time.
7. Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times.
8. For water days and activities, swimsuits are appropriate, with a tee-shirt over (boys and girls).

Extra Clothing & Items For School Use

1. All items should be clearly marked with the student's name or initials (extra set of clothes, gym shoes, winter boots, mittens, etc.)
2. The school can assume no responsibility for lost items not claimed within a reasonable time. The "lost and found" box is located in the lobby. Each summer, leftover items in the "lost and found" are given away.
3. Toys or games from home should not be brought to school unless by express permission from a teacher or other staff member and will be sent home if no permission was given.

Bicycles and Vehicles

1. All bicycles must be properly parked on the school property and must not be tampered with or ridden during school hours.
2. Bicycles may not be ridden in the school building.

Use of Telephone

(School Number: 616-875-8224)

1. Please leave a message when no one is available to take your call.
2. Urgent messages will be given to students.
3. To call home, or for permission to make other necessary calls, students ask teachers to call; if student and teacher agree the student can make the call on their own, the student may use the classroom phone or the teacher may release the student to go use the phone in the office. If a student is upset, the teacher and parent talk together to help the student.
4. Students may not use personal cell phones or other electronic devices during school hours without express permission.

Technology Use

Computer, Chromebook, iPad, network, and Internet access is a privilege available to students at South Olive Christian School. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These guidelines are provided so that students are aware of the responsibilities required to use this technology. Computer, Chromebook and iPad use may be revoked if a student does not adhere to the guidelines below.

1. **Acceptable Use:** Use of computers, Chromebook, iPad, the Internet, and the school network must be in support of education and research within the educational goals and objectives of South Olive Christian School. Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S., state, or school regulations are prohibited. This includes copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material restricted by school policy or staff. The school network includes the use of school computers, Chromebooks and iPads, and computer peripherals such as scanners, printers, cameras, as well as the use of school

network services such as the Internet, school email accounts (if given), and network file folders. Students should have no expectation of computer, Chromebook, and iPad privacy, as the school may monitor computer, Chromebook, iPad, e-mail, and Internet use.

2. Personal Responsibility: Students will:
 - a. Respect the privacy and dignity of other students and teachers at all times and will not use another user's password.
 - b. Use appropriate language by refraining from the use of profanity or insulting language. Offensive messages that originate outside of school, but disrupt the school's educational process may be subject to censorship or other measures.
 - c. Respect school equipment, including an absence of vandalism or computer viruses.
 - d. Only use software that is pre-approved by South Olive Christian School.
 - e. Respect the protection of the computers, Chromebooks, and iPads, and network system by not downloading any software onto any computer, Chromebook or iPad at South Olive. By accepting the school's devices, students agree to:
 - i. Report anyone seen downloading software.
 - ii. Be responsible for exercising good judgment regarding the appropriate use of South Olive Christian School resources in accordance with the school standards and guidelines.
3. Internet Safety: the Internet provides opportunities to access new resources, but it also provides unique risks to students. South Olive Christian School provides filtered access to the Internet on nearly all school computers, Chromebooks and iPads, but to ensure safety on the Internet, students will:
 - a. Refrain from giving out on the Internet any personal information such as my full name, phone number, or address.
 - b. Refrain from giving out on the Internet any personal information about someone else such as his or her name, phone number, or address.
 - c. Limit the correspondence or meetings with persons through the Internet to those under the pre-approval of a teacher.
 - d. Only access or download sites appropriate for school classes or activities.
 - e. Protect the computers, Chromebooks, iPads, and network system by not downloading material from any unauthorized sites.
 - f. Immediately report any technology use that makes him or her uncomfortable or violates school policies.
4. Email Safety: Electronic mail (e-mail) also provides new opportunities for students, but it too requires careful use. When using school computers, Chromebooks, iPads, or school email accounts (if given), students will:
 - a. Only use a school-provided email account when using e-mail at school. Other email accounts such as Gmail, etc., and all instant messaging and chat rooms are prohibited.
 - b. Not open electronic junk mail or junk newsgroup postings. Messages that are unsolicited, unwanted, and irrelevant will not be opened on school computers, Chromebooks, and iPads.
 - c. In the event of a school-provided email account, students will adhere to all of the aforementioned guidelines in this Acceptable Use Policy when using a school-provided email account at school or another location. South Olive School actively filters and monitors school provided student e-mail accounts regardless of whether the account is accessed from school or another location, and may view messages sent through school-provided email accounts.

Damage to School Property

Damage to school property will be paid for by the student(s) involved. This is also true for unwarranted damage to school books.

Conflict & Complaint Policies

Complaints

With Scripture as our base (Matthew 18), any matter you feel was not properly handled should be addressed in the following manner.

1. Talk over your problem directly with the person involved.
 - a. Make it a point to visit the person involved, and make personally known to him or her your position.
 - b. Be sure to choose an appropriate time that is convenient to both of you and you can meet without interruption.
 - c. After school or evening is most appropriate; avoid interrupting class(es).
2. Most problems are solved at the first level but if you are not satisfied with the result, a next step may be necessary. Meet with the administrator as well as the person, to try and resolve your differences.
3. If you still feel the matter has not been resolved, contact the School Board.
4. Put the matter in writing and mail or email it to the Board President.
5. The matter will be taken up at the next Board meeting if the Board has the assurance that steps one and two above have been followed.
6. The problem will be directed to the Board for action.

The Board and School System are set up to serve parents in the proper instruction of their children. To this end the Board works diligently to make sure that every child is treated as a Covenant child, every parent is treated as a Christian parent, and every staff member is treated as a brother or sister in Christ. We are committed to restoration of community and Christ-likeness in our relationships with one another.

Conflict Resolution:

Using the above principles, conflicts among students, and between Parents and Teachers or Staff and Administrators are to be handled in this order, if necessary:

1. Conflicts among students:
 - a. Students are taught, encouraged, and guided through addressing conflicts with one another.
 - b. Students talk with teachers, aides or other adults in charge at the time of incident.

- c. Teachers, aides or other adults in charge may seek support from the administrator.
2. Conflicts between Parents and Teachers:
 - a. Parents meet privately with the teacher.
 - b. Parents meet with the teacher and administrator.
 - c. Parents meet with the teacher, administrator, and members of the Board.
3. Conflicts between Staff and Administrator:
 - a. Meet privately with the administrator.
 - b. Meet with the administrator and one Board member.
 - c. Meet with the administrator and members of the Board.

Mutual Responsibility: In order to develop a healthy and trusting relationship between all parties involved, we must accept the responsibility to:

1. When confronted with a problem, ask if the proper steps have been taken.
2. If the proper steps haven't been taken, require that they are taken before allowing the conversation to continue.

When the proper steps have been taken, it is important not to strive for a compromise but to strive for a resolution to the problem.

Human Dignity Policy

South Olive Christian School intends to provide its staff members and students with a safe Spirit-filled environment, one that is free from offensive behavior. Conduct -whether intentional or unintentional- that subjects another person to unwanted attention, comments, or actions because of race, national origin, age, sex, physical characteristics, or disability is not permitted. Instead, we expect all persons to treat each other with respect because they are created to reflect God Himself.

1. We do not condone or allow harassment or bullying of others by teachers, administrators, support staff, students, or other persons at school or school events.
2. Any person who believes he or she has been subjected to harassment should report it immediately to an appropriate superior. Students may report to a teacher, administrator, or counselor. Teachers should report an offense to their administrator, or if it is the administrator he or she is reporting, to the Board president. Each report will be given serious consideration and investigated appropriately.
3. Reports of harassment and subsequent investigations will be handled discreetly to avoid the embarrassment of the person making the report or a person who may be unjustly accused.
4. Any person who is determined to have violated this policy will be subject to disciplinary action including the possibility of employment termination (for staff members) or expulsion (for students).
5. Sexual harassment includes: Making unwelcome sexual advances, engaging in improper physical contact, making improper physical contact, making improper sexual comments, writing a note to someone else, either electronically or by hand, with content that may be construed as sexual, using words (written or spoken), pictures, objects, gestures, or

actions relating to sexual activity to create a sexually intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning or working environment.

6. Any other form of ridicule of others based on race, physical characteristics, ability, family background, or similar feature is harassment. Persons engaging in this misbehavior will face consequences and be called upon to make things right.
7. All students and all school employees are expected to conduct themselves with respect for the dignity of others.

Guidelines for Staff-Student Interaction

South Olive Christian School expects its staff members (administrative, teaching, and support) to caringly and appropriately assist students. In accordance with the "Human Dignity Policy," the following guidelines help define what is appropriate behavior for all staff members coming in contact with students. Although every staff member's contact with students is within a specific context, the following acts are judged by South Olive Christian School as being inappropriate:

- Using vulgar, profane, belittling, snide, or intimidating language to students or in their hearing;
- Making sexual innuendo to students or dressing in ways that might readily be construed as sexually provocative to students;
- Meeting a student at a location in school or outside of school (restaurant, home, in a car, etc.) that is not easily observed by another adult;
- Touching a student's body in a place or in a lingering manner that could readily be interpreted as a sexual advance;
- Grabbing, pushing, slapping, poking, or physically touching a student in a manner that could be readily construed as violent and motivated by anger;
- Being in a car alone with a student without the expressed consent of the student's parent immediately before the ride;
- Using controlled substances (alcohol, tobacco, or drugs illegal for underage students) at any time detectable to a student or speaking favorably to a student about the use of these substances;
- Any behavior toward a student that does not respect their bearing of God's image.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment of students by other students or by employees of South Olive Christian School is unlawful and contrary to our religious beliefs and the commitment of this school to provide a stable learning and working environment. School authorities will not tolerate any sexual harassment of students or employees. It is the policy of this school that all contact between students, teachers, and other employees be in keeping with respect for the individual students, teachers, and other employees, be of a nature which does not make a student or staff member feel uncomfortable, and be conducive to creating a stable environment.

Sexual harassment includes making unwelcome sexual advances, engaging in improper physical contact, making improper comments, or otherwise creating an intimidating, hostile, or

offensive educational learning environment. All students and all school employees are expected to conduct themselves with respect for the dignity of others.

If a student or employee has concerns about the nature of any conduct or physical contact by another student or employee of this school, or by a member of the public, the person should *immediately* report this concern to the administrator, counselor, or a school board member as well as discussing this concern with the student's parent or guardian.

Students and employees are encouraged to report any conduct or contact that makes them feel uncomfortable, is bothersome, or is contrary to a stable learning environment. All such reports will be investigated immediately by school authorities. Criminal charges will be handled by civil authorities. Anyone found to have violated this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from school if they are a student, termination from employment if they are an employee, and/or criminal charges if they are filed.

All such reports will be handled discreetly to maintain confidentiality in order to avoid embarrassment and to protect the student or adult making the report.

It should be understood that this school is required by law to report child abuse to the appropriate social agency which protects the rights of individuals in such cases.

Discipline

Philosophy

1. View of the student: The children who attend S.O.C.S. are unique individuals created in God's image and called to His service. They must be taught to recognize the responsibility they bear for their actions before God and their neighbor and be nurtured to maturity as self-disciplined Christians.
2. The disciplined individual: An individual is well disciplined when he/she is able to live consistently according to a set of standards. The disciplined Christian lives according to the standards set by God.
3. The process of disciplining: Christian discipline is a process that aims to mold and shape the whole person according to God's standards. In essence, Christian disciplining is confronting another person with God's rules for living, His claim to our obedience, His call to love one's neighbor as one's self, and the fact that God holds us accountable for our actions; i.e., He allows us to reap the fruit of disobedience as well as the fruit of obedience.
4. Responsibility for discipline: God holds the parents responsible for the nurture and discipline of their children. That same level of responsibility is applied to the teacher in school, where the parents entrust the child to his/her care.
5. Implications:
 - a. It must be understood that discipline involves the total environment:
 - i. praise as well as criticism

- ii. reward as well as punishment
 - iii. clear rules along with well-organized classes
 - iv. well maintained equipment as well as penalties for abuse
 - v. an atmosphere which is stimulating as well as controlled
 - vi. dependable services as well as responsible use of services
 - vii. organizational vision as well as consistent administration
- b. In order to learn to live as responsible, self-disciplined Christians, children must have responsible, self-disciplined Christian role models. Students cannot be expected to be courteous, prompt, considerate, responsible, or self-disciplined if adult role models do not display these attributes.
 - c. It must be understood that the word discipline is not synonymous with the word punishment. One consequence of disobedience may be punishment, but punishment is only one ingredient in the process of maintaining good discipline.
 - d. The disobedient are not to be shielded from just punishment; this would only create the impression that one is not accountable for acts of disobedience.
 - e. It is not the function of discipline to develop a set of conditioned responses designed to produce people who will perform on command. Rather, discipline should develop a sense of personal responsibility so vital in the Christian citizen.

Policy

1. Show respect to people, places, property, and God.
2. Show responsibility in your work, attitude, words, and actions. Be responsible to care for things, people, property, feelings.
3. Be safe.
 - a. Common Areas
 - i. Walk inside the school building.
 - ii. Use a quiet tone in common areas.
 - iii. Food is to be eaten only in designated areas and at teacher-designated times.
 - iv. Unsafe playthings are not permitted at school.
 - v. Remove hats when entering the school building.
 - b. Playground
 - i. Use equipment properly.
 - ii. Fighting and "play" fighting are forbidden.
 - iii. Remain on the school property at all times.
 - iv. Play must be away from vehicles.
 - c. Classroom - Classroom rules will be established by the teacher as he/she sees fit, but all classrooms follow the school rules and expectations of respect, responsibility, and safety. Some basics are as follows:
 - i. Be on time.
 - ii. Participate in classroom activities and do assignments.
 - iii. Respect your own and others' space and property.
4. Staff members will use physical restraint only to prevent or reduce injury in accordance with the provisions of State law.

5. Major offenses or continuous offenses that are not remedied are not permitted at South Olive Christian and are subject to suspension, either in school or out of school per administrative decision for an administrator-determined time following progressive discipline:
 - a. Hitting, roughhousing, and physical abuse or intimidation
 - b. Throwing objects such as books, rocks, snowballs, etc.
 - c. Defiance of rightful authority
 - d. Disrespect, loud, or abusive language and gestures
 - e. Willful destruction or defacing of school property
 - f. Continuous disruptive behavior

Discipline Cycle

Step 1 Minor offenses are handled on the spot. (If minor offenses persist, steps will be taken for progressive discipline.) PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE: If a behavior either persists or increases in severity, the disciplinary action increases in length of time or severity as well.

Step 2 For the first major offense during the school year, the staff member and administration will consult on the level of consequence, with the administrator having the final word on the consequence matching the offense. The teacher/staff in charge will call the parent explaining the concern and consequence.

Step 3 After the 3rd major offense, the student will be placed on a plan following a parent, student, teacher, and administrator meeting along with progressive discipline matching the offense. Suspensions will increase in length and be out of school:

- a. A conference with the parents, teacher, administrator, and student
- b. For the student to return, the student and parent may need to attend a re-entry meeting.
- c. The administrator may require the parent to pursue counseling or medical evaluation prior to the student's return, at the parent's expense. There may be a behavior plan in addition, or requested testing. It is the parent's responsibility for the student to arrive at school ready to learn. Interruptions to the learning environment negatively impact students as well as teachers and support staff and must be addressed and minimized.

Step 4 After step 3, if another major offense is committed, discussion, and follow-through of discipline that matches student behavior as deemed by the administrator in collaboration with a board representative. The student may be removed from school as needed for longer periods of time, with additional requirements of the family to make certain that the student is ready to learn without disrupting learning for all.

Step 5 Long term Out-of-school suspension will be used. Within one week of the suspension the student, his/her parent, the teacher, and the principal will meet for a decision on further disciplinary action, or decision by the board.

Step 6 Expulsion and/or placement out of the regular school setting will be considered when all else has been tried and the student is still not functioning adequately in the school. Only the Board has the authority to expel a student.

Weapons

Possession of a weapon on campus is to be taken seriously. This includes items on the student's person, in lockers, in cars, on the parking lot, on buses, or any other place or property owned by the school.

1. South Olive Christian School does not permit students to be in possession of any weapon, illegal object or substance, or any items commonly used as a weapon, on school property or at school events (sports, special events, etc.). If any student is thought to be or found to be in possession of a weapon, illegal object or substance, the administration must be informed immediately.
2. When a weapon, object, or substance is found at school the administration will:
 - a. Confiscate it and call the student's parents or guardians immediately.
 - b. Depending on the circumstances, call the police.
3. If the confiscated weapon is a gun or bomb, the student will be placed in immediate in-school suspension and the parents/guardian and police will be called. Students found in possession of a gun will be expelled from school for a minimum of one year pursuant to the Gun-Free Schools Act. While the administration may suspend the student, the school board will make the final decision regarding expulsion.
4. For any other weapon confiscated from a student, the student will be placed in immediate in-school suspension until the administration is able to carry out an appropriate investigation. If it becomes clear that the weapon was purposefully brought to school, some suspension time will occur, and expulsion can/will follow depending upon the results of the investigation and the board's decision. The police will be called in to investigate.

Safety Regulations

Environmental Testing

- Water Testing: This occurs In the Fall and occasionally additional times as deemed by the entity completing the test from the state. All approved as safe.
- Furnace Testing: This occurs once a year prior to use.
- Lead Testing: This occurs once a year.

Volunteers

State law requires volunteers who assist in a classroom more than 4 hours per week in two consecutive weeks to have a TB screening test on file. We also perform background checks on all volunteers.

Child Abuse and Neglect

The Facts

1. Michigan law requires that a volunteer or teacher **MUST** file a report when there is reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect.
2. It is not their responsibility to determine whether the abuse occurred—The Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for the investigative component.
3. Failure to report can result in both civil and criminal liability.
4. When a report is filed, it is presumed parties have acted in good faith. Reporters are not legally or criminally liable for any outcomes if they have reported a case in good faith.
5. When making a report, your identity may be disclosed to a child protective agency or law enforcement agency that is investigating the case.
6. Once you file a report, a child and family may become eligible to receive a wide variety of services designed to meet the family's specific needs.

What is child abuse and neglect?

- **Physical Abuse:** Harm or threatened harm to a child through non-accidental injury. Examples: Beating, kicking, punching, burning, bruises, welts, or broken bones. Also, injury and medical conditions that have been improperly treated.
- **Neglect:** Harm or threatened harm to a child's health or welfare due to failure to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, or medical care. (Ex. Soiled clothing, wrong clothes for the weather, hunger, hoarding food, poor hygiene.) It can also be a failure to renew prescriptions and not allowing schools access to medications or a lack of protection from a known or potential risk of harm.
- **Sexual Abuse or Exploitation:** Engaging in sexual contact or penetration with a child. Sexual exploitation is defined as allowing, permitting, or encouraging a child to engage in prostitution or to be depicted in a sexual act. It also includes non-contact acts such as exhibitionism, voyeurism, exposure to pornography, and obscene/sexual language. Child pornography is always child sexual abuse.
- **Emotional/Maltreatment:** Treatment that involved cruelty or suffering that a reasonable person would recognize as excessive. Ex. Forcing a child to eat dog food as punishment, locking a child in a closet, or spirit by using extreme ways of punishing, threats, or put-downs.

Steps to Take if Child Abuse or Neglect is Detected

1. Immediately contact the Michigan centralized intake system at toll-free 1-855-444-3911.
2. To the best of your knowledge, be prepared to answer questions about the child. Collaborate with the office staff to have the following information ready to give the worker:
 - a. Child's address
 - b. Birthdate of the child and any additional siblings in the home
 - c. Race
 - d. Any found information about the perpetrator, address, phone, age, description

- e. The child's disclosure and history of the child's behavior
3. Do not investigate the situation yourself. In other words, do not ask the parent about it, siblings, or friends.
4. Within 72 hours after making the oral report by calling the intake worker, a written report must be completed. It is encouraged that you write this out on the DHS-3200 form for the written portion. Reporters can submit a written report by either downloading the report form or submitting it online at https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971_7119_50648_44443---,00.html.

** School employees must notify the principal of the building that a child abuse or neglect report has been made with DHS.

STATEWIDE NUMBER FOR DHS: 1-855-444-3911
DHS 3200 FORM FOR REPORTING: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs

Loss of Energy, Gas Leak, Furnace Failure, and Other Building Concerns

If a problem occurs prior to the start of the school day

1. The principal will decide if school is to be canceled or change reporting times.
2. An all-school email will be sent and families will be called using the phone tree.
3. The principal will contact the local media.

If the problem occurs during the school day

1. Students and staff will be moved to our alternative site of South Olive CRC Church In the event of any dangerous situation such as a gas leak.
2. If the situation is not dangerous but is uncomfortable for students, the parents will be contacted to pick up their students from the school.
3. All parents will be contacted via phone and email from the school. If an electrical outage prevents the use of email, texting, and phone calls will be the primary source of communication.

Man-made Disasters

If a problem occurs prior to the start of the school day

1. The principal will decide if school is to be canceled or change reporting times. This depends on the disaster type, impact to the community, and impact on students if they were to attend.
2. An all-school email will be sent and families will be called using the phone tree.
3. The principal will contact the police, any appropriate authorities, and local media.

If a problem occurs during the school day

1. Students and staff may be moved to our alternative site of South Olive CRC in the event of any dangerous situation in which this would prove helpful.
2. The principal or designee will alert all staff of the required response to match the situation (LockDown, Stay In Place, Shelter In Place, etc.)
3. If the situation is not dangerous but is uncomfortable for students, the parents will be contacted to pick up their students from school.
4. All parents will be contacted by the school by phone, the FACTS app, and/or email.

Emergency/Crisis Plan Folder for Staff

All staff members have been provided an Emergency Folder. This includes all emergency procedures, parent contact information, and crisis response information. Staff members are to take the Emergency Folder (E-Folder) with them upon any crisis, drill, or emergency so they are fully prepared with the necessary information and school procedures.

Weather & Cancellations

1. Weather during school
 - a. In case of inclement weather, students will remain in the school building at the discretion of the administration.
 - b. In the event of very cold weather, students will remain in the school building when the temperature is 10°F or the [wind chill index](#) is 0°F.
2. School closing due to inclement weather
 - a. During severe snow or tornado conditions, an announcement will be made through the FACTS app and other media channels.
 - b. If West Ottawa Public Schools cancel their schools, our school will follow suit.
 - c. If West Ottawa delays, our school will delay.
 - d. School events scheduled on canceled days will also be canceled and rescheduled if possible (such as basketball or other extracurricular activities).
3. School emergency cancellations
 - a. During the school year, we will have drills for school emergencies.
 - b. For tornado and severe weather alerts, students will be dismissed if parents come to pick up their child(ren), or make arrangements with the office for pick up.

Athletics

All parents, students, coaches, and SOCS fans are expected to abide by the spirit of the following.

1. SOCS Athletics is part of the mission of SOCS, which reads in part, Equipping students with the wisdom and knowledge to become effective disciples....”
2. As a Christian athlete, coach, parent, or fan I am called first as a Christ-follower to demonstrate attitudes and actions that respect and honor all others as image-bearers of God himself.
3. Referees and officials are the God-given authority over athletic contests and are to be actively welcomed and honored in fulfilling that role.
4. At all home athletic contests athletes, parents, coaches, and fans are to demonstrate hospitality to all visiting athletes, coaches, parents, and fans by welcoming and honoring their presence at our school.
5. Our call to Christian witness is NOT dependent on the behavior or actions of others, including referees or other athletes, coaches, parents, or fans. The actions or attitudes of others cannot detract from my Christian witness.
6. An athletic contest involves two teams striving for excellence in a competitive setting. While only one will achieve victory, we encourage and promote the success of all participants, regardless of the team they represent.

Eligibility

- a. There is no set grade-requirement for student athletes, however, no student may remain eligible while failing one or more subjects.
- b. Eligibility standards for each participant will be established on an individual basis between the student, teachers, principal, and coach.
- c. All student athletes are expected to keep up with their classroom responsibilities first and foremost.
- d. Traveling to athletic events, whether by car or bus, must be done with responsible, orderly, and courteous behavior. This must be upheld out of respect to the drivers, other individuals, and in accordance with our Christian principles. When attending athletic events this same behavior and Christian sportsmanship must be evidenced. Failure to do so may result in suspension from events or other consequences.

Scheduling:

1. General seasons (subject to change)
 - a. September - Track & Field Day
 - b. Sept / Oct. - Soccer
 - c. Nov / Feb. - Basketball
 - d. March - Volleyball
 - e. April / May - Softball
2. Games / Schedules / Procedures reviewed at a Parent/Athlete/Coaches Meeting prior to the season, along with the below expectations and the Athletics handbook.

3. Attempts are made to schedule around church conflicts.
4. We arrange what seems to work best for the majority.
5. The number of games and practices are established by coaches.
6. Athletes are expected to attend all practices and games unless illness or emergencies come up. Each athlete is responsible to teammates for attendance and behavior.
7. Any discipline of athletes outside school is left up to the coach's discretion. All such discipline is subject to the principal, and then to the Board for review since it is a school function. Students are wearing a SOCS jersey. Poor representation in school means either no representation on the field, but the bench, or limited play according to the offense. Proper behavior is an expectation of all athletes, and this is not a double punishment, but a prior requirement to be able to participate at all on the SOCS team, not just to compete.
8. At the end of the school year, sports awards are given out for recognition of special achievement.

Christian Athletic League Sports Policy

1. Philosophy - We profess that Jesus is Lord of every part of our lives and therefore that physical education and athletics in The Christian Athletic League are to be vehicles for teaching Christ-like behavior through the positive development of all the participants. "And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:17). Furthermore; winning or losing is not to be the sole object of competition. We are called to use our God-given talents to the best of our ability for His honor and glory. Our goal is the Christian training and development of our children in the area of physical education and athletic competition. Also, our players, coaches, and fans are called to conduct themselves in a manner that shows we are followers of Christ and which brings honor to our God.
2. Definitions
 - a. Physical Education - Instruction in and through physical fitness and sports activities. It is to be for all students.
 - b. Intramurals - An opportunity for all students in the appropriate grade levels (as determined by the administration) to use and develop their knowledge and skills in competitive situations with classmates.
 - c. Interscholastic - An opportunity for students of the appropriate grade levels (as determined by the administration) who wish to participate, to use and develop their knowledge and skills in competitive game situations with other schools.
3. Interscholastic sports are an extension of our academic curriculum. Their primary goal is to spiritually prepare the participants to live as Christ's servants in the sphere of athletics.
 - a. Participation in interscholastic sports
 - i. Interscholastic sports are an extension of our physical education and intramural programs and therefore participation in these programs is a recommended prerequisite for participation in interscholastic sports.

- ii. All students in the appropriate grade levels (as determined by the administration) shall have the opportunity to participate in interscholastic sports. This means that skill level is not a basis for excluding a student from a team. We maintain a "no-cut" policy.
 - iii. The administration has the authority and responsibility to deny the privilege of interscholastic participation when it is deemed to be in the best interest of the student and/or for disciplinary reasons.
 - iv. If a student is failing one subject, they will be placed on academic probation, requiring all missing work to be in prior to participation in a game. If a student is failing two or more subjects, they will be removed for the remainder of the season to focus on their first priority, their academics.
 - v. Grade checks for eligibility are to be completed the first and third Monday of each month for the respective sport by the coach. The coach is to encourage the student to improve grades so they may continue participation in the sport. The coach has the right to have the student sit out practices, go work with a tutor, or practice, in agreement with the teacher, parent, and administration for the student's best outcome keeping in mind that academics supersede athletic participation.
- b. Interscholastic sports are educational and recreational. Participants will:
- i. Learn that competition can be enjoyed and can assist them in becoming the person God wants them to be.
 - ii. Learn to develop and refine their physical fitness and skill levels.
 - iii. Experience the rewards of team membership and learn their responsibilities to each other, their coach, the spectators, and the school community they represent.
 - iv. Learn to control their emotions and actions and the importance of self-discipline.
 - v. Learn the relationship between hard work and success.
 - vi. Learn to win and to lose graciously and with dignity.
 - vii. Learn that interscholastic sports can and should be healthful, fulfilling, and fun.
4. Guidelines for selection of and conduct of coaches.
- a. As we promote and expect a Christian attitude and behavior in our children, we hold our coaches to a higher standard. The attitude we expect from our coaches can only arise out of a lifestyle obviously reflective of a strong Christian commitment. We expect at least the following minimal evidence of that commitment:
 - i. The coach must readily profess his/her faith in Christ.
 - ii. The coach must be a member, with regular attendance, in a Christian church.
 - iii. The coach must demonstrate a nurturing attitude toward the children. This attitude will reflect the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, self-control).
 - b. The coach should foster the following:

- i. Physical conditioning necessary to compete.
 - ii. Acquisition of basic skills and knowledge.
 - iii. Excellence in play and love for the game.
 - iv. Desire to compete fairly.
 - v. Accept the results with grace and dignity.
 - c. The coach must treat his/her players and opponents with respect. S/he must show respect to the officials and submit to their authority. When necessary, the coach must correct and discipline his/her players.
- 5. Guidelines for players:
 - a. The players must strive for the following:
 - b. Respectfully submit to the authority of the coach and of the officials.
 - c. Always treat the contest opponents with respect.
 - d. Exercise self-control at all times.
 - e. Play hard, strive to excel, but always play within the rules.
 - f. "Build up" teammates, commending and critiquing in a positive manner.
 - g. Be gracious in victory and in defeat.
 - h. Remember that it is a privilege and a responsibility to represent your school in The Christian Athletic League.
 - i. Remember that this is only a game.
- 6. Guidelines for spectators: As fans, our Christian testimony is displayed by our conduct and will have either a positive or a negative effect on those we are witnessing to, which includes the opposition, the officials, the spectators, and our own children. The fans must strive for the following:
 - a. Attempt to know and understand the rules of the game.
 - b. Respect the God-given authority of the officials.
 - c. Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach.
 - d. Respect the property of others.
 - e. Respect the other team and their coach and fans by welcoming them with Christian hospitality, appreciating good play by either team, and avoiding excesses in celebration. Examples of inappropriate behavior are excesses in celebration such as hooting, catcalls, excessive yelling, and stomping on the bleachers.
 - f. Discourage those whose behavior is unbecoming.
 - g. Be gracious in victory and in defeat.
- 7. Guidelines for the officials:
 - a. Maintain professional conduct.
 - b. Know the rules and their interpretation.
 - c. Place the welfare of the participants as the first consideration.
 - d. Treat players and coaches courteously and demand the same from them.
 - e. Work cooperatively with fellow officials, scorekeepers, and timers.
 - f. Be fair and firm in all decisions.
- 8. Guidelines for parents of athletes:
 - a. Demonstrate respect to the coach and their decisions with players
 - b. Discuss concerns in a controlled, professional, and respectful manner in private
 - c. Contribute to driving, providing needed supplies, treats, support

- d. Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach without challenge
- e. Follow all guidelines for spectators
- f. Pick up your child on time after games and practices.

Athletic Funds

1. During the course of the school year the Athletic Department raises money for a variety of areas: paying officials of athletic events, athletic supplies, and transportation for athletic events.
2. The primary means of raising these monies is from concession sales at athletic events, and other projects that might be beneficial to the athletic program.

Tuition and Commitment Policy

Our commitment and dedication to Christian education are greatly enhanced by our working together to financially aid our children's education. It is our covenantal calling to work with our hearts as well as our hands to build security for future generations.

South Olive Christian School is financially supported in three main ways:

1. Through fundraising and private donations.
2. SOCS Food Services sales.
3. Tuition payments.

Each of these is crucial to the success of SOUTH OLIVE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL. In order to achieve a Christ-centered education coupled with the lowest tuition rate possible, we require a special commitment from each family enrolled through SOUTH OLIVE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.

To be part of a Christian school community means participation. Participation can look like a variety of things including serving hot lunch periodically, assisting with cleaning and yearly floor scrubbing, bringing baked goods, serving at dinners, and helping with the auction. It is through these activities that we get to know each other in fellowship and friendship, and support our children and school.

Tuition

Policy

The past year's tuition and volunteer commitment should be settled before beginning a new school year. The school fiscal year ends on July 31 of each year.

1. There should be a definite understanding at the time of registration of how the required tuition will be paid and volunteer commitments served. If the parents simply do not have the necessary means themselves, they are responsible for contacting the Board on the matter, prior to the time of registration.

2. We believe children should not be enrolled in our school if the tuition of the previous year has not been paid.
3. Special consideration will be given to those situations where it may be impossible to pay due to unforeseen circumstances.

Tuition rates are kept up to date at sochristian.org/parents/tuition/.

A registration fee of \$100 per family is due at the time of registration; this fee applies toward the total tuition for that school year. Grants and aid are available to students in Young 5's-8th Grade, using the FACTS system. Information about our commitment to keep tuition Affordable for All, and general grant award levels is available at sochristian.org/parents/affordable-for-all/. South Olive Christian School is a 501(c) nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization. Our mission clearly states that we serve children of all ethnic heritages and income levels.

Fundraising

At South Olive Christian School, we are blessed to have a dedicated Director of Development and a supportive team of staff, board members, and families who are committed to ensuring the school's financial sustainability and exploring new opportunities for growth. Throughout the year, we organize annual events, introduce new ones, and identify specific needs, all with understanding we walk by faith and follow God's leading and direction for SOCS.

We encourage families to actively participate in various fundraising and support activities at different levels. We outlined some opportunities below.

Pigs-in-the-Blanket

We partner with Pigs-In-The-Blanket.

SOCS Famous Pigs-in-the-Blanket is a time-honored fundraiser at South Olive that runs year around. The production of the famous Pigs-in-the-Blanket has become so popular within the community that production was taken to a new level in 2022. This endeavor raises incredible funds for SOCS which helps keep the tuition low for all families. No experience required but be ready to have a lot of fun!

Working at our Food Services building earns your family tuition.

SOCS Auction

The school's largest fundraiser, raising \$90,000/year, requires many hands to bring it to life. There are all types of job responsibilities from item procurement to event day set-up so there is a job perfect for you. The auction takes place in April. All families are expected to support this fundraiser in some capacity.

School Events

Pastors Feast, VIP Day, Society Swap, and more - while these events are not fundraisers they are "friend"raisers and if you like helping with events and creating a welcoming atmosphere for the community, you are just the person to help with these events. Watch the Beacon and see the school calendar for when these events take place and how to be involved in making them successful.

Parent Partners

We work with Parent Partners. Please refer to the Parent Partners Handbook for more details.

For further information on the projects and current committee members, see the Parent Partners Documents available at sochristian.org

SOCS is a place where passionate voluntary support is like the lifeblood of the organization. The joy of giving and participating is contagious! We welcome gifts and skills with building maintenance projects, lunch and recess, chapel, and other student and schoolwide supports.

Middle School Trip & Student Fund

Middle schoolers traditionally plan, fundraise for, and take a trip at the end of the year. There is a Student Fund account through which the finances run for this, and often the students themselves come up with the fundraising plans. Teachers and other school staff, as well as parents chaperone the students for a time of celebration, fun, community growth, and outside-the-classroom learning.

Traditionally, 8th graders use some of the remainder of the Student Fund to provide the school with a “class gift” at the graduation celebration, designating what the funds will be used for (such as a new volleyball net, recess equipment, or art supplies).