**Title**: **4014** **RESPECT FOR STUDENTS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **4014 Respect for Students**  Catholic school employees and volunteers of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown must respect the individual dignity of all students. The entire school facility, and any place where student activities take place, should be a place where all students are accepted and protected. Classroom and school rules should strive to develop positive Catholic-Christian values and behaviors. All necessary corrective actions should be conducted professionally.  Ridicule and public humiliation are to be avoided at all times. Corporal punishment and physical forms of discipline are forbidden. Reasonable and limited physical force may be used only when is necessary for the safety and/or welfare of the child, the employee or volunteer, or other individuals.  All forms of child abuse and sexual misconduct are serious offenses and crimes against children. If employees or volunteers are guilty of any form of child abuse or sexual misconduct, they will be dismissed, after consultation with and concurrence of the Director of Education, Director of Human Resources, and other appropriate parties. (See Policy 4130).  If there is a credible allegation that an employee or a volunteer abused a child physically, mentally, emotionally, or sexually, the employee may be suspended without pay up to termination, or the volunteer suspended up to termination, pending the investigation and outcome. Civil authorities must be contacted in accord with the law and diocesan policy.  Employees and volunteers must also avoid all situations involving even the appearance of sexual impropriety. |