

Belief Statement
Lafayette Catholic School System

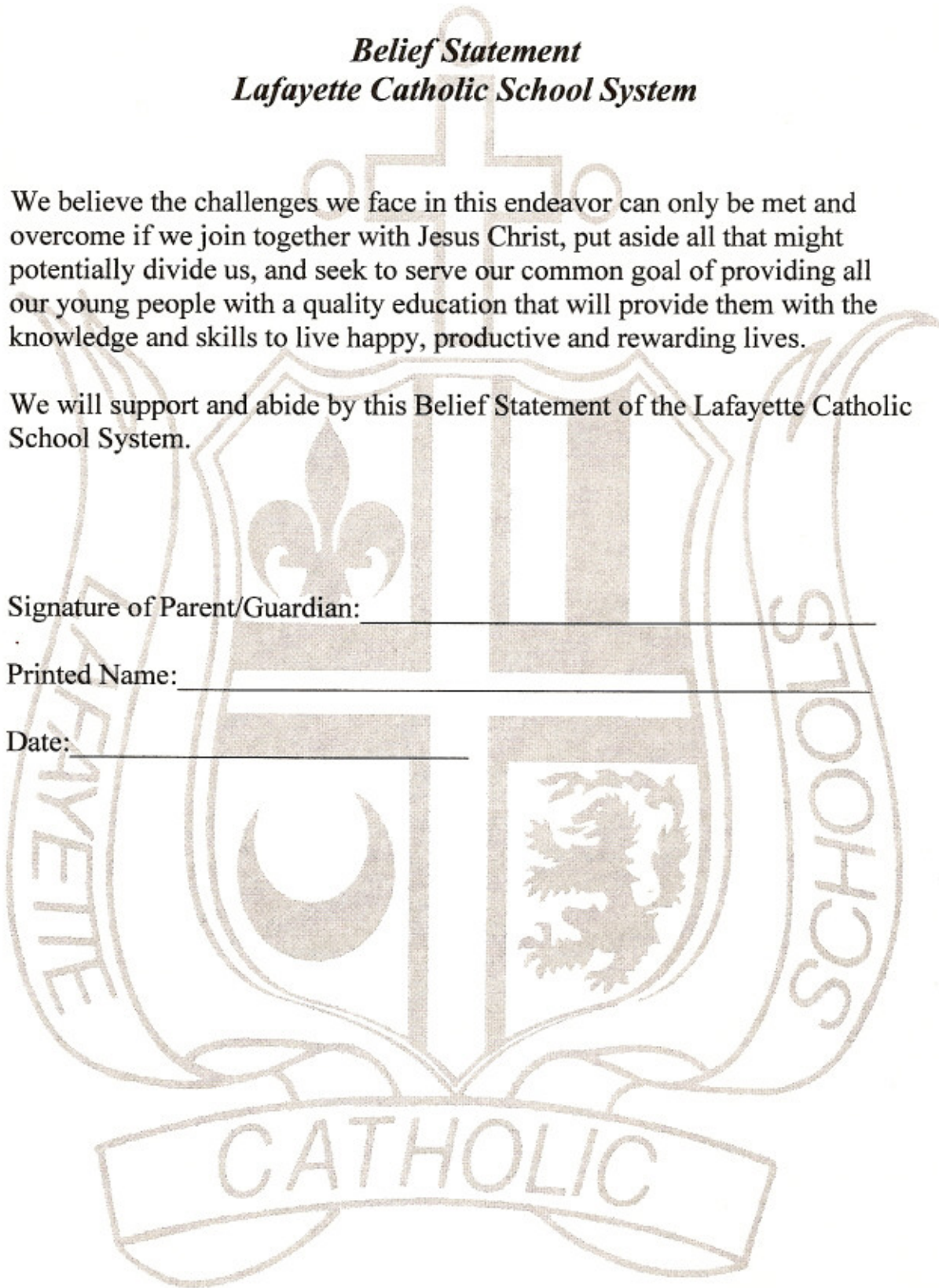
We believe the challenges we face in this endeavor can only be met and overcome if we join together with Jesus Christ, put aside all that might potentially divide us, and seek to serve our common goal of providing all our young people with a quality education that will provide them with the knowledge and skills to live happy, productive and rewarding lives.

We will support and abide by this Belief Statement of the Lafayette Catholic School System.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____



1

BELIEF STATEMENT
LAFAYETTE CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Believing that all persons have an inalienable right to a quality education "in virtue of their dignity as human persons" and that all have a right to an education responsive to their responsibility to "develop harmoniously their physical, moral, spiritual and intellectual qualities," the following expectations have been formulated:

❖ The students must have a desire and willingness to grow in their overall formation in their academic and personal life

- parent:* acts as a positive role model, providing appropriate consequences to positive and negative student behavior
- student:* actively participates in the educational process with a willingness to do his/her very best
- teacher:* listens to students when preparing and organizing the classroom curriculum
- principal:* provides appropriate responses to positive and negative student behaviors and efforts
- coach:* balances academic progress with athletic growth and spiritual formation and service to community

❖ While recognizing the primary role of parents in the education of their children, there are educational duties and responsibilities vested in civil and religious authority in order to better provide for the common good of all people.

- parent:* supports school policies that model civil and religious authority
- student:* adheres to rules and guidelines set forth by the school and asks to clarify issues in a respectful manner

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- teacher:* models appropriate behavior and clearly provides expectations in the classroom reflecting Catholic Christian values
- principal:* defines campus expectations clearly and promotes Catholic Christian identity
- coach:* supports school discipline policy and civil authority

❖ A quality education can be attained only in an orderly, just and non-violent environment.

- parent:* holds children accountable for school policy and rules
- student:* develops self control and respects others and their property
- teacher:* implements rules and policies consistently and is respectful to all students
- principal:* maintains consistency between policy and practice among teachers, coaches and students
- coach:* models and displays good sportsmanship toward opponents and teammates

❖ Parents are responsible to enter into cooperative relationships with those delegated with educating their children.

- parent:* supports school staff respectfully and with an open mind
- student:* recounts truthfully what happens at school
- teacher:* conferences with parents and students in a timely fashion
- principal:* collaborates with parents and mediates between parents, students and staff
- coach:* keeps parents informed and respects family obligations

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- ❖ **The goal of all education is to foster the development of the total person. This formation needs to provide students with opportunities for moral and spiritual formation to complement their intellectual and physical development.**

parent: supports the religious teachings of the Church by living a balanced life of prayer, receiving the sacraments, and attending Sunday Mass and providing service opportunities

student: balances academic, athletic and spiritual development

teacher: integrates spiritual education through lesson plans including opportunities for spiritual growth

principal: encourages spiritual formation and family life

coach: integrates Catholic Christian principles into teaching and coaching methods

- ❖ **Administrators have the responsibilities to ensure the overall Catholic Christian environment in which all participants in the system are respected.**

parent: supports, respects and displays a positive attitude toward administration

student: accepts responsibility for one's own actions, following the mandate "*Do unto others as you would have them do unto you*"

teacher: supports principal's actions/decisions

principal: follows practice of what Jesus taught, being a lifelong learner of faith and prayer

coach: speaks and acts in ways consistent with the expectation of the Lafayette Catholic School System

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- ❖ **Each student is provided with and expected to maintain an environment that is conducive to learning and that is orderly and respectful of each individual, regardless of the student's social, cultural or personal status.**

- parent:* models respect for authority while demanding respectful attitudes and actions from their children toward adults, siblings, teachers, classmates and teammates
- student:* accepts individual differences in others, treating all people as unique children of God
- teacher:* models respect for all individuals, attempting to address each child's specific needs
- principal:* provides professional development that addresses the individual differences of every learner
- coach:* teaches sports as a total life activity, focusing on the spiritual, mental, and physical well-being of the individual child

- ❖ **Teachers, Administrators, the Board of Education, and the Board of Trustees are responsible to collaborate with parents in all decisions relating to the education of their students.**

- parent:* actively participates in the education of the child, addressing concerns with the appropriate person
- student:* reports accurately and responsibly what happens in school
- teacher:* communicates in a timely manner, keeping lines of communication open
- principal:* creates an environment where one can express ideas and concerns, directing issues to the appropriate source
- coach:* communicates rules, schedules, and expectations in a timely manner