

GUIDELINES FOR GUESTS IN THE DIOCESE OF ERIE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

It is very important that guests who address our students, parents, and faculty do so in a manner that is respectful and consistent with Church teaching. These guidelines for guests are being provided to assist a presenter, speaker, a student teacher, or a volunteer in determining the appropriateness of an action or comment while on the school premises. Your willingness to follow the guidelines in a spirit of cooperation while in the school or parish is critical to maintaining a Catholic environment throughout our school building and your continued presence in the building.

A GUEST / SPEAKER IS EXPECTED TO:

1. Recognize the true nature of all individuals as children of God and deserving of the respect granted to them by our Creator.
2. Act in a manner both verbally and physically that models professional decorum.
3. Respect and refrain from contradicting the Catholic identity and mission of Catholic schools in the diocese.
4. Respect and refrain from contradicting Catholic teachings and the Catholic faith including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Respecting that the Catholic faith recognizes that marriage is between a man and a woman, and is the only legitimate place for sexual relations;
 - Respecting that the Catholic faith recognizes abstinence from sexual relations until marriage is both a standard of moral behavior as well as the proper strategy for preventing sexually transmitted disease;
 - Respecting the teaching of the Catholic Church that regards homosexual activity as morally unacceptable, while promoting the respect due to all persons regardless of sexual orientation;
 - Respecting Catholic teaching on abortion, namely, that human life is to be respected and protected from the moment of conception;
 - Respecting the teaching of the Catholic Church that regards artificial methods of birth control as morally unacceptable.
5. Any organization or its representative that self-discloses a pro-abortion stance or support is not to be invited into the school to speak.
6. Regarding formation in chastity, only information appropriate to each phase of a young person's individual development should be presented to children and young people.