

## Covenant of Communication and Support

The mission of Sioux Center Christian School is to disciple God's children by equipping them with a knowledge and understanding of Christ and His creation so that they can obediently serve God and others as they work and play. Partnering with parents is a huge part of fulfilling this mission. In order to partner well, the board of trustees is asking the entire school community to commit ourselves to the following promises of communication and support (faculty and staff are also held to these):

1. Before I talk to anyone about any issue, I will speak to the Lord first about the issue. (James 1:5)
2. I will speak the truth in love, and trust that you will do the same for me. (Ephesians 4:15)
3. When in doubt about an issue, I will ask the appropriate people to achieve clarity. (Proverbs 18:15)  
Be careful about how you interpret me. I'd rather help you interpret me. In turn, I will be careful about how I interpret you. (1 Peter 3:8-12)
4. If I have a problem with another person, I will go to that person privately. If individuals have a problem with me, I want them to come to me privately, and I will be open when they come. (Matthew 18:15)

If I discover that someone has a problem with me, I need to go to them. (Matthew 5:23-24)

If someone has a problem with me, and goes to you, please send the person to me. I'll do the same for you. (Matthew 5:23-24)

5. The following schoolwide norms (faculty and staff are also held to these):
  - a. Communicate regularly (face-to-face is best).
  - b. In conflict, seek direction through prayer and wise counsel (seek guidance versus gossip). Focus on solutions. Follow Matthew 18.
  - c. Assume positive intent; trust, but verify.
  - d. Put student needs first.
  - e. Provide and seek kind, specific, and helpful feedback.
  - f. Celebrate and support each other.
  - g. Take healthy risks.
  - h. Remain flexible, focused on growth.
  - i. Face reality boldly.

Above all, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29

**I agree to do my best to fulfill this covenant, leaning on God at all times.**

<i>Parent(s)/Guardian(s)</i>	<i>Head of School</i>	<i>Trustee</i>
	(on behalf of the faculty and staff) (faculty/staff also sign a document)	(on behalf of the board of trustees)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_