

## **Coulee Catholic Schools**

### **POLICY ON SCHEDULING CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The Diocese of La Crosse values the participation of students in activities that enhance the faith-life of each student and enable the student to use the talent God has given each of them. Co-curricular activities are defined as the following: Athletic sports, clubs and organizations, drama, and band/music or choral groups. In an effort to encourage authentic Catholic identity and to foster family life the following guidelines are to be observed so as to reduce the conflicts that may occur due to school co-curricular activities:

#### **Sundays:**

**Practices, games, or competitions are not permitted on Sundays.** Priority must be given to observe the Lord's Day as a day of worship and time with family. In the event of games or competitions on Mondays, practices should be held on Saturday for a reasonable amount of time in order for the team to be ready to participate in the Monday competition. Exceptions for state tournament practices, drama/music performances, or other Sunday events may be granted only with the approval of the President or Dean. Practices and events of this nature should occur no earlier than 1:00pm on Sunday and should be held for a reasonable amount of time.

#### **Wednesdays:**

Students participating in religious instruction shall be excused from practices, games, or competitions by 5:30pm on Wednesday nights.

#### **Holy Days of Obligation:**

When practice or competitions occur on Holy Days of Obligation, in which school is not in session, ample time must be permitted for attendance at Holy Mass or Church services that day.

#### **Holidays:**

Practices, games, and competitions are not permitted on Christmas or Easter. On the holidays of Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Memorial Day, practices, games, or competitions may only occur with the approval of the President or Dean and should be held for a reasonable amount of time.

#### **Traveling:**

*When a co-curricular group travels for competitions/events* that require the participants to be away from home during *the weekend or Holy Days of Obligation*, the coaches and those adults responsible for the students must ensure that the group attends Holy Mass to fulfill their Catholic obligation.

#### **Easter Triduum:**

In view of the respect for and sanctity of the *Easter Triduum and so that students may attend services with their families and participate more fully in the Sacred Mysteries*, the following diocesan regulations (DSR 6615) must be observed:

- **On Holy Thursday**, all athletic practices or activities are to end so that students may leave their home school *by 4:30pm* to attend Holy Thursday evening services.
- There are to be **no scheduled athletic games/practices/activities on Good Friday or Easter Sunday.**
- **On Holy Saturday**, all athletic practices or activities are to end so that students can leave their home school *no later than 5:00pm.*

#### **Students:**

A student may not be penalized for non-participation in an athletic or school activity because of an absence due to religious instruction.