

House System

This is a system where students in 5th-8th grade are placed together to socialize and interact as a family unit throughout their tenure in the school. Students receive their House assignment upon entering 5th grade or upon transfer into the school and remain in the same house until graduation. A sense of fraternity is established while they work together to accomplish various tasks. The ultimate goal of the house system is to have the students begin to focus on the needs of others. This is accomplished by having them find ways they can perform acts of service for others in the school, parish, and the Mexico community.

Service Hours: Houses will be encouraged to keep track of the activities they have performed for the good of others with no thought of compensation for themselves. The House will set a goal as to how many service acts will be expected for each month. The goals set for each House may vary.

Examples of Acts of Service

These are just a few examples of different types of service possible for the school and parish.

Church Ministry: serving, lecturing, gift bearer (including collection baskets, youth group, choir, and meditations. This includes during school or on the weekends. It also applies to Corned Beef and Cabbage, Chili Supper, Fish Fry, or any other activity sponsored by the Parish or the school.

SBS Activities(leadership positions): Safety Patrol, Leadership Council, working at Home and School events, Helping with Red Ribbon Week, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Helping with Catholic Schools Week, etc.

Items collected to help the School: Campbell Soup Labels, "Box Tops for Education", Used Ink Cartridges.

Major Acts of Service: Each house is responsible for 1 major act of service involving the school (talent show, St. Brendan Day, Mardi Gras, King & Queen contest) and 1 involving the community (food drives, Salvation Army bell-ringing, collecting money for charity through Dollar Jeans Day, etc.).

House Meetings:

Daily House Meetings:

Purpose: To come together as individual houses to get to know one another, collect and distribute information, discuss acts of service, have fun, and learn.

Time of Meetings: Houses meet every day from 1:55-2:15. The House Shirt may be worn on Wednesdays.

Weekly Meeting Schedule: The Houses will follow the following weekly schedule.

Monday: Trivia, Tuesday: Study Hall, Wednesday: Ethical Questions, Thursday: Study Hall, Friday: Board games.

Other House Structures: A House may have a captain or two co-captains. These captains may be asked to lead the meetings or take charge of the Major Acts of Service the House is in charge of. Members are to be informed of upcoming events and how they can become involved. Encouragement should be offered by both captains and house mentors to have all members participate in the activities.

Monthly All-House Competitions

Purpose: To have all the houses congregate in a common area for a friendly competition. The individual houses use this time to interact with one another, to build community, teamwork, and good sportsmanship.

Time of Competitions: Competitions take place on the third Wednesday of the month. The competition begins at 1:55pm and ends at 3:00pm.

Other Competition Structures: Only those students who wear their House shirt on Competition Day will be allowed to compete. Those who do not will meet in the library under the supervision of the principal. Upon arrival at the competition the students should sit with fellow house members in designated area. The meeting will begin with announcements of upcoming events, etc. Competition then begins. These competitions include but are not limited to: team building exercises, athletic or academic challenges, dance competition, problem solving activities, etc. The winning House will be awarded the Brendan Spirit Stick

End of Year: At the end of the year there is a school wide assembly to review the Acts of Service. The Houses who have reached their goal for the year earn a special field trip.