

## MOUNT de CHANTAL VISITATION ACADEMY

### COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

(School Environment Code)

(page 1 of 3)

Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy is a community dedicated to personal and academic excellence. All in the school are committed to maintaining an atmosphere that enhances the success of students. This means ensuring that a positive and supportive learning environment -- an environment that celebrates the freedom to learn and the freedom to teach -- exists in our school. In that celebration of teaching and learning, it is appropriate that individuals and groups be viewed with regard to their potential to contribute within the learning environment. Each has dignity and value. To diminish the dignity of one is to diminish the dignity of us all. It is understood that members of the Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy community agree to abide by the school's Commitment to Excellence to ensure that the school is a thriving environment for living and learning. By endorsing these common principles, members of the community contribute to the traditions and scholarly heritage left by those who preceded them and promise to leave the Mount a better place for those who follow.

While at this school, you join a community of people seeking education. Choosing to join this community obligates you to:

- \*respect the diversity and dignity of all persons;
- \*demonstrate social and personal responsibility;
- \* practice academic integrity;
- \*maintain standards of academic performance;
- \*contribute to the safe, cooperative, and respectful learning environment throughout the campus;
- \*respect the rights and property of all persons; and,
- \* bear the ultimate responsibility for the effects of your decisions and behavior.

MOUNT de CHANTAL VISITATION ACADEMY  
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE  
(School Environment Code)  
(page 2 of 3)

**Respect the diversity and dignity of all persons:**

Mount de Chantal is committed to creating and maintaining an educational environment that respects the right of all individuals to participate fully in the community. Actions motivated by hate, prejudice, or intolerance violate this principle. We will not engage in any behaviors (written, spoken, or comments on the Internet) that compromise or demean the dignity of individuals or groups, including intimidation, stalking, harassment, discrimination, taunting, ridiculing, insulting, or acts of violence. We will demonstrate respect for others by striving to learn from differences between people, ideas, and opinions and by avoiding behaviors that inhibit the ability of other community members to feel safe or welcome as they pursue their academic goals.

**Demonstrate social and personal responsibility:**

Mount de Chantal is a community that promotes learning; any behaviors that are inconsistent with that goal are unacceptable. Irresponsible behaviors, including alcohol or drug abuse and the use of violence against people or property, undermine the educational climate by threatening the physical and mental health of members of the community. We will exercise personal responsibility for our actions and we will make sure that our actions do not interfere with the academic and social environment of the School. We will engage in behaviors that contribute to the safe, cooperative, and respectful learning environment throughout the campus. We will maintain a high standard of behavior by adhering to our Respect Codes and general codes of conduct and respecting the rights of others.

**Practice academic integrity:**

Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at the Mount, allowing the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest, and responsible manner. We will practice integrity in regard to all academic assignments. We will not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception because such acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the School community and compromise the worth of work completed by others.

MOUNT de CHANTAL VISITATION ACADEMY  
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE  
(School Environment Code)  
(page 3 of 3)

**Maintain standards of academic performance:**

Students assume final responsibility for the successful completion of coursework and graduation requirements. Students will be responsible for seeking the academic and career information needed to meet educational goals by becoming knowledgeable about the relevant policies, procedures, and rules of the School and by consulting and meeting with respective faculty advisers and faculty members.

**Bear the ultimate responsibility for the effects of decisions and behavior:**

We will maintain a high standard of behavior by adhering to our Respect Codes and general codes of conduct and respecting the rights of others. If behaviors are demonstrated that violate the principles outlined here and in each class respect codes consequences, as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook, will be applied.

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