



# Handbook for Students and Parents

The Mount Academy 2023



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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Mission

The mission of the Mount Academy is to inspire its students to excellence in every undertaking and to a life of serving and caring for others. All instruction seeks to instill respect, self-discipline, and a strong work ethic through a curriculum emphasizing rigor, depth, and mastery of fundamentals. We aim to establish a culture marked by the discovery of truth, the practice of goodness, the creation of beauty, and the development of basic intellectual skills.

The Mount Academy is founded in the Anabaptist tradition of the Christian faith as specifically set out in *Foundations of our Faith and Calling: the Bruderhof*, published in 2012 (available at [www.bruderhof.com/en/our-faith/foundations](http://www.bruderhof.com/en/our-faith/foundations)). All staff members are committed to teach and model Christian values in accordance with *Foundations*. The Mount Academy does not require families to be practicing Christians in order to enroll their children.

## 1.2 Parent Partnership

At the Mount Academy, we understand parents (not the school) to be the primary educators of their children. Although parents entrust their children to the school for a large portion of the day, parents play an integral role as members of the school community and partners with us. Not only are they advocates for their children, they also support the faculty by their active engagement in the education of their children and the entire school community. Students' well-being is best supported when families and school work together to reinforce the values and attitudes central to the school's mission. Conversations about ways to best support students, academically and emotionally, should be based on the understanding that all parties have the best interest of the students in mind.

The school encourages and expects families to communicate directly with teachers and other staff whenever families have information, insights, questions, or concerns about their child's educational best

interests. Because one of the goals of education in the Mount Academy is to foster independence and communication skills in students, please encourage your child to discuss their concerns directly with their teachers. Part of parent partnership is working with the school to allow each student to become a responsible young adult.

Meetings between parents and teachers are a vital communication link. Informal conferences may be held at any time during the year. Parents should arrange appointments with the Principal.

## 1.3 About this Handbook

Parents and students are expected to be familiar with the information contained in this handbook. We hope that the handbook will answer many questions you may have about academics, student life, school rules, and other topics.

Please understand that no set of rules or guidelines can cover every situation that might arise at the school. This handbook does not limit the authority of school staff to deal with circumstances as they arise in the manner they decide is appropriate. The guidelines may also be revised or updated periodically and any such revisions will be posted on the school's website.

## 1.4 School Contact Information

The Mount Academy is located at:

The Mount Academy  
1001 Broadway  
Esopus, NY 12429

Phone number for general inquiries: 845-384-8080

Website: [www.mountacademy.org](http://www.mountacademy.org)

Email: [info@mountacademy.org](mailto:info@mountacademy.org)

# 2 Academics

## 2.1 Graduation Requirements

Mount Academy graduation requirements meet the New York State Board of Regents Diploma Requirements. To graduate, a student must earn a minimum of 22 units, including completion of the physical education requirement. Such units of credit shall include:

- English Language Arts – 4 units
- Social Studies – 4 units; including US History, Participation in Government, and Economics
- Mathematics – 3 units
- Science – 3 units
- Health – ½ unit
- The Arts – 1 unit; including dance, music, theater, or visual arts
- Languages other than English – 2 units
- Physical Education – 2 units (one year = ½ unit)
- Electives – 3 ½ units
- Instruction in hands-only CPR and the use of an AED

## 2.2 Grading

Letter Grade	Percent Range	GPA Points	Description
A+	97 < percent grade ≤ 100	4.0	
A	93 < percent grade < 97	4.0	mastery
A-	90 < percent grade < 93	3.7	
B+	87 < percent grade < 90	3.3	
B	83 < percent grade < 87	3.0	thorough grasp
B-	80 < percent grade < 83	2.7	
C+	77 < percent grade < 80	2.3	
C	73 < percent grade < 77	2.0	satisfactory achievement
C-	70 < percent grade < 73	1.7	
D+	67 < percent grade < 70	1.3	
D	63 < percent grade < 67	1.0	marginal achievement
D-	60 < percent grade < 63	0.7	
F		0.0	failed to meet minimum requirements
I		-/-	incomplete
P		-/-	fulfilled all requirements (not included in GPA)
W		-/-	withdrawn (not included in GPA)

At the beginning of each term, every teacher explains to students orally and in writing the grading criteria that will be used for evaluating their academic performance. All grades except Incomplete (I) are final when filed by the teacher and may be changed only in case of a clerical or procedural error or other unusual circumstances. Once an Incomplete (I) grade is assigned, it remains on the transcript along with the passing grade a student may later receive for the course. If the work is not completed by the end of the next full term, the I grade lapses to an F. Courses may not be repeated.

## 2.3 Report Card Schedule

The Mount Academy uses a quarterly grading schedule. In addition to quarterly report cards, mid-quarter reports are issued to parents of students whose grades are cause for concern.

## 2.4 Homework

Homework is an important part of the learning process, and is assigned on a regular basis. Students are expected to complete and submit it on time.

Following an absence, and prior to a foreseeable absence, students are responsible to contact teachers regarding making up all missing assignments.

## 2.5 Academic Integrity

Students come to school in order to learn and the school's academic program is designed to challenge and extend each student's ability and knowledge. Thus students are expected to work to the best of their ability without resorting to any form of cheating or reliance on the work or ability of anyone else.

Students should speak openly with their teachers or with the Principal if at any point they feel that expectations are set beyond their ability.

Cheating and plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the use of another person's ideas, words, images, data, or ideas without proper acknowledgement. If in doubt, students should speak to their teachers and document their sources.

## 2.6 Academic Honors

To support student body cohesion and school spirit there is no formal honors track, nor are academic honors or distinctions issued, but able students are selectively enrolled in demanding classes in their

junior and senior years. The Mount Academy does not offer Regents exams or Advanced Placement classes. A dual enrollment program with SUNY Ulster allows students to earn college credits in US History, English, and Algebra.

## 2.7 Standardized and Diagnostic Testing

The Mount Academy does not give standardized tests as part of our curriculum. However, students are encouraged to take the SAT or ACT test in their junior year.

## 2.8 Counseling on Further Education and Training

All students are counseled individually about college applications and other options for further education and training. The process formally begins in the senior year and involves individual conferences with students and parents. Students are assisted in making college or other training choices and in completing application procedures.

## 2.9 Service Learning

Educators have long recognized that students achieve better when classroom learning is supported by real



life, hands-on experience. For this reason, and to develop character and encourage a service orientation, students may participate in the school's Service Learning Program.

## 2.10 Provision of Special Education Services

The school does not discriminate against qualified applicants or students on the basis of learning disabilities that may be reasonably accommodated; however, the Mount Academy may not have the resources to meet all the educational needs of a student that requires special education services as set forth in an Individualized Education Program (IEP). In enrolling their child in the Mount Academy, parents of students who have an IEP recognize this limitation. Provision of special education services is the responsibility of the student's local school district, but it is the parents' obligation to pursue these services. Any assistance provided at the Mount Academy by the school district is subject to approval by the Principal.

## 2.11 Requesting Services

Parents of a student who has an IEP must request special education services in writing from the school district by June 1 preceding the school year for which the request for services is made. If a student is first identified as a student with a disability after June 1 preceding the school year and before April 1 of the current school year, the parent must submit the written request for services within thirty days after the student's disability was first identified.

If parents of a student enrolled in the Mount Academy suspect that their child may have a disability and wish to have the child evaluated to determine if special education services are needed, the school district should be contacted to request an evaluation and determine the child's eligibility for special education services. Questions regarding special education evaluations or services provided for a child should be answered by the school district that conducted the evaluation or developed the IEP.

Even after supportive services and accommodations have been put in place, a student may still not be able to fulfill their academic requirements satisfactorily. In such instances, the Principal, or other support personnel may notify the student's parents that the accommodations put into place may not suffice to ensure the student's success at the school. At that time, the Principal or other support personnel, the student, and their parents will discuss whether it makes sense for the student to continue at the school. If there is a disagreement, the school will decide, in its sole discretion, whether the student may re-enroll for the coming school year.

## 2.12 Bus Transportation

Bus transportation is a school district service. Please refer all questions to the transportation office of the district in which you reside. Parents must request transportation by April 1 of each year. This is necessary to enable the districts to estimate their transportation needs for the following year.

# 3. Student Life

## 3.1 Attendance and Absences

Regular attendance is an important factor in academic success and is expected of all students.

Legal excuses for absences under the laws of New York State are: sickness, sickness or death in the family, impassable roads making travel unsafe, quarantine, religious observance, approved school-supervised trips, or required presence in court.

Parents will be called if there is a problem regarding excessive absences, and the Mount Academy administration will report to Child Protective Services all children who may have questionable or unreasonable absences, as required by law.

If illness prevents a student from attending school, the parent (or Boarding House parent) must leave a message for the Academy secretary at (845) 384-8095

or 595 before 7:30 AM. A message must be left each day the student is absent.

Parents must notify the Academy in advance of any foreseeable absence. Please avoid scheduling routine doctor or dentist appointments during school hours.

### 3.2 Late Arrival/Early Dismissal

Order and self-discipline are fundamental to our school. Students who arrive late to school must report to the secretary in the main office. Students whose buses are late are not considered late.

An early dismissal or other event that causes a change in a student's normal transportation arrangements must also be reported using (845) 384-8095 or 595 before 7:30 AM.

### 3.3 Planned Closures

Parents will be notified of days when students will be dismissed from school early or when students have a full holiday or extended vacation days. Please refer to the school calendar available on the Mount Academy website. In special circumstances, school may occasionally be cancelled for religious observances in addition to those noted on the school calendar.

### 3.4 Closures for Weather

When the school closes for inclement weather, this will be noted on the school website and as an audio message on (845) 384-8095 or 595. Parents will also receive a notice of school closure by email or text.

### 3.5 Field Trips

Field trips and excursions provide an important avenue for strengthening and deepening students' engagement with information and ideas. To this end, the school may organize field trips, excursions, and other activities that occur away from school premises, sometimes on short notice. Students are expected to comply with the rules and regulations of the place they are visiting, as well as the rules of the Mount Academy, and to respect the rights of others.

By attending school, the student and family agree and grant consent:

- that the child may participate in all such excursions whether or not specific advance notice of the trip was provided to the student or the family;
- that school staff members are authorized to obtain emergency medical treatment for the student as necessary and that the family will be responsible for payment of any medical expenses so incurred; and
- that the school will not be liable for injury to the student as result of the negligence, errors, and omissions of others, for example charter bus owners and drivers, museum owners or workers, or any other third party whose action or inaction may affect the well-being of the student.

Consent for a student to participate in such excursions may be revoked in writing at any time, but such revocation will not affect any previous excursion.

The school will take reasonable steps to inform families in advance of any planned excursion and to discuss any related practical issues or concerns. For overnight trips, parents will be provided with details of the trip and a written permission form must be returned for each student taking part.

### 3.6 Clubs and Athletics

The Mount Academy's clubs and athletics programs aim to foster creativity, character development, integrity, competitive drive, and teamwork while amplifying school spirit. To fulfill this mission, the programs intend to:

- Teach students to reach beyond their comfort zone in order to achieve their full potential.
- Broaden students' educational experience and teach practical skills.
- Encourage a continuous and healthy balance between academic and athletic pursuits.
- Field highly competitive teams that strive to win.

- Inspire in students a passion for individual and team improvement by providing the opportunity to develop new skills and enhance existing talents. We believe that the desire to improve is the foundation of success on the playing fields and beyond.

At the Mount Academy, the student athlete is first and foremost a student. Coaches, team captains, and faculty work hard to promote excellence on the court or the field while avoiding an unhealthy athletics subculture in the school. While always secondary to the academic life of the school, a healthy athletics program is nevertheless an important aspect of life at the school.

### 3.7 Campus

Students should remain on campus at all times. Students entering or leaving the school premises at nonstandard times must follow the appropriate procedures for signing-in and signing-out. Parents and guardians dropping off or picking up students must use the Mount Academy drive and the main entrance.

Students are not permitted in any of the following areas unless supervised:

- Main House roof
- Pond
- Hudson River
- Route 9W
- Utility buildings/maintenance area
- Railroad tracks
- Farm buildings and fields
- Woodlot
- Eagle lodge loop

### 3.8 Visitors

All visitors to the school must enter at the main entrance, and report to Reception. Visitors will not be allowed to loiter in the school building or on the school or community campus. Parents are to schedule conferences in advance at times convenient for both teachers and parents.

### 3.9 Dress Code

The required Lands' End school uniform is to be worn for all classes and school excursions. Parents, in sending their sons and daughters to the Mount Academy, and students in coming, accept the judgment of the Principal as final in matters of dress and appearance at school.

- Good personal hygiene will be expected.
- Boys will wear a navy short-sleeved polo shirt; khaki dress pants; a belt; shoes or sneakers which can also be used for gym and after-lunch games.
- Boys' hair will be kept short and tidy; facial hair is not permitted.
- Girls will wear a navy short-sleeved polo shirt, untucked; a blue-themed below-the-knee skirt; shoes or sneakers which can also be used for gym and after-lunch games.
- Girls' hair will be neatly braided, or neatly tied back, and hair will be out of the face.
- Makeup, jewelry, and open-toed footwear are not permitted.
- A pullover emblazoned with the Mount Academy logo is the only acceptable sweater/jacket allowed to be worn inside the building. Outerwear such as hats, jackets, overcoats, or hooded jackets will not be worn anywhere in the building.



# 4 Student Conduct

## 4.1 Standards of Conduct

All students are expected to exhibit self-discipline and respect for themselves, their fellow students, and their teachers. As in a functioning family, students must respect authority, be courteous to others, and cooperate in school activities. Students must take responsibility for their own actions so that there is an attitude of mutual respect in the school.

Students will uphold the principles of honesty and respect for themselves and others in all facets of school life.

Group interaction and harmony is essential. Students will not form exclusive friendships or cliques amongst peers. Dating and public displays of affection are not allowed.

Students will not use foul or abusive language of any kind, whether in seriousness, or jokingly, including any language used to put down another person or class of people on the basis of their race, ethnic background, physical or mental ability, or personal characteristics. This inappropriate behavior includes physical, verbal, written, or any electronic formats.

Students will not threaten, intimidate, or cause bodily harm to any person.

Students will respect the property of others and the school by not engaging in theft, vandalism, or intentional destruction of property.

Students will not possess, use, sell, purchase, or distribute alcohol, marijuana, any illegal substance or narcotic, or any drug paraphernalia, or tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, vaporizers, and lighters.

Students will not use or possess weapons, firearms, or ammunition of any sort on campus or when under school jurisdiction.

Students will comport themselves respectfully and in accordance with school policies including not engaging in rowdy behavior such as running, pushing, shoving, yelling, whistling, sliding on banisters, dropping objects down stairwells, or sitting on windowsills and radiators.

Unless given permission by staff, students will not leave the school building or campus, enter the staff room, roof decks, or boarding house, or use the elevators.

Students will not bring or eat food outside the scheduled lunch period without prior permission from the Principal.

Anyone who observes conduct that endangers others, offends against school values, or damages school property has a duty to speak directly to the offending party and to report the conduct immediately to an appropriate member of staff.



## 4.2 Discipline

Misconduct may result in discipline, including in-school detention at the discretion of the Principal or designee. Serious or repeated misconduct may result in suspension or expulsion. The decision of the Principal is final.

A student who is knowingly in the presence of a school rule violation may be held responsible and may share in any disciplinary consequences.

Students should be aware that certain activities, even outside of school hours or off school property, may result in loss of school privileges and other disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students may be subject to discipline for misconduct which is, or may be, disruptive of the educational process, interferes with the work of the school, is contrary to the mission of the school, or has a direct effect on the discipline or general welfare of the school, even if such conduct takes place off campus, during non-school hours, or on breaks from school.

## 4.3 Parental Responsibilities

Teamwork between parents and teachers is indispensable to the education of each student and contributes greatly to the success of the entire school. Basic to the functioning of the Mount Academy is the expectation and requirement that all parents and students willingly respect the religious mission, policies, and rules of the school. As a child's first and best teachers, parents must teach by example at home, instill a love of learning, and demand self-discipline and respect at home and at school. The school reserves the right to terminate enrollment of a student if the school concludes in its sole discretion that the actions of a parent seriously undermine or interfere with the school's accomplishment of its educational and religious purposes. Parents will be held financially responsible for any deliberate destruction or defacement of school property by their child.

# 5 Technology, Privacy, and Student Work

## 5.1 Responsible Use of Information Technology

The school integrates technology into its activities with moderation when such integration clearly facilitates the school's educational purposes.

The following rules apply to all school computers, all school-provided electronic devices wherever used, all uses of school servers, and internet access and networks provided by the school regardless of how they are accessed. Though it is not the school's intention or capability to monitor any use of technology outside of its own network, students and parents should understand that when off campus using school-issued technology or using their own personal computer or communication device, students are also expected to comply with this Responsible Use Policy as long as they are enrolled at the school.

The school reserves the right to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user privileges and/or take other disciplinary action, including but not limited to student suspension or expulsion, for violations of these rules.

### General Responsible Use Rules

School computers, electronic devices, network and internet services, and electronic resources are to be used only for the school's educational purposes.

Students must comply with all school rules and expectations concerning conduct and communications when using school computers or school-issued electronic resources, whether on or off school property. Students also must comply with all specific instructions from school staff.

Students may not access, submit, post, publish, forward, download, scan or display defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, threatening, harassing, bullying, and/or illegal materials or messages.

Students may not use the school's computers, electronic devices, networks, or internet services for any illegal activity or in violation of any school rules. Students must not illegally download, copy, or distribute software, music, sound files, movies, images, or other materials protected by copyright. Where illegal activities are suspected, the school may report these activities to the applicable authorities.

Students may not share passwords, use other users' passwords, access or use other users' accounts, or attempt to circumvent network security systems or access content blocked by the school filters.

Students may not engage in any malicious use, disruption, or harm to the school's computers, electronic devices, network, and internet services, including but not limited to hacking activities and creation/uploading of computer viruses.

Students shall not use the network in such a way that would waste system resources or disrupt the use of the network by others.

Students may not attach unauthorized equipment, including personal laptops, tablets, handheld devices, and USBs to the school network without permission from the Principal.

Students who identify a security problem must notify a teacher immediately.

### **Additional Rules for Laptops, Tablets, or other Electronic Devices Issued to Students**

Electronic devices loaned to students shall be used only for educational purposes that directly relate to a school project or assignment, unless otherwise explicitly authorized by the Principal.

Parents are responsible for supervising their student's use of the device when not in school.

Students are responsible for the proper care of electronic devices at all times, whether on or off school property, including costs associated with repairing or

replacing the device. Students must report a lost or stolen device to the school immediately.

The device configuration shall not be altered in any way by users. No software applications shall be installed, removed, or altered on the device unless permission is explicitly given by the teacher.

The device is to be used only by the student to whom it is issued. The student to whom the device is issued will be responsible for any activity or action performed on the device.

The device must be returned in the same condition as it was issued whenever requested by school staff.

All computers, other electronic devices, telephone systems, voice mail systems, and electronic communication systems are the school's property. The school reserves the right to monitor any and all use of its system. All information created, received, or stored using the school network or devices is the property of the school and may be intercepted, reviewed, backed up or otherwise copied, deleted, moved, retained, or used for legal or other purposes. Students should have no expectation that any information contained on such systems is confidential or private.

## **5.2 Personal Electronic Devices, Blogging and Social Networking**

Mobile phones, cameras, gaming devices, and all other personal electronic devices are not permitted to be used at any time on school premises or during school-sponsored activities elsewhere, unless specifically permitted by a staff member. Teachers and other school staff reserve the right to confiscate any such device. Emergency communication from parents can be made by calling the school, and a school phone is available for students if needed.

Personal blogging and social networking is never allowed on the school's network or from the school's grounds. Blogging or posting of comments on social networking sites that is disparaging of the school or members of the school community, or disruptive to

the educational environment in any way is prohibited, including when it occurs out of school hours or off the school's network.

In any online activities, students must conduct themselves as ambassadors of the school, demonstrating respect for themselves and others through appropriate, safe, and courteous conduct. Parents should support students and the school through guiding and supervising their child's online activity.

### 5.3 Searching Electronic Devices and Accounts

The school reserves the right to:

- search any electronic device (cell phone, tablet, laptop, etc.) used by a student, whether personally owned or owned by the school;
- access and monitor both student-owned and school-owned computers and communication devices, whether or not the devices are connected to the school's network; and
- search and access any online or cloud-based account maintained by a student, including, but not limited to, email, social media, and file sharing services,

if the school suspects that the device, computer, or account contains evidence of a violation of school policy or the law.

Staff may:

- access and monitor any electronic device that is in a student's possession, whether on or off campus, while the student is enrolled at the school or using the school's network; and
- require a student to unlock a device or enter a password to access a device or any online or cloud-based accounts.

Students should not expect that communications, information, files, documents, or data maintained on or processed by any device, computer, or account will be private, confidential, or secure.

### 5.4 Privacy and Confidentiality

In order to serve the best interests of each student, the school collects and uses information about its students, including information about their health, achievements, activities, absences, and interests. The school is committed to protecting the privacy of families, students, and staff. At the same time, the school has a responsibility for the entire learning community that may at times supersede the rights of individuals.

If sensitive information about a student has to be shared, it will be done on a need-to-know basis and in compliance with applicable law. However, confidential information may be disclosed to the Principal, appropriate administrators, outside professionals, law enforcement officers, parents, and others when there is a compelling reason for doing so, including, without limitation, in cases of health and safety emergencies (when students or others are in imminent danger of harm); when there is concern about an individual's ability to function academically, emotionally, physically, and/or mentally within the school environment, or when legal requirements demand that confidential information be revealed.

The school reserves the right to monitor and track all behaviors and interactions that take place in the context of school-sponsored activities, including through the use of video and other technology.

The school reserves the right to examine any personal property that a student brings onto school property or to a school-sponsored activity if the school suspects a school policy or the law is being broken.

### 5.5 Student Work and Likeness

We make a concerted effort to highlight the accomplishments of our students and faculty, as well as to publicize the strength of the entire program offered by the Mount Academy, in a variety of media formats. Student Media Information – including student names, photographic images (for example, portrait, picture, video, or other reproductions), audio recordings of students' voices, video recordings of students

and/or reproductions of students' work and likenesses – may be used for educational and promotional purposes in print and electronic media. Outlets for publication of Student Media Information may include, but not be limited to, the school magazine, marketing materials, the school website, school social media accounts, educational competitions, and local newspapers.

By attending school and participating in school sponsored activities, the student and family agree that Student Media Information may be used by the Mount Academy along with personal identifying information (full name and grade) in the ways described above.

Parents are asked to contact the school if they would like to opt out of the use of Student Media Information.



# 6 Health and Safety

## 6.1 School Nurse

The Mount Academy has contracted with Esopus Medical to provide school nursing services. A nurse is available during the entire school day. In the event that a student becomes ill or is injured, appropriate first aid is provided.

## 6.2 Medication

Any student bringing medication to school or to any school-related activity must discuss this with the school nurse and follow the procedures laid out by the nurse.

Students must have a complete physical exam within twelve months prior to entering the Mount Academy.

## 6.3 Illness

If a student is not well enough to attend class, the parents (or Boarding House parents) will be informed by the school and asked to pick the student up.

Students who appear obviously ill, especially if they have fever with a cough, diarrhea, or vomiting, should not attend school until they have been evaluated by their regular health care provider and cleared by the school nurse. Students are expected to cooperate with the school in following recommended protocols aimed at preventing the spread of communicable illness.

The school may exclude from school any student who has a communicable illness or has been exposed to an infected person if the school determines, in its sole discretion, that such exclusion is appropriate for the welfare of the student who is excluded from school and/or the welfare of other students or staff at the school. In reaching the decision to exclude a student from the school, the school may consult with appropriate medical professionals, including the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and/or the New York State Department of Health.

A doctor's note is required to excuse a student from gym for longer than one day. A parent's note can excuse a student for one day for not feeling well.

## 6.4 Current Contact Information

Parents are expected to keep the school informed of contact information for emergency situations. If a parent is going to be away from home for an extended length of time, please leave a forwarding address and telephone number where the parent can be reached, as well as information regarding who will be responsible for the student and how they may be reached in case of illness or other emergency.

## 6.5 Immunization

In accordance with New York State law, the school requires all students to provide proof of up-to-date immunizations or a certificate of exemption before attending school. Proof of immunization should be provided on a form signed by a licensed health care provider. A student with a qualified medical exemption must provide the school with an exemption form, pursuant to state law. A medical exemption must be signed by a licensed health care provider, attesting that the student is exempt from a specific vaccine(s) because of medical reasons. Students who do not provide proof of up-to-date immunizations or qualify for an exemption will not be permitted to attend the school or participate in any school activities.

Students who are exempt from the state's immunization requirements may be prohibited from attending school and participating in school activities in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease. Students excluded from the school for this reason will not be permitted to return until (1) the danger of the outbreak has passed; (2) the student becomes ill with the disease and completely recovers; or (3) the student is immunized. In determining whether there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease, the school may consult with appropriate medical professionals and/or the New York State Department of Health.

## 6.6 Emergency Preparedness

As required by New York State law, the Mount Academy holds regular fire and emergency drills. Our staff follow clear protocols and procedures during these drills in order to ensure safety and security, and students are expected to follow all instructions and procedures.

## 6.7 Fire Inspection

The Mount Academy undergoes regular fire inspections conducted by certified personnel in accordance with New York State education law.

## 6.8 Asbestos Management

The Mount Academy has been inspected by a certified asbestos inspector as of January 17, 2017, in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Protection Agency Rule 40 DFR part 763.93 of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986. Additional six month and three year inspections will be conducted. A management plan, written in accordance with the EPA rule, is available in the Mount Academy office.



# 7 Admission

## 7.1 Admission Criteria

Parents applying for admission for their children should submit a written request to the school, preferably through the school website. An interview as well as a visit to the Mount Academy and community is required for both parents and prospective students. The Principal's decision is final with regard to admission.

## 7.2 Admission Documents

The Mount Academy will provide the forms which need to be completed and returned to the school before enrollment can be confirmed.

## 7.3 Custody

Child custody cases in which a court order has been issued for a child must be discussed with the Principal. A copy of the order must be submitted to the Principal upon request.

## 7.4 Term of Admission

Placement of each student is considered annually based on the ability and intent of the religious community that runs the school to accommodate the needs of students. Parents sending their children to the Mount Academy understand that, notwithstanding other reasons for dismissal, the admission of their child may be discontinued at the end of an academic school year at the sole discretion of the Principal.

## 7.5 Non-discrimination

The Mount Academy admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

## 7.6 Tuition

Tuition to the Mount Academy is \$10,350.00 annually. Any outstanding tuition must be paid by June 15 or the student will not be allowed to register to attend

the Mount Academy for the upcoming fall. If there is a problem with meeting this obligation, parents must contact the Principal. Any individual exceptions to this policy will be at the discretion of the Principal and must be in writing.

Tuition payments are handled by FACTS Management via their online portal at [www.factsmgmt.com](http://www.factsmgmt.com). You will receive notification and instructions from FACTS Management when your account is set up.

## 7.7 Financial Aid

Financial aid is available. Please complete the online application form at <https://sssandtadsfa.force.com> in order to be considered for financial aid.

## 7.8 Education Office Contact Information

For questions relating to tuition and financial aid, please feel free to contact the Education Office at 845-384-8030. Any questions regarding curriculum, dress code, schedule, etc. should be directed to the Principal.



Go Eagles!

