CLARKE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Social Media Policy

In order for Clarke Preparatory School to maintain both a safe and Christian environment in which students can attend school and extracurricular activities without fear of harassment or bullying, cyberbullying will not be tolerated:

Examples of cyberbullying include but are not limited to:

**Harassment** is repeatedly sending offensive, rude, and insulting messages.

**Denigration** is distributing information about another that is derogatory and untrue through posting it on a Web page, sending it to others through email or instant messaging, or posting or sending digitally altered photos of someone.

**Flaming** is fighting using electronic messages with angry, vulgar language.

**Impersonation** is breaking into an email or social networking account and using that person's online identity to send or post vicious or embarrassing material to or about others.

**Outing and Trickery** is sharing someone's secrets or embarrassing information, or tricking someone into revealing secrets or embarrassing information and forwarding it to others.

**Students**

Making comments, sexually suggestive comments, or possession and/or distribution of photographs (actual or altered) that damage the reputation of Clarke Preparatory School or any student, faculty member, or staff member will be considered a major offense. If, after due investigation, any student is found to have engaged in these behaviors, the following penalties may be imposed:

**First Offense:** up to a 5-day suspension

**Second Offense:** up to a 10-day suspension

**Third Offense:** expulsion from Clarke Preparatory School.

If, after due investigation, any CPS student is found to have knowingly posed for nude photographs or to have in any way distributed inappropriate and/or nude photographs, he/she may be subject to the following penalties:

**First Offense:** up to a ten (10) day suspension

**Second Offense:** expulsion from the school and possible referral to law enforcement.

**Parents or Guardians** of students at CPS who engage in any of the activities listed above or who make derogatory or inflammatory comments through any type of social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) toward a student, teacher, or staff member of CPS or about the institution itself, will be managed in the following manner:

**First Offense:** $250 fine. Report cards & transcripts held; blocked from Family Portal until paid

**Second Offense:** $500 fine. Report cards & transcripts held; blocked from Family Portal until paid

**Third Offense:** Expulsion of student(s) from Clarke Preparatory School.

Any issue not listed above will be managed at the discretion of the Headmaster and/or the Board of Directors. Our desire at CPS is to maintain the most positive environment possible for our students. We recognize that not all members will agree with every action of the Board, headmaster, or faculty, but we ask that you follow the proper channels in addressing your concerns rather than using social media as a "venting" place. Thank you in advance for your help and support in this matter!

**By signing below, you are testifying to the fact that you have read, understand, and support Clarke Preparatory School's policy on Social Media for the upcoming school year:**

**PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **STUDENT SIGNATURE (Grades 5 - 12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**