



Diocese of Providence Catholic School Office

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Employee Witness Statement

WITNESS STATEMENT FOR THOSE WHO SERVE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The mission of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit is the mission of the Catholic Church: to reveal God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to all people and to teach them about the fullness of His love. “Indeed the primordial mission of the Church is to proclaim God and to be His witness before the world” (*General Directory for Catechesis*, #23). Catholic education shares in a special way in the Church’s mission by proclaiming and witnessing to Jesus Christ and His teachings.

Catholic education, which includes instruction, formation and transformation, exists in order to evangelize. Two important elements that make up the process of evangelization are proclamation and witness. It is essential that those who serve in Catholic education proclaim Jesus Christ, His life and ministry, and be Christ’s witnesses to the world. Therefore, all who serve in Catholic education should believe in God, support belief in Jesus Christ, engage in prayer, respect ecclesiastical authority, and possess a basic knowledge of the Catholic Church and the Catholic Faith. In addition, all who serve in Catholic education should demonstrate a public life consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church, be active members of the Catholic Church, or their own church, if not Catholic, and not take a public position contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Initially, those being evangelized will be attracted to and listen to those who are good witnesses. “The Good News proclaimed by the witness of life sooner or later has to be proclaimed by the word of life” (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, #22). Some in Catholic education such as educational leaders and teachers of religion are called to be explicit proclaimers of the Word. But all who serve in Catholic education are ministers of the Church and are called to be witnesses to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Therefore, the following Employee Witness Statement applies to all who serve in Catholic education:

All who serve in Catholic education in the school programs of the Diocese of Providence will witness by their public behavior, actions, and words a life consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Only those persons who can support the above Employee Witness Statement are to be employed by pastors, presidents or principals in the Diocese of Providence. All who serve in Catholic education in the Diocese of Providence should be made aware that support of this Employee Witness Statement must be reflected in their public behavior.

Your signature hereinafter indicates that you support the Employee Witness Statement and its implications. If a position exists that does not, in the religious discretion of the School, require the direct support of this Statement, the individual must still be made aware of this Witness Statement and their signature hereinafter indicates an agreement not behave in any manner to hinder the religious purposes of the School.

Signature

Date