

**Catholic Schools Office**  
Diocese of Fort Wayne – South Bend  
915 South Clinton Street  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE MISSION OF  
OUR SCHOOLS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF AUTHENTIC  
WITNESS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATORS  
IN THE DIOCESE OF FORT-WAYNE – SOUTH BEND**

Catholic schools are a ministry of the Church. All who work in our Catholic schools are ministers and are rightly associated with this teaching ministry of the Church. They assist the Church in fulfilling her mission to teach and form a new generation of Christian disciples. Since they are privileged participants in this ministry, there are high expectations placed on educators in Catholic schools to be witnesses before the local community to the faith of the Church, both in the school and outside of it. These are not new expectations. These expectations are built upon the authentic witness of the educators who have served in our Catholic schools for generations.

I have received of a copy of the Mission of Our Schools and the Importance of Authentic Witness of Catholic School Educators in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, as promulgated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on May 1, 2016. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read this document and that I support the mission as described in it. I recognize and affirm that as a Catholic school educator, I serve the evangelizing mission of the Church and am called to witness to the Gospel in my words and actions and am expected to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church and not to publicly dissent from those teachings. I accept the responsibility of upholding the Church's teaching on the dignity of human life, on marriage and the family, and on human sexuality as well as of upholding the Church's social teaching and her commitment to justice and charity.

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Catholic school educator's Signature

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Date

Teachers: To be submitted with individual teacher contract

Copy Retained by: School, Catholic school educator