

Our Speech

Colossians 4:6 *“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt...”*

1. Questionable language or “slang” words will not be tolerated. Anything that can be misconstrued as negative or insulting must be avoided.
2. Be positive and encouraging. Uplift your students and others. Let them know the importance and accomplishment of being part of a team. Let them know they are important.
3. Never criticize the officials or coaches. These people represent the authority figure, “boss,” parent, teacher and “Law.” If you are ‘bad mouthing’ your child’s coaches or officials, you cannot expect him or her to play for or respect these people. Obedience to authority is not optional and is not predicated on whether or not you agree with it. All authority is God-given and disobedience to authority is disobedience to God. **Many officials and their families see you as a representative of Strong Rock and our Lord and Savior. Their misjudgment of calls or rulings does not justify the sin of lack of self-control.**
4. Insist that your students address the coach and officials with respect. They should call their coaches, “Coach” or “Mr., Miss, or Mrs.” They should address the officials as “Sir” or “Ma’am”. You should use these titles as well in the presence of your students or when referring to the coach or officials.
5. Never be involved in negative cheering. Booing the officials or opponents or getting into negative chants against the opposing crowd sets a bad example for your children and is counter to everything we believe. *Example: In basketball, chanting “air-ball” shows poor sportsmanship. In baseball, making noise while an opponent is at bat shows poor sportsmanship.*
6. Never speak negatively around the students or other parents about:
 - a) The school: A negative atmosphere can be contagious. Instead, create an atmosphere of gratitude.
 - b) The administration: The Strong Rock leadership welcomes your questions/concerns in a formal and Biblical setting. Speaking with other parents or families about these concerns is neither appropriate nor constructive.
 - c) Other students or parents: Speak to parents only about your and their students. Speak to other students only in an encouraging manner. The only time another student or parent’s name should be mentioned is in a genuine complimentary fashion.
7. Never criticize your child’s teammates. This does not teach your student team attitude and will allow them to make excuses for their own performance. Never offer excuses for your children if they are not playing. Encourage them to do their best and to keep striving for worthwhile goals.
8. Always resolve differences with your coaches out of sight and earshot of students and other parents. Speak with the coach privately. Call to set an appointment. Pray about what you will say and what is motivating your discussion.
9. Smile, meet and greet. Often you may be the first impression someone has of Strong Rock Christian School and of our Lord and Savior. Ask yourself this question “Is my speech setting up an opportunity to share Jesus Christ or a need to apologize?”

Our Relationships

John 15:12 *“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”*

1. Develop relationships and a good rapport with your students and their teammates. God has placed you in this situation for a purpose. Use this opportunity to minister and be an encouragement to others. You never know who is hurting and needs your show of God’s love in their life. If sports becomes all about you and your student, you need not participate.
2. Develop relationships and a good rapport with other parents. You will need their prayers and support as much as they will need yours.
3. Develop relationships and a good rapport with parents from other schools. Never miss an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others. Promote your school and your students. The relationships you develop are a reflection on our entire ministry.
4. Develop relationships with coaches. Get to know the coaches. Pray for them. Communicate with them with an open heart and mind. Be open, honest, and use gentle words. Set appointments to meet with the coach rather than ambush them before or after a game. **It is common know knowledge that we work harder, are more motivated, and the group is more successful when we enjoy our jobs. Our number one interest should be for the group (team) to be successful. If that is the case, try to make the season as enjoyable for the coach as possible. That will create the best results for the group.**

Our Unity

I Corinthians 12:12-13 *"For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body..."*

1. Develop unity within our individual teams. This is the only season in which all of these families will be part of the same team. That leaves a limited time for us to build relationships and have an eternal effect on other families. Take every opportunity you have to build unity within your group so that the student-athletes will follow your model.
2. Develop unity within our school family. God has called each one of us to this school. Each of us have different abilities and, therefore, different roles. Never be jealous or envious of someone else's role. Be busy fulfilling your role. Your example of being a unified school body is a valuable lesson for your students to learn.
3. Develop unity within the Kingdom. We must establish our philosophy with other schools in order for our ultimate purpose to be met – to impact the world for Jesus Christ. It will take other Christian schools being successful. Pray for them as you pray for Strong Rock.

Our Motives

I Corinthians 10:31 *"...do all to the Glory of God."*

1. Be motivated by the love of God. Living for him because he died for us.
2. Strive for victory as a tool to teach your students. Teach them that athletics is just a means to an end and not an end unto itself.
3. Teach your students to abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit. Tactics that promote unfair "gamesmanship" will not be tolerated
4. Teach your students about athletics in light of family mission, philosophy, and goals. What you are teaching your student through athletics should match with what you are teaching them at home.
5. Use your child's experience as a chance to be involved in his or her life. Your relationship with your child as an adult will last longer than your relationship with them while they are in your home. If you want a relationship with them as adults, you need to begin building that relationship NOW. Athletics affords you that opportunity.

Our Behavior

I John 2:6 *"He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*

1. Maintain class and character. You are setting the example for your children. Realize that your every action reflects upon you, your family, Strong Rock, and ultimately your Lord. People will remember your actions long after they have forgotten your words.
2. Always insist that your child follow instructions. Coaches must depend on a player's ability to follow orders immediately and without question. Questions should be raised at the appropriate time, such as at practice or after a game, when there is time for explanation. This builds respect for authority and a bond of trust between your children and their coaches.
3. Always dress appropriately. Modest attire that does not attract attention to you and away from your child should be worn. Even in warm weather events, a Christ-like appearance must be maintained.
4. Be an example and a guard. Set the standard high for behavior and appearance and do not be afraid to speak to those who are indifferent to our ultimate purpose.
5. Working with officials...not working the officials. Badgering an official to persuade a call our way comes with too high a price – our testimony and our ability to influence those others for Jesus Christ. There is never a time at any contest where a parent is afforded an opportunity to say anything to an official other than "Thank You." Without these men and women and their willingness to officiate, no one is playing ball.
6. Remain in the stands. Never attempt to approach the field, court, bench area, press box, score table, or the officials before, during or after a ballgame. Socially visiting with the coach briefly after a game is encouraged. Game officials are off-limits.
7. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat. Coaches, students, parents and spectators will need to be strong in this area. Shake hands with our visitors before AND after a game.
8. Recognize the success of your opponent. Compliment the good play of students from the other school. Congratulate their coaches on a well-coached game.
9. Teach your children that they have a special purpose from God. It is their responsibility to accept God's purpose for them. Do not compare or contrast them to others. This limits their ability to fulfill their own unique potential and purpose.
10. Understand your role. We believe that the biggest role of the parent is to be a source of encouragement. If you ask athletes what they would want their parents to do during the game; most would say "NOTHING". The thing that these students need to hear is that you enjoyed watching them and you hope that they had fun. I know that it is going to be very hard not to coach from the stands, but we are confident that this works in a negative way for their development and their enjoyment.

Note: Please detach, fill in, sign and return with all other Athletic Forms.

Student Name: _____

Grade for 2016-17 School Year: _____

I have read and understand the Parent Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its principles and guidelines at all SRCS sporting events. I fully understand my student may not participate without a signed copy of document on file in the athletic office.

Parent or Guardian's Name (please print)

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date