

Immaculate Conception † St. Joseph School Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

February 2, 2023

With support from families, we respect and encourage students to reach their potential **Spiritually** by developing a strong relationship with Jesus and knowledge of His church, **Academically** by igniting learning, leadership and life skills, **Physically** by learning about and living healthy habits and **Socially** by becoming active members of the community who serve others as stewards of the Gospel so they are the light of Christ in the world.

Congratulations to our second grade students who received the the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last night.

Students to attend Freedom Flight

Tomorrow our 3rd, 4th, 5th grade students will be attending *Freedom Flight* at UNI's Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center (GBPAC) in Cedar Falls as part of the Kaleidoscope Series.

No School Friday, February 10 - Professional Development Day

Waterloo Bus Riders Information

We have been informed by Durham School Services that no one can ride a Waterloo bus that is not their normal route. Only students on a scheduled route can be on that specific bus to be dropped off/picked up at their home.

STO - Tuition Assistance

The Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization (STO) and Bosco Catholic School System (BCSS) are pleased to once again provide tuition assistance to qualifying families.

The STO program will be utilizing FACTS Management to assist in determining the level of assistance to be awarded.

The FACTS application needs to be completed no later than April 15, 2023. The online FACTS application can be found at <https://online.factsmgmt.com/aid> See the STO flyer below.

2023-2024 Kindergarten and Preschool

We are gathering numbers for our 2023-2024 kindergarten and preschool classes. If you have a child who will be entering kindergarten or preschool next year, or if you know of someone who has a child, please fill out the form in this newsletter and return to the school office.

529 Plans for 2023

The amount taxpayers can deduct from their Iowa taxes for contributions to a 529 plan changes each year and has increased. The State Treasurer just released the new amount for 2023, which is \$3,785 per taxpayer/per child. Up until the May 1, 2023 state tax filing deadline, taxpayers can still donate to a 529 and include it as a deduction on their 2022 taxes (at the 2022 rate of \$3522 per taxpayer/child) as well. See the Iowa ACE 526 Plan flyer below.

PTO Meeting

Our next PTO meeting is Tuesday, February 7 at 6:00pm in middle school classroom 109 in DB. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Gold Star Awards for Outstanding Teaching

The R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL will award ten area teachers the "Gold Star Award for Outstanding Teaching". If you would like to nominate an outstanding teacher, please fill out the nomination form sent home today and place it in the Gold Star nomination box in the school lobby. You may go www.goldstarteacher.com to nominate online. The deadline for nominations is February 20.

IC Youth Choir

Students in grades 3-12 are invited and encouraged to sing with the youth choir at the 10:00am IC Masses on February 5 and February 8.

Youth Group

8th graders, come join us for youth group on Wednesday, February 8. The night will be filled with pizza, faith, and fun! All students in grades 8th-12th are welcome to attend. We will be meeting in the high school student center (the old FCS room) from 6:15-7:30pm. Can't wait to see you there!

***Please send all newsletter articles to icsnewsletter@boscocatholic.org
by 3:00pm on Wednesday, February 8.***



From Mrs. Claypool...

This has been a very exciting week for our school! We have been celebrating Catholic Schools Week by participating in activities and attending Mass. On Tuesday, we got to compete in Minute to Win It games. The games included stacking cups, building snowmen with marshmallows, using a spaghetti noodle to pick up penne noodles, keeping balloons in the air, and moving goldfish with a straw. Some of the games were much more challenging than they looked, but all of the students had a great time! The teachers even got a chance to get in on the action!

Throughout the week, we have also been discussing reasons why we love our Catholic school. Many of the students said that they enjoy being able to share their love of God with one another at school. We are looking forward to growing our faith together throughout the remainder of the school year!



State Wrestling

If your student will be gone for the State Wrestling Tournament, please complete the form found on our website. <http://www.boscocatholic.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/55dcc0d507de3/Absence%20Request%20form.pdf> . Forms should be turned in to the office by Monday, February 13. Please remember students will be responsible for the school work they miss.

Omelet Breakfast

St. Joseph Parish will be serving a Valentine Omelet Breakfast on February 12, at Reuter Hall in Raymond. Serving will be from 8:00am to noon. The cost for the meal is \$12.00 for adults, \$ 6.00 for children ages 4-11, and children 3 and under are free. The menu includes made-to-order omelets, hash browns, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk, and coffee. The public is invited to attend.

Nurse's Notes

We have had a few cases of strep throat reported here at school. Strep throat is a bacterial infection treated with antibiotics. The symptoms may include a sore throat, fever, abdominal pain, and headaches. Students should remain at home for 24 hours after starting the antibiotic and return only when their symptoms are improving. Antibiotics are used to treat bacterial infections and do not help with viral infections such as the common cold, influenza or COVID-19. Please remind your children to wash their hands frequently, use the hand sanitizer that is available, keep their hands off their face and not to share supplies. Clean common surfaces with a cleanser that is effective against strep including door knobs, light switches, counter tops and phones, paying close attention to the time it needs to be on the surface to be effective. We are trying to follow these same guidelines at school. Germs are not for sharing.

Tomorrow, February 3, is National Wear Red for Women's Heart Health. Risk factors for heart disease include smoking, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Other risk factors include obesity, lack of physical exercise and diabetes. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the US according to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. Start making your health a priority if it isn't already. Make healthy food choices, move 30 minutes most days, quit smoking and monitor blood sugars and cholesterol levels with regular health check ups. Wear red on Friday to support heart health. Marianne Hickey RN

Holiday Dress Day, February 14

Students may wear holiday related apparel.

This includes:

- Shirts (tops)/pants (bottoms)/dresses that are in the color/spirit of the holiday. All clothing must follow dress code guidelines for length.
- Jeans with a holiday shirt are okay.
- Leggings with a long holiday shirt are okay.
- Holiday related necklaces or headbands

This does not include:

- Hats
- Items that would need to be carried
- Painted hair
- Make-up of any kind
- Face tattoos/stickers

Congratulations to our January Donuts with Father Diehm and Mrs. Douglas winners!

K-2: Thomas Cronbaugh, Hudson Etringer, Loxley Reiter

3-5: Alyvia Christensen, Morgan Thome

6-8: Audrey Thome, Kiley Moses, Charlie Steils

REMEMBER: #GoToMass



January "Leaders of the Month"

Our habit for the month of January was Think Win-Win. During the month we focused on making the best out of all situations by coming up with win-win solutions. Students are being recognized because they work for mutual benefit and fairness. Two leaders in each of our four units have been chosen.



K-2:

Ava Zimmerman
Nora Wernimont

3-5:

Bennett Walen
Alyvia Christensen

6-8:

Kian Savage
Brylee Beck

9-12:

Madi Duhrkopf
Jack Hogan



We are beginning to prepare for the 2023-2024 school year!

It's time to **RESERVE** your child's **spot** in our
3 year old, 4 year old, or kindergarten program.

If you know of someone who has a 3 year old, 4 year old, or kindergartener,
please let us know or share this form with them!

Our after school program (ABC) will be available for 3 and 4 year olds enrolled in our full day
classes. ABC is open to PK-5 students.

Grade in 2023-2024: (circle grade)

Kindergarten

(M-F 7:30-2:15)

Preschool 4 yr old

Circle option below

Preschool 3 yr old

Circle option below

4 year old option you are interested in:

M - F 7:30 - 2:15

M - W - F 7:30 - 2:15

M - F 7:30 - 10:30

3 year old option you are interested in:

M - F 7:30 - 2:15

M - W - F 7:30 - 2:15

M - F 7:30 - 10:30

Student's Name: _____

Male Female (circle one) Date of Birth: _____

Parent Names: _____

Street Address, PO Box: _____

City, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Catholic Non-Catholic (circle one) Parish registered: _____



Our Faith STO
a school tuition organization

23-24 Tuition Assistance Application Process

Deadline for application & submitting 2022 federal tax returns is **April 15, 2023**.

Step 1: Apply Now

Complete one FACTS application per family at online.factsmgt.com/aid.

Step 2: Upload 2022 Federal Tax Return

Include your entire federal tax return and all schedules.

If you are not required to complete 2022 federal taxes, upload nontaxable income documentation.

Step 3: Application Fee

Pay \$36.00 fee per family before submitting the FACTS application.

Step 4: Seek Assistance

For questions about the application:

Call FACTS Helpline at 866-315-9262.

Monday–Thursday 7:30am to 7:00pm and Friday 7:30am to 5:00pm.

For help with uploading documents or other assistance completing the application:

Contact your school office.

For more information about the application process and eligibility requirements:

Go to ourfaithsto.org/faqs-for-parents.

Step 5: Receive Notification

Qualifying families will receive notification of STO awards by May 19th.

Step 6: Local Tuition Assistance

If you need additional tuition assistance beyond STO or miss the April 15th priority deadline, you should still complete the STO application and reach out to your school about any additional local tuition assistance options.



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Iowa 529 Savings Plans Information

Disclaimer

This fact sheet is not intended to provide tax or legal advice. If you are considering using an Iowa 529 plan for K-12 purposes and you have specific questions about your impact, please seek guidance from a tax professional or an attorney. This document is subject to change.

Federal Law Change

Since 2018, qualified expenses for 529 plan federal tax benefit purposes include K-12 tuition at public, private, or religious schools up to \$10,000 per year per student in the aggregate across all qualified tuition programs for a designated beneficiary.

Iowa State Law Change

The Iowa Tax Reform legislation signed into law in June 2018 contained provisions related to distributions from an Iowa 529. The tax provisions were retroactive to Jan. 1, 2018. Under this legislation Iowa taxpayers can use assets in one of the plans under the Iowa Education Savings Plan Trust to pay for K-12 tuition with no Iowa state tax consequences if:

- The beneficiary attends an elementary or secondary school in the state of Iowa;
- The elementary or secondary school is accredited under Iowa Code Section 256.11; and
- The elementary or secondary school adheres to the provisions of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Iowa Code Chapter 216.

State tax treatment of K-12 withdrawals is determined by the state(s) where the taxpayer files state income tax. If you're not an Iowa taxpayer, please consult with a tax advisor.

FAQ's

What are the potential Iowa income tax benefits of a 529 account?

All of your College Savings Iowa 529 account earnings are exempt from Iowa state income tax. Iowa taxpayers can deduct up to \$3,785 in contributions per beneficiary (student) account from their adjusted gross income for 2023. The contribution deduction amount changes yearly.

So for example, a family of two parents and two children that maximizes its contributions per account could deduct up to \$15,140 (4 x \$3,785) from their income taxes on their 2022 state taxes.

Note: Iowa taxpayers can contribute to their College Savings Iowa 529 accounts until the Iowa state income tax-filing deadline, which is generally April 30. For example, Iowa taxpayers can deduct up to \$3,522 in contributions from their adjusted gross income for 2022 up to the tax deadline of May 1, 2023.

Please consult your tax advisor for further advice.
(Information provided by College Savings Iowa)

If I pay K-12 tuition from a 529 account, may I still take the Tuition and Textbook Tax Credit on my qualified educational expenses?

Yes. Taxpayers who have one or more dependents attending grades K-12 in an Iowa school may take a credit for each dependent for amounts paid for tuition, books, fees, and materials for extracurricular activities. The credit is 25 percent of the first \$2,000 paid for each dependent. If expenses qualify for both a tax-free 529 plan deduction, as well as the tuition and textbook credit, the taxpayer may claim both.

So for example, if a parent pays his or her child's tuition to an Iowa K-12 school out of a 529 account, he or she may claim the Tuition and Textbook Credit on that tuition payment as well.
(Information provided by Iowa Department of Revenue)

Can an Iowa taxpayer use their 529 funds for K-12 tuition out of state?

Yes. However, their withdrawal would be considered nonqualified for Iowa state tax purposes and would be subject to recapture.

What is the recapture on non-qualified withdrawals?

Contributions to an Iowa 529 Plan that were previously deducted for Iowa income tax purposes must be included as Iowa income when distributed, unless they are used to pay for qualified education expenses. For Iowa income tax purposes, a rollover to a non-Iowa 529 plan will be treated as a non-qualified withdrawal and taxed as income to the extent previously deducted as a contribution to the Iowa 529 Plan.

Who can receive a distribution for K-12 tuition?

A qualified K-12 withdrawal can be sent directly to a K-12 institution or to the participant. Unlike higher education qualified withdrawals, distributions will not be sent directly to the beneficiary (the student).

Can a 529 participant have a K-12 distribution sent directly to the K-12 institution?

Yes. Withdrawals may be authorized and completed online, by U.S. mail, or over the phone, and can be sent directly to the K-12 institution.

Are the age-based tracks suitable for funds contributed for K-12 purposes?

No. Age-based options are designed for higher education and are generally not appropriate for K-12 time horizons. Please consult with a tax advisor for additional advice.

Are other K-12 expenses such as books and supplies qualified education expenses?

No. Tuition is the only qualified education expense for K-12.

How quickly can I receive my funds?

Please allow 10 business days (plus mailing time, if applicable) for funds to arrive.

All qualified withdrawals requested online or by phone may be sent:

- By check to the College Savings Iowa participant or the school.
- Electronically if bank instructions are established on your account.

If you intend to add or change bank information, please factor in a 15-calendar-day verification period, during which assets cannot be sent to the bank.

What if I have additional questions?

Please call the 529 Plan and an associate will assist you.

College Savings Iowa: 888.672.9116

IAdvisor 529 Plan: 888.823.4358

Iowa ACE coordinated with the State Treasurer's office for this information.

Trish Wilger, Executive Director, Iowa Alliance for Choice in Education,
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