

Immaculate Conception † St. Joseph School Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

August 26, 2021

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.

From Mrs. Douglas.....

Welcome to school year 2021-2022!

I can hardly believe that I am entering my fourth year as the principal of Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph! What a whirlwind the first three years have been! In spite of a few challenges, I am so proud of the work that we have done and continue to do to grow our school Spiritually, Academically, Physically, and Socially! **Some** highlights include:

- Spiritually
 - Weekly Mass attendance (even during Covid)
 - Faith Buddies
 - Infusing Catholicity into daily instruction
 - Development of RAM- this is our Religion and Mission committee that works to promote faith throughout the school year.
- Academically
 - Slingerland- a multi-sensory approach to teach reading and writing in the early childhood years to lay a strong foundation for reading success.
 - Heggerty- a daily curriculum used in Pk-2nd grade to teach and reinforce phonological awareness which is a precursor to reading and comprehension.
 - Math- We aligned our curriculum to be K-8 so that there is content consistency across the system. *Our contract with Go Math is coming to an end so this is an important curriculum review year for math as we look towards next year.
 - ELA (English and Language Arts)- We adopted a k-8 curriculum that aligns instruction across all grade levels and is aligned to the Iowa Core.
 - Every grade level, K-8, gets 1 to 2 art and music classes per week.
- Physically
 - PE- Kids in grades k-8 get PE twice a week
 - Grades k-5 have a 30 minute recess every day.
 - MS gets 15-20 minutes as “social time” in the gym everyday. This is an opportunity for them to have physical activity if they choose.
 - SWITCH- this will be the 3rd year that our 4th and 5th grade participate in this program that focuses on healthy habits including increased physical activity, eating healthy foods, and decreasing screen time.
 - Safe Routes- Each year we partner with Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments and kids in grades k-5 get to participate in a bike rodeo or bike ride.
 - Our classroom teachers implement physical activity breaks throughout the day!
 - FUN RUN- What a Win-Win! All schools have to fundraise in some way. Our fundraiser encourages physical activity while also raising valuable funds for school improvements!
- Socially
 - All of our students in grades k-8 are scheduled for a weekly 30-50 minute Social Emotional Learning class with our school counselor.
 - Our school counselor works with many students and is available for all students for individualized sessions.
 - LIM- the Leader in Me program empowers students to develop and utilize habits that strengthen all aspects of their life!
 - Social skills are taught daily/weekly to all students during classroom meetings in grades k-6 and during homeroom at the middle school level

As I mentioned, these are just a few of the highlights! We are so excited to be back in school to continue these amazing initiatives!

Our first few days have been fantastic and all of us are adjusting well to all of the changes we made this school year! Thank you so much for your continued support of our WONDERFUL SCHOOL!!

Before-School Supervision

The doors for St. Mary will be open at 7:10. All preschool students riding the transfer bus need to be dropped off at 7:15, as the transfer bus leaves at 7:20.

If it is after 7:20, you can drop your child off at the IC doors and your child may go directly to his or her classroom. Students arriving after 7:30 must stop in the office before going to their classroom. Students not in their classroom by 7:30 will be marked tardy.

Medication Reminder

State law requires that ALL medications (prescription and over the counter) be in their original containers. Any prescriptions sent to school that are not in their original containers cannot be administered. A signed form from the parent with directions on administering the medication is also required. The form may be found at <http://www.boscocatholic.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/55dcc0d507de3/Medication%20Permission%20Form.pdf>.

Attendance

Parents should call the school office before 7:30am if your child will be absent. If you call before 7:00am, please leave a message on voicemail.

St. Joseph Center (319) 233-5980

Immaculate Conception Center (319) 296-1089

If you have a planned absence, the K-5 and 6-8 Absence Request Forms can be found on our school website.

<https://www.boscocatholic.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/55dcc0d507de3/Absence%20Request%20form.pdf>

Water Bottles

Students should have a water bottle with them. The drinking fountains are turned off. Students may use the filling stations. Having an easy-to-use bottle that doesn't require unscrewing the cap and screwing it back on for every drink will certainly be appreciated. Spill-proof caps and sport-tops are a great choice. NO glass bottles please.

Bus Information

All students riding a Waterloo bus must wear a mask while on the bus.

For kindergarten students riding a Waterloo bus, an adult must be waiting for that student each day. He/she cannot be dropped off if the bus driver does not see that someone is there.

If your student will be getting off at a stop other than home a note must be sent to the office and then it will be given to the bus driver.

Dismissal Information

It is a good idea to write dismissal information in your student's agenda. Example: to ABC, walk home, parent pick up, Bosco bus, Waterloo bus. If you know which bus, please include that information.

Students being picked up at the end of the day will be picked up in front of IC Church.

Spirit Days

Wednesdays will be "Spirit Days" at IC. Students may wear any kind of crew neck IC/St. Joseph, Don Bosco shirt with uniform pants. The shirt can be specific to a particular sport if desired (for example, wrestling, football, volleyball). It can be long- or short-sleeved, t-shirt or sweatshirt. Collared uniform shirts need not be worn underneath. No hooded sweatshirts.

Ms. R's Counseling Corner

We are almost done with our first week of school already! It has been a wonderful start to the school year :) I am excited to work with students again both in the classrooms and my office. If you are not following my counseling facebook page yet, please do! You can find me at "Ms. R's Bosco Counseling Corner" - I try my best to post updates, pictures on projects we are completing, as well as tips and tricks. If you have any questions/comments/concerns that you need to share with me during this school year, please call me at school or email me - mrutherford@boscocatholic.org

I am looking forward to this school year!

Trap Shooting Meeting for grades 6-12

We will be having a very important informational meeting regarding trap shooting on Monday, August 30 in the St. Mary Commons at 6:00 pm.

If you are interested in going out please make every effort to attend. We would like to see the students and parents/guardians at this meeting.

Tuition Information

Thank you to all that have made arrangements for payment for your family tuition. Those that were unable to attend the Back to Business day will be getting a copy of your tuition statement sent home with a student. Please look the statement over carefully and let me know if you have any questions on your statement. Smart Tuition payment will no longer be available to families. If you would like to set up ACH withdrawal through the school please contact me at the high school office. Thank you Leigh Anne Schares



Please send all newsletter items to icsjnewsletter@boscocatholic.org by 3:00pm on Wednesday, September 1.



Nurse's Notes

Welcome back. As we get started I would like to remind you that we have students and staff that have food allergies. Exposure may lead to life threatening reactions. Please try not to send snacks containing peanuts or tree nuts with your child. Remind your child not to share food. We know that many parents like to celebrate birthdays and other occasions with special treats. We encourage parents to celebrate with non-food items such as stickers, pencils, themed erasers, or other trinkets, rather than food. Any food sent in to share with students should be pre-packaged and contain an ingredient label. Please give these items to your child's teacher for distribution. Please read labels. It may say it contains peanuts or tree nuts or is manufactured in a plant that may have peanuts or tree nut exposure.

We appreciate your cooperation and support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Marianne Hickey RN

Catholic Order of Foresters News

The COF youth members can play 1 round of miniature golf & jumping pillow for free on Sunday, August 29 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at Palmer's Family Fun at 1666 W Airline Hwy, Waterloo. The youth can upgrade to a bracelet that gives unlimited golf, pillow jumping, 2 go kart tickets & 3 batting cage tokens for \$5.00. 7 and older can drive a go kart & 2 & older can ride a go kart with their parent using the child's ticket. Adults & non-members can buy the bracelet for \$12.00. See Donna Delagardelle at the entrance for tickets.

What is SCRIP?

SCRIP is fundraising for our school while you shop and purchase items that you are already buying. This doesn't cost you any more than you are already spending.

Why should I use SCRIP?

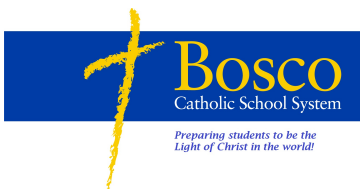
When you purchase SCRIP, you earn tuition credit based on your purchases. 50% of the profit earned on your purchase is applied to your school account as a tuition credit. You can reduce the amount of your tuition simply by purchasing SCRIP on a regular basis for things you are already buying.

Everyone needs groceries and the car always needs gas. Two simple ways to help the school without even trying. Thank you all for using SCRIP and spread the word how simple it is to use.

"Get to Know the STO"-- What is the STO?

A School Tuition Organization or STO is a not-for-profit organization that provides financial support to families seeking a non-public school education. The Our Faith STO supports 47 schools across the Archdiocese of Dubuque and helps over 3,000 students each year. The STO program started in Iowa in 2008 when the legislature provided an incentivized income tax credit for individuals or businesses who donate. The credit currently stands at 75%, making it the "Best Tax Credit in Iowa" For more information, visit www.ourfaithsto.org.

Guidance surrounding Covid looks much different from last school year. We are including an information sheet from the Iowa Department of Public Health so that you can know what we know regarding Covid!



**Bosco Catholic School System † PO Box 256 † Gilbertville, IA 50634
IC 319-296-1089 † SJ 319-233-5980 † Fax 319-296-3847**

Please Help ICSJ reach a goal!

We are looking to sell 20 Gold Cards for the Booster club to help them reach their goal of selling 500 cards.

It's really a WIN-WIN-WIN-WIN!

YOU win by getting \$110 worth of savings at places you already go to or shop at! You will easily get your investment of \$20.00 back!

The Booster club wins which means our students win by raising money for our extra-curricular activities.

**Businesses win (many local businesses) by getting customers in the door!
(See draft card below)**

Hurry up and get yours...Mrs. Douglas just raced away with the first one!!

If you want to help- send this slip back with \$20 cash or check made out to BCSS Booster Club and we will send it home with your child!



YES! I want to help ICSJ reach their goal because I love to WIN-WIN-WIN-WIN!

Name _____

Student name _____

Classroom Teacher _____

In Intro to Manhood, we will cover the objectives every boy undergoes in the process of becoming a man. These objectives include the development of the body, anatomy, physiology and character traits of an upstanding man. The material is designed to give boys a concise, yet digestible, knowledge of the changes their bodies will go through during puberty and the process of how a new life is created. The boys will also gain insight on what it means to be a man as far as leadership and building meaningful relationships with family and friends.

The cost of this Father-Son Class is \$25. There are 8 spots available for ages 10-13 years old. Each son will receive a gift and folder of resources that will further the discussion and relationship you have with your son around this transition into manhood. We hope this class serves both of you in fostering healthy conversations about manhood and the transition into it!

If you have questions give Guiding Star Cedar Valley a call at (319) 232-2695 or email danielle@guidingstarcedarvalley.org

REGISTER HERE: <https://bit.ly/IntrotoManhood>



Iowa's STO credit the best tax break in the state

BY BRIAN ZEMAN

Our Faith School Tuition Organization



If you could receive a 75% rebate reducing what you owe in Iowa income taxes, would that sound too good to be true? Well, it is not; the best tax credit in Iowa is a 75% tax credit given for donations to an STO.

So what is an STO? An STO, or School Tuition Organization, is a charitable organization that distributes tuition grants to low- and middle-income families struggling with the expense of sending their children to non-public (aka parochial) schools. There are 12 highly regulated STOs in the state of Iowa. The Our Faith STO (www.ourfaithsto.org), of which I am the director, supports families within the boundaries of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. This large 30-county area of northeast Iowa has 47 parochial schools, which in the 2020-21 school year educated 8,780 students.

On May 20, the best tax credit in Iowa got better when education legislation passed, increasing the STO credit from 65 to 75%. Let's uncover how this 75% credit works and why donations to STOs deserve the best tax credit in Iowa.

The financial scenarios are simple. For example, if you're an Iowa business owner who pays state taxes, you could donate \$100,000 to our STO and reduce your taxes owed by \$75,000. On the other hand, if you're more like the average Iowa taxpayer, you could donate \$1,000 or even \$100 and receive a \$750 or \$75 credit. Donations made in cash, as IRA distributions, appreciated securities, or even gifts of grain all qualify. These monies then flow through the STOs, such as the Our Faith STO, which distributes them to income-qualifying families seeking a Catholic education.

So why is the STO Tax Credit the best in Iowa? First of all, it provides the most significant benefit back to the donor. There are numerous other highly recognizable tax credits in Iowa related to alternative energy, business development or

philanthropic areas, but none provides a higher percentage of credit. In 2021, the state's 12 STOs were collectively allocated \$15 million in tax credits incentivizing this charitable giving. The Our Faith STO receives \$4.2 million in credits. Unfortunately, these credits are limited, so when Iowa taxpayers claim them all, they are gone.

So why do STOs and their families deserve such a benefit? Simply put, non-public schools are good for the economy. They create jobs for teachers and support staff, who in turn pay taxes to support public schools. They lessen the burden on the public school system, which would have challenges with an influx of parochial school students, and the non-public schools save the Iowa taxpayer money.

Annually, Iowans pay an estimated \$9,862 to educate each K-12 student in the public school systems (according to National Center for Education Statistics from 2020). If all 8,780 students covered by the Our Faith STO schools flooded into the public school system, taxpayers would be paying an estimated \$86.2 million annually to educate them. Therefore, the \$4.2 million in tax credits afforded our STO is of great value to taxpayers.

Lastly, and most importantly, the faith-based traditional Christian values taught in parochial schools pay dividends on which no one can place a price. The health of our Catholic schools is vitally important. Whether you feel this way or not, maybe 2021 is the year you start taking advantage of this 75% tax credit. We encourage you to consult with your tax or financial adviser for more details. Help a family, help our Catholic schools, and help yourself by donating to your STO.

For more information, visit www.ourfaithsto.org. Zeman is the Our Faith School Tuition Organization director and a permanent deacon assigned to St. Anthony parish in Dubuque. He recently left a 30-year career in marketing and advertising to join the Archdiocese staff, helping promote the STO and Catholic education. He and his wife, Jennifer, have five children who have attended or are currently attending Catholic schools.

TELEGRAPH HERALD

Published Sunday, June 27, 2021



Quick & Easy ways to support the Bosco Catholic School System



Casey's Rewards Cash for Classrooms

Cash for Classrooms supports teachers through cash donations to schools for the things they need most. Members can turn their points into Cash for Classroom donations that is directed specifically to the school of their choice.

Office DEPOT OfficeMax

Give Back To Schools

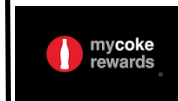
<https://www.officedepot.com/cm/school-supplies/give-back>.

Make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide your school ID and your school will receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies

School ID: 70028239

Pop Can Recycling

Collection Site is located on the North end of Don Bosco Catholic High School



Coca Cola Give:

Download the Coke app or sign into <https://us.coca-cola.com/give>

Donate to your local school. Search by zip (50634) and select **IMMAC CONCEPTION-ST JOSEPH**



Hy-Vee Cash 4 students:

Save your Hy-Vee cash register receipts and turn them into school. Hy-Vee donates \$1 for every \$250 in receipts collected!



Amazon Smile: AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices & shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop with AmazonSmile 0.5% of the purchase price on eligible products is donated to the charitable organization of your choice!

HOW MUCH IS MY CODE WORTH?					
SEE HOW WE REACHED THESE VALUES					
35-PACK	\$0.38	12-PACK	\$0.15	20 OZ	\$0.05
32-PACK	\$0.38	8-PACK	\$0.12	24 OZ	\$0.05
30-PACK	\$0.38	6-PACK	\$0.08	1 LITER	\$0.05
28-PACK	\$0.38	12 OZ	\$0.05	1.25 LITER	\$0.05
24-PACK	\$0.30	12.5 OZ	\$0.05	1.5 LITER	\$0.05
20-PACK	\$0.27	14 OZ	\$0.05	2 LITER	\$0.05
18-PACK	\$0.23	16 OZ	\$0.05	2.5 LITER	\$0.05
15-PACK	\$0.23	0.5 LITER	\$0.05	50 OZ	\$0.05

THE OLD BOX TOPS CLIPS



Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip them and send them to school.

Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school. Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

*All valid Box Tops clips submitted per the Program Rules by a Coordinator(s) of an eligible, enrolled school(s) will be honored.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.

COVID-19 and K-12 School Update for Fall 2021

Vaccination

While not required, vaccination for everyone who is eligible continues to be the most effective way to prevent COVID-19 illness and stop the spread of COVID-19.

- For COVID-19 Vaccine information visit: <https://vaccinate.iowa.gov/>

Testing

Individuals (including students, teachers, and other staff) can seek testing through their normal healthcare channels or through other sites that provide testing services (i.e., local pharmacies).

- Information about free at-home testing through SHL is available at: <https://www.testiowa.com/>

School Illness Reporting

IDPH continues to ask K-12 schools to report when >10% of students are absent due to illness. When >10% absenteeism is reported, IDPH will contact the Local Public Health (LPH) department in the county where the school administrative offices are located. Public health will contact the school to provide best practices and support tailored to the specific types of illnesses being reported.

- Schools should report >10% absenteeism at: <https://redcap.idph.state.ia.us/surveys/?s=LEFK7E779R>

Masks and Cloth Face Coverings

HF 847, signed by Governor Reynolds on May 20, 2021, prohibits a school district from adopting or enforcing a policy that requires employees, students, or the public to wear a mask while on school property. As such, masks must be optional for students, teachers, and visitors.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is IDPH currently performing COVID-19 positive case investigations for all positive reports or conducting contact tracing for COVID-19 exposed persons?

No. IDPH has adjusted COVID-19 surveillance to follow the influenza model; state case investigation and tracing efforts for COVID-19 now focus on outbreaks and vulnerable populations. Just like with other public health activities, these efforts will be continuously evaluated and adjusted as needed.

Will IDPH issue isolation and quarantine orders for COVID-19 positive or COVID-19 exposed students, teachers, or other staff members?

No. IDPH is not currently issuing isolation and quarantine orders for COVID-19 positive or COVID-19 exposed individuals.

Can LPH departments require schools to perform case investigations or conduct contact tracing on their behalf?

No. While some LPH are continuing to pursue case investigations, LPH cannot require schools to perform case investigations or contact tracing. School nurses do have a legal duty to assist a local board of health in a disease investigation. See 641 IAC 1.7.

Can Iowa schools require that masks be worn by students, teachers, other staff members, and visitors?

No. HF 847, signed by Governor Reynolds on May 20, 2021, prohibits a school district from adopting or enforcing a policy that requires employees, students, or the public to wear a mask while on school property.

Can schools allow students, teachers, staff members, and visitors to voluntarily wear a mask?

Yes. Schools should allow students, teachers, other staff members, and visitors who want to voluntarily continue to wear a cloth face covering for reasons that make sense for their family or individual health condition to do so.

Does the CDC mask order for public transportation apply to school buses?

Yes. The CDC issued an Order effective February 1, 2021, imposing a requirement for persons to wear masks while on public transportation conveyances, and in its Frequently Asked Questions document accompanying the Order the CDC indicates that “passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems, subject to the exclusions and exemptions in the CDC’s Order.” The Iowa Department of Education provided guidance to schools regarding this issue on a webinar in May 2021. School districts with additional questions about the applicability of the Order should contact their district’s legal counsel.

Can schools ask students, teachers, other staff members, or visitors for proof of COVID-19 vaccination?

No. HF 889, signed by Governor Reynolds on May 20, 2021, prohibits the mandatory disclosure of whether a person has received a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition for entry onto the premises of a governmental entity.

How long should COVID-19 positive students, teachers, or other staff members stay home?










COVID-19 positive persons can return to normal activities after:

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving*

*Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation

All other sick students, teachers, or other staff members should stay home in accordance with existing school procedures, generally until 24 hours after their symptoms resolve.

Questions for Department of Education should be directed to Melissa Walker at 515-281-5327 or melissa.walker@iowa.gov

 for removal	 for removal	 for removal	 \$2 off a traditional pizza (\$7.99) and \$1 off a thin crust pizza (\$6.99). Unlimited Use	<div style="text-align: right;">All Coupons Expires 8-31-2022</div>  <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH OUR FUNDRAISER</p>
 for removal	 for removal	 \$5 OFF order of \$30 or more	 \$2.00 OFF service or product	

DRAFT ONLY, NOT FOR RESALE OR USE

 Buy one sub at regular price & get one of equal or lesser value Waterloo locations	 Buy one sandwich, get one HALF OFF	 \$2.00 OFF 14" or 16" Pizza Unlimited Use Exp. 8-31-22	 FREE cheesebread or breadsticks with 16" Specialty Pizza Exp. 8-31-22	 \$2.00 OFF \$20 purchase valid 1 penny	 \$10 off \$100 purchase For in-store use only, restrictions apply. LU97742 Cedar Falls Waterloo or Waverly locations	 \$8.99 HAIRCUT	 \$5 OFF A PURCHASE OF \$25 OR MORE Dine In Only
 \$2.00 OFF ANY LARGE PIZZA	 \$5 OFF order of \$25 or more	 Buy one drink, get one FREE	 Buy One Bosco Burger meal, get one 1/2 off	 \$5 OFF order of \$30 or more	 \$5.00 OFF Single Visit	 \$10 off an order \$100 or more Waterloo or Evansdale	 \$5 OFF A PURCHASE OF \$25 OR MORE Dine In Only