

**April 24, 2023**

## **Principal's Message**

### **St. Joan of Arc - Our New Bettendorf Catholic School Update**

**From Fr. Jason Crossen:** We have been at work in the quiet phase of the Capitol campaign, One Faith, One Family, One Future. One of the ongoing endeavors is building up leadership as well as working out details for what we hope to build in our new Bettendorf Catholic School - St. Joan of Arc. There is much to be done, but I have been so impressed with all the volunteers and leadership from Our Lady of Lourdes and St. John Vianney to make this future for our children possible. What a blessing we have in our Bettendorf and Quad Cities community. Thank you for all your work and prayers in this holy endeavor!

### **ESA Administrative Rules Getting Closer**

*We have heard that the state is getting closer to releasing the administrative regulations/rules for ESAs, and various elements are being vetted. On Thursday and Friday of the previous week, there was a large gathering of private school administrators and school choice advocates in Ankeny. We anticipated that the regulations/rules would be released for at least public comment no later than the end of this last week. It appears we are still anticipating the release of the rules and regulations.*

A question we have recently received regarding PK students going into a kindergarten class. The following information is taken from the Iowa Department of Education website in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section:

*Q: My daughter is in a private Pre-K program this year. Will she qualify for an ESA as an incoming kindergartener this fall?*

*A: Yes. All incoming kindergarteners are eligible for an ESA in the 2023-2024 school year regardless of income. ESA funds must be used for an accredited private (nonpublic) school in Iowa.*

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***Pennies for Peru*** will be running from MAY 8 - 12. Lourdes has a partnership with Our Lady of Reconciliation Chapel in Arequipa, Peru.

*For several years, we have been partnering with this community in Peru through prayer, and support. There are usually a couple church collections*

*each year during the weekend Masses. And as a school, Lourdes has done an annual collection that we call "Pennies For Peru". Your support and participation is welcome and greatly appreciated.*

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### **OLOL - Outreach Meal Basket Drive**

Once again the Outreach Committee is providing hungry families in our community with a basket full of nutritious meals. Help is needed with food donations, packing, and delivering the baskets. Please use this link to sign up to help in any way:

[www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA4AD28A1F85-may2023](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA4AD28A1F85-may2023)

Food may be left in the Gathering Space beginning Saturday, April 29th. All food is needed by 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6th for sorting and delivery.

If you prefer, drop off a check (please write "Outreach" in the memo) in the Parish Office. Scrip will be purchased and the shopping will be done for you—this also benefits Lourdes Catholic School! Another option is to purchase Scrip after Mass and place the gift cards in the 'Neighbors in Need' box in the Gathering Space. Of course, monetary donations are always welcome and may be placed in the box any time.

Questions? Please call Angie Joers (563-505-5629) or Kelly Rashid (563-340-5619).

Thank you for your generosity!

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**THIS IS THE LAST WEEK TO SEEK REIMBURSEMENT**

[Transportation Reimbursement Information](#) (Link) - **DUE BY MAY 1**

A copy of the [UPDATED BETTENDORF](#) (Link) form is attached at the end of this memo. This link will take you to the information and links needed for the second semester transportation reimbursement from the local public schools. You may remember having done this back in November. This needs to be done for the second semester if you are interested in the reimbursement.

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## HOME AND SCHOOL INFORMATION

### Starry Night 2024 Idea Sharing

You're invited to attend 1 of 2 sessions to share your ideas for fundraising and overall event planning for Lourdes Catholic School at our Starry Night 2024.

Attending one of these sessions does not obligate you to take major volunteering roles - but we want your opinion and your ideas!

We will take all the volunteers as well :)

Friday, May 5th at 2pm - Rectory Conference Room (enter on Brown Street)

Monday, May 8th at 6pm - Lunchroom/PAC

Call/text Megan Stopulos 563-650-7918 or email [meganstopulos@ruhlhomes.com](mailto:meganstopulos@ruhlhomes.com), if you have questions, would like to talk through ideas outside of these times, or would like to be involved.

## [LCS Home & School Board Nominations](#)

Dear LCS Families,

The Lourdes Home and School Association (LCS version of a PTA) invites you to consider yourself or nominate someone for a position on our Board for next school year. We are asking all LCS families to consider completing the following Nomination Form:

[LCS Home & School Board Nomination Form - 2023/2024](#)

The link includes detailed instructions on how to complete the form and provides space for you to nominate yourself or nominate someone else you think would be good for an open position. A description of each position and it's responsibilities is included on the nomination form. Each person will be contacted by the Home and School Nomination Committee to see if he/she would consider a position on the Board and have his/her name included on the voting ballot.

We encourage all families to get involved at LCS. Service is a key component of our school, and parent involvement on the Home and School Board is a great way to meet other parents and get involved in the school community!

Please complete the online Nomination Form by WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH.

Please feel free to contact myself or any current Home and School Board member with questions.

Denise Howell

Lourdes Home and School Association, President, 2022-2023

Email: [denise.m.howell@gmail.com](mailto:denise.m.howell@gmail.com)

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## Athletic Director

Attention Knight fans!! Assumption has an online store full of awesome new youth and adult apparel and caps.

Get your orders placed by April 26 and orders will be delivered to Lourdes by May 17th. Lots of gifting options or just treat yourself.

[https://stores.inksoft.com/assumption\\_high\\_school\\_booster](https://stores.inksoft.com/assumption_high_school_booster)

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## SCRIP Program

The money earned through Lourdes SCRIP program is used to help with the Home & School events and functions. The more money we raise through SCRIP, the fewer donations needed throughout the year.

Purchase SCRIP gift cards through the RaiseRight App, the orange forms in the school office, or after Mass! We also could use weekday and weekend volunteers! ***If you have time in your day and would like to help with this important fundraiser for the school please let us know!***

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## General Information and Recent Links

[Quad Cities STEM Summer Camp Flyer Link](#)

LCS Home & School member 8th Grade Graduation is now set for Thursday, May 25 from 6 - 7 PM. More information to follow!

K-7 Field Day is scheduled for Friday, May 26.

[New School Name Information Link](#)

[2023 - 2024 K-8 School Calendar Link](#)

[2023 - 2024 3YO 2 Day School Calendar Link](#) \*NEW 4/24\*

[2023 - 2024 3YO 3 Day School Calendar Link](#) \*NEW 4/24\*

[2023 - 2024 4YO PreK School Calendar Link](#) \*NEW 4/24\*

***Links to ESA information are listed below:***

[Information about the ESA](#)

[ESA Frequently Asked Questions Link](#)

[Iowa Department of Education EAS Website - FAQ](#)

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## Our Weekly Scripture Verse

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

Please take a few minutes as a family to reflect upon this week's scripture verse for April 30, 2023:

**So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.**

**I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.**

**A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."**

~ John 10:7-10

Have a faith-filled week!

Mr. Michael Hughes



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**April 24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monday, Apr. 24th**

ISASP Testing -Week of April 24 - 28  
Steam Wheelers Visit During All Recesses  
Boy Scouts 7:00 PM

**Tuesday, Apr. 25th**

**SCRIP for sale**

Mid Terms

Hughes out of the building 2:30 to the end of the day - Diocese Meeting

**Wednesday, Apr. 26th**

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM - Parents in Prayer

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM - All School Mass

**2:30 PM K-8<sup>th</sup> Early Out**

**Thursday, Apr. 27th**

**Friday, Apr. 28th**

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM - 2nd Grade Field Trip to Nahant Marsh

**Saturday, Apr. 29th**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Outside Spring Clean-Up of School and Parish Grounds

**Upcoming Events (Save-the-Dates):**

May 3rd - May Crowning @ All School Mass

May 3rd – Staff Meeting

May 4th- 3rd Grade Field Trip to Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City (Please bring in Pop Tabs the week before!)

May 5th - NUT Day

May 6th & May 7th - First Communion Masses

Week of May 8th - Pennies For Peru Collection

May 11th - LCS Dress Rehearsal @ 1:30

May 11th 6pm - 7PM- Musical

May 16th - BOE Meeting

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## **Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs)**

The “Student First Act” passed the legislature and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds. The following is a general summary of the bill:

### **Education Savings Accounts**

Parents who choose to enroll their children in an accredited private school will receive the amount of per pupil funds allocated annually by the state to use for tuition, fees, and other qualified expenses. Funds are deposited into an education savings account (ESA) each year until students graduate or complete high school or turn 20 years of age. Educational Savings Accounts will be phased in over three years.

Effective for the 2023-24 school year, state per pupil funding will be \$7,598 per student, and ESAs will be available based on the following eligibility:

#### **Year 1: School Year 2023-24**

- All kindergarten students
- All students who were not in a non-public school the year prior
- Private school students with a household income at or below 300% Federal Poverty Level (FPL), currently at about about \$83,250 for a family of four but subject to change

#### **Year 2: School Year 2024-25**

- All kindergarten students (and first graders)
- All students who were not in a non-public school the year prior
- Private school students with a household income at or below 400% FPL, currently about \$111,000 for a family of four but subject to change

#### **Year 3: School Year 2025-26**

- All K-12 students in Iowa regardless of income



Other student funding generated by categorical funding formulas will remain with public school districts even for students who are not attending public schools any more. This amount is about \$1,202 per pupil for each student who will be attending a private school.

Next steps include the writing of the Administrative Rules at the state level and the development of processes to then be used in Scott County Catholic Schools. As you can imagine, there is a lot of work being done rapidly as enrollment processes for 2023-24 are set to begin sometime in February. More information will be made available when we have it.

### **New Future School Name Announced!!**

As the weather cooperated on Saturday, a moment of anticipation built as Bishop Zinkula announced on Saturday the name for the new Catholic school that will be built in Bettendorf in a collaborative effort between Lourdes and St. John Vianney. The new name that has been voted on and announced is **St. Joan of Arc**.

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Hello **K-8** Parents,

If your child is a car rider, and your family lives within an Iowa school district's boundaries, you are eligible for transportation reimbursement. Students who reside within BCSD **are now** eligible for transportation reimbursement because BCSD no longer provides bussing to Lourdes students. If you live over 2 miles from Lourdes in the Bettendorf School District you are eligible through BCSD.

[Bettendorf \(BCSD\)](#), [Pleasant Valley \(PV\)](#), [Davenport \(DCSD\)](#), and [North Scott](#) forms are provided at each of the links above. You may print the form out for the school district within whose boundaries you live, and send it in to the address at the bottom of your form as soon as you can. You can also email a copy to the appropriate school district. The contact information can be found at the bottom of each form.

**MAY 1 is the hard deadline for the second semester, and we know from experience that the school districts do not make any exceptions.**

**Please do not mail or send your form to Lourdes. They must be sent directly to the appropriate school district.**

Respectfully,

Mr. Michael Hughes

# Bettendorf Nonpublic Parent Reimbursement Request Form



## Bettendorf Community School District NONPUBLIC PARENT REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST FORM

**Notice to Nonpublic Parents:**  
 Iowa Code Section 285.1 requires public school districts to provide transportation services to resident nonpublic students that are entitled as per that section. How the transportation service will be provided is to be determined by the public school district. When funds are appropriated by the Iowa General Assembly and if your public school district has selected "Parent Reimbursement" as their transportation service type of choice and you meet the transportation entitlement policy provisions of the public school district in which you live and the nonpublic school being attended has been accredited by the Iowa Department of Education, you are entitled to parent reimbursement as per Iowa Code Sections 285.1, subparagraph 3 and 285.3.

(Iowa Code, Section 285.3) If your public school district selects the "Parent Reimbursement" option, it is your responsibility as the nonpublic parent or guardian to notify your resident public school district that you have children attending an accredited nonpublic school and its location. In addition, specific information, as requested on this form, must be submitted by the nonpublic parent or guardian not later than December 1<sup>st</sup> (for first semester reimbursement) and May 1<sup>st</sup> (for second semester reimbursement), each year. Failure to submit this request by the above deadline each semester will result in the denial of the reimbursement request for the claim period.

NAME (Parent or Legal Guardian): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (of parent or legal guardian): \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this the location (address) at which the nonpublic student(s) listed below now reside? [Circle one: Yes No ]  
 (If "No", indicate beneath the name of each student listed below the address where each nonpublic student(s) lives.)

[Iowa Code, Section 285.1, subsection 3, limits the number of students that may be eligible for parent reimbursement to a maximum of three (3) elementary students and one (1) high school student per family.]

Name-Nonpublic <b>Elementary</b> Student(s) (Last, MI, First) (Maximum of 3 Elementary Students)	Age of Student	Grade Level (this year)	Name - Nonpublic School of Attendance	Distance between Std. Residence & Nonpublic School
1. Address:				Miles =
2. Address:				Miles =
3. Address:				Miles =

Name-Nonpublic <b>High School</b> Student (Last, MI, First) (Maximum of 1 High School)	Age of Student	Grade Level (this year)	Name - Nonpublic School of Attendance	Distance between Std. Residence & Nonpublic School
1. Address:				Miles =

I certify that the above information is accurate and that I am a parent or legal guardian of the above named nonpublic student(s). I also affirm that the nonpublic school(s) of attendance is/are accredited by the Iowa Department of Education.

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS FORM TO: [lporembski@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:lporembski@bettendorf.k12.ia.us) or mail to  
 Bettendorf Community School District, PO Box 1150, Bettendorf, IA 52722 Attn: Accounting

For public school district use only:  
 Enter or Stamp Date Received Here: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_