

# Summer Newsletter

From Mrs. Douglas...

Hello to all of our returning and NEW students and families! We are so honored that you have chosen to partner with us in your child's education!

Just a bit about me for those of you that are new. This will be my 6th year at BCSS; the second year as the K-12 Principal. I was the K-8 principal the first four years. Prior to administration, I was a classroom teacher in a public school for sixteen years. My husband, Thor, and I are parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church and live south of Jesup. We have four children, two of which have made us proud grandparents! We look forward to welcoming our 4th grandchild due on the first day of school! For us, family is everything. That is what I LOVE about the Catholic church and working in Catholic education...the belief that the FAMILY is the FIRST teacher! That belief lays the foundation for so many of the things we do here at BCSS.

We continue to move forward in the work of our mission statement, with support from you, developing students spiritually, academically, physically, and socially. This year, we took a lot of time updating the parent and student handbook in an effort to streamline a lot of our processes. Our goal is to provide a structured and safe environment so that our students can reach their full potential! Here is a link to our handbook: [Parent/Student Handbook](#).

Our BCSS word of the year is Purpose. As we move through the year, it will be *with purpose* and aligned to *discovering purpose*. Be on the lookout for this multifaceted word throughout the year!

Please enjoy the last moments of summer with your precious children! We look forward to a Purposeful school year and hope you all can make it to our first annual "Welcome" Open House on Tuesday, August 22, 4:00-6:00 pm.

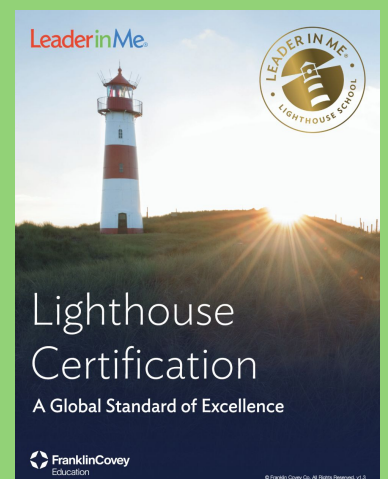
Focus Scripture for the year:

**Proverbs 19:21**

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD'S purpose that prevails."

Leader in Me

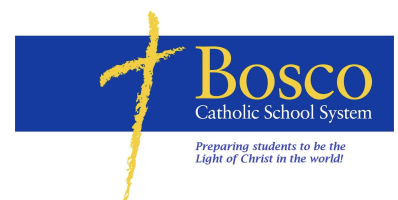
This year, we are working purposefully towards Lighthouse status. It is our "end in mind".




St. Joseph Preschool  
PO Box 158  
Raymond, IA 50667  
319-233-5980

Immaculate Conception  
PO Box 256  
Gilbertville, IA 50634  
319-296-1089

Don Bosco High School  
PO Box 106  
Gilbertville, IA 50634  
319-296-1692



BCSS Word of the Year 2023-2024



**Purpose**

Noun:

- an intention or aim; a reason for doing something or for allowing something to happen
- the reason for doing something or the reason that something exists:
- why you do something or why something exists:

***“Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the LORD’s purpose that prevails.” (Proverbs 19:21).***

**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.**

**Drop off, pick up, parking information**

When dropping your K-8 student(s) off in the morning, they can be dropped off at the front entrance of St. Mary Center, no earlier than 7:10am. If arriving after 7:20am, students should be dropped off at Entrance 6 and students will go directly to their classroom. **All K-8 and high school students will be marked tardy if not in their classroom by 7:30am!** When picking your student up at the end of the day, you will need to park on the south and east side of Immaculate Conception Church. A teacher will walk students down to you.

Parking for all high school students will be:

- Knoll area at the north end of the plaza
- Paved parking lot, South of the high school
- Plaza parking spots open to students will be posted at the High School at the beginning of the school year.

Observance of yellow no parking lines and blue handicapped zone and other legal ordinances is required. In addition, parallel parking on the west side of the school (along the sidewalk) is prohibited during school hours.

**Welcome New Faculty Members and Introducing new roles**

- ★ Toya Thome - K-8 Student Success Coach
- ★ Madeline Mangrich - Kindergarten Teacher
- ★ Julie Frick - 5th grade Teacher
- ★ Vicki Trueg - Resource/Instructional Coach
- ★ Katie Duncan - High School Instructor
- ★ Eric Robinson - High School Math
- ★ Dawn Kerr, DBHS Secretary
- ★ Kayla Leohr, K-8 Secretary

**New Roles**

- ★ Carol Berry was K-8 Secretary, now Administrative Assistant

**Organizational structure**

- ★ Shelby Douglas, K-12 Principal - students and staff
- ★ Tom Hogan, SOM - maintenance, grounds, facilities, technology, transportation, budget, lunch
- ★ Tiffany Moses, Business Manager - POs, payroll, HR
- ★ Dawn Kerr, DBHS Secretary - Tuition, all things 9-12
- ★ Kayla Leohr, IC Secretary - PowerSchool, all things K-8

**From Mr. Hogan**

It's hard to believe that the summer is slipping away so fast! We wanted to let you know of some things we have accomplished this summer that we are excited about. Our biggest project of the summer has been work done in the Don Bosco gym. We gave the lower portion of the gym a new paint job and got our new wall mats to be installed. Thanks to a group of alumni Don Bosco basketball players for their donation of the mats in the memory of our former assistant coach Greg Zabel. Our custodial staff has been working hard to have the facilities clean and ready for the start of the school year. In the technology world, we are replacing old cable and upgrading to improve the connectivity in Immaculate Conception. Many other smaller projects have been completed this summer that will make a positive impact on the upcoming school year. We are looking forward to seeing students again soon!

**Back to School Business Day** - Please make plans to stop by St. Mary Center and take care of the business of getting back to school.

**When: Tuesday, August 15, 3 pm - 7 pm**

- Make and/or schedule tuition payments. Sign up to make electronic payments.\*\*
  - Purchase school supplies (agenda, flash cards for K-8 students)\*\*
  - Deposit money in hot lunch account\*\*
  - E-Register- if you haven't already completed this step--computers will be available.
  - Visit the PTO table and sign up to volunteer to get your choice of times and tasks
  - View K-8 class lists
  - Pay registration fee for ABC after school child care\*\*
- \*\*Please plan to write separate checks for each of these.**

Electronic payments can be set up for both tuition and lunch accounts.

**If you are not available on the 15th for Back to School Business you will need to visit the IC or Don Bosco office after that date.**

## First Annual Welcome Back Open House

(formally Backpack Night)

Tuesday, August 22 from 4:00-6:00pm

Preschool/PreK will be 4:30-6:30

All K-12 Families are encouraged to bring in school supplies, meet teachers, and visit classrooms.

New families -Look for an email from your Ambassadors.

### Communication from School:

Please make sure that the following email addresses are in your contacts lists so you don't miss important emails from school.

[sdouglas@boscocatholic.org](mailto:sdouglas@boscocatholic.org) (K-12 Administrator)

[icsecretary@boscocatholic.org](mailto:icsecretary@boscocatholic.org) (K-8 secretary)

[dbhssecretary@boscocatholic.org](mailto:dbhssecretary@boscocatholic.org) (9-12 secretary)

[carndt@boscocatholic.org](mailto:carndt@boscocatholic.org) (activity updates)

[thogan@boscocatholic.org](mailto:thogan@boscocatholic.org) (SOM)

[tmoses@boscocatholic.org](mailto:tmoses@boscocatholic.org) (BCSS Business Manager)

[district@wordwareinc.com](mailto:district@wordwareinc.com) (lunch notifications)

[cberry@boscocatholic.org](mailto:cberry@boscocatholic.org) (Administrative Assistant)

## School Office Hours for August

### Don Bosco High School

- 7:00am to 3:00pm August 1-22

### Immaculate Conception

- 8:00am to 1:00pm August 1-3
- 7:00am to 1:00 pm August 7-10
- 7:00am to 3:00pm August 14-22

### St. Joseph Early Childhood Center

- 8:00am to noon August 1-11
- 7:30am to 3:00pm August 14-22

## 1:1 Technology

We will again this year offer 1:1 technology for all students in grades 6-12. Last year we piloted a test run with our 6th-grade class with Chromebooks. After a year of data, we have decided to continue providing Chromebooks to our 6th-grade students, as well as our 7th, 8th, and 9th-grade classes. The device that the 8th and 9th-grade classes receive will follow them till the end of their Bosco curriculum career. Students in grades 10-12 will still be provided with their previous MacBook Air.

All returning **7th-12th** graders and their parents will need to download the forms to be completed before students will be able to take the devices home for the year. Something to note for device insurance; the Worth Ave Group insurance will only cover MacBooks, as the Chromebooks have a one-time warranty per problem on each device for three years. These can be **turned in on August 15th** at back to business day or sent with the student to school on the first day to their advisor. The forms below can be found on our school website:

[Bosco Catholic School System - Forms](#)

### Technology Forms

- [Mobile Device Agreement](#)
- [Acceptable Use Policy](#)
- [Device Checklist](#)
- [Insurance Flyer](#)
- [Device](#)
- [Protection Plan](#)

If you have any questions regarding technology, please direct them to either Tom Hogan at [thogan@boscocatholic.org](mailto:thogan@boscocatholic.org) or Zach Schroeder at [zschroeder@boscocatholic.org](mailto:zschroeder@boscocatholic.org).

6th graders and new high school students will be given explicit, direct instruction regarding the 1:1 devices during the first few days of school.



### Immunizations

#### Incoming 7th & 12th Grade students

The Iowa Department of Public Health made changes to the Iowa Immunization law in school year 2017-2018 that are still in effect today.

This change requires that, **before school starts in the fall**, all students entering 7th grade have both a Meningococcal vaccine and a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis/whooping cough) booster and that all students entering 12th grade have a Meningococcal vaccine. The Tdap requirement has been in place since 2013/14 school year and requires a booster dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria and acellular Pertussis containing vaccine for students entering 7th grade, regardless of the interval since the last Tetanus/Diphtheria containing vaccine. Pertussis (whooping cough) is a very contagious disease that causes violent coughing fits that make it hard to breathe. Meningococcal disease is a life threatening illness that is caused by bacteria that infects the brain, blood, and spinal cord. It easily spreads in crowded settings and typically affects older teens and young adults. All students entering 7th and 12th grade must have proof of these vaccinations before school starts in August unless the student has a current Certificate of Immunization Exemption. There will be no grace/extension period for the implementation of this requirement.

**If you have not already taken care of this, please schedule your student's immunizations soon.**

### John Deere Matching Fund

The John Deere Foundation Programs: Dollars for Doers and Matching Gifts include the Bosco Catholic School System as an eligible cause!

Eligible employees are active US John Deere employees, full-time salaried and production employees and salaried employees in the Part-time Employee Program. Eligible employees can submit their match through their Employee Self Service (ESS) under the Power for Good program.

The Bosco Catholic School System number for the matching is 530196617\_024426.

**Dollars for Doers Program** through the John Deere Foundation may provide a grant to any qualifying organization at which an employee volunteers at a rate of \$25 per hour with a max of \$1,000 per employee per year. The employee must be volunteering with the recipient organization at the time the grant is requested, not a year later. The program follows Deere & Company's fiscal year (1st of November to 31st of October). Dollars for Doers gifts must be submitted in the tool on or before the 31st of October, to be eligible, in accordance with the program guidelines. The requests can NOT exceed 40 hours at \$25 per hour for a maximum of \$1,000 total per employee per year.

**Matching Gift Program** encourages and rewards John Deere employees for their personal philanthropy and giving. The John Deere Foundation provides each eligible John Deere employee with up to \$1,000 each fiscal year to match their personal contributions to charitable organizations recognized with 501(c)(3) status by the US IRS and qualifying tax-exempt schools, subject to specific restrictions.

### Upcoming Events: Mark your calendar

**Tues., Aug. 1** – Sports Physicals Night (6:00-8:00)

**Tues., Aug. 8** – BCSS Board Meeting (6:30)

**Tues., Aug. 15** – Back to School Business (3:00-7:00)

**Wed., Aug. 16** – Teachers return

**Tues., Aug. 22** – PK-12 Welcome Back Open House

K-12th grade 4:00-6:00

Preschool/PreK will start at 4:30 (Look for email)

Families are encouraged to bring in school supplies, meet teachers, visit classrooms.

**Sat., Aug. 19** – Booster Club Golf Outing and social

**Wed., Aug. 23** – First Day of School (Will start at the normal time of 7:30 am for all locations)