

# **ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH**

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January 2023 **Please Review This Entire Packet Carefully!**

**Greetings to St. Stephen's Parish School current and prospective School families!**

We here at St. Stephen's Parish are very proud of our campus and our excellent school. We strive to continually offer as many features for our families as possible, features that you may not find in other schools!

**2023 – 2024 TUITION PACKAGE:** Our tuition package is all inclusive!

<b><u>One Contract Specifically for Kn.-8<sup>th</sup> Gr (Yellow)</u></b>	} <b><u>All Contracts designate</u></b> <b><u>Active Registered Parishioner</u></b> <b><u>Inactive Registered OR</u></b> <b><u>Non-Parishioner</u></b>
<b><u>One Contract Specifically for PreK4 (Green)</u></b>	
<b><u>One Contract Specifically for PreK3 (Pink)</u></b>	

Please request the PreK3 or PreK4 Contract directly from the school office to enroll your PreK age child.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** The Registration Fee not only secures your place on the 23-24 Student Roster, but is also a component of our supply and operating budget. It helps to ensure that we have all the supplies necessary to jump start each school year. Early Registration is \$150.00 per child if paid by Wednesday, February 15, 2023 this year. If you are a current school family and choose to register after February 15, 2023, that fee increases to \$175.00 per child.

It is imperative that you please REGISTER promptly to avoid disappointment and to secure your spot. We generally do have waiting lists for multiple grades.

For our Brand new Families PREK3 & PREK4 – The Registration/Tuition Deposit is now \$500 which covers your registration fee and money towards your tuition.

## **TUITION PAYMENT OPTIONS:**

We have established multiple payment options that are available for your family to choose from. One option is to pay annually by August 15, 2023 and with that option, comes a 2% cash discount OR you may pay in 10 or 12 equal payments.

For all payment plans we utilize the FACTS Tuition Management Program linked securely to the bank account of your choice OR your Credit Card for your method of payment, including Annual payments. Through FACTS you can choose to pay Annually or in 10 or 12 installments so that you can select the program that works

best for you. The standard options are the 5<sup>th</sup> or the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month as your payment selection dates. There is an annual fee of \$43.00 paid directly to FACTS.

**BUS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (Niagara Falls Route) (Kn – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade):**

Here at St. Stephen's we have been blessed with the staff and vision looking towards the future! We offer Transportation for our families that are North of Grand Island, in Niagara Falls. Our bus is equipped with our very own licensed and trained driver(s), and we offer two stops for pick up and drop off in the Niagara Falls Area. The Transportation Fee is \$650.00 per school year regardless of frequency of usage. This fee is billed with your tuition package at an annual rate or a monthly rate paid with your FACTS account. This service is for Kn – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade! No tolls, no gas, no wear and tear and your cost is only about \$3.00 per day! ☺

Additionally, we have this School Bus available to our entire school for use for Field Trips and Extra Curricular activities!

**Important Message to Families Previously in CTGP (Kn – 8<sup>th</sup> grade):**

For all of our families that belong to another parish without a school, it is important that you register and become an active member of our parish so that we may continue to offer you the Parishioner Tuition. At Present the Diocese has suspended the CTGP Program Funding and does not offer any assistance for out of parish families.

**SSSTAP 2023-2024 (Kn – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade): APPLICATION Deadline 5/31/2023**

A tuition assistance form is included in each registration packet. If you feel your family needs assistance in order to be able to provide this opportunity for your K-8 child(ren), please do not hesitate to apply! Please Apply by May 31, 2023. This program is offered to our registered active parishioners.

**URGENT STRICT DEADLINES FOR BISON FUND – PLEASE DO NOT MISS!**  
**BISON FUND 2023-2024 (Kn – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade): APPLICATION DEADLINE 2/28/22**

The Bison Fund is a private scholarship fund that you may also apply for. They too have income requirement for awards. If you are chosen for this award, it remains with your child(ren) from Kn – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade for all of your children. It is a blessing! Go to WWW. BISON FUND and you can register on line for this drawing. You must register with a pre-application on line by March 15, 2023 to be eligible. If you are in the BISON Fund, you do not need to re-apply, just complete the requalification papers.

**AFTER SCHOOL CARE & BEFORE SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM:**

We have an after-school care program available at a reasonable daily fee for your child(ren), pre-registration is required. It is staffed by our very own teachers.

**BEFORE SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM** is available as well. This service itself is provided by our school at no daily cost to you beginning at 6:30A.M. and the value is Priceless! This requires pre-registration & the annual fee is \$50.00 per family.

**VOLUNTEERISM:**

As a family in our school we are asking that every family volunteer to work one of our seven annual Lenten Fish Fry dinners. This tradition is over 40 years old and is one of the largest community builders and one of the largest fundraisers for our school. We would also ask that each family donate a Basket or items for our Gala which is held Annually. These Two Events are two of our biggest fundraisers for our school. Each year there are a multitude of other events that we hope you will join in on and support. Our Fundraising is essential to our existence and the responsibility rests with each family to sustain these fundraisers!

**SERVICE ON OUR BOARDS:**

We are currently accepting letters of interest from the community to take a leadership role on our School Advisory Board or for our Home School Fundraising Board. If you have expertise or background in some of these areas or any other areas that you would like to share for example: business ownership, accounting, education, marketing, fundraising, or grant writing etc.

Please contact our Principal or Business Manager at

**Principal@ststephensgi.org** or **businessmgr@ststephensgi.com**

Your Expertise could be a tremendous asset to our school, please join us! ☺

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Please NEVER hesitate to contact our business office if you need financial assistance or have questions of any kind. We will be more than happy to work with you! Our business office is located in the Rectory which is connected to the new church.

We certainly know that providing your child with a Catholic School Education is a choice, and a big choice! We do not ever take that decision lightly and always know we will help you in any way possible.

If necessary we can further customize your tuition payment options, and if help is needed during the course of the school year to change a payment date that better coincides with your pay cycle, we can work with you, please contact us!

Help is only a phone call or e-mail away!

Many Blessings to you and your families and thank you for choosing St. Stephen School for your child(ren)!

**A very special message and clarification we would like to share:**

*As times change for our parishes, and schools, now more than ever it is essential for families to clearly understand the differentiation between an Active Parishioner, Inactive Parishioner and a non-parishioner.*

*We have made additional attempts to clarify these definitions on our contracts and would like to take a moment to further clarify that here. As our education models evolve and we seek to secure additional funding for our schools to make them less financially dependent on their associated parishes, it is essential that we educate our families in this regard.*

**An Active Registered Parishioner:** *An individual or Family that is formally registered by completing membership papers to join the parish. This Individual or Family is one that worships regularly at weekend liturgies, supports the parish financially throughout the year & participates in the life of the parish community through involvement in church programs, activities, and/or church ministries here at St. Stephen's.*

*Please be sure to see the On-Line Giving Flyer we have included for your convenience if you have not already thought of giving on-line.*

**Inactive Registered Parishioner:** *An individual or Family that is formally registered in the parish by completing the registration packet. However, they do not attend mass here, do not regularly financially support the parish, or participate in the life of the parish.*

**Non-Parishioner:** *An individual or Family that may choose to send their child or children to our parish school, but will do so by agreeing to the stated non-parishioner rate of tuition.*

Very truly yours,

Karen A. Sweet  
Business Manager

SSS INFORMATIONAL PACKET JAN 2023