



## School Board Mask Decision

The School Board Chairman enacted an emergency total masking policy at Bethlehem on August 31 after the entire middle school was sent home on August 30 due to possible COVID-19 exposure. At the September 14 School Board Meeting, the School Board reviewed the decision and voted to enact a total masking policy in a vote of 8-0 with 1 abstention.

While the School Board as a group would have liked to repeal the mask mandate, a number of circumstances led to their decision as everyone agreed that what we most want is to create a safe environment for staff and students to continue in person learning.

1. The majority of students in the building are not eligible for a vaccine at this time.
2. Current guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health and Greene County Public Health Department move unmasked and unvaccinated children who are exposed to Covid-19 directly into quarantine.
3. Quarantine for a portion of a classroom creates more work and stress for teachers who then must simultaneously teach both remotely and in-person.
4. The success that Bethlehem had last year with in-person school days, led the school to keep many precautions that were used last year.

The School Board is accepting letters for mask exemptions from parents. All letters are handled on an individual basis.

Serving the Master Teacher,  
Mrs. Beth Landon



## Chapel Offering: Hearts for Jesus

The Lutheran Schools of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan are working together to support the ministry of the King's Community Outreach in Fort Wayne IN. For our September chapel offerings, we are collecting money for this project.

King's Community Outreach serves the poor in the inner city of Fort Wayne. The Lutheran Schools will be working together to provide the funds necessary to continue and expand their Thanksgiving food basket project.

If you would like to see a news story about the King's Community Outreach please follow this link: <https://www.wane.com/news/localnews/kings-community-outreach-baskets-are-positively-fort-wayne/>.

## Missing Items



Parents, children are reminded to leave home toys at home. This includes Pokémon cards, stuffed toys, etc. Any toys that come from home run the risk of being lost, broken or taken. Children are invited to enjoy the cupboard full of games, puzzles and markers for drawing **and** remember Extended Care has friends to enjoy.

There have also been a number of items removed from backpacks in these first few weeks of school. While some of the items have been found and/or returned, some are still missing. The temptation to take things is too much for someone or several children. Keep your precious items at home.

Bethlehem Lutheran School cannot ensure the safe return of toys and other home items that are brought to school.

## PTO Pizza Day



The first PTO pizza lunch day is Friday, September 24, 2021. Pizza will cost \$4.00/child. Pizza (either cheese or pepperoni) will be served at the normal lunch times. Students are responsible for their own drink.

There is no cost for out-of-uniform as this date is also School picture day (a free out-of-uniform date).

## School Picture Day



Friday, September 24 is school picture day for Preschool 4 to Grade 8. (Students in Preschool 3 will have a picture day in October.) Classes will be taken to the gym one at a time for pictures.

No class group picture will be taken, but a class composite picture will be available after our October makeup day for those who order one. Students are welcome to wear out of uniform clothing for school pictures. Since the picture is basically waist up, students should not need to wear sandals or heels for the day. All normal recess and gym classes will be held.

## Scrip News



### SCRIP News

Back to school time is a great time to use SCRIP. Get new clothes with gift cards for Old Navy, Children's Place, Kohl's, Marshall's, DSW, and more. Get ready for fall activities with cards from Dick's Sporting Goods, Cabela's, or UnderArmour. And as always, cards are available for groceries, gas, and household goods.

- **September Order Schedule:** Physical card orders will be placed on **Monday, September 27 (9/27)**. Order by noon on Monday to get your order in the same week. E-card orders and reloads to existing cards can be done at any time and are either instantly available or available overnight.
- **Raise Right App:** Shop for SCRIP right from your phone. E-cards can be scanned and used directly from the app at many stores and restaurants.
- **Ship to Home:** Cards can now be shipped directly to your home for a small shipping fee. Cards must be ordered in the Raise Right app to use the Ship to Home feature.

Haven't tried SCRIP yet? It's an easy way for you to use your regular shopping to support the school.

1. You sign up at [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) or in the RaiseRight app. **Our enrollment code has expired and the new code is 54FL6745963.** You order gift cards to pay for your shopping or give as gifts.
2. SCRIP sends a monthly rebate check to the school to support field trips and school events.

## Upcoming Events

Sept. 17	Mid-quarter
Sept. 21	Mid-quarter grades will be released on FastDirect
Sept. 21	Parent Teacher Conferences for Grades 6-8, after school
Sept. 23	Parent Teacher Conferences for Grades 6-8, after school
Sept. 24	School Picture Day for P4-Grade 8 (P3 will have an Oct. date)
Sept. 24	PTO Pizza lunch
Oct. 15	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter (42 days)



## Easy Donations to Bethlehem Lutheran School



**KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS:** When you shop at Kroger and use a Kroger Plus Card, you could be supporting Bethlehem Lutheran School without making any additional donations. Through the Kroger Community Rewards program, when you link your Kroger Plus Card to the Bethlehem Lutheran School's nonprofit number (80102), Kroger will donate to our school every time you shop and use your Kroger Plus Card.

Please go to [www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com) to check your enrollment status.



**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION (10 cents each):** Box Tops can be redeemed by sending a photo of your receipt where the product was purchased to the Box Tops site. This program requires each family to be involved. Bethlehem cannot collect and send pictures for you.



**POP TABS:** Pop tabs are on most aluminum cans. Please: *remove* them, *send* them to school, we *deliver* them to the local Ronald McDonald House. RMDH can *redeem* them for cash to support their ministry of providing housing for families with a child in the hospital.



**ALUMINUM CANS:** BLS recycles aluminum cans. Two large garbage cans are located under the steps by the Extended Care entrance for aluminum. The cans are redeemed for cash. (We are not currently recycling large appliances.)



**GOODSEARCH:** A search engine, similar to Google, Goodsearch will donate a penny each time you use it. Also affiliated with it is Goodshop. A portion of your purchase through them also goes to the school. Set up your account at [goodsearch.com](http://goodsearch.com)



**OFFICE DEPOT & OFFICEMAX:** The Give Back to School Program lets you earn FREE supplies for Bethlehem when you make a purchase of qualifying products and provide Bethlehem ID number at checkout. Bethlehem's ID number is **70123252**.