



**St. Stephen School**  
**2080 Baseline Road**  
**Grand Island, NY 14072**

Come see what sets us apart from others:

Christian value-based education 

 Spanish beginning in Pre-K

 Sports & Clubs

Life Skills: Kitchen Skills, Sewing, etc.



Outdoor Classroom



Hands-on Learning/STREAM

Before/After school care



Algebra & Living Environment

 BISON Fund & Tuition Assistance

Bussing provided from the Kenton

School District 

**Visit us at our Open House**  
**Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 10am-1pm**  
**Or call for a personal tour!**  
**716-773-7647, opt. 2**



**Please join us for Catholic Schools  
Week Mass & Open House on  
Sunday, January 25th. The Open  
House will take place from 10:00 a.m.  
to 1:00 p.m. We invite our students to  
wear their uniforms and join the  
faculty in a procession into the  
church at 11 am Mass. After Mass,  
coffee and donuts will be served in  
the school.**





# COMMUNITY HELPERS DAY 2026

Dear Parents,

During Catholic Schools Week, we would like to have a "Community Helpers" presentation for students in grades Pre-K- 8. We need your help to make it happen! We are looking for parents to volunteer their time to come in and give a short 3-5 minute presentation about their job, on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9 - noon. If you would like to be a part of our Community Helpers Day, please click the link to fill out the [Google Form](#) by Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Once we have a list of volunteers, we will send further instructions.

Thank you,  
Mrs. May





# St. Stephen's Got Talent

## Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>

Do you have a talent you would like to share  
with the school community?

We are having a talent show and students in  
grades 4-8 are encouraged to try out and  
show off their amazing talents!

Student try-outs will be Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> after school until 4:00pm.  
Location is to be determined. If you would like to try out, please sign-up  
on the sign-up form outside Mrs. Calato's classroom with your name and  
the type of act you will be performing.

Students will be notified if they are selected on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
There will a mandatory dress rehearsal **before school at 8:00am** on  
Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> for all students who are selected.

The final show will be at 1:30pm, January  
30<sup>th</sup>, students & parents of performers will  
be able to watch during a Catholic Schools  
Week talent show production.





# BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

The **BISON Children's Scholarship Fund** is a private scholarship fund providing tuition assistance for low-income families throughout the 8 counties of Western New York who want to enroll their children in private K-12 schools. Funding now available for grades K - 8.

## BISON K-8 Scholarship Quick Facts:

- Average K-8 scholarship in 2025 of \$1,900
- The maximum award is \$3,000.
- Currently BISON has over 1,800 scholars in 77 different private schools across Western New York.
- Each family must contribute toward their child's private education.

### STEP 1

Complete a pre-application online at [bisonfund.org](https://bisonfund.org) between **January 1, 2026** and **March 31, 2026**. Call BISON with questions at (716) 854-0869 ext. 1.

### STEP 2

Watch for notification after the BISON Lottery is held on **April 1, 2026**. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application to receive the scholarship. If you're not chosen, you will automatically be placed on the BISON waitlist.

### STEP 3

If selected, complete the full application online. Enroll your child(ren) in the school of their choice and ask the school to complete the school commitment form.

### STEP 4

Once all the steps are completed, BISON will notify you of your scholarship amount. Watch for email notices to annually renew your BISON Scholarship in February of each year and add siblings.



## INCOME ELIGIBILITY AMOUNTS\*

Household Size	Total Income (Based on 2024 household income)
2	\$ 57,105
3	\$ 71,955
4	\$ 86,805
5	\$ 101,655
6	\$ 116,505
7	\$ 131,355
8	\$ 146,205

*Updated income tables  
February 1, 2026.*





# BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

## FAQ for FAMILIES

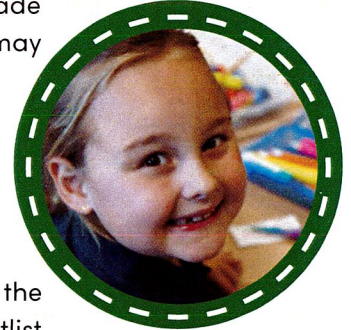
More detailed information can be found on our website at [www.bisonfund.org](http://www.bisonfund.org)

### WHO QUALIFIES FOR A BISON K-8 SCHOLARSHIP?

Residents of the 8 counties of Western New York (WNY) with children entering K-8<sup>th</sup> grade with a total family income within the income eligibility scale on the reverse side. You may only apply for your biological or legal guardian children.

### HOW DO NEW FAMILIES APPLY?

New families must complete a pre-application form electronically (online) on our website at [bisonfund.org](http://bisonfund.org). The new family deadline is **March 31, 2026**. Preference is NOT given to early applications; however you must apply by 3/31 to be considered for the lottery. Families applying after the **March 31, 2026** deadline will be placed on our waitlist.



### HOW ARE BISON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS CHOSEN?

Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all submitted pre-application forms on **April 1, 2026**. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application in order to receive the scholarship.

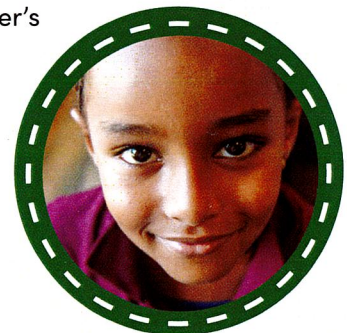
### HOW DO I KNOW IF I WON THE LOTTERY?

All applicants will be notified of lottery results by email on **April 1, 2026**. If you're not chosen in the lottery, you can always reapply for the next school year.



### I RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP AWARD EMAIL ... NOW WHAT?

In your award email, there will be a link to complete your full application. Click on the link and follow the application steps. **The deadline to complete the application is April 30, 2026.** Please be sure to include all your income sources including your Federal 1040 tax return, child support, business income, public assistance, food stamps, Social Security income, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and financial assistance from family & friends. Select your school (a complete list can be found on our website) and contact the school to complete the school commitment form. After receipt of all the required documents, your scholarship will be calculated based on your household size and income, as well as tuition amount. You must renew annually to continue with BISON.



### I RECEIVED NOTICE I'M ON A WAITLIST ... NOW WHAT?

Unfortunately, there are always more applicants than available funding. We keep waitlist names for the academic year hopeful that additional funding becomes available. If you are not taken off the waitlist, you will need to resubmit a pre-application next year to be considered.

### WHY DO FAMILIES HAVE TO PAY PART OF THE TUITION?

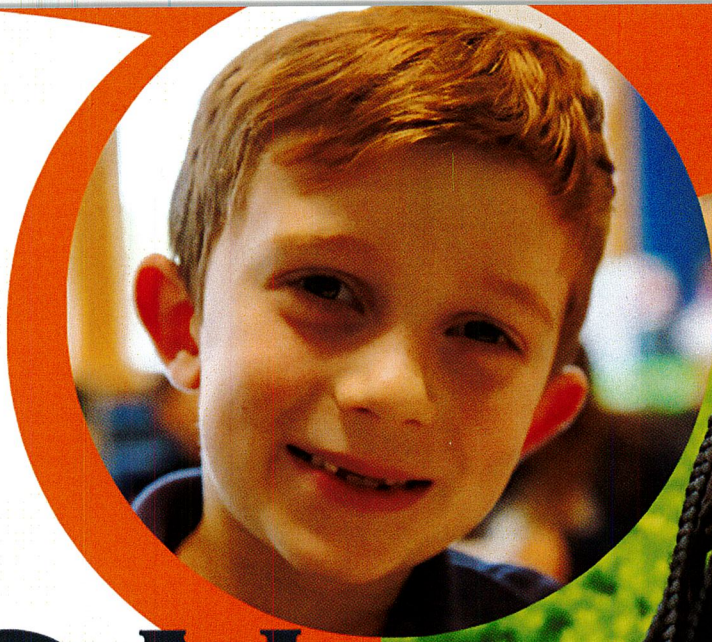
One key component of educational success is parental involvement. Making a financial sacrifice is a strong incentive to becoming and remaining, involved. BISON families are required to pay a minimum of \$500 each year.





# BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND



## SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AVAILABLE

The BISON Children's Scholarship Fund is a tuition assistance program for families who want a private education for their children but are unsure if they can afford it.

- K-8 scholarships available for the **2026-27 school year.**
- Maximum award of **\$3,000 per student for private school**
- Maximum award of **\$500 per student for homeschool.**

Apply at [www.bisonfund.org](http://www.bisonfund.org) or call 716.854.0869 ext. 1







# Save the Date



You're invited to our...

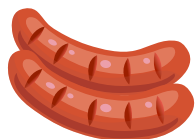
## MEAT RAFFLE



**ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL  
2080 BASELINE RD,  
GRAND ISLAND, NY**



Raffles



Meats



Drinks



Fun!

**All Proceeds go to  
St. Stephen School**

**Join us for a sizzling night of fun,  
friends, and fantastic meat prizes  
and support a great cause!**

**Bring your friends, grab a drink, and enjoy  
a night full of excitement!**



**716-773-7647 opt. 2, [principal@ststephensgi.org](mailto:principal@ststephensgi.org)**



**[ststephensgi.org](http://ststephensgi.org)**



**<https://www.facebook.com/ststephensgi>**



**[st.stephenschoolgi](https://www.instagram.com/ststephenschoolgi)**



**JAN 14, 2026**

## **A NOTE FROM YOUR HSA...**

Thank you to those who attended our recent HSA meeting this past Wednesday January 7th. We appreciate your participation. Please mark your calendars for the next HSA meeting, which will be held on Monday March 30th at 6:30 pm. All tuition-paying families are members of the HSA and we need your participation to keep our school strong and to share the labor of executing events and fundraisers. We welcome our UPK families to participate fully in our vibrant school community.

Refer to the attached budget update - we are about on track with the projected budget for this school year. That said, we are almost half way through the school year and have raised approximately 30% of the targeted amount for this year. Therefore, it is crucial that the events planned for the remainder of the year go well. Inviting people in your lives who are outside of the school community to support our fundraisers helps us meet our goals without placing additional burden on all of us who are already paying tuition. Please share our events and sales far and wide. Simply marking that you are going or interested in a Facebook event helps.

There are several HSA events and fundraisers coming up in the next few months. We need everyone's support to make these events a success - from attending to donating supplies to volunteering your time, there are many ways to get involved. Refer to the Wednesday Envelope for more info on each event as it is shared. Upcoming events include:

- Carnival on 1/24/26 from 4-7pm. Family-friendly event located at St. Stephen School (gym & cafeteria). There will be carnival games, balloon twisting, face painting, fish bowl toss, a magic show, and concessions. Purchase your tickets on GiveButter and plan to join us for an evening of family fun and community. Volunteer opportunities for adults and high school students. Purchase tickets at <https://givebutter.com/2026Carnival>. Sign up to volunteer at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FADAD2FAAFAC61-61401769-ststephen>.
- Green & Gold Gala on 2/7/26 starting at 5pm. Adults-only event located at Antonio's Banquet & Conference Center in Niagara Falls. Hire a babysitter, invite friends to join you, and look forward to a delicious dinner out on the town! There will be a silent auction, wine toss, and dancing. This night is about celebrating St. Stephen School and Catholic education. Purchase tickets at [https://givebutter.com/c/SSS\\_2026\\_Gala](https://givebutter.com/c/SSS_2026_Gala). **If you**



***haven't turned in your silent auction donation yet, please send these into the office no later than 1/30/26.***

- Nothing Bundt Cakes sale running 1/14/26 thru 2/3/26. Cakes come in several flavors at a cost of \$7 each. St. Stephen receives \$2 from the sale of each cake. From personal experience, all flavors are absolutely delicious and they freeze very well!! The order form is available in the Wednesday envelope.
- With football season coming to a close before long, we will be offering a new dress down pass for the second half of the school year. Watch the Wednesday Envelope for more info coming soon.
- Fish Fry hosted at St. Stephen School begins on 2/20/26. Dine in and take-out fish fry served out of the school kitchen each Friday of Lent. ***This event requires a lot of volunteer participation from our school families.*** Note that, per the tuition contract, all tuition-paying families are required to volunteer for at least one session. Most people find that this event is very enjoyable to participate in and sign up to work more than the minimum. UPK families are welcome to volunteer as well. Keep an eye out for the volunteer signup. Plan to support this event by choosing to order your Friday Fish Fry from St. Stephen School. Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for dinner.
- New Day Coffee sale running 2/4/26 thru 2/27/26. Choose from delicious coffees, teas, and hot cocoa. All coffee is roasted locally in WNY, offering the freshest cup possible.
- Easter Candy Sale with Platter's Chocolates running 2/11/26 thru 3/4/26. St. Stephen receives 40% of each sale.
- Mother-Son Bowling at Mallwitz on March 3 & 4. Choose the date that works best for your schedule.
- Meat Raffle Hosted by the Teachers at St. Stephen School (cafeteria) on March 14 starting at 5:30pm.

This brings us up until the next HSA meeting at the end of March. There will be additional events throughout the spring, which will be discussed at the next meeting. We thank you all for choosing St. Stephen School and for supporting the fundraising and community building events hosted by the HSA. We are blessed to have such wonderful families here at St. Stephen School.

With gratitude,

Your 2025 - 2026 HSA Board



St Stephen School Home School Association										
as of December 31, 2025										
		Current Year				Previous Year			Prior Year	
	Month of Fundraiser	Sept '25 - Aug 26	Through January 7, 2026	Actual vs Budget for Completed Fundraisers		Sept '24 - Aug 25		Actual vs Budget for Completed Fundraisers	Sep '23 - Aug 24	
		Net Budget	Net Actual			Net Budget	Net Actual		Net Budget	Net Actual
5K Race	September	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,411	\$ (1,589)		\$ 5,000	\$ 4,793	\$ (207)	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,977
716 Fundraising	September	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,164
Apex Leadership	November	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bottle & Can Redemption	Annual	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 300	\$ 223	\$ (77)	\$ -	\$ 1,625
Booster Events	Annual	\$ 1,000	\$ 365	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -
Box Tops	Annual	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 350	\$ 423	\$ 73	\$ 350	\$ 414
Bundt Cakes	February	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,216	\$ 1,216	\$ -	\$ -
Cash Calendar	April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 7,125	\$ -	\$ (7,125)	\$ 7,500	\$ 4,368
Candy Bars	Annual	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,329	\$ 329		\$ 8,000	\$ 5,536	\$ (2,464)	\$ 9,500	\$ 8,881
Chicken BBQ	June/October	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Christmas Cards	December	\$ 800	\$ 447	\$ (353)		\$ 800	\$ 486	\$ (314)	\$ 800	\$ 732
Dress Down Passes	Annual	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,149	\$ (351)		\$ -	\$ 1,960	\$ 1,960	\$ -	\$ -
Easter Candy	April	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Family Night Out	January/October	\$ 5,000	\$ (487)	\$ -		\$ 10,000	\$ 4,885	\$ (5,115)	\$ 17,000	\$ 12,337
Fish Fry	Feb - Apr	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,800	\$ -		\$ 25,000	\$ 34,453	\$ 9,453	\$ 15,000	\$ 25,448
Gala	January/March	\$ 25,000	\$ 9,300	\$ -		\$ 20,000	\$ 28,655	\$ 8,655	\$ -	\$ -
Meat Raffle	March	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,021
Rockin' The Grounds	August	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 295	\$ 295	\$ -	\$ -
Santa's Workshop	December	\$ 200	\$ 327	\$ 127		\$ 200	\$ 443	\$ 243	\$ 200	\$ 429
Shopping Extravaganza	November	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,521	\$ 1,521		\$ 6,000	\$ 5,912	\$ (88)	\$ 4,500	\$ 6,271
Teacher Calendar	October	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 8,000	\$ 9,089	\$ 1,089	\$ 9,400	\$ 11,747
Walk-A-Thon	May/June	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ 22,500	\$ 8,509
Subtotal Net Fundraising		\$ 97,650	\$ 25,161	\$ (317)		\$ 100,775	\$ 99,069	\$ (1,706)	\$ 99,550	\$ 93,922
Teacher Start-Up		\$ (2,250)	\$ (590)	\$ -		\$ (2,250)	\$ (1,935)	\$ 315	\$ (2,250)	\$ (1,680)
Teacher Bonus & Gifts		\$ (8,000)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ (8,000)	\$ (7,988)	\$ 12	\$ (8,000)	\$ (7,103)
Student/Parent Events*		\$ (600)	\$ 595	\$ -		\$ (600)	\$ (591)	\$ 9	\$ (1,600)	\$ (618)
Field Day		\$ (4,000)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ (4,000)	\$ (2,990)	\$ 1,010	\$ (2,000)	\$ (1,907)
School Reach Subscription		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,250)	\$ -
Other		\$ (1,000)	\$ (588)	\$ -		\$ (1,000)	\$ (631)	\$ 369	\$ (1,000)	\$ (195)
Subtotal Add'l Costs		\$ (15,850)	\$ (583)	\$ -		\$ (15,850)	\$ (14,136)	\$ 1,714	\$ (16,100)	\$ (11,502)
Total Fundraising		\$ 81,800	\$ 24,578	\$ (317)		\$ 84,925	\$ 84,933	\$ 8	\$ 83,450	\$ 82,420
* Merchandise, Mighty Niagara Cards, Breakfast of Champions, Dances, Mother's Day, Father's Day & Grandparent's Day, etc.										
Discontinued Events									\$ 2,300	\$ 2,164
New for 2022-2023		\$ 15,000	\$ 2,924			\$ 30,125	\$ 18,766		\$ 44,400	\$ 39,449
New for 2023-2024		\$ 17,000	\$ 2,329			\$ 18,000	\$ 5,536		\$ 32,000	\$ 17,390
New/Comeback for 2024-2025		\$ 28,500	\$ 11,449			\$ 20,000	\$ 32,126			
TOTALS		\$ 60,500	\$ 16,702			\$ 68,125	\$ 56,428		\$ 78,700	\$ 59,003



**ALL  
WELCOME**

**4-7 PM**

**JANUARY 24TH**

# **ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL CARNIVAL**

**GAMES  
BALLOON ANIMALS  
FACE-PAINTING  
FISH BOWL TOSS**

**TICKET REQUIRED FOR ENTRY  
KIDS - \$30  
ADULTS - \$15  
2 and UNDER - FREE**



**ENTER PROMO CODE  
"SAVE5"  
FOR TICKETS PURCHASED BY  
1/22/2026**





NOTHING *bundt* CAKES®

# The Sweetest Way to Support St. Stephen School

## Fundraiser Cake Flavors Available:

Chocolate Chocolate Chip | Red Velvet | White Chocolate Raspberry  
Lemon | Confetti | Classic Vanilla | Strawberries & Cream | Carrot | OREO Cookies & Cream  
Gluten-Free Chocolate Chocolate Chip | Gluten-Free Lemon Raspberry

**Individual Bundtlet Cost: \$7**

Amherst, NY  
1715 Niagara Falls Boulevard, Ste 300, Amherst, NY 14228  
(716) 322-2794 • [NothingBundtCakes.com](http://NothingBundtCakes.com)

FOOD ALLERGEN NOTE: Our cakes contain wheat, milk, eggs and soy. Cakes may contain traces of tree nuts and peanuts.



## The Sweetest Way to Support!



Hello! I'm \_\_\_\_\_ from St. Stephen School

We're partnering with Nothing Bundt Cakes to raise funds for \_\_\_\_\_

our St. Stephen's students

Individual Bundtlets: \$7 Each

Please make all checks payable to **St. Stephen School**

Order Due Date: 2/3/26      Order Pickup Date: 2/12/26

[illegible]