



SAINT BRIGID OF KILDARE SCHOOL

Seeking Grace and Wisdom

# Home & School

## 2023-2024

# What is Home & School?

Home & School is the parent volunteer association at Saint Brigid of Kildare School. The Home & School Association strives to enrich the Catholic School experience for students and their families by providing a volunteer base and money for supplemental programs, fun activities, staff appreciation and classroom equipment for St. Brigid School. Some of our events and programs include Barn Bash, Hounds Hoopla, Field Day, Uniform Exchange, Library Volunteers, and much more!

## How we're funded:

Home & School is funded entirely by contributions made to the Annual Fund. The Annual Fund is a once a year contribution that covers the costs of after school programs, extracurriculars, school performances and field trips organized by Home & School. We do not hold any fundraisers – we won't ask your children to sell things like wrapping paper, magazines or candy because our tuition rates and Annual Fund cover the costs of all extra activities.

## How to get involved:

Volunteer opportunities and positions are described below. If you have an interest in participating in any of these areas, please consider attending the H&S kick-off meeting on Thursday, September 7, or sign up online (visit [www.stbrigidofkildare.com](http://www.stbrigidofkildare.com) and search "home and school"). If you are interested in joining one of the monthly meetings, please email Venessa Lookabaugh [vmlook04@gmail.com](mailto:vmlook04@gmail.com) or Ashley Jones [ashleypaigejones1@gmail.com](mailto:ashleypaigejones1@gmail.com).

## Volunteer requirements:

All Home & School volunteers must complete the Safe Environment volunteer requirements including completion of Protecting God's Children. For more information, visit [stbrigidofkildare.org](http://stbrigidofkildare.org), and search "safe environment."

**Sign Up**

Sign up online at [stbrigidofkildare.com](http://stbrigidofkildare.com), search "home and school".

# Save the Dates: Upcoming Events

## Barn Bash

**October 2023, TBD**

Join the school family at Leed's Farm in Ostrander, Ohio for a night of fun games, dinner, snacks, beverages, baked goods, family activities, fun and games and a DJ! This is a fun night for the whole family! Look for registration instructions in upcoming Wolfhound Wednesdays.



## Hounds Hoopla

**January 2024, TBD**

Join the school family in our school cafeteria and Enke Hall for a night of games, activities, food and fun! This is an annual tradition our students look forward to each year. Look for registration instructions this winter.



## Home & School 2023-2024

### Meeting Dates:

Thurs, Sept 7 10am

Thurs, Oct 5 10am

Thurs, Nov 2 10am

Thurs, Dec 7 10am

Thurs, Jan 4 10am

Thurs, Feb 1 10am

Thurs, Mar 7 10am

Thurs, Apr 4 10am

Thurs, May 2 10am

All meetings will be held in Hendricks Hall



# How to Contribute: Annual Fund

Instead of having our children and parents participate in fundraising projects that raise more for the companies sponsoring the sale than for our school, an Annual Fund donation by each family supports the efforts of Home & School at Saint Brigid of Kildare. Each dollar raised goes directly to school projects and improvement. Because of this, we will never ask you or your children to sell items door to door to raise money for our school.

The Annual Fund supports the efforts of our Home & School, including welcome and tours, artists and authors in the school, class parties, class field trips, teacher appreciation, playground supplies, student organizations (ALSO programs), school musicals, new family welcome, classroom wish lists and the teacher education fund, among others.

The general suggested request is \$125 per student in order to meet the needs of the school programs the fund supports. However, any amount is appreciated.

Your early contribution to the fund is appreciated as some school programs begin at the start of the school year.

**Contribute Online**

Visit [www.stbrigidofkildare.com](http://www.stbrigidofkildare.com) and search "Annual Fund."



# How to Contribute: Gifts of Gratitude

Gifts of gratitude was established by the Home & School Association as a united effort to provide a generous monetary gift to every school and parish teacher and staff member at Christmas and the end of the year to thank them for all they do for our children.

## Why participate?

This is a convenient way for families to make sure that each teacher, aide, and staff member who touches your child's life is recognized for all they do at St. Brigid. Instead of several small gifts from each student, each teacher and staff member will receive a monetary gift that they choose how to use--whether they want to splurge on themselves or help with their own family's expenses.

## Will my family be recognized for participating?

Yes -- the teachers and staff will receive a list of families who participate in this program. You may also let the teachers and staff know that you participated in the program by marking "G.O.G" inside your Christmas card.

## How much do I give?

The suggested annual gift amount is \$30 per child once a year, however any given amount is graciously accepted!



**Contribute Online**

Visit [www.stbrigidofkildare.com](http://www.stbrigidofkildare.com) and search "Gifts of Gratitude."

# Earn Rewards for the School

## Kroger Community Rewards

Register your Kroger Plus card to St. Brigid of Kildare Elementary School. It costs you nothing, and Kroger will donate a portion of your purchases back to us.



1. Sign in to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) or create an account.
2. Click "I'm a customer" then sign in with your account or create a new account.
3. Search "St. Brigid of Kildare" or 82139. Select and Save.

## Box Tops for Education

Cut out and collect those Box Tops! St. Brigid earns cash through the Box Tops for Education program. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents! See [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for program details.



1. Download the BoxTop app and scan your receipts. St. Brigid earns cash through the Box Tops for Education program. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents. See [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for program details.

# Earn Credit for Tuition



RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

## **RaiseRight (formerly Scrip): Buy Gift Cards ⇔ Save money on your child's 2024-2025 tuition!**

Earn credit towards your child's 2024-2025 tuition by buying electronic or physical gift cards from RaiseRight to pay for your everyday shopping and spending year-round including groceries, dining out, home improvement, and everything in between. One hundred percent (100%) of your RaiseRight earnings (from April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024) is credited to your family's Saint Brigid account for the following year's tuition (2024-2025). St. Brigid does not receive any percentage of the earnings from the RaiseRight program.

How it Works:

- Use the RaiseRight website or app to order gift cards at face value from 750+ brands
  - Pick from eGift cards and physical gift cards
    - eGift cards are available within minutes
    - Physical gift cards orders are only processed by St Brigid once a month according to a set schedule (with delivery ~1 week later)
- Pay via a linked bank account
  - \$0.29 fee on each transaction
- Earn from 1-to-20% towards your child's 2024-2025 tuition on every gift card you buy

For more information and for the school's enrollment code, please contact the RaiseRight chair, Mary Kate Wing ([wingmkt@gmail.com](mailto:wingmkt@gmail.com)).

# 2023-24 Home & School Directory

## HOME & SCHOOL CHAIR POSITIONS

### **Co-Chairs: Ashley Jones (ashleypaigejones1@gmail.com), Venessa Lookabough (vmlook04@gmail.com)**

The co-chairs are responsible for overseeing all the Home & School committees and working with administration on special events. The co-chairs serve a one year term following a one year term as vice co-chairs. Time commitment: moderate and consistent and includes attending monthly Home & School meetings and assisting administration with special events.

### **Vice Co-Chairs: Sarah Graf (sarahstarks77@gmail.com), Heather Cesarz (heather.j.cesarz@gmail.com)**

The vice co-chairs assist the co-chairs in overseeing the committees and special school events. The Co-Chairs are also responsible for overseeing the Gifts of Gratitude program in December and May and recognizing birthdays of office staff. They are also responsible for helping manage holiday and end of year gifts for the entire St. Brigid Staff. The position is a one year term before filling a one year term as Co-Chairs. Time commitment: moderate and consistent. The co-chairs should attend the monthly Home & School meetings.

### **Secretary: Gabrielle Graf Palmer (gabrielle827@gmail.com)**

The secretary is responsible for taking notes at each Home & School meeting and providing copies of those notes to the group. Time commitment: moderate and consistent. The secretary must attend each Home & School meeting which are approximately an hour long.

### **Treasurer: Wendy Metz (Wendylrich@hotmail.com)**

The treasurer is responsible for working with the co- chairs to determine the yearly budget for Home & School. The treasurer also handling reimbursement requests from other committee members. Time commitment: moderate and requires timely processing of reimbursement requests. The treasurer is also required to maintain and report on budget vs actual expenses and attend monthly meetings.

### **Annual Fund: Ashley Jones (ashleypaigejones1@gmail.com), Venessa Lookabough (vmlook04@gmail.com), Sarah Moore (smoore@stbrigidofkildare.org)**

This position works with Sarah Moore in the parish office to send communication and follow up with families regarding the annual fund campaign. Time commitment: minimal throughout the year and moderate in the beginning of the year when the annual fund campaign kicks off.

### **Display Case: Heather Cesarz (heather.j.cesarz@gmail.com)**

This position is responsible for maintaining and decorating the display case in the main hallway by the cafeteria. Time commitment: moderate and consistent.

**Sign Up**

Sign up online at [stbrigidofkildare.com](http://stbrigidofkildare.com), search "home and school".

**RaiseRight: Mary Kate Wing (wingmkt@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates the purchase and distribution of gift card ordered by school families that are registered in the Scrip program. Families receive a tuition reduction in the form of a rebate based on their families' participation in the Scrip program. Time commitment: moderate and consistent as orders occur regularly.

**School Rewards: Mary Kate Wing (wingmkt@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates school reward programs such as Box Tops for education. Time commitment: moderate and consistent throughout the year.

**Spirit Wear: Shauna Durant (shaunadurant@gmail.com), Jamie Erickson (coylej@sbcglobal.net)**

This position coordinates the sale of and distribution of spirit wear. Time commitment: consistent but minimal.

**School Supplies: Jennifer Musser (jmusserfamily@aol.com), Sarah Gable (sarahjogable@gmail.com)**

This position is responsible for coordinating the ordering of school supply kits and distributing the kits to the child's classroom. Time commitment: moderate in May and August and minimal throughout the year.

**Outreach: Megan Frantz (megan.frantz13@gmail.com)**

Work with Ms. O'Reilly to organize collection drives as needed. Time commitment: minimal and as needed.

## HOME & SCHOOL COMMITTEES

**Gifts of Gratitude: Sarah Graf (sarahstarks77@gmail.com), Heather Cesarz (heather.j.cesarz@gmail.com)**

The gifts of gratitude (GOG) committee is responsible for planning staff appreciation events, holiday and end of the year party and organizing collections for the gifts. Time commitment for chairs: minimal throughout the year and moderate in December and May. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers on this committee will assist the chairs in planning the staff parties and organizing collections for the gifts.

**Library: Bridget DeSocio (mrs.desocio@stbrigid-school.org)**

Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers can sign up for shifts which are typically a couple hours, and can sign up for as many or few as they would like.

**Barn Bash: Annie Knapke (bannie3@yahoo.com), Ashley Storey (ashleymueller.173@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates the yearly barn bash at Leeds Farm which occurs every October. Time commitment for chairs: moderate from September-October and minimal through the rest of the year.. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers on the committee are asked to assist for a few hours the night of the event. Opportunities include working check in, serving food, helping with set up, etc.

**Field Day: Molly Seago (molly@seagosolutions.net), Jessica Freiburger (3freixys@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates the end of year field day celebration with activities provided by SuperGames. Time commitment for chairs: moderate in May and minimal through the rest of the year. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers on the committee are asked to help the day of the event which is held in May with supervision, serving food, etc.

**Sign Up** 

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**Hospitality: Sara Norton (nortonsarae@yahoo.com), Megan Frantz (megan.frantz13@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates the supply of refreshments, snacks, and light meals for school and teacher functions including early release meeting once a month. Time commitment for chairs: moderate and consistent. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers on the committee can sign up to provide cookies, snacks, drinks, etc on a monthly basis for teacher meetings and as needed throughout the year.

**Hounds Hoopla: Stephanie Franklin (stephaniefranklin93@yahoo.com), Jill Ferrara (jillvferrara@gmail.com), Alison Mack (alisonmack82@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates and plans the Hounds Hoopla night which is normally held in February. Time commitment for chairs: moderate in January and February and minimal throughout the year. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers on the committee can sign up to help during the event, to donate prizes for bingo, etc. The commitment would be a few hours the night of the event.

**Room Parent: Jennifer Obers (Jennifer.obers@gmail.com), Leila Ulrich (lmulrich@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates the selection of room parents and assists at all school parties, and helps assist room parents with planning 1-2 parent-only socials per school year. Time commitment for chairs: moderate and consistent. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Room parent volunteers help coordinate classroom parties, plan parent-only socials, teacher birthday recognition, etc. The time commitment for volunteers is moderate and consistent throughout the year.

**School Tours: Meredith Dorley (mrs.dorley@stbrigid-school.org)**

Meredith schedules tours for new families as needed. She submits requests to the volunteers who can select what dates and times work best in their schedule. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers can be added to Meredith's list and can select the dates and times of tours that best work in their schedule.

**New Family Welcome: Jackie Pervan (abba414@gmail.com), Laura Campbell (laurascanlan@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates assigning a new family mentor volunteer with each new family. Time commitment for chairs: minimal throughout the year and moderate in July/August. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers will mentor new families and provide support to help these families with their transition into St. Brigid.

**Uniform Exchange: Erin Heise (erinjolene@hotmail.com), Gracie Dziewiatkowski (marygracedzski@gmail.com)**

This position coordinates and organizes the uniform exchange which occurs twice a year—typically in August and February. Time commitment for chairs: moderate in August and February and minimal throughout the year. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers can help the day of the event in August and February to sort and organize clothing.

**Recess: Gina Roszman (gpadney@gmail.com)**

This position works closely with and assists recess staff in coordinating and ordering supplies and equipment needed for recess, as well as manages inventory. Time commitment for chairs: moderate and consistent.

**Volunteers at Large: Jessica Freiburger (3freixys@gmail.com)**

This position is responsible for coordinating volunteer needs for the entire school, including the need for 7th and 8th grade volunteers. This position uses a Volunteer at Large distribution list to reach out as needs arise. Time commitment for chairs: moderate and sporadic. Volunteer opportunities within the committee: Volunteers can sign up to be included on an all school email list that solicits volunteers on an as needed basis. Some examples might include volunteering to donate time or items to school events. The commitment is sporadic and you can choose your level of commitment on a case by case basis.





## Want to get involved in Home & School?

**Sign Up**

Sign up online at [stbrigidofkildare.com](http://stbrigidofkildare.com), search "home and school".

## Questions?

Contact 2023-24 Co-Chairs:

Venessa Lookabaugh, [vmlook04@gmail.com](mailto:vmlook04@gmail.com), 419-618-5611

Ashley Jones, [ashleypaigejones1@gmail.com](mailto:ashleypaigejones1@gmail.com), 440-781-9574