

ST. BENEDICT'S SCHOOL SCRIP PROGRAM Q & A

WHAT IS SCRIP? Primarily, it is a gift card program. The school buys gift cards at a discount and sells them for the regular price. On average, 5%-7% goes to the school (see the order forms for exact percentages). There is also an e-scrip program that can benefit the school (see below). Scrip is an important fundraising tool at St. Benedict School.

WHERE CAN I LEARN/READ MORE ABOUT THE SCRIP PROGRAM? The St. Benedict's School website: www.stbens.net/parents/scrip-program/. You can investigate the scrip and e-scrip programs there.

WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL ANNUAL FUNDRAISING FOR THE SCRIP PROGRAM? Depending on numbers of families participating in the program annually and consistently, the school could realistically raise \$30,000- \$50,000. St. Catherine raises over \$25,000/year while St. John raises over \$65,000/year with scrip. In the 2010-2011 school year, St. Benedict's net income raised was almost \$13,000. In the 2013-2014 school year, St. Benedict's raised \$16,000. If most households participate regularly (every month), our scrip income could be much higher.

WHAT IS SCRIP INCOME USED FOR? Scrip contributes \$10,000 to the school's general operating budget. Other monies can be assigned to special projects or needs.

DOES SCRIP REQUIRE PAYING MORE FOR THINGS? No, you do not pay extra. You use the gift card for the listed value to purchase the things you normally buy, with whatever discounts or coupons you may have. Scrip cards are just the form of payment, like cash, checks, and credit cards.

IS BUYING SCRIP A DONATION? No.

WHAT IS THE E-SCRIP PROGRAM? E-scrip is a separate program from the gift cards. You REGISTER YOUR CREDIT CARDS and selected membership cards (such as Safeway) online through the St. Benedict's website e-scrip page. Every time you use that credit card at a participating store or restaurant, the school gets a percentage of the sales. Find the full details at www.stbens.net/parents/scrip-program/.

WHAT KIND OF GIFT CARDS DOES ST. BENEDICT'S OFFER? A huge variety of store types: grocery stores, restaurants, home, apparel, sports, entertainment, office, gas, pharmacy, and Chinook Coupon books. For a full list, see the Long Scrip Order Form online at www.stbens.net/parents/scrip-program/.

Groceries: Safeway, QFC/Fred Meyer, Whole Foods, PCC, Metropolitan Market, Walmart, etc.

Restaurants: Anthony's, Burger King, California Pizza Kitchen, Cheesecake Factory, Fainting Goat Gelato, Jack In the Box, Neighborhood Grills, Panera, Peet's Coffee & Tea, Red Robbin, See's Candy, Starbucks, Subway, Zoe Yogurt, etc.

Home: Bed, Bath, & Beyond, Crate & Barrel, Home Depot, Lowe's, Pottery Barn, Ross, Sears, etc.

Apparel & Sports: Big 5, Cabela's, Claire's, Dennis Uniform, Eddie Bauer, Gap, Gymboree, JC Penny's, Jo Ann Fabrics, L.L. Bean, Land's End, Macy's, REI, Ross, Sears, Sephora, Target, TJ Maxx, Walmart, etc.

Entertainment: Amazon.com, AMC Theaters, American Girl, Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, iTunes, Regal Cinemas, Shutterfly, etc.

Office: Office Depot, Office Max, etc.

Gas: Shell Gas, Chevron gas, etc.

Pharmacies: Pharmaca, Walgreens, etc.

Other: Chinook Book (coupon book for area) & Chinook apps (for Iphone & Droid).

DO THE GIFT CARDS EXPIRE? No, there is no expiration date.

CAN THE GIFT CARDS BE USED NATIONWIDE? Yes.

DO I HAVE TO USE THE WHOLE CARD AT ONE TIME? No. Use it like a credit card until the balance is used up. When the card is partly used, you can jot the new balance on the card with a sharpie pen.

HOW DO I ORDER SCRIP GIFT CARDS?

- The immediate way: at the scrip sales table at school on Wed & Fri from 8:15 – 8:45 AM, or after mass in the church vestibule on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.
- The less immediate way: send your order form and check in your child’s backpack in the Thursday envelope. Your order will be filled the following Thursday.
- The ongoing way: Use the Standing Order form to receive scrip regularly.
- Note: For large or special orders, you can email the scrip committee, because they may take a little extra time to get. Contact scrip@stbens.net or cobaltelu@hotmail.com.
- Card Re-Load: reload select cards, such as PCC, Safeway, Starbucks, gas cards, etc. Register with www.Shopwithscrip.com and we can help you get set to re-load your cards.

WHAT IS SCRIP RELOAD? Reloading is adding money back onto cards that you already purchased from us. You can do this with PCC direct at PCC stores. You can do this online with Shopwithscrip.com for many other cards. Contact Elizabeth at cobaltelu@hotmail.com for help getting set up for reloads.

HOW DO I GET AN ORDER FORM? Get a form either at the scrip sales table or online at www.stbens.net/parents/scrip-program/. Print the Long Form off the website as it isn’t always at the sales table.

WHAT ARE THE SHORT AND LONG ORDER FORMS? The Short Form is the list of over 50 scrip cards that are regularly stocked at the sales table. The Long Form has additional cards that can be special-ordered.

WHAT IS A STANDING ORDER? A Standing Order is an order you place for gift cards, such as grocery stores, to receive over time on an ongoing basis. For instance, one grocery card/ week. Standing orders can be delivered in your Thursday envelope.

WHAT IF I WANT A LARGER VALUE CARD THAN WHAT IS ON THE SHORT FORM? See the Long Order Form—many can be ordered with higher values. Or, talk to someone on the scrip team.

WHAT IF I WANT SOMETHING REGULARLY THAT IS NOT IN STOCK/ON THE SHORT FORM? Tell the scrip committee and they will either get it regularly for you personally or, if there seems to be demand, they may decide to put it on the Short Form for everyone.

WHAT IF I SHOP/ EAT SOMEWHERE REGULARLY BUT THE SCHOOL DOESN’T SELL SCRIP FOR THAT STORE/RESTAURANT? Ask the scrip committee if they can get cards for that store. Some cards we offer are on the list because we contacted them: Grills restaurants, Zoe Yogurt, Anthony’s, & Fainting Goat Gelato.

WHAT IF I WANT TO GIVE PRESENTS BUT NOT GIFT CARDS? Buy gift cards and use them yourself to buy the special gifts you want to give. Only give gift cards if you want to.

HOW DO I CONTACT THE SCRIP TEAM? Email scrip@stbens.net, cobaltelu@hotmail.com, or visit a sales table.

HOW DO I TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT HOW TO BETTER USE THE SCRIP PROGRAM? Contact Elizabeth at cobaltelu@hotmail.com or someone at a scrip sales table. We can help you plan your scrip buying.

DOES THE SCRIP PROGRAM NEED VOLUNEERS? Yes! If you are interested in helping with sales, publicity, inventory, or other, contact the scrip team through scrip@stbens.net or the sales table.