



INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

403 S 15th Street, Indianola, IA 50125
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<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/school/indianola-middle-school/>



WEEK OF AUGUST 15, 2022...

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year!

IMS News will be sent to student and parent email addresses every Monday throughout the school year. It will provide you with general information and upcoming event details that you may need to know. This week's newsletter will focus on answers to questions you may have as the year gets started. We know that there are many things to remember, so please contact us whenever you have questions or concerns. We want to do our part in making this a great year for you and your student.

6th Grade Orientation Tuesday, August 16 For Students Only

Parents and students were emailed orientation information last week.
Please refer to those messages for all the details.

Sapphire Team: 9:00-10:30

Emerald Team: 10:45-12:15

Drop off students at main entrance by the flagpole. Pick up students at the Blake Fieldhouse.

See you tomorrow, 6th graders!

7th & 8th Grade Open House Monday, August 22nd

Open House for 7th & 8th graders will be Monday evening, August 22, from 6:00-7:00. Doors will open at 5:30, but teachers may not be available at that time.

Paper copies of schedules will not be distributed. **Students should bring their computers to look up their schedules and locker information.**

Click [Supply List](#) to see what items your student will need this year.

Student Schedules

Student schedules will be released and viewable on PowerSchool sometime during the day on Monday, August 15th.

***PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THERE STILL COULD BE ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THE SCHEDULES BETWEEN NOW AND THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL*.**

If You Aren't Able to Donate Time but Want to Help the School in Some Way, IMS Can Always Use...

- *Dry erase markers, any color
- *Sharpies, regular or fine tip, any color
- *Pens—red, blue, or black
- *Scotch tape
- *Facial tissues
- *Notebook paper
- *Antibacterial wipes

Students can drop off items during 6th grade orientation, 7th/8th open house, or the first days of school. Boxes will be placed throughout the building. Thank you!

IMS School Hours

7:50: Students report to first class

8:00: School begins

3:20: School ends (2:20 on Wednesdays)

Parents, we are encouraging you to drop your child off as close to 7:50 as possible. Students should not arrive at school before 7:30, unless they are in a supervised activity.

There are designated waiting areas for students who arrive before 7:50: 8th grade—fieldhouse, 7th grade—Street Gym, 6th grade—tables in front of library.

Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:30. Students should go directly to the cafeteria if they will be eating.

Please refer to the [22-23 IMS Handbook](#) for all procedures, policies, and guidelines.

Office Information

Phone Numbers: 515.961.9530 Main Office 515.961.9535 Fax
Attendance Line: 515.961.9530 x3162
Principal: Mrs. Kristy Ellis
Asst. Principal: Mr. Mike O'Meara
6th Grade Counselor: Ms. Tina Chaplin (x3151)
7th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Tiffany Cochran (x3116)
8th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Lacey Cherniss (x3106)
Office Hours: 7:00am – 4:00 (3:30 on Fridays)

Food Service

For information regarding menus, free/reduced lunches/online payments/account information, please click on the link below:

<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/departments/food-service/>

Where to Drop Off and Pick Up Your Students

Students are to be dropped off at the main entrance or fieldhouse entrance in the mornings. Students not involved in morning sports or activities should not arrive before 7:30 a.m.

The 6th grade pick-up zone after school is the fieldhouse parking lot. The 7th grade pick-up zone is the west parking lot in front of the stadium. The 8th grade pick-up zone is the main entrance parking lot. If you have multiple students, you may select the pick-up zone you would like to use.

Lunches

6th Grade: 11:42-12:12; 11:50-12:20 Wed
7th Grade: 10:55-11:25; 11:10-11:40 Wed
8th Grade: 12:29-12:59; 12:30-1:00 Wed

*Please label lunch boxes and bags with child's name.

*No food deliveries from outside vendors will be accepted; parents must deliver the food themselves, and it must be labeled with student's name.

*No caffeinated drinks

*Parents/guardians may only sign *their* child out for lunch; your child's friend may not leave with you unless his/her parent is also with you.

District Website:

<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/>

Information Technology Department:

<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/departments/information-technology/>

Middle School Website Page

<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/school/indianola-middle-school/>

Late Arrivals, Early Dismissals, Absences

Attendance Line Phone Number: 515.961.9530 x3162.
(Please call this extension to report Absences and Late Arrivals.)

Late Arrivals: All students arriving to school after 8:00 will enter through the main entrance and check in to the office. If possible, please call to notify the office before 8:00 or send a note with student stating the reason for the tardy. You do not need to accompany your child into the school for late arrivals.

Early Dismissals: Please notify a secretary in advance if you will be picking your student up early. That way, we can give them a pass to leave the room quietly when it's time. You can do this by having your student bring a note to the office before 8:00, or by calling 515.961.9530 by 8:00, if possible. We ask that you give us notice so that we can avoid disrupting classrooms with phone calls requesting that a child leave the room. A parent/guardian must come into the building to meet their child.

Absences: Please call the attendance line by 8:00 when your student will be absent. Clearly state the child's name, grade, date of absence, and reason for absence. Students may request homework directly from their teachers via email when they are absent two or more days. They can also check Powerschool class pages.

Requesting a Bus Pass

If your child needs to ride the bus home with a friend, the Transportation department must receive a parent request ***no fewer than 3 business days before the day of the trip*** to allow proper planning. Passes normally will be approved as long as there is room on the bus and the request is submitted on time. To contact the Transportation department, please call 515.961.9592 or email wendy.gehringer@indianola.k12.ia.us.

PowerSchool

PowerSchool is the district's student information system. [Here](#) is a link to the PowerSchool Parent & Guardian Success site. You will find helpful information to log in, set up notifications, check fines/fees, use the mobile app, and much more.

Please Note: There is an important notice posted on the site regarding a change to the parent portal. You will see it highlighted in gold.

**TIM McCONNELL PHOTOGRAPHY WILL BE TAKING STUDENTS' FALL PICTURES
ON SEPTEMBER 15.**

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, August 23: First day of school
Monday, September 5: No School, Labor Day
Thursday, September 15: Fall pictures
October 11-13: Conferences
Friday, October 14: No School
Monday, October 17: No School
Tuesday, November 22: One Hour Early Dismissal (2:20 for IMS)
November 23-25: No School, Thanksgiving Break
December 22: One Hour Early Dismissal (2:20 for IMS)
December 23 – January 3: No School, Winter Break

Parent Facebook Groups

Want to know all of the school and community activities for your child's class? Join their Indianola Parent FB group! These pages are designed to be an inclusive catchall for activities, clubs, events, success stories, and opportunities to support IMS.

2027 (8th Grade): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/308102234349293/>
2028 (7th Grade): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1386800961472755/>
2029 (6th Grade): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/509461217003504/>

One way in which the FB groups are currently supporting IMS:

Welcome Back Teacher Snacks

Our Indianola Middle School Teachers have a fun year ahead of them with our kiddos. Help provide the 2022-23 staff with snacks for the August 19th Educators Training Day. Donations may be made in form of snack item or funds. If you would like to participate, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4caea92aa0fdc07-welcome>

Check Out the District Event Calendar

Below is a link to the district's event calendar. You'll find dates, times, and locations for sports, music, and various other events in which our students are participating on this site.

<https://www.littlehawkeyeconference.com/public/genie/206/school/645/>

We Want our Students to be Involved!

There are many ways for students to get involved at school. Just a few of the groups and clubs offered are Mock Trial, DAA, Yearbook Staff, Art Club, MathCounts, and many more!

Here is a link to the Activities section of the IMS webpage:

<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/school/indianola-middle-school/activities/>

Fall Sports for 7th and 8th Graders

Practices for fall sports (Football, Cross Country, and Volleyball) will begin on the first day of school, August 23rd. Students must turn in these three forms before they can practice or participate: physical, insurance waiver, and concussion form. The [forms](#) can be found on the MS Athletics page.

If you missed the sign-up that was emailed to parents during the summer, students can still join.

Please email the student's name, grade, and sport they would like to join to

ben.lange@indianola.k12.ia.us.

Mock Trial

It's so much more than a play! Mock Trial students are expected to thoroughly learn a court case, immersing themselves in a role on each of the plaintiff's and defendant's sides. Local attorneys and/or judges volunteer their time to coach each team of 8-10 students.

Parent meeting will be August 25, 2022 at 5:30 PM in room 303. The first practice will be August 30, 2022, at 5:30 PM in Room 303. Here is the schedule link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VOVjle2ZLTelyXlldijAEpTG42-3A6mytXAlgiwMgc/edit?usp=sharing>

Here is the link to sign up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-4GDNpcAFYL_TOaPtguuk45I0zOaU_n0KvRfg-UoP6bdkg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Activity Passes

Students will receive an ID card on the first day of school. If you purchased an activity pass for your child, there will be a peach "22" sticker attached to the ID. If you purchased one but there is not a sticker, remind your child to stop in to the main office to get it. Students will be reminded of this during daily announcements, as well.

If you haven't purchased an activity pass, there is still time. The cost is \$50 and it allows your student entry into home high school and middle school athletic events and some music events. You may purchase this pass in the front office (check or exact cash only) or click [here](#) and select Activity Tickets.



The Zone is returning! The first day will be Monday, September 19. All IMS students are invited to join the fun after school on Mondays and Thursdays during the school year from 3:20 to 5:00.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Student Council

Congratulations to the following students who will be Student Council elects and representatives for 7th and 8th grade during the 22-23 school year. Sixth grade will be determined the first week of school. Thank you to all who participated.

7th Grade Members:

Gracie Ritchie
Jack Brown
Quinten Harris
Jackson Pribil
Gabe Williams
Maya Whalen
Zay Neal

Student Reps:

Bryce Boyd
Leilahni Chiaramonte
Tate Brewer
Ella Foster

8th Grade Members:

Aubrey Griffin
George Blake
Eli Paxson
Alexa Guyer
Charlie Steen
Kingston Bloom
Wes Nailor

Student Reps:

Isaiah Thomsen
Riley Holmes
Hadley Erickson
Lizzie Runyan
Leia Graham
Thomas DeWall
Haley New

Associates Needed at IMS

Do you want to earn extra cash? Do you want to be off in the summers? Do you want to make a difference in children's lives? Do you want to work with a fun, supportive team?

If so, become a Special Education Associate at Indianola Middle School! We have openings for the upcoming 22-23 school year, and we'd love to have you join us.

Click [Apply](#) for more information.

Thinking of Substitute Teaching?

Schools everywhere are in need of substitute teachers. Here is a way to get authorized through AEA Learning Online.

Indianola's current sub pay is \$140 per day. Please share this with anyone you know who might be interested.

<https://training.aealearningonline.org/course/2204419999/catalog>

If You'd Like an Indianola Logo at Your House...

Indianola Whittier Elementary PTO is excited to announce Whittier's first fundraising opportunity of the year. Anyone in Indianola is able to purchase a slot to have the Indianola Logo painted on your driveway or back patio. Please follow the link below to sign up below (paper copies will be available at the Whittier office starting August 8th.) Sign up quick as spots will fill quickly! You won't want to miss out of supporting the students of Whittier! Payment can be sent via Venmo @WhittierPTO or you can drop off cash or check (Whittier PTO) to Whittier starting on August 8th.

<https://forms.gle/KE7PYRGMjLSyc4uF8>