



# INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

403 S 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianola, IA 50125  
PHONE 515.961.9530 FAX 515.961.9535  
<https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/school/indianola-middle-school/>



## WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 2018

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! IMS News will be sent to your email address 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.



## SCHOOL NEWS...

### Open House

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Open House times for 6<sup>th</sup> grade are determined by teams. When looking at your child's schedule (which is on PowerSchool), If you see Davis for Science and McCollom for Social Studies, your child is on Legacy. Your Open House time is Tuesday, August 21, 6-7 p.m. If you see Dietl for Science and Larsen for Social Studies, your child is on Discovery. Your Open House time is 7-8 p.m. on Tuesday.

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades:** Open House time is 6-7 p.m. tonight.

IMS will also be open 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday for parents and students, but teachers will not be present during that time.

### Office Information

School Hours:	8:10 – 3:20 8:10 – 2:20 (Wednesdays)
Phone Numbers:	515.961.9530 Main Office 515.961.9535 Fax
Attendance Line:	515.961.9530 x3162
Principal:	Mrs. Annette Jauron
Asst. Principal:	Mr. Mike O'Meara
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:	Miss Anna Wernimont
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:	Mrs. Lacey Cherniss
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:	Ms. Tina Chaplin

### Odd and Even Days

When you see on the schedule or you hear the staff refer to days as Odd or Even, they are not referring to the calendar *date*. IMS is on a 2-day academic calendar:

Odd=Day 1; Even=Day 2

## End of Day Pick-Up Alternative

To lessen the congestion at the main pick-up loop after school, you may use the west pick-up loop, as well. Students will need to leave through the 7<sup>th</sup> grade hallway to access this. \*\*This is for pick-ups only. No drop-offs\*\*

## School District Website

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

## Middle School Page

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

## Join the Middle School on Twitter!

@MSIndianola



## 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/>

## Lunches

**6th Grade:** 10:56-11:26 (10:57-11:27 on Wednesdays)

**7th Grade:** 12:28-12:58 (11:39-12:09 on Wednesdays)

**8th Grade:** 11:42-12:12 (12:21-12:51 on Wednesdays)

\*Guests having lunch with a student must stop into the office first for a visitor's badge. You will be asked to provide a picture ID.

\*Please label lunch boxes and bags with child'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.

## 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 8:10 will enter through the main entrance and check in to the office. If possible, please call to notify the office before 8:10 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 him 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 8:10, or by calling 515.961.9530 by 8:10, 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 office and sign their student out when leaving early.

**Absences:** Please call the attendance line by 8:10 when your student will be absent. Clearly state the child's name, grade, date of absence, and reason for absence. Homework may be requested when a student is absent for two or more days. Please make those requests before 9:00 to have the work ready for a pick-up time between 2:30 and 4:00.

## Attendance Policy—Please Read

Dear Parent/Guardians:

Welcome to the Indianola Community School District. Regular attendance is essential for students to obtain maximum benefits from the educational opportunities provided at school. Every day at school is important. Written assignments and reading selections are only a portion of the “work” and classroom activities that take place during the school day. Iowa Code Chapter 299 requires compulsory daily school attendance for students 6-16 years of age. Our District staff continues the commitment to seeing our school’s academic programs improve. Maximizing children’s achievement must begin with daily attendance and we feel it is everyone’s responsibility. Daily school attendance must start at home with the importance and value of education being stressed. It is vital for the Indianola Community School District to build on this value, maintaining the essential partnership between school and home to ensure daily attendance. If your child is absent, Iowa Code 299 and District board policy 501.9 allows excused absences for the following reasons:

1. Illness
2. Family emergencies
3. Recognized religious observances and funeral services
4. Medical appointments that cannot be scheduled outside the school day and school-sponsored or approved activities

The parent/guardian of the student must send a note and/or notify the middle school main office to clear any of these excused absences. Failure to notify the office of the absence will result in a recorded unexcused absence on the student’s permanent record. Be advised that our District Board policy 501.3 requires the parent of a child to provide evidence of the child's mental and physical inability to attend school

Unexcused attendance includes, but is not limited to, the following conditions:

- A student is absent from school or assigned area without the knowledge and consent of school personnel or parent. Truancy is the act of being absent without a reasonable excuse. These absences will include, but not be limited to: tardiness, shopping, hunting, concerts, preparation or participation in parties and other celebrations, and employment.
- A student leaves the school building, grounds, or any assigned area without first obtaining permission from the nurse, office personnel, teacher or administrator.
- A student does not report to a class or other assigned area as required.

We understand that being absent from school is sometimes necessary. However, Indianola Middle School staff believes that students missing school no matter what the reason jeopardizes their ability to effectively use the school program. Effective communication and notification are first steps toward improving student attendance. School staff may request your attendance at a conference when your child is absent from school for reasons that are not excused. Please review the attendance information located on page 7-10 of the Indianola Middle School Handbook with your child and take the necessary measures to correct any potential attendance problems. We appreciate your assistance in making school attendance a priority.

Thank you for your support.

Indianola Middle School



## ACTIVITY INFO...

### We Want our Students to be Involved!

There are many ways for students to get involved at school. Just a few of the groups or clubs offered are Geography Club, Mock Trial, DAA, Yearbook Staff, MathCounts, plus 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/>

### Athletics

Practice starts Thursday, August 23, for:

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Football

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Cross Country

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Volleyball

Parent meetings and the kick-off assembly for the athletic fundraiser will be held that evening after practices. Please go to the [Digital Backpack](#) and select *Beginning of Year Athletic Info* for details.

### Indianola Basketball Association

#### 2018 Tryout Dates for 6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys

This year, Indianola Basketball Association will be hosting tryouts for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball teams. These teams will compete through the IBA League.

Who: Any middle school boy interested in playing competitive basketball

Where: Blake Field House

When: Sunday, September 30 and Sunday, October 7

For all the details, click [here](#) and select Digital Backpack toward the middle of the page. You will find IBA Tryouts in the Athletics section of the backpack.

### 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 red "18" 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. The first varsity home football game is August 31.

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 (cash or check only) or click [here](#) and select Middle School.



The Zone, a free after school program for middle school students, will start on Monday, September 10. It runs from 3:20 to 5:00 Mondays and Thursdays during the school year.

Please contact Becky Lane, Recreation Coordinator at Indianola Parks & Recreation, for details: 961-9420 or [blane@indianolaiowa.gov](mailto:blane@indianolaiowa.gov).

## Watch School Events Online!

If you missed your child's concert, game, etc., and wish there was a way to see it, you may be in luck! The following link will take you to the High School Sports Network-Indianola page. You will find several events listed for all grades in the Indianola district.

<http://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/indianola-high-school-indianola-ia>

## 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/>



**GENERAL  
INFORMATION...**

## SmartSocial.com

Parents, SmartSocial.com is a website that contains concise and up-to-date information regarding how to keep your teen safe online. There are free blogs, webinars, and articles. You can sign up for weekly tips.

The company offers additional content at a cost. The intent of including this site in the newsletter is not to promote that part of the company or to give them free advertising, however. The free content mentioned above has been very relevant, so the decision was made to share this resource with you.

## Washington D.C. Trip

Mr. Dubczak will be hosting an informational meeting in room 501 on Tuesday, September 11, at 7:00 p.m. for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents to talk about next summer's D.C. trip. The trip will take place June 7-11, 2019. No commitment is required at this time

This is not a school-sponsored trip.

Students, parents, employees and others doing business with or performing services for the Indianola Community School District are hereby notified that this school district does not discriminate on the basis of age (except students), race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, creed or marital status in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs and activities.

The school district does not discriminate on the basis of age (except students), race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, creed or marital status in admission or access to, or treatment in, its hiring and employment practices. Any person having inquiries concerning the school district's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), § 504 or Iowa Code § 280.3 is directed to contact:

504 Coordinator  
Indianola Community School District  
1304 East 2nd Avenue  
Indianola, IA 50125  
515 961-9500

who has been designated by the school district to coordinate the school district's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the ADA, § 504 and Iowa Code 280.3 (2007).

**Anti-Bullying/Harassment (Ref. School Board Policy 104)** Harassment and bullying of students and employees are against federal, state and local policy, and are not tolerated by the board. The board is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. To that end, the board has in place policies, procedures, and practices that are designed to reduce and eliminate bullying and harassment as well as processes and procedures to deal with incidents of bullying and harassment. Bullying and harassment of students by other students, by school employees, and by volunteers who have direct contact with students will not be tolerated in the school or school district. Concerns can be reported to the building administration by phone, email, or in person. Board Policy forms 04E1 and 104E2, along with additional bullying and harassment policy information can be obtained from the district website or from the main office.