



INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

403 S 15th 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 22, 2022...**

Students, we will see you tomorrow for the first day of school! It will be an Odd Day on your schedule.

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.

You Know You Really Want Some New Spirit Wear!

Embark Inc. is joining with IMS to help spread spirit throughout the district. You'll find t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, joggers, caps, and bags.

Orders will be accepted until midnight on September 8th. Orders will be ready within 2-3 weeks of the end date pending product availability. Due to the custom nature of our orders, all sales are final.

You can choose to have the items shipped directly to your home for an additional cost, or you can pick them up at Embark Inc. (103 W Salem). Anything that does not get picked up will be brought to IMS at an undetermined date.

Indianola Middle School would like to thank you for your support in spreading school spirit! The fundraiser will help support student and staff recognition, rewards, and activities throughout the school year. Thank you in advance.

****No changes/edits can be made to orders once they are placed. Requesting a change/edit will result in a cancellation of the original order and you will have to resubmit the entire order with the corrected information.**

DISCLAIMER: Prices are only valid when ordered as a team or group. Prices are subject to change from print cycle to print cycle. When items are not in stock and we cannot control shipment from our distributors, we reserve the right to substitute an equal quality product for a discontinued item from our distributor without notice to the purchaser. Colors and print size depicted in product images are estimated and are for mock up purposes only. Final product imprint size, color of garment, and inks may differ from pictures.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT A PRODUCT, PLEASE EMAIL US AT embarkink@gmail.com.

<https://indianola-middle-school-105185.square.site/>

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

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. Doors open at 7:00.

There are designated waiting areas for students who arrive before 7:50: 8th grade—fieldhouse, 7th grade—Street Gym, ~~6th grade—fieldhouse (revised)~~.

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.

The IMS Library is undergoing some changes this year and will not be available to students until later this week.

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/>

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.

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

Thank You to the IMS parents who provided snacks for the staff training day last week. Your generosity was much appreciated!

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.

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.

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/>

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.



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.

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/1VOVjle2ZLTelyXldijAEpTG42-3A6mytXAlgiwMgc/edit?usp=sharing>

Here is the link to sign up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-4-GDNpcAFYL_TOaPtguuk45IOz0aU_nOKvRfg-UoP6bdkg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Did You Buy an Activity Pass for Your Student?

Students will receive an ID card on the first day of school. If you purchased an activity pass for your child before August 17th, 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.

It is their responsibility to come to the office and get their sticker.

If You Want to Buy an Activity Pass...

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. **Your student will then need to come to the office to get the sticker for their ID.**

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>