



# 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**  
**December 13, 2021...**

## NAEP Assessment

Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, please watch for an email tomorrow explaining the NAEP Assessment, which will be administered on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Middle School Play

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Needed for Cast & Crew

### Auditions for Cast this Tuesday and Thursday

If you are in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade and are interested in being part of the middle school play *Once Upon a Fairytale*, click on the audition link below. **Auditions are this week Tuesday or Thursday from 3:30-5:00 in room 803.**

Beullah the Witch has a reputation to protect. She is the meanest, foulest, and scariest witch according to her magic mirror! That is until her niece becomes a teenager. Princess Rose is a real royal pain and has scared off almost every eligible bachelor...all except for the incredibly dim assistant shepherd, Jonathan. Beullah and her troll henchmen will stop at nothing to get back her dastardly reputation, even if they have to eat a few narrators along the way.

Sign up for ONE audition day. You can choose Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> OR Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:00

If you are interested in being part of the theater crew working behind the scenes (set, costumes, sound, lights, makeup, props, etc.), sign up to attend a meeting after break on January 6<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30-4:00 in room 803.

[Audition Sign-Up](#)

[Crew Sign-Up](#)

## Gift Idea for Students

If your student is in need of headphones to use at school, here are links to a few reasonably-priced suggestions:

[Walmart](#)

[Amazon-Maxell](#)

[Amazon-Panasonic](#)

### Winter Break Info \*Please Read\*

**Dismissal:** IMS will dismiss at 2:20 next Tuesday, 12-21

**Winter Break:** 12-22 thru 1-4, classes resume on 1-5

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent next week or that they need to be dismissed before 2:20 next Tuesday, please call or email the attendance line between now and 8:00 a.m. that day. Please notify us using only ONE of these methods:

\*Attendance Line: 515.961.9530 x3162

\*Email, [imsattendance@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:imsattendance@indianola.k12.ia.us)

Thank you.

### Winter Spirit Days Next Week

Monday, 12-20: Winter-themed pajamas

Tuesday, 12-21: Christmas sweaters/Santa hats

### Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, December 21: 1 Hour Early Dismissal (2:20 for IMS)

Wednesday, December 22 thru Tuesday, January 4: No School, Winter Break

Friday, January 14: No School

Monday, January 17: No School (No Zone)

Tuesday, February 15 thru Thursday, February 17: Conferences (School IS in session)

Friday, February 18: No School

Monday, March 14 thru Friday, March 18: Spring Break

Monday, April 11: No School

Friday, May 27: Last Day of School (1:50 Dismissal for IMS)

## **Yearbooks on Sale Now**

### **Price Goes UP in a Couple Weeks!**

Yearbooks are now on sale at [Jostens Yearbooks](#).

### **Buying online thru Jostens is the only option for buying a book!!**

**Books will be \$25 thru December 31<sup>st</sup>.** On January 1<sup>st</sup> thru February 28<sup>th</sup>, they will be \$30.

Books will arrive in May.

BE AWARE: YEARBOOK SALES WERE NOT OFFERED WITH REGISTRATION FEES. Ordering through the Jostens website or paying in person during conferences are the only ways to order.



## **SCHOOL NEWS...**

### **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/>

## **Have You Moved Recently? Will You be Moving?**

Please click [here](#), and go to the Change of Address section. A form must be completed, and you will need to provide proof of residence documentation. All info can be returned to Denise Moss at the district office, emailed to [enrollment@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:enrollment@indianola.k12.ia.us), or faxed to 515.961.9505.

Please allow at least three business days for transportation changes.

Call Denise at 515.961.9500 x1506 if you have questions.

## **From the ICSD Food Service Department:**

As schools across the country work diligently to finish last minute preparations for the new school year, we are being faced with unprecedented supply chain challenges. These issues are forcing us to alter our posted menus, at times with little to no notice. While our intention is to serve the posted menu each day at every building throughout the district, supply concerns will not make this possible throughout the year. We will attempt to substitute the original menu item with an item that is similar in nature, and still meets State and Federal requirements. We appreciate your patience and understanding! Please continue to check our online menus often at: <https://indianola.nutrislice.com/menu/>

**And, Reminder: Meals are free to all students again this year!**

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

## Free Tutoring Available on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Parents, if your middle school child is in need of some extra help, you can sign them up for tutoring. IMS teachers are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:40-4:30 in the library.

Please email or call your child's teacher in the subject where assistance is needed. Let them know that you would like your child to attend tutoring. Include the day(s) that your child will attend, and the date that they'll be starting. Also, include a phone number where you can be reached.

Our teachers are ready to help!

## 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  
**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:** Mrs. Tiffany Cochran  
**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:** Mrs. Lacey Cherniss  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:** Ms. Tina Chaplin  
**Office Hours:** 7:00am – 4:00 (3:30 on Fridays)

## Message Sent to Parents from Mrs. Ellis:

Hello, IMS parents...

I am asking for your help in making sure that communication between you and your child while they are at school is handled using the proper channels. We are finding that students are texting home without the knowledge of staff, and they are asking to be picked up from school when they are not feeling well.

If students are sick, they should visit the Health Office. The office staff can then reach out to parents to discuss their condition and whether there is a need to go home.

It is school policy that students are not to be using cell phones from 7:50 a.m. until the end of the day. If you need to talk with your child, please call the office at 515.961.9530, and we will get a message to them.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Thank you,

Mrs. Ellis  
Principal



## ACTIVITY INFO...



All IMS students are invited to join the fun after school on Mondays and Thursdays during the school year.

For details, click [here](#).

**The Zone will resume on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.**

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball

Please complete the form linked below to sign up for 7th or 8th grade boys' basketball. Practice will start on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> (the day we get back from winter break). More information about practice and a parent meeting will be sent in the coming weeks.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgta84IGlu\\_ItNFqfnbjlvV2tQeNKKDowTw78I3Z151hsZA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgta84IGlu_ItNFqfnbjlvV2tQeNKKDowTw78I3Z151hsZA/viewform)

### Battle of the Books

The Battle of the Books (BOB) 2021-22 competition will be online this spring rather than in-person. All interested IMS students are encouraged to read as many BOB books as possible from [this list](#). The books on this list are the Iowa Teen Awards books. This year's guest author has yet to be announced, but there will be an extra book added to the BOB reading list once this is determined. Further announcements will be made when the guest author's book title is released. A test will be held this winter to determine which students will be chosen to represent IMS at the regional Battle of the Books online competition. Feel free to visit the [BOB website](#). Contact Mrs. Asell with any questions at [stacy.asell@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:stacy.asell@indianola.k12.ia.us). Happy Reading!

### Simpson Men's Basketball Holiday Hoops Camp for Boys in Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Please go to the [Digital Backpack](#) on the district website for all the details.

## **Activity Pass**

If you purchased an activity pass for your child, there should be a "21" sticker attached to his/her student ID. If you purchased one but there is not a sticker, remind your child to stop in to the main office to get it. It is their responsibility to make sure their ID has the sticker.

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.



## **GENERAL INFORMATION...**

### **Like a Flexible Schedule? Want to Make a Difference in Kids' Lives? Substitute Teaching May be for You!**

Click on this Heartland AEA link to see just how easy it is to obtain your Substitute Authorization:  
<https://www.heartlandaea.org/professional-learning/licensure-info/sub-auth/>

### **Live Online Homework Help**

The community libraries in Iowa are providing access to a live online homework help site called Brainfuse HelpNow. Through the website, students can access live tutors for help, upload writing assignments to be analyzed and to obtain helpful comments, ask a quick question, and more. Live help is available from 2pm-11pm every day. Brainfuse also offers a "skills surfer" to reinforce concepts, as well as targeted lessons, quizzes, and online tutoring for ACT, SAT, and GED tests. Go to the public library website at [https://www.brainfuse.com/highed/helpNow.asp?a\\_id=DAE9AC12&ss=&r=](https://www.brainfuse.com/highed/helpNow.asp?a_id=DAE9AC12&ss=&r=). Click Brainfuse HelpNow, Login, then Sign up.

For more information, see <https://www.brainfuse.com/jsp/company/faq.jsp>, or ask your local or school librarian.