



INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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



WEEK OF
January 24, 2022...

Attention all 8th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians! Orientation Meeting TONIGHT!

The 9th grade orientation meeting will be taking place in the HS auditorium at 7:00 p.m. for all 8th grade students and parents/guardians.

During this meeting, high school counselors will explain course selections for 9th grade and distribute registration materials.

Please plan on attending!

MS PinkOut Dance

Students, you are all invited to wear pink to the next MS dance. It will be held on Friday, February 4, from 7-9 pm. Admission is \$1.

Student Council will be also be accepting donations as a fundraiser for Blank Children's Hospital.

Refreshments will be available to purchase.

Adults, we are in need of chaperones. Details and the sign-up can be found by clicking [here](#).



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 is back starting today!](#)

Yearbook Large Group Pictures

Students in any band, chorus, show choir, orchestra, or art club will have their group pictures taken on Tuesday morning. You need to look for the signs throughout the school to know when you should head to the fieldhouse. There will not be an announcement. It is your responsibility to watch the clock.



SCHOOL NEWS...

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, 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.

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/>

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: Mrs. Tiffany Cochran

7th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Lacey Cherniss

8th Grade Counselor: Ms. Tina Chaplin

Office Hours: 7:00am – 4:00 (3:30 on Fridays)

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!

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/>

FAST Assessments

Screening is an assessment process that helps Indianola Middle School teachers identify students who are at risk for not meeting their grade-level's learning benchmarks. The results of the upcoming FAST Winter reading and math screeners will help our building make decisions regarding reading and math interventions, including those provided during WIN, Math Support and Project Read.

It is important that our middle school students give their best effort on the upcoming FASTBridge reading and math assessments. The FAST reading fluency assessments will begin the week of **January 17**, with the FASTtrack Reading assessment scheduled for **January 20**. The FASTtrack Math assessment is scheduled for **January 27, 2022**.

Here is a summary of these assessments:

AUTOreading is an assessment of a student's automaticity with specific reading skills, including recognizing letter names and sounds, decoding words, identifying the correct spelling of words, word synonyms, and detecting differences in word meanings. AUTOreading is a computer-based test.

aReading is an assessment that screens a student's broad reading abilities. The assessment is based on research and each question is aligned with the National Common Core State Standards (2010). aReading is a computer-adaptive test and students respond to between 30 and 60 questions.

FASTtrack Math combines automaticity of basic math facts and the **aMath** assessment. aMath is an assessment that screens a student's broad math abilities. Each question in the assessment is aligned with the National Common Core State Standards (2010). aMath is a computer-adaptive test and students respond to between 30 and 60 questions.

Please discuss the importance of your child(ren) giving their best efforts on these upcoming screenings. Thank you!

Yearbooks on Sale Until February 28th

Yearbooks are now on sale at [Jostens Yearbooks](https://www.jostens.com). You may also bring \$30 cash or a check to Mr. Damman in room 507 by February 28th.

Books will arrive in May.

Dates to Remember:

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)



ACTIVITY INFO...

Battle of the Books

If you are participating in Battle of the Books, this is just a reminder to keep reading books from [this list](#). Testing to determine our team of six students will occur in early February, and the online competition will be held on April 8. This year's guest author will be Sharon Draper. Her book *Blended* is the extra book that all BOB participants should read for the competition

7th and 8th Grade Girls Interested in Soccer

Any 7th and 8th grade girl seriously interested in playing high school soccer is invited to attend Sunday night open gyms from 5:30-7:00 at Blake Fieldhouse starting this coming Sunday, January 16. Bring indoor shoes and a water bottle. If you have any questions please email: erin.ebling@indianola.k12.ia.us



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=. 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.