



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/>



NEW THIS WEEK
January 4, 2021...

Students, bring a mask to school each day. It is your responsibility!

Parents, Please Read:

If You are Voluntarily Switching Your Student to Remote Learning...

If you will be changing your child to remote learning for 3rd quarter or before, you will need to contact the office by this Wednesday, January 6. The phone number is 515.961-9530.

Please Note: All voluntary remote learners are now expected to make a minimum 9-week commitment before switching back to onsite learning.

Again, these guidelines are for those students who are voluntarily changing to remote. These guidelines are not for students who are learning remotely due to direct exposure to Covid or due to a positive Covid test.

7th & 8th Graders:

It's Audition Time for the IMS Play

Seven hopeful chefs have gathered for a cooking competition. Their judge is the famous (and arrogant) James Casanova Valentino Bond.

While the contestants struggle to stomach his criticisms, it becomes clear that Casanova can't stomach cyanide. One of the dishes was poisoned!

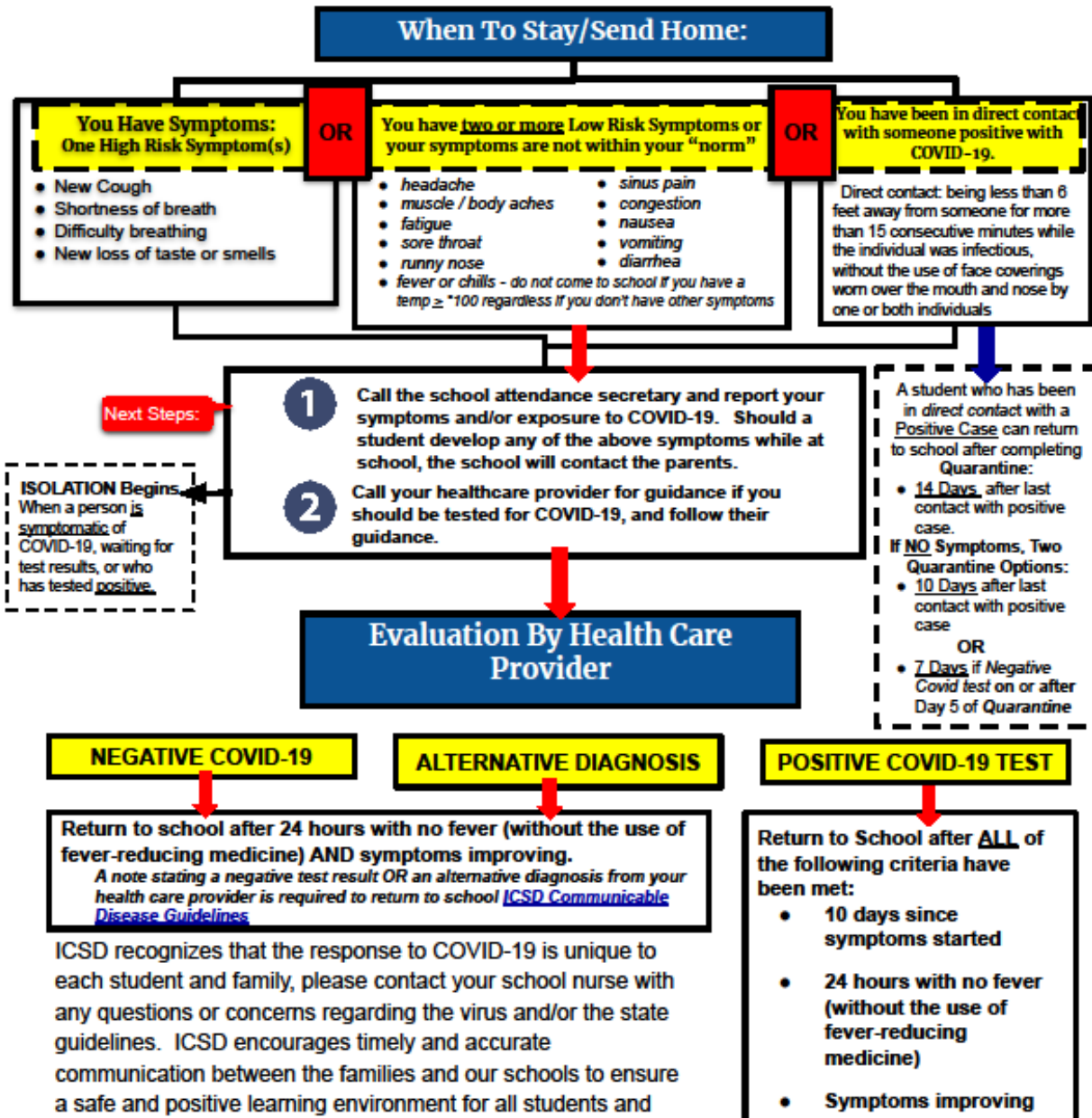
Detective Biddle comes onto the scene to figure out who cooked Casanova's goose. As he boils down the suspects' stories, he discovers many different motives and half-baked alibis. In the end, will he follow his gut to the killer? We'll have to wait and see how it all pans out.

If you'd like to join us in this recipe for fun, audition for the Middle School Play "Cooking Can Be Murder" on January 5th, 6th and 7th (the first week back from break). Seventh and eighth graders are welcome to sign up for ONE audition day on [the form linked here](#). Stew it over! We would love to see you there!

Friendly Reminder from Our Nurse:

COVID-19: When To Stay/Send Home And When To Return Indianola Community School District Health Services

In general, students should stay home from school or school activities when they are sick according to the [Sick Day Guidelines](#). Below summarizes guidance specifically related to COVID-19, based on guidance from IDPH regarding [Evaluating Sick Staff & Students](#). *Parents should monitor their children's symptoms daily before coming to school or attending school activities to determine if they are well enough to attend. It is recommended to take your child's temperature before coming to school. Students who meet the criteria below, will be sent home from school.*



If You Forget Items at Home

Before you leave your home each day, please make sure you have everything you need: binder, Chromebook, water bottle, MASK, school project, ID, etc. Many items are being dropped off, but we would like to reduce the traffic coming into the building.

If you do forget something and your parent brings it to school after the day has begun, an email will be sent to you to let you know it's in the office. It will not be delivered to you; it is your responsibility to check your email throughout the day. Other important information is emailed as well, including announcements and early dismissal pass notifications. Please make it a habit to check your email during the school day.

7th and 8th Boys Basketball Practice Starts Today After School



SCHOOL NEWS...

Covid-19 Clarifications:

Remote Learning: Students who have elected to learn remotely must make a long-term commitment in doing so (at least 2 weeks). Students who have tested positive for Covid-19, or have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus and are in quarantine, will be expected to remote learn.

Absence Due to Illness NOT Related to Covid-19: Students who are absent from school because of an illness *unrelated* to Covid-19 will continue to be onsite learners and will follow the makeup policies in the student handbook. Students are encouraged to view PowerSchool class pages to see what they have missed and may begin to complete assignments before returning. However, they will not become remote learners during the time of their illness.

Direct Contact/Positive Test: Students who have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 or have tested positive themselves need to contact the middle school health office ASAP (515.961.9530 x3124). Once notified, the administrative office will contact teachers and let them know that the student will be learning remotely.

Returning to Onsite Learning: Parents, you must contact the main office at least 2 days prior to your student returning to school in person. Teachers and staff need this time to prepare for the change.

Updated Guidance on Face Coverings **Effective November 2, 2020**

The Indianola School District has amended its current policy regarding face coverings **effective November 2**. The policy will now require all K-12 students and staff to wear face masks, with provisions for mask breaks and instructional use of face shields, within physical distancing and per public health guidelines. Also note that **Gaiters are not acceptable face masks**. Thank you for your attention to this change as we continue to work through this pandemic and do our best to provide a safe learning environment for our staff and students.

School Fines

School fines are viewable on PowerSchool . These fines are for overdue books, textbooks not returned, band supplies, uniforms, etc. Directions for viewing fines can be found [here](#). Please note—fees/fines cannot be paid using the PowerSchool mobile app. If you prefer to pay with check instead of online, please make check payable to IMS. Be sure to note the student’s name and what the fine is that is being paid.

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.

Parents, please take a look at the two sets of directions linked below for managing your email subscriptions. Note: these directions do not allow parents to unsubscribe from all district emails—only the automated PowerSchool emails.

- [Managing Grades & Attendance Summary, Assignment Scores, and Balance Alert Notifications](#)
- [Managing PowerSchool Class Pages \(PowerSchool Learning\) Email Digests & Notifications](#)

Middle School Website Page

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

Looking for Return to Learn or General District Information?

School District Website

<http://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/index.php>

How to Check for Missing Assignments

Click [here](#) for a tutorial on how to check for missing assignments.

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. Lacey Cherniss
7th Grade Counselor: Ms. Tina Chaplin
8th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Tiffany Cochran

Office Hours: 7:00am – 3:30pm

Food Service Announcement

ALL MEALS (Breakfast and lunch) are FREE to ALL students this school year. Please click [here](#) for more details.

Yearbooks are \$25 this year. Go to [Jostens](#) to order.

Dates to Remember:

January 18 & 19: No School
February 12: No School



ACTIVITY INFO...

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...

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.