



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 September 14, 2020...

The Middle School will dismiss at 11:50 today!

No lunch will be served.

There will be no Study Table for athletes.

Yearbook pictures will be taken tomorrow morning. Students should have their order packets with them when it's their turn.

Students, please remember your masks and Chromebooks each day!

From the Nurse

Please watch for an email from IMS Nurse Cadi Williams today. It shares helpful Covid-19 *When to Stay/Send Home and When to Return* information, as well as a letter from Warren County Health Services.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, Sept. 14:	Teacher Professional Development, IMS dismissal is 11:50 (NO Study Table for athletes this day)
Tuesday, Sept. 15:	Fall yearbook pictures in a.m. (Remote learners 2:00-3:20, enter at fieldhouse by 3:15)
Tuesday, Oct. 6:	Conferences after school (more details later)
Wednesday, Oct. 7:	Conferences after school (more details later)
Thursday, Oct. 8:	No School Conferences in the afternoon/evening
Friday, Oct. 9:	No School

SPIRIT WEEK!

September 15th - September 18th

IMS Spirit Days are as follows:

Tuesday- Dress-Up Day–Take pride in yourself and look good! (Remember, yearbook pictures are this day also!)

Wednesday- Twin Day!

Thursday- Throwback Thursday–Wear items from the past or different decades

Friday- PURPLE/GOLD DAY!– Embrace your inner Indian! Dress in your Indianola wear and show your PRIDE!!!!

(Students can paint a portion of their faces at home but not at school or on the bus. Hats, headbands, head coverings, etc. are acceptable during spirit week if appropriate for the theme day.)

Rules below:

Appropriate School Attire (Ref. School Board Policy 502.1)

Appropriate school attire does not draw attention to the student, does not disrupt the concentration of other students, nor disrupts the educational environment.

It is expected that students' clothing will ensure adequate coverage and undergarments should not be visible. Garments may not be backless or without straps, if applicable. Shorts with less than a 4 inch inseam are discouraged.

Pants and shorts are to be worn at an appropriate level at or above the hips.

Students may be asked to remove any item covering their face or head as staff need to be able to recognize the individual in school or in the classroom.

Shoes with wheels are prohibited.

Hats, other head coverings, and sunglasses are to be taken off and left in lockers during the school day with all bags and purses.

Students are not to wear items that are considered potentially dangerous.

All students will be expected to change into appropriate clothes for physical education classes.

Students are expected to refrain from wearing clothing or other apparel with actual or implied profanity, sexual innuendos, and tobacco/alcohol/drug endorsements, promotion of weapons or known gang related insignias.

The building principals will make the final determination of the appropriateness of the student's **appearance**.

Looking for Return to Learn or General District Information?

School District Website

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

Middle School Website Page

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

Yearbook News

Save \$5 by ordering your 20-21 yearbook now! Go to [Jostens](#) by October 23rd. Be sure to select Indianola, IA Middle School. The cost is \$25 right now.

Lunches

6th Grade: 10:50-11:20 M-Th; 10:47-11:17 Fri

7th Grade: 12:10-12:40 M-Th; 12:01-12:31 Fri

8th Grade: 11:30-12:00 M-Th; 11:23-11:53 Fri

*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.

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.

School Hours

7:50: Students report to first class

8:00: School begins

1:50: School ends

Parents, we are encouraging you to drop your child off as close to 7:45-7:50 as possible. We'll be better able to practice social distancing if students can go directly to their first class instead of arriving earlier and waiting with others in designated spots. There is no Open Gym before school at this time. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:30. Students should go directly to the cafeteria if they will be eating. Please remember to bring your mask to school each day.

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 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 8:00, 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 foyer 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. 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 2:15-3:15.

When Student Items are Delivered to the Office from Parents...

This year, students will be notified via their school email if they have something to pick up in the office.
Students, please make sure to check your email throughout the school day.

Parents, you might want to ask your child what his/her email address is in case you have an important message for them to read. Cell phones are not to be used during the school day.

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

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.

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. All students, including siblings, must use their designated exit this year.

Viewing Your Schedule and Locker Information on PowerSchool

Follow this [link](#) to view your schedule and locker information.



**ACTIVITY
INFO...**

Students should be wearing a face covering when attending any district activities or games!

Fine Arts

Show Choir practices start this week. Practices begin at 7:00 a.m. Side Kicks practice on Mondays and Wednesdays. Side Effects practice on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Attention Kids who Love to Read!

The Battle of the Books (BOB) 2020-21 competition, hosted by Great Prairie AEA, 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](#). Copies of the list can also be found in the Information Center outside the IMS office. The books on the BOB list are the Iowa Teen Awards books.

This year's guest author is Terry Lynn Johnson and the extra book to add to the BOB reading list is her title *Ice Dogs*. All of the Iowa Teen Award books will be available electronically for free on MackinVIA, but student accounts are not yet set up. (Especially if your student is a remote learner, contact me and I can get this MackinVIA account set up right away.) A test will be held this winter to determine which students will be chosen to represent IMS at the regional Battle of the Books competition.

Feel free to visit the [BOB website](#). Contact Mrs. Asell with any questions at stacy.asell@indianola.k12.ia.us. Happy Reading!



The Zone is temporarily on hold.

For details, click [here](#).

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/>

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 "20" 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.

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.

6th Graders: We Need You on our Staff!

If you are interested in being on the Yearbook Staff, please see Mr. Damman in room 507.

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, 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/>



GENERAL INFORMATION...

Social Emotional Behavioral Health of Students

Welcome back to school. We are excited to work with the students either onsite or remotely. This year, one of our focuses will be on the SEBH (Social-Emotional Behavioral Health) of your student. The School Board has approved more school based mental health therapists for the district to better serve the students.

The Wellness Committee has developed a site on the District Website that provides resources for staff, students and families. Please take time to take a look at what is available. <https://www.indianola.k12.ia.us/district/wellness/>

Counselors will present strategies to teachers to work with students onsite as well as remotely. If you are in need of SEBH support, please contact one of the building counselors. Thank you, parents, for all that you are doing. We look forward to the new school year.

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.