



INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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

**News for the Week of
December 16, 2024...**

IMS Dismissal Friday – 2:20

Enjoy Winter Break!



December 23 – January 1

****Last Week to Order a
Yearbook for \$25****

Time to order yearbooks
through [Jostens](#).

The price will increase to
\$30 at the end of the school
day this Friday!

There will be no Zone until January 13th.

Trip Cancelled

The Washington D.C. trip scheduled for June of 2025 has been cancelled due to low registration. Parents should expect a 100% refund in their accounts.

Please contact Mrs. Birkland if there are questions – kris.birkland@indianola.k12.ia.us.

IMS WEEK!

December 16th - December 20th

Our IMS Student Council is encouraging staff and students to participate in Winter SPIRIT DAYS:

Monday- “Pajama Day”: Wear your best sleepwear.

Tuesday- “RED and GREEN Day”

- Throw a Random Act of Kindness into your day also: Open the door for someone, throw his/her garbage away, etc.

Wednesday- “Tropical Day” - Xmas on a tropical island.

Thursday- “Flannel Shirt Day” - Dress up in lumberjack wear

Friday- “Ugly XMAS Sweater Day”

- The greatest gift you can give to yourself is time. Enjoy your days off from school!

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.

- 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.

Music News



6th Grade Band & Chorus Winter Concert: Monday, December 16, 6:30 p.m. at IHS Auditorium

7th & 8th Grade Choir Concerts: Tuesday, December 17 at IHS Auditorium

- 7th Grade – 6:30
- 8th Grade – 7:15
- Call time for students: 15 minutes before concerts on HS stage
- Concert Practice: All choir students will practice together on Tuesday. 8th grade during 7th period, and 7th grade during 8th period.
- Livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/YNqBHICIM9E>
- Questions: Email avery.luepker@indianola.k12.ia.us or Meredith.moore@indianola.k12.ia.us

Concert Attire: Choir students are requested to dress nicely and to avoid athletic wear if possible. There is no expectation, however, for new clothing to be purchased to meet this request.

Reminder, Actors and Actresses, and Crew!

Auditions for this year's IMS play *Usher: A Totally Teen Comedy* take place today and tomorrow after school until 5:00.

All 7th and 8th graders interested in performing or being a member of the crew should plan to attend one of the audition days in Mrs. Wickett's room (803).

Check the daily announcements for play details.



Dates to Remember:

December 20 – 2:20 Dismissal at IMS
December 23-January 1 – No School (Winter Break)
January 20 – No School
February 18-20 – Conferences
February 21 – No School
March 17-21 – No School (Spring Break)
April 7 – No School
May 26 – No School (Memorial Day)
May 30 – 2:20 Dismissal at IMS (Last day of school)

School Info...

Tech Reminders from the Library *Need to Read*

- *We do not give loaners. If you forget your Chromebook you'll have to call home.
- *If you think your charger is broken, you need to bring it in during Tech Hours so that it can be exchanged.
- *Bring your headphones/earbuds to school every day. Maybe have an extra pair to leave in your locker.

Tech Hours:

Monday: 7:30-10:00
Wednesday: 7:30-8:45
Friday: 1:00-3:00

[Link to 6th Grade TEAM SAPPHIRE's Newsletter](#)

[Link to 6th Grade TEAM EMERALD's Newsletter](#)

We Want YOU to Join in on the Fun!

If you would like to participate in this year's Winter assembly after break, please fill out the form linked below.

Winter Assembly Participation Form

After School Tutoring

Free tutoring is being offered once again at IMS on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Parents must sign their child up before they attend. Please see the registration form for details.

[24-25 Tutoring Permission Form](#)

Indianola Schools District Website

You can find information on just about everything school related on the district website, including each school's home page, school year calendars, athletic information, food service details, etc. Click on the title, and take some time to familiarize yourself with this site.

Standards-Based Reporting

A letter was emailed to parents a couple weeks ago with helpful information about our shift to the Standards-Based Reporting (SBR) grading system.

Here is the link to the Parent's Guide:

[K-8 Standards-Based Learning, Scoring and Reporting](#)

***Reminder to Parents and Students* IMS Doors Open at 7:30 A.M. Plan for Weather**

Parents/Guardians/Students: Just a reminder that IMS doors **DO NOT OPEN UNTIL 7:30 EACH MORNING**. Students should dress appropriately for the weather if they arrive at school before that time; coats, long pants, hats, gloves, warm shoes/boots, umbrellas, etc.

This is for everyone's safety as adult supervision does not begin until 7:30.

If you have to drop your child off early, or if your child walks to school, please keep in mind that bus transportation is available. Contact Transportation at 515.961.9500 x1620 for more information.

Parent Schoology Access *Updated Link Below*

We understand that navigating Schoology can be new for some families, and we want to ensure you are comfortable using the platform to support your student's learning. To assist with this, we have created three helpful guides:

1. **How to Sign in to Schoology**

This walks you through the steps of signing into Schoology, so you can stay updated on your child's academic progress, assignments, and announcements.

2. **How to Check for Mastery in Schoology**

Learn how to view your child's mastery progress for individual learning standards in their courses. This feature allows you to track how well your child is performing on key concepts and skills.

3. **Proficiency Scale Explanation**

This video walks through an explanation of the levels of proficiency we are using when reporting student progress. It also provides an explanation of how the proficiencies do not align to the traditional A-B-C-D-F.

Watch the videos here:

[How to Sign In to Schoology Link *Updated*](#)

[How to View for Mastery in Schoology](#)

[Proficiency Scale Explanation](#)

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Parents, please make sure your student brings earbuds/headphones to 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 **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.

Quick Links:

[District Website](#)

[Information Technology Link](#)

[IMS Link](#)

[Food Service Link](#)

[Transportation Link](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

School Activities...

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 [IMS Activities Page](#).

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.

[Events Calendar](#)

IMS Boys Basketball Sign-Ups

An email regarding sign-ups for 7th and 8th Boys Basketball was emailed to parents on November 18th. Practices will start after Winter Break on January 2nd.

Please refer to the November 18th email from the Indianola Activities Office for more information.

Miscellaneous...



All IMS students are invited to attend The Zone. The fun, provided by Indianola Parks and Rec, takes place most Mondays and Thursdays after school starting in the cafeteria.

Games, contests, healthy snacks, and much more await you this school year!

See the flyer in the [Digital Backpack](#) for sign-up information.

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.

Class of 2029 (8th grade)- <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/o9XPd9oGBR3SPdQi/>

Class of 2030 (7th grade)- <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/bCUIYkjKtrKmbeTm5/>

Class of 2031 (6th grade)- <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/UVdwBvM9YCEoHk3L/>