



INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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

News for the Week of December 2, 2024...

Final Week Earn a Pizza Party While Helping Others

Indianola Middle School is hosting a Food Drive for the next few weeks and would love your help! We are collecting non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products to donate to local areas in need. We are competing with our WIN classes to see who can bring the most items. The WIN class with the most items will receive a pizza party! This drive is running from November 11th through December 6th.

The most needed items at the moment are peanut butter, muffin mix, canned soup, canned vegetables, and dish soap. *Canned meat and peanut butter earn double the credit!*

Thank you for your support and consideration as the holiday season approaches.

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](#)

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.

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)

Music News

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

IMS Jazz Bands Cookies & Carols: Friday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. in Street Gym (Warm-up at 6:30)

7/8 Band Concert: Tuesday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m. in IHS Auditorium (Warm-up at 6:20)

School Info...

Battle of the Books

It's time to get ready for the Battle of the Books (BOB) competition. All interested students are encouraged to read as many BOB books as possible from the [Iowa Teen Awards booklist](#). A test will be held in early March to determine which IMS students will be chosen for two teams of six students. These two teams will represent IMS at the Battle of the Books Qualifying Round competition online at the end of March. The top 16 teams from the Qualifying Round will attend the in-person Grand Battle in Marshalltown on April 30, 2025. This year's Grand Battle guest author has yet to be announced, but an extra book will be added to the BOB reading list once this is determined.

Further announcements will be made when the guest author's book title is released. Feel free to visit the [BOB website](#). See Mrs. Asell in room 601 or email her (stacy.asell@indianola.k12.ia.us) with any questions.

Happy Reading!

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](#)

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.

Yearbooks

Time to order yearbooks through [Jostens](#). The price is \$25 right now.

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...

Can Play Day at Simpson

Please see the flyer in the [Digital Backpack](#) for information on a fun activity for kids in 4th-8th grades.



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/bCUYkjKtrKmbeTm5/>

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