



INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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

News for the Week of January 20, 2025...

**Parents, please make sure your student brings
earbuds/headphones to school.
They don't need an expensive pair; just a working pair.**

Play Crew

MS Play Crew, you will begin practicing on Tuesday this week. You will be heading to the high school with the cast after school Tuesday thru Thursday.

Be checking your email for more information.

Large Group Pictures this Week

Students involved in music groups will have their pictures taken on Thursday morning at the beginning of the day. Please check the daily announcements for the attachment showing the times and group names.

6th Grade Art Display

Several 6th grade art students created artworks to celebrate George Washington Carver's life and accomplishments. These artworks were displayed in the glass case at the MS before moving to the Simpson art gallery for George Washington Carver Day celebration. This artwork can be viewed in the Simpson gallery throughout February. See the flyer below for more information.

[Here is a flyer for the event](#)
[Click Here to see the Art Display](#)

****Attention 8th Grade****

Save the Date: High School Registration Meeting

High school counselors will be meeting with 8th grade students and parents/guardians on Monday, February 3, at 7:00 pm in the HS auditorium.

This is the first orientation meeting, and students will receive registration material. Please bring a pen or pencil.

All 8th grade students and parents/guardians are encouraged to attend.

If you have questions regarding this event, please contact Mrs. Finn, 8th grade counselor, at haley.finn@indianola.k12.ia.us, or 515.961.9530 x3151.

George Washington Carver Day Scavenger Hunt

Join the hunt! Spend time having fun with family or friends while learning more about George W. Carver. The event takes place on Saturday, February 1, from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Check out the flyer in the [Digital Backpack](#) for more details.

School Info...

Dates to Remember:

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)

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

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

Deadline to Order Yearbooks Coming Soon

Students, if you want a yearbook, ask your parents to order one through [Jostens](#). The price is \$30.

Time is running out!

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](#)

From the Library

Your **January Reading Challenge** is here! All you have to do is read, go to the library to answer a question, and then choose a prize.

- 1 – Read a book that takes place in the winter.
- 2 – Read a nonfiction book related to winter (weather, winter sports, etc.)
- 3 – Read a book with a white cover.

Tech Reminders from the Library

*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

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.

***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.

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](#)

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](#)

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/bCUYkjKtrKmbeTm5/>

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

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.