



# INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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

New the Week of  
November 20, 2023



Indianola Middle School will dismiss at 2:20 on Tuesday.  
There will be no school Wednesday – Friday.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Break!

NO TUTORING THIS WEEK

NO GIRLS CIRCLE THIS WEEK

## Battle of the Books

If you are participating in Battle of the Books (BOB), this is just a reminder to keep reading books from [the list in this Google Sheets link](#). Feel free to make a copy of this Google Sheet so you can take notes in its various tabs. The Battle of the Books competition is different this year compared to years past. Testing to determine our two teams of six students will occur mid-February. Complete [this Google Form](#) by 11/29/23 if you intend to take this test to try to be on a team.

Once we have our two teams, the Virtual Qualifying Competition will be held late February to early March to determine the top 16 teams that will advance to the in-person Grand Battle in Cedar Falls on April 12, 2024. This year's guest author at the Grand Battle will be Huda Fahmy, so be sure to read her book on the book list if your team qualifies for the Grand Battle.



## Associates Needed at IMS

Do you want to earn extra cash? Do you want to be off during the holidays and summers? Do you want to make a difference in children's lives? Do you want to work with a fun, supportive team?

If so, become a Special Education Associate at Indianola Middle School! We have openings, and we'd love to have you join us.

Click [Apply](#) for more information.

## 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball

Parents, an email was sent to you last Monday, November 13, regarding Boys Basketball sign-ups. Please refer to that email for the sign-up link and meeting/practice details.

If you have not already, please make sure that you turn in all the required forms: (1) [sports physical](#), (2) [insurance waiver](#), and (3) [concussion form](#) for this year. Without these forms, your athlete will not be able to participate in practices or games until we have received the completed forms.

MS Boys Basketball practices will begin after Winter Break on Wednesday, January 3rd. As a reminder, this will be an early out, so study tables will be an option for those looking to stay after school for practice.

If you have questions, please reach out to one of the following:

Ben Lange - MS Activities Director - [Ben.Lange@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:Ben.Lange@indianola.k12.ia.us)

Coach Kelly - 8th Grade Head Coach - [greg.kelly@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:greg.kelly@indianola.k12.ia.us)

Coach Reiter - 7th Grade Head Coach - [reade.reiter@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:reade.reiter@indianola.k12.ia.us)

## School Info

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Competition

7th and 8th grade students are having a **competition** to see which grade level can collect the most items for Helping Hand. Donations should be brought to the 7th and 8th grade social studies teachers starting November 13<sup>th</sup> thru December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Most needed items at the moment: peanut butter, muffin mix, canned soup, canned vegetables and dish soap. Canned meat and peanut butter counts double! Any canned or boxed food items are welcome, as well as soap, toothpaste and deodorant.

## Do You Like Math? This Competition is for You!

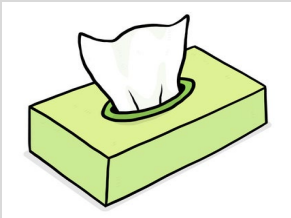
If you enjoy solving math problems and would like to be challenged in this way, we encourage participation in the MathCounts Competition Series. MathCounts is a wonderful experience that will enhance a love of math. You can read more about the program at <http://mathcounts.org/programs/competition-series>.

The regional competition will be held in Ankeny on February 20. Until then, weekly practices will be held at 7:00 am starting the week of November 27; the day of the week will be determined based on which day of the week the most students can attend, and students will indicate this on the sign-up form. Students should sign up with their school Google account by completing [this Google form](#) by Tuesday, November 21. Students should see Mrs. Asell if they want to participate but are involved in music activities every morning.

**It's the season for this...**



**So, donations of these...**



**Would be gladly accepted!**

[District Calendar Link](#) for 23-24

Please refer to the [Student Handbook](#) for all procedures, policies, and guidelines.

[District Website Link](#)

[Information Technology Link](#)

[IMS Link](#)

[Food Service Link](#)

[Transportation Link](#)

### 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.  
[23-24 Tutoring Sign-Up](#)

### Yearbooks

IMS yearbooks are now on sale! The cost is \$25. You can order online at [Jostens](#), or you can bring a check (made payable to IMS) or exact cash to Mr. Damman in room 507. Parents, there was not an option to pay online with your school fees, so if you believe you purchased one then, you did not.

## Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, November 21: One Hour Early Dismissal (2:20 for IMS)

November 22-24: No School, Thanksgiving Break

December 21: One Hour Early Dismissal (2:20 for IMS)

December 22 – January 2: No School, Winter Break

## Safe and Sound

Reporting a safety concern is quick and easy when using the anonymous statewide reporting system, Safe + Sound. Click on this [link](#) to learn more.

### 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

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:** Mrs. Lacey Cherniss (x3106)

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:** Mrs. Haley Finn (x3151)

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor:** Mrs. Tiffany Cochran (x3116)

**Office Hours:** 7:00am – 4:00 (3:30 on Fridays)

### Food Service

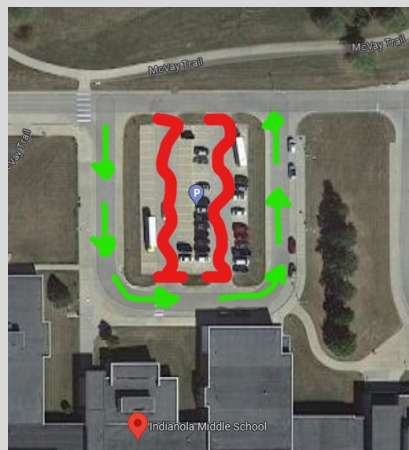
For information regarding menus, free/reduced lunches/online payments/account information, please click:

[Food Service](#)

## **Drivers, Careful in the Parking Lot, Please!**

When you are dropping off or picking up students at the circle drive in front of the main office, please follow the path highlighted in green. Do not drive through parking aisles.

We ask this for the safety of our students and staff.



## 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.

Indianola Class of 2028 (8<sup>th</sup> Grade): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1386800961472755/>

Indianola Class of 2029 (7<sup>th</sup> Grade): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/509461217003504/>

Indianola Class of 2030 (6<sup>th</sup> Grade): <https://m.facebook.com/groups/238233144858449>

## 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 Webpage](#).

### Wrestling Gear

Show your support of Indianola wrestling by wearing some new fan gear. Click on the link below to check out various t-shirts, sweats, hats, bags, and more. <https://indianola-wrestling-2023.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

### 6<sup>th</sup> Graders, Check this Out!

Are you interested in building relationships with other kids in 6<sup>th</sup> grade? Think about joining "R" Afterschool Club. Look through these slides to see some possible activity ideas for "R" Afterschool Club. Please forward this "R" Club Registration form to your parent/guardian's email so they can register you. If you have questions, please see Ms. Davis, or email her at [Melinda.davis@indianola.k12.ia.us](mailto:Melinda.davis@indianola.k12.ia.us).

### Anime Club

If you are interested in joining Anime Club, click on the link below.  
For more information, see Mrs. Wickett in room 803.

<https://forms.gle/WB6h6e3UKuuc9MyL6>.

## Dungeons & Dragons Club

Anyone interested in joining Dungeons and Dragons Club is welcome! The club will meet after school on Mondays in Mr. Weepie's room, 806.

Fill out this Google form to register: [D & D Sign-Up](#)



All IMS students are invited to join the fun after school on Mondays and Thursdays during the school year from 3:20 to 5:00. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Indianola Music Boosters

Stay up to date on all the district's music events by joining the Indianola Music Boosters Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianolaMusicBoosters?mibextid=LQQJ4d>

## 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.

[Event Calendar](#)

## 6-8th Graders can sign up for Art Club!

Art Club is a time after school where students who are interested in art can do individual or collaborative art projects, learn new techniques and be social.

After signing up, members and parents will receive more information about Studio Time activities and dates.

[6th Grade Art Club Sign up Link](#) (semester 1)  
[7th-8th Grade Art Club Sign up Link](#) (semester 2)  
[Click HERE to read general info about IMS Art Club](#)

Students, you must have your ID with the "23" activity sticker on it to attend home games without paying. If you don't have it with you, or you don't have a picture of it on your phone, you will have to pay to get into the event. See the office if you've lost your ID or you need the sticker.

## This and That...

### Hawki Health Insurance

As the public health emergency declaration has come to an end, and with the addition of a third managed care organization (MCO), we have found many families have slipped through the cracks and lost their health coverage through Medicaid and Hawki. Through our partnership with EveryStep, we have a Hawki Outreach Specialist in our office at Warren County Health Services who is trained to complete presumptive eligibility (PE) determinations for children. This special Medicaid application typically provides the child temporary Medicaid coverage to bridge the gap during the application review process, allowing families to receive outpatient medical and dental services, including immunizations. We can complete these determinations via phone or by appointment in our office.

Please see the links below if you are struggling with the reapplication process.

[Hawki Rack Card](#)

[Hawki Brochure - English](#)

[Hawki Brochure - Spanish](#)

Contact: Veronica McVay, Program Manager at Warren County Health Services, 515.961.1074

### Backpacks 4 Hunger

Backpacks 4 Hunger feeds Indianola kids over the weekend by providing a sack of individually packaged non-perishable food items. The food is placed discreetly in students' lockers on every Friday.

Call 515.961.5755 or Text 515.808.3498. Leave your name and number, and you will be contacted regarding food allergies and school details.

### Washington D.C. Trip

Want to go to Washington D.C.? The Summer 2025 D.C. Trip is open to current 6th, 7th, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. There will **NOT** be a trip in Summer 2024, so students in middle school who are interested should go in 2025. We will take students on odd-numbered years moving forward.

Ms. Lloyd and Mr. Klocke are trying to gauge the interest level of students in the middle school by sending out an interest survey. Please fill this survey out at home after talking with your parent or guardian. We would appreciate responses being submitted **before** Thanksgiving break on Tuesday, November 21st.

<https://forms.gle/x8j9dGcKciN2hMut6>