



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/>

News for the Week of October 14, 2024...

Fall Conferences

Conferences will be held October 29-31, and IMS will once again offer 10-minute virtual or in-person appointments with teachers.

Parents/guardians, scheduling is now open. Please check your email for a message sent to you on October 11 that gave you the sign-up link and conference details.

Veterans Day Assembly

The Veterans Day Assembly will be held at 9:30 am on Friday, November 8, in the IMS Blake Fieldhouse. Printed copies of the [invitation](#) are available in the Communication Center outside the office. Students are encouraged to take one to give to each veteran in their lives so that we can honor their service. If a veteran invited by a student attends the assembly, then that student will be excused from class at 9:10 to meet that veteran and any guests in the Chris Street Gym. Students just need to let their teacher know that they're leaving class to join their veteran at the assembly.

From the Activities Office

Emails were sent out last Monday (October 7) to parents who had signed their children up for the sports below. If you have questions or still need to sign up, contact Ben.lange@indianola.k12.ia.us.

7th Girls Basketball: Practice starts Monday, October 21. The parent meeting will be held that evening at 5:00 p.m. in room 303 by the field house.

8th Girls Basketball: Practice starts on Thursday, October 17. The parent meeting will be held that evening at 5:00 p.m. in the Blake Fieldhouse.

7th & 8th Girls Wrestling: Practice starts on Monday, October 28. The parent meeting will be held that evening at 5:30 p.m. in the MS Cafeteria.

7th & 8th Boys Wrestling: Practice starts on Monday, October 21. The parent meeting will be held that evening at 5:30 p.m. in the MS Cafeteria.

Parent Schoology Access *Please Read*

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](#)

[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.

Support IMS & ICYF While Preparing Great Food!

In celebration of the Indianola Community Youth Foundation (ICYF) turning 15 this fall, we are bringing the *Homerun Hits* Cookbook out of retirement!

What does that mean for you!?

For a limited time, you can purchase this book full of kid-friendly, healthy recipes for only \$10! All proceeds benefit ICYF and the Indianola Middle School!

Orders open October 8 and close October 24 or while supplies last! This is for local pick-up only -- all orders can be picked up at the Indianola Middle School on October 28 & 29!

Simply visit this link to submit your order and pay all in one spot! <https://icyf.org/home-run-hits-cookbook/>

We hope you enjoy some Homerun Hits in YOUR kitchen by purchasing this book to support IMS and ICYF!

No School Today or Tomorrow

School Info...

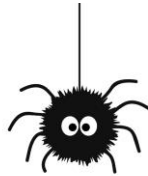
Lost ID's

School ID's: Students, if you lose your school ID, you may request one replacement per year. First, though, you should check your email; one of the secretaries will send you a message if it has been turned into the office. If you don't receive an email within a day or two of losing it, come to the office to request your one replacement.

Bus ID's: If you lose your Bus ID, check with your bus driver first. Then, check your email or the office. If you don't find it within a day or two, tell your bus driver so that they can request a new one. We do not make Bus ID's in the main office; those come from the Transportation department.

From the Library

Your October reading challenge is to individually, or with a partner, read a book from the Horror section OR a book with the word *spider* or *bat* in the title OR a book with an orange cover. See Mrs. Hunget or Mrs. Richardson for more information.



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

Yearbooks

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

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](#)

[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* IMS Doors will not Unlock until 7:30 Each Morning**

Parents, please note, **students should not arrive at school before 7:30 a.m. IMS doors will not unlock until that time.** So, for the safety of our students, please do not drop them off before 7:30 because they will not be able to get into the building.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up for 6th grade: Blake Fieldhouse entrance

Drop-Off/Pick-Up for 7th & 8th grades: Main Office entrance

Students eating breakfast at school may go the cafeteria between 7:30-7:50.

IMS School Hours

7:50: Students report to first class

8:00: School begins

3:20: School ends (2:20 on Wednesdays)

Parents, we are encouraging you to drop your child off as close to 7:50 as possible. Students should not arrive at school before 7:30, unless they are in a supervised activity. **Doors do not open until 7:30.**

Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:30. Students should go directly to the cafeteria if they will be eating.

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. Tiffany Cochran (x3116)

7th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Lacey Cherniss (x3106)

8th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Haley Finn (x3151)

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

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

Food Service

For information regarding menus, free/reduced lunches/online payments/account information, please click: [Food Service](#)

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](#)

Dates to Remember:

October 14,15 – No School (professional development for teachers)

October 29-31 – Conferences

November 1 – No School

November 28, 29 – No School (Thanksgiving Break)

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](#).

Music Booster Yard Sign Fundraiser

If you'd like to support your student or just let others know you support the Music Boosters, please consider purchasing a yard sign. Click on the link below for details.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1Lt0P-WyCRabXP0WJFhjZiSivX85GUYji42R_6LrBDe1TWQ/viewform

Attention, 6th Grade Boys!

Jordan Jenkins from Employee and Family Resources will be hosting a 6th grade boys group on Thursdays after school. This program will begin on October 10th, and it will run weekly for 10 weeks. It will take place in Room 303 near the Blake Fieldhouse from 3:30-4:45. There is no cost to join. Please see the email that was sent to all 6th grade boys and parents for more specific information. Here is the [link](#) to get signed up!

IMS Winter Sports Season for 7th and 8th Graders

An email titled IMS 2024 Winter Sports Sign Ups was sent on 9/25 to all 7th and 8th grade parents. If your child is interested in joining girls' basketball, boys' wrestling, or girls' wrestling, please refer to that email. As a reminder, boys' basketball will not begin until after Winter break, so sign-ups will not be released until sometime in November.

7th/8th Girls Basketball

-- 8th Grade Girls Basketball Practice starts Thursday, October 17th

-- 7th Grade Girls Basketball Practice starts Monday, October 21st

7th/8th Boys Wrestling

-- MS Boys Wrestling Practice starts Monday, October 21st

7th/8th Girls Wrestling

-- MS Girls Wrestling Practice Starts TBD

If you have questions, contact Ben Lange, ben.lange@indianola.k12.ia.us.

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](#)

Basketball Apparel

The Indianola basketball apparel store is now open for anyone who is interested in buying new basketball apparel for the 2024-25 season. [Here](#) is the store link. It closes on **October 14th** at midnight.

Indianola Music Boosters

Annual

Craft & Vendor Show

All proceeds are used to support Middle School Music!

October 26th

Blake Fieldhouse

9am – 2pm

Admission \$3

Concessions available all day!

Shop 100+ vendors with handcrafted items and name brand products all while helping us to fulfill our music wish list!

Miscellaneous...

Indianola Trap Team

Anyone still interested in joining the Indianola Trap Team is welcome to join us at a practice on either October 16th or 18th from 6:00-7:30 at the Warren County Isaac Walton. Our coaches will be able to chat with you about our team and get you the sign-up link. Please reach out to our head coach, Aaron Rasko, at aaronrasko@gmail.com, with any questions.

Associates Needed at IMS

Do you want to earn extra cash? Do you want to be off in the 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 for the upcoming 23-24 school year, and we'd love to have you join us. Click [Apply](#) for more information.



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/>

Midwest Heritage Youth Heifer Program

Students in 7th and 8th grade who are interested in gaining experience in the cattle industry are invited to apply for the 2025 Youth Heifer Program. Up to five students will receive three bred heifers.

Applicants are chosen based on merit, future goals, and capacity to care for their herd.

The deadline to apply is October 18th.

Please go to the [Digital Backpack](#) and find the Midwest Heritage flyer for all the details.

Washington D.C. Trip

June 11-15, 2025

It's not too late to sign up for next summer's D.C. trip! It's open to current 7th, 8th, and 9th graders. Please click the [link](#) for details.

This is not a school sponsored event.