



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 September 2, 2024...

Yearbooks

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

MS Show Choir Parent Meeting
Thursday, September 5, at 7:00 p.m.
IMS Cafeteria

Washington D.C. Trip

Current 7th and 8th graders, if you are interested in traveling to Washington D.C. next summer, there will be a parent meeting on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00pm in the MS cafeteria.

Contact Mrs. Birkland (kris.birkland@indianola.k12.ia.us) if you have questions.

[Trip Information Packet](#)

This is not a school-sponsored event.

School Pictures

Tim McConnell will be taking school pictures this Thursday, September 5, starting at 8:00 until approximately 9:15. It's a very quick process, so please try to arrive to school on time.

Students were given registration forms to take home to parents last Thursday. With that form, parents can register and then view their child's picture before ordering. If you have questions about ordering, contact tim@timmcconnell.com.



Picture Day for Fall Sports

Parents of fall athletes were emailed picture details on Friday. Please refer to those emails if you have questions.

Wednesday, September 4:

Cross Country and Football

(Don't go home after early out. XC go to room 303. Football go to cafeteria.)

Thursday, September 5:

Volleyball

School Info...

[Link to View the IMS Supply List](#)

Schedule Issues/Changes?

Complete this [form](#).

Parent Schoology Access *Please Read*

This year, parents are able to access Schoology to see student work as well as student mastery scores. Click the link below to access the tutorial to create your Schoology account.

[Schoology Parent Account Tutorial](#)

Students: How to Access PowerSchool

- Log into your Chromebook or other device (not phone app)
- Open Google Chrome
- Click on ICSD Bookmarks
- Click on ClassLink
- Click *Sign in with Google*
- Click on PowerSchool

How to Access Your Schedule & Locker Info

- On the left-hand side of your screen, click on "My Schedule"
- Use Week View – not Matrix View
- On left hand menu, you should also be able to see your Locker Information

No More A/B/C/D/F's – IMS Moving to Standards-Based Reporting

Standards-Based Reporting is a method of assessment that focuses on students' mastery of specific skills and standards. The presentation and additional info below explain how this system works, how it benefits your child, and what you can expect in terms of feedback and reporting.

Click [here](#) to view the Standards-Based Reporting Presentation.

[Additional Info](#)

***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.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up Info

Changes this Year

Drop-Off: 6th graders should be dropped off at the fieldhouse entrance. Both 7th & 8th graders should be dropped off at the main entrance. Students not involved in morning sports or activities should not arrive before 7:30 a.m. **The doors will not unlock until 7:30.**

Pick-Up: The 6th grade pick-up zone after school will be the fieldhouse parking lot. The 7th and 8th grade pick-up zone will be the main entrance parking lot in front of the school. If you have multiple students, you may select the pick-up zone you would like to use.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. High school students will be parking in the west lot (in front of the stadium and the administration building). For safety reasons, we are advising that students not be picked up in that parking lot this year.
2. To avoid and help reduce the congestion that will occur during after school pick-up, especially this year with high school students added, our recommendation is to wait until 3:30 to pick up your child. By that time, most cars and the buses will be gone.
3. An easy solution for traffic difficulties is to have your kids ride the bus. Contact Transportation, 515.961.9500 x1620.

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.

Late Arrivals, Early Dismissals, Absences

Attendance Line Phone Number: 515.961.9530, press 1
Attendance Line Email: imsattendance@indianola.k12.ia.us

(Please call or email to report Absences and Late Arrivals.)

Late Arrivals: All students arriving to school after 8:00 will enter through the main entrance and check in to the office. If possible, please notify the office before 8:00 or send a note with student stating the reason for the tardy. You do not need to accompany your child into the school for late arrivals.

Early Dismissals: Please notify a secretary in advance if you will be picking your student up early. That way, we can give them a pass to leave the room quietly when it's time. You can do this by having your student bring a note to the office before 8:00, or by calling or emailing the office. We ask that you give us notice so that we can avoid disrupting classrooms with phone calls requesting that a child leave the room. A parent/guardian must come into the building to meet their child.

Absences: Please notify the office by 8:00 a.m. when your student will be absent. Clearly state the child's name, grade, date of absence, and reason for absence. Students may request homework directly from their teachers via email when they are absent.

Lunches

6th Grade: 10:55-11:25; 11:10-11:40 (Wed)
7th Grade: 11:42-12:12; 11:50-12:20 (Wed)
8th Grade: 12:29-12:59; 12:30-1:00 (Wed)

*Please label lunch boxes and bags with child's name.

*No food deliveries from outside vendors will be accepted; parents must deliver the food themselves, and it must be labeled with student's name.

*No caffeinated drinks

*Parents/guardians may only sign *their* child out for lunch; your child's friend may not leave with you unless his/her parent is also with you.

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.

Food Service

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

[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.

Quick Links:

[District Website](#)
[Information Technology Link](#)
[IMS Link](#)
[Food Service Link](#)
[Transportation Link](#)
[Student Handbook](#)

Dates to Remember:

September 2 - No school, Labor Day

September 5 – School Pictures

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

October 29-31 – Conferences

November 1 – No School

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](#).

Indianola Athletic Booster Apparel

Here is the link to the IABC apparel shop: <https://indianolaathleticboosters.square.site/>. You can order until the August 28th at noon.

Orders will be ready for the first home football game on September 6th.

Visual Arts Extracurricular Opportunities

There are opportunities for 6th – 8th graders throughout the year to put their creative skills to use and get involved. View the information below, and email Mrs. Smith with any questions you may have – Lisa.smith@indianola.k12.ia.us.

[Overview of all Visual Arts Opportunities open to IMS Students \(Link\)](#)

[Art Club Information Link](#)

- [6th Grade Art Club Sign Up](#)
- [7th Grade Art Club Sign Up](#)

[Emerging Excellence Information Link](#)

- [Emerging Excellence Sign Up](#)

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](#)

Activity Passes for 2024-2025

The Indianola Community School District would like to bring to your attention an amazing cost saving opportunity for you and your student. ICSD offers Activity Passes that allow your student entry into all High School and Middle School athletic home events, as well as some music events (the offer does not apply to special events and district/state playoffs).

The cost per pass is \$50. (The cost to attend games varies from \$3-\$6 based on the sport and level of competition.) Middle School students will have a sticker placed on their student ID to indicate they have purchased an Activity Pass. Student ID cards are handed out the first day of school.

There are two ways to purchase:

1. Online through Revtrak at this link: <https://indianola.revtrak.net/> OR
2. In person at the Middle School office payable by cash (exact amount if possible, please) or check (made payable to Indianola Middle School).

Did You Already Buy an Activity Pass?

Students will receive an ID card on the first day of school. If you purchased an activity pass for your child before August 19th, there will be an orange "24" sticker attached to the ID. If you purchased one but there is not a sticker, remind your child to stop in to the main office to get it. Students will be reminded of this during daily announcements, as well.

It is the student's responsibility to come to the office and get their sticker.

Miscellaneous...



All IMS students are invited to attend The Zone starting September 19th. 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.

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.

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/>

Interested in Joining the Indianola Trap Team?

Please join our team meetings on either August 23rd from 6:00 - 7:30 pm at Fairview Community Church or August 28th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm at the Warren County Izaak Walton Clubhouse. Parents are required to attend, and the registration link will be provided following the meeting.

If you have any questions, please email Coach Aaron Rasko: aaronrasko@gmail.com

INDIANOLA TRAP TEAM REGISTRATION MEETING

New and Returning IYTT Members and Parent Registration meetings will be held at the Warren County Ikes on August 23rd from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm at Fairview Community Church and August 28th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm at the Warren County Izaak Walton Clubhouse.

Registration information, practice updates and volunteer opportunities/needs of the team will be presented.

All returning athletes and at least 1 Parent/Guardian must attend one of these meetings. Please RSVP in the Calendar on TeamApp.

Any questions may be directed to your Grade Representative on TeamApp.

Not a school sponsored activity.