

Indiana Area Senior High School

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are well into the second quarter of the year, and hopefully, the students are keeping up with their studies. As the year progresses, the academic work becomes more rigorous. Please encourage your child to persevere and dedicate himself/herself to achieving his/her potential. A strong work ethic is something of which to be proud. As a parent, I encourage you to check your child's grades on Power School and to contact teachers or counselors if there are any concerns.

During the next several weeks, you may become harried because of the upcoming holidays. Although you may be quite busy with shopping, cooking, wrapping, etc., don't forget to make time for your children, friends, neighbors, and relatives. Try to make time to attend our annual holiday choral concert on December 17. It will get you into the spirit of the season. Make these next weeks joyous and peaceful for your family. The staff at Indiana Senior High School wishes you a "Happy Holiday."

HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT

December 17
7:30 p.m.
IHS Auditorium

GUIDANCE OFFICE NEWS

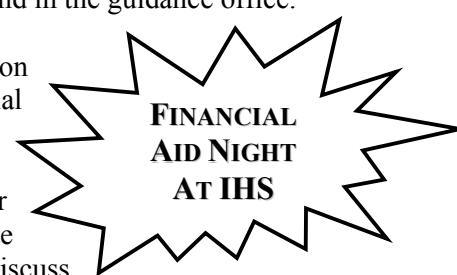
SAT Prep Class: Letters to juniors describing the SAT preparation classes that begin on December 19 were mailed in mid-November. Since enrollment space is limited to 60 students and the class is quickly filling, those who wish to register for **the class should remit the \$40 fee** and the registration form to the guidance office as soon as possible.

SAT Testing: Students who have registered to take the December 5 SAT must report to their testing site no later than 7:45 a.m. on that date. Photo identification is required. If a student does not have photo ID, Mrs. Allhouse in the guidance office can provide it for your child. Students should bring Number 2 pencils and a calculator to the test.

Senior College Applications: Seniors need to be aware of college application deadlines for schools of interest and plan accordingly.

Senior Scholarship Opportunities: Seniors and their parents are reminded that an up-to-date list of general scholarship opportunities are posted on the guidance office website (www.iasd.cc; Senior High; Guidance). If not directed elsewhere, applications can be found in the guidance office.

Financial Aid Night: At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2010, a Financial Aid Workshop will be presented for parents of seniors in the Large Group Instruction Room (LGI) at the senior high. Alisa DeStefano, Associate Director of Financial Aid at IUP, will discuss the various types of aid available to students who will be attending some form of post-secondary education. The information presented will be applicable not only to colleges but also to business, trade, technical, and nursing schools.



School Guidance Website: Parents and students are encouraged to periodically check the guidance website (www.iasd.cc; Senior High; Guidance) for information on scholarships, dual enrollment, junior and senior year career planning checklists, and a calendar of college/technical school visitations to the high school.

SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS

Governor Rendell's 2009-10 Pennsylvania budget cut funding for all of the Pennsylvania Governor Schools. However, two universities in the state have developed summer programs in an effort to continue these residential learning experiences for high achieving students. The **Pennsylvania School for Global Entrepreneurship** will be held at Lehigh University from June 27 to July 31, 2010. The tuition fee for the five-week program is \$2,500 and includes all housing, food, program sessions, educational materials, and educational excursions. For an application or further information, please visit www.iacocca-lehigh.org and click on High School Program. Applications must be received by February 15, 2010, with notification of acceptance in early April. The **University of Pittsburgh Health Career Scholars Academy** will be held at Pitt from June 27 to July 24, 2010. Fees and expenses are \$2,300 and will include all tuition, course materials, curriculum-related social activities, field trips, housing, and meals for the duration of the four-week residential program. A limited amount of money may be available to assist applicants who are accepted to the program and who demonstrate financial need. Applications and information may be found at www.pitt.edu/~pgshc. Applications must be postmarked by February 5, 2010, with email notification of acceptance from March 22 to March 26, 2010. Students should begin the application process early as the application form for both programs is extensive.

A "GREENER" SENIOR HIGH NEWSLETTER

The senior high newsletter is now being delivered via email. If you would like to receive a copy of the senior high newsletter electronically at your own email address, please send an email to ihsnewsletter@iasd.cc. Please include your name, your child's name, and your child's grade level in the email. If you choose this option, we will not send a paper copy to your mailing address. This should help with the speed of delivery and save money, paper, and energy. The senior high school newsletter is also available online at the district's website. **Note: This email account is not used for communications, only newsletter delivery.**



FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to the following individuals who were recently cast in the upcoming production of Ayn Rand's "The Night of January 16th."

Katie Davis (Prison Matron)
Hannah Harley (Bailiff)
Dan Pfeffer (Judge Heath)
Alex Hilditch (District Attorney Flint)
Brynn Arnall (Her Secretary)
Adam Pistole (Defense Attorney Stevens)
Katie Mihelcic (His Secretary)
Kevin See (Clerk of Courts)
Linda Kanyarusoke (Karen Andre)
Jivan Wheeler (Dr. Kirkland)
Melinda Shock (Mrs. John Hutchins)
Andrew Piper (Homer Van Fleet)
Tony Jones (Elmer Sweeney)
Kristin May (Nancy Lee Faulkner)
Bethany Geiger (Magda Svenson)
Brock McGinnis (Mr. Whitfield)
Andy See (James Chandler)
Nick Strittmatter (Sigurd Jundquvist)
Steve Bivens (Larry Regan)
Ashlee Lamar (Roberta van Renselear)
Jenna Bothell (Stenographer)
Kaitlyn Myers (Stage Manager)
Töve Johnson (Assistant Stage Manager)

Join us on January 15 and 16, 2010, for Ayn Rand's "The Night of January 16th." Be a part of this unique show where the jury is selected from the evening's audience, and YOU, along with eleven other audience members, will decide the outcome of this show. Will Karen Andre be convicted of murder or not?

ESL FAMILY NIGHT 2009

On Thursday, November 12, dozens of ESL students from our district, including five from the senior high participated in our annual Family Night gathering at Eisenhower Elementary. The district is committed to parent outreach and provides this opportunity each year for families to get together and enjoy viewing their students' work. All of our senior high ESL students submitted work for display or did a live presentation. **Azi Ben Salamh** recited a poem called "My Mother," **Rozh Ali** talked about his Iraqi state and showed photos, **Jing Jing Xu** presented a PowerPoint presentation on "Disasters in History," and **Hide Takashima** played a piano composition called "Oriental Wind." **Ying Dong** submitted a composition. Many families brought traditional ethnic food dishes to share with everyone. The evening was fun and enjoyable for all.

SPORTSMANSHIP FOR OUR COMMUNITY, FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

The role of the parent in the education of a young athlete is important. The support shown in the home is often manifested in the ability of the student to accept the opportunities presented at school, in the classroom, and through co-curricular activities.

There is a value system – established in the home, nurtured in the school – that young people are developing. Their involvement in the classroom and other activities contributes to that development. Integrity, fairness, and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics, and these are the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of the competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and grateful acceptance of the results.

It is critical that we all work to reinforce the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through our education and athletic programs. A good sport, whether a student or parent, is a true leader within the school and the community. As a parent of a student, your sportsmanship goals should include:

- Realizing that athletics are part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of a contest.
- Encouraging our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their class work, knowing that others may turn in a best-to-their-ability performance on any given day.
- Participating in positive cheers that encourage our athletes and discouraging any cheer that would redirect that focus.
- Learning, understanding, and respecting the rules of the contest, the officials who administer them and their decisions.
- Respecting the task our coaches face as teachers and supporting them as they strive to educate our youth.
- Respecting our opponents as students and acknowledging them for striving to do their best.
- Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances.
- Be a fan...not a fanatic!

You can be part of a message sent through our community that interscholastic athletics potentially have a lifetime learning experience impact. Unlike sports events we see on television at the collegiate and professional level where entertainment is the mission and sportsmanship is not a primary objective, our goal is to have an educational affect.

You can have a major influence on your student athlete's attitude about academics and athletics. The leadership role you take in sportsmanship will help influence your child, and our community, for years to come.

We look forward to seeing you at our numerous athletic events this year and hope the upcoming season will be a rewarding one for you and your student athlete.

STUDENTS PASS BILLS IN MOCK CONGRESS

Congratulations to these seniors whose bills passed at the recent mock congress.

Tia Kordell (Minimum Miles Per Gallon for Los Angeles Act)

Josh Doran (Clemson Developmental Bill)

Tiara Stossel (Preserve the San Francisco Environment Act)

Leah Steetle (Breast Cancer Treatment Funding for Pennsylvania Act)

Tara Federoff (New Energy for Boston, Massachusetts, Act)

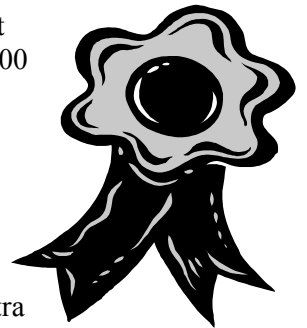
Sean McKee (Helping HANDS for Autism Act of 2009)

Hannah Fullerton (Mental Health Benefits for Veterans of War in Middle East Act)

STUDENTS ARE SELECTED FOR IUP HONORS BAND

Congratulations to the following students for being selected to participate in the IUP Honors Band: **Katie Barbor, Michael Davidson, Andrew Earhart, Marykate Kuhne, Allison Moore, and Natalie Young.**

They will participate in a concert scheduled for December 13 at 2:00 p.m. in Fisher Auditorium. Congratulations!!



STUDENTS SELECTED FOR DISTRICT ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to the orchestra students who were selected to the PMEA District 2, 3, 5 Orchestra. They will travel to Warren, Pa., on January 14 at which time they will audition for the opportunity to go on the WRSO Region Orchestra. Students going to Warren are **Molly Gongaware, Ben Lenze, Maria Deem, Bethany Peng, Sophie Loughry, Ean Villemain, Marykate Kuhne, and Becca Anthony.**

H1N1 Update: The Purple Form

If your child received an H1N1 vaccination at the senior high school on Wednesday, December 2, he/she would have received "the purple form." This half sheet purple form is documentation that your child received the vaccination. The form is to be given to your family doctor who will place it in your child's medical records. If you did not see the form, please check your child's book bag and pockets, hopefully you will find it there. Thank you for your prompt attention and participation throughout this entire process.

Parents of the Class of 2010

Graduation Announcement Information: In October, the Class of 2010 officers met with Mr. Dan Morgan from the Balfour Company to select their graduation announcements. The announcements they designed were chosen exclusively for the Class of 2010. Mr. Morgan will be meeting with the entire class on Friday, January 8, during first period. At that time, he will go over how to order graduation announcements. He will give your senior a brochure and order forms that you will need to order graduation announcements. It is important that this information gets home to you. The cost of the announcements is approximately \$1 each. This includes the announcement, the inner envelope, and the outer envelope. Graduation announcements can be purchased individually or in multiples of 25. Name cards for the announcements can be purchased separately or as part of a package of graduation items along with the announcements. When ordering name cards, the spelling of the graduate's name is to be written on the order form exactly as you want it to appear on the name card. Name cards are only sold in blocks of 100. Other graduation items are also for sale through the Balfour Company and are included in the brochure that will be sent home with your senior. If your senior is not in school on January 8, she/he needs to see Ms. Garbrick in Room 118 to pick up the brochure as soon as she/he returns to school.

On **Friday, January 15**, Mr. Morgan from the Balfour Company will be back at IHS to take your senior's order for graduation announcements, name cards, etc. Mr. Morgan will be taking orders during periods 1-5 (8:15 a.m. to 12:23 p.m.) in front of the cafeteria. If you would like to come in and place the order for your senior, please stop in the high school office and sign in before going to the cafeteria. **All orders for graduation announcements, name cards, etc. must be pre-paid. Checks and money orders for graduation announcements, name cards, etc., should be made out to the**

Pittsburgh Balfour Company. If you choose to pay with a credit card, make sure that you write the correct number and expiration date of your credit card on the order form and also make sure that you sign the order form. **If you are paying with cash, please have the exact amount. If your senior is not in school on January 15, she/he can still turn in the order to Ms. Garbrick in Room 118, and she will forward it to the Balfour Company. You may also mail the order yourself to the Balfour Company. Orders placed after January 27 may be subject to a late fee.**

If your son/daughter participated in the fundraiser, he/she has already indicated how those credits are to be divided. If he/she has specified that part of these credits were to be used for the graduation announcements, then a credit slip will be received in homeroom the week of January 11. This must be given to Mr. Morgan with the graduation announcement order.

Class of '10



Cap and Gown Information: At the class meeting on January 8, order forms will be given to each senior to order a cap, gown, and tassel for graduation. The style of graduation gown that is worn by Indiana graduates is a black gown with a single red stripe on the bottom of each sleeve. You will be asked to fill in your child's weight and height on the order form. Do not underestimate these measurements; otherwise, the gown will be too short and/or may be too tight. When filling in your child's height, add an additional inch (**not several inches**) if she/he will be wearing shoes to graduation with a thick sole or high heel. No head measurements are needed since all caps are "one size fits all." A 2010 tassel is included with the order and does not need to be ordered separately.

Seniors are permitted to wear a cap and gown that was worn by a graduate from the last few years in lieu of purchasing a new cap and gown. A 2010 tassel will

need to be purchased. Included in the information that will be given to your senior at the January 8 meeting will be a separate form that will need to be returned to Ms. Garbrick to inform her if your senior will be using a cap and gown from a former graduate and will need to order a 2010 tassel.

All orders for caps and gowns must be made on January 15 and must be prepaid. The cost is \$26 and a separate check must be made out to Indiana Area High School. If your senior is using a cap and gown from a previous graduate, a Class of 2010 tassel can be ordered for \$4 at this time.

While caps and gowns are ordered in January, they will not be distributed until the week of graduation.

Please note that seniors and their families are under no obligation to order graduation announcements, but all seniors planning to attend graduation must either:

Turn in their order form and the payment for their cap and gown on Friday, January 15.

OR

Turn in the form included with their graduation announcement/cap and gown information indicating that they are planning to wear a cap and gown from a former Indiana graduate and submit payment for a 2010 tassel.

Students absent on January 15 need to see Ms. Garbrick in Room 118 to turn in their order form and payment for their cap and gown when they return to school. **Remember, seniors must pay for their cap and gown when they place their order.**

If your child participated in the fundraiser, he/she may have indicated that part of it is to be used for his/her cap and gown. You may just check that box on the order form.

Families experiencing financial hardship should contact Ms. Garbrick or your senior's guidance counselor (724-463-8562), and we will make every effort to secure a cap, gown, and tassel for your senior to wear to graduation. This information will be kept confidential.

Senior Attendance and Obligations: Every year some seniors take it upon themselves to participate in senior skip days. These unofficial activities are a disruption to the educational process. Often it is the seniors who can least afford to miss school who are first to participate in these unexcused absences. We work very closely with Mrs. Daskivich and Mr. McElheny to try to arrange the end-of-the-year activities for the senior class so that all seniors can be excused from school for the class trip and for graduation practice. The school district is under no obligation to give seniors any release time for end-of-the-year activities. It is important that you and your senior understand this. Our only leverage when we approach the school administration to lobby for additional time off for the entire senior class is the overall behavior of the class, and school attendance factors greatly into the decisions that are made. Please share these concerns with your children and work with us to ensure they attend school every day.

On January 19, the second quarter officially ends. For some of our seniors, the attitude exists that their senior year of high school is also over. This attitude can lead to some problems for your senior. It is unfortunate, but every year some seniors do not make it to graduation. Attendance problems, failure to complete their graduation project, failing to dress for gym class, unpaid expenses, and failing classes required for graduation are all reasons why some seniors do not receive their diplomas on time. Now is the time to contact your child's teachers and guidance counselor to make sure that your senior will not find herself/himself in this position. Please talk to your senior about putting forth her/his best efforts throughout the remainder of her/his senior year.

Senior Class Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 8 Senior class meeting during 1st period about ordering graduation announcements and caps and gowns
- Jan. 15 Orders for graduation announcements and caps and gowns, including payment, are due
- May 21 Senior class trip
- May 30 Baccalaureate at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church 3:00 p.m.
- June 2 Graduation Practice in the old gym at 9:00 a.m.
- June 3 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

Senior Class Items Order Form – We have extras!

Name _____

HR # _____

_____ Drawstring Bag (Only 3 are available.) \$16.00
Red drawstring bag with Indiana Logo and zipper pocket on front.

_____ “IHS Class of 2010” Lanyard: \$5.00

_____ Senior Class Picture: \$10.00

Checks should be made out to “IHS.”
Please place check/cash and order form in a sealed envelope.
Give these to either your homeroom rep or send to Room 118.
See Ms. Garbrick in Room 118 if you have any questions.

DATES TO REMEMBER **DECEMBER 2009 – JANUARY 2010**

- December 5:** *Tinsel Ball, 7:30 p.m.*
- December 10:** *SH/JH String Orchestra Concert*
- December 11 – 12:** *Basketball Tournament*
- December 17:** *Holiday Choral Concert*
- December 21:** *Winter Begins*
- December 24 – January 3:** *Winter Vacation*
- December 29 – 30:** *Basketball Tournament*
- January 8:** *Senior Class Meeting*

