

Indiana Area Senior High School

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Is it 2010 already? It seemed not too long ago we were concerned about coming into the new millennium, and now we are into a new decade. I hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday. I, along with the IHS faculty and staff, extend good wishes for the New Year.

Our school had a tremendous outpouring of “giving” this season. IHS students contributed to the Love Basket, Shoes for Haiti, Coats for Kids, Habitat for Humanity, and the annual Teddy Bear Fund Drive. I am pleased, but not really surprised, at the generosity of our students, parents, teachers, and staff. Thank you, everyone.

The students will soon be ending the first semester of the school year on January 19. Some will be having final exams for semester courses, so please remind them to study. If they found their grades were not as good as expected this first semester, encourage them to do better, as they have two more quarters to improve those grades in year-long courses.

I want to remind you of the upcoming parent/teacher conferences on February 15, 2010. Should you want to meet with any of the teachers, please plan your schedule and contact the guidance office to arrange a conference time. You can email or call teachers for any update on your child’s progress. Also, don’t forget to check PowerSchool regularly.

We look forward to the new year, a new semester, and all that it brings. It’s going to be an exciting and busy second half of the school year.



The IHS Drama Department Presents
Ayn Rand's
The Night of January 16th
January 15 & 16
8:00 p.m.
IHS Auditorium

NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

PSAT/SAT Tests: PSAT test results were returned to participating students in early December; they were encouraged to share their results with their parents. Students were instructed in the interpretation of the results and how to use their score report to prepare for upcoming SAT's. SAT's will be administered on March 13, 2010 (registration deadline February 4, 2010), May 1, 2010 (registration deadline March 25, 2010), and June 5, 2010 (registration deadline April 29, 2010). The March and June SAT is administered at IHS. Register at www.collegeboard.com. As always, early registration is highly recommended.

SAT Preparation: Students who did not elect to participate in the IHS-sponsored SAT Prep Course can still prepare for the test through a free program sponsored by the Salvation Army. Tutors work with students from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings prior to the scheduled exam. Contact the Salvation Army for details. In addition, a US Army-sponsored website, www.march2success.com, provides a free on-line SAT/ACT/ASVAB tutorial.

College Applications: Although school counselors have processed a great number of post-secondary school applications in the past few months, seniors who have not completed this process have been encouraged to submit their applications as quickly as possible. Due to

the large volume of applications that are being received by colleges and universities this year, it is vitally important that seniors complete the application process as soon as possible. In addition, students need to be aware of application and financial aid deadlines set by individual schools. This information can be found on individual school websites.

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). 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.

Scholarship Information: Seniors and senior parents are strongly encouraged to review the listing of scholarships that was mailed home as well as given to seniors in December. Scholarships on file in the guidance office are constantly updated on the school's guidance website. Unless noted otherwise, applications can be found in the guidance office. Indicated deadlines must be followed.

Career Education: In cooperation with English teachers, during the first semester the guidance counselors have worked with 10th and 11th graders in the completion of a career awareness project that also serves as a portion of the state mandated Graduation Project. Sophomores were administered an interest inventory and then were required to investigate and present information on careers of personal interest. Utilizing a computerized program, Career Cruising (www.careercruising.com), juniors were able to get a listing of colleges/trade-technical schools that met their personal requirements based on a chosen career path. They were then asked to investigate a number of these schools. Parents are encouraged to talk with their children about their experience with these activities.

Groundhog Shadowing Day: Although all students are encouraged by counselors to job shadow throughout the school year, special emphasis is placed on job shadowing on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, and throughout the month of February. Any students who wish to job shadow on February 2 or at any point throughout the year should see their school counselor. Be aware that the shadowing and touring of Indiana Regional Medical Center has been suspended until the H1N1 flu season has ended.

FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

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?

The following individuals are 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 Jundquist)
Steve Bivens (Larry Regan)
Ashlee Lamar (Roberta van Renselear)
Jenna Bothell (Stenographer)
Kaitlyn Myers (Stage Manager)
Töve Johnson (Assistant Stage Manager)

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.**



DRIVER EDUCATION

The Spring II Driver Education classroom phase is scheduled to start on February 22 and continue through April 9. Driving is tentatively scheduled to start on March 1. Students must have a PA learner's permit or a PA drivers license to take the class. Attendance is mandatory for the classroom phase, so please plan your schedule carefully. All the dates are listed for all the classes at the high school website under driver education. Driving times are scheduled in the order in which students sign up for the class, so early enrollment is highly recommended. The cost of the class is \$40. Applications are available from Mrs. Mathe in the athletic office. If you have any questions, please contact the high school (athletic office) and leave a message, one of the driver education teachers will get back to you.

Looking ahead:

Spring III – April 12 - May 21, 2010

Summer I – June 7 - June 29, 2010

Summer II – July 7 - July 29, 2010

PARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2010

The start of the new year will be full of activity for the Class of 2010. On Friday, January 8, the senior class will meet with our Balfour representative, Mr. Dan Morgan, to receive information on ordering graduation announcements. On January 15, Mr. Morgan will be back to take orders for graduation announcements and to measure seniors for their caps and gowns for graduation. If you do not receive this information, please contact Ms. Garbrick **immediately** (724-463-8562 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 2:36 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.).

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 projects, 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 the school year.

CARING HOMES DIRECTORY

DR. DAVID R. ALLEN, DISTRICT PSYCHOLOGIST

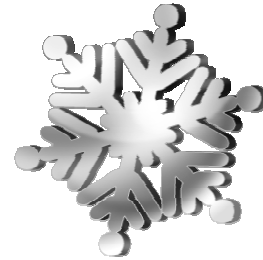
The ninth edition of the Indiana Area School District's Caring Homes Directory has been mailed. I am happy to say that we reached this year's goal of having 45% (1,294) of our District's students represented in the directory. The directory has certainly grown since the very first directory in 2001, which had 13% (442) of our students included. If you have received this year's directory, please carefully exam your family's information and let us know if any corrections are needed. We try our best to keep up with current information, but we do make mistakes and sometimes the ever-changing family information gets past us. We apologize if we did not "get it right" for your family.

I believe that the growth of the directory can be directly related to the value that parents place on communication with other parents. Parents want to be assured that there is appropriate supervision whenever their children leave their home. Please continue to utilize the directory and encourage your friends to take the Caring Home Pledge for the 2010/2011 directory. Information about the Caring Home Program and a printable version of the pledge can be found on the District's website (www.iasd.cc). That's right, we are already accepting pledges for next year's directory.

Finally, I would like to give a great big "shout out" to the Armstrong-Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission. Their generous financial contribution made this year's directory a reality. Funding for the project was provided through the Commission's Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant. A special thank you to Executive Director Kami Anderson and Deputy Director Carrie Bence. It is wonderful to be in a caring community where many people and agencies are interested in the health, welfare, and safety of our children. If you are unfamiliar with the Armstrong-Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission you can learn about them at their website (www.aidac.org).

DATES TO REMEMBER
JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2010

- January 13:** *PMEA District Orchestra*
- January 14:** *Financial Aid Night, 6:30 p.m.*
- January 15:** *Senior Cap, Gown, & Announcements Due*
- January 15 – 16:** *Drama Production, 8:00 p.m.*
- January 18:** *No classes*
- January 19:** *End of First Semester*
- January 23:** *SAT Testing*
- January 27:** *PMEA District Chorus*
- January 29:** *11:00 a.m. Dismissal*
- February 10:** *PMEA District Band*
- February 12:** *No Classes, Emergency Make-up Day#1*



2009-2010

TESTING, MEASUREMENT, AND INDIVIDUAL APPRAISAL PROGRAM

| Test | Administered | Grade Level | Purpose |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Phelps Kindergarten Readiness Scale | Spring | Kindergarten - prior to entrance | Assessment of readiness skills; Title I identification |
| Speech/Language Screening | January/February | 2 | Assessment of speech and/or language difficulties |
| DIBELS & Number Knowledge Test | Periodically according to RtI | K-2 | Assessment of progress in reading and math concepts |
| Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) | Fall, Winter, Spring (2 or 3 times) | K-11 | Measures progress over time in reading, math, and language arts |
| SAT-10 and OLSAT-8 | As needed | 2-7 | Gifted screening and other uses as determined by counselor |
| Pennsylvania State Assessment (PSSA) Grade 12 Retest Math, Reading, Science, & Writing | October 26-Nov 6 | 12 | Retest option for non-proficient students (based on Grade 11 PSSA) |
| Pennsylvania State Assessment (PSSA) Reading & Math PSSA-Modified Math | April 7-16 April 7-16 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 | Assessment of reading comprehension and math concepts/problem solving |
| Pennsylvania State Assessment (PSSA) Writing | April 19-23 | 5, 8, 11 | Assessment of writing achievement |
| Pennsylvania State Assessment (PSSA) Science | April 26-30 | 4, 8, 11 | Assessment of science achievement |
| PSSA Continuation of all Make-ups | May 3-7 | As Needed | |
| PSSA – Modified Reading Field Test PSSA – Modified Science Field Test | May 17-21 May 17-21 | 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 8, 11 | |
| PASA - Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment Math & Reading Science | Feb 15–March 26 May 3-28 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 4, 8, 11 | Measures the attainment of knowledge and skills of students with cognitive disabilities (IDEA '97) |
| ACCESS for ELLs (WIDA) | Jan. 27-March 10 | K-12 ESL students | Assessment of English language acquisition |
| Career Explorer | Spring | 6 | Self assessment/Career exploration |
| Career Cruising | Fall | 10 & 11 | Career Exploration |
| Self-Directed Search | Spring | 7 | Self assessment/Career exploration |
| Differential Aptitude Test/Career Interest Inventory (Form T) | Fall | 9 | Assessment of verbal reasoning, numerical ability, abstract reasoning, clerical speed and accuracy, mechanical reasoning, space relations, spelling, and language usage; Career exploration |
| AGS Grade + (Group Reading & Diagnostic Evaluation) | Spring | Title I Students | To determine growth in vocabulary, comprehension & listening skills |
| HEALTH SCREENING: Medical Exam (Private or at school) Dental Exam (Private or at school) Body Mass Index Vision, Height, Weight Hearing Test Scoliosis Screening | During school | K or 1, 6, 11 K or 1, 3, 7 K – 12 K – 12 K – 3, 7, 11 6 & 7 | |