

Indiana Area Senior High School

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www.iasd.cc

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 2
MRS. PAULA B. DASKIVICH, PRINCIPAL

SEPTEMBER 2009
MR. WADE L. MCELHENY, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
MR. BRIAN SCHREYER, PUBLISHER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The first week of school has passed, and I am pleased to say that the start of school at IHS has gone smoothly. Students have met their new teachers, found old friends, managed getting from the gym to science, and learned their locker combinations.

It was exciting for us to see the students return. All 750 students seemed to be refreshed and ready to take on a new year. Each summer as we prepare for the students' return, we get more anxious and excited as that August date arrives. Actually, on August 17 many (approximately 300) students were on our campus for band camp and sports practices, so it seemed like school was in full swing.

Just as much as we wanted to see the students, we are also excited to see you, the parents, at our upcoming Open House on September 15 at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this event to meet your child's teachers. The guidance counselors are also offering a program called "360 Days and Counting" for parents of juniors prior to the open house at 6:15 p.m.

I welcome all of you to our school. Please do not hesitate to call the school if you have any questions or concerns. Hopefully, you too will have a good year with your child.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

There have been several requests for schedule changes since the first day of school. Please be aware that we do not make schedule changes for reasons that are not extenuating. Because a student doesn't like another student in class, or he/she dislikes a teacher, or doesn't want to miss 8th period because of sports dismissals are not "extenuating." Students must learn to adapt to various teaching styles and to be tolerant of all classmates. Also, when a student chooses to participate in a sport, he/she must realize that his/her time will be limited and need to adapt. The entire school schedule is developed over the summer and staffing is based on student course requests. It is impossible to accommodate such requests for schedule changes and still maintain a balanced program in our school. Please explain this to your child. Thank you for your support.

SENIOR HIGH OPEN HOUSE
September 15, 2009
7:00 p.m.

GUIDANCE OFFICE NEWS

347 Days and Counting:

The school counselors will be presenting a short workshop for parents of juniors on Tuesday, September 15, at 6:15 p.m. in the auditorium, 45 minutes prior to the Open House, in which they will briefly highlight a "two-year to-do list" for parents and students who are interested in post high school education (colleges/technical schools). Parents who attend will learn how to help their sons and daughters travel through the selection/application/acceptance process of education after graduation.

(Guidance News continued on next page)

ATTENTION PARENTS

Edline will no longer be used as the parent portal for the Indiana Area School District, beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. As a result of a required change in our child accounting system by the vendor, a new parent portal to access student grades - called PowerSchool - will be in use and will soon become available. Letters outlining how to access PowerSchool will be mailed when the system is fully implemented. Please watch for additional details.

Senior Brag Sheets:

Throughout the course of the school year, many seniors will be requesting faculty to write letters of recommendation. Brag sheets were mailed to all seniors during the summer months with a request that they be completed and turned into the guidance office at the beginning of September so that teachers can use the information on the sheets to assist in writing a more personalized letter of recommendation. Parents are asked to assist their sons and daughters in the completion of the brag sheets.

SAT Exams:

The SAT is administered on seven Saturdays throughout the course of the school year. The next SAT is October 10 at IHS. The regular registration deadline is September 9. Go to www.collegeboard.com to register. Registering far in advance of the testing date is strongly encouraged for students to be able to test at the location of their choice.

PSAT/NMSQT Exam:

The PSAT exam is administered to juniors on Saturday, October 17, at IHS from 7:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Juniors who wish to take this exam can register in the guidance office from September 8 through September 18 by paying a \$13 registration fee payable to Indiana High School.

College/Career Fair:

Juniors will be transported from school to the Indiana County Counselors Association College/Career Fair held at the Memorial Field House on the Campus of IUP on Tuesday, October 6, 2009. Parents who wish to talk with representatives from colleges as well as trade/technical schools are invited to the Field House from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

AFTER PROM COMMITTEE

Attention Parents! If you would like to have an After Prom event available to junior and senior students who attend the 2010 Prom, please consider being part of the committee to make this happen. There are a few things that need to be done now to ensure a smooth and fun event in May. Currently, there is no committee in place. Last year, a committee of only about 10 people made the entire event at Dave and Busters run with ease. For more information, call the school office.

GIRLS, COME PLAY LACROSSE!

A girls' lacrosse team is now forming. It is for girls in 9th through 12th grades of ALL skill levels. Never played before? NO Problem! We will teach you - it's FUN! For more information speak to coach Maria Patsy, junior and senior high German teacher, OR just come out! Skills learning sessions are every Sunday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the East Pike Soccer Fields.

FROM THE BIOLOGY DEPT.

In the near future, the Biology Department will begin labs that involve the dissection of animals. As required by law, you are being notified of your child's right to refuse to participate in these activities. Your child may stay and observe these dissections or be given an alternative assignment. The student or parent needs to inform the teacher of the student's choice in this matter.

DRIVER EDUCATION NEWS

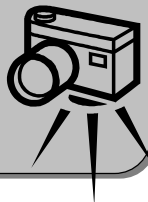
The Fall II 2009 session for driver education is scheduled to begin on October 26 and end on December 14. The classroom phase meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the LGI at the high school. Driving is scheduled in the order that the student registers for the class, so early registration is highly recommended. Registration forms are available at the athletic office from Mrs. Mathe or at the school's web site under driver education. The class is \$40. Students must possess a PA learner's permit or a PA driver license. If you have any questions concerning the program, please contact the high school and leave a message; one of the instructors will return your call.

ESL STUDENTS WIN AWARDS

During the month of April 2009, English language learners from Indiana Area Senior High and Indiana Area Junior High entered a poster competition sponsored by Penn State Harrisburg and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The competition centers around the theme, Multiple Cultures, Multiple Voices, and each year students whose first language is something other than English, are asked to share their thoughts and experiences. All students who participate are given recognition while two of our students from IHS placed in two different categories. **Hala Ben Salamh**, a 2009 graduate, placed in the Writing category, and **Jing Jing Xu**, a current junior, placed in the Illustration and Writing category. Congratulations to all who entered!!!

SCHOOL PICTURES

**Friday
September 11**



SENIOR CLASS NEWS

Senior Class Fundraisers:

The senior class is sponsoring two fundraisers this fall. The **Reach Out magazine sale fundraiser** requires each senior to fill out **ten** postcards with the names of family members and/or friends who will be contacted by mail to request that they consider purchasing or renewing magazines. For every magazine subscription or renewal that they order, the senior class will receive a percentage of the order or renewal price. For completing a set of ten (10) magazine post cards **by Wednesday, September 9**, each senior will receive a **free senior class picture (\$10 value) and 2010 lanyard (\$5 value)**.

Additional prizes will be given away based on the class's level of participation. Please encourage your senior to participate in this fundraiser.

The second fundraiser is a **Holiday Product and Cookie Dough Sale**. Each senior will earn credits equal to approximately 35 to 50 percent of the total cost of the orders that she/he solicits. These credits can be used to pay for the following senior class expenses: class trip (approximate cost of \$80), cap and gown (approximate cost of \$25), and/or yearbook (approximate cost of \$75). If your senior sells around \$500 worth of merchandise, then her/his yearbook, cap and gown, and class trip will be paid out of her/his credits. Your senior may also use her/his credits to purchase graduation announcements. Any credits left in a senior's class account at the end of the year goes into the general senior class fund. Credits can **only** be used to defray the cost of the class trip, cap and gown, yearbook, and graduation announcements. **All personal fundraiser orders are due by Friday, September 18**.

Senior Class Picnic:

The Class of 2010 will hold its annual picnic on Thursday, October 8. The picnic will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the upper commons of the high school. The cost is \$3. Good food will be provided and seniors will have the opportunity to compete in the Battle of the Elementary Schools Kickball Tournament. This is an event that your senior will not want to miss!

Senior Class T-Shirts, Photographs, and Lanyards:

Each year a committee of seniors designs a T-shirt for its class. The price of a senior class T-shirt will be between \$12 and \$20. Senior class photos and other Class of 2010 items will also be on sale. Class of 2010 photographs are 8.5 inches by 11 inches and cost \$10, unless your son/daughter participates in the Reach Out fundraiser. If any Class of 2010 lanyards remains from the Reach Out fundraiser, they will also be sold for \$5.

Order forms for Class of 2010 T-Shirts, class photos, and Class of 2010 lanyards will be distributed during the week of September 21. **Please note that your senior will receive a free class photo and lanyard for participating in the Senior Class Reach Out Fundraiser.**

Senior Class Upcoming Events:

| | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 9 | Reach Out booklets due |
| Sept. 18 | Personal fundraiser orders due |
| Oct. 8 | Senior class picnic/kickball tournament |
| Oct. 9 | Homecoming |
| Oct. 10 | Homecoming dance |
| Jan. 8 | Senior class meeting |
| Jan. 15 | Orders for graduation announcements and caps and gowns are due |
| May 21 | Senior class trip |
| May 30 | Baccalaureate |
| June 2 | Graduation Practice |
| June 3 | Graduation |

FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Welcome to another diverse theater season at IHS! We kick off this year with a November production of Noel Coward's classic comedy "Blithe Spirit." Auditions are on Tuesday, September 22, immediately after school in the auditorium. All interested students are encouraged to ask Mrs. Barbor in Room 7 for more detailed information.

Our January show this year is Ayn Rand's "The Night of January 16" in which the audience determines the outcome of the courtroom drama, and our musical is "The King and I" by Rodgers and Hammerstein. The spring show will be announced at a later date. We look forward to entertaining you this year.

Message from Mrs. Barbor, Dramatics Coordinator:

Parents should be aware that rehearsals for dramatic productions occur after school from 2:50 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. As the production date becomes closer, we may rehearse until 5:00 p.m. Rehearsals are in the evening during the week of the show. Students who wish to serve on a technical crew such as costumes, set painting, props, or makeup are not required to attend every rehearsal. However, students who wish to assist the director or help manage the stage for the show do need to commit to the entire rehearsal schedule. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Barbor at the senior high.

MORNING DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

As school starts again this August, parents may wish to drive and drop-off their children for the school day. Many parents have done this in years past while many other parents may be new to the traffic patterns at the senior high. For the safety of all students, we request that parents dropping off students at the senior high please adhere to the following procedures.

1. When parents pull into the driveway from North Fifth Street they are asked to turn right about halfway up the school drive, into the middle of the lower, "student" parking lot. (This is the middle entrance to the lower or student lot.)
2. Drive through the lower lot toward the gymnasium.
3. Please stay in the line. Students should exit the vehicle when the vehicle first comes to a stop in the line of traffic and walk up the right-hand side of the lot avoiding the flow of traffic.
4. At the end of the lower lot, parents will be directed back out onto the main driveway to exit the school grounds.

This procedure allows students to enter the school building safely by walking directly up the sidewalk and never needing to cross the flow of traffic. It also allows students to safely disembark from the buses at the front of the school building.

*If it is imperative that a parent or any driver of a student must park for whatever reason, **VISITOR PARKING** spaces are in the upper, "staff" lot. These spaces are the first few spaces on the right facing the school as you enter the lot. They are marked with signs. Please use only the designated visitor spaces if you must park at the high school.

We thank parents and other drivers for their consideration and help in keeping our students as safe as possible by using these procedures for bringing students to school.

ATHLETIC OFFICE NEWS

Ticket Sales for Varsity Home Football Games: During the week of each home football game, the senior high athletic office will be selling adult tickets for \$4 and pre-sale student tickets for \$2. Students who do not purchase a ticket in advance will have to pay the general admission price of \$4 at the gate. **NO** student tickets will be sold at the gate. Pre-sale student tickets are also available at the junior high and all the elementary schools for \$2.

Reserved seat tickets can be purchased in the senior high athletic office prior to each home game or at the ticket offices the night of the home football game. Cost per seat/per game is \$5.

All games begin at 7:30 p.m. on the following dates:

Friday, September 4 vs. Plum

Friday, September 18 vs. Kiski Area (*Pee Wee and Jr. High Football Recognition Night*)

Friday, October 9 vs. Highlands (*Homecoming*)

Friday, October 16 vs. Knoch

Friday, October 30 vs. Franklin Regional (*Senior Salute*)

Athletic Event Postponements and Cancellations Sent Directly to You: Register today to receive email or text message notices when an athletic event has been postponed or canceled.

- Log on to the website: www.highschoolsports.net
- Enter school name: **Indiana Area Senior High School**
- Click the "**My Account**" button at the top of the page (in the gray/black area) and follow the directions
- **It's FREE** – start getting your notices today!

The athletic department would like you to become familiar with this website and mark it as a favorite for future reference; it will be very useful for your family! If you should have any questions or need help with the website, please contact Darla Mathe, senior high athletic secretary, at 724-463-3530 or Diane Campbell, junior high athletic secretary, at 724-463-8568.

**CARING HOMES CAMPAIGN,
A MESSAGE FROM DR. DAVID ALLEN**

If you have not done so already, it is time to consider your entry into the Caring Homes Directory. Our goal this year is to have at least 45% of our students listed in the directory. Since the initial directory in the 2001-2002 school year, we have observed a steady increase in family participation.

| School Year | Number of Children in Directory | Percentage of Participating Children |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2001-02 | 442 | 13.32% |
| 2002-03 | 776 | 23.35% |
| 2003-04 | 896 | 27.71% |
| 2004-05 | 985 | 31.22% |
| 2005-06 | 1113 | 36.41% |
| 2006-07 | 1207 | 40.02% |
| 2007-08 | 1245 | 42.32% |
| 2008-09 | 1229 | 43.11% |

All participating families will receive a 2009/2010 directory. More importantly, you will have a potentially powerful tool in increasing your child's safety and your own peace of mind. Please take a moment to read about the Caring Homes Pledge that is in this newsletter. If you are not already included in the directory, fill out a pledge and return it to your school office or mail it directly to me at Indiana Area School District, 501 East Pike, Indiana, PA 15701. For those who participated last year, you need not submit a new pledge card since we will automatically include you in the directory and generate the grade change for your child. However, if there are any other family changes, please complete a new pledge.

IHS WELCOMES STUDENTS FROM SPAIN

VIVA! The Spanish Exchange Program is alive and well at IHS! From September 3 - 24, sixteen of our Spanish language students and their families will be hosting sixteen students from Malaga, Spain. Here are the pairings:

Julianna Afshar (Julia Eva Colom Martin), **Anthony Almes** (Carlos Morales Lobez), **Hannah Bair** (Anna Jimenez Tirado), **Irene Berman-Vaporis** (Maria Gallego Yanez), **Lucy Churner** (Maria Victoria Molina), **Alicia Faloon** (Beatriz Jimenez Navajo), **Natalie Gerber** (Maria Isabel Median Torres), **Arley Henry** (Sara Martin Alonso), **Rebecca Johns** (Laura Mira Ternero), **Tia Kordell** (Lucia Montesinos Aguayo), **Paul Masterson** (Daniel Arias), **Alyssa Moretti** (Ana Medina Fernandez), **Melinda Shock** (Irene Pinazo Lozano), **Kathy Short** (Sonia Racero), **Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler** (Alvaro Jose Castillo), and **Jacy Thayer** (Marina Pares Pulido).

The Spanish exchange students from Spain are expected to shadow their American counterparts during the school day. There will be some days in which the Spanish students go on excursions but their hosts will stay in school. Also, the Spanish classes traditionally have our Spanish guests visiting the classroom so that the American students can benefit culturally and linguistically. In 2010, thirteen of our Spanish III, IV and V students will travel to Malaga, Spain, to live with host families.

**DATES TO REMEMBER
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2009**

- September 11:** *Picture Day*
- September 15:** *Senior High Open House, 7:00 p.m.*
- October 3:** *Bandfest 7:00 p.m.*
- October 6:** *Career Fair at IUP*
- October 8:** *Senior Class Picnic*
- October 9:** *Early Dismissal, 11:00 a.m.*
- October 9:** *Homecoming*
- October 10:** *Homecoming Dance*
- October 10:** *SAT Testing*

H1N1 Swine Flu Update

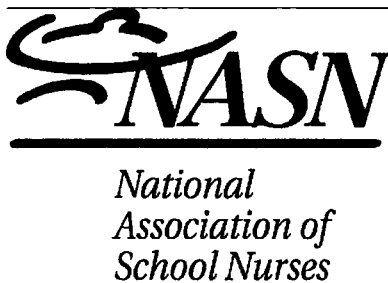
Dr. David Allen, District Psychologist

Although a complex disease, I would like to make some simple comments about what is commonly called H1N1 “The Swine Flu.” School-age children appear to be highly susceptible to this flu. However, a large majority of ill children have recovered without requiring medical treatment. Under the direction of local medical and emergency management experts, Indiana Area School District is monitoring the constant flow of H1N1 information. In other words, we are staying up to date and planning both prevention and intervention strategies.

At the end of the 2008/2009 school year, there were a number of highly publicized school closings. New guidance from all of the health experts is that schools should not close because of a few cases of students with H1N1. Children who have the flu are usually excluded from school for three to five days. The fever duration is generally two to four days and 24 hours after the resolution of the fever, without fever-reducing medication, the children can return to school. Parental cooperation is essential to the prevention and spread of the H1N1 virus.

Please take a few moments to read the attached paper titled “Talking To Children About Swine Flu (H1N1): A Parent Resource.” If you are looking for additional resources please go to the District’s homepage (www.iasd.cc) and click on the “H1N1 Updates” link.

Finally, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of consulting with our school nurses when you have questions or concerns about your child’s physical health. We trust their judgment in helping you to make decisions on school attendance when your child is showing symptoms of illness. Although always concerned about sick children attending school, we are going to be extremely vigilant this year when it comes to the spread of the H1N1 virus.



Talking to Children About Swine Flu (H1N1): A Parent Resource

Concern over Swine Flu (H1N1) can make children and parents anxious. Although to date very few people in the United States have become sick, there is uncertainty about how far and quickly the virus will spread.

Acknowledging some level of concern, without panicking, is appropriate and can result in people taking actions that reduce the risk of illness. Helping children cope with anxiety regarding the flu requires providing prevention information without causing alarm.

Children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events. If parents seem overly worried, children may panic. Parents should reassure their children that health and school officials are working hard to ensure that people throughout the country stay healthy. However, children also need factual, *age appropriate* information about the potential seriousness of disease risk and concrete instruction about how to avoid infection and spread of the virus. Teaching children positive preventive measures, talking with them about their fears, and giving them a sense of some control over their risk of infection can help reduce anxiety.

Specific Guidelines

Remain calm and reassuring. Your children will react to and follow your verbal and nonverbal reactions. What you say and do about the flu virus and current prevention efforts can either increase or decrease your child's anxiety. If true, emphasize to your children that they and your family are fine. Remind them that you and the adults at their school are there to keep them safe and healthy. Let your children talk about their feelings and help put their concerns into the appropriate perspective.

Make yourself available. Your children may need extra attention from you and may want to talk about their concerns and questions. Make time for them. Tell them you love them and give them plenty of hugs and kisses.

Know the symptoms of Swine Flu and how it spreads. Symptoms of Swine flu include fever, sore throat, and cough. Some people also have a runny nose, fatigue, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. The virus is transmitted through the coughing or sneezing of people infected with the virus. People may also become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouths or noses. The virus is not spread by eating pork or other foods.

Review basic hygiene practices. Encourage children to practice everyday good hygiene by washing their hands, by covering their mouths with a tissue when they sneeze or cough, and by not sharing food or drinks. These simple steps are very effective at preventing the spread of flu and other illnesses. Giving children guidance on what they can do to prevent infection gives them a greater sense of control over the flu and will help to reduce their anxiety.

Be honest and accurate. In the absence of factual information, children often imagine situations far worse than reality. Don't ignore their concerns, but rather explain that at the present moment the vast majority of people, even those who are sick, will be okay. Nationwide, the number of people who are currently sick is very small. Children can be told that there are many ways to avoid the virus and that doctors can help to treat people who do get sick. Contact your school nurse or pediatrician and/or refer them to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for factual information.

Discuss new rules or practices at school. Many schools will be enforcing prevention habits. This might include more frequent hand washing or use of antibacterial soaps; for older children, schools may temporarily limit activities where students are in close proximity or sharing items. Your school nurse or principal will send information home. Be sure to discuss this with your child. Contact your school nurse with any specific questions.

Avoid excessive blaming. When tensions are high, some people exert excessive energy trying to assign blame. It is important to avoid stereotyping any one group of people as responsible for the virus. Bullying or negative comments made toward another ethnic group should be stopped and reported to the school.

Monitor television viewing. Limit television viewing or access to information on the Internet. Constantly watching updates on the status of the flu virus can increase anxiety. Engage your child in games or other interesting activities instead. Developmentally inappropriate information can cause anxiety or confusion, particularly in young children.

Maintain a normal routine to the extent possible. Keeping to a regular schedule can be reassuring and promotes physical health. Ensure that children get plenty of sleep, regular meals, and exercise. Encourage them to keep up with their schoolwork and extracurricular activities, but don't push them if they seem overwhelmed.

Communicate with your school. Let your school know if your child is sick, and keep them home. Talk to your school nurse, school psychologist, school counselor, or school social worker if your child is having difficulties as a result of anxiety or stress related to the flu. They can give guidance and support to your child at school. **Follow all instructions from your school.**

Take Time to Talk

You know your children best. Let their questions be your guide as to how much information to provide. However, don't avoid giving them the information that health experts identify as critical to ensuring your children's health. Be patient; children and youth do not always talk about their concerns readily. Watch for clues that they may want to talk, such as hovering around while you do the dishes or yard work. It is very typical for younger children to ask a few questions, return to playing, then come back to ask more questions.

Keep Explanations Age Appropriate

- **Early elementary school** children need brief, simple information that should balance Swine Flu facts with appropriate reassurances that their schools and homes are safe and that adults are there to help keep them healthy and to take care of them if they do get sick. Give simple examples of the steps people take every day to stop germs, such as washing hands.
- **Upper elementary and early middle school** children will be more vocal in asking questions about whether they truly are safe and what will happen if the Swine Flu comes to their school or community. They may need assistance separating reality from fantasy. Discuss efforts of school and community leaders to prevent germs from spreading.
- **Upper middle school and high school** students are able to discuss the issue in a more in-depth (adult-like) fashion and can be referred directly to appropriate sources of Swine Flu facts (e.g., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). Provide honest, accurate, and factual information about the current status of the Swine Flu. Having such knowledge can help them feel a sense of control.

Suggested Points to Emphasize When Talking to Children

- At the present time very, very few people are sick with the flu virus in this country. School and health officials are being especially careful to make sure as few people as possible get sick.
- There are things we can do to stay healthy and avoid spreading disease, such as washing our hands, covering our mouths with a tissue when we sneeze or cough, and staying home when we don't feel well.
- Adults at home and school are taking care of your health and safety. If you have concerns, please talk to an adult you trust.
- It is important that all students treat each other with respect and not jump to conclusions about who may or may not have the flu.

For Further Information Visit:

- The National Association of School Psychologists: www.nasponline.org
- The National Association of School Nurses: www.nasn.org
- The National Parent Teacher Association: www.pta.org

Federal Resources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key_facts.htm
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.hhs.gov/>
- U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

May 1, 2009

Caring Homes Campaign

What Is The Caring Homes Campaign?

Parents today are concerned about the alarming use of alcohol and other drugs among our youth, as well as the social acceptability. Parents also are aware of the need to help children resist alcohol and other drugs. Young people must be able to feel that it is OK to abstain from alcohol and other drugs. Therefore, it is important for parents to take a unified stand on this issue. You are invited to join the Caring Homes Campaign, a voluntary program sponsored by the Indiana Area School District.

The Caring Homes Campaign is a way that parents can join together to help provide a safer community for their children. It does not require a commitment of extra time or effort for already busy family members. It is simply a public agreement to follow some common sense principles aimed at providing an alcohol and other drug free environment for children. Caring Homes encourages communication between parents and youth and emphasizes a strong parental support network.

Given that youth begin to form friendships with peers who may be unknown to parents, Caring Homes provides a vehicle for establishing contact with other families with whom your child may be associating. It also provides a way to know your child's whereabouts and activities. The goal is to encourage parents to talk with other parents about what their children are doing.

Last year, over 750 families participated in the Caring Homes Campaign, representing 1,229 children and youth. Based on positive feedback and interest, we are offering the opportunity for information to be updated and additional families to be added to this effort.

If you participated last year, you need not submit a new pledge card since we will automatically include you in the directory and generate the grade change of your child. However, if there are any other family changes, please complete a new pledge card.

Why Should I Join the Caring Homes Campaign?

- Joining lets your child know that you care.
- It helps parents establish a clear and consistent "no use" message about alcohol and other drugs.
- Your child should know that you are talking with other parents and that parents have agreed on similar rules and guidelines for their children.
- You will have access to a Fall 2009 Caring Homes Directory of parents who support this effort.

The Caring Homes Campaign Pledge

The Caring Homes Pledge is not a legal contract. Rather, the Pledge is intended to signify a good faith effort to follow its principles. It creates no legal liability for the Indiana Area School District. Parents do not create any additional legal liability for themselves or their households by participating.

Every adult in the home is encouraged to sign the pledge. Only one form per household is necessary. ***By signing the pledge, unless otherwise indicated, participants grant permission to have all information that they provide listed in the Fall 2009 Caring Homes Directory.***

Caring Homes Campaign Pledge

I Pledge to Provide a Caring Home

Although I will do my best to uphold this pledge, I cannot guarantee the safety of any child or adolescent that is visiting my home.

I will:

- Provide clear family rules for all children visiting my home.
- Provide a safe storage place for all forms of alcohol and prescription medications.
- Make an effort to inform any parent of a child that I personally observe using alcohol or other drugs.
- Welcome calls from any parent who observes or suspects my child of using alcohol or other drugs.
- Welcome calls from any parent whose child has been invited to my home.

I will not:

- Knowingly allow parties or unauthorized gatherings in my home when I am not there.
- Knowingly allow illegal drugs in my home.
- Serve minors or knowingly allow youth under the legal drinking age (21) to consume alcohol in my home or on my property.

Personal information submitted on the card below will not be sold or intentionally distributed for solicitation purposes by the Indiana Area School District.

Questions regarding the Caring Homes Campaign should be directed to David Allen, District Psychologist, at 724-463-8713.

Once completed, pledge cards may be dropped off at your child's school office. Pledge card deadline: October 8, 2009

Please Print Clearly

Parent(s): _____ Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Others: _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

City/State _____ Zip code _____

**Email Address _____ (please indicate if case sensitive)

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

****By including an e-mail address we can setup an online network between families.**