

Issaquah Middle School E-News

April 20, 2018

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From Mr. Gardiner

At IMS we have embraced our district's Positive Behavior and Social-Emotional Support (PBSES) model. PBSES is more than just a way of positively supporting student behavior, but it's something that influences the relationships we build with students and the support we are able to offer them. The PBSES framework employs evidence-based practices and multiple tiers of support to serve all students. Our vision for PBSES is to promote respect, positive relationships, and predictable, proactive learning environments so that students can lead socially and emotionally safe and healthy lives.

Our Guiding Goals for PBSES

- Students and staff understand and are mindful of their own social/emotional functioning.

- Staff demonstrates flexibility and empathy as they respond to individual student needs.
- Staff implements explicit strategies for establishing, maintaining and restoring relationships.
- Staff provides a progressive response to problem behaviors through structured Tier 1, 2, and 3 interventions.
- Students experience a reduction in unhealthy externalizing and internalizing behaviors.

Each elementary and middle school has designated Student Support Coaches who have begun working to provide direct in-classroom student and staff support implementing the PBSES framework to positively impact students and improve the school and the classroom learning environment. At IMS, we are lucky to have Mari Stevens serving in the role of our Student Support Coach and her work and support for students and staff in our community has been invaluable to the culture and climate of our building.

If you have questions about PBSES at IMS, please contact me at gardinerj@issaquah.wednet.edu or 425-837-6823.

Have a Great Weekend!

Here's what's coming up next week:

April 23-27

- **Earth Week**
- **NJHS Donation Drive**

Tuesday, April 24

- **ASB Interest Meeting – Homeroom**
- **Talent Show Dress Rehearsal after school**
- **Multi-Cultural Fair 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, April 25

- **[We Day Applications Due](#)**

Thursday, April 26

- **WEB Interest Meeting – Homeroom**

Friday, April 27

- **MVP Celebration at lunches**
- **Spirit Day – Fandom Day – Wear what you are a fan of**
- **Talent Show after school**

SBAC Spring Testing Dates

We are rapidly approaching our Spring Smarter Balanced Assessment period. This is our mandatory state testing. All students will be tested in English Language Arts and Mathematics. 8th Graders will also be tested in Science. It is very important students are present and on time to school on their testing days. We will have two testing sessions each day. Our AM session begins 2nd period and our PM session begins 5th period. All SBAC tests are taken on computers. Students should bring their own headphones for use during the test (must not be wireless). The school will have headphones available if a student forgets or does not have headphones.

Practice tests are available for students to take any time. These may help a student become more familiar with the tools available for use on the SBAC, as well as provide some practice with the style and format of questions. Use this link to access practice tests [SBAC Practice Tests](#).

Please do your best to avoid scheduling any appointments during our testing window. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in getting your student to school on time during testing. Also – remember your student will do better on these tests if he/she gets a good night’s sleep and eats a healthy breakfast.

Monday, April 30

AM 6th Grade ELA PT

PM 7th Grade ELA PT

Tuesday, May 1

AM 8th Grade ELA PT

PM 6th Grade ELA CAT

Thursday, May 3

AM 7th Grade ELA CAT

PM 8th Grade ELA CAT

Friday, May 4

AM 6th Grade Math PT

PM 7th Grade Math PT

Monday, May 7

AM 8th Grade Math PT

PM 6th Grade Math CAT

Tuesday, May 8

AM 7th Grade Math CAT

PM 8th Grade Math CAT

Thursday, May 10

AM 8th Grade Science

Middle Years Newsletter

The April edition of the “Middle Years” Newsletter is posted on our website. [Click here](#) to enjoy.

Talent Show - Friday, April 27

IMS will host our Fourth Annual Talent Show on Friday, April 27, after school from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m. in the Commons. Activity buses will be available for students to get transportation home. Concessions will be available for purchase but admission is free.

You are invited to come and cheer on IMS students as they show off their talents.

ASB Election Interest Meeting

Is your student interested in becoming an IMS ASB officer for next year? If so, please encourage your student to attend the ASB interest meeting in the Commons during Homeroom on Tuesday, April 24.

- Current 6th graders can apply and run for 7th Grade Representative (2 positions available)
- Current 7th graders can apply and/or run for Sound Tech, ASB President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or appointed ASB positions.
- Current 8th graders can apply and run for 9th Grade Representative for IHS (3 positions available)

At the meeting, students will find out what the positions entail and how to apply and/or run for a position. I hope to see your students there.

Michaela Donahoe donahoem@issaquah.wednet.edu

IMS is Looking for Students to go to We Day 2018

We Day is an initiative of WE (formerly known as Free The Children), an international charity and educational partner, that educates, engages and empowers youth to become agents of change and remove the barriers preventing them from being active local and global citizens. We Day is a day-long educational assembly held in select cities around the country to move young people into leading local and global change, and to empower their generation to shift from “me” to “we.”

Schools and students can't buy tickets to a We Day event; invitations are earned through volunteerism and service at no admissions cost to schools. This year, IMS students chose to collect gifts during the Holiday Gift Barn and food/diapers during the Clash of Cans. Later this year we will have a fundraiser to support a cause globally. IMS' long history of charitable giving, both locally and internationally, has earned them a select number of invitations to this years' We Day event in Seattle on May 3, 2018.

If your student would like a chance to attend We Day, he/she needs to fill out the application ([Click Here for the Application](#)) and turn it in to the office by Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

Ms. Donahoe will draw out 18 applications and invite the drawn students to We Day. If your student is drawn, he/she will need to return a field trip permission slip and pay

\$25.00 for transportation. Students will also need to be at school at 6:25 a.m. on Thursday, May 3, to load the bus.

Please note, May 3 is also an SBAC testing day and students in 7th and 8th grade will need to complete their missed ELA CAT test on one of the designated SBAC Make-up days.

April Spirit Day Fandom/Merch Day

Friday, April 27, is Fandom or Merch Day at IMS. Students can wear anything that represents what they are a fan of to school. Students can earn spirit points in the grade level spirit competition by dressing up.

Panther Wishes

The Issaquah Middle School ASB class is partnering with the IMS PTSA to organize a “Panther Wishes” program. The “Panther Wishes” program is aimed at providing the less fortunate at our school with items requested by others in their school, as well as grant wishes that friends have made for friends or teachers for students. Because all wishes have to be for someone else other than one’s self, our intent has been to provide an opportunity within our school for students to think compassionately and empathetically about the needs that exist on our campus. We hope this is our chance to act on this reflection.

Wishes should be legitimate needs of students rather than wants. We are defining a need as something that would get rid of a barrier.

If your student would like to make a wish for another student, please have him/her fill out the wish form, which can be found in the front office, and turn it in to the white mailbox by the Bookkeeper’s window labeled “Panther Wishes” by Monday, April 30. The ASB will try to grant as many wishes as possible.

BrainPop

Our school has a subscription to BrainPop, an award-winning educational website we trust because it delivers reliable content on topics we’re teaching your children. As part of that subscription, your family has access to BrainPop, too.

Each month, BrainPOP shares ideas and activities for using BrainPOP at home around a timely topic. This month is Computer Programming. [Sign up](#) to receive tips for watching the Computer Programming movie together and activities to extend understanding of computer programming concepts.

Username: issaquahmiddle

Password: panthers

Planning Ahead for 2018-19

Please log in to Family Access to verify that the information we have on file for your family is correct and up to date. Contact our Registrar Joni Apman at 425-837-6818 or apmanj@issaquah.wednet.edu to report changes or if you need help logging in.

You will need your Family Access login and password in order to complete Back to School Check In online in August.

Golden Acorn Recipients

The Golden Acorn award is given each year to volunteers at IMS who have given generously of their time and talent to not only the students and staff but also to our district and greater community. The recipients are chosen based on nominations received from IMS community members.

We are pleased to announce that the recipients of this year's Golden Acorn awards are:

- Blyth Claeys
- Sandra Puliezi
- Wendy Shah

In addition, Kristen Allen-Bentsen was awarded an Honorary Life Membership for her 9 years of service to IMS and the PTSA. To recognize her service a brick will be installed in the front of the school.

Congratulations to this year's recipients!

Next Week - Donation Drive to Support the Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization

The week of April 23 through 28, NJHS is sponsoring a donation drive to support the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization.

Donations can be dropped off before and after school curbside at the front of the school or in the main entryway of the school building. During the day, donations can be dropped off in the Commons area.

This year we will also have a drop off on Saturday, April 28, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tax-deductible donation receipts will be available.

Acceptable Items:

- Clothing - jackets, shoes, boots, jeans
- Electronics - radios, CDs, tapes, records
- Household items - area rugs, pots and pans, small appliances, bed sheets, comforters, pillows (no bed mattresses)
- Toys and books

- Jewelry

Unacceptable items:

- Major appliances: refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, dishwashers
- Cribs, walkers, playpens, car seats manufactured after 1986, swing sets
- Waterbeds, mattresses, box springs
- Heavy equipment, construction items, tires
- Paint, chemicals, food
- Large or heavy furniture

Mrs. Brewster and Mrs. Mallick, NJHS Co-advisors

Cold and Flu Season - Prevention and When to Keep Your Child Home from School

Influenza is severe this year and it's important to protect yourself and others from becoming ill. If your child is sick, please keep him/her at home. If you're not sure if your child has the flu, ask these questions: Does your child have a fever? Does he/she also have other symptoms such as a cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, diarrhea, or vomiting? If the answer is YES to both, your child may have the flu and should stay home. The best way to protect your family is to ensure that everyone has a flu shot annually and to make sure to wash hands thoroughly, drink plenty of fluids, get plenty of rest, and stay home when ill. For more details, including important links for your family's health and our document "When to Keep Your Child Sick Child Home" checklist, [Please visit our family health page.](#)

Issaquah Youth Advisory Board

Apply to represent your school next year on the **Issaquah Youth Advisory Board**. Details and online application can be found at www.issaquahwa.gov/yab. Inquiries? cathyj@issaquahwa.gov