

Issaquah Middle School E-News

April 27, 2018

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From Mr. Adams

Beginning Monday, April 30, Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) testing at Issaquah Middle will be underway. We appreciate your efforts in seeing that students are at school on their testing days. Please avoid making appointments or arrangements that require your student to be released early or to arrive late.

Our 8th graders will be testing on May 1, 3, 7 and 8 and, in addition, all 8th graders will take the MSP Science test on Thursday, May 10.

Our 7th graders will be testing on April 30, May 3, 4, and 8.

And our 6th graders will test on April 30, May 1, 4, and 7.

When we talk to students about the SBA at IMS, our common message to all students is to relax, work hard, and do your best, and this is exactly the message we hope that you can echo at home. When students put forth their best efforts to the SBA, it gives all of us some valuable information about their progress towards grade-level expectations in English Language Arts and Math and a profile of their strengths and weak areas in these subjects. Additionally, completing the SBA in middle school helps students to become familiar with the test and have several chances to get feedback on their performance before taking the high school Smarter Balanced Assessment as a graduation requirement.

On that note, we hope you all have a safe and restful weekend. Please remind your students to bring their headphones and a book to read on their testing days; and always, encourage them to go to bed early (or at least on time...) and get some sleep!

Here's what's coming up next week:

April 30

- **6th Grade Testing AM**
- **7th Grade Testing PM**

May 1

- **8th Grade Testing AM**
- **6th Grade Testing PM**

May 2

- **Binder Boot Camp**

May 3

- **7th Grade Testing AM**
- **8th Grade Testing PM**
- **Track Meet at PCMS**

May 4

- **6th Grade Testing AM**
- **7th Grade Testing PM**

SBA 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.

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

April Most Valuable Panthers

April's MVP Theme is "Thinking Flexibly." Look at it another way! A person who is able to change perspectives, develop creative and original alternatives and consider different options when solving a problem. Thinking Flexibly is a Habit of Mind. IMS believes we need to teach and practice thinking habits and skills, so our students will meet challenges as flexible, creative and critical thinkers.

[Click here](#) for the list of April MVP students. These students will receive ice cream during lunch on Friday, April 27, provided by our PTSA.

**May 25
No School Day**

A reminder that there is no school on Friday, May 25. The date had been designated on the [annual school calendar](#) as a possible snow make up day. Fortunately, we did not have a weather closure this winter so May 25 is a no school day.

May 10 Track Meet at Beaver Lake Middle School

Please note that our Track Meet on May 10 will be at Beaver Lake Middle School and not at IHS. This is a home meet and we need to provide volunteers. Please sign up to volunteer by [clicking on this link](#).

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

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.

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

Binder Boot Camp

Do you wonder how your child finds anything in his/her binder? Are there papers flying everywhere? Are assignments frequently missed or misplaced?

If this sounds familiar, your student may be the perfect candidate for Binder Boot Camp, an ongoing PTSA initiative to help students struggling with organization. Parent volunteers work with students one-to-one to organize current paperwork and create a system to make it easier to stay organized.

If you would like your student to participate, please send an email to BinderBootcamp@issaquahmiddleptsa.org with his/her name and grade. The next event will be held on May 2 during the school day. We schedule students based on volunteer availability and anyone we are not able to help this time will be on the list for future events.

**From the Nurse
Do You Have a Student Entering 6th Grade
In the Fall?**

All 6th grade students must have a Tdap vaccine and the date recorded before the first day of school. The student must be 11 years old to have this vaccine. If your student is already 11 and in elementary school, please get your Tdap now and report it to your student's elementary school in order to ease the transition to middle school. This vaccination may be obtained at many pharmacies, grocery stores, community health clinics or through your provider. Washington State allows exemptions from this vaccine for medical, personal or religious reasons when obtained and signed by your provider then reported to school.

Community Health locations available for immunizations - by appointment only and sliding scale:

- Health Point Redmond 425-822-1697 @ 163 NE 87th St. Suite B6 Redmond, WA 98052
- Health Point Renton 425-226-5536 @ 200 S. 2nd St. (next to Renton HS) Renton, WA 98055

From Mari Stevens – PBSES Support Coach

This is an AMAZING resource for learning about ADHD and about kids in general. Every time I look at this website, I learn more about every day kid behavior and how I can support all kinds of kids. The best part is that Margit Crane is a local author and she provides support for parents in our community!

Check out her website – “Blocked to Brilliant” - <http://blockedtobrilliant.com/>

From Issaquah High School

Open House for Incoming IHS Freshmen

Issaquah High School ASB would like to invite all incoming Issaquah High School Freshmen to come and learn more about the extracurricular programs we have at IHS during our 8th Grade Open House on May 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the IHS Commons. Members from many of our club and athletic programs will be available to answer questions and share information about their programs. Pizza will be served.