

Attention Class of 2020

No matter what your plans are for after high school, if you have not already done so, please remember to set up a meeting with your school counselor to discuss your plans. During this meeting we will review your transcript to be certain of your progress towards graduation as well as discuss your plans for after graduation.

If you are planning to apply to college, here are some reminders about the steps for applying, since the early action and early decision deadlines are coming up at the beginning of November:

- **Create a Commonapp account** – Most colleges use this system for their application.
- **FAFSA?** If you are interested in applying to college, you'll also want to apply for financial aid. The FAFSA is available starting October 1. Check out our website to review the powerpoint from the Financial Aid presentation from October 10th.
- **Match Commonapp account with Naviance** – You'll need these accounts connected to get the most out of both.
- **Write your Essays** – There are resources available to help you with this! All you have to do is ask.
- **Create a Resume** – Summer jobs, internships, volunteer work, and more.
- **Brag sheets** – If you're applying to college you will need letters of recommendation from your school counselor and from two teachers. There is a form called a "brag sheet" under the About Me tab (under surveys) in Naviance. Please fill these out! The answers to the questions on this form are incredibly helpful when writing a quality letter.
- **Request Recommenders in Naviance** – This lets the people who'll write your letters of recommendation know that you need them, and where to submit them.

- **Request Transcripts via Naviance** – You can order them for only \$1 per school, paid to College/Careers Office.

Advanced Placement Physics

The AP Physics classes are off to a running start. AP Physics 1 classes are using linearization techniques to develop models for motion from collected data – a somewhat daunting task. We will be playing around with some video analysis from student-taken short movies and soon be heading into Newton's Laws of Motion in all the AP Physics classes.

Scientific Computing Club

Scientific Computing Club is the newest club at IHS. We are working with Dave Biersach at Brookhaven National Laboratory to learn how to use the power of computers to solve real scientific problems. Students are upping the power of their desktop computers or chromebooks by using a remote desktop to another server. Dave is guiding us in learning enough coding to read and understand how the programs are functioning as we use them. For more info on this contact Deborah Lynn at

dlynn@icsd.k12.ny.us Thank you!



Code Red Robotics

Code Red Robotics is an IHS club that builds a robot every year to compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) organization sponsors four divisions for students ranging from elementary school to high school. FIRST Lego League (FLL) and FLL jr, the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC), and the FIRST Robotics Competition, which Code Red participates in. These games have teams design a robot that can do specific tasks: for example, last year's game had a robot pick up 12 inch circular plastic discs (hatch panels) and plastic milk crates (cargo pieces) and put them in goals (cargo ships and rockets). Teams earn points for placing these game pieces correctly, and can earn ranking points based on completed tasks.

A core idea of the FIRST group is giving back to the community that gives us so much support by promoting technology and engineering education. Code Red does this by volunteering at various community events. Last year, we put on robot demos at Caroline Elementary, Boyton Middle School, and at the State Fair. We volunteered at the IPEI spelling bee, a Red Cross blood drive, and the Cayuga Lake Triathlon. We also put on an annual open house at Ithaca High School, where we demo our robots, host other STEAM groups, and have activities for visitors to do.

But this commitment to the community doesn't end when the school year does! Over the summer, Code Red gave two demonstrations of our robot at the Sciencenter and another at the Ithaca High School Freshman Family Night. Code Red members also completed over three hundred and twenty hours of community service during the summer, at events like the 4th of July fireworks show, the Ithaca Airport Family Day, TCPL's moon landing party, and the AIDS Ride For Life, just to name a few. Last year, the team completed more than four hundred and thirty hours of volunteering, a number which is expected to rise over this school year.

We started this new school year off strong, welcoming over a dozen new members to the team. We've already begun the process of rookie build, which is designed to give new members experience before the build season begins in early January. They'll build a 'rookie bot,' which will go to the Rah Cha Cha Ruckus pre-season competition in Rochester, NY. It's a great chance to give rookies a feel for what competition and build season are like outside of the high-stress environment of the actual season. Overall, the team is starting out strong this year, and we're excited for this year's game!

If you are interested to learn more about Code Red Robotics and FIRST, come to the free Ra Cha Cha Ruckus event on Saturday, October 26th. Visit <http://ruckus.penfieldrobotics.com> for more information about the event.

Undivided

Undivided would like to thank the more than forty people who came to pray and sing together at See You at the Pole on Wednesday, September 25. This student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led event prays for the students, staff, administration, and board of the school as well as the community as a whole. See You at the Pole began with ten students gathering at a flagpole in Texas in 1990, and has now grown to an international gathering for hundreds of thousands of students from as far away as Korea, Japan, Turkey, and the Ivory Coast. If you missed it this year, mark your calendar for September 23, 2020: See You at the Pole is always on the fourth Wednesday in September.

Undivided students also pray before school in K-102 on Mondays from 8:15-8:45 AM, while staff and community members pray across the hall in York at the same time. You don't need to be there for the entire session. Come when you can, leave when you must, and everyone is welcome.

Social Studies

Welcome to a new school year!

The Social Studies Department would like to welcome our newest member: Simon Warhaft. Simon is a product of ICSD schools, having graduated from LACS. Simon received a B.A. from Guilford College and an M.A.T. from Ithaca College. This year, he is teaching Global History 1 and Global History II. Simon reports that he is excited to be back, and teaching, in his hometown. Welcome (back), Simon!

On a separate note, if you have questions about the course in which your child is enrolled, now or at any point during the year, please contact the teacher via email. The district directory can be found via the district website or by typing in the address below:

<https://www.ithacacityschools.org/getstaff.cfm>

Finally, if you have not yet enrolled in the parent portal for Schooltool -- which allows you to check your child's attendance and grades electronically -- we would encourage you to do so.

Art Is SmArt at IHS

Studio students jumped into book binding and constructed their own Art Journals, hand sewing in pages of different weight and color and designing their own collage cover art.

Digital Photography is mastering the function and parts of the camera and beginning to identify subject matter and compositional strategies.

Ceramics and Metals, Glass & More are designing 3D tile compositions in bas-relief, using clay and polymer, reflecting forms found in Nature.

Draw, Paint, Print students explored black and white media and the concept of abstraction as a



way to understand how artists use the Elements & Principles of Design to create dynamic compositions. Their tabletop still life of cups and eggs will prepare them for the challenge and shapes of the human face.

Media Arts will soon be learning how to code as part of the districts CS for all initiative. Students will be creating moving artworks using hummingbird robotics kits.

AP Studio Art are beginning to define the portfolio process, adding current works of hands & feet, portraits, shoes and images of magic to the mix.

AP Art History students are looking at time through the lens of art, starting with Prehistory, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and currently walking with the Romans. By the December holidays, we plan to be celebrating the Renaissance and by May, we will be wrestling with the concepts of Contemporary art.

AVID Program

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) juniors and seniors will travel to Cornell University this fall to visit with students of the Alice Cook House for a dining and networking event.

Reminders from the Health Office

9th and 11th Grade Physicals

New York State law changed last year! New York State now requires all 9th and 11th graders to have documentation of a physical exam on file with the school. Exams done within one year of the first day of school (on or after 9/5/18) will meet this requirement. If you have a 9th and/or 11th grader this year without a check-up, please be sure to schedule a well-child exam as soon as possible. Please also make sure that we receive the documentation. Physical exams within the past year are also required for sports and working papers. If you have any questions, call the Medical Office at 274-2173.

For parents of 11th graders

New York State requires all 12th graders to have received the Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine before beginning their senior year. Seniors who haven't received the vaccine within 2 weeks of the first day of school will be excluded from school. There are two doses in this series and one must be given after age 16. (Only one is required if the first dose is given after age 16.) Please don't wait until the last minute! If your child has already turned 16, be sure s/he receives this vaccine and we receive the documentation. Call the Medical Office at 274-2173 if you have any questions.

Participation in Government

The Ithaca High School Participation in Government students (almost all 150 of them!) took a field trip downtown to meet with local government officials. We had the opportunity to meet with Seph Murtagh from the Ithaca City Common Council and Anna Kelles from the Tompkins County Legislature. They shared their own journey into local government office and encouraged students to run for public office in their communities. They discussed the challenges of compromise and collaboration between different levels of government and their current priorities.

We met with the Downtown Ithaca Alliance to learn what makes a city vibrant and how Ithaca is growing. Students located key local government buildings for public meetings and elections. And students met with Lisa Nicholson from the Ithaca Planning Department to hear about the history of the Emerson building on South Hill and the potential opportunities for development as it evolves into the Chainworks District. Returning to the classroom students will be urban planners and apply the concepts they have learned to a simulated development project.



Spanish

Mrs. Miettunen's Spanish classes enjoyed learning about the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly in Spanish and their amazing journey to México. All three of our caterpillars turned into beautiful healthy butterflies, three females and one male. We successfully tagged one of them (thank you for the tags, Ms. Benenati). We hope they all have a buen viaje a México.

WISE Program

The IHS WISE Program celebrates its 25th anniversary this year! This October, WISE seniors will take an annual trip Cayuga Nature Center to partake in team-building exercises, to connect with nature, and to help winterize the property.

Syracuse Stage

270 Ithaca High School juniors will travel to Syracuse Stage on October 10th to see a production of "12 Angry Men" and engage in a talk-back with the actors and crew after the show.

