

## *From the PTA Presidents*

Greetings to the IHS community as we enter the home stretch of the 2017-2018 school year.

Congratulations to our seniors who will collect their diplomas on June 21 signifying the completion of four years of hard work and engagement. Ithaca High School provides its students with the opportunity to reach high levels of accomplishment regardless of the path they choose – from robotics to music, lacrosse to languages, running to theatre, computer coding to debating to creative writing to advanced mathematics.

The PTA again played an important role in helping to connect school and home and community by enhancing communication with the weekly E-news (thank you Erin Oates and Marilyn Sgrecci) and our quarterly WORD newsletter (thank you Gail Brisson) and annual Guide and Directory (thank you Juri Hwang, Megan Pugh, and Myra Hubbell). We held two rounds of mini teacher mini grants to support teaching and learning in IHS classrooms, supported Link Crew and the Family Liaison Program, and also organized volunteers for Picture Day, Freshman Family Night, Curriculum Night, and school mailings. Numerous volunteers have supported our popular monthly Morning Brunch for teachers and staff, and we had record membership this year.

We will round out the year with a program on Gap Year experiences on May 9, the annual Staff Appreciation Lunch on Tuesday, June 5 (see separate article on how you can help/contribute), a College Student Panel during exam week (watch the E-news for day & time), and the final PTA Meeting of the year on Wednesday, June 13 at 7 pm.

Though we each have a senior graduating this year, we also each have rising sophomores, and will continue our PTA co-Presidency next year. Looking ahead, the PTA has several positions to fill for the 2018-19 school year. WE NEED YOU! No matter how much or how little time you have, we can find the right opportunity for you to help strengthen the IHS experience. Please feel free to contact us with any questions about what we do, how you can help, or specific open positions listed below.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy summer,

Kate Supron & Monica Touesnard

PTA co-Presidents

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### OPEN PTA POSITIONS

The high school PTA is much less time-intensive than other PTAs & veteran board members/ program coordinators can guide you. Please consider taking a turn serving on the IHS PTA Board or helping in another capacity. We are looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:

- \*Secretary
- \*VP - Programs
- \*IHS Guide/Directory
- \*Layout
- \*Data
- \*Volunteer coordinator

## ***Health Office***

### **Medications**

Reminder! The school district supplies no medication for students. A parent/guardian or physician may want a student to self-administer medication during the school day or sporting events. This is helpful for students who use inhalers for asthma or need medication for allergic reactions. We need an order for “self-carry” from the physician. THIS FORM MUST BE RENEWED ANNUALLY AND SUBMITTED TO THE IHS MEDICAL OFFICE.

### **Required Physicals** (changes to state law)

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, New York State will require all 9th and 11th graders to have documentation of a physical exam on file with the school. Exams done from the start of the previous grade will suffice. If you have an 8th and/or 10th grader this year who has not received a check-up, please be sure to schedule a well-child exam as soon as possible. Physical exams within the past year are also required for sports and working papers. If you have any questions, call the Medical Office.

### **New Meningococcal Requirements for 12th Graders**

New York State now requires that 12th grade students have two meningococcal vaccines (brand names of Menactra, Menveo or Menomune). One vaccine must be given after the student turns 16. Students who receive the vaccine after age 16 only need one. If your child is entering 12th grade this fall, please be sure we have received documentation showing that your student is in compliance with this requirement. Our fax number is 274-2174. Please do not wait until the last minute – students will be excluded from school if they are not in compliance by Thursday, 9/20/18. Please call our office if you have any questions.

### **Message from the Partnership for Drug-Free Kids**

It's time for the most important spring cleaning you can do—inside your medicine cabinet. Two-thirds of teens who report abuse of prescription medicine are getting them from friends, family and acquaintances. Be sure to safeguard your home, so the teens in your life don't have access to your medicine.

Follow these three steps to find out how to monitor, secure and properly dispose of unused and expired prescription drugs and over-the-counter cough medicine in your home:

**Monitor:** Take note of how many pills are in each of your prescription bottles and keep track of your refills.

**Secure:** Secure your medications in a locked cabinet your teen cannot access.

**Dispose:** Safely dispose of expired and unused prescriptions at a medicine take-back location.

To find out more about medicine abuse, and what you can do to protect or get help for someone in your family, visit the Medicine Abuse Project at [drugfree.org](http://drugfree.org).

## ***Brain Team***

The Brain Team, Ithaca High School's nationally-ranked academic quizbowl team, has had an incredible season, qualifying multiple times for national competitions. The team has been ranked third in New York State and 66th in the country in the latest pre-nationals rankings. They will be sending one group to the NAQT High School National Championship Tournament in Atlanta, GA over the Memorial Day weekend, and will send another group to the PACE National Scholastic Championship in Washington, DC the very next weekend. There, they will play against the very best teams in the nation in multiple rounds of a challenging, fast-paced academic quiz competition, answer questions about history, literature, science, philosophy, mythology, geography, fine arts, and more. You can follow the team's progress on their Twitter feed @IHSBrainTeam, and if you're willing to help fund the team's further tournament appearances, you can donate to the team's GoFundMe at <https://www.gofundme.com/ithaca-hs-brain-team-nationals>

## *Registrar*

Is your student leaving IHS by June 30th or over the summer? If your son or daughter is graduating in June, this does not pertain to them as they will follow different procedures for returning their assigned or borrowed materials. This also does not apply to students leaving for summer enrichment programs who will be returning by September 2018.

If so, please follow withdrawal procedures listed in the IHS Student Handbook.

All borrowed or assigned materials, including Chromebook & charger, textbooks, sheet music, musical instruments, choir or sports uniforms, cameras, calculators, and library books must be returned before a student leaves IHS.

Please contact Registrar Deborah Casey at (607) 274-2144 or [dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us](mailto:dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us) at least 10-14 days before your student's last day so that the forms can be completed and materials returned.

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 2018 I.H.S. GRADUATES!

For students needing final transcripts sent to colleges & universities listed on their graduation survey in Naviance, I.H.S. College & Careers Office will be sending your transcripts AUTOMATICALLY after July 5th, 2018. You may receive notices from schools needing the final transcript by July 1st but Admissions Offices are aware that this is not possible from NYS Public Schools posting a final transcript date of June 30th. Direct questions to phone # (607) 274-2218. Summer office hours are 7:30 am – 3:00 pm, Monday – Thursday. School Counselors do not have summer office hours and have limited email or phone access during this time. Graduates taking a Gap Year will need to follow the directions below as they will no longer have access to Naviance.

For future transcript requests or proof of graduation needed AFTER September 1st, the "I.H.S./ICSD Alumni Transcript Request Form" can be found as a down loadable PDF under "Downloads" on the "High School" page of the ICSD website [www.ithacacityschools.org](http://www.ithacacityschools.org) Contact I.H.S. Registrar at phone # (607) 274-2144 or email [dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us](mailto:dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us)

## *Teacher Appreciation Luncheon*

The annual Staff and Teacher Appreciation Luncheon is on Tuesday, June 5th. This is our chance to thank the teachers and staff for all their hard work in making IHS a special place.

There are several ways you can help:

-Please consider donating a dessert for the luncheon- either homemade or store bought. The more decadent, the better! A few gluten free and vegan desserts are also appreciated. Look for a link to the dessert sign-up list in the PTA E-News.

-Please consider helping out on the day. Let us know if you would like to help with set-up (from 8 to 10am) or clean-up (from 2 to 3:30). Please email Mia Slotnick ([miajs123@yahoo.com](mailto:miajs123@yahoo.com)) and Laura Andolina ([andolina@aol.com](mailto:andolina@aol.com)) if you would like to help out.

-Send in a financial donation. Checks can be made out to IHS PTA with "appreciation luncheon" in the memo line. Have your student drop it off in the main office, or mail it to IHS PTA, 1401 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca.

Look for more luncheon information details in the upcoming PTA E-News.

A big thank you to the following businesses for their generous support of the IHS Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon.

Aladdin's Natural Eatery, Plenty of Posies, Early Bird Farm, Gimme Coffee, Michaleen's Florist and Garden Center, and Cornell Laundry

## *Morocco Cultural Exchange*

Apply now: Morocco Cultural Exchange! Students should sign up now for the trip to Morocco next spring break in April. Estimated cost is \$2200. Students can get applications from Mr. Weissburg in H216. The trip is restricted to juniors and seniors and will include a home-stay.

## ***Social Studies***

Final Exams are coming! Please make sure that you and your student are aware of what exams they need to take. The following Social Studies courses have final or state exams:

Global 1 (R, R/H, and H) – Local Final Exam

Global 2 (R, R/H, and H) – NYS Regents Exam in Global History

AP European History – NYS Regents Exam in Global History

US History (R, H, and AP) – NYS Regents Exam in American History

Economics (R and H) – Local Final Exam

The NYS Regents Exam in Global History will be earlier than all other exams. By state mandate, it will be given on June 5th at 9 AM.

If you are unsure about what exams your student will be taking, please contact their school counselor.

Students should bring pencils and pens to these exams, but should leave all electronic devices at home.

To help students prepare for their exams, the Social Studies Support Lab is open every school day periods 2 – 6 as well as after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



## ***Lost and Found***

Lost clothing items, lunchboxes, water bottles?

Check the lost and found box in the student activities building (near the attendance office).

Smaller lost items ? Check at the main office!

## ***Code Red Robotics***

It's been a great year for Code Red Robotics! At our first competition, the Central New York Regional in Utica, Code Red made it to the semi-finals. Casey Ruth Anderson, a junior who was Head of Machining and The Pit this year, was specially recognized for her leadership and technical work on the team. She was the first Code Red student ever to win the FIRST Dean's List Finalist Award!

Code Red also won the coveted Spirit Award at both the CNY and Finger Lakes (at RIT, Rochester Institute of Technology) regional competitions. Our mascot costumes, dyed red hair, dedication, red nail polish, and excessive cheering definitely paid off! At RIT, after qualification matches, Code Red was ranked third out of the 50 teams competing (our team's personal best), and again made it to the semi-finals.

We enjoy helping out our neighboring team (HYPE) from Trumansburg High School, and they've been a great help to our team as well. They had a fantastic robot this year, and were selected to attend the FIRST Championship in Detroit, Michigan. At the international championship, HYPE made it to the finals in the Carson Division, an extraordinary achievement.

Code Red will be having a Car Wash Fundraiser at Autozone on Route 13 on Saturday, June 2 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Come on down and support the team!

Ithaca High School students who would like to join Code Red next year are encouraged to listen for announcements in the early fall and be on the lookout for posters around the school. We meet on Tuesdays after school until 4:30 pm, and our six-week build season runs from early January to mid-February, with competitions in March-April. You can find out more about our team at [www.team639.org](http://www.team639.org). Hope to see you next year!



## *Latin*

Students at all levels of Latin performed dazzlingly on the National Latin Exam, which they took in March. Students who score above the national average on the exam at their level are recognized for their achievement.

In Latin 1, four students achieved recognition cum laude (with praise/distinction):

- \*Shannon Bittner
- \*Alex Chouman
- \*Rachel Eginton
- \*Zoë Getzin.

Three were recognized magna cum laude (with great praise):

- \*Elinor Addonizio
- \*Zayin Edwards
- \*Oscar Sudilovsky.

Three earned silver medals (designated as maxima cum laude, with very high praise):

- \*Sarah Robertson
- \*Samuel Catterall
- \*Magda Smith.

And one earned a gold medal (summa cum laude, with highest praise):

Alex Yoo.

In Latin 2, Justin Cramer and Finn Kellmurray were magna cum laude winners.

Two won silver medals:

- \*Michael Zhao
- \*Sara Xin.

There were two gold medalists:

- \*Anya Kramer
- \*Anna Westwig.

In Latin 3, there were four magna cum laude winners:

- \*Lillian Hwang-Geddes
- \*Sam Glaubitz
- \*Cyrus Kurman-Browning,
- \*Cricket Michaels.

Grace Gerbracht won a gold medal.

At the AP Level, Karina Burbank won a silver medal; Lauren Way and Sarah Karnes won gold medals.

Many students win awards year after year! The exam tests knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, English derivatives, Roman history and culture, and the ability to read and understand a passage in Latin. Congratulations to all who participated, and who work hard to learn the language of Vergil and Catullus and Caesar--it is such a pleasure for me to get to be your guide into the distant past.

## *English*

Wynne Williams-Ceci, a sophomore, has won a Gold Key award in the National Scholastic Writing Awards competition for her critical essay entitled: "Two Novels' Perspectives on European Colonization of Africa." More than 346,000 works were submitted. Wynne's writing was adjudicated by a panel of creative professionals and was selected as the most outstanding work in the Northeast Region-at-Large.

She also won Honorable Mention in two categories: the humor category, for her essay "Sub for a Day (A True Story)," and the science fiction and fantasy category, for her short story "Noa, My Neanderthal Baby."

For ninety-five years, the National Scholastic Awards have recognized some of America's most celebrated artists when they were teenagers. Former award winners include: Sylvia Plath, Robert Redford, Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King, Truman Capote, and Lena Dunham.

## *From the Administrative Team*

Back in the Fall, Ithaca High School rolled out our new “Core Values” to the entire community. These core values are the embodiment of what we want to see in our students and staff. The core values were, and continue to be, posted around the building and on every door to serve as a reminder to help us stay focused. Mr. Trumble, members of the Ithaca High School staff, and students, have shared their examples of the values each week on the school announcements. We shared them earlier in *The Word* and want to encourage you to have ongoing discussions with your high schooler about how to live out these values on a daily basis - at school, at home, on the bus, walking to and from school, on the stage, sports field, and wherever they may go.

### IHS Core Values

Compassion is the quality of being respectful of another’s feelings and showing kindness and a willingness to help others.

Integrity is the quality of being honest, fair, and doing the right thing in a reliable way.

Tenacity is the quality of being determined to do or achieve something; firmness of purpose.

Ownership is the quality of being responsible for yourself and taking accountability for what you say and do.

As we look to conclude another successful school year, it is important for us to talk and reflect, as a school community, about how we work to actualize our core values. Every educational journey should have stops along the way to celebrate how we face our challenges and create new ways to look at the world. We are proud of our school and the wonderful things that occur here to reinforce our core values. Families, we appreciate your support, as always, in our journey together, and we look forward to a successful culmination of this school year and the start of another in the fall. Have a safe and relaxing summer. We look forward to our journey together.

Mr. Trumble, Ms. Hardesty, Mr. Harrington, and Ms. Sessoms

## *Humanities*

The sophomore Humanities classes have enjoyed a series of enrichment activities, planned in advance by IHS teacher Lauren Mellander. Most recently, retired Social Studies teacher and Johnson Museum of Art docent Maryterese Pasquale-Bowen brought World War I artifacts to the classroom to enhance the studies of Humanities students reading the novel *All Quiet on the Western Front* and the studies of students reading Hemingway’s novel *A Farewell to Arms* for the War and Literature elective course. The uniform on loan from the museum included a simple first aid kit, water flask, and helmet (photos attached). History brought to life included news articles and photos of local links to the Great War, including information about the Morse airplanes built on South Hill.

In March a trip to Cornell campus funded by IPEI included visits to the Johnson Museum of Art to view a life mask of Lafayette as well as a visit to the Kroch Division of Rare Books and Manuscripts where students viewed Lafayette’s sword as well as cartoons and manuscripts from the French Revolution, supplementing their reading of Dickens’s novel *A Tale of Two Cities*. This field trip included an organ recital at Anabel Taylor Hall and a tour of the Liberty Hyde Bailey Conservatory, where Edward Cobb impressed the students with his explanation of Marie Antoinette’s horticultural legacies.

The annual Victorian Tea held at the A. D. White House in April was a rousing success, thanks to the efforts of general coordinators Leah W. and Geneva M., among many other students. We look forward to the final event to be held the evening of June 1 in the Black Box Theatre, a 1940s Soirée featuring swing dancing and canapés created under wartime food rationing. Stay tuned!

