

A Word from
Mr. Powers

With the school year well underway, we have welcomed new and returning students alike. Fall activities abound both inside and outside the classroom. Staff and students are learning, growing and having fun through our many course offerings, sports and clubs. We are focused this year on improving key indicators of student success even while being proud that in the 2012-13 school year we achieved the highest graduation rate yet and our students posted gains in each of the state's assessments.

We are expanding opportunities for students. New course offerings include AP Art History, AP Music Theory, Drivers' Education, Oceanography, and a course that partners students with our city government and its agencies. All juniors will take the PSAT exam (pre-SAT) on October 16 and sophomores will take the PLAN exam (pre-ACT) on October 17. More resources than ever assure that departments are offering increasing access to support in the disciplines throughout the day.

Among the resources we are drawing upon ... is the \$150,000 Results First grant that we were awarded by NYSED in the spring. We are setting and monitoring targets that address the learning needs of students at every level of achievement. To assure that all students have access to the best instructional methods, we have embarked on an ambitious program of Professional Development based on peer observation. Educators will observe each other throughout the year, allowing for increased collaboration and instructional focus at a new level of collegiality. Early results reflect new conversations leading educators to a new sense of community and to improve their own practice by incorporating successful instructional strategies.

We look forward to a successful year. Thank you for your support as together we make your and our goals a reality.

Jarett Powers

Student
Activities

Clubs and activities are up and running! As of

Oct. 2, we have 60 clubs available for our students, most of which are student-formed. We have some popular traditional favorites like Code Red Robotics and Mock Trial, as well as some exciting new groups:

- Science Fiction and Fantasy Club
- Minecraft Club
- Boxing Skills
- Creative Writing and Performance
- Gaming Club
- More to come!

For a complete list of clubs and activities, as well as lots of information on upcoming IHS events, please visit www.ihsstudentactivities.edublogs.org.

For questions, please email Student Activities Director Karl Mellander at kmelland@icsd.k12.ny.us.

Homecoming 2013: Oct. 15-19

Spirit Week: Oct. 15-18, featuring Mustache Day (Tuesday), Ugly Sweater Day (Wednesday), Twin Day (Thursday), and Red and Gold Day (Friday). Students with the most spirited outfits will be selected and announced at the pep rally, and will receive an IHS prize package.

Pep Rally and Football Game: Friday, Oct. 18, Pep rally at the end of the school day, football game at IHS's Moresco Stadium at 7 PM.

IHS Fall Fest: Saturday, Oct. 19, 5-8 PM, Carnival-type event with live music, fall-themed games, chicken BBQ, and other food and activities (maybe even hayrides—stay tuned!). Admission is \$3 for current students, FREE for alumni. Chicken BBQ is \$7. Proceeds benefit IHS clubs.

Event organized by the Class of 2014.

Important dates

Oct. 7 Early Release Drill

Oct. 10 Open House

Oct. 14 No School/Columbus Day

Oct. 15 - 19 Homecoming Week

Oct. 24, 25, 26 at 7 PM
& 27 at 2 PM

Rumors by Neil Simon
Black Box Theater

Nov. 11 No School/Veteran's Day

Nov. 27 - 29 Thanksgiving Break

Changing address??

Leaving ICSD??

Please notify Deborah

Casey,

IHS Registrar, ASAP!!

Phone: 607-274-2144;

Fax: 607-277-3061;

dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us

The Fine Arts Department has a whole new look this year. In addition to the evolving new Studio courses in Crafts, Fashion Design & Illustration, Sculpture and Digital Photography, students can also sign up for Dance, AP Music Theory, and AP Art History. We also welcome some new faces to guide our students on their artistic journey. In Visual Art, Ursula Hilsdorf and Gina Cacioppo will join Jackie Richardson and Carol Spence. Haley Noel will teach Dance. In Music, Kristin Zaryski, new Choir Director and AP Music Theory teacher, will join Orchestra Director Samantha Hecht. Leslie Kurzweil will be teaching Music Theory. Art Carichner will be interim Band Director until Nicki Zawel returns in February.

We are applying for FABG grants and IPEI grants to bring in local artists and designers to expand our community classroom partnerships. Students use the Visual Journal in every art course as an essential tool in their artistic process to record their ideas, questions, reflective writing, decisions and critiques. Urban Art Club is starting up again every Thursday after school, working with our local master graffiti artist, Jay Stooks.

It has been an exciting few weeks getting started with our new Musical Theater course. The students have been working hard on ballet and jazz technique and are beginning to put those skills into action. In October we will begin studying theatrical dance styles from influential American musicals such as *Anything Goes*, *West Side Story*, and *Hairspray*. We are also pleased to announce that the musical theater students will be collaborating with the IHS choir for their concert on December 18. Mark your calendars! Afterschool groups known as Madrigal and Jazz Singers in past years, will now become a Men's & Women's Choir, open to all students with our auditions.

Congratulations to Mattie Hause (flute), Jay Hamilton (clarinet), Michael Stern (trumpet), and Julian Eng (alto sax), who will be attending the All State Music Educators Conference in December as members of the All State Symphonic Band. Mattie Hause will be a member of the All State Orchestra. These students have achieved the highest honor that a musician can attain in the State of New York. Katie Henderson (flute), Isabel Boratov (flute), and Amy Zhong (flute) were chosen as alternates. Congratulations to all these wonderful and accomplished musicians who will represent Ithaca High School.

Art is SmArt at IHS!

Rumors by Neil Simon

Ithaca High School proudly presents the Tony Award winning madcap farce *Rumors* by Neil Simon. Set in a tastefully appointed house located just outside of NYC, hullabaloo ensues when the guests of an anniversary party arrive to discover that the host, Charley, has shot himself through the earlobe. What are a bunch of unprepared upper middle class couples to do? Charley lies bleeding in the other room and his wife, Myra, is nowhere to be found. Deceptions, miscommunications, and mistaken identities spin into door slamming hilarity featuring our amazingly talented acting and technical students.

Performances are Oct 24, 25, 26 at 7 PM and Oct 27 at 2 PM in the Black Box Theatre of the Performing Arts Center. Tickets: *students \$5, all others \$8*. Contact Lorraine Tino: ltino@icsd.k12.ny.us for more info.

The Library is up and hopping! Our 9th grade Orientations and Scavenger Hunts have gone very well: start your Library life right at Ithaca High School, as we do every year. Our staff is the same as last year: Ms. Bell, Mr. Heurich, Mrs. Barr, and Mr. Lira. Our hours are the same as well: 8:30-4:30 Monday through Thursday, closing 3:33 on Friday.

New this year: Library Club, meeting after school Mondays. We have a hard-working, happy crew learning everything there is to know about libraries. Also new, from just a little bit last Spring: Bookmark Café will soon be selling snacks and drinks from 8:30 - 10 in the Library, which students and staff may consume in the Library—very relaxed!

The Friends of the Library book sale is coming up soon—be sure to visit it and support our public library. We borrow books for students from TCPL all the time, so we are grateful and hopeful for their prosperity.

For your reading pleasure: there is a new series out, by Veronica Roth, starting with *Divergent* and followed by *Insurgent*, with the third out this fall. It is a futuristic, dystopic world, with violence worthy of *The Hunger Games* and strong main characters. If you or your student enjoyed *Hunger Games*, definitely try this new series!

“Outside of a dog, books are man’s best friend. Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read.”

– Groucho Marx, 1890-1977

Yours in the Library,
Nan Bell

Math Department

The Math Department is pleased to welcome two **new teachers**, Alan Racheck and Liz Giblin.

Our **Math Team** is up and running. Interested students can still join; they just need to come to a meeting, any Tuesday after school in H211.

Students can get **math help** during the school day in the "Homework Help Room" or after school in H112. No appointment is necessary. Students can just walk in and get help from a math teacher.

After school help is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the HW help room is open during all lunch periods: 3 - 6. We always encourage students to get help sooner rather than later.

Science Department

You will see several new faces this year in the Science Department. Please welcome Lena Kim teaching Honors Chemistry and Consumer Chemistry, Michael Reilley teaching LE Biology, and Marita Wilson teaching H Biology and AIS. This school year, Carrie Brindisi is the department leader for the Science Department.

Students taking the Chemistry in the Community course can receive college credit through concurrent enrollment with TC3.

AIS (Academic Intervention Service) for Science is open lunch hours during periods 3 - 7 Mondays through Thursdays.

This year, Arti Jewett is the advisor for Science Olympiad, which meets Mondays (last winter in Albany the team received three medals).

Parents, as a reminder: Regents Lab requirement is 1200 minutes of successful lab work in order to sit for the Regents exams. So please remind your son/daughter if they need extra help getting these labs done to utilize the AIS help room off H Courtyard. (Labs are kept on file at school for the school year.)

English Department

The English Department is excited and happy to welcome three new members this year: Jeff Miller (teaching 9th grade, 11th grade, and two senior electives), Matt Soucy (teaching 9th grade), and Daniel Blake (an aide in our ELL program). Additionally, we welcome back Kimberly Scholl and Sarah Ostrom as two of our four English AIS providers.

We are also pleased to announce program expansions in three areas of our department. First, our English Academic Intervention Support (AIS) room (GK01) is now open every period of the regular school day and until 4:22 PM Monday through Thursday. Any student can visit our AIS room for help with English work. Second, this year marks the first time we are able to offer English Digital Media Production as one of our full-year senior elective courses. Students work out of IHS's new, state-of-the-art studio in F-building and are partnering on experiential learning projects with WSKG in Vestal, NY. We hope to see the program grow in the coming years.

Finally, this year we have our first group of juniors who have accelerated their studies by enrolling in AP Language and Composition. Any sophomore interested in taking AP Language and Composition as a junior next year should speak to his/her English teacher and school counselor.

In other news, on September 30th, Lauren McKown's English 10 Combined classes visited Cornell in order to become familiar with the research opportunities at Olin and Uris libraries as well as to tour the examples of Greek Revival architecture on campus.

On October 3rd, Assistant District Attorney Gary Surdell met with all English 11 students in order to present information about our legal system as part of the 11th grade's unit on *Twelve Angry Men*.

On October 4th, the IHS WISE Program's two English classes visited The Cayuga Nature Center for their fourth annual barter. For the first half of the day, students worked in teams to complete various volunteer projects on the property, and, for the second half of the day, students participated in the team-building high-ropes challenge.

On October 11th, our Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition students will begin the Drama-in-Production component of their class by attending a production of *Fires in the Mirror* at Ithaca College's Clarke Theatre. Students in this course will attend several performances throughout the year: *Carmen* at the Binghamton Tri-Cities Opera, *Into the Woods* at Ithaca College, *Lie of the Mind* and *Titus Andronicus* at Cornell University, and *Black Pearl Sings* at The Kitchen Theatre.

Jean Amodeo
English Department Leader

Please welcome to the World Languages Department Larisa Droll, who is teaching French this school year.

The World Language Department is pleased to announce its revamped AIS model for the 2013-2014 school year. If you are unfamiliar with the acronym, AIS stands for Academic Intervention Services and it is designed to provide support for students who are struggling in their language classes. This year, the AIS provider for the department, Matt Holl, will be available on cycle days 2, 3, 5 & 6 to assist students in the Language Lab (K7) during periods 4 through 8. On days 1 and 4, Mr. Holl will be available to his colleagues in the World Language Department as a support person within the classroom, pushing in to assist with lessons, reteach to students who are struggling, co-teach lessons and help with complicated lesson plans (multiple student stations, technology-heavy lessons, etc.). Though AIS was conceived to be a support for students who are struggling academically, it is available for ALL students, anytime that material is unclear. Students can speak to their classroom teacher for a pass or they are welcome to drop into the Language Lab (K7) anytime during periods 4 through 8 to get assistance from Mr. Holl. As an added incentive, students who attend AIS sessions five times in a marking period will receive an additional quiz grade factored into their average, which can help to boost their test grades! We look forward to helping as many students as possible this year!

Spanish News

Spanish 2 students are off to a great start this year. We have been enjoying using the iPads to practice skills on the *Conjuguemos* website. This web site is also a great way to study for tests and quizzes. There are practice games and quizzes for all the chapters of our Book, *Realidades 2*. Have your student show you!

Spanish 4 students are concluding a unit on the family. In early October they will go to the language lab for an oral test in which they will talk about their families and compare American and Latin American family relationships.

Spanish 5 students are concluding a unit on personal relationships. They have enjoyed working independently in the language lab using the interactive textbook website. They will soon begin a project in which they create a personal crest or shield and present it to the class in Spanish without use of notes.

Both Spanish 4 and Spanish 5 earn three college credits from TC3 for Spanish 201 and 202, respectively.

After two days of intense training in August, 114 Link Leaders welcomed the freshman class of 2017.

Link Crew, coordinated by IHS teachers Meggie New and Amalie Gorbald, is in its 8th year at IHS. The goals of the program include raising-up leaders who are focused on creating a collaborative community at IHS.

On September 9, freshmen and green-shirted Link Leaders celebrated the first day of school, participated in team-building and thought-provoking activities, met their teachers, and ate lunch. Friendships were formed and bonds were built. The Leaders also hosted a Freshmen Family Picnic at Stewart Park on Sept. 21. But this is only the beginning for Link Crew!

Our next activities include a photo booth at Fall Fest, movie night before Homecoming, and trick-or-treat with the Link Leaders. We are excited about the potential and the achievements of our Link Leaders and the class of 2017.

Join the PTA Listserv and Stay Connected

For up-to-date information concerning IHS, sign up for the PTA listserv by sending an (empty) email to IHSPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

To share information with or ask questions of other IHS families, join our discussion listserv by sending an (empty) email to IHSPTA-discuss-subscribe@yahoo.com.



Greek Peak Ski Club and Discount Season Pass Info



Are you interested in skiing or snowboarding for the 2013 – 2014 ski club season, or maybe you want to buy passes for the family? If so, IHS Ski Club is now offering discounted Greek Peak season passes and program passes.

The bus price for this season is \$100, and the season consists of six Thursdays -- January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, and 13.

The early payment date ends October 13, but the next submission deadline is November 13. Please visit Greek Peak at <https://register.communitypass.net/greekpeak> for registration.

Todd Noyes, Tnoyes@icsd.k12.ny.us



This year's Annual yearbook will be in FULL COLOR and is ON SALE NOW!

We are excited to announce that the yearbook including all senior portraits will be in color this year! This means that if your child has had senior portraits done outside of school, they must be submitted no later than OCTOBER 25, or the Lifetouch portrait will be included. More information about this year's book and how to submit senior portraits can be found on the ICSD web site (<http://www.ithacacityschools.org/index.cfm/highschool/menu/yearbook.htm>).

The Yearbook is **on sale from now until October 17**. Order early to receive the early bird discount of \$60! There are links on the ICSD website and the Facebook page. On October 18 the price increases to \$70. As always we are looking for business ads as well as families to place personal ads. A mailing will be going out in early October with specifics, but families can also see the Annual Facebook page for all current information. <https://www.facebook.com/IHSAnnual>

In the hopes of having a full and inclusive yearbook, we are always looking for photo submissions from everyone – this is the best way to ensure your child is included in the yearbook! These can be uploaded via www.hjeshare.com, using school code 8812. We are holding raffles throughout the year – each usable photo submitted is an entry and the grand prize is a copy of this year's book!

Marilyn Reitenbach, LMSW, mreitenb@icsd.k12.ny.us, The HUB at Ithaca HS (D13A), [607-274-2179](tel:607-274-2179)

IHS Yearbook Advisor, [607-274-2301](tel:607-274-2301)

IHS Word is the Ithaca High School newsletter, jointly funded by the PTA and IHS.

It serves all IHS stakeholders and is mailed with student report cards each quarter.

Please Join the PTA!

See the form below.

For more info visit the IHS PTA web site <http://www.ihspta.info/wordpress/>

IHS PTA Membership Form 2013-2014

We need you to support all that PTA does including but not limited to: *The Guide, The Word, the Student Directory, Open House, Staff Appreciation Luncheons and Brunches, Programs and Achievement awards. Help us help our students!*

Parent/guardian name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email Address: _____

Student's name(s) and year in school: _____

Yearly dues are only:

\$10 for any member of the family (parents and students are all welcome!)

\$5.00 for others and for whom \$10 is a hardship

\$4.00 of every membership (even \$5 memberships) goes to the state and national PTA.

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME! All tax deductible and every dollar counts!!

Membership(s) _____ X \$10.00/person \$ _____

Donations (please indicate if you have a program designation for your donation)

\$ _____ Program designation: _____

Payment information: Check _____ Cash _____

Please make all checks payable to IHS PTA and mail form to:

PTA membership chair
Ithaca High School
1401 North Cayuga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES—opportunities to make a difference!! We need YOU!

I would be willing to help in the following areas:

___ IHS PTA officer

___ PTA programs and events

___ Photo day

___ Open House

___ Staff Appreciation Luncheon (Spring)

___ Monthly Munch teacher/staff appreciation

___ food/donation/gift card

___ help with setup/cleanup

___ serve on screening committees for staff applicants

___ help produce/distribute *The Guide, The Directory, or The Word*

___ be involved in class of 2014 events

___ call if needed