

From the PTA President

Hello IHS Families!

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year from the IHS Parent Teachers Association (PTA)! We hope all is well so far and that your students are comfortably settling in to their new classes and routines. This IHS WORD is a quarterly newsletter produced by the IHS PTA to bring you periodic news about what's happening at school. The PTA is a nonprofit organization run by volunteer parents and caregivers working to advocate for and support our students. Some ways the PTA supports IHS is through the family liaison program, teacher minigrants, monthly staff brunches and achievement awards and helping at events such as Picture Day(s) and Open House. One of our main goals is to foster communication between school and home while also connecting students and families with communitywide opportunities. You should be receiving weekly email messages containing information about events and opportunities for students and families. Another communication tool is the Guide, a booklet filled with contact information and resources for all things IHS. Hopefully you picked up a copy at Open House on October 6th. If not, copies can be picked up from the Student Services Office.

New this year is the IHS Engagement Playbook. This issue of the Word includes a full description of this wonderful resource. You can also find a link to the IHS Caregiver, Family and Community Organizations Engagement Playbook on the home screen of the IHS website. Another excellent way to learn about what's happening at IHS is to read the IHS Daily Announcements at: <http://ihsannouncements.blogspot.com>. This is what your students are hearing over the morning announcements each day. I'd like to give a big thank you to the 200+ Ithaca High School supporters who have joined the IHS PTA, and for the many generous donations we have received so far! We invite you all to join us in our efforts and appreciate any ideas or suggestions you may have. Feel free to email us at ihspta.pres@gmail.com. Working with the PTA is an excellent way to get involved at school and learn more about what's happening at IHS. There are many opportunities for involvement – big and small, financial as well as active support. Please visit our website at www.ihspta.info to join the PTA and our listserv. Looking forward to a fabulous year together!

Vanessa Wagner, IHS PTA President

From the Administrative Team

Ithaca High School Engagement Playbooks

Welcome back students, families, and staff! Staff and students alike have hit the ground running. Fall sports are in full swing and the pool, fields, and gyms are packed with student athletes and their fans almost every night of the week. Our Fine and Performing Arts department staff and students are preparing for a great school year! Check out the district calendar for upcoming sporting events, fine and performing arts events, and other happenings at IHS or around our community. This information can also be found in the newly launched, Engagement Playbooks.

The IHS Engagement Playbooks (the “Playbook”) is an online guide for families, caregivers and community organizations with the important goal of facilitating their full engagement with the IHS learning community. IHS will continue to support the work of the PTA in creating this annual Guide & Staff Directory so that our community will always have access to a paper format of the information referenced in the Playbook. The Playbook identifies pertinent resources found in the ICSD and other community websites, and streamlines the informational gathering process relevant to the specific audience. There are three engagement playbooks for our IHS learning community:

1. Student Engagement Playbook
2. Staff Engagement Playbook
3. Family, Caregiver, and Community Organization Playbook

As in the realm of sports, playbooks serve as a guide to help teams be successful. It outlines the role and responsibilities of the team players, identifies coaches and other support staff, it also provides an outline of various offenses, defenses and game strategies to apply on the field, court, or wherever the game is played. This is the same in the realm of music- as a performer you study your music sheets, know how to play in unison with those in your ensemble, or even as a solo artist you are aware of your audience and the relationship between your action and their reaction. In all relationships understanding the people and systems around you is key!

Students, teachers, staff, families and community members are all key players; each with unique roles and responsibilities. Students, Ithaca High School is your stage, your court, or your field, and there are many team players. It is important for YOU to know and understand your role and responsibilities. Like coaches in sports, your teachers and all of the adults within the IHS learning community are here to help you throughout your educational experience.

100% Engagement

To be engaged, by definition, is to: “participate or become involved in”, however we believe in extending beyond mere participation. We believe in active engagement, we believe in empowering and educating all students in a safe learning environment and setting high expectations for everyone!

What can you expect in your Engagement Playbook?

There are links throughout each Engagement Playbooks that are viewable by all parties, there are also links that are only accessible to teachers- such as PLC forms completed by teachers and/or documents specific to their classes at IHS. The hyperlinks can be identified by the cardinal red and underlined text. For an example of an infographic provided in each Engagement Playbook, see below (Fig. 1).

The Engagement Playbooks direct you to information from a general directory and contact info for staff at IHS to a list of clubs, sports, teams, and also forms that are frequently requested (Lunch forms, Medical forms, Building use forms, Chromebook use forms and more).

A great aspect about the Engagement Playbooks is that they are living documents- the content can be edited and tailored to meet the needs of our community and guide them in navigating IHS and supporting all students. IHS is working with community organizations with internet access, where families and students spend time when they are not at school or home. The IHS Administrative Team is partnering with community organizations to facilitate a "walkthrough" of the Playbooks for families without internet in their homes and/or for families who may want a closer and guided look of the Playbooks. Stay tuned for those events! We look forward to a great school year!

Upcoming College Visits

October 17: University of Buffalo
October 18: Mercyhurst University
 Houghton College
 Nazareth College
 Clarkson University
October 19: St. John Fisher
October 20: University of Toronto

October 21: Seton Hall
 LeMoyne College
October 25: Canisius College
October 26: Oberlin College
 Rochester Institute of Technology
October 31: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Union College

Visits are subject to change.
See Ms. Sullivan in Student Services for exact times.

English

The English department is excited and happy to welcome two new members this year: Richard Horan (English 9 and English 12) and John Oakley (Reading and Writing Lab).

Our Reading and Writing Lab (in room GK101) is open every period of the regular school day and until 4:30pm Monday through Thursday. Any student can visit our Lab for help with English work.

We are also excited to announce a new partnership between the Ithaca High School English Department and our local, art house theater, Cinemapolis. Cinemapolis has graciously offered students who are enrolled in English 12 Film Study as well as those in English 12 Digital Media Production access to films free of charge. Students will attend screenings, write analyses, and share their observations with their classmates. This opportunity to connect classroom learning and community will be incredible valuable to our students. Thank you Cinemapolis!

World Languages

This is once again a very active time for our German students and families. Twenty-five students from Tuttlingen accompanied by two teachers will be arriving on October 13 to participate in the exchange program supported by GAPP (German American Partnership Program), Bundestag and the state department. This program, which has been in existence since 1989, has made it possible for the students of local host families to spend time in Germany during July of the following year. German students not only attend classes, but also participate in a number of field trips, which include visiting Niagara Falls, the Corning Glass Works, Cornell University and New York City. Special thanks goes to our local host teachers, Sabine (O'Dell) Wintermute at IHS and David Isley at Dewitt for the coordination and planning that make this such a great experience for all students involved. Students return to Germany on November 1st.

Mrs. Miettunen's Spanish 5 class has begun the year with a unit on human rights. Students began by reading the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in English and Spanish. We then used video, print, literature and music to explore the themes further. In early October, we will read the play *Bodas de Sangre* (Blood Wedding) by Federico Garcia Lorca and see the play at Ithaca College.

Spanish 4 students have been working on the first chapter of their textbook, *Imagina*. Students have been learning to navigate the textbook website for homework, grammar tutorials, listening practice and more. They have also enjoyed using Quizlet for vocabulary practice and games.

Both Spanish 4 (Intermediate Spanish 201) and Spanish 5 (intermediate Spanish 202) receive three credits from TC3 that can be transferred to hundreds of colleges.

Student Activities

Greetings from IHS's Office of Student Activities! It's a busy time of year, as we're planning lots of exciting events, clubs are starting, and another school year is starting around us.

Clubs: Most clubs start in the first 2-3 weeks of school, but it's never too late to join! As clubs are confirmed, they get added to the clubs website, which will be sent soon to all IHS students via school email. There will also be posters all over school within the next few weeks advertising clubs old and new. As a reminder, any student can join a club at any time. Either show up to a meeting or see the advisor in advance if you prefer! Listen for announcements about clubs that are starting up now.

Homecoming 2016: IHS Homecoming will be Oct. 10-16. It will include our annual Spirit Week, Pep Rally, football game, and Homecoming Dance. See the Student Activities website for more information!

Lots more information can be found on the Student Activities website. Check back often!

JOIN THIS LIST OF IHS SUPPORTERS!

Andolina, Laura	Gras, Laura	Mattice, Terry	Schiffman, Carole
Andrulic, Rich	Greenberg, Steven	McNairn, Adrian	Shaver, Laurie
Archer, Shivaun	Gualtieri, Julie	McNairn, Julie	Shulman, Zach
Auble, Bart	Haaf, Sandy	McNairn, Madeleine	Silberman, Caryl
Barnett, Jenny	Habicht, Amelia	Miller, Dan	Simons, Aleza
Barnett, Susan	Habicht, Oliver	Miller, Susie	Simons, Michael
Benenati, Nicole	Haffenden, Trena	Milstein, Mark	Sipple, John
Bollinger, Maureen	Hagen, Becca	Moore, Carolyn	Sipple, Patricia
Brisson, Gail	Hao, Yue	Morse, Laurie	Slotnick, Mia
Carlson, Greg	Heitzman,	Moulton, Pamela	Souchet, Theresa
Catterall, Sara	HollyHeitzman, John	Muscente, Maria	Sposito, Jen
Catterall, Simon	Henderson, Shane	Muscente, Paul	Sposito, Lou
Colbert, Kristin	Hill, Spencer	Neal, Barb	Stoff, Bruce
Copman, Linda	Hohn, Magdalene	Noble-Grange, Angela	Stoff, Terri
Cronin, Amy	Hohn, Tom	Oates, Bill	Stone, Robin
Cronin, Peter	Horst, Ann	Oates, Erin	Strogatz, Joanna
Culotta, Bella	Heubbell, Greg	Oreg, Ayelet	Strogatz, Leah
Culotta, Sara	Hubbell, Myra	Oreg, Shaul	Strogatz, Steven
Cusack, Jill	Hwang, Juri	Osadchey, Bonnie	Stroock, Abe
Davis, Lia	Jewett, Arti	Osadchey, Chet	Stroock, Laure
Demuynck, Ineke	Katz, Ruth	Pabody, James	Studin, Sandy
Depalma, Bernie	Khatkhate, Radhika	Pabody, SusanPatti, Lisa	Theodore, Carolyn
Depalma, Mary Turner	Kiely, Joe	Peck, Liz	Todhunter, Rory
deRoos, Marie	Kiely, Patty	Place, Denise	Tomasik, Jeff
Dongtoe, Sonam	Kinchen, Vernetta	Place, Ned	Torres, Darah
Duncan, Craig	Koizumi, Yayoi	Quinones, Jerilynn	Touesnard, Monica
Earls, Cecilia	Krause, Beth	Quinones, Yvonne	Tribble, Karen
Earls, Chris	Kuo, Elaine	Rachlinksy, Melissa	Uhlig, Julie
Eng, Janine	Laface, Karen	Rassnick, Kenneth	Uhlig, Richard
Eng, Lauren	Lambrou, Nick	Rassnick, Nishi	Van Nouhuys, SaskyaVieira,
Eng, Wing	Lambrou, Sharon	Reitenbach, Lynrichards,	Luiza
Engst, Tonya	Lee, Brian	Richards, Jeremy	Vieira, Maria
Erato, Leah	Lee, Britta	Richards, Lisa	Vieira, Patricia Lima
Estill, Madeline	Levine, Anne	Richmond, Becky	Wagner, Vanessa
Estill, Matt	Levine, Eric	Riesman, Diana	Walker, Larry
Fox, Pat	Li, Xin	Rodriguez, Karen	Walker, Lynne
Freeman, Gwen	Liu, Jun	Rooks, Ally	Walker, Nadine
Fubini, Susan	Lopez, Jacquie	Rudert, Angela	Wang, Ping
Gao, George	Lyon, Beth	Ruina, Prachi	Wardlaw, Dana
Garg, Charoo	Lyon, Harper	Saggese, Carolann	Wardlaw, Jeff
Gavirneni, Ramadevi	Lu, Jordan	Saggese, Steve	Wendel, Brad
Gavirneni, Srinagesh	Lynn, Deborah	Salmon, Jack	Weston, Jaclene
Geddes, Rick	Macleod, Meredith	Salmon, Kate	Weston, John
Getzin, Zoe	Magnus, Peter	Salmon, Meredith	Westwig, Erik
Gillespie, Laurie	Magnus, Tami	Salmon, Paulette	Whitehead, Deborah
Gillespie, Pat	Mangor, Jodie	Salmon, Peter	Wilkie, Jen
Goldberg, Mark	Maranca, Sophia	Samuels, Shirley	Williamson, Ann
Goldberg, Sheryl	Maranca, Tony	Santelli, Arthur	Williamson, David
Gordon, Erin	Marschner, Heidi	Santelli, Francesca	Willick, Laurie
Gorsky, Karen	Marschner, Steve	Santelli, Frank	Young, Jack
	Mattice, Taryn		Zhu, Liqing

A big thank-you to the 200+ parents, guardians, students and staff who have joined the IHS PTA, and for the many generous donations we have received so far! Some of the programs we are able to fund, thanks to your membership dues and donations include: mini-grants for teachers, achievement awards for Juniors and Seniors, the Healthy Snack program and appreciation events for staff. If you haven't had a chance to join yet this year, please complete the membership form (see previous page) and either mail it in (IHS, 1401 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY, 14850), or drop it off at the main office. Thank you very much for supporting Ithaca High School!

Ally Rooks
IHS PTA Membership Chair