

From the PTA President

Hello IHS Families,

Happy holidays everyone!

We've had a busy fall so far with photo day, open house, morning munch, mini-grant awards, weekly e-news, producing this newsletter and planning future events. Thank you to all the volunteers who handed out tickets on photo day, answered questions at open house, stuffed envelopes with newsletters, contributed to morning munch, offered insight at PTA meetings and much more. We have a fabulous team of active volunteers and we'd love to have you join us. Please look for a couple of e-mails in the coming year about our vision and how the PTA can better serve the IHS community. If you haven't joined the PTA listserv please send an e-mail to IHSPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with your name and IHS affiliation and respond to the e-mail you receive back.

We're in the process of planning a program for February/March about consent and healthy relationships. Experts from Cornell and several Ithaca community organizations will hold a panel discussion to help parents/caregivers have these important conversations with their students. Look to the E-news for more details. Additionally, we'd like to hold community conversations about various themes important to IHS families. Again, look for more information in the E-news.

If you have any comments or suggestions about what you'd like to see from the PTA please send a message to ihspsta.pres@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

Best wishes for a happy and healthy new year,
Vanessa Wagner, IHS PTA President



From the Administrative Team

Dear IHS Families,

Soon we will be rolling out our newest update to the IHS Engagement Playbooks - the Ithaca High School Program of Studies, which will be linked to each Playbook. Our faculty and staff have put together a comprehensive resource guide that includes pertinent information that students and families can use to create a plan to get the most from their high school experience. We recognize that students, families, teachers, staff, and community members are all on the same team and student success, in its various forms, is our goal. The new Program of Studies gives key players the information they need to plan for the success of all our students.

Critical-thinking, healthy decision-making, and collaboration are skills that we would like our students to utilize when making course selections. We want our students to use this guide when talking to their families. To assist students and families with the discussions around course selections, sample schedules (1 year and 4 year) and graduation requirements have been included. Grids at the beginning of each department section make it easier to see which courses are offered per grade and any prerequisites that a course may have. If your child isn't sure what to take, directions for Naviance, with multiple career interest inventories, is also included. If your child already knows what they want to be, but is not sure which courses fit,

then there will be a link in the electronic version to a career pathways booklet with the answers you are looking for.

Planning for the high school experience and pre-planning for postsecondary experiences can feel overwhelming at times. Wouldn't it be nice if you had guide about what you and your child should be doing when? Well, whether you are looking to assist your child with having a good year of high school or preparing college/career planning we have included a brief guide to help. The guide is a list of things that parents have mentioned they wished they knew for each grade level.

We have put together this resource for you to use, but we also encourage families and students to utilize other members of their teams when making decisions about high school planning and course selections. When you receive your Program of Studies, please review it with your child, use the schedule planning worksheet. Please know that if you still have scheduling questions, our Student Services Counselors can help.

Mr. Trumble and the IHS Leadership Team

Health Office

10th Grade Physicals

New York State requires all 10th graders to have documentation of a physical exam on file with the school. Exams done from the start of 9th grade (9/10/15) will suffice. If you have a 10th grader this year who has not received 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 now requires all 12th graders to have received the Meningococcal conjugate vaccine before beginning their senior year. Students who haven't received the vaccine may 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.

Registrar

Withdrawing from Ithaca High School during the school year:

If you are leaving the high school or the school district, please contact IHS Registrar, by phone 607-274-2144 or email dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us. If a student leaves IHS before graduating, a form called Ithaca High School Withdrawal Report Card Form, obtained from the I.H.S. Registrar's Office, must be completed and signed by all the student's teachers. Teachers record the student's grades up to the last date of attendance and indicate if the student has returned all textbooks, Chromebook and charger, calculators, library books, cameras, etc. The student returns the completed SIGNED form to the I.H.S. Registrar room J36 at the end of their last day of attendance. A student's records WILL NOT be released until all textbooks, Chromebook and charger, calculators, library books, etc. have been returned.

Changes in Address, Phone or Emergency Contacts:

Changes in Emergency Contacts? Changes in Parent/Guardian phone numbers?

Please CONTACT the IHS Registrar, by phone (607-274-2144) or by email (dcasey@icsd.k12.ny.us)

Proof of a new address (for example, a utility bill, phone bill, or lease) must be provided along with the completed ICSD Change of Address form found on the ICSD website Registration page at www.ithacacityschools.org under "Other Forms" <http://www.ithacacityschools.org/tfiles/folder253/ChangeofAddressPhoneForm.pdf>

Changes of address can also be done through the ICSD District Registrar's Office, 400 Lake Street.

Brain Team

The Ithaca High School Brain Team, the 8th nationally ranked academic Quizbowl team in the nation, has seen a packed schedule already this season with appearances at 5 tournaments in September through November. This includes:

Two teams to Princeton University's Princeton High School Scholastic Academic Tournament, where the Ithaca A team took 4th place and qualified for national competitions in Chicago, IL and Atlanta, GA. Senior Casey W and sophomore Vaynu K earned recognition as being in the top 10 of individual scorers.

One team to the University of Pennsylvania's PennBowl, a difficult college-level tournament where the team defeated teams from Johns Hopkins, NYU, and the University of Maryland.

Two teams to Rutgers University's Scarlet Knight Invitational, where the Ithaca B team took 8th place overall. Senior Luc W earned a book prize for his 8th rank in individual scores and sophomore Isaiah Gutman broke the top 20.

One team to Yale University's Academic Collegiate Federation Fall tournament, another college-level tournament where the team took first place overall with a 11-1 record. Senior Daniel Xu was the top scorer overall at the competition and Casey W was in the top 5.

Four teams to Brain Busters Fall, the largest single-day quizbowl tournament in Upstate New York, hosted right here at Ithaca High School. Ithaca A won the tournament overall after coming back from a 115 point deficit in the final match and Ithaca B took fourth place, which means two teams from Ithaca have now qualified for nationals. Casey W and Isaiah G earned recognition as Tournament All Stars for their individual performances.

The team will now take a break until January, when they expect to return to Rutgers University for a tournament featuring questions written by the famed Harvard Quizbowl team, as well as a return to Yale in February for their housewrite tournament.

English

English 11 students in Ms. Lord's class have 3rd grade pen pals from R.C. Buckley (Lansing) Elementary School. They've now written the 3rd graders two letters, received one reply, shared art and images of themselves, and are looking forward to a planned spring field trip to meet their pals in person. Many students are enthusiastic about this real writing experience where they have the chance to positively influence young people in the greater Tompkins County community!

The Reading and Writing Lab (GK101) continues to be open every period of the regular school day and until 4:22pm Monday through Thursday. Any student can visit our Lab for help with English work. Additionally, some students are assigned Lab in order to receive support for English coursework and testing. If you have questions about your student's placement into the English Reading and Writing Lab, please feel free to contact the English Department Chair, Ms. Jean Amodeo, at (607) 274-2187.

Ski Club

Ithaca High School Ski Club is still accepting participants. Forms and payment can be turned in to Mr. Noyes in room G-116 or Mr. Breigle in room E-16. The last day we can accept students into the club is December 23, 2016. New this year, if you are a season pass holder you can be a member of ski club even if you don't ski with us on Thursdays. With a season pass IHS students can register for free at <http://greekpeak.net/group-programs/school-programs/registration>.

Registration will help benefit the club, and they will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 gift card for Greek Peak sponsored by the club. One Ithaca High School student who is registered will be randomly selected after the December 23rd deadline.

Library

The library continues to be a busy and vibrant place, and we are averaging approximately six hundred student visits per day. We are seeing a good mix of individual and group work, lots of leisure reading and great interest in our growing Graphica collection (graphic fiction and nonfiction). We have been assisting a steady stream of students visiting the library to choose independent reads for English classes, and a good number of classes have been using our labs and library classroom for research projects and media production projects.

We have fully transitioned to electronic library sign-in to streamline and speed up the sign-in procedure. Students sign in with their student IDs, and now the vast majority of students remember to bring their IDs to the library on a daily basis. This has substantially reduced the wait time for students trying to enter the library during the busy lunch periods.

We are seeing good use of the new Gale Virtual Reference Library, our new online reference collection, and we have a steady stream of new fiction and nonfiction titles arriving. Also, we are thrilled to have access to some terrific online databases, including Gale's World and U.S. History in Context, as well as Science in Context. All Gale products have an integrated translate function and offer the ability to stream or download the audio version of the article, features that have captured the interest of students and staff alike.

Last week I taught a hands-on lesson to all Avid classes on how to identify fake news. Students were shown examples of fake news stories, they learned strategies for assessing the viability of online news stories, and then students worked in groups to practice their skills. A troubling new Stanford University study suggests that the vast majority of teenagers cannot identify fake news, and I was happy to have the opportunity to partner with the Avid teachers. Assessing accuracy and authority of information is a critical component of the library curriculum, and this article in the School Library Journal offers decoding tips that are valuable to teachers and parents alike: goo.gl/bZdm4G.

World Languages

Updates from Mrs. Miettunen's Spanish classes.

The Spanish 5/Intermediate Spanish 202 class completed their first Spanish newscast in the IHS television studio with Mr. Shyne. Students wrote and delivered a complete newscast with reports on international news, sports, health, and a book review. They did a great job! Students will start their second newscast in January. For the second newscast, Mr. Shyne will work with them to fine-tune their on-screen presence and use over the shoulder graphics. He will also begin training them on the television production equipment. Thank you Mr. Shyne for all your support!

The Spanish 4/Intermediate Spanish 201 class completed virtual city tours in November using a Google tool called Tour Builder. They chose a Spanish or Latin American city, selected places to visit and describe and created questions for their classmates to answer as they viewed each other's tours. In early December, they began their cooking show projects. Students reviewed the vocabulary for food preparation, the command forms and more in order to be able to write a recipe in Spanish and a script for a cooking show which they will create.

The Spanish 2 students will complete their Daily Routine projects in December. I have met with technology integration instructor Matt O'Donnell and Master Teacher Jen Wilkie to incorporate new technology tools into this unit as well as a possible elementary school collaboration at Fall Creek.

Thank you Jon Shyne, Matt O'Donnell and Jen Wilkie for your invaluable support.

Latin:

In late October, our two most advanced Latin students, Sarah Couillard and Cecilia Yearsley, participated in the Latin recitation contest at Cornell University, held as part of the Classics Department's "Sustaining the Antique" conference. The organizers of the event, Professors Michael Fontaine and Verity Platt, were kind enough to invite students from IHS and EAC Montessori School, where Latin is taught, to compete at several different levels. Sarah and Cecilia competed at the advanced level along with the Cornell undergraduates: each chose a poem of between 10 and 20 lines to recite. Sarah chose Catullus' poem 13 (a mock invitation to dinner) and Cecilia chose poem 3 (a lament for the death of his girlfriend's pet bird); as it turned out, all but one of the Cornell students also chose to read Catullus. It was wonderful to see our two IHS students reading Latin as feelingly, and excitingly, and musically as the Cornell students (some of whom were junior or senior Classics majors); and indeed Cecilia won second place in the contest.

Another feature of the conference that was of particular interest to us was the demonstration of spoken, conversational Latin by Professor Fontaine and other recent participants in the Paideia Institute's "Living Latin in Rome" summer seminar. They talked about choosing texts from the medieval portion of the Latin continuum to read with students—as simpler and therefore more accessible than the classical texts our curriculum has been built around—and finding other activities in which Latin can be 'used' more like a modern language. A recent IHS graduate, Phoebe Lakin '14, who came home from Harvard to attend the conference, took part in the demonstration and enthusiastically recommended the Paideia Institute's programs. Professor Fontaine had come to visit the advanced Latin class earlier in the month to encourage our interest in spoken Latin.

Yearbook

The Ithaca HS ANNUAL Yearbook club is holding a video/photograph contest! Each year we strive to have the best photos we can to illustrate the year. We want all students to participate by submitting photos so that everyone is represented in the yearbook multiple times!

How to submit photos:

Download the “hjesare” App and use our code ITHACA (case sensitive) to have your photos automatically considered for the book. You can also email photos to ithaca.yearbook@gmail.com

Specific categories we are seeking:

- Work- Photos of students at work or volunteering.
- Students pursuing their passion: we cover all the traditional yearbook areas but we know that many of our classmates are involved with extracurricular activities that we do not have access to images of. Please share these with us.
- Senior Sibling Photos- Pictures of seniors and their sibling who attend the high school
- Then and Now – photos of seniors with their friends years ago and now.
- Videos- Any videos from sports, summer videos, or videos of anything you want to see in the yearbook. See below for more information about Aurasma, the app that allows still photos to come to life in our yearbook.

Submissions will be judged over the Winter Break and winners will be announced when we return to school in January. The Grand prize this year is a free 2017 yearbook! The Magic of Aurasma: By using Aurasma, an app you can download on your phone or tablet, still photographs spring to life. Hold your phone over a picture that has a video embedded and the video is displayed on your phone. Short videos can be embedded on senior portraits, sports pictures, or any photos in the book! This contest ends on December 21! But even if you don't enter the contest we ALWAYS want your photos and videos so help us make this the best yearbook ever by including every student at Ithaca HS.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All information about the book can be found on the ICSD webpage devoted to the Annual, or on our Facebook page
2016-2017 SALES

To order a yearbook, go to www.yearbookordercenter.com and enter Ithaca High School's code 8812. Price is 12/1 - 2/4 - \$65; 2/5 and later - \$75

Parents - if you wish to honor your child's accomplishments at Ithaca High School, then purchase part of a page in this year's book! You can create a celebratory AD on-line.

Businesses - please consider supporting your local school!

If you do not want to create your Ad online you may send all text and images you want included to ithaca.yearbook@gmail.com.

Mail checks made out to IHS Annual to

Attn: Yearbook - Lyn Reitenbach

Ithaca High School

1401 N. Cayuga St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

We will email you confirmation when we have received your payment.

Business Card Ad (3.5” x 1.5”) -- \$35

Quarter-Page Ad (3.5” x 4.75”) -- \$70

Half-Page Ad (7” x 4.75”) -- \$140

Full-Page Ad (7” x 10”) -- \$280

The deadline for all senior ads is FEBRUARY 1ST. Thank you.

Seniors keep an eye on e-mail and on H-Courtyard for the proofs of the Senior Portraits. This is your chance to tell us if there is any problem with your photo or your name.

The Annual is in the process of developing a policy with regards to the names printed under each student's portraits. Historically we have used the student's legal name in the portrait section of the book. Beginning this year students will be able to fill out a form with their parents if they would like a name other than the legal name used in the Yearbook.

STAFF

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