

IDA Insights

IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2018



Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year

School begins for students on Tuesday, September 4th (Grades K-12). The Ida Public Schools Board of Education, faculty, and staff would like to welcome everyone back, as we begin another exciting year.

Here are some dates of interest:

Tuesday, August 28th

Professional Development

No Classes

E.S. Open House

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

M.S. Open House

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

H.S. Open House

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 4th

First day of school

Friday, October 5th

Homecoming game and festivities vs. Hillsdale

The school starting and dismissal times remain the same as last year. On a regular day, elementary classes will begin at 7:55 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Middle school and high school students will attend from 8:05 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

Athletic Event Yearlong Passes Available

Yearlong passes will be available from the high school office. Family passes (parents and children 21 and younger) will be \$200.00, individual adult passes are \$90.00, and student passes are \$50.00. Available again this year are senior citizen passes. They are \$10 and are for senior citizens living in the district or senior citizens who have grandchildren attending Ida. These passes will admit the holder to all home sporting events for the entire school year. Individual game tickets will remain the same at \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students, with children (4th grade and younger) being admitted free. For freshman-only and middle school contests, adults are \$4.00 and children are \$3.00.

STAY CONNECTED...

Follow Ida Public Schools on Facebook. Go to our website (www.idaschools.org) for a plethora of information: links to teacher's class websites, check your child's grades, lunch menus, board meeting minutes, contact information for all staff, download forms, and much more! You can follow our sports teams on Twitter @IdaAthletics.



The Carsten Connection

The members of the Ida Board of Education and administration have examined the results of the long-term facility study conducted by Kohler Architecture for Ida Public Schools and determined that we must move forward with a Bond Initiative to construct a new building. It will be necessary to construct a new building which can house at least 600 students therefore replacing the elementary school which was built in 1951. Additionally, bond funds will also be needed to renovate the current high school and middle school to extend the lifespan of those buildings. The Board of Education has already secured the services of Plante Moran CRESA who will serve as the owner's representative as well as Kingscott who will provide architectural and engineering services throughout the entire project. The Bond Construction team will be completed in August after the Board of Education determines the construction manager and financial representative to be used. There is a Town Hall Meeting to discuss the construction bond project scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us in the high school cafeteria to discuss the district needs and provide input for the Board of Education. One major decision that will be discussed are the pros and cons of building a high school or elementary school.



I am concerned about the upcoming ballot proposal in Michigan to legalize marijuana. The negative effects of marijuana affect the developing brain in young adults up to about age 25. The THC levels in marijuana have increased dramatically. In 1983 the average THC level was under 4% while in 2012 it has risen to almost 13%. The THC is deposited in the cell wall of the brain and it thickens the cell wall up to 400 times. The THC damages the developing brain while also causing side effects such as: lack of ambition, increased appetite, perception of time altered, paranoid state, vivid hallucinations, depersonalization and interested only in immediate gratification. All of these attributes are very dangerous for kids and will certainly inhibit success in all aspects of life. As of 2017 twenty-nine states have legalized marijuana for medical purposes while ten have approved recreational use of the drug. The State of Colorado legalized recreational use several years ago so it serves as a good example to learn from. It has been very detrimental to the quality of life for their residents. The potency levels in marijuana have skyrocketed up to over 25% in Colorado. Marijuana is sold in edibles such as milk chocolate, beef jerky, hot sauces, honey, crackers, vape pens, candy and even drinks. The problem for the consumer is that these products mimic the regular items so it is easy to mistakenly consume them. Even more disturbing is that the products are marketed toward young kids. Two deaths in Denver have been attributed to recreational marijuana use. For the sake of our great state, the quality of life for our residents and the imminent danger marijuana poses to our youth please vote no on legalizing marijuana in November!

Ida Public School Title IX Coordinators

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REMINDER...SLOW DOWN

The speed limit on Ida Public Schools' property is 15 M.P.H. Please observe this limit when driving on campus. We have a lot of students that travel by foot within the district. Help us to make the safety of our community's children a TOP PRIORITY!

Happy Retirement



Ed Wylie
Transportation/Maintenance
Food Service
33 years



Val Knapp
Bus driver
17 years



Shelley Schlump
Curriculum/Technology Director
33 years



Dan Nichols
Music teacher
22 years

*Not pictured: Sharon Chiotti, Custodian - 27 years

Detroit Regional Dollars for SCHOLARS®

On April 25, 2018, seniors from Detroit Regional Dollars for Scholars (DFS) High School Program and their families and friends came together for **Suited for Success** at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Suited for Success was a celebration of DFS student's post-secondary decisions,

presented by Grant Thornton. Upon their arrival, seniors attended a success panel moderated by board member Bob O'Donnell. Panelists included Shawntae Harris, Academic Advisor and College Success Coach at Washtenaw Community College; Courtney Morris, Educator, AdviseMI-AmeriCorp Alumni; Damon Alexander, recent Dollars for Scholars Alumni; and Dr. Sean Galvin, Executive Director of both Champions of Wayne and the Norwayne Boxing Gym. Students were able to gain tips and advice for succeeding in post-secondary.

Following the panel, attendees enjoyed a celebratory reception hour with hors d'oeuvres and conversation. After networking and filling up on tasty appetizers, all attendees moved to the Auditorium for the main programming.

To kick off the programming, Gail Tubbs, Senior Admissions Counselor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn spoke to the DFS seniors about their limitless potential and how far they can go with the light that is inside of them as they enter post-secondary. Gail was able to connect with the students on a deeper level, while encouraging them to never let their lights be dimmed.

After Gail's moving speech, liaisons were honored for their service to Dollars for Scholars, and seniors with perfect program attendance were acknowledged and presented with a graduation stole. Students then began taking the stage to announce their post-secondary decisions while being cheered on by their classmates, family and friends. To conclude the night, Ypsilanti community High School was presented with the first Scholar Spirit Award for exhibiting the most excitement for themselves and their classmates post-secondary decisions. Melvindale High School and Detroit Christo Rey came in a close second and third place, respectively.

The Class of 2018 ended their time with Dollars for Scholars encouraged and excited for life after high school! Ida High School had 28 students in the DFS program, with 9 of them being seniors. Each senior receives a one time \$4,000 scholarship. Congratulations to Drew Adkins, Cassie Adney, Walter Book, Michael Clark, Josh Earls, Alyssa McKinney, Samantha Plontz, Claire Timiney, and Matthew Zlonkevicz.



**STOP THE SILENCE
HELP END THE VIOLENCE**



A hero doesn't necessarily have to wear a cape and tights, maybe a hero speaks up for what's right. Maybe that hero could be you. If you see or hear something that doesn't seem right, you can submit a confidential tip to OK2SAY. OK2SAY allows anyone to confidentially report tips on criminal activities or potential harm directed at Michigan students, school employees, or schools.

A Secret Service study found that in 81% of violent school incidents, someone other than the attacker had knowledge of the plan, but failed to report it because of fear or retaliation or being labeled a snitch. To eliminate that fear and help break the code of silence, the tipster's identity is confidential.

Protect yourself and others by using OK2SAY. Because if you won't, who will?

Submit tips 24/7 online (<https://ok2say.state.mi.us/>), by text (652729), phone (1.855.565.2729), email (ok2say@mi.gov), or using the OK2SAY app.

DISTRICT MEDICATION POLICY

Many students are required to take medications (prescriptions and/or non-prescription) during the school day. There are specific policies adopted by the Ida Board of Education and the state that must be followed in these cases.



- All medications must be brought to the office by a parent and dispensed by the office staff only.
- Students are not allowed to have medications in their possession (to include lockers) or take medications without the supervision of the office staff.
- The medication must be in its original container and be accompanied by written instructions from the student's physician and parent. The required form for providing this information is available in the office.



BUS SAFETY

Bus pickup times are the same as last year. Students are advised to be at their bus stop 3-5 minutes early.

Reminders for Students:

- Be courteous and cooperative with your driver
- Treat other passengers with respect

Parents, please teach your student the following safety tips.
Waiting for the Bus:

- Stay a safe distance from the roadway
- No pushing or horseplay
- Stay away from the wheels

Crossing in front of the bus:

- Stop at the edge of the bus
- look right and left
- look at the driver for a signal to cross
- keep watching for traffic as you walk

WHOLE APPLE AWARD



The Whole Apple Award Banquet is an annual banquet to honor and recognize staff, students, and community members who have a positive impact on students with disabilities. Each year the committee seeks nominations from educators and other community members of Monroe County. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor and celebrate individuals for their commitment, education, and inclusion of individuals with special needs in our schools and community. There are thirteen different award categories included in the Whole Apple Award. The General Education Peer Mentor of the Year was awarded to Ida High School senior Austin Bean. Austin was part of our Links - Peer to Peer program, he was nominated by his Links for this award and they attended the banquet with him when he received the award. Below are some excerpts from his speech at the banquet.

“I’m a senior from Ida High School. My Links this year were Dante and Evan. They were great kids and I loved going to their classroom every day. When I decided to take Links as a class I wondered to myself, if this was going to be the right fit for me. Before we found out who our Links were I was nervous because I’ve never worked with someone who is autistic before and I didn’t know what to expect. When I found out I had not only one, but two Links I was super nervous and didn’t know what to think. I went home that night and I developed a plan. I sat in my chair and thought. There’s no need to be nervous I know autism is nothing Dante and Evan can control. So I told myself. I’m going to meet them with a mindset I would anybody else. That’s exactly what I did. When I first introduced myself I already had Dante and Evan laughing and we were all making jokes back and forth and all the nerves went away. After that point I learned what they liked and what their hobbies were and I’d have conversations with them about what they enjoyed. It was always funny because when Dante would be talking Evan would want to tell me something too and they’d always argue who’s turn it was or who’s story was better. The thing I loved about Dante and Evan is no matter how bad of a mood they were in or how bad of a day they were having they’d always smile when they saw me and they’d be ready to work. They always tried their hardest and made sure the job was done. Over the course of the semester our friendship with each other became very strong and I started looking at Dante and Evan as if they were my best friends. They taught me a lot of things, such as Evan’s favorite cartoon character Monkey De Lupo, and Ben 10. Dante taught me various types of card games such as Skip-Bo, Skip-Bo Trash which I’ve even taught my friends how to play. See the thing is, no matter what task life throws at you, you have to tackle it with the right mindset. When I won “Peer-to-Peer Program Regular Education Student of the Year” for being a Link I was just completely blown away. I was honestly in shock. All of my friends were congratulating me and asking me how I did it. I tell them exactly what I told you guys here today. You shouldn’t look at someone different because they’re not the same as you. Instead you should try and just talk to them and maybe you’ll start friendships you thought you’d never have just like I did. I loved every bit of working with Dante and Evan and they are some fine young men who will do great things later in life. I’d encourage everyone to tell their kids they should be a part of a Peer-to-Peer program like Links.”



ANOTHER YEAR OF “SAFETY CITY”

It is with pride that we announce the completion of Ida’s 21st consecutive “Safety City” program. The program was held from June 18th through June 29th. Running for two hours per day, Safety City culminated with a picnic/graduation on the last day. Completion certificates and many gifts were passed out at the event, which celebrated the graduation of 31 preschool and kindergarten children.

During the 10 day program, students were entertained by many guest speakers, who provided practical safety tips for the children. The teacher of the program was Mrs. Alissabeth Fox, and her assistant was Mrs. Carolyn Clark. The student helper was IHS Sophomore, Athen Wolfenbarger. The director of “Safety City” was Mr. Bert Wagner, the elementary principal.



Speakers, Volunteers, Bus Driver, and Helpers

- Rhan Stokes (Railroad/Train Safety)
- State Trooper Jessie King (Stranger Danger)
- Molly Crowell & Peter Manus and DTE’s “Louie Lightning Bug” (Electricity)
- Ed Wylie (Bus Safety)
- Ron Eby (Ida Fire Dept.)
- Dena Weyand & Jaden Weyand of Farmers Insurance (Child I.D.’s / Fingerprinting)
- Joe Abel (Paramedic/Ambulance)
- Deputy Tony Modica, Deputy Parran, & “Eddie Eagle” (Gun Safety)
- Deputy Brett Raymo & “Sarabi” (Animal Control)
- Bridget Haines & “Buddy” (Monroe County Sheriff Horse Posse)
- Donna Kuti (9-1-1 Dispatch)
- Austin Otto (Tractor Safety)
- Henry and Marian Timmermann, and “Moxie” the Leader Dog
- Karla Rodziewicz, Kaelan Parry, Alyshie Grant, Jordyn Kate Schmidt (Dundee Pool)
- Dr. Gregory Balog, Jane Helmer, Jammie Costello, Sue Suttles, Shelly Conner, Pam Stover, Ella Beaudrie, & Shannon Celina (Dental Hygiene)
- Michelle Cox, Bus Driver
- Karen Commet
- Dave Eack
- Bob Cherry
- Tony Scott



Participants

The following are the graduates of 2018 Safety City:

Leah Angerer	Easton Alberts
Paisley Bacome	Nolan Blaharski
Lexie Brey	Elsie Burhart
Chance Coker	Blake Cowen
Carson Cox	Ella Derian
Breyden Ellison	Mila Ellison
Tyler Etue	Bronson Fielder
Blake Gobrecht	Greyson Iott
Brent Jennings	Gabriella Keck
Kayden Keller	Addison Kerfoot
Madeline Kerfoot	Riley Krieg
Brinley Krieger	Micah Krieger
Henry Kusina	Samuel Lilje
Alec Nowitzke	Blake Secord
Allie Sharp	Colin Stiff
Leihm Swartz	Liam Theisen
Olivia Thompson	



- Rode the Kettler Kettcars in the Safety City
 - Rode in a school bus to pool
 - Were visited by "Eddie the Eagle" (gun safety)
 - Learned train and railroad safety
 - Learned Swimming Safety at the Dundee Pool
 - Learned about poison safety and First Aid
 - Met and petted a Leader Dog, learning animal safety
 - Explored police cars, fire truck, and Animal Control truck & ambulance
- Were visited by Ida firefighters
 - Learned about Tractor Safety/sat in tractor
 - Practiced dialing 9-1-1
 - Learned about Dental Care
 - Were honored at Safety City Graduation
 - Sat on "Buddy," a horse from the Sheriff's Posse
 - Learned Electrical Safety from D.T.E.'s Louie Lightning Bug

Activities

Gifts

Safety City t-shirt, bicycle helmet, coloring & activity books, tooth brushing supplies, daily snacks, a toy tractor, child's fingerprints for parents, stickers and miscellaneous items, graduation certificate, pictures, first aid kit, & Tiffany's gift certificate.



Contributors

We would like to thank the following businesses who donated to Safety City:

Business Donors:

Ida Veterinary Clinic***GARST LP Gas, Inc.
Education Plus Credit Union***Knabusch Insurance Services, Inc.
Gino's Pizza & Substation***STONECO (Mark Parran)
Ida Farmers Cooperative Co.***Leski Insurance Agency
Capaul Funeral Home***Banas Building Center
American Legion # 514 Women's Auxiliary

5TH GRADE ROBOTICS TEAM PLACES 12TH IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP



Last Spring 5th graders, Wyatt Dirkmaat, Kaylea Hall, Tiernan Strimpel, and Cameron Tross competed in the Vex Robotics World Championships in Kentucky. The team competed alongside 80 teams from around the world. The team worked hard and earned a 12th place finish. Way to go Virus Lightning.



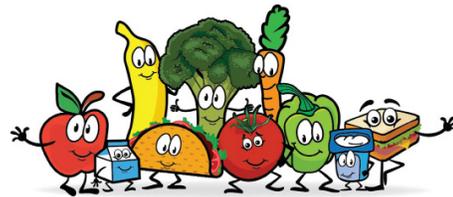
School Lunch



The 2018/2019 school lunch prices will remain the same as last year. If your child has a food allergy please fill out a medical allergy form that can be picked up at any school office. A new form must be completed each school year, even if there have been no changes. In order for the food service staff to alter from the menu due to an allergy, a form must be completed and signed by a physician. Looking forward to a great school year here at Ida

Public Schools. If you have any questions please contact Pam Oberski, Food Service Director, 734.269.9003 ext.3510 or email oberski@idaschools.org.

Elementary school student lunch:	\$2.50
Middle school student lunch:	\$2.90
High school student lunch:	\$3.00
Adult lunch:	\$3.90
Milk:	.50
Breakfast for all students:	\$1.40
Breakfast for adults:	\$2.00



Free and Reduced Meal Price Applications

An application for free/reduced meals is available at each of the building offices or you may print the application from the Ida Public Schools website. PLEASE return the form prior to the first day of school by dropping the application off at a building office or at the Superintendent's office. The applications will be processed in advance so that your children will receive the benefits on the first day of school.

You can deposit money into your child's account by sending cash or a check, made payable to Ida Public Schools, with your student to school. You may send one check to be distributed amongst siblings, but please note how much money should be given to each child. You can also log into MySchoolBucks from the Ida Public Schools website. This allows you to make deposits to your child's account and view their account history.

Please make sure your child has money on their lunch account. The food service staff will only allow students to "charge" a lunch one time. Then your child is notified that they need to make a deposit to their account.

We look forward to serving your children a healthy breakfast and lunch at Ida Public Schools. Our food service department of dedicated employees will be here to ensure that your child eats a well-balanced meal. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Guthrie at (734)269-9003 ext. 4003 or guthrie@idaschools.org.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Through the course of last school year Ida Public Schools has used a \$71,000 grant from the State of Michigan's Talent and Economic Development department to support our Career and Technical Education Programs. State Senator Dale Zorn was instrumental in helping our staff acquire the grant which will allow us to update our equipment to meet current industry standards in the following programs: drafting, computer aided design, welding, metals, and woods. The grant paid for a plethora of items including:

- *CNC machine
- *A Lincoln 350 pro welder
- *Horizontal band saw
- *3D printer
- *A Miller XMT 304 welder
- *15" drill press
- *new classroom textbooks
- *A ESAB Rebel welder
- *Metal working table



NEW TECHNOLOGY AT IDA

Next fall we will be seeing some new and innovative technology at use in our classrooms. We have purchased Ozobots, Dash Robots, and Bloxels. These are mini programmable devices to help students learn basic programming. We have also added some high tech cameras and microscope projector cameras. For our high school math department we purchased Kuta software. This software creates exactly the worksheet you may need in a matter of minutes to reteach or review an area of need.

For the district, we installed a new storage server and network, updated additional fiber network between the schools, purchased new computers for the CAD (Computer Aided Design) lab and the high school media center. The elementary is getting an additional Chromebook cart and the middle school will be getting two additional carts. Several interactive whiteboards will be updated in each building.

Finally, we migrated our email to office 365 so it will be easier than ever to contact us. Just check out our recently updated website!





The Ida Public Schools Board of Education updated their policy regarding dogs on school property. Dogs are no longer allowed on school grounds.

School Closings and Delays

When school must be closed or starting times delayed due to inclement weather or other conditions, a Honeywell Instant Alert will be sent. In addition local radio and television stations are notified.



Parents now have the capability depositing money for student lunches and pay to play fees online at MySchoolBucks.com.

Athletic Participation Fee

A fee of \$100.00 will be assessed per student/per activity, with a \$400.00 family cap. Fees are due and payable one week after the first authorized day of practice for each activity. Fees are payable in the appropriate building office and also online at MySchoolBucks School Store.

2018-2019

Board of Education Meetings

At their annual organizational meeting the members of the Ida Board of Education established meeting dates, times, and places for fiscal year 2019. Thirteen (13) of the regularly scheduled meetings will be conducted on the second Monday of the month. All board meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the high school library, unless the Board determines a more appropriate site is available.

September 10, 2018	Regular business meeting
October 8, 2018	Regular business meeting/ Student enrollment certification
October 22, 2018	Superintendent evaluation evidence meeting
November 5, 2018	Superintendent evaluation meeting
November 12, 2018	Annual financial meeting/ budget hearing
December 10, 2018	Regular business meeting
January 14, 2019	Regular business meeting/ Second annual organizational meeting/ first review of 2019-2020 budget
February 11, 2019	Regular business meeting
March 11, 2019	Regular business meeting
April 8, 2019	Regular business meeting
May 13, 2019	Regular business meeting
June 10, 2019	Regular business meeting
June 24, 2019	Regular business meeting/ uniform budget meeting/end of fiscal year
July 8, 2019	Annual organizational meeting/ Regular business meeting

The Ida Board of Education reserves the right to schedule Special Meetings, or to reschedule or cancel any of the Regular meeting(s) listed above, based on the needs of the school district.

2018-2019 IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR

Tuesday, Aug. 28th

Professional Development Day 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

E.S. Open House 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

M.S. Open House 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

H.S. Open House 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 29th

Professional Development Day

Monday, Sept. 3rd

Labor Day - No School

Tuesday, Sept 4th

First Day for Students

Thursday, Nov. 1st

County-Wide In-Service, no school for students

Friday, Nov. 2nd

End of 1st Marking Period

Monday, Nov. 19th

½ Day P/T Conferences K-4 (1-3 and 5-8); 5th grade (1-4)

Tuesday, Nov. 20th

½ Day P/T Conferences K-4 (1-4); 5th-12th (1-3 and 5-8)

Wednesday, Nov. 21st

½ Day

Thursday, Nov. 22nd

Thanksgiving Recess-No School

Friday, Nov. 24th

Thanksgiving Recess-No School

Friday, Dec. 21st

Holiday Recess begins at the end of the day

Thursday, Jan. 3rd

Classes Resume

Wednesday, Jan 16th

Exams Begin

Thursday, Jan. 17th

First Semester Exams – ½ Day

Friday, Jan. 18th

First Semester Exams – ½ Day

Monday, Jan. 21st

No school for students: Professional Development Day

(Martin Luther King Day)

Tuesday, Jan. 22nd

Second Semester Begins

Monday, Feb. 18th

No School for students: Professional Development Day

(President's Day) (Online PD) (Snow day make up optional)

End of 3rd Marking Period

Friday, Mar. 22nd

End of 3rd Marking Period

Monday, April 1st -

End of 3rd Marking Period

Friday, April 5th

Spring Break

Monday, April 8th

Classes Resume

Tuesday, April 9th

SAT/M-STEP Tentative Test Date (All students report to school)

Friday, April 19th

Good Friday - No School

Monday, April 22nd

Easter Monday - No School

Monday, May 27th

Memorial Day - No School

Friday, June 7th

Exams Begin

Monday, June 10th

Second Semester Exams – ½ Day

Tuesday, June 11th

Second Semester Exams – ½ Day

Students Last Day

IDA SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS TO BRING STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO MAINTAIN OUR RICH TRADITIONS.

WE WILL PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT, AN EXCEPTIONAL CURRICULUM, SKILLS TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, AND THE MEANS TO BECOME LIFE-LONG LEARNERS.

Parent Contact Information

It is very important that the school offices have current contact information for your child. Did you recently get rid of your land-line? Does the school have a current email address? Do you know who is listed as secondary contacts if you are unavailable? Do you know how to check your child's grades in Home Access Center? For answers to all these questions contact a secretary in the appropriate building.

Elementary School
(734) 269.3605

Middle School
(734) 269.2220

High School
(734) 269.3485

IDA Insights

is published by the Board of Education
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