



BEN FRANKLIN HERALD “Where everyone is inspired and challenged to excel” NOV. 2018

Benjamin Franklin Elementary School 95 Ben Franklin Road, Indiana, PA 15701

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is my FAVORITE time of year! There is a chill in the air, the leaves on the trees are beginning to change colors, and the first marking period has ended! Fall is here, my friends! A special thank you to our wonderful PTA for organizing our autumn activities and to all parents and guests who plan to attend our Fall Harvest parties on November 20.

Once again this year, students at area schools will help provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for Indiana County's less fortunate through the annual Love Basket School Drive. I am looking forward to seeing if our BF Heros can rise to the challenge and collect 1,500 items for the Love Basket Collection. Next week, a collection of nonperishable goods will take place throughout the district. Here are the suggested 'Items of the Day' for Ben Franklin:

Monday, November 5th – Canned Fruit or Veggie Monday

Tuesday, November 6th – Boxed Item Tuesday

Wednesday, November 7th – Wildcard Wednesday (Bring whatever you want!)

Thursday, November 8th – Canned Good Thursday

Friday, November 9th – Favorite Item Friday (Bring your favorite canned good!)

Now that we are well into the school year, I know many of you are anxious for our Parent & Teacher Conferences coming up on November 13, 2018 from 10 am to 6 pm! Parent & Teacher conferences are great opportunities for some face-to-face dialogue between you and your child's teacher, emphasizing his/her outstanding growth, and also some targeted areas for improvement. I hope that you will be able to take time from your busy schedules to meet with your child's teacher to discuss his/her academic progress and performance at school. Your input and involvement are key to your child's success. At Ben Franklin, we value your partnership as we work together to positively impact the learning of our children.

In addition to ensuring all of our children are doing their best learning, one of the most important jobs I have at school is to keep everyone safe. We have a school team that meets regularly to analyze our systems to ensure our schools are as safe as possible. One strategy to maintain a safe school is to engage all children and adults in various drills. This year, we have practiced several monthly fire drills and an active shooter drill. In each scenario, all students and adults leave the building at a designated time and walk to an alternative location. We communicated with our students in age-appropriate manner to ensure children knew we were only practicing our plan. Please be sure to alert your child's teacher if these drills are causing any anxiety or scared feelings so we may have some extra supports in place during any future drills.

Bus Safety is also an area of concern we often face. An adult should supervise students at bus stops. Sometimes behaviors happen while students are waiting for the bus and negative behaviors are carried on to the bus. When this happens, students are challenged with trying to turn their day around before they even reach school. Please speak to children about keeping themselves safe while riding the bus by staying in their seats when the bus is moving. They are expected to use Noise Level 1 voices so as not to startle the drivers. Basically, students should follow the same rules they follow when riding in the family car. It would be so helpful if you could remind your child of this so we can get him/her to school and home again safely!

In closing, I know November is going to go by very quickly! I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving as you spend time with families and friends.

Happy Fall Y'all!

Kelly Urbani

FOOD SERVICE

The Food Service wants to remind parents that they are welcome to join their students for lunch. Please call ahead with your menu choice prior to arrival.

CLASSROOM NEWS

PRE K

Put on your hard hats -- it's time to build! Along with The Investigator Club, Pre-K is going to learn about all things construction, including construction vehicles and sites, homes, tools and household helpers, and carpentry.

Throughout this investigation, Pre-K students will be learning math skills that relate to building, hearing construction stories, making building plans, and building with many different materials

KINDERGARTEN

It's hard to believe that October has come and gone! We enjoyed learning about fall changes, pumpkins, and fire safety. The children looked awesome in the fashion show sporting their letter vests! Thank you for helping to make that such a fun event!

FIRST GRADE

As October comes to an end and November begins, first grade will begin exploring subtraction in math classes. It is important that students continue to work on addition fact fluency. Flashcards are an easy way of doing this even on the go. There are also many online resources that can help make learning facts quick and fun.

In Language Arts, we have completed Unit 2, our focus was on strategies that help us visualize and analyze characters. We will be starting Unit 5 next (yes, these are all out of order). We will explore how to make connections as we read.

We are enjoying watching the seasons change and have been discussing those changes in Science classes. Throughout November we will explore maps and globes and Thanksgiving. It is a wonderful time to talk about all of the things we are thankful for!

SECOND GRADE

Second graders are working hard to learn basic addition and subtraction facts. The children get daily practice with math games, flashcards, partner activities, and small group instruction. It is especially important to study these basic addition facts at home. Students must have quick recall (3 seconds), without the use of aids. By the end of 2nd grade, your child should have mastered all of the basic addition and subtraction facts to 18.

Ones, Tens, and Hundreds here we come, our Place Value Unit has begun!

Second grade is a key year in reading development. Please continue to have your child read the fluency passage aloud each evening. This daily homework is a very important part of our take home reading program.

We are excitedly preparing and practicing our military songs to honor our brave Veteran's at our upcoming school-wide assembly.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we look forward to our annual presentation from IUP professor, Dr. Millward. He will bring information, fun facts, and many artifacts about the history of the Wampanoag Native Americans.

Happy Harvest!! ☺

THIRD GRADE

Third grade will enter the month of November by focusing on respect as we begin to complete different activities to honor all veterans for the upcoming Veterans' Day Program. In math class, students will focus on place value and addition and subtraction with 3 digits. In English, we have learned about types of sentences, subjects and predicates and will begin looking at parts of speech. In reading, we are working on improving student's fluency, focusing on main idea and detail and biographies. Please keep reading with your child at home. As we approach the season of thankfulness, we thank you for your continued support through your child's educational process.

SPECIALISTS NEWS

GUIDANCE

Our School-Wide Positive Behavior program continues to grow. Students are working on demonstrating respectful behavior throughout the school environment. We have filled the Hero Board twice thus far. Small rewards are given to students who earn a hero band. Please remember to ask your child how they were a HERO each day.

As a team, we continue to look at data collected from teachers and staff. According to our findings, the bathroom expectations is an area of concern right now. Below are the Bathroom Expectations. Please review with your child.

Bathroom

Go, Wash, Leave

Noise Level 0

Give Privacy

Keep Bathroom Clean

MUSIC

We have been busy in Music class! Kindergarten has wrapped up our "visit" to the farm. We will be using songs about fall to explore musical concepts. We really enjoyed playing instruments and a game as we sang "Peter, Peter Pumpkin Eater." In 1st grade, we have been learning to use music notation for quarter notes and rests and eighth notes. We have been singing and playing instruments to a song about big, black cats. 2nd graders have been learning to use ostinatos (a repeated musical pattern) to perform 2 parts at the same time! We are getting ready for harmony! PK - 2nd graders have been singing "Up Went the Spider" with sign language. It's a favorite! 3rd grade has been using instruments and ostinatos to accompany many of the songs that we are singing. We are also using a 5 line staff.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Congratulations to the students who have taken part in the Healthy Kid's Running Series at Mack Park. They completed five races in all. If your child enjoyed this time of running, this same series will take place again in the spring.



Our upcoming activity is our Elks Hoop Shoot Competition which will be taking place in December. More information will be going home soon.

With cold weather approaching, please remind your child to wear, or bring, tennis shoes for class. Boots make it very difficult to participate in the activities.

NURSE

Have you and your children received your flu shots yet? If not, now is an excellent time to get your shots. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone 6 months and older receive an annual flu shot unless they have a severe allergy to chicken eggs or any other substance in the flu vaccine.

Do you have gently used clothes that your child has outgrown? Consider donating them to the Ben Franklin nurse's office. Students occasionally have spills, accidents or playground mishaps and need to borrow a clean or dry set of clothes. We have a very small supply currently and are not always able to accommodate this need. Size small sweatpants for boys and girls are the biggest need. If you are able to help, please send clean clothes in a bag marked for the Ben Franklin nurse. Thank you.

TITLE 1

Fall Fluency Tips

The ultimate goal of reading is to comprehend and understand what you are reading. In our pursuit of this goal, you may hear your child talk about reading fluently or practicing their fluency. Fluency varies in the different grades here at Ben Franklin. Here are some examples of what it looks like grade by grade:

Kindergarten-Quickly identifying letters and letter sounds

1st grade-Consonant vowel consonant (CVC) word fluency and sight word fluency (The sight words change level by level, but students should be reading these whole sight words and not sounding them out sound by sound)

2nd and 3rd grade-Reading a passage in phrases with proper intonation while also recognizing what the punctuation marks mean. (This does NOT mean reading as fast as you can. Accuracy and comprehension are both goals when attempting to read fluently.)

Please continue to support your child in his/her development of this critical reading skill. If you are looking for more information, please click on the link below which will take you to the Reading Rockets website.

<http://bit.ly/2zcv09U>



Dates to Remember:

Reflections Program: Thursday, November 1 @6:30pm- Ben Franklin Gymnasium

Veteran's Day Program: Friday, November 9 -both schools

Pie Shoppe Order pick up: Friday, November 9 @4-6:00pm -Ben Franklin

PTA Meeting: Wednesday, November 14 @6:30pm - Eisenhower, Room 11

Fall Harvest Homeroom Parties: Tuesday, November 20 @2:30pm -Ben Franklin only

Fall Fundraisers:

*Orders from the Pie Shoppe will be ready for pick up on Friday, November 9th from 4:00-6:00pm at Ben Franklin.

*The Schwans-Cares fundraiser continues thru the holidays! Please use campaign ID 41821 when ordering by phone 1-855-870-7208 or online. So far, the campaign has raised \$384!

*Chipotle Night was a success. We raised \$385 from our families, teachers and friends eating at Chipotle on October 23rd!

Thanks again for your support!

SHOW AND A SNACK THANK YOU!! A big thank you to Maggie Hazey and Chaya Matos for all their work with Show and a Snack. We had our largest student turn-out at over 300 in attendance! A huge thank you to our principals, teachers who donated rooms for the event, all movie chaperones, those who donated movies, and the Ben Franklin janitorial staff. The students had a great time! Everyone's efforts were very much appreciated.

REFLECTIONS: Please join us for the **Reflections Program on Thursday, November 1st at 6:30pm in the Ben Franklin Gymnasium.** All of our participating student's artwork will be on display and awards will be presented during this program. Light refreshments will also be provided by the PTA. Look for the list of winners to be announced in the December Newsletter.



Veteran's Day Programs: The Veteran's Day Programs will be held at both schools on Friday, November 9th. A flyer with more information will be sent home with your student.

FALL HARVEST HOMEROOM PARTIES: Ben Franklin students are scheduled for their fall-themed homeroom parties on Tuesday, November 20th at 2:30pm. If you would like to be involved with your child's homeroom party, be sure to have joined the appropriate homeroom hub on the MemberHub site. You must be a member of the PTA to participate and there is a limit of 5 volunteers per room. If you have not received communication from your hub or need further assistance, contact Ben Franklin PTA VP, Maggie Hazey at maggie.harlacher@gmail.com.



Holiday Workshop: Our elves are preparing the Holiday Workshop for students to shop for their family and friends this holiday season! Eisenhower is scheduled on Thursday and Friday, 12/6- 12/7. Ben Franklin will hold their workshop from 12/10-12/14. If you are interested in helping to wrap presents, shop with students, or set up/tear down the workshop, please join the Holiday Workshop Hub on MemberHub. You can also contact Gigi Donatelli-Lyons at gdonatelli524@hotmail.com.



Happy Holidays

Our **SCHOOL SPIRIT apparel website** is open for the entire school year. There will be some specials for the upcoming Holiday Season, so keep it in mind when shopping for Indiana students. The website is www.indianaspiritwear.com. Anyone can order, please share the website with family and friends!

Refunding:



The Fall Refunding contest just ended and results are being tallied. The winning homerooms (one from each school) will get a reward for their classroom that is chosen by their teacher. Watch for the winning classrooms to be announced in the December Newsletter. Please continue to collect your Box Tops, Tyson labels, and Coke Rewards all year long. We will have another contest in the spring! Great job everyone!

YEARBOOK: We need lots of photos for our yearbook! We also want to ensure all students are represented in the yearbook, so we need your help! All are welcome to upload school event photos to our website for yearbook consideration. The link for submitting photos website is www.hjeshare.com. **Our school code is bfe2019.** Please be sure to enter pertinent information about the photo in order for it to upload and for proper placement in the yearbook.



Amazon Smile: You can support our school by adding Ben Franklin/Eisenhower PTA as your charity. Amazon will donate a percentage of sales back to the school if purchases are made through

the Amazon smile link. Bookmark the link below and use it when you shop at Amazon. Share the link with family and friends! Use it while shopping this Holiday Season!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-5576219>



Shutterfly: If you order from Shutterfly for photo gifts this season, be sure to use the storefront link for Ben Franklin/Eisenhower school. Shutterfly will donate a percentage of sales back to our

school when this link is used during orders: www.bf-ike.shutterflystorefront.com. Share this with family and friends as well!

Join the Ben Franklin/Eisenhower PTA Today! Membership is just \$7.00 per year per member and enrollment is open year-round. The PTA welcomes all levels of involvement—whether it may be some of your time, donation of supplies or food items for various events. There is a place for everyone! The more members we have, the greater benefits we can offer our children. With the upcoming classroom parties, keep in mind that you must be a member to participate. If you need an application, there are copies available in both school offices. Please be sure to check with the secretary that your clearances are on file and up-to-date for other events you may want to be involved with throughout the year. Thank you for all you do for the children of Ben Franklin and Eisenhower schools. Any questions, contact: Amy Montgomery at amymont125@gmail.com.

Chartwells at Indiana Elementary Schools November 2018 Breakfast Menu

Student breakfast \$1.10 / Reduced breakfast \$.30

A full student breakfast may include a choice of entrée (supplying grains or grain and protein),
a fruit side dish, and a choice of milk.

Milk choices are: 1% white + sklm chocolate. **TO RECEIVE THE STUDENT MEAL PRICE PLEASE CHOOSE A FRUIT!!**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1 FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK'S "FREE" BREAKFAST FOR ALL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> FREE BREAKFAST </div> Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	Mini Cinnis Choice of Fruit + Milk
5 Crunchy Orange Crush Parfait Choice of Fruit + Milk	6 Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	7 Mini Cinnis Choice of Fruit + Milk	8 Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	9 Cherry Frudel Choice of Fruit + Milk
12 NO SCHOOL	13 NO SCHOOL	14 Mini Cinnis Choice of Fruit + Milk	15 Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	16 Mini Cinnis Choice of Fruit + Milk
19 Crunchy Peach Cobbler Parfait Choice of Fruit + Milk	20 Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL	23 NO SCHOOL
26 NO SCHOOL	27 Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	28 Mini Cinnis Choice of Fruit + Milk	29 Breakfast Sausage Pizza Choice of Fruit + Milk	30 Mini Cinnis Choice of Fruit + Milk

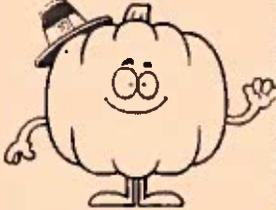
ALTERNATE ENTRÉES Offered Monday through Friday.... (available with Fruit Bar + Choice of Milk)

Your Choice of Assorted Cereals + Graham Crackers
 WG Muffins of the Day
 WG Bagel w/ Cream Cheese



Go to MyPlate.gov for online personal wellness resources for you and your family.

Chartwells at Indiana Area Elementary Schools NOVEMBER 2018 LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>A full student lunch includes a choice of entrée¹ supplying protein and grain, two vegetable side dishes, one fruit side dish and choice of 1% white or fat-free chocolate milk.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Student lunch \$2.45 Reduced lunch \$.40</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>a la Carte Snacks</u></p> <p><small>Students must have money in their account in order to buy a snack. If you do not want your child to have a la carte items, you may send in a note and our cashier will mark it on our Point of Sale System</small></p> <p><small>**All Menus are Subject to Change due to Produce Availability or School Cancellation</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOOD FOCUS THIS MONTH IS CRANBERRIES</p> <p>Fruit + Vegetable Bar: A large selection of Fruits + Vegetables offered daily. For a complete daily listing please visit lasd.nutrislice.com.</p>	<p>Comments or Questions? Please call the Food Service Office at 724-963-8723</p>  <p><small>Click the apple icon to view the menu</small></p>	<p>The National School Lunch Program is operated in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture policy which does not permit discrimination because of race, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Any person who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in any U.S.D.A. activity should write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.</p>
	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">"FREE"</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">PUMPKIN SPICE ICE CREAM CUP</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">w/ purchase of a lunch</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19</p>		<p>¹</p> <p>Cheese Pizza Vegetarian Baked Beans Mixed Greens Salad w/ Fat Free Italian Dressing Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>²</p> <p>Macaroni + Cheese WG Dinner Roll Seasoned Broccoli Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>
<p>⁵</p> <p>Turkey Hot Dog Creamy Cheddar Cheese Sauce Sauerkraut Sweet Relish Vegetarian Baked Beans Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>⁶</p> <p>Beef Macho Nachos Seasoned Corn Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>⁷</p> <p>Scrambled Eggs WG Pancakes w/ Syrup Sweet Potato Tots Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>⁸</p> <p>Cheese Pizza Vegetarian Baked Beans Mixed Greens Salad w/ Fat Free Italian Dressing Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>⁹</p> <p>Chicken Tenders WG Dinner Roll Oven Baked Curly Fries Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>
<p>¹²</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>¹³</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>¹⁴</p> <p>Roasted Turkey w/ Gravy WG Bread Stuffing Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Corn Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>¹⁵</p> <p>Pepperoni Pizza Vegetarian Baked Beans Seasoned Broccoli Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>¹⁶</p> <p>Mashed Potato + Chicken Bowl WG Dinner Roll Seasoned Corn Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>
<p>¹⁹</p> <p style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">Free Ice Cream Cup w/ purchase of lunch</p> <p>Ham + American Cheese Sub Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup Baked Crinkle Fries Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>²⁰</p> <p>Boneless Chicken Wings Honey BBQ Sauce Light Ranch Dressing Fresh Celery Sticks Savory Green Beans Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>²¹</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>²²</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>²³</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>
<p>²⁶</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>²⁷</p> <p>Walking Taco Salsa Seasoned Corn Cinnamon Breadstick Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>²⁸</p> <p>WG French Toast Sticks w/ Syrup Turkey Sausage Patty Tater Tots Baked Apple Slices Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>²⁹</p> <p>Pepperoni Pizza Vegetarian Baked Beans Mixed Greens Salad w/ Fat Free Italian Dressing Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>	<p>³⁰</p> <p>Mashed Potato + Chicken Bowl WG Dinner Roll Seasoned Corn Fruit + Vegetable Bar Choice of Milk</p>
<p>Alternates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crispy Chicken Patty Sandwich 2. Chocolate Chip Muffin Fun Lunch (CC Muffin, Yogurt Cup, String Cheese) 3. Peanut Butter + Jelly Sandwich 	<p>Alternates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mini Turkey Corn Dogs 2. Bosco "Cheese-Stuffed" Breadsticks w/ Pizza Sauce 	<p>Alternates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Muffin + Goldfish Fun Lunch (Blueberry Muffin, Yogurt Cup, String Cheese, Goldfish Crackers) 2. Popcorn Chicken w/ WG Dinner Roll 3. Peanut Butter + Jelly Sandwich 	<p>Alternates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classic American Cheeseburger 2. WG Chicken Nuggets w/ WG Dinner Roll 	<p>Alternates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Toasty Cheese Sandwich w/ Campbell's Tomato Soup 2. Nacho Fun Lunch (Nacho Chips, Cheddar Cheese, Salsa) 3. Peanut Butter + Jelly Sandwich

Menu access is available at lasd.nutrislice.com or by clicking on the apple icon at the Food News page of the www.lasd.cc website.

IASD 2018-2019

TESTING, MEASUREMENT, AND INDIVIDUAL APPRAISAL PROGRAM

Test	Administered	Grade Level	Purpose
W-APT	Throughout the year upon enrollment	K-12	Screening tool to determine English as a Second Language needs
Phelps Kindergarten Readiness Scale	Spring	Prior to entrance	Assessment of readiness skills; Title I identification
Speech/Language Screening	January/February	2	Assessment of speech and/or language difficulties
DIBELS & Number Knowledge Test	Periodically according to RtII	K-2	Assessment of progress in reading and math concepts
I Ready Math and Reading along with Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System	3-4 times throughout the school year	K-5	Measures progress over time in reading, math, and language arts
Classroom Diagnostic Tests	On going	4-12	On-line diagnostic tests in Math, Language Arts, Social Studies and Science
Keystone Exams (Winter) Wave I Algebra I, Biology, Literature	December 3-14, 2018	7-11	Keystone Eligible Content/Retakes
Keystone Exams (Spring) Algebra I, Biology, Literature	May 13-24, 2019	7-11	Keystone Eligible Content/End of Course Assessment
PSSA English Language Arts (ELA)	April 15 - 26, 2019	3-8	Assessment of Writing achievement and Reading comprehension
PSSA Mathematics Science All Make-ups (ELA, Math, Science)	April 29 – May 3, 2019	3-8 4 & 8	Assessment of Math concepts/problem solving Assessment of Science
PASA – PA Alternate System of Assessment	TBD	3-8, 11 4 and 8	Measures the attainment of knowledge and skills of students with cognitive disabilities (IDEA '97)
ACCESS for ELLs (WIDA)	January 8, 2019 to February 22, 2019	K-12 ESL students	Assessment of English language acquisition
PSAT	Fall	10, 11	Assessment of reading, writing and math skills to determine early indicators of SAT success
PSAT 8/9	Fall	9	Career Exploration
AGS Grade + (Group Reading & Diagnostic Evaluation)	Spring	Title I Students	To determine growth in vocabulary, comprehension & listening skills
HEALTH SCREENING: Medical Exam (Private or at school) Dental Exam (Private or at school) Body Mass Index Vision, Height, Weight Hearing Test Scoliosis Screening	During school	K or 1, 6, 11 K or 1, 3, 7 K – 12 K – 12 K – 3, 7, 11 6, 7	
Life Steps Screenings	Fall	PreK	To determine need for OT, PT, Speech and/or Autism services
Assessment Status Reports/Child Outcomes Report/Creative Strategies	Fall/Winter/Spring	Prek	Assessment of the following categories: Social-Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive, Literacy, Mathematics, Science & Technology, Social Studies, the Arts, and English Language Acquisition as necessary

Note: Dates may be subject to change.

Rev. 8/13/18 bb

November

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Day 5 REFLECTIONS PROGRAM @ bf 6:30	2 Day 1	3
4	5 Day 2	6 Day 3	7 Day 4	8 Day 5	9 Day 1 VETERANS DAY PROGRAMS	10
11	12 NO SCHOOL VETERANS DAY	13 NO SCHOOL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES	14 Day 2 PTA MEETING 6:30 @ IKE	15 Day 3	16 Day 4	17
18	19 Day 5	20 Day 1 BF Harvest Fall Party 2:30	21 NO SCHOOL FALL BREAK	22 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING DAY	23 NO SCHOOL FALL BREAK	24
25	26 NO SCHOOL FALL BREAK	27 Day 2	28 Day 3	29 Day 4	30 Day 5	



Vision Statement - IASD: Where everyone is inspired and challenged to excel.



Mission Statement - To provide supportive and engaging educational experiences that prepare students to be productive citizens who positively impact society.

SCHOOL LUNCH ACCOUNT

This is a reminder that Indiana Area School District families may register for www.myschoolbucks.com. This website will allow parents to view their child’s food purchasing activity and arrange for low balance notifications to be sent to them via e-mail. Go to www.myschoolbucks.com and click “Register for a Free Account” to get started. Please note: Payment for meals will also be accepted at the schools.

Elementary Report Card Information		
Quarter	End of Grading Period	Report cards distributed to Students
1	October 31, 2018	November 8, 2018
2	January 18, 2019	January 28, 2019
3	March 27, 2019	April 4, 2019
4	June 5, 2019	June 5, 2019

Indiana County Helpline:

The Indiana County Department of Human Services and the United Way of Indiana County partnered with PA 2-1-1 Southwest to bring a free human service **Helpline** to Indiana County in February of 2013. County residents are able to **dial 2-1-1** and be connected with a live operator 24 hours per day, seven days a week/365 days per year who can connect them with human services help. Please share this number with family and friends who may not be sure where to turn for help with such things as emergency shelter, food banks, crisis intervention, childcare, and other health & human service resources. Human Service information may also be found at www.pa211sw.org, or at www.humanservices-countyofindiana.org Questions about the Helpline? Call 724-463-8200, ext 4217.



School Safety:

School safety continues to be a priority. It is important to know that the procedures we put into place, while sometimes inconvenient, are designed to keep everyone safe. Please note that all visitors to the building must call ahead to notify the office of their arrival. Even if we know who you are, there can be no exceptions to this policy. Please help us maintain a safe environment by calling ahead. Thank you!

Arrival/Dismissal - Important Information

The district currently provides bus transportation for all students. Families, however, may still choose to have their children be a parent pick up. In order to ensure student arrival and dismissal is safe for all students, we have implemented certain drop off and pick up procedures. These procedures may not always be convenient, but they were designed with safety in mind. Staff members will be outside to make sure the process runs smoothly. Please review the following arrival and dismissal procedures. Delays are to be expected for the first few weeks of school. We thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation as we work through the fastest and safest way to dismiss our students.

Arrival Procedures:

Students are permitted to enter the building at 8:35 AM. Please do not drop off any earlier as there is no supervision for the students. The school day officially begins at 9:00 AM. Students that arrive after 9:00 AM will be considered TARDY. Arrival after 10:30 AM is a ½ day absence. Parents are NOT permitted to walk their child to class. If you need to speak with the classroom teacher, please contact them directly via email or voicemail. Parents entering the building must call ahead, sign in at the office, and obtain a visitors pass.

If you are dropping your child off at school:

Student safety is extremely important. We have implemented drop-off procedures to ensure student safety. The student drop-off zone is located on the parking lot side of the building. All cars are to enter and exit the parking lot at the entrance furthest away from the building. Students can be dropped off along the yellow curb. Only busses are to enter the parking lot at the closest entrance to the building.

If you wish to walk your child to the entrance of the school you will need to park in a parking space in the parking lot and then walk your child to the door. Please do not park in the drop-off zone as this creates a dangerous situation.

Please do not drop off at the main entrance doors. Those spots are reserved for the busses.

Dismissal Procedures:

The school day ends for the students at 3:40 PM. All students who are being picked up by their parents (by car) will be dismissed before the first bus is called. If your child has a change in transportation, we need to have written notice of the change on file in the office. If your child is riding the bus home with another student, we need written permission from both students' families.

Bus Assignments

Bus assignments will be mailed home. If your child rides a bus and you do not receive his/her bus information, please call the transportation office at (724) 463-7591 during the week before school begins. For student safety, please do not change buses during the school year. For cases of family emergency, requests to have your son/daughter ride a different bus must be made in writing and submitted in advance to the office. All bus students should plan to ride the bus on the first day of school. Any transportation corrections or problems can be identified if all riders are on board. If you have a problem and need to speak to someone, please call Krise (STA) Bus Service, 724-349-3944.



Change in Transportation — Important Information

If you need to change your child's dismissal plan, please send a dated and signed note to the office in the morning of the change. If dismissal plans change during the day, please contact the office before 3:00 P.M. so we have enough time to implement the change. Thank you.

School Office Hours

The office hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Before 7:30 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m. the answering machine will pick up your call so you can leave a message. **After school, if you have any questions concerning your child's bus, please call the Krise (STA) Bus Company at 724-349-3944.**

Emergency Cards – Must be LEGIBLE

New emergency care cards will be sent home with your child. Please review the information for each child. Please pay careful attention when filling in the requested information, especially the name of a friend or relative to be called in case of injury or illness if the parent/guardian cannot be reached. Please remember to sign and date the bottom of the card. To maintain accurate records, please notify the school if there is an address or telephone number change during the school year. Also, if you wish to change the person whose telephone number we have on file, please call at your earliest convenience.

Classroom Access

Our teachers are always happy to meet with you and will schedule conferences when needed. Since our students arrive at 8:35 a.m., this is not a time when teachers can give you their attention to address student issues. If you need to meet with a teacher, please email or phone to set up a time. Also remember, teachers leave the building at 4:00 p.m. so no one is permitted back in the classrooms after this time.

Videotaping/Photographing in School

During the school year we videotape and photograph many school activities such as concerts, plays, and talent shows. These pictures, plus candid shots, may be used in our annual yearbook or used on our website. In addition, student teachers may videotape themselves teaching a lesson, as part of their professional development. If you have any objection to your child being photographed or videotaped in any of these circumstances, please write a letter to the office as soon as possible, stating your objection and providing your child or children's names.

Important Early Dismissal Information

You will need to provide verification of appointments when your child is either late to school or leaving early. When excusing your son/daughter from school for a doctor/dentist visit, please remember to ask the doctor for an excuse verifying the appointment. The excuse can be turned into the office upon your child's return to school. In accordance with our attendance policy, any early dismissal will be considered an unexcused absence from school for the time out of the building if a medical excuse is not submitted within three (3) days of the date of dismissal. It is important to note that students are not permitted to make up any work/tests for unexcused absences. The unexcused time out of the building will be accrued until three (3) hours has accumulated at which point a half day unexcused absence will be assessed.

Also, it is imperative that you call the school when your child is going to be absent for any reason.

PLEASE BE AWARE It is important for your child to attend and be on time for school on a daily basis. Please review these arrival and dismissal times.

- **Starting time is 9 a.m. There is no outside supervision for students who arrive before 8:35 a.m.**
- **Dismissal time is 3:40 p.m.**
- Arrival between 9:00 a.m. and 10:40 a.m. = tardy
- Arrival between 10:41 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. = ½ day absent
- Arrival after 1:00 p.m. = Full day absent
- Departure between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and NOT returning to school = ½ day absent
- **Scheduled early dismissals are at 12:00 p.m.**

SCHOOL DELAYS OR CANCELLATIONS: In bad weather, or for any emergency when school may be closed, delayed, or dismissed early, announcements will be made on the radio and TV. Radio stations announcing this information are: WCCS (1160 AM) and WDAD (1450AM). TV stations are: WTAE (Channel 4) and WPXI (Channel 11). If you are connected to the Internet, go to www.iu28.org/ and click on "Schoolcast" for the latest information on school closings and delays.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL ON SCHOOL DELAYS OR CANCELLATIONS: We must keep our phone lines open for emergency communications.

Be sure to have a back-up plan with your children in case of an unscheduled early dismissal. Arrangements should be made ahead of time for emergency childcare if needed.

DELAY TO CANCELLATIONS: Sometimes school is cancelled after a delay has been called. Continue to listen to your radio/TV for updates.

2-HOUR DELAYS: Children who ride buses should report to their bus stop 2 hours later than normal. All children should report to school by 11:00 a.m. Breakfast will not be served on days with a delay. Dismissal will be at 3:40 p.m. as usual.

EMERGENCY EARLY DISMISSALS: It is important that parents establish a plan for their children in the event of an unscheduled early dismissal. Your children should know what they are to do if school is dismissed early. It is impossible for us to alert everyone by phone when this happens. You will receive an **EARLY DISMISSAL PAPER** early in the school year asking you to indicate how your child is to be dismissed on these days. We do not permit children to call home on these days. Teachers will follow the dismissal information that you provide to us.

IASD's auto-dialer system notifies parents of an early dismissal. The system will continue to call until it reaches a person. It will not leave a message. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL.** We must keep our phone lines open for emergency communications.

Snacks (birthday snacks) (Language taken directly from the Elementary Handbook) - When considering what snacks to send to school with your child, please consider these helpful notes from our school district wellness policy. More information about Board Policy 246 (Student Wellness) can be found at <http://iasd.schoolwires.net/Page/104>.

1. Competitive foods are defined as foods offered at school other than through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs and include a la carte foods, snacks and beverages; vending food, snacks and beverages; school store food, snacks and beverages; fundraisers; classroom parties; holiday celebrations; and food from home.
2. All competitive foods available to students in district schools shall comply with the Indiana Area School District Nutritional Standards for Competitive Foods which are available on the district's website (www.iasd.cc). The nutritional standards shall be implemented as a three (3) step plan.
3. Exclusive competitive food and/or beverage contracts shall be approved by the Board in accordance with provisions of law.
4. Nutrition information for a la carte snacks and beverages offered in snack bars, meal service lines, vending and school stores is readily available to students, parents/guardians and the school community.
5. Nutritious and appealing foods such as fruits, vegetables, low and nonfat dairy products and whole grain products will be available wherever food is sold or offered on the school campus during the school day.
6. All a la carte snacks and beverages offered for sale to students during the school day comply with the USDA regulations prohibiting the sale of foods of minimal nutritional value.
7. A minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of snack foods sold in vending machines, snack bars, and school stores as well as a la carte offerings that are part of the school meals program will meet the criteria outlined below. This seventy-five percent (75%) level represents a required minimum standard. The percentage of foods and beverages meeting these parameters may be increased at any time by the recommendation of the Indiana Area School District Wellness Committee.
8. Food shall not be used in the schools as a reward or punishment.

9. As a guideline for party planning, please adhere to the 3-1 ratio where for each non-preferred item, three healthier options (fruits, vegetables, milk) are available as well.

Snacks (Found on the Nutritional Information label of the item)

- No more than 200 total calories per package
- No more than thirty-five percent (35%) calories from fat
- No more than ten percent (10%) calories from saturated fat
- No more than 480 mg sodium
- No more than thirty-five percent (35%) sugar by weight
- Excludes fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, and nut butters

Beverages

- One hundred percent (100%) fruit and vegetable juice, limited to 12 oz. portion size
- Fat-free and one percent (1%) milk, 8-16 oz. portion size
- Water and flavored water without added sugar, unlimited portion size
- Caffeine free except flavored milk
- Carbonated water and carbonated one hundred percent (100%) fruit juice with USDA approval

Birthday Snacks

When students have a birthday, if a parent decides to provide a snack for the class, we ask that he/she follows the healthy snack guidelines and wellness policy found within this section of the newsletter.

Party Invitations - Party invitations may ONLY be distributed at school if every member of the child's class is invited (or all of the boys in the class for a boy's party/all of the girls in the class for a girl's party). Children's feelings are easily hurt when they are not included for these events, so we respectfully ask that parents mail invitations when fewer students are involved. Thank you for your cooperation.

Attendance Procedures - Please call the school office, (724) 465-5637 by 8:30 a.m. if your child is absent from school. Unless we have had contact with the parent or guardian of an absent student, a phone call will be placed to the home of each absent student. The district has an automated calling system that will call your home when your child is reported absent. This **does not take the place of a written excuse** for your child's absence. **A written excuse from the parent is required** when a student returns to school from an absence. The excuse is required **within (3) school days following the student's return. If the reason for the absence is not valid, or the excuse is not submitted within the (3) day limit, the absence will be recorded as unexcused.** Pennsylvania state law requires that all students attend school when school is in session. Excused absences are for reasons of illness, recovery from accident or injury, required court attendance, or death in the family. Absences for educational trips must be approved in advance by the building principal to be considered an excused absence from school.

Clearances - Act 34 (Criminal Record), Act 151 (Child Abuse), Act 114 (FBI Fingerprint)

Act 153 of 2014 amends the Child Protective Services Law. As part of this law, all chaperones and volunteers are required to provide the school district with clearance certifications (Act 34 Criminal Record Check, Act 114 FBI Fingerprint Clearance and Act 151 Child Abuse History Clearance) that are less than five (5) years old. Chaperones and volunteers that have been residents of Pennsylvania for ten (10) or more years can sign an affidavit in lieu of applying for the Act 114 FBI clearance. Clearance packets are available in the main office. The district website also provides an easy access to do the clearances on line by going to the Parent and Students tab, Volunteers for our Schools and on the left side Mandatory Clearances are listed. The Act 34 and 151 clearances are free for volunteers, but may not be used for employment purposes.

Due to the nature of the elementary school setting, teachers will occasionally invite parents in for a classroom performance. These events do not require obtaining clearances. For each event, a list of attendees is required and coordinated through the classroom teacher. This list is not required for evening events such as Back-to-School nights, Orientations, Academic Project Fairs, etc.

Child Abuse Clearance Act 151

<http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/findaform/childabusehistoryclearanceforms/index.htm>

This clearance can be completed online with a response usually the same day. You may also print and complete the form and send it to the address indicated on it. Results take 3-5 weeks to be returned.

Criminal Background check by PA state police Act 34

<https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp;jsessionid=0AA0F253556794EBC86C4FE9EBC48D20>

To do this online, fill out the required information. You will have the results back in a matter of minutes. **Print several copies of the results from the screen or save it as a PDF file to be accessed later** because the watermark in the printout will not show if copied. You may also submit it the form by mail with results received in a few weeks.

FBI Fingerprint clearance Act 114

Go https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index_pde.htm and click "register online", pay the fee and input your information. Then print the confirmation information and take it to one of the fingerprinting locations listed on the site. (Locally, fingerprinting can be done at ARIN IU. Call 724-463-5300 to make an appointment.)

Building Security - Our school is locked at all times. Please enter our school using the main entrance. Press the buzzer outside the main entrance door and identify yourself to the office secretary. You will then be admitted to the building, providing you called in advance to set up an appointment.

All visitors to the building must proceed directly to the main office to sign in and receive a visitor's badge. Please do not proceed through the building without signing in at the office. For student safety and building security it is essential that we know who is in the building at all times.

If you are dropping something off for your student's class or for your child, please permit our staff to be of service in delivering the items with the least amount of interruption to teacher instruction and student learning.

2018-2019 Student Accident Insurance

If you wish to purchase the Voluntary Student Accident Insurance for your child, a brochure and enrollment form can be found on the school district website, www.iasd.cc in the Students & Parents tab.