

Independence District



Newsletter

March/April, 2015

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Famous Indee Artwork



These hearts were created by Chloe Cooper, daughter of Jeff and Jackie Cooper, from Ms. Larson's fifth grade class. Chloe was learning how to create value to make something look three-dimensional. She added white to create tints and black to create shades in order to produce these eye-popping hearts just in time for Valentine's Day! Be sure to check out more of what's going on in the art room on the Independence K-12 Art Facebook page!



MAIN OFFICE: (715) 985-3172

CHECKOUT OUR WEBSITE! WWW.INDPS.K12.WI.US

Vine Line

School Accountability

To the Citizens of our Communities:

Recent headlines from Madison indicate our legislature is focused on the topic of school accountability. As District Administrators of educational institutions in western Wisconsin, we understand the importance of accountability for our public schools. We accept the responsibility to closely examine our policies, procedures, and practices to ensure that we are being as efficient and as productive as possible. We find the recently developed School Report Cards to be an effective way to measure our progress and report our results. We are thankful for the effort and resources expended to create the current system. We remain unconvinced of the need for a replacement after only three years. We remain committed to finding ways to help every student achieve and be successful so that hope exists within every child for a better future and cycles of poverty and violence are eliminated.



In addition to school accountability, there are lots of ideas coming out of Madison these days. Ideas that are not research-based, which are not supported by professional educators, and which have not been proven to “move the needle” on student achievement. But, there are practices and evidence-based policies which have been shown to change and improve schools across our nation. We encourage you to engage others in our community around discussions on:

- **Early Childhood Education.** In Wisconsin, the funding base for childcare programs (Wisconsin Shares/YoungStar program) is inadequate and unstable. These programs can have a significant impact on children and increase their likelihood of high school graduation, holding a job, and decreasing

the need to receive public assistance or be incarcerated.

- **Children’s Mental Health.** In Wisconsin, we have systematic shortcomings in how mental health services are provided. Many children do not receive the services they need which has serious consequences for the child, their families, and our schools and community. Mental health issues can be a significant barrier to a child being successful in school.
- **Supporting Excellence in Teaching and Leading.** Research shows that teacher quality and principal leadership are the two most important factors leading to student success. Continued funding for Educator Effectiveness implementation, ongoing training and support for educators, and the promotion of policies designed to encourage the “best and brightest” to enter the teaching profession will improve school/district outcomes.
- **Innovation.** Incentives should be provided to encourage districts to pilot new practices that evidence suggests will improve student learning. While our society has dramatically changed in the last 100 years, our schools have been slower to respond due to a sense of “tradition” and a lack of funding for innovation.
- **School Finance.** The state share of school funding has decreased over the last ten years and large funding cuts were made in 2011. How do we ensure equitable funding for education across the state of Wisconsin when there are unique challenges in each district? Some districts have a larger share of English Language Learners, others are dealing with significant rates of poverty, and additional districts struggle with declining enrollment, substantial transportation costs, or a lack of technology. We need a school finance system that is fair and equitable for all children and is sustainable so that access to high quality instructional programming is maintained regardless of one’s zip code.

As a community, we want our children to succeed and be best prepared as future leaders to move our state and nation toward increased prosperity. All of us-whether we are parents, educators, business members, legislators or senior citizens- have a vested interest in our children. Let's start talking about the real issues which will benefit our children, add value for our taxpayers, and improve the quality of life in our state. Your involvement and support is crucial. Public education is public work – we need your help! Please feel free to contact us if you would like to host a conversation. Thank you!

Area School District Administrators

Alma – Steven Sedlmayr, Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan – Paul Fischer, Arcadia – Louie Ferguson, Bangor – David Laehn, Black River Falls – Shelly Severson, Blair-Taylor – Jeff Eide, Cochrane-Fountain City – Thomas Hiebert, De Soto – Jim Kuchta, Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau – Roger Foegen, Hillsboro – Curt Bisarek, Holmen – Dale Carlson, Independence – Paul Vine, La Crosse – Randy Nelson, La Farge – Shawn Donovan, Melrose-Mindoro – Delroy DeBerg, Onalaska – Francis Finco, Royall – Mark Gruen, Sparta – John Hendricks, Tomah – Cindy Zahrt, Viroqua – Robert Knadle, West Salem – Troy Gunderson, Westby – Charles Norton, Whitehall – Michael Beighley, and Wonewoc-Union Center – Steve Lozeau.

Something Must be Working

As a long time teacher who majored in Mathematics and Computer Science as an undergraduate, it should come as no surprise that I enjoy analyzing data and using it to justify decisions and make predictions. The use of objective data in education is becoming a fundamental strategy to develop instructional plans for students and to determine if these plans are working. Data is the basis for the now popular Response to Intervention (RTI) system that most schools are embracing.

Recently I was reviewing our data on behavioral referrals and noticed that the number of Office Data Referrals (ODRs) was significantly lower this year as compared to the same time period last school year. The data shows that through January 31st this year we have had 576 ODRs as compared to 950 through January 31st last school year. That is a 39% decrease!



When you see such a dramatic change your first instinct is to try to determine what has caused the change. Before theorizing though, I'd like to first define what an ODR is. An ODR is a form that documents a specific behavioral issue. These can range from tardiness to physical aggression. Teachers and administration also list on the form other data such as date, time, location, possible motivation, and consequence. We then enter this data into a software program called School Wide Information System (SWIS). This software allows us to tabulate, graph, and analyze the data. ODRs are submitted when a staff member needs to administer a consequence above and beyond a redirection. This may mean they have either had to reteach an expectation, remove the student from class for a period of time, or assign some other logical consequence to fit the offense.

I feel there are two reasons that the number of referrals is down from last year. The first is the implementation of the "Indee Way", which is a positive behavioral system that was first introduced in the High School four years ago. My justification for this is that tardies to class are down 34%. I feel because we have a school wide definition of tardy and a system of consequences for it, that this has helped decrease that number. Another area that is significantly down is inappropriate language with a 75% decrease in number of referrals. Cases of physical aggression are also down by 61%. This leads

me to believe that the practices we began implementing four years ago are working and changing student behavior.

The other possible cause for the decrease in ODRs may be the issuing of laptop computers to all 6-12 students. It seems logical to assume this initiative along with the the large decrease in referrals must have some correlation. The introduction of this technology has allowed our teachers to create more engaging lessons and students who are engaged in learning are less likely to act out. Of course there is one drawback. Minor technology violations are up 50% from 66 to 99, but this makes sense also because we have more technology. You can violate a responsible use of technology policy if you don't have technology.

So it seems that a perfect storm of circumstances has come together to improve the learning environment in our school. The progression of a behavioral system and the introduction of more technology have had a significant impact on students. Hopefully the next correlation I will see is an improvement in student achievement as we strive to be the "Best School Ever".

Mr. Schmitt
6-12 Principal



S.T.A.R.S will once again be holding the 2015 post prom. Prom will be held on April 25, 2015 with post prom shortly following. Donations are being accepting

donations for prizes, activities, and food. Any donation is appreciated. If you would like to donate please contact Mr. Ruhland at (715)-985-3172 or Lynette Speltz at 715-538-3029. Thank you.

Did you Know?

Did you ever find yourself not being able to attend a concert or event that one of your family members are a part of? Well, don't miss another event! Many of the events, including concerts, special presentations and graduation, are live streamed using the school's Polycom camera. On the day of the event, log into the school's website (www.indps.k12.wi.us) and on the left side of the page there is a link called Indee TV Live. If you are not available to watch it live, you can also click on the link Indee TV and there are archived events listed.



Independence School District

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Enrichment Update

Enrichment opportunities for our district students are underway. This year our students have already competed in the 8th Grade Quiz Bowl and 7th Grade Quiz Bowl and currently we have students working on Performing Arts activities and Spelling Bee activities.

As the year progresses, I wanted to take the opportunity to explain that the Enrichment Program is not necessarily a "program" for only the most talented students. Much of the enrichment that our students are receiving is coming from the classroom teachers through collaboration with me, the Enrichment Coordinator. I meet weekly with the elementary classroom teachers to discuss and design activities that will allow those students that are performing above grade level to go above and beyond what is expected of them. These activities can range from deeper level critical thinking questions to improve comprehension, adding in technology to have students' present information they have researched, to taking a story and turning it into a reader's theater script to be performed for others. Teachers are using rubrics to evaluate student's work and within these rubrics you will find expectations that allow our students to rise up to the challenge to go above the grade level expectation.

Within the daily activities teachers consistently use formative assessments to find out where each student is at based on grade level expectations. When they find that students have already met the expectations, they have tasks in place that allow them to be challenged within a particular skill or concept. This approach allows all of our students to be challenged when they demonstrate mastery in a particular area. We continue to offer events through the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network as well, that provide opportunities for our advanced students to be creative and interact with other students from the area.

In the recent weeks, our students have participated in the Indee Spelling Bee and the Performing Arts Fair. The Indee Spelling Bee took place on January 20th. We had 20 spellers from grades 4-8, the competition was fierce and in the end the top four spellers were Jeffrey Myers-Woychik,

Johnny Fonstad, Rebecca Heiden and Gabriel Rombalski.

Gabriel was our Spelling Bee Champion and Rebecca was

our Runner-Up, they both went on the Regional Spelling Bee held in Bangor to represent the Independence School District.

Students who wished to participate in the Performing Art Fair were asked to memorize a poem or short story and create actions and movements to help tell the story through play acting. On January 22, 2015, those students performed their short performance for an audience and were judged on how well they communicated and told their story through actions. The top two performances were then chosen to represent Independence at the MVGTN event in Holmen on Feb. 6th. The 5th Grade students and the name of their poem that participated in the school event were as follows: Lleyami Hernandez "Snowball", Christopher Tuma "Band aids", Weston Gamroth & Kevin Halvorson "Pirate Captain Jim", Aubrie Pronschinske & Avery Pape "The Googies are Coming", Mackenzie Taylor & Agustina Romero "My Robot", Leslie Garcia & Marcelina Rebolledo "Monsters"

Avery Pape and Aubrie Pronschinske interpretation of "The Googies Are Coming" and Leslie Garcia and Marcelina Robellero play "Monsters" were chosen to move on. Every group did an outstanding job of creating props and memorizing lines and they should be very proud of their efforts!



Looking towards the end of the year, 6th grade students have been selected based on recent benchmark scores, as well as teacher recommendations to participate in the 6th Grade Quiz Bowl on March 3, 2015. They will be meeting with me to hold practices to prepare for this quiz bowl. The 4th graders are gearing up to begin the process for creating their Heritage Fair Project and those selected to move on to the Regional Event will go to Ettrick on April 28th. To end the year there will be two competitions for Battle of the Books. Students are interested in participating in this event should be reading the list of books given to them at the beginning of the year. I will be meeting with those students in March-May to prepare them for the competition. Students in grade 5-8 are encouraged to participate.

We are proud of all the high achieving students here at Independence Public School and will continue to provide appropriate opportunities for them to expand their knowledge and experience. If you would like more specifics on the enrichment opportunities available for your child, you can contact Melissa Pientok at 715-985-3172 Ext. 114 or email at pientokm@indps.k12.wi.us



\$50,000 Wisconsin Technology Initiative awarded to Independence SD

On January 14, 2015 the Independence Board of Education was notified by the Wisconsin Technology Initiative (WTI) that the Independence School district was awarded a \$50,000 grant. These funds along with district funds will be used to purchase SMART boards for the remaining classrooms which do not have a SMART board as well as purchase

document cameras. In turn over the next two years, district teachers will be participating in a minimum of thirty hours of professional development on use of SMART boards and document camera.

The Wisconsin Technology Initiative was established in 2010 by John and Tashia Morgridge, of Wauwatosa Wisconsin. Their intent is to provide grants to advance the integration of existing and emerging instructional technology within a wide variety of learning environments to improve engagement and academic achievement.



In October and November, Independence School District Technology Integration Specialist, Melissa Pientok, and Guidance Counselor, Dawn Woychik, completed and submitted the grant application. This application was supported by the districts ongoing commitment to enhancing technology. In 2013 the Independence School district has upgraded its technology infrastructure by replacing switches, cabling servers as well as placing 40 wireless access points throughout the building and supplying each classroom with a dedicated wireless connection. In 2014 the district purchased 270 MacBook Air laptops for each Middle School and High School student. The next step was to ensure each classroom had a SMART board in each classroom, along with professional development to provide more interactive and meaningful lessons and teachers had the appropriate training too.

The fourteen (14) SMART boards, along with at least three (3) document cameras will be purchased from InfoCor and installed by district custodians in April and/or May. In July Melissa Pientok will attend a three day training to become a certified SMART board trainer. In August all staff will participate in a full day training provided free of charge by InfoCor. Following this workshop the district will hold additional trainings over the next two years.

Looking towards the future the district is committed to increasing the amount of professional development for all teaching staff to provide them the tools necessary to create innovative lessons to engage our students in their learning. Thanks to John and Tashia Morgridge, every teacher will now have an up to date smart board in their classroom with which to create more innovative lessons.

For more information about the technology updates, please contact Dr. Paul Vine at 715.985.3172 Ext. 104 or vinep@indps.k12.wi.us.

Small Dairyland Conference Champs!

Congratulations to the Indees Girls Basketball team with their current record of 14-0 in conference and 18-4 overall; which makes them the Small Dairyland Conference Champs. The Indees are a first seed in their Regional and play Granton in the first round of Regional action at home.

On Friday, January 23rd, Coach Zilla coached his 225th Victory as the Indees Girls Basketball head coach.

Congratulations Coach Zilla and the Girls Basketball team on their season!



Robby Rands Advances to State

Robby Rands, a student at Gilmanton High School, and a member of the Independence/Gilmanton Wrestling team became what is believed to be the first student from Gilmanton High School to qualify for the state wrestling tournament when he won the 138 lbs championship at the sectional wrestling tournament on February 21st. The tournament was at Osseo-Fairchild High School but is hosted by Independence.

Robby has a 23-12 record after sectionals and is a great story. Because of transferring districts, Robby did not wrestle last year before coming to Gilmanton for his senior year. He made an immediate impact for the Indees by taking 2nd at the Logan Invitational and 3rds at the Arcadia Scramble and the Indee Invitational. He was also an all-conference selection by the coaches.

Robby is believed to be the 11th sectional champion in Coach Schmitt's 30 year career.



Spring Sports Begin Practice



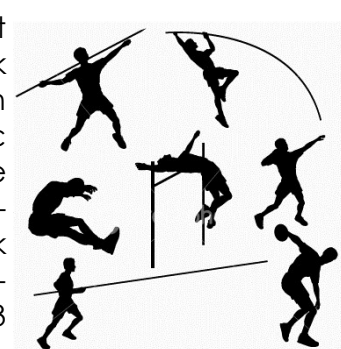
Track, Softball, Baseball, and Golf will all begin practicing in March. The first possible dates for practice are listed below, but coaches may change start dates depending on their availability and schedule.

- Boys' and Girls' Track - March 9th
- Girls' Softball - March 16th
- Boys' Baseball - March 23rd
- Boys' Golf - March 30th

All of the above sports are cooperative programs with Gilmanton except golf. If a student hasn't participated in a sport yet this school year, then they must have had a physical in the past two years on file in the District office and sign the concussion protocol forms. There are also athletic fees associated with sports participation and details can be found in the student athletic handbook. Please call the school if you have questions.

State Track Ranking

On Friday February 6 at the Wisconsin Track Coaches Association Annual Coaches Clinic held in Madison, the 2014 Independence-Gilmanton Boys Track and Field team was recognized as the Division 3 PowerPoint Rankings, State Runner-up. Of the nearly 150 track and field teams in this division, only the team from Marathon comprised a team total greater than the Indees. This is the second state PowerPoint Ranking award the Indees have captured, the other being a State title in 2013.



PowerPoint Rankings are another method, and often more recognized by coaches, in determining overall team success since team placing is not based on just the performance of the team's top athletes but by the team's overall depth as well.

Congratulations to these young men and the coaching staff for this exceptional state recognition.





We Appreciate Your Support!

Please continue collecting for our school. The money earned goes towards field trips for students in grades 4K through eighth grade. We are also using the money right now to help supply those in need with winter apparel. Items that you can collect and bring to school include:

- Pop Tabs
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Office Depot Back to Schools Program
- Our Town Receipts
- Cans for Kids
- Box Tops
- Milk Caps
- Donuts to Dough
- Computer Ink Cartridges
- Target Take Charge of Education

To the Electors of the Independence School District:

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Independence School District that on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, to elect a school board member to the seat that is currently held by Jeff Bautch for the at-large position whose term will expire in April 2015. The position is for a three-year term of the office as School Board Member – At Large, beginning May 1, 2015.

Candidates for this position are: Stephanie Pfaff and Jeff Bautch.

Electors will vote in their regular polling places, during the normal polling hours.

The Independence School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs, activities, or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 may be referred to the District Administrator, School District of Independence, 23786 Indee Blvd., Independence, WI 54747. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with Title IX must be in writing and include a statement of facts comprising the alleged noncompliance, and to signed and dated.

Box Top For Education Check

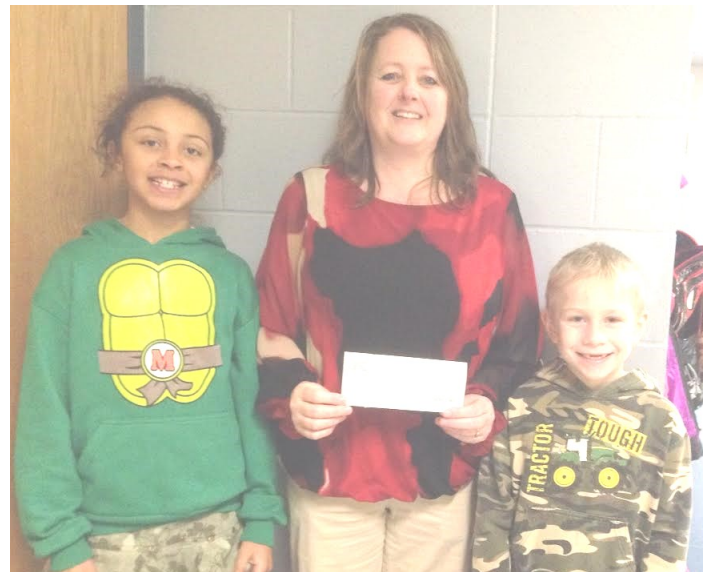


Welcome back to school, parents!

We hope everyone enjoyed winter break. We received our December check from the Box Tops for Education™ program and earned \$841.40. Way to go! We still need your help clipping and turning in Box Tops for us to reach this year's goal of \$1,000. Let's finish the school year strong!

Box Tops Coordinators - Sandy Susa and Tracy Halama

Learn more about how you can help your school at BTFE.com.



Showing off the Box Top Check are:
L to R: Savanna Conner,
Sandy Susa, & Owen Gierok



Independence Child Development Days



WHO: Children who are 2 ½ to 4 years of age by April 16, 2014. Children who have not been screened before and children whose parents are concerned about their development are also encouraged to attend.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 4:00-6:00 PM

WHERE: Independence Elementary School



WHAT TO EXPECT:

Your child will be encouraged to participate in a play group where these early learning skills will be observed: communication, cognitive, motor, and social development. Vision and hearing will also be screened.

**To schedule your appointment, please call:
(715) 985-3172 ext 110 or 107**



Child Development Day

The Independence Public School will conduct Child Development Day on Wednesday, April 15, 2015. By law, school districts are required to provide screening opportunities to all children ages 2 ½ to 4 within the district. The primary purpose is to identify children with developmental delays who may be at risk for developing problems when they later attend school. Early diagnosis of delays can lead to interventions and participation in programs that can help prepare these children for their later years in school. This event will involve children 2 ½ years of age as of April 15, 2015 to those through age 4 who do not yet attend our school. The children will be encouraged to participate in a playgroup where social, communication, motor and early learning skills will be observed. Parents will also participate by completing a form about their child's development. Parents within the school district with children 2 ½ to 4 will be contacted and invited to have their children participate. Community agencies such as Head Start, Birth to Three and others will be available to answer questions parents may have and to offer additional information.

If you have a child or children in this age range and do not receive a letter informing you of Child Development Day by mid March, please call Leslie Kampa or Wendy Stuttgart at the Independence Public School at 985-3172 for information.

Four Year Old Kindergarten Registration

Calling All Four-Year Olds!

It is time to start thinking about registering your child for Four-Year-Old Kindergarten. Four-Year-Old Kindergarten Registration will be held on

Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at the Independence Public School from 4:00-6:00 PM. In order for your child to register they must be age four by September 1, 2015.

If you have received the required registration paperwork, please bring the forms and documents below to the April 15 registration.

Parents are reminded to bring:

- Completed registration forms
- Completed physical and dental forms or scheduled appointment dates for exams
- A copy of immunizations
- A certified copy of the child's birth certificate (photo copies are not permitted)

If you have not received the registration paperwork, and have a child who is eligible for Four-Year-Old Kindergarten in the fall - **please contact Leslie Kampa at 715-985-3172 ext 107.**



Winter Booster

Happy Winter Booster Independence Public School! On Friday, January 23rd, 2015, the elementary school had a booster to promote PBIS basics. The students had to “pin down positive behavior.” Each classroom had to earn 9 wrestling pins to go to the Winter Booster. At the Winter Booster, the students reviewed lunch-room basics skits. They were six students to help review the basics. Their names were Lucas Halvorson, Avery Pape, Andi Laehn, Kevin Guzman, Isabella Carrillo Taylor, and Seb Sonsalla. During the booster, students were involved in a rally race to promote Indee Wrestling. The students were Avery Pape, Aubrie Pronschinske, Eddy Torres, Bianca Najera, Drew Bragger, Isabella Carrillo Taylor, Gavin Konter, Heidi Hernandez, Perla Garcia Acosta, Miranda Najera, Seb Sonsalla, and Kaelyn Dittner. Also, at the end of our booster celebration, Mr. Risler and Mr. Schmitt gave a great wrestling demonstration to show off our great Indee Wrestling Program. The Elementary PBIS Leadership Team would like to give a big thanks to Mr. Risler and Mr. Schmitt for the great show of sportsmanship and Indee Pride. Way to go Indee Students and Staff!



PBIS INDEE PRIDE WINNERS 2014-2015 Second Quarter

Kindergarten

Reading	Math	Behavior
Madison Dittner	Emily Hovey	Al Heiden
Dyanara Rivera	Hunter Kreibich	Aliyah Kirtley
Alexa Torres		Toby Cruz



First Grade

Reading	Math	Behavior
Nayeli Ortiz Hernandez	Makiyah Scow	Kevin Guzman
Jerson Sanchez		



Second Grade

Reading	Math	Behavior
Teresa Najera	Krystal Heiden	Audrey Montalvo
Mattie Decker	Alex Johnson	Lucas Halvorson



Third Grade

Reading	Math	Behavior
Jayden Matchey	Wesley Pfaff	Jerzain Ruvalcaba
Vanessa Adank	Taylor Lambright	Miguel Rodriguez



Fourth Grade

Reading	Math	Behavior
Mason Gierok	Gavin Bragger	Christopher Perez
Rhianna Theisen	Cora Sonsalla	Eric Bustos

**Fifth Grade**

Reading	Math	Behavior
Alex Przybilla	Aubrie Pronschinske	Liniquer Cristobal Perez
Lleyami Hernandez	Mackenzie Taylor	Brian Montalvo



INDEE PRIDE

Common Core Standards

Who wrote the Common Core Standards? and When did Wisconsin adopt them?

There is much information; some myth, some fact, some negative, some positive about the Common Core State Standards. We hope that our parents and community members will take the time to truly understand the CCSS. This is the *second* in a series of newsletter articles we will print in an effort to share some key main points taken from achievethecore.org. As always, we welcome your questions and feedback on this and all aspects of your child's education.

The Common Core State Standards were developed by state education leaders with input from teachers, parents, and education experts. The federal government was *not* a part of writing the standards and does not mandate what materials we use in our classrooms.

In 2010, the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers recognized the opportunity to clearly define the knowledge and skills that will prepare students for the 21st century workplace and will ensure students are truly college and career ready. Leveraging the expertise of educators across 48 states was crucial to developing strong standards that meet the needs of all students. Working with state partners on the implementation also helps us to learn from one another, share free and available resources, and support students as they move from state to state.

The Common Core State Standards provide this guidance and support, while still maintaining the local control so important to districts throughout the state. Since 2010, Wisconsin has begun to link this system of Common Core

State Standards, instruction and assessment to school accountability measures (District Report Card), educator effectiveness (this is the new term for what used to be described as a teacher evaluation), and accountability for pre-service educator preparation programs. The Common Core State Standards provide the foundation for ALL of these important systems statewide. Additionally, the Common Core State Standards provide a framework to Wisconsin educators for research-based instructional practices that will truly transform student learning.

In 2012 Independence started the process of realigning and mapping curriculum to the Common Core State Standards. The increased rigor and focus on more meaningful, in depth learning is seen as a strength to these Standards. We also can be more confident that we are more effectively addressing the learning needs of students as they enter or leave our district.

We will continue to try and meet the needs of every student every day. Stay tuned in upcoming newsletters and the district website for more specifics on the common core. If you would like to speak to a district staff member about what is happening with your student or at a particular grade level please contact Barry Schmitt, Middle School/High School Principal; Dawn Woychik, District Guidance Counselor or Paul Vine District Administrator/Elementary Principal at 715-985-3172.

If you are interested in learning more about the common core visit www.coresstandards.org/about-the-standards/myths-vs-facts/ or for info in English and Spanish visit www.commoncoreworks.org/domain/131



Update in Safety Procedures

Safety of our students is the top priority of our school. With that being said, it should come as no surprise that we consistently evaluate and practice our safety protocols. **We continue to practice fire drills on a monthly basis.**



Just like we hope we never have to do a real fire evacuation, the same can be said about an active shooter incident. The reality though is they do happen and we have to be prepared in case such an unthinkable scenario would happen in our school.

The District has a safety committee made up of administration, teachers, board members, and local law enforcement officials. This committee continually reviews the safety and crisis procedures of the school. Currently the committee is discussing new procedures in the event of an active shooter.

In the past, the procedure when an intruder alarm was sounded was for the school to go into lockdown. These meant students would stay or go to rooms, lock the doors, turn off the lights and get out of sight. They then would wait for **the authorities to give the all-clear notice.**

Although the lockdown is still part of our intruder alert procedures, law enforcement now recommends that other options also be considered. The three options our school is currently considering are HIDE, RUN, or FIGHT. Depending on the situation any or all of these options, in any order could be executed.

HIDE is basically our old lockdown procedure. The disadvantage of this is that our students **have only one option.** Therefore, RUN is also an option, especially if we are aware of where the intruder is and students can safely exit the school and get to a safe area. FIGHT is a last resort and means to do whatever means necessary to protect our students.

Because of the **recommended** changes in the intruder alert procedures, **staff have been developing a process for communicating options to our students. We will be holding another intruder alert practice on Monday, February 23. At that time teachers will be discussing the options of run, hide or fight. We will tailor the messages to the grade level and** the most important point will be for students to listen to their teachers.

We strive to be the Safest School Ever! If you have any questions regarding the safety of our students, please contact **Middle School High School Principal, Barry Schmitt or District Administrator/Elementary principal, Paul Vine at 715-985-3172.**

WISCONSIN DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH—Department of Health Services

Measles (Rubeola) Disease Fact Sheet Series

- **What is measles?**

Measles is a disease caused by measles virus and sometimes referred to as "hard", "red" or "10-day measles".

- **Who can get measles?**

Measles virus can infect any person of any age who has not previously had the disease or measles vaccine.

- **How is measles spread?**

Airborne droplets, from coughing or sneezing, spread the virus. It spreads easily and rapidly.

- **How soon do symptoms appear after exposure?**

It takes from 8-12 days for the cold-like symptoms to appear and 14 days for the rash.

- **What are the signs and symptoms of measles?**

The disease begins with cold-like signs and symptoms including a cough, runny nose, high temperature and red watery eyes. By the second day after onset, a red blotchy rash appears at the hairline and spreads down the body to the arms and legs. The rash disappears in the same order of appearance (head to foot) in about 5-6 days.

- **How can parents be sure that their child's illness is measles?**

The only sure way to determine if an illness is indeed measles is through a blood test.

- **When and for how long is a person able to spread measles?**

Measles can be spread from one day before the onset of cold-like symptoms, through the fourth day of the rash.

- **What are the complications associated with measles?**

Among children with measles, about 10% develop ear infections, about 5% develop pneumonia, about 0.1% (1 per 1000 cases) develop encephalitis (inflammation of the brain that can result in deafness or mental retardation), and about 0.1% to 0.2% (1 to 2 per 1000 cases) die from it.

- **Is there a treatment for measles?**

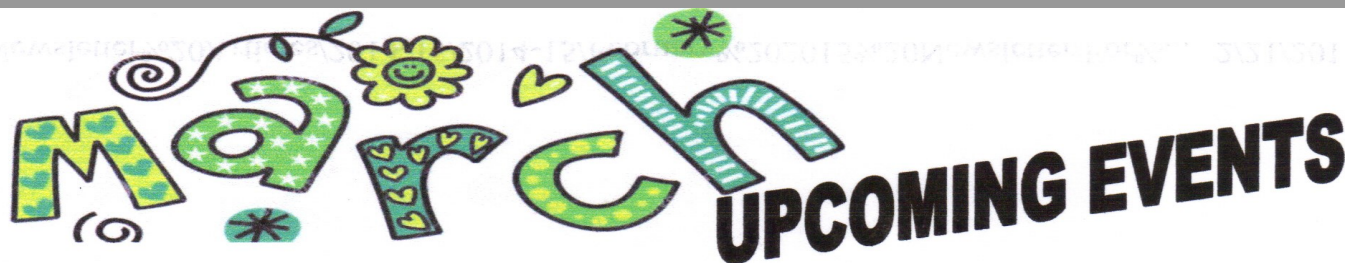
There is no specific treatment for measles.

- **Can measles be prevented?**

Yes. Measles vaccine (usually given in combination with rubella and mumps vaccine, called measles-mumps-rubella or MMR vaccine) is recommended for all children at 12-15 months of age and again at 4-6 years of age. The 2-doses of vaccine normally provide life long immunity.

- **Does a past infection with measles make a person immune for life? Yes**

DEVELOPED BY THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTION P-42174 (Rev. 05/04)

**March 1 - Sunday**

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

March 2 - Monday

- MS Wrestling @ BRF 5:00pm

March 3 - Tuesday

- 6th Grade Quiz Bowl @ BRF
- BBB Regionals TBA 7:00pm

March 4 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

March 5 – Thursday

- MS Wrestling Tournament 5:00pm
- GBB Sectional Semi Finals @ West Salem 7:00pm

March 6 – Friday

- BBB Regionals TBA 7:00pm

March 7 - Saturday

- BBB Regionals TBA 7:00pm
- GBB Sectional Championship @ Richland Center High School 7:00pm

March 8 – Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

March 9 - Monday

- Boys and Girls HS Track Practice Begins

March 10 - Tuesday

- Winter Sports Awards Night 6:00pm

March 11 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

March 12 – Thursday

- GBB State @ The Resch Center Green Bay
- BBB Sectional Semi Finals @ La Crosse Central High School 7:00pm

March 13 - Friday

- GBB State @ The Resch Center Green Bay

March 14 - Saturday

- District Forensics @ UW-La Crosse
- BBB Sectional Championship @ Logan High School 7:00pm
- GBB State @ The Resch Center Green Bay

March 15 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

March 16 - Monday

- Girls Softball Practice Begins

March 17 - Tuesday

- MS/HS Instrumental Concert 7:00pm

March 18 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

March 19 – Thursday

- BBB State @ The Kohl Center Madison

March 20 – Friday

- NO SCHOOL/Snow Make-Up Day
- BBB State @ The Kohl Center Madison
- FFA Leadership Conference

March 21 - Saturday

- BBB State @ The Kohl Center Madison
- FFA Leadership Conference

March 22 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

March 23 – Monday

- Boys Baseball Begins

March 24 – Tuesday

- GSB vs Whitehall 5:00pm/6:00pm

March 25 - Wednesday

- Your Life Your Move @ Whitehall HS 8:45am
- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

March 26 – Thursday

- GSB vs Fall Creek 5:00pm/6:00pm

March 27 - Friday

- GSB vs Augusta 5:00pm/6:00pm

March 28 - Saturday

- UW-RF CDE Contest (FFA)
- Solo Ensemble @ Blair-Taylor

March 29 - Monday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

March 30 - Monday

- Golf Practice Begins

March 31 - Tuesday

- BBB @ C-FC 5:00pm/6:00pm
- GSB @ C-FC 5:00pm/6:00pm

**April 1 - Wednesday**

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

April 2 - Thursday

- 12:15 Dismissal – Easter Vacation
- GSB vs Blair-Taylor 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB vs Blair-Taylor 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 3 – Friday

- NO SCHOOL – Good Friday

April 5 - Sunday

- Easter
- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

April 6 – Monday

- NO SCHOOL/Snow Make-Up Day

April 8 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal
- Family Reading Night 5:30pm

April 9 - Thursday

- GOLF @ River Bend 4:30pm

April 10 – Friday

- GSB @ Lincoln High School 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB @ Alma Center 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 11 - Saturday

- FFA Banquet
- GSB Tournament @ Arcadia High School

April 12 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

April 13 - Monday

- JV BB @ CRC HS 5:00pm
- Forensics Showcase 7:00pm

April 14 - Tuesday

- Track @ E-S 4:15pm
- Golf @ Whitehall 4:30pm
- GSB vs Mel-Min 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB vs Mel-Min 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 15 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

April 16 - Thursday

- Track – Indee Invitational 4:30pm
- Golf @ C-FC 4:30pm
- GSB @ Carson Park/Hobbs Field 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB @ EC Immanuel 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 17 – Friday

- Best Bench Press Contest Set-up noon-9pm

April 18 – Saturday

- State Forensics
- Best Bench Press Contest 7:00am-4:00pm

April 19 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

April 20 – Monday

- GSB vs G-E-T 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 21 – Tuesday

- Track @ Luther HS 4:15pm
- Golf @ Strum 4:30pm
- GSB vs E-S 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB vs E-S 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 22 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal
- Large Group Music Contest

April 23 - Thursday

- MS Track @ G-E-T 4:00pm
- GSB @ Whitehall 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB @ Whitehall 5:00pm/6:00pm
- Track vs B-T, C-FC, WHTL, Mel-Min 5:00pm

April 24– Friday

- FFA State CDE @ Madison
- GSB @ Augusta 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BSB @ Augusta 5:00pm/6:00pm

April 25 – Saturday

- PROM @ Historic Opera House
- Post Prom @ High School

April 26 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

April 27 - Monday

- MS/HS Vocal Concert 7:00pm

April 28 - Tuesday

- GSB vs C-FC 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB vs C-FC 5:00pm/6:00pm
- 4th Grade Heritage Fair @ G-E-T

April 29 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

April 30 - Thursday

- Track @ E-S 5:00 pm
- Golf @ River Bend 4:30pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1 – Friday

- 5th-6th Grade Kids College @ UW-La Crosse
- GSB @ Blair-Taylor 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB @ Blair-Taylor 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 2 – Saturday

- GSB @ Poynette TBD
- BBB @ Weston HS 9:00am
- State Music Contest at UWEC

May 3 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

May 4 – Monday

- Golf @ Lake Wissota 3:00pm
- JV Track @ Mel-Min 4:30pm

May 5 - Tuesday

- Golf @ Whitehall 4:30pm

May 6 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

May 7 - Thursday

- Golf @ C-FC 4:30pm
- Track (True Team Meet) @ C-FC 5:00pm

May 8 – Friday

- MS Track @ Arcadia 4:00pm
- Track @ O-F 4:00pm
- GSB vs Lincoln 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB vs Lincoln 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 9 - Saturday

- GSB Tournament 9:30am
- BBB Tournament @ Elmwood 10:00am

May 10 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

May 11 - Monday

- Golf @ Strum 4:30pm
- BBB vs Elmwood 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 12 - Tuesday

- 5th & 6th Grade Battle of the Books @ Arcadia
- Golf @ Trempealeau Mountain 1:00pm
- GSB @ Mel-Min 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB @ Mel-Min 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 17 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

May 14 - Thursday

- Track @ Blair-Taylor (Conf. Meet) 4:00pm

May 15 – Friday

- MS Awards Program 9:15am
- HS Awards and Scholarships 1:30pm
- MS Track Invitational @ Whitehall
- GSB vs EC Immanuel 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB vs EC Immanuel 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 17 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

May 18 – Monday

- Golf @ Mondovi 1:00pm
- Track @ C-FC 4:00pm
- (Rain Date for Conf. Meet or JV Meet)
- GSB @ Eleva-Strum 5:00pm/6:00pm
- BBB @ Eleva-Strum 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 19 – Tuesday

- 7th & 8th Grade Battle of the Books
- JV BBB vs CRC HS 5:00pm

May 20 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

May 21 - Thursday

- Track Invitational @ Whitehall 4:00pm

May 22 – Friday

- BBB vs Whitehall 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 23 - Saturday

- Graduation 1:00pm

May 25 - Monday

- **NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day**
- Band performs for Memorial Day

May 26 - Tuesday

- Golf Regional @ Drugan's Castle Mound TBD
- Track Regional @ Whitehall TBD
- BBB vs Augusta 5:00pm/6:00pm
- GSB Regional TBD TBD

May 27 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal
- GSB Regional TBD TBD

May 28 - Thursday

- BBB @ Alma 5:00pm/6:00pm

May 29 – Friday

- Track Sectional @ Bangor TBD

SCHOOL CLOSING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER
School District of Independence
2014-2015

School Closings will also be posted on the Independence School District webpage and Facebook page, as well as a voicemail delivered to all families.

ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE ON THE FOLLOWING STATIONS:

Whitehall

102.3 FM

Winona

KWNO 1230AM

KG Country 1380AM

KG-95.3FM

CD Country 99.3FM

Soft Rock 101.1 FM

Eau Claire

CARP 99.9FM

I-94 94.1FM

WAXX 104.5FM

WAYY 790AM

COOL 92.9FM

Z-100 100.7FM

WEAU TV 13

ESPN 1150AM

B-95 95.1 FM

ROCK 92.1 FM

News Talk 880 AM

Sports Radio 1400 AM

WQOW TV 18

Moose Country 106.7 FM

The Mix 98.1 FM

LaCrosse

WKTY 580AM

WIZM 1410AM

Z93 93.3FM

WKBT TV 8

WTRV 95.7 FM 89.9

CC 106.3

MAGIC 105 104.9

EAGLE 102.7

Classic Rock 100.1

ESPN 105.5

WLFN 1490 AM

Black River Falls

WWIS 99.7FM

Tomah

WZFR 94.5FM

WTMB 1490 AM

Eden Prairie, MN

KMSP 9

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The monthly newsletter of
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