

Independence District

Newsletter



November/December, 2014

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Famous Indee Artwork



Junior, Katie Prudlick, created this Japanese Watercolor Painting in Ms. Manor's Multi-Cultural Art class. Katie stated the following about the painting: " I made the eyes and added cherry blossoms around them. I wanted to make girl's eyes because I like drawing and I wanted the challenge. I thought the cherry blossoms would look pretty around her eyes and they did. I think that I did a great job on this project because I took my time and wanted to do a good job. I think I could have improved on making her eyes a bit better." Nice job Katie!



MAIN OFFICE: (715)985-3172

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

Vine Line

Strategic Plan Update

The Independence School District Strategic planning committee has been meeting since January to develop a long term mission and focus for the next five years. The committee has been gathering input and feedback from students, staff, and community members.

On Wednesday, Sunday, and Wednesday, September 17, 21, and 24 the Strategic Planning committee hosted open community forums. Carl Duley, Buffalo County Ag agent facilitated the community forums and used the World Cafe process to guide the discussions. This process is intended to start a community dialog and gather feedback and information. It connects diverse perspectives and shares collective discoveries.

Approximately forty five (45) community members attended these sessions. During the session community members met in small groups of four or five and discussed the four open ended questions:

1. **As we plan for the future what do you value about Independence School and why?**
2. **What changes or improvements would like to see?**
3. **What are the best opportunities we can provide our students in the next 5-7 years?**
4. **What roles can we, as community members play in giving all of our students a chance to succeed?**

The discussion included ideas on new student programs, facility needs, community engagement, and many other topics and ideas. Forum participant and community member, Dan Bragger stated, "This has been a very open and welcoming process where my voice was welcomed and heard. I encourage all participants to encourage their friends, family and neighbors to attend future meetings."

In October the District strategic planning committee will meet again to review the feedback garnered from students, staff, and community. The committee will look for common themes and threads from all groups and begin to develop the key issues for future improvement of Independence School District.

Once the common themes are identified the committee will present this information to the community at public meetings. Strategic Planning committee members include - community members- Mary Dejno, Val McCormick, Jen Rombalski, Bruce Speltz, Paul Tobiason, and Kathy Warner; *high school student* - Sara Filla; *staff members* - Anne Gierok, Pam Lehmeier, Barry Schmitt, and Paul Vine; *school board members*- Jeff Bautch, Joe Bragger, Bob Guza, Leah Matchey, and Chuck Walek,

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

Back to School BBQ

Dennis Meyer, Independence State Bank President presents LeAnne Haines SSPP Principal and Paul Vine, Independence SD District Administrator each a \$500 donation check to . This was the proceeds from the annual Back To School Lunch sponsored by the Independence State Bank.

The Independence School District will again use these funds to support students and families who may not be able to pay for field trips or other class related expenses. Thanks again to the staff at Independence State Bank for their support and generosity towards Independence students and families.



LeAnne Haines, Dennis Meyer, & Dr. Paul Vine

School of Merit

Independence Middle School and High School staff received the School of Merit banner for the 2013-2014 school year at the August 19th PBIS State Leadership Conference. Staff members attending the conference and receiving the banner were: Julie Manor, Barry Schmitt, Dr. Vine, Lindsey Anderson, Jeff Ruhland, Dawn Woychik, and Danielle Lahr.



Agriculture Department Receives "Tools For Schools" Grant

On October 21st, WXOW's Madeline Sky, along with representatives from SSE Music, and Brennen Auto Group presented Agricultural Science Instructor Jason Hovell a \$500 check to be used towards the trellis project in the school vineyard. Mr. Hovell filled the application in early September, and is happy to see the money go towards a great cause. The 180 plant table grape vineyard will be going into its 4th year of production this coming summer, and will produce grapes to be used in the school's hot lunch program this coming fall.

2014 Outstanding Humanitarian



Barry Schmitt & Jeanette Tobiason

Congratulations to Jeanette Tobiason for being named the 2014 outstanding humanitarian for Independence. Jeanette received the award at Ashley for the Arts and was presented the award by

Middle school High School Principal Barry Schmitt. Jeanette is a regular volunteer by accompanying and supporting the Indee music groups and ensembles. Jeanette also volunteers many hours each week supporting teachers and helping students. Congratulations and thank you Jeanette.

DREAM.
BELIEVE.
ACHIEVE.



Teacher Wins Tools for Schools Award Independence, WI

Photo from News 19 (wxow.com)

New Scoreboards Purchased with the Help of Donations

If you attended a late season volleyball match this year you probably noticed that we have new scoreboards in the gym. These boards became necessary because the controllers on the old boards, which also are used for football, are now obsolete and would be unable to be replaced or repaired economically if they failed.

The purchase of the new scoreboards were made possible by donations from Gold N' Plump and Ashley for the Arts of \$5,000 each. The Ashley for the Arts donation will be over a three year period in which our District supplies adult and student volunteers for their annual fall event. These scoreboards are purple with a white border and feature the Independence High School logo on each side of the clock. The sponsorship boards are below the clock. The controllers are also remote control which eliminates some of the connectivity issues we have had in the past with damaged cables.

If you attend any wrestling events this year you will also notice the addition of three new mat-side clocks. These clocks integrate with software that allows an individual to not only keep score on a computer but the match

score and time is automatically displayed on the clock. This now enables one person to do the job of at what took at least two people in the past and enables each mat to have an individual electronic clock. The cost of the clocks were covered in part by the following donations: Independence Wrestling Club \$2,650; Independence Booster Club Wrestling Sub-Account, \$2125; Tri-County Communications, \$1,000; and Tri-City Sanitation, \$500.

The School District of Independence greatly appreciates the support of the businesses and clubs mention above for their monetary support.



L to R: Dori Wenger, Joe Brägger, Barry Schmitt



IHS Senior Yearbook Deadline

The yearbook's 1st deadline is Monday, December 29, 2014. This deadline is the one that will have your son/daughter's senior picture in. The following items are what we will need from your son/daughter no later than by Friday, November 7, 2014:

- Senior Picture. Baby Picture (ages 0-3), Middle Age Picture (ages 7-13), Signature Card, Quote Card

If these items are not turned in, by Friday, November 7, 2014, they will not be in the yearbook. If you have any concerns with these deadlines, please contact Alie Bultman at 715-985-3172, ext 139.



Baseball field gets upgrade with help of Community Volunteers

Thank you to Darin Pape for helping initiate the improvements and to all the other volunteers for their time and businesses for their donations. For more information about the upgrade, read the article in the August 2014 Newsletter.

Volunteers

Mike Warner, Richard Warner, Rich Skroch, Bruce Speltz, Kevin Koval, Isaac Pape, Mike Marsolek, Robert Baldrige, Kayden Baldrige, Shawn Boland, Jesse Pientok, Duane Pape, Kale Kowahl, Allie Kabus, Troy Rebarchek, Ken Koval, Tami Keenan, Dayne Keenan, Nick Koval, Carter Koval, Ken Suchla, John Pientok, Jayme Olson, John Slaby, Dave Suchla, Ted Kabus, Cody Kabus, Todd Kulig, Greg Dejno, Steve Pronschinske

Business Donations

Bragger Farms, City of Independence, Pape School Bus, Starwood Rafters, Independence Ready Mix, Marsolek Excavating, Jake Schlessler Farms, Central Builders Supply.



Independence School District

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Assessment for Learning

As I write this article it is the day after parent-teacher conferences and also the day in which we administered a battery of standardized tests to all of our 8th through 11th grade students. Some of these tests, notably the 9th grade ASPIRE exams, are state mandated.

To say it was an anxious morning was fitting. All of these tests, except the ACT practice test given to juniors were computer based and this was the first time they were being used in Wisconsin. During past years these have been paper and pencil tests, so proctoring was less demanding in terms of having to be dependent upon technology. Overall, once we got the student computers configure to facilitate testing things went relatively well.

This was actually the second round of testing for most of our students. At the beginning of the year we also did a round of screening tests in math and reading. These tests are used to give us some baseline data on the level of proficiency of our students in these two very important subject areas. Our mission statement of "We will maximize learning of ALL students with an emphasis on reading and mathematics" is a driving force behind these screening tests. We administer these three times a year, fall, mid-winter, and spring and use them to chart progress of our students and make instructional decisions. The official ACT test will be given at our high school to all juniors on March 3rd as another state mandate. Therefore, our students will not have to go off site or use a Saturday to take the ACT test if they don't want to.

The ASPIRE platform of tests we are currently taking will again be given again in winter and spring. The traditional WKCE for Science and Social Studies will also be given in late October or early November and then a replacement test for WKCE Math and English will be a test called SMARTER BALANCED this spring.

You may ask, "Why all the testing?" First of all some of it is state mandated so we have no choice, but more importantly, we use the data to make decisions. There are many very

important decisions that need to be made regarding instructing students ranging from classes they should take, differentiation in those classes, as well as, interventions and enrichment decision making. Objective data allows us to make much more informed decisions. At a conference this summer an administrator from the Kenosha area said it very explicitly, "No Data, No Discussion, No Decision".

Another goal of all this testing is to make sure our students are college and career ready. Without assessments to determine their performance levels we have no other way of knowing that objectively. I even foresee that tests similar to these may even be part of job interviews in the future.

Finally, I hope these tests help our students deal with and overcome test anxiety. Since so many of our students will need to take similar tests to get into post-secondary institutions or compete for jobs in the work-force, I feel it is an obligation for our district to prepare them for that. Many students or parents state that they "don't test well", but like any activity such as sports, learning a craft, or learning subject matter, the more you practice or do it the better you get at it. Therefore I believe these test serve that purpose also. Even though, I don't think test scores should be the sole factor to determine if a person is ready for college or a career, the reality is that it plays a big factor.

Therefore, we need to have our students prepared for these life changing opportunities. Testing is another way to prepare our students to advance in the future and just another way we continue to strive to be the "Best School Ever".

Bärry Schmitt
6-12 Principal



New Faces in the Classroom

The school district has 10 new staff members to introduce to the community. We are excited to have great staff members at our school.



Emily Becker is a Special Education Teacher. She is a native of Indiana and has a dual license in Special Education and Elementary Education. Emily currently lives in Ettrick with her husband Josh. In her free-time, Emily likes to cook, shop, and be outdoors. She says she has really enjoyed her position so far. "I have learned a lot and continue to learn things everyday."

Alie Bultman a Spanish Teacher. She is a native of Green Bay with Spanish Education and English Education degrees from UW-Eau Claire. Alie currently lives in Eau Claire with her pets. In her free-time she likes to read, crochet, cook, and spend time with friends. Alie says, "Independence has been a very welcoming school district. Anything else the community may want to know about you: "I'm a huge Packer fan. "



Aryn Erickson is the Speech-Language Pathologist. She is a native of Colfax and went to University of Wisconsin-River Falls (Bachelors in Communicative Disorders) and University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Masters in Communication Sciences and Disorders). Aryn lives in Chippewa Falls with her cat Milo. In her free time, she likes to

watch documentaries, Pinterest surf, spend time with and read books to her nephew, and walk on nature trails. When asked about her thoughts so far on her position, she says, "I love it. Each day there are rewards and challenges."



Alison Gillespie is Grades 10-12 English Teacher. She is a native of Altoona with her degree from UWEC. Alison currently lives in Independence with her husband Jonathan. In her free time she likes to be active. Running, biking, hiking, etc. She also reads, writes, paints, bakes and tries her best to play piano! Alison says, "I really enjoy the close knit community that I've witnessed here in the school. The kids are kind, helpful, and eager to learn--which makes my job fun! I couldn't have asked for a better group of kids to start off my teaching career."

Sarah Courtney is 3rd Grade Teacher from Milwaukee and graduating from Bethel University in St. Paul, MN. She lives in Eau Claire and is engaged and getting married in April! In Sarah's free time, she enjoys wedding planning, baking, and spending time with her family and friends. Sarah says, "I have loved my time here at Independence. It has been such a great year so far and I am really enjoying my students and learning all about them and what they enjoy!"



Melissa Pientok is the Technology Integration Specialist/Enrichment Coordinator. She is a native of Whitehall and lives there with her husband Jeremiah and their 3 children McKenna 10, Mason 7, and Max 3. Melissa has a Bachelor of Science Elementary/Middle Level Education, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and her Master of Arts

Educational Leadership from Viterbo University. In her free-time she likes to read, run, go camping, and boating. Melissa says, "I am enjoying working with teachers on creating lessons and projects that incorporate the use of technology and seeing how teachers and students are excited about the new technology available to them."



Melanie Hines is a Cross Categorical Teacher in the High School. She is originally from Cottage Grove, Minnesota and went to college at University of Wisconsin, River Falls for her bachelor's degree. Melanie is currently finishing her graduate degree in Special Education from University of Minnesota,

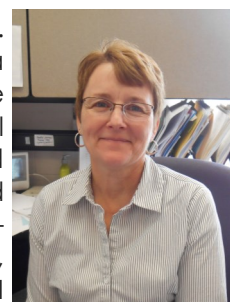
St. Mary's. Melanie just bought a beautiful house off Cty Rd VV, it's a vineyard and they are following their gardening passion. Her two special children have grown up -Jared , 22 years old is an engineering student at UW Stout. He is finishing his last year. Edin, 18 years will graduate from Ellsworth High School in May. She is taking classes at UWRF and will transfer to the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. Edin will study to become a school psychologist. Melanie's three passions in life are gardening, hunting, and teaching. BSE, Best School Ever are her thoughts on her position at Independence High School. She says, "Teachers have become fast friends of mine, and the students make me smile because so many of them have such a great sense of humor. The parents I have met so far have made me happy I live in Independence. My door is always open, I'm always waiting for new challenges and successes. "Thank You God," is a statement I try to say daily."

Julie Manor is the K-12 Art Specialist. Originally from Hudson, Julie recently left Glenwood City where she taught for the Boyceville School District for 15 yrs. She has her Bachelor's- UW River Falls, Master's- UW Stout. Julie currently live in Fountain City. She has a son, 19 and a daughter, 22. Julie's free-time activities are: competing with her horse "Stuart" professionally in dressage, hunting (ducks especially), fishing, xc skiing, golf... basically anything outdoors as well as working on her own art. She says, "I'm really enjoying getting to know the students and community. The staff is supportive and dedicated to making this the Best School Ever! I'm honored and grateful that I was chosen to join the team. Please check out the student artwork in the hallways and on my page on the district website and feel free to stop in and say "hi!"



Jessica Noe is a Kindergarten Teacher. She is a native of Elk Mound. Jessica has her degree from University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. She currently lives in Eau Claire. Jessica's family consists of her parents, a younger brother, and her dog. In her free-time she likes to read and be outside. Fall is her favorite time of year so being outside is the best. She says, "I love working with my kindergarten kiddos. They are so smart and put a smile on my face every day."

Lynn Doelle is the new Bookkeeper. She grew up in Arcadia and has a degree from Mount Mary College and WWTC. Lynn lives in rural Fountain City with her husband Don. They have 5 children and four grandchildren. In her free-time, Lynn likes to garden, cook, bake, sew, and craft. She says, "I have a great deal to learn!"



Student Teacher



Nicole Flury is our lone Student Teacher this semester. She is Student teaching in the Business Education classes under Mrs. Steinke. Nicole is a native of Arcadia, WI and currently lives there. She will receive her Degree from Winona State University. Nicole's parents are Bill and Mary Flury and she has 2 sisters. Nicole says,

"When I'm not in school I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, going to badger football games, being outdoors, and summer! " She loves student teaching at IPS! Nicole thinks the staff and students have been so welcoming and helpful throughout this learning process. Her favorite thing about IPS is the small town atmosphere. She enjoys being able to build relationships with a lot of the staff and students in the high school and middle school.

Assessment for Learning

Assessing/Testing student learning and monitoring that progress is a priority in Independence and most schools around the country. If we are clear about what our students need to know and then assess to find out their level of understanding we can better serve them. In the past several years Independence Public School has built a strong assessment system based on the most current research in best educational practices. Listed below are the many tests and their test windows that our school currently uses and a short explanation of each. If you have further questions about any assessments we use please contact your child's teacher, Dr. Vine, Mr. Schmitt, Mrs. Stuttgen, Mrs. Woychik, or Ms. Knudtson (English Language Learners).

How can families help their students perform at their best?

- **Fostering a positive attitude about the process of learning.**
- **Reminding students that working hard is something to be proud of.**
- **Getting rest, drinking plenty of water, eating healthy, and staying active-everyday**

Many of the tests list a testing window. This means that our students will test some time during that window. The specific testing time and date for your child will be shared with you via your child's home folder (elementary only).

2014 – 2015 Assessment Schedule

Grade Level	Test	Test Window	Where to find more information:
K-5	<u>AIMSweb</u> Academic Improvement Monitoring System	September 8-12, January 5-16, May 11-22	http://www.aimsweb.com/
K-12	<u>FAST</u> Formative Assessment System for Teachers	September 8-12, January 5-16, May 11-22	https://www.fastforteachers.org/log-in.do?sessionId=BD03722F5536BDE94ACBC2D0596A9599
4K-2	<u>PALS</u> Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening	<u>4K & 5K</u> Oct 13-Nov 7 (optional) Jan. 20-Jan. 31 April 28th-May 2 <u>1st and 2nd grade</u> Sept. 15-Oct. 10 (optional) Jan 20-31 <u>4K-2 January</u> 12- February 20 <u>4K-2 April 27-May 22</u>	http://pals.virginia.edu/

6-12	<u>STAR Math</u>	September 2-12, January 5-15, May 1-15	http://www.renlearn.com/sm/
3-8 and 10	<u>WKCE/WAA-SwD</u> Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exams or Wisconsin Alternative Assessment for Students with Disabilities	October 27- November 7	http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_publications
5k-12	ACCESS Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners for English Language Learners	December 1- February 6th	http://www.wida.us/assessment/access/
8-10	ACT/ASPIRE (new name for old: EXPLORE, PLAN) Tests English, Reading, Writing, Math and Science	October 6-24, January 5-16, April 27-May 22	http://www.actstudent.org/
11	ACT Tests English, Reading, Writing, Math and Science, Writing	March 3	http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/ACT
11	ACT Work Keys Tests applied math, reading for information and locating information.	March 4	http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/ACT
3-8	SMARTER BALANCED Tests English Language Arts and Math	March 3-May 22	http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents-students/

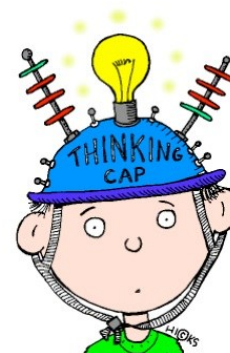
News from the Enrichment Coordinator

The opportunities for enrichment at the Independence Public School are underway. There are many events that are put on by the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network (MVGTN) that our students will be participating in as well as options for differentiation within the classrooms through collaborative efforts of the classroom teachers and Mrs. Pientok.

Events such as Battle of the Books, Rebel Spelling Bee, 4th Grade Heritage Fair, 5th Grade Performing Art will be open to all students in those grades to participate at the school level. We will hold a local competition to

see which group(s) of students will move on to represent Independence at the regional level hosted by MVGTN coordinators. Currently, I am working with a group of 8th Graders to prepare them for the upcoming 8th grade quiz bowl. They will be competing against other area schools on Oct. 28th. I am looking forward to working with the students as we prepare for these events.

On the next page are the events Independence students will be participating in this school year.



MVGTN Events 2014-2015.

EVENT	DATE & TIME SD Snow Date	LOCATION
8th Gr. Quiz Bowl	October 28	United Methodist Church BRF
3rd Gr. Creative Problem Solving Day	November 18 SD Nov. 25	Blair-Taylor Elementary
7 Gr. Quiz Bowl	Jan. 8 SD Jan. 15	United Methodist Church BRF
Rebel Spelling Bee	Jan 27 SD 29 (This date is in question)	Bangor
5th Gr. Performing Arts Fair	Feb. 3, 2014 SD – Feb. 17	Holmen
4-8 Writing Workshop Author Jon Steffes	Feb 24 SD Feb 25	Arcadia
6th Gr. Quiz Bowl 9:15 Registration	March 3 SD March 5	United Methodist Church BRF
5-6th Gr. Kids College	May 1	UW-L
4th Gr. Heritage Fair	April 28	GET
5-6th Gr. Battle of the Books	May 12	Arcadia
7-8th Gr. Battle of the Books	May 19	Independence

Book Trust Program Launches at Independence Elementary School

DENVER, CO—Book Trust is pleased to expand its program to include Independence Elementary School in Independence, Wisconsin. Thanks to the TOSA Foundation, all students at Independence in grades 4K thru 3rd will have the chance to buy \$7 worth of books from Scholastic Reading Club September thru May. Teachers will earn bonus points from Scholastic that allow them to purchase additional classroom resources and materials as well. By the end of the year, students will become the proud owners of 18-20 books, helping to infuse a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home.

"Book Trust will support our focus on literacy at Independence. Our students, teachers and families are thrilled to have Book Trust and the opportunity to bring books into their school and homes," said Anne Gierok, librarian at Independence Elementary School.

"Book Trust helps kid fall in love with reading by giving them a chance to choose books they want to read," shared Amy Friedman, Executive Director of Book Trust. "Our results demonstrate that when kids have access to books they want to read, they read more, become better readers, and develop the skills to be in school and beyond. We are excited to partner with Independence Elementary School and the TOSA Foundation to make this a reality for the students and their families at Independence."

Independence joins 10 other elementary schools across Wisconsin that will have a chance to participate in Book Trust during the 2014-2015 school year thanks to the TOSA Foundation: Tiffany Creek, Cornell, Frederic, Independence, Kickapoo, Iron River, Northwestern, Nowalk-Ontario-Wilton, Riverdale, Shullsburg, and Western.

The TOSA Foundation was created in 1992 by John P. Morgridge and his wife, Tashia

Morgridge. John P. Morgridge in 1988 became CEO and chairman of Cisco Systems, Inc. in Silicon Valley. Tashia Morgridge used to teach special-education students, and her husband's parents and grandparents were teachers. Almost half of the grants made by the TOSA Foundation in 2012 were to education-related efforts.

Book Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to deliver choice and ownership of books to children from low-income families, inspiring a passion for reading, increasing literacy skills, and fostering life-long learning. During the 2014-2015 school year, Book Trust will empower over 36,000 students in fourteen states to choose and own their very own books.

To learn more or to support Book Trust, please visit www.booktrust.org.

INSPIRING KIDS' PASSION FOR READING



Independence School District Receives \$8000 for the Autism Evidence-Based Practice Mini- Grant for the Third Year in a Row



Although sometimes not diagnosed until school age, Autism Spectrum Disorders develop early in life and are life-long conditions with implications for education, social development, and community adjustment.

Autism Spectrum Disorders refer to a complex group of related disorders marked by impaired communication and socialization and by a limited (and often unusual) range of inter-

ests. Although sometimes not diagnosed until school age, Autism Spectrum Disorders develop early in life and are life-long conditions with implications for education, social development, and community adjustment.

Autism became an eligibility category for special education services in 1991. Since that time an inordinate amount of research has been conducted regarding identification and effective interventions for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The good news is that information learned over the years has resulted in a broader definition of autism and many strategies for parents and educators to use in supporting the development of these children, starting in early childhood. However, distinguishing misinformation from accurate information can be a daunting task. It is critical that parents and educators understand this complex disorder. Teachers and parents working together will help children achieve positive outcomes.

Two summers ago we applied for a grant that focused on evidence-based practices for students with autism through the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). We were selected to receive \$8000 for the 2012-2013 school year. There were only 12 schools selected in the state of Wisconsin who received the grant. In May 2013 and 2014 we applied for the grant again and were selected to receive another \$8000 for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years.

The Autism Evidence-Based Practice Mini-Grant project assists educators working in school-level teams to learn how to implement evidence-based practices to improve academic, social, and emotional skills of students with autism spectrum disorders and assist in the development of internal school-wide structures to promote continued learning and fidelity of implementation of evidence based practices. School-level teams are required to meet at minimum 12 times for a total of 24 hours over the course of the year under the guidance of an approved facilitator.

Over the past two years, we have had five-to-seven students who were selected to participate in the grant and each school-level team implemented at least 2 evidence-based practices per student. I am proud to say that we had every special education teacher on staff at Independence, the speech and language

pathologist, several general education teachers, a paraprofessional, two parents, middle/high school principal, and myself participate in the school-level team meetings. Our meetings were all held after school, which consisted of professional development around the evidence-based interventions through the use of online courses, webinars, and selected research articles. In addition, school-level teams collaborated specifically about how the selected interventions were working with each student and the resources they were using. The teams' also voluntarily put in additional hours outside of the required 24 hours we met after school in order to prep, plan, collaborate, and compile student data.

Over the course of the past two school years, the teams also participated in 5 full-day workshops hosted by the Department of Public Instruction and CESA 4 that focused on evidence-based practices for students with autism. In February 2013, I was invited to speak about how we are implementing evidence-based practices within the school setting at the State Conference of Community of Practice on Autism Spectrum Disorders and other Developmental Disabilities cosponsored with Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. One of the special education teachers and myself presented the work of the school-level team on peer-mediated interventions used with one of our students with autism and his peers.

As we look at continuing our efforts of improving evidence-based practices with students with autism in our school, we are grateful we received the grant for the third year in a row. Our goal is to get more general education staff and parents involved this year. Parents and teachers today have many resources available to address the needs of children who have Autism Spectrum Disorders. At times, so much information may seem overwhelming, and learning how to sort out the well-tested options from fads is often necessary. Because the first line of intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders is educational and behavioral, developing collaborative and positive

family-school partnerships is essential. The autism grant will continue to help guide and support our school-level teams to work collaboratively using evidence-based practices to improve student outcomes. We look forward to watching our students grow to become functionally independent and productive members of society. If you are interested in learning more about these evidence-based practices, please contact me or check out the following link to access more information. <http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/content/briefs>

Wendy Stuttgen
Director of Special Education &
School Psychologist, NCSP
715-985-3172 ext 110
stuttgenw@indps.k12.wi.us

Ruble, L. & Gallagher, T. (2004). Autism Spectrum Disorders: Primer for Parents and Educators. *National Association of School Psychologist*. Retrieved July 19, 2013 from www.nasponline.org/resources/handouts/Autism204_blue.pdf



Independence Public School Memorial Scholarship Fund

The purpose of the Independence Memorial Scholarship Fund is to support and encourage students to continue their education by granting yearly scholarship awards.

The Independence Public School Memorial Scholarship is a fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation.



DONATE TODAY >>>

Send your donations to Eau Claire Community Foundation, 306 S. Barstow St. Suite 104, Eau Claire, WI 54701 or donate online at www.indps.k12.wi.us, the School District of Independence. Please note the Independence Public School Memorial Scholarship Fund on your check.

Everyone, Every Day

No Computer Insurance at This Time



dreamstime.com

At two School District of Independence Board Meetings during the month of October, the board considered options to provide MS/HS families, District sponsored insurance. There were questions regarding appropriate premiums, deductibles, parent demand, personal homeowners coverage, and administration of an insurance program. As a result, the District has taken no action, so at this time the District's Digital Learning Initiative and Responsible Use policies will remain in effect. It will also continue with its schedule to allow students to take computers home.

This topic is still open to discussion and as more information is gathered a policy may still be implemented later in the year or for the next school year. Please contact the school administration if you have comments or concerns.

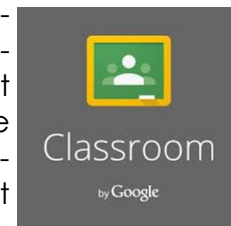
Technology Tidbits

With the roll out of 200+ MacBook Airs to the students in grades 6-12 grade at Independence Public School, teachers and students are taking full advantage of utilizing these devices in their classrooms. Currently, students in grades 10-12 are able to take their devices home, students in grade 6-9 will be able to take their computers home in the next few weeks with it anticipated that all computers will be taken home by Winter Break.

As a reminder to all families, it is very important you follow the guidelines for responsible use outlined in the Digital Learning Initiative that was discussed at the beginning of the year. Remembering to make sure our device is in a

secure location when not in use, keeping them charged and refraining from using food or drink around the devices will insure that they are in good working order for the students to use throughout the school year.

Teachers are taking advantage of web based products to maximize learning at home as well as school. With the development of Google Classroom, teachers are able to post assignments, videos, articles, etc for students to access and complete their work online. Students in Mr. Nix's Social Studies classes and in Mrs. Gillespie's English classes are taking part in using Google Classroom as part of their learning environment and have found the experience to be enjoyable.



In the 4th Grade Class, students have learned how to create movies using iMovie. As a cooperative effort from Mrs. Matejka, Mrs. Sonsalla and Mrs. Pientok, students created videos to present the information they learned from their research on a particular planet. The 4th graders were eager to learn how to use this tool to show what they had learned. Students in Mrs. Gunderson's English class were taught how to use Prezi an interactive presentation tool to share their knowledge about a notable person as part of their research project. Overall, the 1:1 initiative has been well received by students and staff and as the year progresses, the technology department will be giving updates on how these devices are being used in the classroom.

For more questions, suggestions or comments please feel free to contact Melissa Pientok, Technology Integration Specialist/Enrichment coordinator or Cory Peterson Technology coordinator at pientopkm@indps.k12.wi.us or peter-sonc@indps.k12.wi.us or 715-985-3172

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Homecoming 2014



L to R: Nick Koval, Lacey Filla, Ben Woychik, Sara Filla, Dayton Keenan, Hillary Halama, King Austen Whitwam, Queen Emily Guza

Austen Whitwam and Emily Guza were crowned Independence High School Homecoming King and Queen at the Spirit Games on Thursday, September 27th. The High School student body voted Austen and Emily as the Homecoming King and Queen. Court members included Hillary Halama, Dayton Keenan, Lacey Filla, Ben Woychik, Sara Filla and Nick Koval.

Homecoming festivities included: Hall Decorations won by the junior class, followed by the seniors, freshmen, and the sophomores. The class banner which was won by the sophomores, followed by the freshmen, seniors, and juniors.

There were dress-up days with Monday – Wisconsin Wear, Tuesday – Salad Dressing Day, Wednesday – Tourist Day, Thursday – Extreme Weather Day, and Friday – Spirit Day. The sophomores won with the largest percentage of students dressing up followed by the sophomores, seniors, and juniors.

On Tuesday, the Volleyball team hosted Cochrane Fountain City. Cross Country had a busy week with a meet on Tuesday and a meet on Thursday prior to the Spirit games. On Thursday Evening Spirit Games were held in the High School Gymnasium hosted by the Student Council. "Amazing Race" was won by the juniors, followed by the seniors, sophomores, and the freshmen. The Skits were won by the junior class, followed by the freshmen, sophomores, and seniors. Tug-o-war was won by the seniors, second going to the freshmen, third to the juniors, and fourth to the sophomores.

Powder Puff Football and Boys Volleyball were played during the week. Powder Puff Football was won by the seniors and second place going to the juniors. Boys Volleyball was won by the juniors followed by the sophomores.

The students did a great job decorating the floats. The seniors took first, followed by the juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. There were speeches from Coach Zilla, Coach Sonsalla, Coach Pedersen, King Austen Whitwam, and Queen Emily Guza. After tallying up the points of the week's events the sophomores were winners followed by the juniors, the seniors, and the freshmen.

The week was topped off with the Indees winning over Whitehall 28-20. On Saturday evening many High School students showed up at the Homecoming Dance, which was decorated to the Homecoming theme of Around the World.



Homecoming 2014 Excitement



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Fire Prevention Preparedness



October is Fire Preparedness Month! Our Kindergartens and First Graders listened to Gene Kohnert and Meghan Kohnert from the Independence Fire Department about Fire Safety. The students saw a full firefighters suit with air tank and mask and were able to tour a fire truck.

4th Graders & Technology



The Fourth Graders have been very busy already this year integrating technology into our classrooms! With the help of our Technology Coordinator, Melissa Pientok, we have been able to introduce

the classroom iPads and the Elementary Mac-Book Air in a more effective way to enhance our Math and Science curriculum.

Fourth Grade students were practicing their multi-digit addition and subtraction with problems assigned to a QR Code. After solving the problems they would use an iPad and QR Code

to check their answers. This was a great opportunity for students to work independently or in small groups while the teacher was able to provide more individualized instruction.

While working on the solar system, Melissa Pientok, came into the classroom throughout the last two weeks to introduce iMovie to our students. With her guidance, the students were able to develop iMovies about each planet in our solar system to share with their parents, peers, and teachers in the district. We are excited to continue to build on our skills to continue to provide such a great opportunity for differentiated instruction and interactive learning!

WINTER MUSIC PROGRAMS

MS/HS Vocal

December 8th
7:00 PM

4K – 2nd Grade

December 11th
9:00 AM & 2:00 PM

MS/HS Instrumental

December 15th
7:00 PM

Grades 3-5

December 18th
9:00 AM & 2:00 PM

Coats for Kids



This year, the Student Council will be holding a winter apparel drive instead of our annual Gifts For Kids toy drive. We will be accepting all new and gently

used winter apparel such as coats, boots, hats, mittens, and snow pants. If you wish to donate to the coat drive, there will be drop boxes around businesses in Independence and at school. All donations will stay in Trempealeau County. We ask that you have all of your donations in by November 21, 2014. For more details and a list of drop box locations, please visit our school web site at www.indps.k12.wi.us. Thank you for all your support!

Wisconsin's Birth to Three Program

What is it?

The Birth to Three Program is Wisconsin's early intervention program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. A federal law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), provides a framework for a comprehensive program and coordinates developmental, health, and social services with the community. The Birth to 3 Program is for children ages 0 to 36 months. Eligibility is based on a diagnosed disability or significant delay in one or more areas of development. The team evaluates the child's ability to learn (cognitive development); move, see and hear (physical/motor development); communicate and understand other's communication (speech and language development); play and interact with other (social development); and eat, dress and care for daily living needs

(adaptive development). A Birth to 3 Teacher/Service Coordinator helps the family understand and participate in the evaluation process. The Birth to Three Program continues to remain firmly committed to being a family-centered service for young children and their families

Who is eligible?

Anyone may contact the Birth to Three Program if they have questions regarding their child's development. Other family members, pediatricians, day care providers, and other community agencies may also make referrals to the Birth to Three Program. If appropriate, and with parental consent, additional screening and/or evaluations may be completed to help determine if a child is eligible for Birth to Three services. A child may be found eligible for early intervention services in the following ways: 1) demonstration of a 25% delay or greater in one or more developmental area; 2) demonstration of atypical development; or 3) having a diagnosed condition which has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay. If a child is found eligible, the child's family may choose to enroll in the Birth to Three Program. They, together with other Birth to Three team members, would develop an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) to outline goals and services. Participation is entirely voluntary.

How do I apply?

If you have questions/concerns regarding your child's development, or would like to make a referral, contact the Pepin/Buffalo County Birth to Three Program at (715) 672-8941. The Program Coordinator will be happy to assist you.



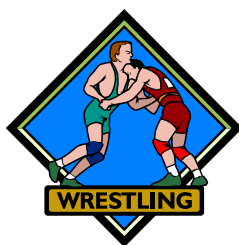
BIRTH TO 3

Winter Sports Begin in November



Boys' and Girls' Basketball will get underway in November with girls' basketball practice scheduled to begin on November 10th. Their first game is scheduled to be played on November 20th at home against Elmwood/Plum City.

Boys' Basketball and Wrestling will then begin on November 17th with the basketball team having a scrimmage in Altoona on November 25th and opening regular season play on December 4th with a home game against Eau Claire Immanuel. The wrestlers open up with a home dual meet against Onalaska on December 2nd.



Middle School boys' basketball, which is a cooperative program with SSPP will start practice no later than November 3rd with their first game scheduled at Gilmanton on November 11th. At this writing we still do not have a coach for this team so please contact Mr. Schmitt if you are interested.

Girls Middle School Basketball with SSPP does not begin until after Christmas and their first game is January 13th.

Before students can participate in middle or high school athletics they must have had a physical within the past two years, have permission from their parent/guardian, and also pay an athletic fee. This fee is waived if the family qualifies for free or reduced lunch.



Cross Country

The 2014-2015 Cross Country season is slowly coming to an end. As the newsletter is printed, our runners are preparing for their last two meets of the season, Conference at C-FC and Sectionals at Westby.

Throughout the season, we've been plagued by injuries or sickness. Fortunately we're on the mend, and are bouncing back quickly while getting into the toughest part of our season. The boy's team has put on many miles and is seeing their hard work pay off on the trails! Many of our top 5 runners are improving consistently at each meet, and have showed depth against many larger schools. The girl's team is finally competing healthy, and we're looking forward to racing competitively with teams in our conference for the first time since September!

We would like to send out a huge thank you to many of our supporters. Thank you to our Athletic Director and the wonderful ladies in the office for scheduling our meets and transportation throughout the season. Also, we greatly appreciate Pape Bus Service for providing quality transportation. Lastly, a huge thank you goes out to the parents of the runners for their continued support at each meet, providing team meals, and all the positive encouragement through the season.



World Dairy Expo

On September 30, 2014, Independence FFA members traveled down to Madison, Wisconsin to attend World Dairy Expo. While there they judged dairy products and dairy cows and saw a robotic milking system. Students who attended this trip were Hannah Halama, Sara

Marsolek, Allison Bragger, Justin Gierok, Sophie Woychik, Mikayla Rotering, Susan Thoma, Heather Marsolek, Nick Halama, Jacob Rotering, Ben Marsolek, and Abby Kotlarz.



National FFA Convention



Six Independence FFA members will serve as chapter delegates to the National FFA Convention in Louisville Kentucky, October 29-Nov. 1st.

Students involved include: Mikayla Rotering, Jacob Rotering, Allison Bragger, Susan Thoma, Heather Marsolek, and Ben Heiden. These students will travel to Louisville, Kentucky and meet up with 60,000 other FFA members from around the United States, including seven local schools. While on their trip, these students will tour the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, the Kentucky Horse Park, the Louisville Sluggers factory, and the Case IH Factory in Racine, WI. They will also attend the Career Show at the convention hall and listen to Keynote speakers. FFA members will also attended a Scott McCreery concert.

FFA/Ag. Dept. Fruit, Nut, Cheese & Meat Sales



Our annual fruit sale fundraiser has begun! This is our major fundraiser for our chapter. It helps fund trips that chapter members go on throughout the year; including state and national conventions, leadership conferences, workshops, and more!. This year we are selling fruit, nuts, popcorn, meat, cheese, coffee, and hot chocolate. If you are interesting in purchasing any of these products fill out the order form in the newsletter and return it to the office before November 10, 2014. Thank you for your generous support. (See order form towards the end of the newsletter)

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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
- Campbells 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

Starving Artists' Dinner

(lasagna dinner with salad, beverage, and dessert)

Saturday, November 15th, 2014

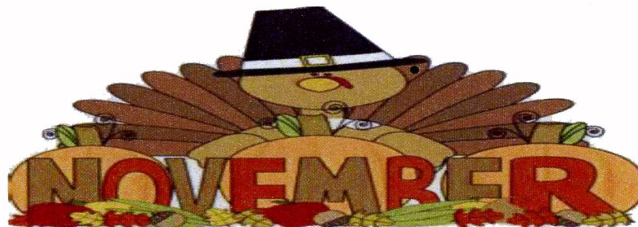
At IPS High School

5:00-7:00pm

\$8.00 in advance

\$10.00 at the door

*Come out and eat before taking in the High School Play
Tickets can be purchased from Milwaukee Arts Students or can be reserved by calling the school office at 715-985-3172.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1 – Saturday

- State Cross Country
- Volleyball Sectional Championship 7:00pm
- Football Playoffs – Level 2

November 2 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

November 3 - Monday

- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm
- Fall Awards Night 6:00pm

November 4 - Tuesday

- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm
- Dairyland Band/Choir Practice @ WHTL 6:30pm

November 5 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal
- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm

November 6 - Thursday

- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm
- State Volleyball @ Resch Center Green Bay

November 7 - Friday

- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm
- State Volleyball @ Resch Center Green Bay
- Football Playoffs – Level 3

November 8 – Saturday

- State Volleyball @ Resch Center Green Bay
- Football Playoffs – Level 3
- Dairyland Band/Choir Concert @ WHTL 7:00pm

November 9 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

November 10 - Monday

- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm
- FFA Fruit Sales
- First day of GBB practice

November 11 - Tuesday

- Veteran's Day Program 10:00am
- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm
- MS BBB @ Gilmanton 4:30pm

November 12 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal
- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm

November 13 - Thursday

- MS BBB vs Lincoln 4:30pm
- Drama Practice 3:30-5:30pm

November 14 - Friday

- Drama Production 7:00pm
- FFA Leadership Conference
- Football Playoffs – Level 4

November 15 - Saturday

- Starving Artists Dinner 5:00-7:00pm
- Drama Production 7:00pm
- Football Playoffs – Level 4
- Solo Ensemble

November 16 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

November 17 - Monday

- First day of BBB practice

November 18 - Tuesday

- MS BBB @ BRF 5:00pm

November 19 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

November 20 – Thursday

- MS BBB vs B-T 4:30pm
- GBB vs Plum City 6:00/7:30pm
- State Football at Camp Randall, Madison

November 21 - Friday

- State Football at Camp Randall, Madison

November 22 – Saturday

- Holiday Fair Set-Up

November 23 – Sunday

- Hometown Holiday Fair 9am – 3pm
- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

November 25 - Tuesday

- MS BBB @ C-FC 4:30pm
- BBB @ Altoona 6:00/7:30pm

November 26 - Wednesday

- 12:15pm Dismissal

November 27 – Thursday

- Thanksgiving Day – No School

November 28 - Friday

- No School

November 30 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2 - Tuesday

- GBB @ EC Immanuel 6:00/7:30pm
- Wrestling vs Onalaska 7:00pm

December 3 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

December 4 - Thursday

- BBB vs EC Immanuel 6:00/7:30pm
- MS BBB @ Lincoln 5:00pm

December 5 – Friday

- GBB vs Alma 6:00/7:30pm
- Wrestling Quad @ Aquinas 6:00pm

December 6 – Saturday

- Milwaukee Arts Trip
- JV Wrestling @ Mel-Min 10:00am

December 7 - Sunday

- Milwaukee Arts Trip
- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

December 8 – Monday

- MS/HS Vocal Concert

December 9 - Tuesday

- FFA Fruit Pickup
- MS BBB vs Gilmanton
- BBB @ Alma

December 10 - Wednesday

- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

December 11 - Thursday

- 4K-2nd Gr. Winter Music Program 9:00am/2:00pm
- MS BBB @ Alma-Pepin
- BBB vs CRC 6:00/7:30pm
- Wrestling @ Mondovi 7:00pm

December 12 – Friday

- GBB vs Arcadia 6:00/7:30pm

December 13 - Saturday

- Wrestling @ Logan 9:00am
- GBB @ G-E-T 6:00/7:30pm

December 14 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

December 15 - Monday

- MS/HS Instrumental Concert

December 16 - Tuesday

- MS BBB vs Whitehall 4:30pm
- GBB @ Gilmanton 6:00/7:30pm
- BBB vs Lincoln 6:00/7:30pm
- 6:00/7:30pm
- Wrestling @ BRF 7:00pm

December 17 - Wednesday

- 1:00 Blood Drive
- PLC – 2:30pm Dismissal

December 18 - Thursday

- Grades 3-5 Winter Music Program 9:00am/2:00pm
- MS BBB vs Pepin/Alma 4:30pm
- BBB vs Gilmanton 6:00/7:30pm

December 20 – Saturday

- Wrestling @ Arcadia 9:30am

December 21 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

December 22 – Monday

- NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation

December 23 – Tuesday

- NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation

December 24 - Wednesday

- NO SCHOOL – Christmas Eve

December 25 - Thursday

- NO SCHOOL – Christmas Eve

December 26 – Friday

- NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation

December 28 - Sunday

- Open Gym 5:00-8:00pm

December 29 - Monday

- NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation
- BBB @ Cashton JV/V
- GBB @ Cashton JV/V

December 30 - Tuesday

- NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation
- BBB @ Cashton JV/V
- GBB @ Cashton JV/V

December 10 - Wednesday

- NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation

“Annie Play Will Do”

Friday, November 14th and
Saturday, November 15th

7:30pm

\$3 for adults and \$2 for students



The Senior Steering Committee has chosen the play “Annie Play Will Do” by Scott Haan for the School’s play production. The play is about a high school getting ready to audition and

cast the school play. A miscommunication between the drama teacher, Ms. Morris, and the school principal, Principal Martin, means that the students have one full day to cast, practice, and stage their play. Ms. Morris goes to one of her students, Paul, and asks him to collaborate with his theater-savvy girlfriend, Laura, in order to get things in order. However, Paul and Laura are in the midst of a nasty break-up, and the night of the show both arrive with two different scripts: Annie Get Your Gun and Little Orphan Annie. Despite the mix-up, the show must go on. This hilarious production is perfect for those familiar and unfamiliar with both versions of Annie, and is sure to have you laughing in your seat.

**Come early and enjoy the Starving Artists
Dinner.**

FALL AWARDS
November 3rd, 2014
6:00 PM hors d'oeuvres
6:15 PM Awards Ceremony
Begins

Independence School District Family/Parent Forum

When: 7:00PM Wednesday, November 12

Where: Indee Public School Cafetorium

Who: Indee Parents and Families

What: Answer questions about school programs as well share ideas to help parents.

The Independence School district is hosting a family parent forum at 7:00PM on WEDNESDAY, November 12 in the school cafetorium. All district families and parents are invited to attend. **Information and discussion will be in English and Spanish** with interpreters available. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Child care will also be provided.

During this time district staff will review the responses from the recent community focus forums, answer questions about upcoming programs, as well as seek additional feedback on how we can better serve students and families.

If you have additional questions or need assistance with transportation please contact: Paul Vine at 715-985-3172 Ext. 104.

37th Annual Holiday Fair

Independence High School will once again be the location for the Rainbow Community Club’s annual “HOMETOWN HOLIDAY FAIR.” The Club has chosen “Heaven and Nature Sing” as their theme for this, their 51st year of the Community Club. The Holiday Fair will be held on Sunday, November 23rd, 2014. Featured will be a galaxy of unique arts and crafts, decorations, and gifts, as well as a quilt raffle, and a 3rd edition cookbook “Golden Goodies” featuring refrigerator dessert recipes from their 1st and 2nd cookbooks along with many new ones. Lunch and yummy refrigerator desserts will be available. Admissions are \$1 and kids 12 and under are free. The Club’s proceeds are used to support charitable, community, and school projects.

Volunteers are needed 1 to 2 hours per week on Thursdays. We welcome and encourage you to volunteer. Please contact our RSVP Volunteer Coordinator at cpadula@westerndairyland.org or call 715-985-2391 ext. 205 kristin.sosalla@westerndairyland.org or call 715-985-2391 ext. 232

Application Forms for the Weekend Food 4 Kids Program are available...

- On the school website under the community tab
- From your child's teacher
- From student services
- From the main office

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

**Tuesday: November 11th
10:00 AM**

**Community members invited
to join us for the programs
and a reception/lunch
afterwards**

WRAP YOURSELF IN INDEE PRIDE BLANKETS FOR SALE

- 100% ACRYLIC, PURPLE, MACHINE WASHABLE
- MADE IN THE USA
- JUST THE RIGHT SIZE: 50" X 63"
- WIN ME AT A RAFFLE 1 TICKET/\$2 OR 3/\$

OR

- PURCHASE ME FOR \$50 BEFORE I'M GONE



WHAT A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

- LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE
- PERFECT FOR STADIUM SEATS, GYMNASIUM BLEACHERS, TAILGATING, AND SO MUCH MORE
- CALL THE SCHOOL TO GET YOURS BEFORE THEY'RE GONE
- SPONSORED BY THE INDEE BOOSTER CLUB

WANTED: Yearbook Pictures

The yearbook is in need of your help. If you have fantastic pictures of our Indee students playing a sport, having fun cheering at a game, or just plain fun candid pictures, please submit them to Alie Bultman so that we have a lot of pictures to choose from for the yearbook this year. We are looking for all ages 4K-Seniors. Please remember that all high school pictures will be considered for the high school yearbook and all elementary and middle school pictures will be considered for elementary/middle school yearbook. Please take and send pictures throughout the school year. Please call Alie Bultman if you have questions at 715-985-3172, ext 139 or via e-mail at bultmana@indps.k12.wi.us. Submit pictures to her e-mail as well.



Western Dairyland RSVP Volunteers are taking on a new project devoted to providing weekend food for children in need. Focusing on our young people, we will provide lunches, at no cost, for students to eat on non-school days, such as weekends and holidays. Children in the Independence School district and Independence Head Start locations will be participating in this project. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) recognizes the National School Lunch program as the most efficient and effective method of eliminating childhood hunger and urges you to apply if your student would benefit from free or reduced price school meals. If your child would benefit from receiving supplemental food for non-school times, we welcome you to enroll in our RSVP Weekend FOOD 4 KIDS Project. Enrollment forms are available at all schools and at the Western Dairyland RSVP office. This project is available to all students up to 19 years of age. There are no income guidelines to receive weekend lunches, all children are eligible. General household information collected will remain confidential and be used for statistical purposes only.

Food will be sent home with students on Thursdays and can include food for all children within the home. We deliver to all Independence schools and the Independence Head Start Center which serves families from Arcadia, Independence, Whitehall and Pigeon Falls. Lunches vary each week, but a typical RSVP Weekend FOOD 4 KIDS bag will include easy to prepare meals, fruits, vegetables, string cheese, trail mix or a granola bars.

This wonderful project is made possible by RSVP volunteers and community donations. If you're interested in learning more about how you can become involved with the RSVP Weekend FOOD 4 KIDS Project please call.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED:

The School District of Independence is accepting applications for substitute teachers. You must have a valid Wisconsin teaching license or substitute teacher license.

If interested, please contact the District Office at [715-985-3172](tel:715-985-3172).



Check out our Website

www.indps.k12.wi.us is the web address for our dynamic website which is changing and evolving. Our Web Master, Pam Lehmeier is hoping to make our website a 1 stop place where parents find information on school, school events, forms, the school calendar, lunch menu, and more. Where students find resources. And where anyone can go to find information on our district, where you can access our community link and find information on our Indee Booster Club, the Fitness Center, a link to our Volunteer page, current and past newsletters, School Board minutes and videos, and more.

FFA Annual Fruit, Meat & Cheese Fundraiser

Once again the Independence FFA is hosting their annual Fruit, Meat & Cheese Fundraiser. Proceeds go towards covering registration and travel expenses to leadership workshops, and conferences like the State & National FFA Convention, Washington DC Leadership Conference, World Dairy Expo judging, PDPW Leadership Derby, and District & Sectional Public Speaking Contests.

If you are interested in ordering and supporting the Independence FFA, please return the following for to Independence FFA Advisor Jason Hovell at the Independence High School, or call 715-985-3172 ext 127, or email hovellj@indps.k12.wi.us **by Nov. 11th to place your order**. Orders will be available to pick up on Tuesday, December 9th from 3:30pm-5:30pm.

ITEMS:	Price/Item:	Quantity Ordered:	Total Price:
40 Lb. Full Box Oranges	\$29.00		
20 Lb. 1/2 Box Oranges	\$18.00		
Rio Star Grapefruit (#40) Full Box	\$25.00		
Rio Star Grapefruit (#40) 1/2 Box	\$16.00		
Braeburn Apples- 2 Layer Box (40)	\$23.00		
Golden Delicious Apples 2 Layer Box (40)	\$23.00		
6 Golden Ripe Pineapple	\$27.00		
3 Golden Ripe Pineapple	\$14.00		
Anjou Pears 2-Layer Box (40ct.)	\$24.00		
Anjou Pears 1-Layer Box (20ct.)	\$14.00		
Box A- 10 Braeburn /10 Pear/ 12 Grapefruit Gift Box	\$24.00		
Box B-20 Red Delicious/20 Oranges Gift Box	\$24.00		
Box C- 12 Grapefruit/20 Oranges Gift Box	\$22.00		
Box D- 12 Grapefruit/5 Red Del/5 Braeburn/ & 10 Oranges Gift Box	\$23.00		
Box L- 5 Red Del./4 Granny Smith/6 Grapefruit & 10 Oranges Gift Box	\$23.00		
Box LP-4 Red Del./3 Braeburn/ 8 Oranges/ 4 Grapefruit/6 Pears Gift Box	\$23.00		
Box S- 3 Red Del./2 Braeburn/5 Oranges/& 5 Grapefruit Gift Box	\$17.00		
Box SP- 2 Red Del./2 Brae/4 Oranges/ 4 Pear/ & 3 Grapefruit Gift Box	\$17.00		
Farm Bureau Orange Juice Concentrate- (24) 12. Oz cans	\$52.00		
Farm Bureau Orange Juice Concentrate- (12) 12. Oz cans	\$28.00		
Peanut Gift Pack (3 Cans- 12. Oz. ea.)	\$13.00		
Chocolate Nut Gift Pack 2 Cans- (Almonds & Cashews- 10 oz. ea.)	\$13.00		
Whole Cashews- 16 oz.	\$10.00		
Mixed Nuts-16 oz.	\$8.00		
Pecans-12 oz.	\$10.00		
Choc. Covered Pecans-12 oz.	\$10.00		
Salted Southern Fried Peanuts- 16 oz. can	\$5.00		
Brittle Bites-12 oz. can	\$5.00		
Honey Krunch Peanuts-12 oz. can	\$5.00		
Butter Toffee Peanuts-12 oz. can	\$5.00		
Carmel Gourmet Popcorn (~1 gal.)	\$10.00		
French Vanilla Popcorn (~1 gal.)	\$10.00		
Cheddar Cheese Gourmet Popcorn (~1 gal.)	\$10.00		
English Toffee Gourmet Popcorn (~1 gal.)	\$10.00		
2 1/2 lbs. Beef Sticks- Minn Tex	\$24.00		
1 lb. Beef Sticks- Falls Meat Service	\$12.00		
1 lb. Summer Sausage- Falls Meat Service	\$12.00		
E-Meat Lover's Delight Gift Pack Summer Sausage, Beef Sticks, Garlic Summer Sausage	\$26.00		
Cheese Sampler Gift Box (Colby, Jalapeno Queso Blanco, Sharp Cheddar, Mont. Jack)	\$26.00		
Meat & Cheese Snack Pack- Beef Sticks, String Cheese, Honey Ham Sticks	\$27.00		
String Cheese- 24 1 oz. Ind. Wrapped.	\$12.00		
Hovey Valley Breakfast Blend Coffee	\$12.00		
Hovey Valley Gourmet French Vanilla Cappuccino	\$12.00		
TOTAL ORDERED:			

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE INDEPENDENCE FFA CHAPTER & AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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 Country99.3FM

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

www.wlcr.com

www.CC1063.com

www.lacrosseradiogroup.net

www.indps.k12.wi.us

The monthly newsletter of
Independence School District
Independence, WI 54747