



March 2018

**We see success.**

# News from the Middle

Pat Brown, Principal

Vince LaCavera, Dean of Students

---

## **MARCH IS READING MONTH**

This year's theme is, "**Sprint into Reading: You have the whole world at your feet.**" This month we have some exciting activities: A book swap and book fair. Make sure to turn off the TV and read a good book! March Book Clubs are up and running! Students at the Imlay City Middle School have begun this year's March Book Club project. All students will be reading a novel with a group of students in their English Language Arts classes. The students will be reading the stories and having deep, collaborative discussions about them at various breaks within the reading. As always, they will be incorporating various reading strategies along the way. The project will conclude with all of the corresponding book clubs rearranging themselves into different classrooms in order to watch the movie version of each book right before Spring Break on March 23.

## **BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION & LABELS FOR EDUCATION**

There was a great response to our Box Top collecting this semester. We would like to acknowledge a donation made by the Imlay City High School's Robotics Team! Their generous submission gave us a big boost closer to our goal. We now have 4,735. The next submission will be done on June 14. Please continue to collect those Box Tops so we can reach our goal of 5,000 before the end of the year! We have also joined Project A+ with Tyson Farms (chicken) labels. They generously give \$0.24 per label to help earn money for our schools. If you have any, please bring them to the Middle School office collection bin.

## **YEARBOOKS**

Attention parents, guardians, and students: yearbook orders are now being taken. Order forms have already been sent home. If you need an additional form, they are located in the office. Parents can also order yearbooks on line at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com). The yearbook ID Code is 9855118. Order your yearbook to capture this year's memories of friends, events, dances, sports, and daily life at school. Yearbooks are a keepsake that last for years afterwards. Yearbook prices vary from a \$15 soft cover yearbook to customized packages. Yearbook order forms are due by March 23, 2018. Order forms can be turned into either the school office or Mr. Cook. Do not wait, order now.

## **CHOIR**

The Imlay City Middle School Choir Presents: I HAVE A VOICE. The concert will be featuring music of social justice, equality, and celebration performed by the Middle and High School students. It will be held on March 13th at 7:30 in the Imlay City High School Auditoria

## **PI RACE**

The Imlay City Middle School is hosting the 3rd annual Pi race. This year's theme is Pi for Paws to raise money for the local animal shelter while students enjoy racing and eating pie on March 14th (known as Pi day since it is 3.14). Math departments will be running some activities surrounding the theme of Pi prior to the run. The course is a 3.14 mile route taking place at 2:30-3:15 at the middle school on March 14th. The race will begin and end at the middle school.

## **Imlay City Middle School Students Benefit from Local Grants**

Sixth and Seventh grade students at Imlay City Middle School had an opportunity to attend a theater production at the Flint Youth Theater. Without local grants, students would not have had the opportunity to broaden their horizons in the fine arts and expand an already in-depth Language Arts curriculum.

In early December, 147 seventh grade students traveled to Flint to experience the live theater production of *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*. The play, based off the classic novel by C.S. Lewis, is a heroic tale of love, faith, courage, and giving; the life and death struggles for control of Narnia and the grandeur of the triumph of good over evil.

In February, it was the sixth graders turn. 112 students were able to see the live theater production of *Akeelah and the Bee* at the Flint Youth Theater. The two-hour theater production was based off the acclaimed movie and novel about an 11 year old from a tough neighborhood. Akeelah's love, passion, and aptitude for words earns her a spot in the National Spelling Bee. Throughout her journey to the Bee, she inspires the people in her neighborhood with her courage and tenacity.

All the students enjoyed their experience at the Flint Youth Theater. This field trip would not have been possible if it were not for the support of the **Four County Community Foundation, Michigan Youth Arts**, and the **Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs**. Thank you for helping to fund the very valuable learning experiences for the students of Imlay City Middle School!

## **SPELLING BEE WINNERS**

Congratulations to the following 2017-2018 Imlay City Middle School Spelling Bee Winners. The first place students will go on to the Lapeer County Wide Spelling Bee which will be held on March 20th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Lapeer Education and Technology Center.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> place-Joseph Gass  
2<sup>nd</sup> place-Abby Stapleton  
3<sup>rd</sup> place-Dominic Thompson

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> place-Mandy Granz  
2<sup>nd</sup> place-William Keesler  
3<sup>rd</sup> place-Charlie Puentes

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> place-Alyssa Elder  
2<sup>nd</sup> place-Emma Urbaniak  
3<sup>rd</sup> place-Dean Aune

## **SPARTAN PRIDE**

The following students became members of Spartan PRIDE after being nominated. These students were nominated by their teachers for exhibiting excellent leadership skills, behavior, and grades, as well as being very helpful and respectful. Congratulations on a job well done!

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Chloe Babcock, Zoe Patrick, Luke Erman, Emily D'Ambrosio, Emily Zepeda, Jay Jurcak, Dakota Deel, Gabe VanConant, Lisbet Barragan

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Mandy Granz, Veronica Vaubel, Kayleigh Clark, Annabelle Jones, Summer Jacobsen, Gael Torres-Garcia, Drew Wetzell, Kelsea McMurray, Kaitlynn Schmidt

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Griffin Wagester, Angelique Perreault, Shelby Wetherford, Olivia Wimpari, Joseph Smith, Ashley Keeley, Jacek Klebba, Camilla Hernandez, Avery Hollenbeck

## **SPARTAN KUDOS CARDS**

The following students were awarded Spartan Kudos Cards. Kudos Cards are part of our school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Students are given these cards by teachers for a variety of reasons – acts of kindness, a turn-around in grades or behavior, helping a teacher with an activity, etc. Congratulations to the following students! Kalie Fultz and Joseph Owen

## **ATTENDANCE**

It is imperative that students be in attendance each school day in order not to miss a significant portion of their education. Many important learnings result from active participation in classroom and other school activities which cannot be replaced by individual study.

### **Unexcused Absences**

Any student who is absent from school for all or any part of the day without a legitimate excuse shall be considered truant and the student and his/her parents shall be subject to the truancy laws of the State. Parents will be notified if excessive absences occur and a parent/administrative conference may occur. If the student continues to be truant, the matter will be referred to the Lapeer County truancy program. No credit shall be given for any schoolwork not completed as a result of truancy.

### **Notification of Absence**

If a student is going to be absent, the parents must contact the school 724-9811 ext. 9884 by 9:00 a.m. and provide an explanation. If prior contact is not possible, the parents should provide a written excuse as soon as possible. When no excuse is provided, the absence will be unexcused and the student will be considered truant. If the absence of a student appears to be questionable or excessive, the school staff will try to help the student improve attendance.

An excused absence allows the student to make up all possible work. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed assignments. It is possible that certain kinds of schoolwork such as labs or skill practice sessions cannot be made up and, as a result, may negatively impact a student's grade. If the absence is unexcused or unauthorized by the Principal, a student will not be given the opportunity to make up the work. The skipping of classes or any part of the school day is considered an unexcused absence and no make up of class work will be permitted. Disciplinary action will also follow, which may include suspension.

### **Checking In and Out of School**

All students must follow the proper procedure in checking in and out of school to ensure that the absence will be excused. Parents must provide a valid excuse, verbally or in writing to the office, and students must be signed in by Middle School office staff. No student will be released from school without parental consent, and must be signed out by an adult listed on the student's emergency information in the office.

### **Tardiness**

Each student is expected to be in his/her assigned location throughout the school day. If a student is late in arriving at school, s/he is to report to the main office and sign in before proceeding to his/her first assigned location. A student is considered tardy if s/he is not physically present in the classroom when the bell rings at 7:40 a.m. Any student who arrives between 7:40 a.m. and 7:50 a.m., without an excused pass, will be considered tardy. Students who enter the school tardy must sign-in to the main office prior to attending class.

## **ICMS DRESS CODE REMINDERS**

Recently there has been a rise in violation with the dress code. Please read over the school policy regarding this:  
**DRESS AND GROOMING**

Past practice and experience indicates that there is a definite correlation between the behavior of an individual and the style of dress and grooming of that individual. It is recognized that student dress and grooming are basically the responsibility of the parent and the student. Therefore, the Board of Education established the following guidelines to help all parents and students of the school district to have the same basic foundation from which to start in the area of dress and grooming.

A. Dress shall not be extreme, exhibitionistic, or of immodest fit or style to the extent that it interferes with the instructional process.

Examples of dress that are considered permissible:

- (a) For girls: skirts, pantsuits, dress slacks, jeans and dresses.
- (b) For boys: dress slacks or jeans with appropriate shirts.

The following restrictions on dress will apply:

- (a) Blouses or shirts that are cut off, stamped, or decorated with inappropriate slogans/sayings are not permitted.
- (b) Sleeveless shirts, tank tops, spaghetti-string tops, bare midriff tops, or bare-shouldered sundresses are not permitted.

- (d) Shorts cannot be shorter than fingertip length. Bermudas, shorts and culottes shall be permitted as long as they are appropriate length. No biker shorts, tight shorts, or shorts of inappropriate length will be permitted. Administrators cooperatively will determine the appropriate times of the year when shorts are to be worn.
- (e) Skirts (including slits in skirts) cannot be shorter than fingertip length. This length may be considered immodest for some people as they sit in student chairs. The length should be adjusted accordingly with each individual's size and weight.
- (f) Holes/rips/tears in jeans and/or pants cannot be above fingertip length.
- (g) Students must wear appropriate undergarments. Undergarments should not be noticeable/visible at any time. This includes undergarments that can be seen through outer layers of clothing.
- (h) Hats, or any other headwear, may not be worn in the school building and are to be left in lockers during the school day. Also, hoods must remain completely down at all times while students are in the building.
- (i) Coats and jackets are not to be worn in the school building during the school day. Teachers may give permission for students to wear coats or jackets in their classrooms. --
- (j) Clothing worn with inappropriate slogans, sayings, gang signs, or gang colors is not allowed.
- (k) All pants must be worn at proper waist height. The "sagging" of pants is not allowed. This also includes implied inappropriate language and double entendre. (Double Meaning)
- (l) Sunglasses are to be worn for medical purposes only and with the principal's permission.
- B. Dress shall be clean for the protection of the health and comfort of all individuals.
- C. Shoes that protect the foot and safeguard the health shall be worn.
- D. Personal grooming and hairstyle shall not be extreme to the extent that it interferes with the atmosphere essential for effective learning.
- E. Personal hair grooming shall not jeopardize the health and safety of any individual.
- F. Personal grooming shall maintain the standards of cleanliness, which protect the health of all individuals.

The school reserves the right to ban any item worn on a person which implies or suggests gang involvement or which could be construed as dangerous. The school also reserves the right to establish more definitive dress and grooming policies for individual students and student groups representing the school.

School officials accept the responsibility to help students and parents understand the appropriate dress and grooming guidelines. However, it should be clearly understood that school officials do not expect to constantly remind the same students or parent of the appropriate dress and grooming standards. When a student is in violation of the above-mentioned standards, action will be taken which will involve the parent until a satisfactory solution is reached by school officials.

The building principal may relax this policy when the students are involved in special activities which are approved by the superintendent (i.e., field day, field trip, homecoming activities). The building principal will announce to the students and parents when exceptions to the policy will be permitted.

Students that do not follow the "Dress and Grooming" guidelines in the ICMS Parent/Student Handbook will be asked to change into clothing that is deemed school-appropriate.

The building principal and/or dean of students reserve(s) the authority to make the final decision(s) in terms of what is acceptable/appropriate dress and grooming.

## **UPCOMING DATES:**

- March 14- Spartan Pride Reading at Weston
- March 19 & 20- Holocaust Museum Trip
- March 20- Lapeer County Spelling Bee
- March 23-Yearbook Order Deadline
- March 26-30- Spring Break: No School