



August 2019

**We see success.**

# News from the Middle

**Pat Brown, Principal**

**Marianne Naas, Counselor**

**Vince LaCavera, Dean of Students**

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## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Welcome back to school! It is always exciting to begin a new school year. Getting back into the routine of school—getting up early, setting up a homework plan, etc.—can be a challenge. Sixth grade students have the biggest adjustment, transitioning from elementary to middle school. Parents can support their student through this change by being positive, allowing time to unwind and listening to their concerns. If you have questions, please contact your child's teachers.

ICMS has a great website for you to visit. Click on [www.icschools.us](http://www.icschools.us). Click on schools, then the middle school button. Our homework hotline, daily announcements, calendar, sports and educational links are on the site.

Future monthly parent bulletins from the middle school will be mailed out (at the beginning of the month). You can also find them on our website. Be sure to visit the ICMS website and Facebook page often!

**Pat Brown,**  
**ICMS Principal**

## **IMPORTANT NEWS**

**Planners:** All students are issued a planner at the beginning of the school year. Students are expected to record their daily agenda, homework assignments and any other important information for each class. The planner serves as an organizational tool for students along with providing a valuable resource for school to home communication. Please promote planner use with your child. In the event of a lost or damaged planner, it will need to be replaced in the office at a cost of \$6.00.

**Schedule:** The Imlay City Middle School daily schedule will begin at 7:40 a.m. and dismiss at 2:15 p.m.

**Medication:** All medication (including aspirin and cough drops) must be dropped off in the office by a parent. If it is prescription medicine, we will need an order from your doctor giving dosage instructions as well as a completed medication form, which can be located in the office. All medicine will be taken in the office under the supervision of a school employee. Under no circumstance is a student allowed to carry medicine with them. Please remind your students to empty out their pockets, purses, etc., at home to make sure medicine is not brought to school accidentally.

Note: The office has a place for students to leave emergency money or medication such as aspirin or cough drops. If you would like to take advantage of this, please put the money or medicine in an envelope or zip lock bag with the student's name & the completed non-medication form and turn it into the office. Non-medication forms can be picked up in the office.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones may not be on the student or turned on during the school day (7:15 a.m. -2:15 p.m.), without permission from a staff member. If a student violates this policy, the phone will be brought to the office and disciplinary action will be taken. Office phones may be used in case of illness or in an emergency. If there is a need to contact your child during the day, please call the middle school office to leave a message for your child.

## OPEN HOUSE

An open house for sixth grade students and parents is scheduled for August 14, 2019 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Open house for seventh and eighth grade students and parents is scheduled for August 14, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Students will have time to tour the building, practice opening their lockers and meet their teachers.

## COMMUNICATION IMPROVES EDUCATION

Both research and common sense tells us that communication between home and school improves student achievement. Our staff is encouraged to keep you informed in a number of ways. There are also many ways for you to keep in touch with them.

**Planners:** Students are required to write assignments in their planners each day. Teachers check planners on a regular basis. Expecting your student to bring home his/her planner daily and writing notes to the teacher if you have questions is one great way to keep in touch.

**Voice Mail:** Each teacher has a voice mail extension. If you would like to leave a message, please refer to the extension listed on the school's website and a copy is included in this packet. A return call can be expected within 24 hours.

**Email:** This is another good way to keep in touch with teachers. Teachers' email addresses are available on the website and a copy is enclosed in this packet.

**Progress Reports** are sent home midway through each marking period to provide your student's current grade in each class. Teacher comments will give suggestions for improvement. The week in which the reports will be sent home is published in the parent bulletin and on our website. If you don't receive a progress report, please contact the main office.

**Homework Hotlines** are set up for each grade level. If your student is absent for one day, please check our website. Homework Hotlines are updated daily. Thank you in advance in helping to keep the lines of communication open!

## BUS ROUTES FOR 2019-20

The bus routes for Imlay City Schools are available on the school district website by clicking on the Transportation tab. Copies of the bus routes will also be posted at the entrances of each school building. **PLEASE NOTE! Several routes and/or bus numbers have changed this year! Please pay close attention to written route descriptions.**

## FOOD SERVICE

Hot breakfast and lunches will be available on the first day of school. Prices are as follows:

**Hot Lunch: \$ 3.15**

**Breakfast: FREE**

The debit system uses a database of all students. Students will enter their ID number to make purchases. Assistance will be provided to students who need help. Parents are encouraged to prepay their child's meal account. Payment can be made on our school website using a credit card or checks may be made payable to **Imlay City Schools Hot Lunch Fund**. Be sure to indicate your child's name, grade and pin number on the check. Checks are accepted at the cafeteria checkout line.

An application for free and reduced lunches is included with this packet. Those who believe they may qualify, need to complete only one application per family, listing all family members. Families who qualified for free or reduced meals in June 2019 are still eligible when school starts until such time as their new application is reviewed. Please make sure that you sign the bottom of the application or it will need to be returned to you.

## SCHOOL PICTURES

Mark **Friday, September 13, 2019** on your calendar as the date to look your best! School pictures will be taken during the school day. All students will have their picture taken for student identification cards, but you are not required to buy a picture package.

## **STUDENT ABSENCES**

When your child is absent, it is very important to notify the office as soon as possible. Please call us at **724-9884** or send a note with your child on the day that he/she returns.

## **ICMS DRESS CODE REMINDERS**

The beginning of the school year can still be quite warm; therefore, please remind your child to follow the dress code policy in the Student/Parent Handbook. **All shorts, skirts, and dresses must be at least finger-tip length.** If they are not, then finger-tip length leggings that are not see-through must be worn underneath. Slits in skirts and dresses must not come up past the fingertip. Holes in jeans must be below finger-tips unless non-see-through leggings are worn underneath. Shirts must cover the shoulder. Shirts that have cut-outs in the shoulder area will not be allowed. Tank tops and spaghetti straps are also not allowed.

Students who are in violation of the dress code will be asked to change. If they do not have extra clothes with them, they will be asked to contact their parents to bring them school-appropriate clothes. Frequent offenders of this policy may receive referrals and disciplinary consequences.

As you shop for clothes this fall and throughout the school year, please keep the dress code in mind. Thank you for your support in advance. If you have any questions about the dress code, please contact Mr. LaCavera, our Dean of Students.

## **VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECK**

In order to ensure the protection of children in the care of the Imlay City School District, school policy requires, prior to any and all persons providing a volunteer service at the school or for any function conducted by the school; all potential volunteers complete a State of Michigan ICHAT background check. Any applicant declining to complete a "Volunteer Background Check" acknowledgment form will not be considered.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 810-724-9811.

## **UPCOMING DATES**

August 14- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House 5:00-6:30 p.m.

August 14- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House 6:30-8:00 p.m.

August 19- First Day of School

August 23- No School

August 30 – No School

September 2- No School, Labor Day

September 13- Picture Day