

Indiantown Middle School



Home of the Thunderbirds

Principal's Bulletin

October 8, 2023

Greetings Thunderbirds!

I hope that this message finds each of you doing very well! It's been about a month since my last bulletin, thus I believe it's time to share some of the latest happenings in the NEST:

Did Somebody Say - Pep Rally? Spirit Week begins on Oct. 9th!

One of my favorite IMS traditions is making a comeback, following some time away due to COVID and then having too many young Thunderbirds to fit in the Gym at once! This Friday at 3 PM, our students will be in for a treat, as we will have a special Hispanic Heritage Dance performance, celebrate the Volleyball Team, compete for the Spirit Stick to the sounds of the IMS Drumline, plus other surprises!!! For the complete line-up of each day's theme this week, please see the flier below:



Family Engagement Night Series Kicks Off on Oct. 12th

Please note that our teachers will be planning multiple Family Engagement Nights during the Fall Semester and we would love for you to join us! While each event will be sponsored by a specific grade-level, the invitation is open to all students and families for each night!

Please mark these dates on your calendar:

Oct. 12 - “Nothing Spooky About Learning in the NEST” - Sponsored by 6th Grade

Oct. 26 - “Trunk or Treat” with some ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies fun included - Sponsored by 7th Grade

Dec. 13 - “Winter Wonderland” - Sponsored by 8th Grade

Note: Each event is free of charge and will take place from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM in our Cafeteria.

Athletics Updates

As Volleyball season continues, we anticipate that our Lady T-Birds will advance to the end of season tournament. Coach Farias and the squad are having an amazing season and continue to make us very proud both on and off the court!

Volleyball Schedule:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JcBkifD4ulkZcejNuHsdu4RupLcVme992KGPxtod_SU/edit?usp=sharing

Cheerleading News:

In some exciting news to share, Cheerleading is returning to the NEST! Our new Science Teacher, Ms. Andrea Daniels, has agreed to lead the Cheer Team this year. Please be on the lookout for future announcements regarding tryouts, membership, expectation, and fees associated with the team.

Basketball Season will follow Volleyball, thus students can expect to hear about tryout information in early November. Again, stay tuned for updates on tryouts and more!

For any questions or concerns about Athletics, please contact AP Jackie Scott (scottj2@martinschools.org), as she also serves as our Athletic Director.

You’ve Got Mail? Out-of-Field Letters/F.A.S.T Score Reports

During this past week, we have sent home letters to the parents/guardians of children that are receiving instruction from an IMS teammate that is currently working towards their ESOL Endorsement. Please note that Florida Teachers are required to complete various coursework to maintain their Certification with FLDOE. The teachers noticed in these letters included:

Out-Of-Field for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages):

DAWNELLE BARTGES

HANNAH DAMON

ARLENE EMATA

MIRIAM HERNANDEZ

MAHALIA SHERRIER MYRIE

KAILA STEIN

Out-Of-Field for Content Area:

SHUDEEN SAMMS (BAKER)

Ms. Baker is a Certified Teacher in FL, on an International Exchange Certificate. He has taught Mathematics from the elementary level, all the way up to high school. Based upon FLDOE's review, she is only considered "in-field" for her 6th Grade Math course, yet "out-of-field" for Accelerated Math and 7th Grade Math.

F.A.S.T Reports

The 2nd piece of mail that was sent home only went to families that had requested paper copies of last year's F.A.S.T (Florida Assessment of Student Thinking) Reports. All of the FAST information is available on-line, in the FOCUS Parent Portal.

Q1 Report Cards & Honor Roll/Character Counts Recognition Coming Soon....

We have almost reached the end of the 1st 9-weeks. Quarter 1 Report Cards will become visible in FOCUS on Oct. 23rd. On Nov. 6, we will host our Q1 Honor Roll and Character Counts Recognition Ceremony at 9:30 AM in our Cafeteria. Students that earn these recognitions will receive an invite for their families to join us in the NEST for a special celebration!

Haven't registered for FOCUS Parent Portal yet? Click here for directions:

<https://martin.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/auth/>

Welcoming New Teammates

I am truly excited to share that our recruitment efforts have landed us four new and dynamic Thunderbirds to join the NEST! Since the September Bulletin, I am excited to share the arrivals of Kristina Brock (ELA/Critical Thinking 7th/8th), Andrea Daniels (Science 6th/7th), Zuhani Jimenez Hernandez (ELL Paraprofessional), and Angela Kardos (School Counselor), Howard Marder (Prevention Intervention Program Specialist and former MCSD Principal). While IMS is eligible for two School Counselors, Ms. Kardos will be serving all students and families, until we fill the second position.

Additional Personnel Updates

At the time of this bulletin, please note that we are actively seeking highly qualified candidates for the following vacancies:

Current Vacancies:

ELL Paraprofessional (1)

ESE Paraprofessional (2)

School Counselors (1)

Home School Liaison

Pending Vacancy:

Principal (pending Oct. 17th School Board Meeting)

To apply for any of these positions, perspective/qualified candidates should submit an application by visiting the link below:

<https://skyward.iscorp.com/scripts/wsisa.dll/WService=wsfinmartincofl/rapplmnu03.w>

Hurricane Make-up Days - Longer Breaks? (Repeat Story Alert)

In case you didn't know, the way the School Calendar was built this year, it was designed to show the dates when school could be in-session, IF we had to utilize Hurricane Make-up Days. However, if we can make it through this Hurricane Season without having to use any of the designated make-up dates students would end up having the entire week off for Thanksgiving. In that scenario, 11/20 & 11/21 would be converted to days off! In addition, the Winter Break would also gain two additional days off, those being 12/21 & 12/22. There will certainly be more updates at the end of Hurricane Season, yet it's always wise to plan for the possibilities of longer breaks! 😊

End of Year Field Trip Dates/Criteria (Repeat Story Alert)

While it may seem like a long way off, I wanted to share the dates and criteria for this year's end-of-year field trips:

6th Grade - SeaWorld - May 15th - 8AM - 8PM

7th Grade - Busch Gardens - May 20th - 7AM - 9PM

8th Grade - Gradventure (Universal) - May 17th - 1:30 PM - 2:45 AM (May 18th)

Note: Pricing for each trip will be based upon fundraising efforts made by each Grade-level team. This information will be shared in January of 2024, prior to ticket sales for each trip.

Criteria to attend:

1. May not have more than 10 absences prior to the date of reserving the ticket. **If the total number of absences exceeds 10, only a doctor's note can excuse any dates from school.**
2. Must have a Semester 1 cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
3. May not have earned 4 or more referrals in FOCUS and/or more than 3 days of OSS (prior to the school purchasing the tickets from the Theme Park).

4. Must have all obligations (fines/fees) paid in full (or on payment plan), prior to purchasing a ticket.

Upcoming Events:

10.9 - 10.13 Hispanic Heritage Celebration/Spirit Week

10.9 - 10.13 National School Lunch Week

10.11 - NESTing Bell Schedule - Student Surveys (Regular release time)

10.11 - Home Volleyball Game vs AMS - 5:30 PM (Gates open at 5:10 PM)

10.12 - Family Engagement Night - 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (Cafeteria - Gates open at 5:10 PM)

10.13 - Pep Rally - Special Event Bell Schedule (Regular Release Time)

10.31 - Early Release Schedule - (Dismissal 2 hours earlier than normal)

Click on link for Bell Schedules:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yJmW8yJvSWPK4iRT_GZP12-XGml-H7KhIsj3o0xTbA4/edit?usp=sharing

Connecting with IMS- Please remember that in addition to sending out text messages, we are on **Facebook** and **Instagram** @IMSThunderbirds (Indiantown Middle School), and share content on our school's **webpage** at <https://www.martinschools.org/o/ims>. Of course, the traditional method of giving us a call is always an option (772-597-2146) or schedule an appointment to see us! Please note that there is an expectation that Principals and Assistant Principals are visiting classrooms 4 of the 5 days each week, thus it's strongly advised to call ahead to schedule visits to the campus.

On behalf of all of our teammates in the NEST, it remains an honor and privilege to have the opportunity to empower, inspire and educate your children! Wishing all in our NEST, the best ALWAYS!

~ Mr. Raimann

#AllRise #GameChangers