

Indiantown Middle School



Home of the Thunderbirds

Principal's Bulletin
September 11, 2023

We REMEMBER - We HONOR - 9.11.2001

Greetings Thunderbirds!

I hope that this message finds each of you doing very well! At least once a month, I will share some timely updates, as there are a variety of topics to discuss. With that in mind, please check out some of the latest happenings in the NEST:

Volleyball Season Begins Today! (9.11)

Coach Farias and the Lady T-birds are eager to begin the new season, which begins this afternoon at 5:30 PM vs the Sharks of Hidden Oaks Middle School. Admission to all contests will be \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students, and no charge for the baby birds (children under 5 years old). MCSD Employees will gain free admission by presenting their ID. For our home games, the gates will open up no later than 5:10 PM. Students attending home games are asked to arrange for a ride to pick them up from the Car Loop (Lot #2) by 6:30 PM.

Please click on the link below for the complete volleyball schedule:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JcBkjd4ulkZceJNuHsdu4RupLcVme992KGPxto_d_SU/edit?usp=sharing

Environmental Studies Field Trips Coming Soon for 7th Grade

In the coming days, our 7th grade students will have the opportunity to visit the Environment Studies Center. The table below depicts which Homeroom (Per. 1) classes will be visiting the ESC each day:

Date	Homeroom
9/19	Santana (19)
9/19	Monjares (21)
9/20	Fischer (15)
9/20	Patterson (22)
9/21	Macedo (21)
9/21	Hernandez (7)
9/22	DeLeon (21)
9/22	Boring (14)
9/26	McKnight (22)
9/26	Barges (16)
9/26	LeFevbre (2)

Permission Slips must be signed and returned in order for students to attend this trip. Should you have any questions about the ESC trips, please contact AP Jackie Scott at scottj2@martinschools.org.

Hurricane Make-up Days - Longer Breaks?

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

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/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.

FOCUS Gradebook Checks

In the previous bulletin, I have made the plea for all parents/guardians to spend time reviewing FOCUS Gradebook with their children, to frequently monitor learning outcomes. If you have not yet made this a regular practice, please do so starting today! Once again, I am sharing the language from the Student Progression Plan, as it relates to grading in the MCSD:

Grades are an indication of what students know and are able to do in relation to the standards; grades should be balanced among the grading categories over the course of the nine weeks/semester, and directly correlate to course standards. Secondary grades are entered into the gradebook as a percentage out of 100; hence, final grades shall not be greater than 100%. It is recommended that each student receives at least two grades per week and grades should be balanced among the grading categories over the course of the nine weeks/semester. The principal or designee shall conduct periodic reviews of gradebooks to ensure equity in grading procedures.

In the event that grades are not posted within the frequency or categorical distribution that has been described above, please email Melora Norman, Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Assessment at normanm@martinschools.org.

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

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

School Advisory Council Meeting #1 & Annual Title One Meeting Recap

For our families that were unable to attend the first SAC meeting of the year and/or the Annual Title One meeting, please click on the link below for the Google Slide Deck:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1gsunIJbCBXtG8a_WlqhI3tqmNUwg7iPdenvt-PWzj4s/edit?usp=sharing

For questions about SAC, please contact **Andrea Dawedeit** at

dawedea@martinschools.org.

After School Clubs Update

We are excited to launch our After School Club Program, which will kick off this week. Leading up to this week, students were able to sign-up for the clubs (up to 3) that they were interested in joining, by submitting a Google Form. A permission slip will be sent home if/when a student is enrolled in a club, to ensure that they have permission to stay after school. Clubs meet once a week from 4:00 PM - 5:10 PM.

Questions about our after school clubs shall be directed to Coach Dawedeit at

dawedea@martinschools.org.

6th Grade Health Screenings - September 19th

A letter was sent home with your child, detailing the services provided with 6th Grade Health Screenings, which are scheduled to occur on September 19th (during the school day). The Health Screenings, include such areas as vision, hearing, and scoliosis checks. In the event that a parent/guardian **does not** want their child to participate in these screenings, please return this letter to IMS, prior to 9.8.23. Questions pertaining to the screenings can be sent to our Health Assistant, Cynthia Vassquez, at vasquec@martinschools.org or by calling 772-597-2146 ext. 56106.

Personnel Updates

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

Classroom Teacher Vacancies:

Science Teacher 7th/6th - Currently being taught by Jessica Santana (MCSD Substitute Teacher) santanj@martinschools.org Note: Since Ms. Santana is not a Certified Science Teacher, she is considered "Out of Field", by the State of Florida. To be considered "In-Field", a teacher must have been issued a Statement of Eligibility or Teacher Certificate by FLDOE.

ESE Support Facilitator - Currently being covered by various MCSD Substitute Teachers

Additional Vacancies:

ELL Paraprofessional (2)

ESE Paraprofessional (2)

School Counselors (2)

Assistant Secretary

Guidance Clerk

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>

Upcoming Events:

9.15 Hispanic Heritage Month begins!

9.18 Q1 Interim Grade Reports (available in FOCUS)

9.25 Non-School Day

10.12 Family Engagement Night - 5:30 PM

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

#AIIRise #GameChangers