

Helpful Hints from Issaquah Middle PTSA

How do I...	
Take my child out of school for an appointment	Come to school at least 15 minutes before you need to leave; go into the office, ask them to call your child to the office, and sign out your child.
Tell the school that my child will be absent or tardy	Call the school office at 425-837-6800 and press 1.
Learn about activities at IMS	Visit the school website at www.ims.issaquah.wednet.edu . In the "What's Happening" box, go to Calendar and select the month. You can get weekly information by calling 425-837-6800 and pressing 8.
Find out about the school calendar	Go to the school website at www.ims.issaquah.wednet.edu and select Calendar within the "What's Happening" box.
Find out what's happening in the Issaquah School District	Visit the district website at www.issaquah.wednet.edu . There's lots of information there, and on the home page you can sign up for eNews.
See if school has been cancelled or the schedule changed due to weather	Check for an announcement on the radio, TV, or the school's website. You can also call the Transportation Department at 425-837-6333 (press 1).
Get a student directory & parent handbook	PTSA provides a directory to its members. Go to www.issaquahmiddleptsa.org and join! (You'll find the membership form under "Forms.")
Join PTSA or volunteer to help with PTSA programs	Go to our website (www.issaquahmiddleptsa.org), click on Forms, and select Membership and/or Volunteer Form.
Find out about PTSA programs and events	Lots of options! Visit our website, come to our monthly meeting, check our board in the hallway near the school office, or contact us at info@issaquahmiddleptsa.org .
Find out about local community activities	Visit the district website at www.issaquah.wednet.edu . Under Family Resources, go to Community Fliers.
Register to vote	Once you have a Washington state driver's license or ID, visit www.vote.wa.gov .
Find the names of your state legislators	Go to http://apps.leg.wa.gov and select District Finder.

Quick Facts About Issaquah Middle School

DISTRICT: We are part of the Issaquah School District, which is the 16th largest district in Washington. ISD has about 16,100 students who are taught in its 14 elementary schools (with a 15th opening in Fall 2010), four middle schools, a ninth grade-only campus, three traditional high schools , and one alternative high school. The district's geographic footprint is about 110 square miles.

This year, we have students from five elementary schools: Clark, Cougar Ridge, Grand Ridge, Issaquah Valley, and Sunset. IMS students will move to the new Issaquah High School when they reach ninth grade.

STUDENT POPULATION: This year, IMS expects to have about 960 students, which is an unusually large population. Next year we expect enrollment around 750 as kids from the Sunset and Grand Ridge elementary boundaries move to Pacific Cascade, the new middle school on the Plateau (which is presently the 9th grade campus).

IMS is one of the more diverse schools in our district. For 2008-2009, the state's Office of Public Instruction listed our population as White (66%), Asian or Pacific Islander (23%), Hispanic (7%), Black (3%), and American Indian or Alaskan Native (0.5%).

And A Few Handy Acronyms

ISD = Issaquah School District (www.issaquah.wednet.edu).

ISF = Issaquah Schools Foundation (www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org). This independent, non-profit organization raises funds to help bridge the gap between what state provides for basic education and what our schools need to truly educate our kids. Planning to buy something through Amazon.com? Visit the ISF website first, click on the "Shop for ISF" apple, and a percentage of your purchase will be automatically to ISF at no cost to you.

MSP = Measurements of Student Progress. This is the new statewide assessment test for grades 3 through 8. It replaces the WASL. The MSP will be administered in May 2010.

VIS = Volunteers for Issaquah Schools (www.visvote.org). VIS was established as a non-profit organization to run citizens campaigns to pass our school bonds and levies. We have an upcoming levy vote in February 2010.