

You're Invited!

The Board of Education of Indian Lake Local Schools usually meets the third Monday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Board Room. You are invited to attend these meetings. Their schedule can be viewed at www.ils-k12.org under the Board of Education Home tab.

Board of Education

Gabe Wickline President
Chad Ross..... Vice President
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Feedback is Welcome

Write to us at Editor, Laker Lore, Indian Lake Local Schools, 6210 State Route 235 N., Lewistown, OH 43333, or call at (937)686-8601.

Our Phone/Fax Numbers

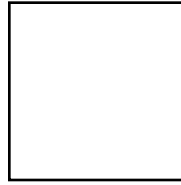
ILES (937)686-7323
ILMS..... (937)686-8833
ILHS (937)686-8851
Administration (937)686-8601
Fax (937)686-8421

All School Calendar

Nov. 25.....Fall Choral Concert
Nov. 27-29.....Thanksgiving Break
(No School)
Dec. 7.....ILMB Holiday Market
Dec. 12.....3rd Grade Mini Musical
Dec. 12-14.....ILES PTO Holiday Shop
Dec. 17.....Holiday Band Concert
Dec. 20.....2-hour Early Release
Dec. 23-Jan. 3.....Winter Break
(No School)
Jan. 3.....Staff Work Day
Jan. 20.....Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
(No School)
Feb. 6.....P/T Conferences
Feb. 17.....Presidents' Day
(No School)



Indian Lake Local School District
Administrative Office
6210 State Route 235 North
Lewistown, OH 43333



POSTAL CUSTOMER



ILHS Esports is Active!

Indian Lake High School is the first in Logan County now offering an Esports Club on Wednesdays after school, as part of the district's 21st Century Grant called Careers@ILS. ILHS Principal Kyle Wagner was instrumental in the club's formation.

He explains, "Many of our young people love to game, but are not involved in anything else at the high school. Any way to get students here after school so they can connect with someone - a teacher, another student - will hopefully make their experience here more enjoyable." ILHS Math Teacher and Esports Coach Troy Shively says the need for this kind of activity in school is legitimate. "You can earn college scholarships through Esports. You can make money playing these games professionally. However, by playing, you are also experiencing and formulating ideas to create new games and forms of entertainment for the future."

In fact, many colleges and universities in Ohio have established Esports teams. Junior Doug Bungard says he has logged about 400 hours of practice over the past year, "You must be able to think quickly and predict what others will do. You need to have good eye-hand coordination, too." Shively says through the Esports Ohio leagues, IL students are playing "Super Smash Brothers" with other kids from all across Ohio as part of a nine-week fall season. During the winter season, they will move on to the game "Over Watch," which is played with teams of six. (Above: Troy Shively watches Doug Bungard game.)

Buzz In with Quiz Bowl!

The Indian Lake team racked up a winning record during the first ever season of CBC Quiz Bowl. They finished 6-3 in three weeks of competition. ILHS Advanced Science Teacher Matt Steinbarger coaches. He says the team will enter Quiz Bowl contests throughout the school year to get more practice in the off-season. IL Athletic Director Jeff Courter adds that Indian Lake will purchase the buzzers and scoring system to be able to host CBC competitions and other tournaments next year.



ILHS Quiz Bowl Team: Ethan Fulkerson, Coach Matt Steinbarger, Matthew Risner, Ethan Coppel, Dylan Carter, Jonathan Henry and Creek Wischmeyer. Members Kelsi Ullom and Ali Knapp are not pictured

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On the Inside:
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21st Century Grant Begins
Artist In Residence
Quiz Bowl Buzzes In and More!

Above: ILMS students Alayna Brunk, Cambrie Warnecke and others learn yoga as part of the health and wellness portion of Careers@ILS. The program is funded by a competitive 21st Century Grant and provides funds for after-school tutoring, healthy activities and more at ILHS and ILMS for the next five years. Learn more on Page 2.



Dear Indian Lake Community,

We strive to find ways to fund more opportunities for our students without increasing the burden on local tax payers. In this edition of the Laker Lore, you will read about several grants that have impacted our students this fall (Challenge Day on Page 3), will offer opportunities this winter (Artist in Residence on Page 3) and will continue after-school education initiatives for the next five years (Careers@ILS on Page 2). In addition, we were recently notified that our district was selected as one of only two in Ohio to take part in a Mental Health First Aid pilot program for young people under the age of 18. That training will begin after the first of the year.

As a staff, we continue to delve deeper into R-Factor training to create the outcomes we want for our district and ourselves through proper responses to events. Combining all the ingredients of R-Factor, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Social Emotional Learning (SEL), we have created what we call "The Lake Effect." In a nutshell, The Lake Effect is using all of our training and tools to ensure that students, parents and members of our community have a positive experience when they enter Indian Lake Schools.

Around our campus, you will see new signs in the coming weeks that clearly indicate each entrance, school building and other landmarks. Work on the ILES building envelope project wrapped up this fall. We settled with several companies involved to cover more than half of the cost of repairs. What's most important is that the building no longer leaks. We were also able to make needed repairs to the ILHS auditorium stage over the past few weeks in advance of holiday concerts and the ILHS musical in March.

We hope to see you on campus over the next few months as we host several athletic events, winter walking, holiday concerts and more. We wish you and your family the best over the holidays and we look forward to a successful 2020!

Sincerely,

Rob Underwood
Superintendent



Careers@ILS Underway at ILHS & ILMS

Careers@ILS programs officially kicked off this fall at Indian Lake Schools. The multi-faceted, after-school programs began in October at Indian Lake High School and Indian Lake Middle School. They will continue for the rest of the school year and for the next several years.

Careers@ILS is funded by a competitive five-year, 21st Century federal grant worth \$850,000 awarded to Indian Lake Schools earlier this fall. Programs offered at ILHS will resume and supplement options that were offered under a similar grant at the high school only from the years 2015 to 2017.

In addition, this grant allows Indian Lake Middle School to offer a variety of after-school programs. They include: Art Club, Book Club, Robotics Club, Math tutoring, Reading/Language Arts tutoring and Wellness Activities such as Intramural Sports and Yoga.

ILMS Math Teacher Kelli Strayer is serving as the site coordinator at ILMS. "It's great that the grant is expanded to include 5-8 graders so that they can get exposed to some new things. Yoga and Robotics are some of our most requested classes. The Language Arts and Math tutoring are also very beneficial as students adjust to the new material at this level," Strayer says.

Dozens of ILMS students participated in the fall session that runs until Thanksgiving. There will be additional sign ups every six weeks throughout the year. Permission slips are available in the ILMS office. Strayer says they will be adjusting what is offered based on student feedback and participation from this first session.

Meantime at ILHS, site coordinator Matt Steinbarger says more than one hundred students are participating. ILHS students are able to start programs at any time, but they do need a signed parent permission form. Those can be picked up in the ILHS school office. ILHS activities include: Art Club, ACT and WorkKeys Prep, Carpentry and Welding Club, Robotics Club, Math tutoring, Reading/Language Arts tutoring, Science Club and several wellness activities. Esports Club has also been added. (See story on Page 4.)

Careers@ILS provides snacks for students staying after school and bus transportation home, if needed.

(Above: ILHS Math Teacher Troy Shively assists sophomore Phoebe Brielmaier with equations during after-school tutoring.)

Challenge Day Impacts ILHS

After participating in a Challenge Day at a neighboring school last year, Indian Lake Senior Colton Dugan knew it was a program that could help his classmates. So as President of the ILHS Students Against Destructive Decisions Club, working with SADD adviser Deb Metzger, the two wrote and received a \$5,000 United Way of Logan County grant to bring this social-emotional learning event to ILHS.

Dugan says, "I took what I learned and I applied it to my life in school. And I want everyone that was in there to apply what they learned and make the most of it."

The recent Challenge Day event at Indian Lake High School brought about 85 ILHS students and 15 Calvary Christian students together, along with staff members from both schools and members of the community.

Workshop Facilitator Dorias Brannon says Challenge Day is about giving young people the opportunity to be 100 percent themselves. He explains, "They can open up and talk about things that they have happening in their lives that we never really give them a safe container in which to really express those concerns. We want to let them know they have the power to break cycles and make positive changes in their lives."

The day began with games and activities to get to know each other. After sharing their own personal stories of struggle with abuse, addiction and abandonment, facilitators broke participants into small groups to share in an activity called "What You Know When You Really Know Me." Many students and adults felt comfortable enough to relay the concerns that weigh heavy in their lives like family problems, peer pressure, bullying and beyond.

Later, the entire group took part in the Challenge Day signature exercise called "Cross the Line." This simple activity done in silence invites participants to cross a literal line on the floor if they have experienced a wide variety of oppressions or tragic events. It offers a plain, and often surprising, reality of people who have endured similar experiences and stereotypes.

Dugan says even the second time around, the Challenge Day helped him better understand what his classmates are going through and appreciate his own circumstances.



(Above: ILHS students sign the "Be the Change" pledge.)

He says, "I'm not saying I don't have struggles, but I have a pretty good life. The biggest thing and the worst thing people do is they take what they have for granted. The more grateful you are and the sooner you realize what you do have, the sooner you start to look for good things in others."

Challenge Day wrapped up with participants sharing the uplifting lessons they learned and looking toward the future with hope.

Brannon says, "We want them to have fun, to let them know they can enjoy life and love themselves." At the conclusion of the day, each participant pledged to carry the message of Challenge Day to the entire student body by signing the "Be the Change" pledge.



Artist In Residence Coming to ILES

Earlier this fall, ILES staff members took a tour of the wetland just behind the elementary building in anticipation of an exciting new opportunity. The wetland is the inspiration for an \$11,000 grant awarded to Indian Lake Elementary School and ILES Art Educator Terry Nelson from the Ohio Arts Council.

This winter, a professional artist who works in polymer clay and other mediums will begin working with ILES art students in every grade level. The aim is to create a relief that represents the wide array of plants and animals that call the wetland their home. Every student will be able to design at least a small part of the larger project. The work of art is meant to be on display at ILES for years to come.

However, Nelson explains classes beyond art will be involved. ILES science classes will tie the wetland into their lessons on the water cycle and the animals that live there. In addition, ILES gifted students will write a book detailing the important features and creatures of the wetland. Students in ILHS graphic design classes will help with the artwork composition for the book.

In addition to the Artist In Residence grant, the wetland behind ILES will eventually be a part of the Careers@ILS grant. As part of the five-year program, welding and carpentry students will design and build a small boardwalk to improve access to the wetland.

(Above: ILES staff members tour the wetland this fall.)