



International Community School News

Hello ICS families!

The Future of Focus Week

ICS is a high performing school because we have inspiring teachers, talented students, and an incredibly active and supportive parent community. We are proud to emphasize interconnected learning and depth of understanding. We are the only school with a seven-year program, allowing for strong long-term relationships between students and teachers.

ICS opened its doors in 1997. Since that time, we (public schools) have weathered numerous large-scale changes in federal and state requirements. College admissions requirements have changed, and admissions are more competitive. In the early 2000's the term STEM was introduced and integrated into education frameworks to prepare youth with 21st century skills. One of the most significant changes has been the nationwide push for equity in education. Equity defined in LWSD policy:

Equity (Equitable): *Values, practices, policies, and systems that support principles of individuals and groups getting what they need to achieve the desired outcomes of the organization. Equity does not mean equal distribution of resources, or outcomes, but rather that resources are distributed based on demonstrated need, to achieve the goals of the organization. Achieving equity requires eliminating barriers, and establishing practices, policies, and systems that enable the full participation of individuals and groups.*

Each school must review practices and systems on an ongoing basis to eliminate barriers and increase inclusion. At ICS equity conversations are ongoing and we are committed to this evolution. Focus Week has been one of the core experiences at ICS from the beginning. Dedicated staff members (on their own time) have planned incredible experiences for students, pushing the boundaries of our classroom walls. Activities during Focus Week have been varied and students have had drastically different experiences with price tags as high as \$4000. As a public school we cannot continue to have instructional experiences that are not accessible to all students and directly connected to the curriculum. Focus Week as we have known it will not carry on; however, we strongly believe that pushing the boundaries of the classroom walls can be a powerful way to help students ground learning in experiences. We look forward to developing new experiences and traditions that will best serve the education of today's ICS students.

Yearbook photo submission

Do you have any pictures of your student that you would like to share for the yearbook? This year's yearbook advisors are collecting all aspects of students' lives both in and out of school. Contribution to the yearbook ensures that every student is well represented in the yearbook. Submit pictures using this [link](#). Questions can be emailed [here](#).

Report Cards

First quarter report cards are now available on Skyward Parent/Student Access under Portfolio- Attachments as "ICS 2022-23 T1 Report Card." Hard copies are available upon request made to [Kristina Summers](#). Please remember that quarter grades are a mid-semester progress report and do not appear on a student transcript or academic history, nor are they factored into cumulative GPA. All grading questions should be made directly to your student's teachers. The [Staff Directory](#) can be found on the [ICS website](#).

Attendance

Please email ICSAttendance@lwsd.org or call the attendance hotline at 425 936 2381 to notify the school regarding absences, late arrival, and early dismissal.

Parents bringing items

There is a shelf inside the school entry for dropping off any items, such as lunches, books or homework for your student. Please make sure that the item is labeled with your student's name and that you have informed them. Laptops must be brought into the office.

Contact Information

Principal: [Margaret Kinney Krepel](#)

Associate Principal: [Mike O'Donnell](#)

Office Manager: [Mamoona Zia](#)

Attendance/Safe Arrival: [425-936-2381](#) or [Email](#)

Main Number: [425-936-2380](#)

International Community School

[11133 NE 65th St, Kirk](#)