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Principal Update 3/22/2024

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International Community School News

Hello ICS Families!

March 22, 2024

It's been amazing to watch our student activity levels over the last month. A PTSA grant was approved this year to increase student offerings during lunch time. When you walk around the front of the school, field and basketball courts during lunch you will see students playing badminton, table tennis, basketball, football, soccer, frisbee, bocce ball and pickle ball. The equipment that you as parents have donated to the school through your PTSA membership fees is helping strengthen community and promote both mental and physical wellness. These options for students increase overall wellness which positively impacts their academic success at school too. The school is so grateful to have you as partners.

Have a wonderful weekend with your families,

Jacob

Parent Question Spotlight

Does it weaken a student's college application to stay at ICS because there aren't as many classes?

While ICS is a small school our students routinely graduate with 31 credits, which is well above the 24 required to graduate. Furthermore, HS students around the country are evaluated by the individual context of what is offered at each school. Colleges use a school profile (required of every HS in the USA) to determine what courses students can take at their school. They use this profile ([ICS profile here](#)) to determine if students have maximized their options through coursework at an individual school. This means that students from ICS are evaluated differently from students at LWHS, Bellevue HS, Lakeside, etc.

Students at ICS in fact have some advantages in the college admission process that are not present at many other high schools. First, since we have our students for 7 years our teachers deeply know the student and their academic and personal growth over time. This results in more holistic letters of recommendation that speak to the student's individual journey and are highly personalized. ICS also has a much smaller student to counselor ratio than other LWSD comprehensive high schools. Currently, we have a 165:1 high school counselor to student ratio. Other comprehensive high schools in the district have a 300:1 ratio or higher. Our lower numbers allow us to support students and families with more college focus lessons, 1:1 meetings with all students during grades 11/12, offer a grade 11 college night (date for this year coming soon), and every

student has the opportunity to have a personalized college recommendation letter from their counselor submitted on their behalf. Most schools with higher student to counselor ratios are unable to guarantee 1:1 meetings and counselor letters of recommendations for every student.

Below is a list of colleges that our students are attending over the last 3 years:

American University
Arizona State University
Bellevue College
Brown University
California Polytechnic State University
Case Western Reserve University
Colorado State University
Cornell University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gonzaga University
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
New York Institute of Technology Life Sciences
New York University
Northeastern University
Oregon State University
Purdue University
Rice University
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
Simon Fraser University
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
University of Arizona
University of British Columbia
University of California: Berkeley
University of California: Davis
University of California: Los Angeles
University of California: San Diego
University of California: Santa Barbara
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Massachusetts
University of Oregon
University of Portland
University of Southern California
University of Texas
University of Washington
Washington State University
Western Washington University
Whitman College
Yale University

HOSA Competition

Last week a group of 14 students attended and competed at the Health Occupation Student Association (HOSA)-

Future Health Professionals Conference in Spokane Washington. Dare to Create has been this year's theme for our international organization. Our students took up that theme. Several of our students placed in the top ten of various events from physical therapy to veterinary science to medical law and ethics. Those students placing in the top three of their events earned the opportunity to compete at the International Conference in Huston Texas this summer. We also had our biggest contingent of middle school students attending this year with this year being only the second year of including middle school in our organization. Special thanks to all the parents who supported this experience especially to those who chaperoned. One final note, the pin representing our state was designed by one of the club members.



Drama Production

Save the date! ICS Drama Club's production of Alice in Wonderland is on Friday March 29 (7pm) & Saturday March 30 (2pm & 7pm). Tickets purchased at the door by cash or check (payable to ICS). Ticket prices are \$7 adults and \$5 for children.

Attendance

Please report student absences, late arrivals and early dismissal via email or phone call to Attendance. Please include your students' name, grade, and reason in your message. Informing via teachers' emails, the main office, or responding to the newsletter email which is set to 'do not reply' is not recommended.

Email: ICSAttendance@lwsd.org

Phone: 425 936 2381

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 students' name and that you have informed them. Laptops must be brought into the office.

Contact Information

Principal: Jacob Hendrickson

Associate Principal: Mike O'Donnell

Office Manager: Mamoona Zia

Attendance/Safe Arrival: 425-936-2381 or Email

Main Number: 425-936-2380

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