

## SAFETY & SECURITY UPGRADES!

Several years ago Ionia Public Schools (IPS) began a process of improving and upgrading our safety and security measures. We committed ourselves to implementing the best safety and security systems available. During this process, we collaborated with law enforcement and our security firm, and conducted site visits to other schools to view state-of-the-art security features.

This summer, we equipped every classroom and office in our district with our new comprehensive safety and security system. Every classroom and office now contains a Smart Boot door barricade device that instantaneously notifies administration and law enforcement when activated. All of our students and staff will receive training within the first several weeks of school using our enhanced safety devices. *continued on pg. 2*



## OPERATING MILLAGE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Our IPS non-homestead operating millage expires in December 2024. If our millage is not replaced, IPS will lose more than \$2.79 million annually; busing will be reduced, staff will be reduced, class sizes will increase, pay-to-play sports will be implemented, and cuts will be made to band, vocal music, and our arts programs.

Replacing our non-homestead operating millage =

**ZERO TAX INCREASE TO PRIMARY RESIDENCES**

**ZERO TAX INCREASE TO QUALIFIED  
AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY**

**RESTORES FULL STUDENT FUNDING**

Please visit [www.ioniapublicschools.org](http://www.ioniapublicschools.org) or contact (616) 527-9280 with any questions.

## BULLDOG BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Preschool registration for 2023 - 2024 is open! Please contact Mrs. Caety Hunt with any questions at [cahunt@ioniaschools.org](mailto:cahunt@ioniaschools.org) or (616) 527-8090.



# Updates from Superintendent Gurk

*continued from pg. 1*

We have installed strobe lights in every hallway of each school that flash red in the event of a lockdown. We have also updated all of our school maps and installed larger external and internal door numbers to aid law enforcement in the event of an emergency. We have added fragment retention film to strengthen windows across our district. To help cover the costs of our comprehensive security upgrades, we have procured over \$315,000 in safety and security grants.



We are also continuing to make facility upgrades and updates across our district. Thank you to Mr. Avery and our maintenance teams who have worked diligently to complete the following projects this summer:

- 15 new classroom / office doors at Jefferson Elementary to increase safety & security
- New Smart Boots & accompanying devices in every classroom and office in the district
- New IEC fire alarm panel & system
- New IHS tennis courts (8) & pickleball courts (2)
- New painting at IHS, Twin Rivers, & Jefferson
- New Jefferson ADA accessible ramp & fencing
- New Jefferson basketball courts & playground
- New flooring in IHS cafeteria
- New carpeting throughout the district
- New service ramp at IEC loading dock
- Refurbished driveway and parking areas north of IEC
- Additional heat coil in IMS Life Skills room
- Additional heat fin-tube system in IMS Counselor Office
- Upgraded district digital building management systems
- Power-washed IHS & IMS Chromebooks
- 629 new student devices & new network switching
- Audio systems at IHS tennis courts, Watt & IEC room 304

To consistently communicate with you, I send weekly *IPS Happenings* emails; please email me at [bgurk@ioniaschools.org](mailto:bgurk@ioniaschools.org) if you are not receiving these. We look forward to our continued partnership with you. Have a great 2023 – 2024 school year!

  
Benjamin Gurk

**Inspire**



**Persevere**



**Succeed**

# Ionia Community Awareness Purple Week

## September 9 - 15, 2023

The Ionia Public Schools are proud to continue our partnership with the Ionia Community Awareness (ICA) Purple Week. Ionia cares for and supports our *survivors*, our *fighters*, and our *taken*. We come together as a commUNITY for a common goal: We Wear Purple to raise awareness and to generate funds to help our community members facing the stages of cancer; please join us!

The 14th Ionia Community Awareness Purple Shirts are now on sale at Wreckers Sports. As a reminder, it is only this year's shirt that you can wear to get into designated purple games; previous shirts and football jerseys do not allow you access into games. Please see below and join us for our Purple Week events!

**Saturday, Sept. 9**      **Purple Golf Scramble** 10am Hickory Hills Course  
Contact [jakesmom316@gmail.com](mailto:jakesmom316@gmail.com) with questions

**Tuesday, Sept. 12**      **Purple Volleyball** 6pm IHS Gymnasium

**Wednesday, Sept. 13**      **Blood Drive (NHS)** 9am - 3pm IHS rm 304  
Contact: [mtackman@ioniaschools.org](mailto:mtackman@ioniaschools.org)

**Wednesday, Sept. 13**      **Purple Tennis** 4pm IHS Tennis Courts

**Thursday, Sept. 14**      **Purple Golf** 3:30pm TBA

**Thursday, Sept. 14**      **Purple Soccer** 6pm IHS Stadium

**Friday, Sept. 15**      **Purple Football Game** 7pm IHS Stadium  
Face Painting by IHS Cheer      Great Clips Purple Hair Stencils

**Wednesday, Sept. 20**      **Caitlin Cusack** 7pm Watt Auditorium  
You Carry Me video project Entry is donation to Ionia Community Awareness

**Thursday, Sept. 21**      **Purple Swim** 6pm IHS Pool

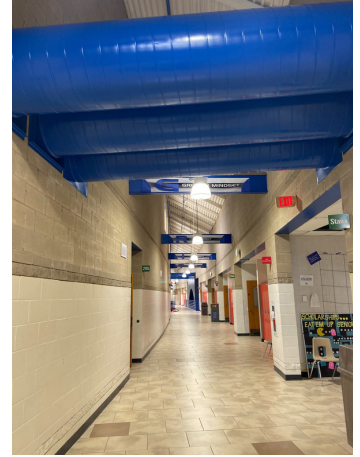
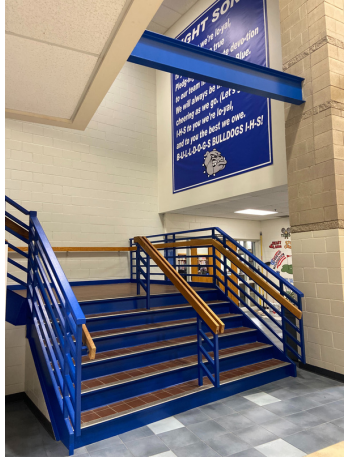
**Saturday, Sept. 30**      **Cruisin' For A Cause** 7pm - 9pm Downtown Ionia  
\$10 per car/vehicle      **3**





# IONIA HIGH SCHOOL

Our maintenance and custodial teams have been busy making Ionia High School look its best for the start of the 2023-2024 school year! Many of our classes and hallways have undergone much needed carpet upgrades. Our stairways and railings have been repainted to match our color palette standards.



We are continuing to improve our safety and security measures. Our new comprehensive SmartBoot System has been fully installed and our fire alarm system has been upgraded.

We are also pleased to share with you that Officer Skorka and K9 unit *Titan* will be our resource officers this school year. Ensure you do not pet *Titan*, unless first asking and receiving permission from Officer Skorka.

This summer, the IHS National Honor Society and the Dance Team partnered to clean the Ionia Public Schools Adopt A Highway section of M66 from Tuttle to David Hwy. Many thanks to Bryant, Addy, Jake, Kennedy, Lila, Dalilah, Ella, Katelyn, MaKayla, Bailey, Addison, Mariya, Dance Coach Mrs. Batista, and NHS Adviser Ms. Tackmann!







We are excited to welcome our new Ionia High School staff members!



Mr. Wayne Moak  
Math  
(moved from Credit Recovery)



Mrs. Carley Baldwin  
Science



Mr. David Bynum  
Special Education



Ms. Laura Thaxton  
ELA



Mrs. Ashley Elenbaas  
ELA



Mr. Michael Koster  
Social Studies



Ms. Melissa Chaffins  
Special Education



Mr. Ryan Walter  
Interventionist

Freshman orientation was held on Friday, August 11. All other students (or freshmen that may have missed orientation) wishing to stop into the high school to pick up their schedules, practice their locker combination, or become familiar with their class locations are encouraged to take a "self-guided tour" on August 15, 16, or 17 from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. Check-in at our Student Services Office when you arrive.

Be sure to visit our school's web page each week at [ioniaschools.org](http://ioniaschools.org) and follow *Ionia High School* on Facebook along with the *IHS Family School Guild* page for important announcements, celebrations, and opportunities to be involved throughout the school year!

If you have any questions, please contact our Student Services Office at (616) 527-0600.

# Ionia High School Athletics

**Our 2022-23 IHS athletic teams had three conference champions, one district championship, and 29 individual State qualifiers!**



## 2023-24 Family Passes

- Can be purchased in the IHS athletics office at the high school
- Family passes can be used at all home IHS & IMS athletic events
- Contact Athletic Secretary Wendi Gross with questions at [wgross@ioniaschools.org](mailto:wgross@ioniaschools.org)
- More information available at [loniaathletics.org](http://loniaathletics.org)

## 2023-24 Sports Registration

- 2023-24 IHS & IMS Sports Registration is open to all sports, on our new Big Teams Student Central digital platform
  - All parents and students create an account to participate on IPS school sponsored sports teams
  - Go to [loniaathletics.org](http://loniaathletics.org) for more information.
- Get Registered Today!**

## 2023-24 Super Booster

- The Ionia Affiliated Athletic Boosters 2023-24 Super Booster program is now open for families and businesses that want to help support our Bulldog teams
- The IAAB Super Booster program helps keep our athletes from having pay-to-play sports and so much more
- Go to [loniaathletics.org](http://loniaathletics.org) for more information

**Become A Super Booster Today!**



---

# **Ionia Trap Team**

## **Fall League**

Our Trap Team fall season will consist of eight weeks beginning on September 14 and ending in October. Our Trap Team is open to IPS students in grades 6 - 12.

The registration fee is \$35.00 and must be paid through the league. Participants must register online with USA High School Clay Target League prior to September 11.

Go to [www.claytargetgo.com](http://www.claytargetgo.com) and click on AMS, then register as a new athlete, team code ioa382. If you have been signed up in the past, login under your preexisting profile. Once your profile is created, we will be able to invite you to take the online SAFE Range Safety Training that MUST be completed prior to the season starting or any live fire practice. If you did this in the past then you will not have to again. Once the online portion is completed, print your certificate and bring it to our first practice along with your eye protection, ear protection, shotgun, and ammunition. We will then complete the Range Safety Field Day portion and will be able to begin live fire practice. Practice will begin on Thursday, September 14 at 6:00 pm at the Western Michigan Rifle and Pistol Club on Lincoln Avenue in Ionia.

All participants will need to provide their own shotgun and ammunition. Students will need 50 rounds (two boxes per night) and pay the West Michigan Rifle and Pistol Club \$5.00 per round (\$10 per night). The largest gauge allowed in the league is a 12 gauge. Participants also must use factory ammunition; no hand loads are allowed per league rules. Eye and ear protection are mandatory, and no open toed shoes or sandals are allowed.

If you are under 18, a parent or guardian will need to register for you. Please contact me with any questions. We look forward to having a safe and fun season competing!

Joe White  
Ionia Trap Team Head Coach  
[Jwhite4780@yahoo.com](mailto:Jwhite4780@yahoo.com)





# Ionia Middle School

We are excited to welcome Mr. Mitchell as our new principal! Mr. Mitchell has served as our IMS behavior specialist where he worked diligently to support our students, families, and staff. He has earned the trust of our IMS Family with his integrity, follow-through, and exemplary communication. He is a former teacher for the Michigan Department of Corrections where he developed policy and oversaw all partnerships with colleges and universities.

Mr. Mitchell is a veteran of the United States Navy where he served for eight years and attained the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class. He served two tours in Afghanistan as well as aboard the guided-missile destroyer *USS Ross*. His experiences in the military, particularly related to teamwork and leadership, have uniquely prepared him for success as an educational leader.

Mr. Mitchell played football at Ferris State University and has coached numerous youth sports. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and is completing his Master of Education degree. Mr. Mitchell enjoys spending time with his wife, two children, and serving at his church.

You're invited to meet Principal Ryan Mitchell and Assistant Principal Kelsey Ford in the IMS gym on August 14 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Important procedures and updates on new policies will be covered.

Parents, please join us during our Parent Teacher Guild (PTG) meetings in the Library at Ionia Middle School! Dates and times are subject to change; however, they will be updated on our IMS Facebook page.



## IMS PTG MEETING DATES, 2023-2024

<b>September 7</b>	<b>February 1</b>
<b>October 5</b>	<b>March 7</b>
<b>November 2</b>	<b>April 11</b>
<b>December 7</b>	<b>May 2</b>
<b>January 11</b>	<b>June 6</b>

# Ionia Middle School

We are so proud to welcome our newest team members to Ionia Middle School!

Danielle Sibley has taught in Ionia for 27 years! She is really looking forward to joining IMS as a 6th grade math and science teacher, and knows "it's going to be a great school year!"



Cally Redder is starting her 24th year of teaching in Ionia! She enjoys traveling, musicals, photography, and golf. Mrs. Redder is looking forward to making new connections with students and staff and having a great year at IMS!



Mandee Thiell is very excited to join IMS while team teaching sixth-grade English and Social Studies. Mandee enjoys singing show tunes, watching films, and cuddling her two cats, Jax and Ivy.



Lori Dankers is thrilled to be a part of our incredible team of educators at IMS, and to collaborate with students, parents/guardians, IPS educators, and staff while teaching 7th grade ELA! She has been working in the field of education for over 26 years; she looks forward to this journey together!



Tanner Howe is excited to be part of IMS as the new school counselor. He also has served in the Michigan Army National Guard for the past six years and will continue to serve throughout this school year. Tanner looks forward to working with our staff, students, and parents.



Kevin Fletcher is thrilled to continue his teaching career at IMS. He is entering his 15th year as a 7th and 8th grade Social Studies teacher, having previously taught in St. Louis and Greenville. As a 2004 graduate of Ionia High School, Kevin is honored to return home to the district that played a fundamental role in shaping his life.



Chad Jones is excited to return as our IMS School Safety Liaison. Chad monitors our campus, assists with safety and security drill, provides student conflict and crisis intervention, and monitors security cameras and video footage. He serves as a mentor to students while building positive relationships and working with administration. He has an associates degree in criminal justice. Chad graduated from the 64th Mid-Michigan Police Academy and served for 23 years as a Public Safety Officer.



Kaila Halsted is very excited to start her first year teaching at IMS as a Special Education Teacher. In her free time she loves to spend time with family and friends, collect vinyl records, watch movies, and go camping. She is very eager to start the new school year and to become a part of the Bulldog family!



Chelsea Michalak is very happy to serve as our new Physical Education teacher! She can't wait to encourage and motivate our students to pursue healthy active lifestyles! Outside of teaching she plays ice hockey, roller hockey, and ultimate frisbee. She also likes to snowboard, ski, wakeboard, swim, go on hikes-with her dog as well, kayak, ride her mountain bike, and strength train.





# Boyce Wildcats

We have continued to make upgrades and improvements to Boyce Elementary School this summer!



New carpeting in the library and main office!



New Chicken Coop for Outdoor Education!



**Breakfast Buddies**  
**2023-24**

**kindergarten & 1st grade**  
**Wednesday, September 20th**

**2nd & 3rd grades**  
**Wednesday, January 31st**

**4th & 5th grades**  
**Wednesday, May 22nd**



# Boyce Wildcats

We are excited to have some new faces at Boyce Elementary this fall; welcome to the Wildcat Family!



Megan Hammond  
secretary



Tia Halsted  
El room



Jessica Kissinger  
resource room



Joe Mayer  
Music



Allison Montney  
second grade





# Emerson Eagles

## A Year of Celebration!



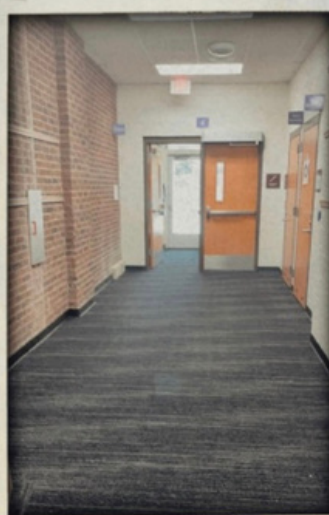
What a year to celebrate! We are thrilled to announce that our beloved building is celebrating its 100th anniversary! As we soar into this new academic year, let us reflect on the countless lives that have been positively impacted within these walls. Together, let's honor the past, embrace the present, and shape the future. We look forward to creating more cherished memories as we celebrate this momentous occasion. Here's to a year of celebration, one that will be filled with growth, learning, and endless possibilities!



1923-2023



New carpet was installed in 1st, 4th and 5th grade classrooms.



Upgraded indoor/outdoor carpet for all entryways.



Special elements can still be found throughout the building.



# Emerson Eagles



*music teacher*  
**JOE MAYER**



*secretary*  
**SHELLY MADDOX**



*dhh teacher*  
**HEATHER HORGEN**



*paraprofessional*  
**JESSICA MEDINA**



*paraprofessional*  
**PATIENCE HARRINGTON**



*dhh interpreter*  
**HANNAH WILSON**



*gsrp center assistant*  
**JAMIE STILES**



*paraprofessional*  
**AMBER NUMMER**



*dhh interpreter*  
**KAYLEY ZAMARRON**



# Jefferson Jaguars

We're thrilled to share some fantastic news about the upgrades and improvements that have taken place at our beloved elementary school over the summer break. Our dedicated team has been hard at work to enhance the learning environment and create an even more enriching experience for our students.

Enriched New Playground! We've expanded and revitalized our outdoor space, including a redesigned playground, basketball courts, and ADA-accessible ramp. The outdoor environments will encourage physical activity, social skills, creativity, and play.



**Jefferson's New Playground & Basketball Courts Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!**  
**4:15 pm, Wednesday, August 23, 2023**



✨ Refreshed spaces throughout the building: We added fresh, new carpet in some of our classrooms and hallways. Our stairways have a fresh look with new paint!

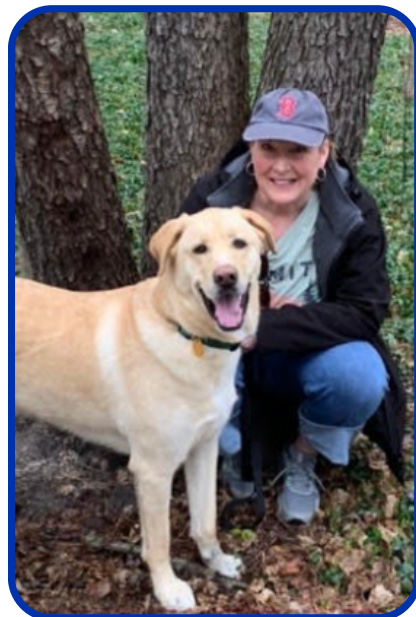


# Jefferson Jaguars



*New to Jefferson Elementary.* Meet Ms. Brooklyn Dearing, Resource Room Teacher! She graduated from Alma College in 2020, and is currently attending Grand Valley State University for her Master's degree in Special Education! For fun, she loves to go Rock Climbing! She has climbed in seven states and two Canadian Provinces. She also has two cats, Mittens, and Stitch. A fun fact about Ms. Dearing is that she has a twin sister who teaches second grade in the Upper Peninsula!

Meet Mrs. Mikaelian, first-grade teacher. This is her tenth year of teaching. She is certified to teach early childhood through 6th grade. Her family moved to Michigan in January of 2023. She and her husband Doug have two children. Connor is a ceramics artist and Cara Rose is studying to be an archivist/ library science major. They have a dog named Deacon and love to take him on long walks in the beautiful Michigan parks. She loves to garden and ride bikes. She feels honored to be part of the Jefferson Jaguars this year and excited to meet new friends, students and their families this year!



## JEFFERSON BREAKFAST BUDDIES TIMES

**Fifth Grade - September 19, 7:50 am**

**Fourth Grade - October 24, 7:50 am**

**Third Grade - November 21, 7:50 am**

**Second Grade - January 23, 7:50 am**

**First Grade - February 27, 7:50 am**

**K-Start/Kdg. - March 19, 7:10 am**

## JEFFERSON FALL 2023-2024 PARENT TEACHER GUILD MEETING DATES/TIMES

**September 12, 6:00 pm**

**October 17, 4:00 pm**

**November 14, 6:00 pm**

**December 12, 4:00 pm**

*Community 100 Year Celebration*

*Open House*

*5:30 pm - 6:30 pm*

*Wednesday, September 20*



# Rather Rams

New to Rather this school year is first grade teacher, Klairissa Loper. Miss Loper graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Alma College and did her student teaching at Portland Public Schools. The past two school years, Miss Loper has successfully taught first grade at Orchard View Public Schools in the Muskegon area. We feel very blessed to welcome Klairissa Loper to Rather's 2023-2024 teaching staff!



Rebecca Cadeau is also new to Rather and will be teaching kindergarten. Miss Cadeau taught kindergarten last school year at Twin Rivers Elementary and prior to that she taught five years of preschool followed by two years of kindergarten at Our Shepherd Lutheran School in Birmingham, Michigan. Miss Cadeau did her student teaching at Explorer Elementary in Kentwood Public Schools and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Grand Valley State University. We are very excited that Rebecca Cadeau will be part of our staff!

## **BUDDY BREAKFAST DATES & TIMES**

**Fifth Grade - September 7, 7:10 am**

**Fourth Grade - September 21, 7:10 am**

**Third Grade - October 5, 7:10 am**

**Second Grade - October 19, 7:10 am**

**First Grade - November 2, 7:10 am**

**K-Start/Kdg. - November 16, 7:10 am**

## **RATHER FALL 2023-2024 PARENT TEACHER GUILD MEETING DATES/TIMES**

**August 14, 5:30 pm**

**September 11, 6:00 pm**

**October 9, 6:00 pm**

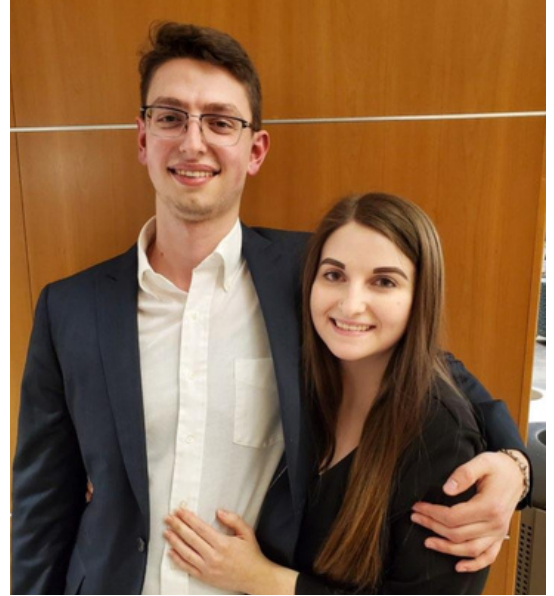
**November 13, 6:00 pm**





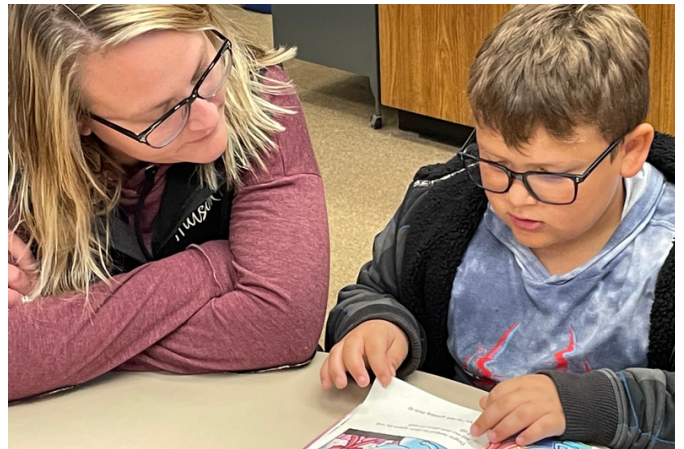
# Rather Rams

We would also like to welcome home Joseph Mayer, an Ionia High School graduate, who will be teaching music to our students. Mr. Mayer did his student teaching at Ada Elementary School and earned his Bachelor's of Music Education Degree from Grand Valley State University.



Over the summer we were able to add a new Rather Rams brick column wrapping to our pick-up and drop-off entrance area to help make it a more welcoming and visually appealing space.

Many thanks to all of our students and families who participated in the Ionia Community Library summer reading program as well as the Rather Summer Reading Incentive Program!



We look forward to welcoming all of our families to our Rather Open House which is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.



# Twin Rivers Panthers

We have several new staff members at Twin Rivers this year. Emma Shattuck is our new third-grade teacher. She is a 2017 Ionia High School graduate! She attended Grand Rapids Community College where she received her associate's degree and then Aquinas College where she received her bachelor's. She studied writing and literature in hopes of one day becoming a professor in the subject. She served as a long-term substitute Resource Room at Emerson Elementary at the end of the 2022/2023 school year. She was recently awarded the Grow Your Own grant from Ionia Public Schools to receive her Master's in Elementary Education.



Anne Piorunek is our new second-grade teacher. She has worked at TR as the English Language Learner instructor for the past several years. This will be her 12th year teaching at the elementary level. She lives in St. John's with her husband and three dogs. She has a daughter in college. She enjoys reading and spending time with her family.

## **TR Breakfast Buddies**

Kinderstart-1st Grades

Tuesday, October 3, 8:00 am

2nd-3rd Grades

Tuesday, February 6, 8:00 am

4th-5th Grades

Tuesday, May 7, 8:00 am



# Twin Rivers Panthers



Naomi Evams is our new K-2nd Autism classroom teacher. She is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and has spent most of her career working with children with autism in a clinical setting. This will be her first teaching position and she is very excited for a new challenge. She just moved to Wyoming, where she lives with her husband, Trent, and her cat, Lucy. She grew up in the Kalamazoo area and attended college first at Central Michigan University and then at the University of Maryland Baltimore College. In her free time, she enjoys reading, playing video games, and spending time with her family.

Beth Johnson is our new 3rd-5th grade Autism classroom teacher. She is an Ionia High School alumni and is very excited to be working with Ionia Public Schools. She will be starting her 12th year as a special education teacher this year. She graduated from Central Michigan University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a focus on Reading, Integrated Science, and Cognitive Impairments. She finished her Master of Special Education in Autism from Oakland University in 2016. She and her husband Robert live in Ionia with their children Ira and Gloria, dogs Booker and Magnum, and horse Skeet. In her free time she gardens, cans, hunts, and fishes with her family.



## TR Family-School Organization (FSO)

### Fall Meeting Dates, 5:00 pm

September 11

October 2

November 6

December 4



# Welch Warriors

We are excited to start a new school year at Douglas R. Welch High School! All Welch staff will be returning again, however we do have two Ionia High School teachers that will each teach one class per day to our students. We are fortunate to have them teach our students as well!



Mr. Chad Rhynard will be teaching English



Mrs. Michelle Tackmann will be teaching Math

## Important Dates

- September 20th - Welch Picture Day
- October 11th & 12th - Fall Parent Teacher Conferences
- March 6th & 7th - Spring Parent Teacher Conferences
- May 17 - Welch Graduation



## School & Department Phone Numbers

Boyce	616-527-0571
Emerson	616-527-8018
Jefferson	616-527-2740
Rather	616-527-1720
Twin Rivers	616-522-0005
Ionia Middle School	616-527-0040
Ionia High School	616-527-0600
Welch High School	616-527-3530
Transportation	616-527-9680
Special Education	616-841-4036
Maintenance	616-527-9680
Food Services	616-527-1731
Admin Office	616-527-9280



---

## **Title IX Law & Grievance Procedures at Ionia Public Schools**

Title IX prohibits harassment of both male and female students regardless of the sex of the harasser (i.e., even if the harasser and target are members of the same sex). It also prohibits gender-based harassment, which may include acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping. Thus, it can be sex discrimination if students are harassed either for exhibiting what is perceived as a stereotypical characteristic of their sex, or failing to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity and femininity. Title IX also prohibits sexual harassment and gender-based harassment of all students, regardless of the actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity of the harasser or target. Although Title IX does not prohibit discrimination based solely on sexual orientation, Title IX does protect all students, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students, from sex discrimination. When students are subjected to harassment on the basis of their LGBT status, they may also be subjected to forms of sex discrimination prohibited under Title IX. The fact that the harassment includes anti-LGBT comments or is partly based on the targets actual or perceived sexual orientation does not relieve a school of its obligation under Title IX to investigate and remedy overlapping sexual harassment or gender-based harassment.

### **District Compliance Officers**

The following administrators serve as the District's Compliance Officers (also known as Civil Rights Coordinators) – hereinafter referred to as the "COs".

Mr. Wayne Piercefield III  
Associate Superintendent  
616-527-9280  
250 E. Tuttle Rd  
Ionia, MI 48846  
wpiercefield@ioniaschools.org

Mrs. Alicia Thorlund  
Curriculum Director / DR Welch Principal  
616-527-3530  
250 E. Tuttle Rd  
Ionia, MI 48846  
athorlund@ioniaschools.org

### **Investigation and Complaint Procedure**

Any student who believes that s/he has been subjected to unlawful discrimination or retaliation may seek resolution of his/her complaint through the procedures described below. The formal complaint procedures involve an investigation of the individual's claims and a process for rendering a decision regarding whether the charges are substantiated.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful discrimination or retaliation, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint within thirty (30) calendar days after the conduct occurs. Once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed in a timely manner (ordinarily, within fifteen (15) business days of the complaint being received). The CO's will determine whether to do an informal or formal investigation based on board policy, including 2260. Details of the formal and informal investigation and appeal procedures can be found on the district website at [www.ioniaschools.org](http://www.ioniaschools.org).

# IPS 2023 - 2024 Calendar

## SEMESTER 1

August 2023							August 2023	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
							14	New Teacher Orientation
		1	2	3	4	5	15	6th-8th Grade Orientation
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	16	Staff PD All Day
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	17	Staff Welcome Back 1/2 day AM
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	First Day for Students
27	28	29	30	31				

September 2023							September 2023	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2	1	No School
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	4	Labor Day No School
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	22	Staff PD All Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

October 2023							October 2023	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
							4	Student Count Day
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	PTC K-5 5:00-7:30 PM
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	11	PTC 6-12 5:00-7:00 PM
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	Students AM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	12	PTC K-12 1-4PM, 5-7PM
29	30	31					13	No School

November 2023							November 2023	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4	1	Staff PD All Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	22-24	Thanksgiving Break
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30				

December 2023							December 2023	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2	21	Students AM Staff Records PM
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	22	Students AM Staff Records PM
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	22	End of First Semester
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	23-31	Winter Break
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								



# IPS 2023 - 2024 Calendar

## SEMESTER 2

January 2024							January 2024	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
							1-7	Winter Break
	1	2	3	4	5	6	12	Students AM Staff PLC PM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	No School - MLK Day
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30	31					

February 2024							February 2024	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	3	7	Student Count Day
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	16	Staff PD All Day
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	19	Mid-Winter Break - No School
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29				

March 2024							March 2024	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2	5	PTC K-5 5:00-7:30 PM
							6	PTC 6-12 5:00-7:00 PM
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	Students AM PTC K-8 1-4, 5-7PM
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	PTC 9-12 1:00-3:30, 5-7 PM
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	8	No School
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	11	Staff PD All Day
31							29	No School - Good Friday

April 2024							April 2024	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
							1-5	Spring Break
	1	2	3	4	5	6	17	Freshman Welcome 6:30-7:30 PM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	17	Freshman Welcome Staff 6-7:30 PM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30						

May 2024							May 2024	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
							24	Students AM Staff PLC PM
			1	2	3	4	27	Memorial Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	31	Students AM Staff Full Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

June 2024							June 2024	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
						1	6	Students AM Staff Full Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	Last Day Students Half Day All
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30								



250 E. Tuttle Rd  
Ionia, MI 48846

---

### **24 Hour Attendance Lines**

Boyce Elementary 616 - 527 - 8011

Emerson Elementary 616 - 527 - 8045

Jefferson Elementary 616 - 527 - 8048

Rather Elementary 616 - 527 - 8033

Twin Rivers Elementary 616 - 522 - 0007

Ionia Middle School 616 - 527 - 8044

Ionia High School 616 - 527 - 2780

DR Welch High School 616 - 527 - 3530

### **Board of Education**

Danielle Yokom, President

Ken Baker, Vice President

Margot Cook, Secretary

Dayna Ellis, Treasurer

Robin Marhofer, Trustee

Tim Montgomery, Trustee

Brian Siemen, Trustee



[www.ioniaschools.org](http://www.ioniaschools.org)