



June 2017

Indian River High School

# Parent Newsletter

**IRHS Mission Statement:** The mission of Indian River High School is to maximize each student's potential to promote lifelong learning, and to produce contributing members of society by providing a globally competitive education which meets student needs and encourages innate and mutual respect among students, parents, staff, and the community in a safe and diverse environment.

## Inside this issue:

Principal's Letter	1
Foreign Language Department	2
100 Best WISE Schools	2
Guidance Information	3-4
Art Department	4
Senior Dates and Reminders	4
Graduation Information	4
Yearbook Information	3
Spring Musical Production	4
Concert Band State Assessment	4
City-Wide Baccalaureate	4
2017 Indian River Art Show	5
IRHS Calendar	6

Dear Parents:

As the year comes to a close, I would like to express my appreciation for your support of your child and our school. The theme "Crossover to Excellence...One Brave at a Time" represents the passion of our faculty and staff and students. As a school family, we will continue to focus on setting high expectations and to cultivate a climate of perseverance.

I would also like to wish a warm farewell to several extraordinary staff members: Mrs. Brillhart, Mrs. Chaine, Ms. McPherson, Ms. Nestor, Ms. Roscoe, Mr. Satterfield, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Spellman, Ms. Taylor-Haynes, and Mrs. White. Together, they have committed 129 years of service to the educational profession. In addition, they have made a significant impact on our school and the lives of our students. We wish you well in retirement, in your new positions, and in your future endeavors.

Finally, I would like to wish the best of luck to our 400 graduating seniors. By the end of May, I will have met with each senior to discuss their future plans. As a result of these meetings, I am able to hear of their future plans for pursuing degrees in college, entering the workforce, and joining our Armed Forces. I truly enjoy the opportunity to get a personal insight into their ambitions. I believe in my heart they will be successful! Additionally, I encourage the entire student body to finish the year strong.

Have a safe and wonderful summer. I look forward to partnering with students, parents, staff, and community members again next year.

Sincerely,

*Naomi Dunbar*

Naomi Dunbar

## Foreign Language Department

The Foreign Language Department is excited to announce the results of the AAPPL Foreign Language Proficiency Test. Those students receiving a score of 1-2 or higher will receive a biliteracy seal on their diplomas. This is the first year the test has been offered to Virginia students, and of the thirteen students who took the test in April, nine scored high enough to be awarded the seal. We are very proud these nine German students, one of which received a score of "Superior Advanced."



In other Foreign Language Department news, Joel Upperman has been accepted to attend the Governor's German Academy at Washington and Lee University in July. In order to be accepted, Joel had to pass a speaking and writing test in German that is developed by the DOE. Only the top scoring 40 German students in the state are accepted. Indian River is proud of Joel's achievements.



The 100 Best Wise High Schools recognizes schools of excellence for student achievement on the Financial Literacy Certification examination and for exceptional leadership in preparing young people to make intelligent financial decisions.

## Guidance Information

**Course Request Letters** – Course request letters for the 2017-2018 school year were mailed home in March 2017. This was Indian River’s official notification of the classes that our students signed up for next year. Changes were due by the end of March. At this point, course request changes will not be made unless there is an academic reason. If you still need to make a course request change, you will need to make an appointment over the summer to see if it is still possible.



**10<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic and Career Plans** – On May 24, all 10<sup>th</sup> graders brought home their MP 07 report cards and their updated Academic and Career Plans (ACP’s). Parents/Guardians should review this information printed on buff paper with their 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Progress Reports** – On May 24, all 11<sup>th</sup> graders brought home their MP07 report cards and updates on where each 11<sup>th</sup> grader is in his/her progress in meeting graduation requirements in order to graduate in June 2018. Parents/Guardians should review this information printed on blue paper with their 11<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Summer School Registration** – Students are now able to register for summer school with their guidance counselors through noon on June 13, 2017. Summer School information is available on the Chesapeake Schools and IRHS websites. Classes are \$300. Reduced rates are available for students who are eligible for free/reduced meals. Students can take only 1 class in summer school (unless they are graduating seniors). In order to register, students must bring cash or check to the counselor. There will be no registration from June 13 (after 12:00) through June 19. Beginning June 20, students can register with the summer school counselor at Indian River High School. In order to register starting June 20, students will first need to get a registration slip from the regular IRHS guidance counselor and then pay with the summer school counselor at IRHS.

### Who needs to go to summer school?

1. Students who have failed a course during the year and would like to make it up during the summer. Remember: students must pass English every year in order to be promoted to the next grade level. Students must pass four classes to be promoted to 10<sup>th</sup> grade; ten classes to be promoted to 11<sup>th</sup> grade; and 15 classes to be promoted to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Students must also pass the appropriate number of SOL tests to be promoted.
2. Students who are fall or winter athletes and need to take a class to bring their GPA’s above a 2.0.
3. Remember that summer school is not mandatory.

Below are the promotion requirements from one grade level to the next:

- ★ **9<sup>th</sup> grade to 10<sup>th</sup> grade** – the successful completion of four credits (including English) and one verified credit (passing a science, history, or math class and the corresponding SOL test).
- ★ **10<sup>th</sup> grade to 11<sup>th</sup> grade** - the successful completion of ten credits (including two English credits) and three verified credits (passing one science, one history, and one math class and the corresponding SOL tests).
- ★ **11<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade** - the successful completion of fifteen credits (including three English credits) and four verified credits (including at least passing one science, one history, one math, and one English). **If a student fails English 11 in 11<sup>th</sup> grade and retakes English 11 in 12<sup>th</sup> grade, he will be classified as an 11<sup>th</sup> grader for the first part of the senior year.**

## Guidance Information (continued)

**Class of 2017 Graduation Information** –College bound seniors are reminded to request a final transcript through Parchment to be sent to their college of choice. Colleges require that they receive these final transcripts to complete the registration process. Transcripts will be released to the colleges by June 30. Seniors should be aware that final transcripts won't be ready until June 28, so plan your summer college registration days accordingly. Seniors are also reminded that their Parchment account will be attached to them forever, and that they should remember their e-mail address and password so that they may order transcripts in the future. After August 1, seniors will be considered alumni and there will be a fee for requesting transcripts through Parchment.

**Final report cards** will be mailed home on June 19, 2017. If you have moved recently, please make sure the school has your correct address by bringing a copy of a current utility bill to the guidance department. Final report cards are **not** stamped with promotion status on them. Parents and students can also check StudentVue and ParentVue for final grades.



### Art Department

This past April, students from Chesapeake had ART work displayed in the City Wide ART Show. Two of Indian River's top artists had their work recognized and were selected to be displayed in the School Administration Building.

Congratulations to Kyle Alexander (11th Grade) and Christa Horner (9th Grade) for your hard work and passion for your craft.

## Senior Dates and Reminders

- ★ June 6 Distribution of additional graduation tickets (up to 10) in Commons Area during lunches.
- ★ June 6 Seniors notified if they are exempt from exams
- ★ June 7 Senior exams alternate day block
- ★ June 8 Senior exams 1st and 4th blocks
- ★ June 9 Senior exams – 2nd and 3rd blocks
- ★ June 11 City-wide Baccalaureate at 4:00 p.m. at Oscar Smith High School. Please wear caps and gowns.
- ★ June 15 MANDATORY graduation practice at 9:15 a.m. in the IRHS auditorium; do not wear your cap/gown
- ★ June 15 Senior cookout after graduation practice
- ★ June 16 Graduation at the Ted Constant Center at 4:15 p.m. Seniors should arrive by 3:00 p.m. Doors open to parents and guests at 3:15 p.m.
- ★ June 30 Final transcripts will be sent to colleges by Guidance IF requested through Parchment



## Graduation Information

### Graduation and Graduation Tickets:

Graduation will be held at 4:15 p.m. on Friday, June 16, 2017, at the Ted Constant Convocation Center on the ODU campus. The ceremony will last approximately 1 hour. There will be a graduation practice the day before graduation at IRHS in the auditorium at 9:15 a.m. Graduation practice is MANDATORY. On June 1st, during lunches, all seniors will receive 10 tickets for family and friends to attend graduation. An extra set of 10 tickets may be picked up on June 6th during lunches in the Commons Area.

### Graduation Attire:

All IRHS seniors will wear a navy blue cap and gown. You must wear a cap and gown at graduation. If you have not paid Balfour for your cap and gown, please do so immediately. If you did not order or pay for a cap and gown, you will need to contact Balfour at 420-2233. Gentlemen should wear dress pants (no jeans or shorts), a buttoned oxford shirt and tie, dark socks and dark dress shoes (no tennis shoes or "deck" shoes). Ladies should wear a dress/skirt/pant suit and appropriate shoes (no tennis shoes). Please be reminded: seniors will wear gowns at the Senior Awards Assembly on June 2. All seniors should come to this assembly.

### Baccalaureate:

Baccalaureate is a non-denominational religious ceremony before graduation for all Chesapeake seniors. This ceremony will be held on June 11 at 4:00 p.m. at Oscar Smith High School. Seniors should arrive at 3:30 p.m. This is an optional event for seniors; however, five \$100 scholarships will be awarded to five seniors who attend this one hour event. Refreshments will be served. Parents and other family members are invited to attend. Seniors who attend should wear their caps and gowns.



## IRHS Calendar (dates are subject to change)

- ★ June 5 Geometry EOC SOL
- ★ June 5-6 WISE Retesting
- ★ June 5 Athletic Banquet at 6:00 p.m.
- ★ June 6 Algebra 2 EOC SOL
- ★ June 6 Senior Take-Over Day
- ★ June 6 Orchestra & Chorus Concert
- ★ June 6 Distribution of additional graduation tickets (up to 10) in Commons Area during lunches.
- ★ June 6 Seniors notified if they are exempt from exams
- ★ June 7 Science EOC Expedited and Make ups
- ★ June 7 Senior exams alternate day block
- ★ June 8 Algebra 1 EOC Expedited and Make ups
- ★ June 8 Senior exams 1st and 4th blocks
- ★ June 9 Geometry and Algebra 2 EOC Expedited and Make ups
- ★ June 9 Senior exams 2nd and 3rd blocks
- ★ June 10 Saturday School (9:00-12:00)
- ★ June 11 City-wide Baccalaureate at 4:00 p.m. at Oscar Smith High School. Please wear caps and gowns.
- ★ June 12 SOL Makeups
- ★ June 15 MANDATORY graduation practice at 9:15 a.m. in the IRHS auditorium; do not wear your cap/gown
- ★ June 15 Senior cookout after graduation practice
- ★ June 16 Graduation at the Ted Constant Center at 4:15 p.m. Seniors should arrive by 3:00 p.m. Doors open to parents and guests at 3:15 p.m.
- ★ June 20 Students can register with the summer school counselor at Indian River High School.
- ★ June 21 Final report cards will be mailed home
- ★ June 26 The first day of summer school
- ★ June 30 Final transcripts will be sent to colleges by Guidance IF requested through Parchment