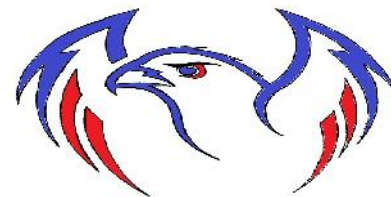


# The Hawk



June

2013

Innovation Academy Charter School

## All School Reminders

5/31	Middle School Art Show 7-9PM
6/3	IACA Meeting 6:30-8:30PM
6/3	Band/Chorus Concert 7PM
6/4	MS/HS Dance Team Recital 4PM
6/5	Full Day Wednesday
6/12	Full Day Wednesday
6/17	IACA Board Meeting 6:30-8:30PM
6/19	Last day of school - <b>early release 1:00PM</b>

## Mark your calendar

**The first day of school for the 2013-2014 school year will be Tuesday, August 27th.** The first week of school will be a 3 day week with no school on Friday, August 30th or Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day. The complete 2013-2014 school calendar will be released later in June.



## **2013 IACS Student and Staff Year-End BBQ Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Dismissal will be at 1:00 PM**

It's time to celebrate the last day of school with the IACS Staff & Student Year-End BBQ. (Due to planning considerations, we are **not** able to accommodate family members) **To make this a success, your help is needed!**

**Volunteers:** Set-up Crew: 9:00 AM  
Cooks: 9:30AM-12:00 PM  
Servers: 9:45AM-12:00 PM  
Clean-up Crew: 12:00 PM

Items to be provided by the IACA: cheeseburgers/hamburgers, hot dogs and Boca Burgers

**Items needed for donation (please have to school by 9:00 AM or before)**

- Salads (pasta, potato, garden and fruit)
- Rolls (hamburgers and hotdogs ~ by the dozen)
- Desserts (NUT-FREE cookies or brownies ~ by the dozen)
- Sliced Watermelon
- Chips (family size bags of 40% reduced fat Cape Cod brand)
- Condiments (ketchup, mustard and relish)
- Paper Plates
- Other creative BBQ favorites

To volunteer or donate any of the above, please e-mail Kerry Wellenstein  
[wellensteins@comcast.net](mailto:wellensteins@comcast.net) or call (978)-551-2759.

**If you have already responded, please disregard this notice**

**Volunteer Opportunities for 2013-2014 School Year** Can you help by making a regular commitment to volunteer at IACS next school year? We are arranging volunteers to help take away some of the administrative tasks that teachers need to complete, in order to give more time to focus on teaching and learning. We are looking for parents that will make a regular (weekly or biweekly) commitment to:

- Make copies
- Help staff supervise students at lunch, recess, or before school (this would be with other staff but help reduce the overall amount of supervisory duties for teachers each week to allow more time to focus on curricular planning, assessment, etc. Please contact Sandy Turner at [sturner@innovationcharter.org](mailto:sturner@innovationcharter.org) if you can make a regular commitment to volunteer in one of these capacities next year.

## **Join us for Drama Camp & Glee Camp 2013**

For students going into Grade 5 through 12

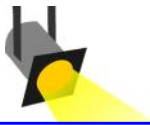
**Drama Camp is 8:30-3:30, July 8 through July 12**

with a public performance on Friday night!

**Glee Camp is 8:30-3:30, July 15 through July 19**

with a public musical, drama and dance production on Friday night! Don't miss your opportunity to shine on the IACS stage!

*Registration forms are in the front office lobby.*



# Middle School Updates

## Curriculum Spotlight:

This month's curriculum spotlight focuses on the importance of summer reading. Researchers estimate that school summer breaks cause the average student to lose up to one month of instruction. In the article, "Bridging the Summer Reading Gap", researchers Richard Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen state, "The best predictor of summer loss or summer gain is whether or not a child reads during the summer. And the best predictor of whether a child reads is whether or not he or she has access to books."

To this end, much of the IACS summer packet focuses on bolstering literacy skills. These packets will be distributed to students during the last week of school. Students will read fiction texts and complete assignments to show their comprehension of the text for English/Language Arts. The 5/6 Science and Social Studies assignments involve researching and reading a current event in the newspaper, a magazine, or website. Students will read a historical fiction novel of their choice for their 7/8 Social Studies assignment. Our hope is these assignments will keep students reading this summer and provide some background introduction and excitement for some of the upcoming units of study.

What else can families do to encourage reading this summer?

1. Help your child find books that "fit". Help your child explore which genres, authors, etc. your child likes to read.
2. Visit the library often!
3. Stock the house with reading materials- from magazines to newspapers. Even recipes are great to read aloud and savor. Consider a subscription to a kids' magazine or checking out a magazine at the local library.
4. Read aloud together; if you haven't done this with your child since they were younger, give it a try. Students often enjoy being read to even as teenagers.
5. Help your child try a book on CD or download and listen to a book on ipod as they follow along in the text.
6. Join a summer reading program at your local library or a bookstore, like Barnes & Noble.
7. Be a good role model- model and enjoy reading yourself!

## Celebrate the Arts at Innovation!

### Middle School Art Show - Friday, May 31, 7-9 PM.

Join us for an exhibition of original student art by students in grades 5 - 8. Enjoy a wide variety of works, including paintings, drawings, collages, and short clay-animated movies! Hope to see you there!

### Music Concert

Enjoy an evening with the middle school band, middle school chorus, and high school chorus on **Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM**

### Dance Team Recital- Innovation

Dance Team Presents Boston Strong 2013...Students, family and faculty- please join us at the Quonset Hut on **Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-5 PM** to see our competition pieces. Free admission, free desserts, and one free raffle ticket per guest. Hope to see you there to support our dancers!



**The 8th Grade Moving Up Assembly** will be held in our school auditorium from 8:15-9:15 AM on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**. Eighth grade students have a ceremony including a retrospective account of middle school written by students and recognition of students' completion of middle school. This will be followed by a continental breakfast for students and their guests. **Due to space constraints in the auditorium, students are limited to no more than two guests at the assembly.** Please respect this rule to ensure all that attend can be seated.

### Family Orientation:

**All new high school families need to attend a High School Orientation.** This orientation should be attended by the student and at least one parent/guardian. Each session will be led by High School Principal Greg Orpen and will give you important information about transition to high school. Please plan to attend one of these sessions.

Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5:00-6:00 PM

Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-4:30 PM

In order to plan for an accurate number of families, please call or email Kathleen Feeney, ([kfeeney@innovationcharter.org](mailto:kfeeney@innovationcharter.org)) as soon as possible. If you are unable to attend one of the scheduled sessions, please let Kathleen know.

### Yearbook Reminders:

The Middle School Yearbook is still available to order until June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the regular price of \$23! Forms are available at the front office, Peggy's desk and can be printed by Homebase teachers. Don't wait until the last minute, order your yearbook NOW and have cherished memories of 2012-2013 at IACS forever.

**8th Grade Semi-Formal: Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at IACS** from 7:00- 10:00 PM. This is always a fun night, and we are hoping to have 100% student participation this year. At school, we will share plans with students so that they may look forward to this last celebration with their eighth grade classmates, while at the same time ensuring that students understand how this is distinguishable from a formal event, like a prom. Girls may opt to wear a simple party dress. Gowns, short mini-dresses or other revealing dresses are not permitted. Boys may opt to wear a collared dress shirt and dress pants. **Tuxedos are not permitted. Limousines are not permitted. Students must be at school for the entirety of the school day in order to attend the dance.** Permission slips have been sent home and should be returned to main office as soon as possible.

**Lost and found** will be on display in the library at the end of the school year. Please stop by and see if anything is yours. All unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity on Wednesday, June 19.



# High School Updates

## Learning Spotlight:

As the 2012-2013 school year draws to a close, seniors are putting the final touches on their year-long capstone work: Senior Project. In addition to five regular academic classes, our soon-to-be graduates have spent the year developing, exploring, and researching topics of their own choosing. Seniors were given the opportunity to ask questions they are genuinely curious about, and pursue meaningful and well-researched answers. In many ways, Senior Project is the ultimate elective.

Their work has taken them through four major phases: research, application, presentation, and reflection. The preliminary development of their topics and their initial research began in the fall, when students drafted Essential Questions, developed sub-questions, compiled sources, and searched for an expert.

Second semester began with a more formal and in-depth research phase, during which they developed annotated bibliographies and compiled information to answer their sub-questions. In March, students then proposed and executed an applied piece that demonstrated and synthesized their learning and research. In May, while underclassmen participated in Presentations of Learning, Seniors hosted their own presentations, during which they shared their research and applied pieces with the IACS community. In the last few weeks, Seniors have spent their time reflecting on their work overall and developing a formal answer to the Essential Question they posed in the fall.

This capstone experience represents a significant step towards bridging the gap between high school and college work and expectations.

## High School Lost & Found

Items from the Lost & Found will be arranged on tables in the hallway between the middle and high school during the week of June 3. Please take some time to check for items your child might not even know are missing! Unclaimed items will be donated to charity after June 7.

Thank you!

**Last Bash:** Last Bash is to provide our Class of 2013 with a post-grad party! At this time of year, only one thing is on the minds of high school seniors across the country: GRADUATION! Unfortunately, it historically has also been one of the most deadly nights for teens. **Graduation celebrations should be fun, not fatal!** The *Senior Last Bash* will be a substance-free celebration filled with food, fun and entertainment for our graduating seniors. High Schools across the country report that their events are a huge success, providing wonderful memories to graduates and peace of mind to families. It also sends a message to our students that their achievement and safety is a priority to family, friends and community. To make this possible for our 2013 graduating class, we need to raise money & have plenty of volunteers and community support. The support of the entire school community is essential to creating this annual event. **We are counting on everyone to help us celebrate the Class of 2013! The Class of 2013 has worked hard and deserves a party to remember!** Parents from all grade levels are encouraged to get involved so when your child is a senior, they too can enjoy this event. We hope every family will donate at least \$20.13. Money not used this year will be used as seed money for future classes. To donate, simply send a check to the IACS Main Office. Please write Last Bash on the envelope. **Checks may be made out to IACA (Innovation Academy Community Association). Memo: Last Bash**

**If you would like volunteer your time to help with planning, decorating or chaperoning, contact Tracy Leedberg at [lastbash@innovationcharter.org](mailto:lastbash@innovationcharter.org).**

## Internships:

Congratulations to all Juniors and Seniors who completed their internship this past week. It was great to hear students speak about their experiences at our internship mentor breakfast this past week.

If there are any community members who know of a business or non profit group that would like to host a high school student for an internship for the 2013-14 school year please contact Tina Lindberg at [tlindberg@innovationcharter.org](mailto:tlindberg@innovationcharter.org)

## College Corner:

\*All 11<sup>th</sup> graders should be scheduling their "Third College Meeting" with Mr. Barr before June (student meeting sign-up sheets are on his door).

\*Thank you to English Teacher Mr. Gross for running an excellent College Essay Writing Workshop for all the 11<sup>th</sup> graders .

\*Next SAT Exam (including Subject Test(s)) is on Sat. June 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*Next ACT Exam is on Sat. June 8<sup>th</sup>.

\*Teacher Recommendation Letter Request Forms are due to Mr. Barr by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

11<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents should check their email for important information and deadlines through the "College Counseling News and Notes." Email Mr. Barr with any questions: [dbarr@innovationcharter.org](mailto:dbarr@innovationcharter.org).



Innovation Academy Community Association  
iaca.weebly.com

Next IACA Meeting

Monday  
June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30 - 8:30pm



## It's election time!

Congratulations to **Lori DiMattia** who is the newly elected President of IACA and to **Paula Girouard**, who will be serving a second term as IACA Treasurer! If you are interested in serving as an officer in the 2013-2014 school year the, Vice President Elect is a one year term in preparation for possibly filling the President chair the following year. We also have the Secretary chair which is mostly taking the minutes of the meeting and providing research. If you are interested in running for any of these seats, please contact Lori DiMattia: [iacapresident@gmail.com](mailto:iacapresident@gmail.com). IACA also thanks **Valerie Clark** for her great effort serving as IACA President for the last two years.

## Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Semi-Formal:** The 8<sup>th</sup> Grad Semi-Formal will be held on Friday Evening June 7<sup>th</sup> from 7-10PM.

If you have any questions or would like to help please contact Kerry Wellenstein at [Wellensteins@comcast.net](mailto:Wellensteins@comcast.net).

**8th Grade Moving Up and HS Graduation Reception:** If you are interested in helping with the HS Graduation reception or the 8th grade moving up ceremony please contact Lori DiMattia at [lolidimattia@comcast.net](mailto:lolidimattia@comcast.net).

**Last Bash Party:** If you are interested in helping with the graduation night **Last Bash Party** please contact Tracy Leedberg at [lastbash@innovationcharter.org](mailto:lastbash@innovationcharter.org).

**Need DJ's:** The Middle School dance committee is recruiting volunteer DJ's for the 2013- 2014 school year. Please e-mail Lisa Reed at [treed@comcast.net](mailto:treed@comcast.net) if you are interested in becoming a DJ for the middle school dances. Training is provided. The commitment includes ensuring prior, to the night of the dance, that DJ equipment and components are in storage, arriving at the school on the evening of the designated dance at 6:15, setting up the equipment (with assistance) playing music/dance games, giving out prizes, having fun and then, at the end of the evening, breaking down and storing the equipment.

**Hospitality Chair:** We are looking for a Hospitality Chair for the 2013-2014 School year. The Hospitality chair is responsible to greet new parents at open houses and other community events as an IACA representative while you pass out baked goods, water and information contact [iacapresident@gmail.com](mailto:iacapresident@gmail.com)



## Baseball Boxtop Competition

The Annual IACS Boxtop baseball competition is well under way. Homebase Edelman is off to an incredible start with 10 runs! (1 run = 100 boxtops) Homebase Rowling is right behind them with 6 runs. How is your homebase/advisory doing? Boxtops can be submitted in the monster box in the cafeteria or in the HS breezeway. We've started polishing the trophy so send in those boxtops!

**Boxtops sent in last year earned the IACS over \$2000!!**