



Indian Trail High School & Academy

# Newsletter

Greetings Hawk Families and Happy August!

As hard as it may be to believe, the 2021-2022 school year is just a few weeks away. I hope that you have had a relaxing and restful summer as we are about to get things up and running for what I know is going to be a GREAT year!!!

After coming off one of the most challenging school years ever, we are extremely focused as a staff and have learned many valuable lessons over the past year that will help us provide an even higher quality education than before. We saw so many amazing things last spring and summer that reminded us of the critical role our student academic and athletic activities play in bringing our building to life. We are committed to doing everything we can to ensure ALL STUDENTS have the best chance of graduating from high school and chasing whatever dream they may have after graduation. Our parents/guardians are critical partners in that process and we look forward to earning your continued trust and support throughout the year.

Having a commitment to success is something that we take seriously. The responsibility for student success is a shared one which means that we all play a critical role in determining the success or setbacks our students may experience. The school environment, the home environment, and the choices/commitments made by our students must be strong and balanced. When all three of those things are balanced appropriately, students have the best chance at achieving their goals. For most students, those three things get out of balance at various points throughout the year and that is when we must communicate effectively and help get those items back into balance. If we all work hard on the things that we have control over, our students will flourish and I can't wait to see the successes they will have this year.

While we continue to sort out everything related to the ongoing pandemic and school operations, all of our students will be returning to learning in person this year and that is really exciting news as we really missed the positive energy and spirit that our students bring to our school. About half of our student body will be somewhat new to the building, so this is a really exciting opportunity for us to work together and embrace this opportunity to redefine what being a "Hawk" is all about.

In order to help get everyone ready for the upcoming school year, we have compiled a list of commonly asked questions in August. Please review the questions and answers provided below. If you have any questions that you cannot find the answer to below, please contact us and we will get you the answers you need.

On behalf of the ITHSA staff, it is truly a privilege and honor to be able to serve the greatest families in southeast Wisconsin! Have a great evening and, as always, GO HAWKS!!!!!!!

Sincerely,

Scott Kennow, Principal

## INDIAN TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL AND ACADEMY

### SUMMER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Is there a school supply list?** What does my student need for the start of the school year? We recommend that families keep things simple and purchase 7 folders, 7 notebooks, pens/pencils, and a backpack to carry all their things. Wait until your student's teachers recommend specific items for them. There may be items specific to the course your student is taking.

**When do athletics start for the fall season?** Football, volleyball, cross country, and swimming are starting to host open gyms and practice already. If you are interested in participating this year and have not yet contacted the head coach, please do so as soon as possible. There are forms and fees available

online: <https://www.kusd.edu/departments/teaching-and-learning/athletics/athletic-opportunities>

**When will the yearbooks from last school year be ready for pickup?** Those of you who ordered a yearbook last year can pick them up at the auditorium entrance on August 11th from 8 a.m. to Noon or on August 12th from 1 - 6 p.m. These are for pre-ordered books ONLY. For questions regarding yearbooks, please contact Michelle Corbett at [mcorbett@kusd.edu](mailto:mcorbett@kusd.edu).

**When can I buy the yearbook for the upcoming school year?** Stay tuned for information regarding the upcoming yearbook. They will be available for purchase online in the very near future. Our yearbook staff does an AMAZING job with our yearbook and has been recognized nationally. It is well worth the money, so please purchase one each year for some great memories.

[Yearbook & Senior Tribute Ordering](#)

**When can my student sign up for clubs or other activities?** Unfortunately, we are not able to do this prior to the start of the school year due to the pandemic restrictions still in place. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for clubs/activities during lunch periods during the first few weeks of school.

**When is school picture day?** Is it different for seniors? School picture days are August 11 and 12 from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. There will be a make up day for those who wish to have their picture retaken or for those who missed the August dates. Picture make-up day will be September 15th during the school day only.

Link to order/view pictures: [School Pictures](#)

Senior Portrait Ordering Information: [Senior Portrait Information](#)

**How does my student get their school ID?** School IDs will be printed and passed out to students during their Hawk time if they had their picture taken. If your student didn't get their picture taken and they need a school ID sooner than the retake day, students can request an ID

in our Office of Student Management (OSM). Students receive a free ID if they have their picture taken. Individual IDs can be printed at the school for \$1.50 (cash only).

**When does my student get their schedule for the upcoming school year?** Schedules will be released after August 17th. Once released, registered students will be able to view their schedules on their Infinite Campus account. If you have not yet downloaded Infinite Campus on your phone, please do so as this is great information for students and parents about attendance, grades, homework, and more. If you cannot remember your password, call our helpdesk at 359-7700.

**What do I do if we have a concern about my student's schedule?** Any questions about student schedules should be directed to our guidance staff. Counselors are assigned based on last names. You can access your counselor's contact information on the Indian Trail website.

**When will I find out about my student's transportation?** Transportation letters will be mailed home as soon as schools receive them. We do not generate them from school, so these typically are sent to us near the last week of August. There is no charge for yellow buses and they are assigned by route.

**How do we get a bus pass for the city bus routes?** If you are riding the city bus, students will receive a bus pass at no charge. This bus pass can be picked up at school during lunch. The first three days of school, our transit system does not charge students to ride. This gives them enough time to pick up their pass from school. If you do not qualify for bussing, there is a charge for riding the bus. This is all through Kenosha Transit System and has nothing to do with KUSD. However, school rules do apply to students riding a bus to school and home after school.

**When is the first day of school? What is the schedule for day 1?** The first day of school is September 1st. Our incoming freshmen students will start the day out at 7:30 a.m. All other students will begin their day at 10 a.m. Transportation will be running on this adjusted schedule, so students will be able to get to school on time.

**Is there an orientation for our incoming 9th grade students?** We will have two opportunities for incoming 9th grade students to participate in orientation activities. On August 17th we will have our Open House for 9th grade students ONLY. Due to current restrictions related to COVID-19, only Indian Trail 9th graders will be permitted into the building for this activity. Each tour and related activities last about 45 minutes from when your student arrives. Please plan accordingly. More information will be communicated regarding this activity. The second opportunity will be on the first day of school.

**Does my student need to have their laptop/chromebook for the first day of school?** YES...YES...YES. Students must always have a fully charged Chromebook or Laptop that was issued by KUSD. Students are NOT permitted to bring in their own personal devices for a number of security reasons. Please be sure to bring your charging cord just in case, but students should charge overnight and be ready for learning when the bell rings.

**Does Indian Trail have a dress code?** Yes! The most common offenses are students who wear hats, have their hoodies pulled up over their heads, or have clothing on that does not fit appropriately. We want to focus on learning and avoid conflicts with students regarding dress code issues. Your help in supporting us with this is greatly appreciated. For full dress code rules, please visit: <https://www.kusd.edu/schools/student-dress-code>

**Are visitors allowed in the school?** As of right now, our current plan does NOT allow visitors into the building. Only Indian Trail staff and students are permitted at this time. We will communicate any changes with this policy as we learn more.

**What is the schedule this year for class periods?** There is a new schedule in place this year and we are very excited about it. We have listened to our students, staff, and parents and the result is a new schedule. Our new schedule provides opportunities for staff to work closely with students on academics, activities, and more without sacrificing learning time. Students will be requested by staff or sign up to meet with certain teachers as necessary on a weekly basis. This is a major improvement for our school and we are very excited to see the difference it makes.

**What are the start and end times for the school day?** Students are expected to be in their seats and ready to learn by 7:30 a.m. School dismisses for all students at 3 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Friday dismissal is at 2 p.m. Staff members use the last hour of the day on Friday to review assessments results, trends in student learning, and work together to make sure departments are being as effective as possible for our students and families.

**How does lunch work at school?** Continuing in 2021-2022, KUSD schools will provide breakfast and lunch to students at no cost. When students go to lunch, they have 30 minutes to eat and get ready for their next class. We have a closed campus, so students are NOT permitted to leave. We also do not permit students to order lunches and have them delivered as this created a number of issues for students and cafeteria staff. Due to our size, we have four lunch sessions. In most cases, students will start a class, break for lunch, and then return to that same class to finish. No instructional minutes are lost, but it allows students to eat at a reasonable time.

**How do students get a locker?** Students are not assigned a locker unless they request one. Students can request a locker by filling out the form on our school website:

[Request Student Locker](#)

**How much time do students have between classes?** Passing time between classes is five minutes. While this doesn't seem like a lot of time, students are able to make it to classes without any issues. Students in our music programs usually have the furthest to travel and the teachers accommodate for this. If there are any concerns throughout the school year, please contact the school. Excessive tardiness to class not only results in loss of instructional time, but also may result in disciplinary action. Students are encouraged to limit the extra social interaction for before school, lunch, or after school.

**What time can students be dropped off?** What if the weather is bad? For Indian Trail, our commons area opens up at 6:45 a.m. and we have security personnel available to supervise. However, students are expected to come in and behave appropriately. Students are not permitted to leave the commons areas. Breakfast is always available for students at that time as well. Between 7:10 and 7:30, the main drop off area is very, very congested. We advise parents to arrive prior to 7:10 to drop off students. Students will be marked tardy at 7:30 a.m. and traffic congestions or normal traffic delays will not be excused.

**What time do students have to be picked up?** If you are picking up your student after school, they will be expected to wait outside for you. Students are not permitted to stay inside school to wait for parents as we have after school activities going on regularly and staff is not available to supervise. As the weather gets colder, please make arrangements so your student is not having to wait outside in the cold temperatures.

**What kind of academic support is offered to students?** This year we have a brand new schedule in place that we are very excited about. We took the lessons we learned from last year and found a way to create a schedule that now gives our students additional opportunities to work with teachers during the day for academic support. Students will have an advisory period called “Hawk Time” every Monday. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, students will be able to attend sessions with departments they need additional support with. For example, if I am struggling with something we are learning this week in Math, I can meet with a teacher in the math department who will help me understand the concepts better and not fall behind. I can also make up missing assignments or take assessments that are needed. If I am a student who is academically on track, I can sign up for certain activities that I am interested in or take advantage of some extra study hall time. This will all be explained to students and we will use a system to monitor everything related to it.

**When is Homecoming?** Will there be a dance or parade? Our Homecoming football game is scheduled for Friday, October 1st. As of this newsletter, the parade and dance are still in discussion, pending the outcome of the school board meeting on August 24th and additional discussions to follow. Once we know for sure that we will be able to have a dance, we will announce that immediately. IF we have a dance, it would take place here at Indian Trail on Saturday, October 2nd in the evening. Stay tuned for more information.

**What are the procedures for attendance?** Please take a few minutes to review the information found in the link below related to our attendance procedures. With your cooperation and awareness of our procedures, we can make sure that our attendance process is extremely accurate and avoid unnecessary issues. Thank you!!!!

[Attendance Procedures](#)