



IRVINE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Monica Colunga Ed.D. , Principal

Fall 2011

At Irvine High School, our mission is to enable all students to become contributing members of society empowered with the skills, knowledge, and values necessary to meet the challenges of a changing world, by providing the highest quality educational experience we can envision.

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! This Newsletter provides you with key information as we begin the school year. Irvine High School is proud of the ongoing work toward providing an exceptional educational environment. The gentle, caring, and supportive atmosphere provided for our students along with our continual commitment towards academic excellence is at the forefront of our daily work. We welcome the constant development of partnering with our parent community and look forward to the opportunity of getting to know you. Together we can continue to foster the values of IHS which represent our motto of Integrity, Honor, and Social Responsibility. At the end of this newsletter we have included a sample of our IHS Behavioral Matrix which represents the expected behaviors for our Irvine Vaquero students in various settings. We encourage you to have conversations with your students about these expectations.

As many of you are aware, in September 2010, the ACLU filed a lawsuit against the state over fees, charges and deposits imposed on public school students. Both sides later reached a tentative agreement. Though legislation pertaining to complaint guidelines and audit procedures is now working its way through Sacramento, the state Constitution affirms that students and parents cannot be required to pay money to gain access to educational activities, nor can they be charged for materials and supplies necessary to participate in educational activities. "Educational activities" has been clearly defined to include extracurricular offerings such as music, sports and some clubs. Moreover, the rules described above apply to all affiliated groups supporting district and school programs, including PTAs, boosters and foundations. It should be noted that the law does not prohibit schools and districts from requesting voluntary donations, and that's how IUSD and Irvine High School intends to preserve some of its more vital educational offerings. Many of our programs rely on your support and financial contributions. We appreciate all support provided from our Irvine Community Members. For additional information regarding fees, donations and fundraising please go to the following district website: <http://www.iusd.org/student-fee-info/index.html>.

We are proud of the educational experience we have to offer to all our students, and we look forward to sharing an exciting and outstanding 2011-2012 school year.

Thank you,
Monica Colunga

School Calendar

The Irvine High School calendar is posted on the IHS website at www.irvinehigh.org. Scroll to the Calendar section of the web page, choose **IHS Major Events**, then click on "Go to Calendar." The high school calendar is very complex, and it changes often, so we utilize our website to keep you informed with updates as the year progresses.

Myiusd.org

In order to serve you better, we are asking all parents and guardians to update their student's emergency telephone contact information if this changes anytime during the year after the registration process. The web-based information portal for IUSD parents, MyIUSD.org, provides secure and private access to your student's

emergency contact information, as well as other information such as grades, progress reports and daily attendance.

Attendance Procedures

State regulations require that all absences be cleared through the Attendance Office by parents or legal guardians ONLY. Either call 949 936-7001 on the day of the absence or send a note within 3 days of the absence. You can call the attendance line 24 hours a day. All notes have to be written in ink and signed by parent or guardian. We do not accept e-mails to excuse absences.

The note or the phone call must contain:

Student # (not the permanent ID #)

Last name (spell it if you are calling)

First name

Date of Absence

Periods missed including TA (not the classes, but the periods)

Reason for the absence.

PLEASE NOTE: We make every attempt to minimize the amount of classroom disruptions by not pulling students out of class for personal appointments. Please make all arrangements with your student for them to leave during breaks or lunch. Students can bring a note to the attendance window before the class begins stating the time they need to leave and what periods they will miss. You can also leave a message on the attendance call line. If your student comes to the attendance window and does not have a note and there has not been a phone call, they will be issued an "unexcused" re-admit. This is not a detention at this time. They have 2 days to clear the absence and after that time, it will become a detention. Remember you can use myIUSD.org to check your student's attendance, grades, etc.

Delivery of Messages and Gifts

Falling in line with minimizing the amount of classroom disruptions, please do not ask us to deliver messages or gifts to your students. The school has too many students to accommodate such request. We also cannot accept the delivery of flowers or balloons. These items will be returned with the delivering agent.

Health Services

Any student who requires medications during the school day must make arrangements to have those medications administered through the health office. Sheri Kulungian, a registered nurse, is available during school hours via phone/pager. She will respond to medical emergencies via phone triage and/or in person during school hours. In addition to the school nurse, Irvine High has a Health Clerk who is available daily between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. The Health Clerk serves as a direct link from the school to the school nurse.

Nutritional Services

Throughout the school year a variety of a la carte items will be available, such as fruit, salads, and pizza by the slice, burritos, sandwiches, desserts, and more.

The district has established the **Lunch Box** online payment option for high school students. More information regarding this option is available on the IUSD web site.

If you feel your family may qualify for Free or Reduced-fee meals please complete and submit the National School Lunch Program 2011-2012 application form, which is available on line through iusd.org and linking on to Business Services. **Completed forms must be mailed to the address on the application.** For confidentiality reasons, the school does not handle these lunch forms.

A Reminder about Parking

We would like to request for parents or visitors not to park in designated staff parking spaces when visiting the school. The teacher assigned to that space may be arriving or returning to the campus momentarily and will need to have a designated space to park. We appreciate your support of the staff in honoring this request.

Back-to-School Night

Back-to-School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2011. Parents of freshmen are invited to a Counselor's Welcome in the theater at 6:15 p.m. This year there will be an opportunity to purchase a bite to eat which will include a cheese burger, chips, and water for \$5.00. Purchases can be made through our web store "On Line" up until Friday, September 16, 2011. Meals will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. thru 6:45 p.m. in the quad. Visitation to classrooms will begin at 7:00 p.m. in your student's Teacher Advisement room followed by your student's regular class schedule. Save the date to take advantage of this opportunity to have a firsthand experience of our school climate and become familiar with our teacher expectations. Wednesday, September 21 will be a minimum day. Period 4 will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m. More details, including a map and the schedule for the evening will be sent home via electronic list-serve the week of September 12 and also available on the school web site. Please be sure that your student shares their fall schedule with you prior to this event.

Irvine High School Behavioral Expectations

Irvine High School Behavioral Expectations Matrix					
Expected Behavior	Classroom Setting	On Campus Setting	Community Setting	School Event Settings	Social Settings/ Including Electronic
Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Be your own person * Respect everyone around you * Give 100% * Honest work ethic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Do your own work · Cite your sources · Discerning between collaboration and copying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Always keep your word * Commit yourself in everything you do * Follow through with what you say you will do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Do the right thing, even when no one is watching * Use good judgment * Be above the influences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Respect the rules * Represent your school with pride * Win honestly, accept your defeat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Be someone you are proud of * Think before you post * Be mature
Honor Self & Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Accept your mistakes and learn from them * RESPECT give it to get it * Do your personal best * Use appropriate classroom language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Respect your reputation * Treat others how you want to be treated * Keep your promises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Be positive * Respect others and your surroundings * Give a hand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Give it your all * Be the better person * Always show sportsmanship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Use appropriate language * Present yourself positively * Your words are a reflection of yourself, choose them wisely
Social Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Take responsibility for your own actions * Make the right choices * Treat everyone with dignity and respect * Respect differences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Be true to your words * Encourage others * Honor your commitments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Take responsibility for your own actions * Take initiative * Communicate respectfully with everybody 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Make everyone feel included * Know your priorities * Accept everyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Choose your words carefully, watch what you say * Treat others as you would like to be treated * Respect everyone's opinions

