

WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Iselin Middle School, 900 Panther Way, Iselin, NJ 08830 TEL: (732) 602-8450

Mrs. K. Cilento
Principal

August 2023

Dear Panther Nation Students and Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2023 – 2024 School Year. For those of you who are new I would like to welcome you to the Panther Nation! For everyone returning, WELCOME BACK! Please be sure to check the IMS website as it is updated daily and contains valuable information about our school and events. We communicate via email and/or will send a text to your cell phone often, thus it is imperative that you update your contact information and email in Parent Portal. At times we also post information to social media please follow us on Twitter, @IselinMiddle, and follow our PTO on Instagram and Facebook.

Prior to the first day of school Parent Portal will open, when it does, please log in to complete/acknowledge the required forms, and familiarize yourself with pertinent information contained in this packet, while also perusing the IMS and WTSD websites. Staff and class information, news from the guidance department, IMS athletic team information, our school nurse, school policies and much more can be found on the IMS website at all times.

The school year will commence with a full day and an open cafeteria at 7:55am on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Student schedules will be available in Parent Portal on August 29, 2023. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us at Iselin Middle School at any point in time. Your cooperation, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Parents, we hope to see you at our back to school night to meet your child's teachers on September 6, 2023 beginning at 5:30.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly K. Cilento".

Mrs. K. Cilento
Principal

General Operating Information for IMS

1. **Student Arrival and Dismissal:** There is no supervision of students until the opening bell which rings at 8:05am. At 8:05am students are permitted into the building. Please note that morning help is offered, at each teacher's discretion, but not before 7:45 am. Dismissal is at 3:05pm. Students staying for after school activities, Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday, must be picked up by 3:50pm. Upon the second pick up after 3:50pm your child will no longer be permitted to stay for after-school activities.

When dropping off your child, you must enter from Worth Street. All student drop off should be done along the curb and we ask that you pull all the way down towards the gymnasium when dropping off, do not stop at the front doors, and stay in one single lane. We also ask that you **do not** park and walk your child to the entry doors in the morning, nor park and wait at an exit door to meet your child at dismissal. With just under 900 students non-compliance puts your child and staff in danger.

Bus – Students that are transported to school via bus will be dropped off at the entry of IMS. It is imperative that your child know the bus run, not the bus number, for example IM-1, IM-2, IM-3, IM-4 and so on or IMS-1, IMS-2a, IMS-2b, IMS-3, and so on. Note there is a major difference between IM busses and IMS busses. At dismissal, busses will be at designated locations based upon their route number, hence the reason knowing the route number is extremely important. Busses will leave the IMS parking lot at 3:13pm, in the event that your child misses the bus you should have a plan and alternate transportation set up.

Walkers – Students that walk to IMS should leave their home at a time that will allow them to arrive at IMS for 8:05am. At dismissal students that walk home will exit from a variety of doors including 1, 2, 15, 16, 17, 23 or 24.

Parent Driven – Students that will be driven to school by a parent should be dropped off on either Worth Street and should walk into our lot, or be dropped off in the lot along the curb at the front of IMS. If pulling into the lot you must stay in ONE lane and pull down towards the gym! Do not stop in the front. Students that are being picked up by a parent should meet their parent in the back of IMS at JFKMHS by the tennis courts. These students should exit the building at Door 17 and proceed along the path to the lot at JFKMHS. Those being picked up by parents are not to be picked up in the front of IMS. Due to the number of busses and students we cannot have everyone picked up in the front of the building.

2. **Attendance and Punctuality:** The New Jersey Compulsory Attendance Laws require all students attend school on a regular basis. The Woodbridge Township Board of Education has updated the WTSD Attendance Policy 5113 limiting the number of excused absences. Please note that extensive absences may result in student retention. Your assistance in supporting us by encouraging your child to attend school every day, and being punctual, will increase your child's success.

To ensure the safety of all our students, if your child needs to leave IMS early an adult declared in the Genesis System must come with valid photo identification for your child to be released. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

If you, or anyone you know, comes to pick up your child and the blue light in the front of the school is blinking that is a warning sign to the outdoors that we are in an emergency situation. Unfortunately, when

this is blinking we will not be able to attend to your needs at the door and recommend that you sit and wait in your car until that light is turned off.

Attendance Line: If your child is going to be absent from school a parent/guardian must call the 24 hour Attendance Line at (732) 602-8450, select option 2. Please make certain to state your child's name, grade, and reason for absence. Upon return it is important that your child have a note stating the reason for absence.

3. **Regular Schedule: School Opens at 8:05 am**

HR	8:10am- 8:14am
Period 1	8:15am- 9:14am
Period 2	9:18am- 10:17am
Period 3	10:21am – 11:20am
Period 4	11:23am- 12:59pm
Period 5	1:03pm- 2:02pm
Period 6	2:05pm- 3:05pm

*Lunch period is built into Period 4. Students will eat during section A (8), B (7) or C (6) lunch.

4. **Unscheduled Early Dismissal:** In the event of an emergency, or when weather conditions deteriorate before the end of the school day, the Superintendent of Schools may announce an early school closing via School Messenger. If this occurs, student dismissal is at 12:45pm. Please establish a dismissal plan with your child; the office cannot notify students of dismissal routines per family.
5. **Delayed Opening:** In the event of a delayed opening you will be notified via School Messenger. Every delayed opening is two (2) hours after normal start. School opens at 10:05am on these days, with no breakfast served.
6. **A.M. Detention:** Students will be given one detention after their third unexcused tardy to school. They will also be given detention for the third late to class. As lates accumulate your child will be given 2 days detention for their 6th tardy and then ACS for the 9th and all lates thereafter. Late arrival for detention or missing detention/ACS will result in two additional days of detention/ACS.
7. **Genesis / Parent Access:** It is imperative that you log into and maintain access to Parent Portal. All school and district information is shared through email and/or cell phone text messages, taken from Parent Portal Contact Information. Because of this, it is imperative that your contact information is accurately listed and titled i.e. cell phone, home phone, work phone all being under the appropriate heading. Furthermore, upon initial log in you will be prompted to view and acknowledge many forms.
8. **Locker Regulations:** Students will be given a locker and its combination on the 1st day of school. All school lockers assigned to students belong to the school district and can be searched at any time for any reason.
9. **Book Bags/Knap Sacks:** School District Policy requires that students place ALL bags other than a small purse in their lockers during the school day. Bags with wheels are not permitted and bags should not be oversized as they will not fit into lockers. (See Board Policy#5132)

10. **Electronic Devices:** Personal electronic devices are not be carried or used during school hours per Policy #5131. If a child has a personal device on them during the day it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day to the child in the main office, this also holds true for headphones and AirPods. Students in Grades 6 – 8 will be given a Chromebook for 1:1 purpose. Returning students will be given back the device they had from the previous year. If you do not wish for your child to be given a device please email their counselor before September 5th and one will not be given to them. It is imperative that you read the Internet User Agreement and that you are aware that you are financially responsible for damage to devices owned by WTSD while in your possession. Please note - IMS is not responsible for any lost or damaged school or personal devices.
11. **Student Dress Policy:** When parent portal opens one of the required forms for you to sign off on is the student dress policy. This year we will be strictly enforcing student dress. Shorts must be of an appropriate length. Shirts must have straps that are at least 2 inches thick. The torso must be covered, meaning no part of the belly/back should be seen when standing or sitting. Nike Pros are NOT shorts that are ok for school. Crocs and any type of moccasin shoes that does not have a full back are NOT permitted.
12. **Cafeteria Services:** Lunch is available for purchase at the price of \$3.75 on the first day of school, as is breakfast for the price of \$2.40. A complete lunch consists of one entrée, a fruit and a vegetable, and a milk, anything beyond these items is considered an additional purchase. Your child's meal plan can be tracked on the following website, www.payschoolscentral.com, once an account is created you can safely deposit money, pay loans, and track your child's meal(s) while at school. If you are eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch please complete the required forms in the portal before September 5, 2023. Failure to do so will result in your loss of this status and you will accrue a balance that you are responsible to pay. (Policy # 3542a)

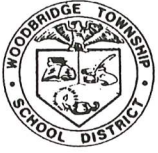
13. **Important Dates:**

Marking Period	Start Date	Close Date	Interim Reports Available	Report Cards Available
1	9/5/2023	11/14/2023	10/6/2023	11/17/2023
2	11/15/2023	1/29/2024	12/20/2023	2/1/2024
3	1/30/2024	4/9/2024	3/5/2024	4/12/2024
4	4/10/2024	6/18/2024	5/14/2024	6/18/2024

NJSLA May 2024

14. **PTO Fundraising/Membership/School Store:**

- **Fundraising** - The PTO will conduct many fundraising efforts for the upcoming school year. PTO fund-raising efforts support many student activities including, but not limited to, Panther Pride Day Events and school. Funds raised are also used to supplement the purchase of educational resources such as technology and to improve our school grounds.
- **Membership** – In this packet is your PTO membership form. We encourage all families to join and become active in the IMS PTO, we cannot do this alone! We need your help in many ways!
- **School Store** - The Panther Shack, our school store, is operated by the PTO and will be open during lunches. There are a variety of items such as school supplies and other items for sale at all times.



WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 Panther Way
Iselin, NJ 08830
(732) 602-8450
FAX: (732) 750-4861

Mrs. L. Weber
School Nurse
Iselin Middle School

August 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Once parent portal opens there are many required documents for you to complete, one necessary for me is your child's health record. Please take time to review all the information including the Immunization Regulations, Medication Policy, Allergy and Asthma Plan and more. The NJ DOH requires that students entering Grade 6 receive specific vaccinations, see below.

For a multitude of reasons, it is imperative that your child's immunization records be sent to IMS as soon as possible, especially to avoid your child from being excluded from school after a specific date. Please send the updated immunization to Wendy.Medina@woodbridge.k12.nj.us.

6th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Doctor's Verification of Tdap and Meningococcal Immunizations (must be received within 2 weeks of 11th birthday)○ Student Health Record Update
7th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Scoliosis Screening Program○ Student Health Record Update
8th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Student Health Record Update

Again, immunization records and doctor's verification of Tdap and Meningococcal for Grade 6 students as well as other medical information we should know about can be sent via email to Wendy.Medina@woodbridge.k12.nj.us. Likewise if your child has asthma or any other medical issues it is imperative that we have the action plan signed by the doctor ASAP, please review this link for accurate and necessary forms, <https://www.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/o/ims/page/medications>.

Thank you,

L. Weber, RN



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ISELIN MIDDLE SCHOOL 2023 - 2024 Evening Activities

Activity	Date	Time
Back to School Night	9/6/23	5:30 p.m.
Block Party	9/29/23	During school
4 v 4 Soccer Tourney	10/12/23	3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Masquerade Dance	10/26/23	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Winter Band & Choir Performance	12/19/23	6:00 p.m. @ JFKMHS
Dance Team Performance	12/13/23	5:30 p.m.
Glow Dance	2/15/24	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Kids vs Cops Dodgeball	4/26/24	During school
Luau Dance	5/2/24	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Spring Choir Performance	5/7/24	6:30 p.m. @ JFKMHS
Drama Performance	5/15/24	6:00 p.m.
Spring Band Performance	5/22/24	6:30 p.m. @ JFKMHS
Color Run	6/12/24	During school

****Dates and time are subject to change; check the IMS Calendar on our website for confirmation. ****



PLEASE JOIN THE IMS PTO



**\$20 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
PLEASE SEND IN YOUR
DUES TODAY!**



**PROCEEDS FROM ALL
FUNDRAISING GO TO SUPPORT
OUR CHILDREN'S EVENTS AT IMS**

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE FORM AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR CHILD. CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO IMS PTO.

FAMILY NAME _____

CHILD NAME _____ GRADE _____

CHILD NAME _____ GRADE _____





Iselin Middle School

BLOCK PARTY



Date: Friday, September 29, 2023

**\$10 PRESALE THRU 9/19
ENTRANCE FEE & AUTOMATIC DUNK**

**AFTER 9/19 ENTRANCE FEE \$10.00
DUNK TANK: 2 THROWS FOR \$1.00,
AUTOMATIC DUNK FOR \$5.00**

**Come Dance, Play Games, Eat Ice Pops
& Dunk Teachers in the Dunk Tank!**

Please return this portion of the form to IMS with payment

I give my child _____, Grade _____,
permission to attend the Block Party on
Friday, September 29, 2023.

Payment Enclosed, check one:

\$10 pre sale special _____ due by 9/19

or \$10 entrance fee _____

Dunk Tank \$1 for 2 throws _____

Automatic Dunk Ticket \$5 _____

Cash: _____ Check: _____ (payable to IMS)

Parent Signature _____