



# INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL *of* NEW ORLEANS

## PARENT NEWSLETTER

JULY 31, 2022



## MISSION

To educate and nurture a diverse learning community through the International Baccalaureate Programme, world languages and intercultural appreciation to succeed in global economy.

## ACTION ITEM

- Check your emails and text messages for details about Schedule day on August 8th
- Prepare for schedule day

## PEEK AT THE WEEK

Office Hours from Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Monday August 1st, 2022

- First day for all returning teachers and staff

## Next Week

- Schedule Day Monday, August 8th 2022

	Grade level times		Tiempos de nivel de grado
8:00 A.M.	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students	8:00 A.M.	tiempos de grado 9
10:30 A.M.	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students	10:30 A.M.	Estudiantes de grado 10
1:00 P.M.	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students	1:00 P.M.	Estudiantes de grado 11
3:30 P.M.	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students	3:30 P.M.	Estudiantes de grado 12
5:00 P.M.	Late arrivals (all grade levels)	5:00 P.M.	Estudiantes que no vinieron durante la hora de su grado (todos los grados)

- First Day for 9th grade students August 9th
- First day for 10th,11th and 12th grade students August 10th

## MESSAGE FROM

### HEAD OF SCHOOL/CEO ADIERAH BERGER

Dear Parents and Guardians

I hope that you have enjoyed your summer and have found time to rest, relax, and recharge. I am looking forward to our students returning to school for the 2022-23 school year. Ninth graders first day of school will be August 9 and students in grades 10 through 12 return to school on August 10.

This summer our staff worked tirelessly to ensure that the return to school was safe and seamless. We are looking forward to sharing those updates with you.

## **Inquiry Institute**

Last week, members of our Academic Leadership Team participated in a two-day professional development led by the Inquiry Institute on how to master Question Thinking. You will notice that we will be asking lots more questions so that we can gain deeper understanding of any situation. This will allow all of us to become a more collaborative and solution-oriented team. By adopting this new strategy, we aim to better serve the needs of our students and their families.

## **Support Staff Updates**

I am excited to introduce you to three new staff members in the Head of School's office.

Darlene Edgerson is our new Bookkeeper. In her role, Mrs. Edgerson will ensure that our bills are paid accurately and timely. You will have an opportunity to meet her on Schedule Day August 9. She will be collecting student fees that day.

Wendolly Vargas is our new Registrar. Ms. Vargas is responsible for recruiting and enrolling students in International High School of New Orleans. Ms. Vargas will be available to meet with and assist our families in the main office. Ms. Vargas has been working remotely and will be on campus the week of August 8 after she returns to the United States.

Our new Chief of Staff is Fanny McKenna. Mrs. McKenna will lead Special Projects, Human Resources, Board Relations, and assisting the Head of School with administrative functions. Should you need anything from the Head of School's office, please reach out to Mrs. McKenna. Contact information for our new and returning employees is available on our website at [www.ihsnola.org](http://www.ihsnola.org).

## **School Safety**

The Uvalde School Shooting on May 24, 2022, in Texas was devastating. Our hearts go out to the families and the community of Uvalde as they continue to grieve the loss of students and teachers. The safety of our school continues to be a priority. We acknowledge that our school is a haven for many of our students and I remain committed to maintaining student and staff safety.

This school year there will be security-related changes to our campus. All outside doors will always remain locked and will only be accessible by employees. This prevents unauthorized visitors from entering the building through our school courtyard.

Student arrival has changed. Buses will no longer access the school courtyard to drop off students. There will **only be one** point of entry. All students will enter the building

through the school's **main entrance on Carondelet Street**. The main entrance has been equipped with a metal detector. All who enter our building, students, parents, and visitors alike, will walk through the metal detector to ensure that unrestricted items do not enter our building. Bags will also be checked by our security team to ensure the safety of our campus.

You will also notice that the main entrance's security station has changed. The 1<sup>st</sup> floor security station has been moved to face the main entrance's front door and additional lighting has been installed to brighten the area. Security stations have also been added to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.

This year we will increase active shooter training and practice drills. My team and I will continue to review the procedures help us to maintain a safe campus. It is sad and unfortunate that this is the world that we are currently living in. But together, we will continue to ensure that high safety standards are in place for everyone on campus.

Looking forward to a successful academic year and all the wonderful things we will accomplish together.

With Gratitude,

Dr. Berger

Adierah Berger, MPH, Ed.D

CEO and Head of School

## **MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL JENNY CARRRENO**

I am so elated to have all new and returning teaching staff back next week for BOY PD! We have prepared a series of workshops and presentations to help set the tone for an excellent school year. The objective for next week is to get everyone knowledgeable of the overarching goals and indicators of success for the 2022-2023 school year and gain everyone's commitment to this process. The academic leadership team has worked hard to ideate systems and processes to support staff and increase their investment in self-development to enhance their capacity and agency in delivering high-quality learning to every student daily.

This week, new staff members came with great enthusiasm and completed their two-day training for Capturing Kids Hearts. The academic leadership team attended the Inquiry Institute training with Dr. Marilee Adams. These are only a few of the professional development offerings planned to provide the tool kit our staff requires to take our goals for the year to fruition successfully. I want to invite all families to be supportive of the different academic initiatives for the new school year. Encourage your student to be active participants in their education, participate in extracurricular activities and sports, take advantage of enrichment opportunities and tutoring and be present and ready to learn each day.

**Students and families will have the opportunity to meet their teachers and get set for the 2022-2023 school year during Schedule day. Schedule day this year will be on August the 8th. Please check the IHSNO robocall messages and emails for specific information about the time frame each grade level needs to come. Make sure you are encouraging your students to start preparing for the new school year by engaging in learning activities like spending 30 minutes reading, doing math, watching a TED talk, or staying active.**

I'm looking forward to meeting new students and families as well as reconnecting with returning ones in the upcoming weeks. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns

Educationally yours,  
Jenny Carreno  
Principal

## **MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL JAMES DAVIS**

A hearty "Hello" to you, IHSNO families! Our teachers are reporting back this week. They are excited about the upcoming school year and working diligently to prepare the best educational experience possible for your students. There are a number of goals we have for the school this year, and they all center around helping your students become better scholars and global citizens. As you get ready for schedule day, Freshman Academy, and the first day of classes, help your student set some goals for the upcoming year to help them start off with a focused mind. If they have a clear idea of what they want to do, our teachers can definitely help them achieve it. And if they don't, we can all help them figure it out. Enjoy your last week of summer!

## MESSAGE FROM INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE



### August — Open Minded

I grow from seeking out and respecting different practices and perspectives.

Welcome back IB Panthers! It has been exciting working with the leadership team to get ready for the 2022-23 school year and keeping our learner profile trait for August of open-minded as we look at IB @ IHSNO. It will be big year for all of us related to IB as we prepare for Diploma Programme (DP) evaluation but also planning for our future by applying for candidacy to offer the Middle Years Programme (MYP). For both evaluation and candidacy, we will be engaging all of our students, faculty, staff and families to enhance how we offer the International Bachelorette continuum in our panther community.

If your student is a junior and would like to explore the IBDP, please reach out to Mr Bourque at [cody.bourque@ihsnola.org](mailto:cody.bourque@ihsnola.org) because it is not too late to register for IBDP course option or try for the IB Diploma. Sophomore families, please reach out to Mr Bourque to ensure your student is on track for DP courses in their junior year.

## MESSAGE FROM TITLE IX COORDINATOR

Dear Panthers:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 states that: no person in the US shall on the basis of sex, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

IHSNO will not restrict rights protected under the US Constitution, including the First Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and Fourteenth Amendment, when complying with Title IX.

What are IHSNO' responsibilities to address harassment and sexual violence?

- IHSNO has the responsibility to respond promptly and effectively. If a school knows or reasonably should know about sexual harassment or sexual violence that creates a hostile environment, the school must take immediate action to eliminate the sexual harassment or sexual violence, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects.

- Even if a student or the student's parents does not want to file a complaint or does not request that IHSNO take any action on the student's behalf, if a school knows or reasonably should know about sexual harassment or sexual violence, it must promptly investigate to determine what occur and then take appropriate steps to resolve the situation.

What procedures must the school have in place to prevent sexual harassment and sexual violence and resolve complaints?

- IHSNO must have and distribute a policy against sex discrimination. The notice must be widely distributed and available on an ongoing basis.
- IHSNO must designate at least one employee who is responsible to coordinate its compliance with Title IX.
- IHSNO must have and make known procedures to file complaints of sex discrimination. • IHSNO will follow a grievance process before imposing any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures against the Respondent.

**Complainant:** An individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment. A Third Party may report sexual harassment. Parents and Legal Guardians are not Complainants (or respondents), but the Final Rule recognizes the legal right of both to act on behalf of their students(s).

**Respondent:** someone alleged to have been involved in an incident of prohibited conduct under Title IX.

**Coordinator:** Demayo Gomez, [Demayo.gomez@ihsnola.org](mailto:Demayo.gomez@ihsnola.org)

## MESSAGE FROM DEAN OF CULTURE

Greetings Parents!

As we enter an exciting new school year, we would like to ensure that all families are aware of the dress code and cell phone policies. The dress code policy and phone policy will be effective and enforced beginning with the first day of school.

School dress code this year will include the option to wear a school logo hoodie. students will be allowed to wear the IHSNO hoodie and/or sweatshirt that will be available for purchase at Johnson Uniforms (619 Westwood Dr, Marrero, LA 70072). This **IHSNO hoodie and/or sweatshirt will be the only outerwear approved to be worn inside the school building.** No other outerwear will be allowed to be worn inside the

school building. Hoods also will not be allowed to be worn inside of the school building. [Click here](#) to read more about our dress code and cell phone policy.

Parents, please ensure that students have a reusable water bottle with them at all times, so that they may be able to get water from the water fountains located inside of the school building.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Culture Team: Ms. Recasner (Dean of Culture), Ms. Armstrong (Associate Dean of Culture), or Mr. Davis (Behavior Interventionist). Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on August 8th!

- **The Culture Team**

## **MESSAGE FROM COVID-19 TESTING COORDINATOR**

Dear Panthers:

In partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health, NOLA Public Schools will offer COVID testing at no charge for all interested students. Testing will occur weekly on-site during school hours. A parent or guardian must register any minor under 18 years old. The Louisiana Department of Health is offering a monetary reward in exchange for participation in testing through this initiative. Students who participate in weekly testing 10 or more times between August and December can receive a \$100 Prepaid card in December of 2022. Eligible participants will be emailed in December to confirm they would like to opt-into receiving funds. A parent or guardian must register any minor under 18 years old. Registration is one time only, it does not need to be completed weekly. Please use the following link to sign-up for weekly testing.

<https://omega-covidsafe-prod-web.azurewebsites.net/register/participant-splash>

For a walkthrough of how to register, please [click here](#).

If you are having difficulties registering, please contact the LDH Safer, Smarter Schools Help Line at 877-356-1511. The tests being used are PCR tests sent only to labs located within

Louisiana to expedite results. Results should be expected on your COVIDSafe portal within 12-36 hours. You will also receive a notification via text and email (depending on what you provided) upon your results being ready.

[demayo.gomez@ihsnola.org](mailto:demayo.gomez@ihsnola.org)

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

### **Monday, August 8th - Schedule Day**

Information regarding which grades will report at what times will be forthcoming.

### **Tuesday, August 9th - Ninth Grade Academy**

9th graders only, 7:45 a.m. - 3:28 p.m.

### **Wednesday, August 10th - First Day of School**

9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th graders arrive 7:45 a.m. - 1:28 p.m.

IHSNO in collaboration with Jazz Empowers will be offering a Jazz Program for the upcoming school year. This Jazz Program will be scheduled as an elective course for students. Students must commit to a full-year of instruction in the program.

Instruments will be provided to all selected students.

Students will be taught the following:

- Proficiency on their respective instrument
- How to read sheet music
- Basic music theory
- How to play in the jazz style
- How to improvise a jazz solo

Please take a moment and complete this survey:

[Jazz Program Interest Survey - Google Forms](#)

For those parents that have children in k-6th grade:

FREE Backpacks & School Supplies for students in grades K-6!

Saturday, July 30, 2022 8 am - 12 pm

Xavier University Center

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT [WWW.NOLABACKTOSCHOOLFEST.ORG](http://WWW.NOLABACKTOSCHOOLFEST.ORG)

We're excited to announce that we have once again partnered with the Saints and Pelicans to participate in their volunteer program. All staff, parents, and friends 18 years and older can sign up to volunteer at a home game of their choice and after your shift the Saints will donate \$100 per person to our athletic department.

The link to sign up is here:

## [2022-23 Saints Games Volunteer Sign-Up - Google Sheets](#)

Some additional information:

Please keep in mind the following important information:

1. Volunteers must wear black pants, the Fanatics shirt and ID will be provided to you when you arrive to volunteer. You will be allowed to retain the shirt to work future games.
2. You may bring lunch/snacks to the game to avoid paying the prices for stadium food. Any items brought into the stadium must be in NFL approved, clear bags not to exceed the size designated by the stadium for games. Your items will be locked in the General Manager's office while you volunteer.
3. You will be assigned to various locations throughout the Pro Shop, indoors at the stadium, Champions Square, Suite Levels, etc. Assignments are made when you arrive to volunteer.
4. There will be free parking for volunteers in the gravel lot under the interstate on West Stadium Drive.
5. You will be afforded a 40% discount on all merchandise sold in the Pro Shop, the same as Fanatics employees when volunteering. This is an awesome deal!!
6. Sign up for as many games as you like and encourage your students over 18 to volunteer with you.
7. Parents, Board members, friends and relatives over the age of 18 may also volunteer with you to work the games. This is a good way to garner more funding for IHSNO Athletics.
8. We will be scheduling a walk-through of the facility for volunteers in the very near future and will let everyone know that this tour is available as soon as the date is set.
9. We are not selling concessions, we are assisting the licensed vendor, Fanatics with the sale of NFL Licensed Merchandise. Experienced volunteers may work registers.
- 10 Last, but not least. Always keep in mind that while volunteering, we are representatives of IHSNO and any volunteers that we invite to work with us will also be a reflection of the image that we want our community to have of IHSNO.

If there are any questions or concerns about this volunteer opportunity, please see or email Pamela Recasner, Dean of Culture at [pamela.recasner@ihsnola.org](mailto:pamela.recasner@ihsnola.org)

Please do not share the online sign-up sheet with persons outside of IHSNO and please add the names and sport designations to the form as you acquire your volunteers.

GEAUX SAINTS! GEAUX IHSNO!



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