

October Newsletter:

It's official: Fall is here. As Mother Nature retreats into colder weather and the leaves fall from the trees, we have a lot of great news to report to add some sunshine to your day. The first quarter was a success, both inside and classroom and outside the classroom. See some of the athletic highlights below and come out to support Football, Girl's Soccer, Cheerleading and Marching Band as they are still knee-deep in competition! Way to go Braves.

8th Grade Open House:

I want to Thank all of Braves Nation that help to organize and plan this past Tuesday night's event. We had over 75 families come and spend some time with us here at IHHS, take individual tours with student leaders and interact with coaches from all seasons! I know I can speak for Mr. Hayes and myself regarding just how much fun we had getting to meet so many future Braves! As we stated, please feel free to contact us any time with any question you may have in regards to your child coming to IHHS next year! (Jeff.Damadeo@indianhillschools.org or Mike.Hayes@indianhillschools.org)

Athletic News:

Seasonal Highlights:

- Girls Tennis
 - Girls Tennis ranked #2 in state lost to eventual state champ Hathaway Brown in the state semi-finals. This is the 4th time in 6 years the girls have battled Hathaway in state semi or final match.
 - Gracey and Hayley Hirsch finished 3rd in the state in doubles losing in the semi-finals to the eventual state champ doubles team from you guessed it – Hathaway Brown.
 - Winning their 36^h conference title in 39 years. Indian Hill Girls Tennis is the state's top ranked D2 public school tennis team over that span.
- Cross Country
 - Boys XC won the district championship for the 2nd straight year.
 - The entire boys team advanced to regionals along with Emily Sheard.
 - Ben Bayless advanced to the state championship to be run Sat 11/4.
- Girls Soccer
 - Girls soccer is undefeated and ranked #1 in the state.
 - The Lady Braves play in the state quarter final Sat 11/4 @ Centerville against Tippecanoe. State semi-final game will be played Tuesday 11/7.
 - Current record 19-0-1.
 - Anna Podojil was invited to the US Soccer U18 training camp in CA. the week of 10/23 representing the Braves at the highest level.
- Boys Soccer
 - Finished the season on an 8-1-1 run getting the districts #3 seed.
 - Lost in the district final to eventual regional finalist Alter.
 - Final overall record 10-7-4.
- Girls Volleyball

- Girls VB finished 2nd in the league with a record of 10-4 and overall 18-6. Best record since 2008.
- Girls lost in district final to Roger Bacon.
- Football
 - For the first time in 10 years the football team has made the playoffs 3 consecutive years.
 - Football finished the regular season 8-2 ranked #6 in SW Ohio.
 - Regional quarterfinal game is Friday 11/3 @ Taft High School's Willard Stargell Stadium located west of Music Hall.

Fall Signing Day Wednesday November 8:

On Wed November 8th we will celebrate 5 seniors committing to play at the college level - 11am in the high school MP room.

- Noah Vigran – Stanford, diving
- Hayley Hirsch – Penn State, tennis
- Julia Yingling – Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, tennis
- Erik Persson – Lake Forest College, football
- Andrew Pregel – Bryant University, tennis

Winter Sports Beginning

Winter sports are beginning during the first 2 weeks of November. We currently have 220 winter athlete registered with approximately 60 more by the time all winter sports start and fall sports end. For the fall we registered a total of 412 athletes.

2018 Hall of Fame Class

The Hall of Fame committee will be choosing its Class of 2018 on November 15th. The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place at halftime of the January 26 boys basketball game vs Reading.

Facilities

The locker room renovation is nearing completion with an estimated occupancy November 20th and full use the week after Thanksgiving. Included in the locker room renovation the Athletic Dept. funded new graphic wall mats behind both main baskets and new team stadium chairs to match the updated scorer's table purchased 2 years ago.

New Taipei City Student Exchange Program:

On October 23rd we welcomed several new Braves to the building as Indian Hill High School is hosting 4 students from New Taipei City. They have immersed themselves in our classes and our school and have had a terrific experience. In June, Indian Hill High School students will have the opportunity to travel to NTC and experience a culture far beyond their imagination. Indian Hill High School is hosting the next Informational Meeting for the program Monday, November 6th from 7-8:30pm. Contact Mrs. Donita Jackson or Mr. Damadeo with any questions.

Braves Marching Band:

This upcoming Thursday our successful “BMB” is travelling to Indianapolis to compete the Bands of America competition. This two-day event showcase a large variety of the top-performing bands in the area. Indy is just a short 2 hour drive, don’t miss it!

Cabaret:

Believe it or not, Cabaret is fast approaching. The performance will occur on November 18th from 6:30-9:30pm. Tickets will be sold during school starting on the 16th. Don’t miss this incredible evening! Want more? Find us at [@IHHSchoirs](#) or use the #IHCabaret

School Fees:

All school fees were due on September 29th and can be paid using the EZPay system. You can easily access this system through the Indian Hill High School homepage, click on “Students/Parents” and scroll down to “EZPay online payments” link. You could quickly access it by clicking this link:

<https://www.spsezpay.com/IndianHill/login.aspx>

Powder Puff:

Monday November 13th, the first ever ‘tournament style’ Powder Puff event begins! This year all 4 grades will compete against one another to see who is the grand champion. Doors will open at 6:00pm. The games will begin at 6:30pm and end around 9:00pm. We will have PTO sponsored food, drinks, games and raffles! Admission is free, but donations towards this year’s After Prom event are encouraged.

Senior Trip:

Once again the seniors will be taking their annual pilgrimage to Chicago on November 19-21st where they will have a chance to bond with one another, continue to forge great friendships and experience a lot that ‘Chi-Town’ has to offer. Any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. McFarlan.

INDIAN HILL HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

Congratulations to The Class of 2017

As the season begins for sending college applications, test scores, essays, transcripts, letters of recommendations and paying college application fees, I am reminded of the Class of 2017 at this time last year. What a difference a year makes. They have now graduated and began the next phase of their lives. The Class of 2017 has successfully navigated the college admissions process, so let’s take a quick look at their accomplishments. Take a look at these statistics:

- 93% of the graduating class attending college.
- 77% of the class took at least one of the 27 available AP exams we offer.
- The ACT average is at 26.8.

- 93 students were recognized as AP Scholars.
- 18 students were recognized as National AP Scholars.
- 21 students received National Merit Recognition.
- 73 students awarded the Presidential Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence.
- 61 students awarded the Presidential Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement.
- 89 students received a Diploma with Honors.
- Accepted at 177 different colleges and universities.
- Attending 68 different colleges and universities.
- The Class of 2017 had a 74% acceptance rate.

Congratulations to the Class of 2017! You have done a tremendous job and we look forward to hearing more about your college experiences. Keep in touch...and remember....

"Once A Brave, Always A Brave!"

Topic of the Month

Presenting Your Total Package to Colleges

The Application – Be sure to apply through the school’s website to ensure that you are completing the correct application. The Common Application and the Coalition Application are alternate ways to apply to a few colleges at once. If you have college/universities on your list that are members of the [Common Application](#), or the [Coalition Application](#) you can apply through their respective websites.

The Resume – If a college allows you to submit a resume, please be sure to do so. Your resume should begin with the most meaningful experiences. Be sure to briefly explain what the group is, your position, how often you participate and any highlights that you want the admissions representatives to notice. If attaching a resume is not possible, be sure to provide a list of your activities on the application in the order of significance.

The Transcript – When a transcript is sent to a college/university, included with the transcript are current year schedule, Secondary School Report, School Profile, and letters of recommendation. Indian Hill High School seniors must request their transcripts through Naviance. Be sure to enter the correct deadline so that your package will be sent by the correct deadline.

ACT/SAT testing scores – All scores must be sent to colleges directly from the testing agency to the colleges. While some colleges require that you send all scores of every test that you have taken, some will only consider your highest scores. You should be sure to research the college’s policy on testing and send your scores as they request. Visit www.act.org and www.sat.org/register to have your scores sent. These scores should be sent to the colleges by the application deadline.

The Application Fee – When paying your application fee, you should be sure to get a confirmation of payment. If you are on free/reduced lunch or feel that your situation warrants the need of a fee waiver, please contact your counselor to request a fee waiver.

The Essay

A very intricate part of the college application process that cannot be overlooked is the college essay. Most colleges across the nation require at least one essay. These essay topics may range from describing a significant experience in your life, to selecting a topic of your choice. Whatever the topic, the college essay is a significant and reliable source of information about the applicant. Admissions committees use the essay to get to know the applicant in a more reliable, specific, and personal way. A way that cannot be shown through SAT or ACT scores, grade point averages or even through extracurricular activities. The essay adds a personal, human element to the application. When writing your college essay, look at it as an opportunity to stand out from the applicant pool.

The college essay has many purposes in the college application process. It helps in determining if there is a fit between the applicant and the college, it shows your writing abilities and the essay is important for borderline applicants. In such cases, a well put together essay can be known to tip the scales for students whose grade point averages and SAT/ACT scores are considered questionable for admission.

Make the essay yours. College admissions representatives expect for students to receive some help with their college essay. Counselors may offer ideas on choosing a subject and your parents or teachers might help proofread a final draft, but only you can write your essay. The essay is your voice speaking to certain topics and only you can speak for yourself.

Tips for editing:

- *Good writing has a natural, easy-to-read quality.*
- *Strike a balance between a personal and formal tone.*
- *Remember your audience- be intelligent and be yourself.*
- *Avoid clichés and make every sentence count.*
- *Avoid worn-out literary sources.*
- *Don't use words carelessly or inaccurately.*
- *Use active verbs and vigorous expression.*
- *Avoid empty words, "really," "special," "meaningful."*
- *Avoid vague and predictable conclusions.*
- *Proofread, proofread, proofread, proofread, proofread!!!*

McGinty, Sarah. *Writing Your College Application Essay*. New York: The College Board, 1986

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT:

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Important Dates:

- November 4th: CHL Cheerleading Competition @ IHHS
- November 6th: New Taipei Informational Night (7:00-8:30pm)
- November 8th: Athletic Signing Day (11:00am – HS MP Room)
- November 9th: New Taipei City Exchange Farewell Dinner (6:00-9:00pm)
- November 9/10: Bands of America (Indianapolis)
- November 11th: Veteran’s Day
- November 14th: HS Marching Band Concert
- November 18th: Cabaret
- November 19-21: Senior Trip
- November 22-24: No School (Happy Thanksgiving)
- November 28th: HS Winter Band Concert

Final Thoughts:

It’s hard to believe that we are about to enter the holiday season, the beginning of winter sports and finals. Quarter 1 flew by and we continue to have great weeks here at IHHS. Continue to encourage your children to utilize their study hall time and FLEx time wisely so that they can focus on extracurricular activities more so when they go home each night or simply take a deep breath and reflect on the importance for personal balance. Of course, if there is anything you need, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr. Hayes.

LET’S GO, BRAVES!

Sincerely,

Jeff Damadeo, Mike Hayes, Jeff Zidron