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## ISSAQUAH MIDDLE SCHOOL E-NEWS NOVEMBER 2, 2009

The November issue of the IMS Panther Press is now available on our website. Click on the link below to enjoy.

[http://www.ims.issaquah.wednet.edu/Current\\_Events/PantherPress.html](http://www.ims.issaquah.wednet.edu/Current_Events/PantherPress.html)

Included in this edition:

- Middle Years November 2009
- Continuous Improvement Plan
- IMS Theatre Production - [The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe](#)
- ASB and WEB Update
- Holiday Program for Families in Need
- Chorus News
- What We Offer After School
- Art Room Happenings
- Issaquah Schools Foundation – *Calling for Kids* and *Shop for ISF*
- Flu Season Update and Making Up Missed Work
- November and December Calendars

### **Health and PE Requirements for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

If you have an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who is enrolled in 2 full-year electives, they are required to take health and PE outside of school. If they have not brought home the paperwork explaining the outside health and PE requirement, please have them see the counseling office as soon as possible to pick up the paperwork.

### **Join the PTSA - Get a Student Directory**

It's not too late to join the PTSA and get a student directory. Our mission is to support students, schools and families, and to advocate for the health, safety, education, and welfare of all children. Memberships are \$15 for individuals and \$24 for families. Members receive one student directory at no charge.

Forms can be accessed at the IM PTSA website:

[www.issaquahmiddleptsa.org/Forms/IMPTSA\\_Membership\\_Form.pdf](http://www.issaquahmiddleptsa.org/Forms/IMPTSA_Membership_Form.pdf)

or the school office. Please return the form and your check to the office by November 15. Directories will be mailed in mid-November. For more information, contact Sally Brunette, [sallybru@comcast.net](mailto:sallybru@comcast.net) or Camille Vaska, [vaskafamily@comcast.net](mailto:vaskafamily@comcast.net), PTSA Co-Presidents.

## **Issaquah School District Math Conversation Nights**

Are you aware that the state will soon begin mandating that secondary students pass math end-of-course assessments in order to graduate? Do you know how many secondary students and parents in the Issaquah School District are generally happy with their math experience? Are you concerned about conflicting math curriculum recommendations from the state?

Then please come to one of the two remaining Issaquah School District math conversation nights: Tuesday, November 3, at [Liberty High](#); and Monday, November 16, at [Skyline High](#). These nights will focus in particular on the current geometry and algebra curriculum adoption and more broadly on families' overall math experience. Parents will be invited to discuss the rationale for the recommended curriculum, *Discovering Mathematics*, with teachers and administrators; to test-drive the recommended materials; to hear the results of the District-wide math survey taken by almost 10,000 students and parents; and to provide feedback about what type of math supports their students need. This is a comprehensive effort to understand families' math experiences so the District can better serve all levels of learners.

More information about the geometry and algebra curriculum adoption, including FAQs and links to the new state standards, is [available online](#).

### **VOICE Mentor Program** **(Volunteers Of Issaquah Changing Education)**

The VOICE Mentor Program is looking for community volunteers to work one on one with Issaquah students. These students are referred by teachers and counselors as needing extra support whether it is academic, social or emotional. The Volunteer commitment is one hour per week through the school year. The Volunteers work in the school setting in partnership with the school staff. ***Our volunteers routinely state that they make a strong bond with their student and “get more than they give.” We strive to make the students and mentors time together meaningful and valued.***

Placements are made based on the mentors' interests. Whether a mentor's passion is literacy, ESL students, math or another area, we have a place for you in Issaquah schools. **Please help us recruit your neighbors, friends, relatives or colleagues to become a mentor.**

For further information contact:

Susan Gierke, VOICE Mentor Director

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In Cooperation with the Issaquah School District

