To: Camille vaskafamily@comcast.net

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed winter break. Now it's time to get back in the groove! The school closure on December 9 canceled our monthly meeting, and that makes the January meeting extra-special: \* Friday, Jan 9 - 9:00 am (social time) & 9:30-11:30 am (meeting) \* Sign in at Patti's desk, then head to the IHS main office conference room.

## Advocacy: Connect with Your State Legislators

As we enter the next legislative session for Washington State, use this link for great contact information on reaching our legislators in Olympia: <u>http://leg.wa.gov:80/legislature/Pages/MemberInformation.aspx</u>

Unsure who your legislators are? Just click here: http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/

Our legislators want to hear from you and learn what you feel is important. Please feel free to email them, call them and ask for a return call, set up an time to meet with them, or call them and leave a message with their legislative aid. They want to know what matters most to you! *Contact: Advocacy Chairs Jody Mull & Danelle Gonzalez* 

## Help Your Student Prepare for College Tests at IHS

**Mock SAT & ACT Exams**: Administered by a KAPLAN rep, these tests approximate the real SAT and ACT exam experience, including material covered, time constraints and scoring. The exams are held at IHS and cost just \$25:

- Mock ACT: Sat, Jan 24, 8 am-1 pm
- Mock SAT: Sat, Jan 31, 8 am-1 pm

An optional joint feedback session will be held on **Monday, Feb 9, 6-7 pm**, in the IHS library. Students and parents are encouraged to attend.

Register at the PTSA website. Contact: Mock Tests Chair Karen Starcevich

**SAT Prep Classes - Winter Session:** Recommended for juniors (Class of 2016), SAT prep classes offer students essential skills and tips for success with the current SAT and can help them reach their college admission goals. Now is the time to register your student for our convenient classes, held at IHS and taught by IHS teachers:

- Math Class: Mondays, Jan. 26-Mar 9 (except Feb 16), 3:00-5:00 pm or 5:30-7:30 pm
- Reading & Writing Class: Thursdays, Jan 29-Mar 12 (except Feb 19), 2:45-4:45 or 5:00-7:00 pm

The cost is \$100 and includes the College Board SAT Prep book. Register at the PTSA website.

<u>The SAT is changing!</u> A redesigned SAT will be introduced in Spring 2016. The Class of 2017 will be in a unique position: These students can take the current test through Fall 2015, the redesigned test in Spring

January 2015

2016, or both. They will be able to provide all their SAT scores, from either test, to colleges, and many schools use the most favorable scores in determining admissions. See a comparison of the SAT tests <u>here</u>. In Fall 2015, IH PTSA will offer prep classes for the redesigned SAT.

Contact: SAT Prep Classes Chair Jeanne Simon

# Issaquah Special Olympics Basketball

Come and root for our popular team in new uniforms, courtesy of the IHS Athletic Department! Everyone is welcome, and admission is free. Upcoming games in the IHS gym are:



- Thursday, Jan 15: 7 pm vs Ingraham High Special Olympics team
- Tuesday, Jan 27: 7 pm vs Federal Way Special Olympics team

### Contact: Special Services Liaison Sandi Lum



# IFashion 2015 Show

All 2015 models have been sent an email confirming they are in the April 24 show. Their first commitment is January 14. We will be holding a fun model photo shoot & information session in the upper commons @ 8:30 am. (Models can come in their regular school clothes.)

Stay up to date on model activities on www.issaquahfashion.com,

Facebook, Twitter , and Instagram ---- **#IssyFashion** Contact: IFashion 2015 Chairs <u>Stephanie Morton</u> & <u>Lisa Clawson</u>

## Nominate Deserving Individuals Now for Golden Acorn and Outstanding Advocate Awards

Each year our PTSA recognizes outstanding volunteers with a Golden Acorn Award or Outstanding Advocate Award. Nominations are requested now until February 13. Forms are available on the IH PTSA website under Awards. It's a great way to show you appreciate the extra effort of these individuals!



The Golden Acorn Award honors people who have given exemplary volunteer service to children and youth in our school community. Recipients volunteer in ways that meet the mission of PTA: Promoting the health, welfare, safety and education of all children and youth.

The Outstanding Advocate Award recognizes individuals for continued and dedicated service to ALL children and a demonstrated commitment to helping create strong policies relating to the health, welfare, safety, and education of children and youth. *Contact: Awards Chair <u>Becky Gordon</u>* 

# Messages from Our Community



## Happy New Year!

Our community rocks! Your donations topped off our *All in for Kids* Annual Fund campaign in December, allowing us to begin 2015 with even more support of our students and schools. Because of you, the **Start Strong Program** for freshmen will be

expanded and we'll be able to fully fund our **Academic Enrichment Grants**. THANK YOU for continuing to elevate education for every student in the District. Our best wishes for a fantabulous 2015.

#### Mail Call

If you made a donation to the Foundation during calendar year 2014, please keep an eye out for your tax-receipt letter. It should hit your mailbox by Monday, January 26. Call us at 425-391-8557 if your copy does not arrive by this date.

### **Planting the Seed**

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the Annual Nourish Every Mind Luncheon, Thursday, May 14 at Issaquah Community Center and/or Nourish Every Mind Breakfast, Wednesday, May 20 at Eastridge Church. The Breakfast and Luncheon are THE BEST ways to learn about the District/Foundation partnership and see how students directly benefit from your investments. Plus, both events are inspiring and fun!

If you'd like to join us as a Table Captain or event volunteer, please contract Audrey Clark.

### **Empty Closets = Full Tummies**

Value Village is opening a store in Issaquah and has selected the Issaquah Schools Foundation as its local nonprofit partner. All clothing and household goods donated at the Issaquah store February 17-21 will result in a cash donation to the Foundation. We'll direct the money to the Basic Student Needs program which provides food, health care, clothing and school supplies for students in need. Stop by 5530 E. Lake Sammamish Parkway with your donation, and thank Value Village for supporting our students.

### Cracking the Code

Thanks to your donations, computer-coding instruction will soon be available at several elementary schools. The Foundation has approved training for 19 elementary teachers so they can bring **Scratch programming** into their classrooms. Developed at MIT, Scratch is a programming language that allows children to design interactive media using stories, games and animation. The Free Scratch Coding Clubs will be piloted at four elementary schools this spring. With their launch, Foundation donors will bring computer programming to students as every level - elementary, middle and high school.



You are receiving this as a member of the Issaquah High PTSA.

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