



January 1, 2011

Greetings,

I hope that this past holiday season was a happy one for each of you. With that in mind, it is only fitting that we begin our new year with some more good news!

As you may or may not know, each year taxing bodies in the state of Illinois (of which Indian Creek is one) must submit a levy request to their respective county clerks' offices. This request tells the county clerk how much money the district will require in local taxes in order to continue operations for the next fiscal year. It is through the use of the sum of all taxing bodies' requests and the estimated assessed valuation given to your land and property from the county, that your taxes are calculated.

Many school districts in Illinois are "tax-capped". This means that there is a limit as to the amount of taxes that a school district can request for certain district funds that include the Education, Operations & Maintenance, Transportation, Working Cash, Special Education, Fire Prevention/Safety, and Leasing funds. Indian Creek CUSD #425 is a tax-capped school district.

While work on the school district's levy request began well in advance of their December board meeting, at that meeting, the Indian Creek Board of Education approved an actual final levy request that was submitted to the county clerk by December 28, 2010. Each year with this annual levy request process, Indian Creek also submits its annual request for the payment that was approved by voters in 2002 for building Shabbona Elementary School. The amount that is requested annually for that payment equals the amount of the bond payment that is due for that year as our building payment. While the original passage of the referendum for building SES allows for this additional taxation to be requested and it is used for the yearly payment (until SES is paid for), these additional "voted-in" taxes **will not** be requested as a part of the 2010 tax levy request. Instead, Indian Creek will use some of the additional taxes that it will receive (as a result of much new construction that occurred during 2010) to make the SES building payment.

As a result of abating the tax request for the annual SES building payment, the school district requested tax rate that will be applied to the estimated assessed valuation of your property and land is projected to be the lowest tax rate request in the last nine years. This low rate request is the result of conscientious and sound fiduciary decision-making on the part of the Indian Creek Board of Education.

Sincerely,  
*Pamela R. Rockwood, Ph.D.*  
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY NOTICE: Indian Creek Community Unit School District #425 is seeking an interested resident to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education due to a recent resignation. To be considered you must be, on the date of appointment, a United States citizen at least 18 years of age, a resident of Illinois and the District for at least one year immediately preceding the appointment, a registered voter and be neither a school trustee nor a school treasurer. Some persons may be ineligible for Board of Education membership by reason of other public offices held or certain types of state or federal employment. The appointment must be from Shabbona Township. Any resident from Shabbona Township who is interested in fulfilling this vacancy is asked to submit a letter of interest and a brief resume to the unit office at 506 S. Shabbona Road, Shabbona, IL 60550 by noon on January 10, 2011. Inquiries may be directed to the unit office at 815/824-2197.

PRE-K SCREENING: Indian Creek School District will be conducting screenings for children birth through 5 years old who are not currently in kindergarten. The screening process should take about 45 minutes and parents should expect to complete a questionnaire on their child's health and social development. In addition to screening pre-academic ability a vision and hearing screening will also be done for children 3-5 years old. The next screening date will be January 27 at Waterman Elementary School from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for birth-5 years. Birth to 3 years will be morning appointments only. Please call 815/824-8257 to schedule all appointments. **ALL SCREENINGS ARE DONE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

IVVC STUDENT OF THE MONTH: Tyler Simmons was named the Student of the Month in law enforcement at IVVC for December.

WASHINGTON D.C. 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRIP: We are pleased to announce that we have enough students to make the trip this year! To date, twenty adventurous individuals have chosen to attend. Starting in mid-January, we will begin efforts to fundraise. More information will be available shortly.

If you are still interested in the trip, please be sure to contact Mr. Malm (ICHS) or Mrs. Watson (ICMS). Thank you.

Mr. Malm and Mrs. Watson

CONGRATULATIONS! John Feken, district band, high school and middle school chorus director, wrote and received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the Douglas and Lynn Roberts Family Foundation. The grant will be used to help fund the sound system upgrade for the district.

AN EASY WAY TO HELP ICHS STUDENTS: Do you have magazines you are ready to recycle? Before you toss them, think of ICHS! On January 6, 2011 Indian Creek High School will be implementing a Learning Lab time as part of our daily schedule. One of the important activities during this time will be silent sustained reading. Students may read books, magazines or newspapers. In order to encourage reading for all students, we would like to supply a variety of magazines which would appeal to different interests. If

you have magazines that you have finished reading, would you donate them to ICHS? You are welcome to drop magazines off at the ICHS office on any school day between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Jane Pace, Librarian, at [jpace@kidsroe.org](mailto:jpace@kidsroe.org) or call 815/824-2197.

**THANK YOU:** Student Council would like to thank all participants of the N.I.C.E. Center food drive. We collected 573 units which included canned goods, paper products, and dry mixes. The winners were Mrs. Zwinak's freshmen advisement who brought in 228 units. The group will receive a pizza party for their efforts. In second place was Mrs. Hogan's junior advisement with 107 and in third place was the office and kitchen staff with a close 104 units. Mrs. Tyler and Mrs. Snider would also like to thank the Student Council food drive committee. Committee members were: Nolan Hickey, Andrea Corriveau, Taylor Johnson, and Megan Flewellyn.

Many thanks to Mrs. Karla Creed for generously donating a computer monitor to Mrs. Smith's room at the middle school. This enables the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to once again enjoy using both computers in room 302 for AR tests, research, etc. We are truly appreciating your holiday spirit, Mrs. Creed. Thanks again!

**ICMS 2010 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON:** The 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball team at Indian Creek Middle School recently completed a very successful season. Their overall record of 18 wins and 8 losses earned them a tie for second place in the Junior 10 Conference. Some other accomplishments include a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at the IC-Tip Off Classic, Consolation Champions in the Sandwich Tournament, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Junior 10 Conference Tournament, and took home the championship at the Black Hawk Invitational Tournament in Oregon, IL. Coach McClure is extremely proud of all their accomplishments.

Overall, the team was a pleasure to coach and played tough all season long. Coach McClure would like to express his appreciation for making this season so much fun to be a part of. The team included Mike Armstrong, Kameron Arndt, David Boehne, Cory Bradford, Matt Browder, R.J. Carlock, Drew Diehl, Kooper Gordon, Devin Heisner, Chris Pickwell, Ben Roberts, David Rueff, Winston Simpson, Cody Suddeth, Jake Wiesler, Max Williams, Drew Winterton, and Zack Zurick.

A special thanks goes out to Morgan Conley, Sarah Dempsey, and Olivia Elliot for managing this year. They did an excellent job keeping the stats and scorebook for the team. A special thanks also needs to go out to Mrs. Frankel and our wonderful cheerleaders who supported the team during every home game. Great job everyone!

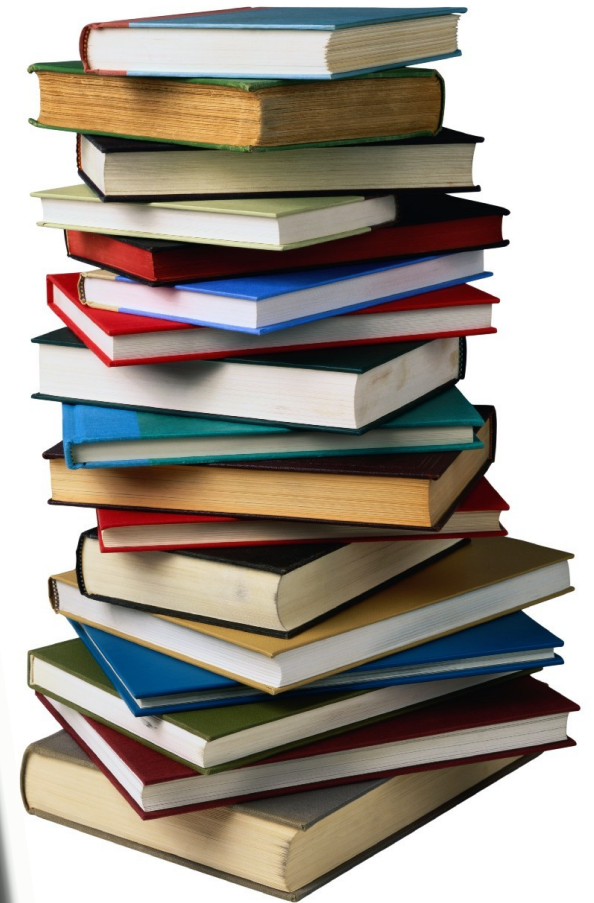
ICMS would like to express our gratitude to all the fans, parents, and parent groups who came out and supported us all year long. Congratulations to the team, its managers, and Mr. McClure on a very successful season.

**INDIAN CREEK F.F.A. UPDATE:** What an awesome month for the Indian Creek F.F.A.! The calf sale and fruit sales were a huge success and we thank everyone who participated in them. We also had success at the Section 6 Public Speaking and Parli Pro CDE. Jordan Flewellyn received 1st at the Prepared Public Speaking, Kye Witek received 2<sup>nd</sup> in Extemporaneous Public Speaking, and Justin Hatfield received third in Creed Speaking. Our Parli Pro team also received 1<sup>st</sup> place, with David Drendel as 1<sup>st</sup> place chairman, Megan Drendel as 2<sup>nd</sup> place secretary, Ian Anderson as 1<sup>st</sup> place floor member, and Dillon Martenson as 3<sup>rd</sup> place floor member. Congratulations to everyone for all their success! We also are currently working hard in preparing for our annual pork chop supper on January 14<sup>th</sup> during the Indian Creek vs. Hiawatha basketball game. Members will have tickets available to be purchased beforehand, so be sure to see a member to get your tickets early. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year from the Indian Creek F.F.A.  
Jordan Flewellyn, Reporter

**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:** Please check the daily announcements/guidance web page for updated information or students can visit the scholarship file outside Mr. Lindley's office.

**WEATHER ALERT:** The AlertNow service is up and operating! This system will make up to four attempts to reach each phone number, with three minutes between each call. The main purpose of using this system is for disseminating information to you about emergency situations and school delays or cancellations due to inclement weather. We will also continue to have announcements on WSPY-FM 107.1, WLBK 1360 AM, B95-WDKB 94.9 FM, WGN 720 AM, as well as TV channel 23.

**HIGH SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT RESCHEDULED:** The Indian Creek High School winter concert that was cancelled due to weather has been rescheduled to Sunday, January 16 at 3:00 p.m. in the high school gym. The concert will feature the high school band and choir and the marching band drumline will perform cadences from the parade season. The concert will last about an hour and is free to the public.



Degree-seeking students interested in attending Kishwaukee College **must take placement testing prior to attending** orientation sessions or counseling appointments. The testing lab at Kishwaukee College (Learning Skills Center) **is being reserved for Indian Creek HS students at the date and time listed**. If you are not able to make this time, tests can be taken at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. M-F and 5 p.m. M-Th. Schedule your testing time through the KC counseling office at 815-825-2086 x 5070.

## Thank You to our Reader Leaders at W.E.S.



Waterman Elementary School would like to thank our wonderful Readers Leaders for the 2010 school year. The program began the week of September 13 and ended the week of December 13. Our volunteers were: Roger Bosworth, Betty Clausen, Sandra Graber, Pat Harkness, Helen Hill, Judy Hogan, Jeannie Johnson, Darryl Kupecz, Carole Melton, Tom Melton, Betty Olson, Linda Russell, Leona Thompson, Fred Vandre, and Carol Vaupel. The time and attention given by these wonderful volunteers was greatly appreciated by the staff and students of Waterman Elementary. They each have helped touch a life, been a bright spot in the day of, and instill a love of reading in their reading buddy. We hope to see you in the next school year!

W.E.S. Reader Leader Committee,  
Diane Smith and Jan Foster