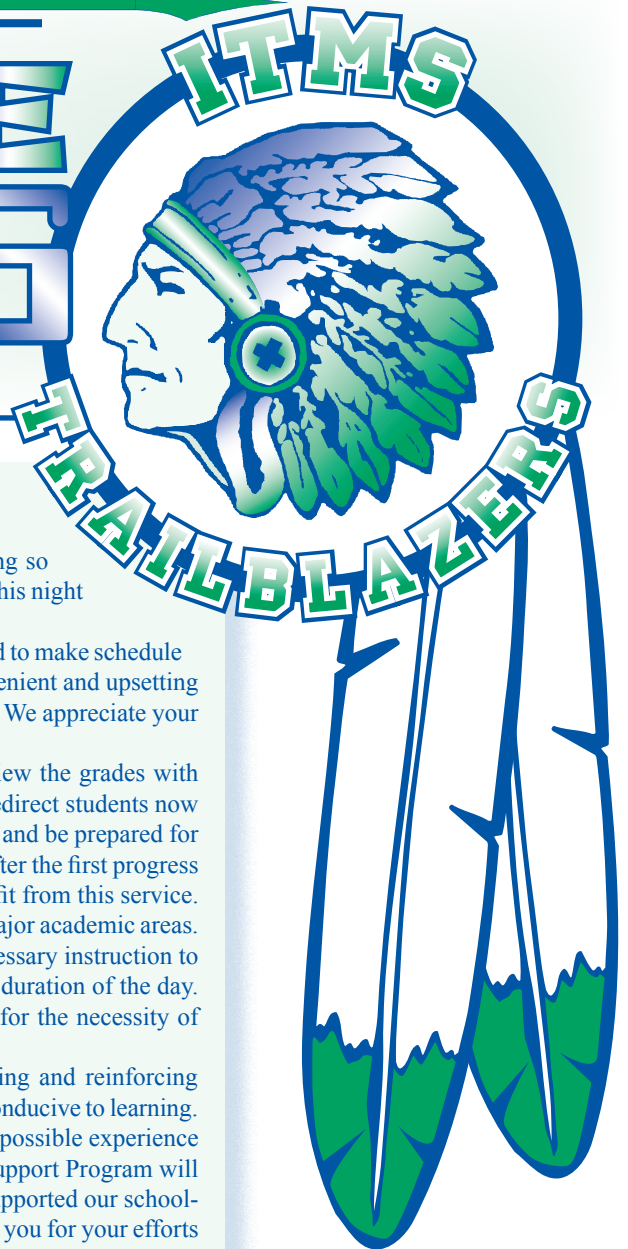


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SMOKE SIGNALS

For the Parents, Staff, and Community of Indian Trails Middle School



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

Lois K. Chavis

What a wonderful beginning to the 2011-12 school year. We truly enjoyed meeting so many of our parents at Open house in September. Thank you for coming out and making this night such a success.

As we continue to deal with the class size amendment, we will, from time to time, need to make schedule changes due to adding additional staff and/or sections to our master schedule. As inconvenient and upsetting as this may be, it is a necessity. Please bear with us as we try to meet the letter of the law. We appreciate your patience and thank you for your understanding.

First quarter progress reports have gone home. Parents, we encourage you to review the grades with your child and make contact with your child's teachers, if necessary. It is important to redirect students now toward success so that they can master the skills they need to be successful at grade level and be prepared for the various administrations of the FCAT in the spring. Tutorial services will be offered after the first progress report to assist those students who are having academic difficulties and who would benefit from this service. Letters of invitation will be sent to the parents whose child (ren) are not achieving in the major academic areas. In addition, it is vital that students are in attendance daily and on-time to receive the necessary instruction to help them achieve success. Please make sure your child is at school on time and for the duration of the day. A lackadaisical attitude in regard to attendance promotes a lack of regard by the child for the necessity of getting a good education.

At ITMS, we continue to promote positive behavior with our students, encouraging and reinforcing acceptable behaviors of conduct and dress in order to maintain a safe and orderly campus conducive to learning. We certainly appreciate parental support in our efforts to make the middle years the best possible experience ever for your children, and your monetary contributions toward our Positive Behavior Support Program will be most helpful in recognizing our students. In addition, we appreciate all of you who supported our school-wide fundraiser! We know that these are difficult times for many of our families and thank you for your efforts in helping our school.

Parents, we would love to have you as a dividend or a member of our parent organizations. Join up today!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 17..... Teacher Workday – NO school for students
October 26..... Volleyball – Boys @ Lawton Chiles, Girls Home
October 24-28 Red Ribbon Week
October 31..... Picture Retakes
November 2..... Volleyball Girls @ South Seminole, Boys Home
November 9..... Volleyball - Boys @ Tuskawilla, Girls Home
November 10..... Family Fall Festival
November 11..... Veteran's Day
November 14-18.. American Education Week
November 14..... Scoliosis, Hearing, Vision Screening
November 15..... All County Auditions @ Tuskawilla
November 23-25 .. Thanksgiving Holiday
November 12..... Girl's County Volleyball Tournament @ TBA
November 19..... Boy's County Volleyball Tournament @ TBA
November 30..... Vision Re-Screening
December 9 Epcot Fie

FCAT – IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

In February all of the Indian Trails 8th grade students will take the FCAT Writes. Last year ITMS 8th graders placed Number 1 in the district. In April all ITMS students will be taking FCAT 2.0.

Test Schedule 2012

February 28 – March 1, 2012

FCAT Writing (8th grade only)
6th and 7th graders will be given a simulated writing test

April 16 – 27, 2012

FCAT 2.0 Reading, Math, and Science (science 8th grade only)
6th and 7th graders will be given a simulated science test

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Indian Trails Middle School (ITMS) Community is to provide all students a safe, supportive environment where academic excellence is encouraged, individual strengths and talents are fostered and respect for the rights of others prevail.



**SEMINOLE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**