



ILLIANA CHRISTIAN  
HIGH SCHOOL

## February 2025

A note from Mrs. Rachel Monroe:

*Dear Illiana families,*

*I never thought I would have to write this but God's plans are always bigger!*

*Next year I will have the privilege of taking on the new job title as Stay at Home Mom to my five beautiful children. I can't thank the Illiana community enough for loving me and my family so well over the past five years. Special thanks to my colleagues for all the support and to my band students. You are family to me and I love you all very much!*

### **\*\*\*JOB OPENINGS (see descriptions at the bottom of this Newsletter)**

- Part-Time High School Band Teacher
- Part-Time High School Spanish Immersion Teacher

### **CALENDAR NOTES:**

- February 3 - Late Start, 8:15am
- February 3 - SAT Coaching
- February 4 - Concert: Symphonic Band, Women's Chorale, Concert Choir, and Orchestra
- February 7 - Middle of 3rd Quarter
- February 10 - SAT Coaching
- February 10-13 - Mission Possible Phone Drive
- February 11 - Challenge Day
- February 12 - Concert: Wind Ensemble, Chambers and A Capella Choir
- February 14 - NO SCHOOL, Teacher In-service
- February 17 - NO SCHOOL, President's Day
- February 19 - SAT Coaching
- February 20 - Praise Crowd Breakfast
- February 20 - Early Dismissal, 2:25pm
- February 21 - Praise Crowd Night after basketball games
- February 21-22 - Midwest Band Festival Competition
- March 12 - School-Wide Testing - SAT for juniors, PSAT 10 for sophomores, PSAT 8/9 for freshmen

**NO SCHOOL:** There will be no school on the following dates:

- Friday, February 14, due to the Faculty In-Service day
- Monday, February 17, due to President's Day
- Spring Break is March 31 through April 4; school will resume on April 7
- Friday, April 18, due to Good Friday (I forgot to include this last month)
- Monday, April 21, due to Easter Monday
- Monday, May 26, due to Memorial Day

## **ABSOLUTELY AWESOME EVENTS**

- **CONCERTS:** Our musical ensembles will be performing at two different concerts this month. Come hear Symphonic Band, Orchestra, Concert Choir, and Women's Chorale on Tuesday, February 4 at 7:30pm. Or perhaps listen to Wind Ensemble, A Capella, and Chamber Singers on Wednesday, February 12 at 7:30pm. We hope to see you there.
- **GRANDPARENTS DAY:** Save the Date- Grandparents Day is Friday, April 11, 9:15am!
- **MOMS IN PRAYER AT ILLIANA WILL MEET WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5 and 19 @ 8:00 am.** Check in at the main office. God is on the move at Illiana, help us lift up the students and school!
- **SPRING MUSICAL:** *The Music Man* is coming to Illiana in March! Students take to the stage for 4 performances March 6, 7, and 8. Tickets will be \$10 and \$12 and will be for sale online through Booktix. Watch Illiana's social media for a link to buy tickets starting next week.
- **PULLED PORK DINNER:** Come for the Saturday matinee of *The Music Man* and stay for some delicious pulled pork, baked beans, and cake. Dinner will be served between the March 8th performances of *The Music Man*. The dinner proceeds will support Illiana on Missions' mission trips to West Virginia, Uganda, Ireland, and the Dominican Republic.
- **VIKING ACADEMY:** Viking Academy 2025 is July 7-25. We can't wait to see you all! Keep an eye out on our website for all the camps being offered this year! Registration opens March 3, 2025

## **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

### **ADMISSIONS & ENROLLMENT NEWS**

#### **ATTENTION PARENTS OF EIGHTH GRADERS:**

- High School is just around the corner for your soon-to-be-graduating student! Illiana is still accepting online applications for the 2025-2026 academic year. Current Illiana families can access the application in their Family Portal under Apply/Enroll. New families should visit the Admissions page on the Illiana website. Please pass this information on to friends and family.
- **PREVIEW ILLIANA:** Join us on March 13 for the Spring Edition of PREVIEW ILLIANA. Please be sure to register online.
- **RE-ENROLLMENT:** Re-enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year will be automatic again this year. Principal Brent Vermeulen sent an email to all students on 1/28.
- **CONTACT:** Please direct all questions and inquiries to our Director of Admissions, Jenna Dutton, at [jdutton@illianachristian.org](mailto:jdutton@illianachristian.org)

### **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

#### **SPRING SPORTS TRYOUTS:**

- Boys and Girls track will start February 17
- Boys Volleyball Tryouts begin March 10
- Softball Tryouts begin March 10
- Girls Tennis Tryouts begin March 17
- Boys Golf Tryouts begin March 17
- Baseball Tryouts begin March 17

**PANCAKE PACER:** Our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Pacer 5k run/walk will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 7:30 a.m. Following the race will be our famous pancake breakfast. All of the proceeds will benefit the Illiana Athletic Department. You may [register online](#).

### **BUSINESS OFFICE:**

- **INCIDENTAL INVOICES:** Please note that your next Incidentals Invoice will be sent in early February. Incidental Charges that you may see on that invoice:
  - Re-enrollment Fee: All Freshman-Junior students will be automatically re-enrolled for the 2024-2025 school year. A fee of \$165 per student will be added to your Incidental Invoice. Please note: you will then receive a \$100 enrollment fee credit on next year's tuition. If you need to make changes to your child's enrollment, please contact Jenna Dutton at [jdutton@illianachristian.org](mailto:jdutton@illianachristian.org).
  - Other charges you may see on your February Incidental Invoice: Winter Athletics Fees, Instrument Rentals, Camera Rentals, Gym Uniforms, Chromebook Daily Rentals
- **PIE FEES & CREDITS: NEW THIS YEAR!** The annual PIE fee of \$250 will now be billed in May ONLY to families who have NOT completed their volunteer hours. If you have completed all of your PIE volunteer hours by May, you will simply not be charged. If you have completed some of your volunteer hours, you will only be billed for what you have not worked off. As the year comes to a close, any hours that are worked in May/June will be credited to your account weekly. If you have questions regarding this new system, please contact Kathy West at [kwest@illianachristian.org](mailto:kwest@illianachristian.org).

### **COUNSELING OFFICE:**

- **SCHOOL-WIDE TESTING** will take place on March 12, 2025.
  - Freshmen will take the PSAT 8/9
  - Sophomores will take the PSAT 10
  - Juniors will take the SAT. More information regarding the SAT can be found below.
  - The SAT TEST will be offered at Illiana Christian High School on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 for Illiana students only. Indiana requires ALL juniors to take the SAT as part of graduation requirements. Students do not need to pay or register for the test on this date. In addition to meeting a graduation requirement, the results from this test can also be used for students' college entrance exam scores.
  - Seniors do not have school on this day and it will not count as an absence.
- **COURSE SELECTION:** In February, the counselors will be meeting with freshmen, sophomores, and juniors in their English classes to go over their transcripts, courses required for graduation, Graduation Pathways, the Indiana Core 40 requirements, and the 2025-2026 course selection process. Each student will be given paperwork to bring home to share with parents/guardians. This is a great opportunity for families to discuss courses for next year and their child's potential career plans. The deadline for choosing courses is February 28th.
- If you have any questions regarding the SAT test or course selection, contact your student's counselor - Mrs. Melanie Benes for students with last names A – K ([mbenes@illianachristian.org](mailto:mbenes@illianachristian.org)) or Mr. Neil Zandstra for students with last names L – Z ([nzandstra@illianachristian.org](mailto:nzandstra@illianachristian.org)).

- **NEW & REQUIRED!!! FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Aid)**  
During 2023, Indiana passed a law that **REQUIRES ALL** high school seniors, regardless of future plans, either to file the FAFSA OR to opt out of filing by April 15, 2025. Completing the FAFSA is an important step in a postsecondary education. Students pursuing short-term certificate training, associate/bachelor's degrees, or participating in some trade school/apprenticeship programs may receive financial aid by completing the FAFSA. Think you may not qualify for financial aid? The federal government has made some changes, so you may qualify after all. Even those who do not live in Indiana must complete this requirement due to attending an Indiana school. Contact Mrs. Melanie Benes or Mr. Neil Zandstra with any questions.

### **FRONT OFFICE:**

- **REMINDER:** If you have a new driver, please have them grab a parking pass form on the wall across from the office.

### **P.I.E. NEWS:**

- **SCRIP:** SCRIP payout was applied to your tuition statements in January. You should see the tuition credit on your February statement. Just a reminder that the SCRIP store is open during regular school office hours. Tuition earnings for last quarter were \$5,998.50. Since August families using the program earned a total of \$11,275.18 in tuition credit! Order forms can be found online or in the rack outside of the office. Your student can drop off your form in the office also. Just please fill out the form ahead of time so that the denominations that are given are the ones you would like. If you have questions about SCRIP, please contact Jill Rozendal at [scrip@illianachristian.org](mailto:scrip@illianachristian.org).
- Thank you to those who have volunteered in the lunch program! For those of you looking to sign up, please click on this link thru [signup.com](https://signup.com), <https://signup.com/go/WQOCFjL>.
- The **P.I.E. Fundraiser Dinner** pick-up is Thursday, February 6, from 2 and 5 pm in the Commons. Your dinner donation directly supports our students and staff through the Excellence in Education program. Thank you for your support! Enjoy the Rosati's pizzas and Rise 'n Roll pies!
- The **P.I.E fee** of \$250 will be billed as an incidental expense in May. Families who have met all their volunteer credits by May will not receive an invoice. Your earned amounts are listed on your parents renweb-service hours tab on the right, it is listed as the dollar amount. If you have any questions regarding the hours you have worked, please contact Shaynee Pierce at [shayneebug@gmail.com](mailto:shayneebug@gmail.com).

### **Spanish Immersion High School Teacher, Part-Time**

Illiana Christian High School, located in Dyer, Indiana, seeks a part-time Spanish-speaking teacher who is passionate about Christian education, to conduct high-school level classes completely in Spanish.

#### **Responsibilities and Qualifications:**

- Desire to honor God in work, family, and life
- Prepare lessons and materials that align with curricular goals and dual language immersion education (DLIE) standards
- Establish and communicate learning objectives that are consistent with biblical worldview, student needs, curricular goals, and DLIE standards

- Prepare, administer, and evaluate assessments, keep timely records and adjust classroom instruction in response to formative assessment data
- Pursue growth in DLIE best practices, pedagogy and subject-specific knowledge
- Collaborate well and communicate effectively with students, parents, administrators, colleagues, and professional learning communities
- Possess a Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university
- Possess a teaching license or be willing to pursue teacher licensure
- Be an advanced speaker of Spanish (native or non-native speaker) and proficient in English
- Agree with the Illiana Christian faith statement and a regular attender of an Evangelical church.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Brent Vermeulen ([bvermeulen@illianachristian.org](mailto:bvermeulen@illianachristian.org))

## Part-Time High School Band Teacher

Illiana Christian High School in Dyer, IN is seeking a passionate and dedicated Part-Time High School Band Teacher to inspire and develop students' musical talents while integrating Christian faith-based principles and passion into instruction.

### Responsibilities:

- Teach instrumental music classes, emphasizing both technical skill and artistic expression.
- Plan and lead performances for school events, competitions, and community outreach.
- Empower a love and passion for music while incorporating reformed Christian values into lessons, music and all areas of teaching.
- Collaborate with faculty, staff, and parents to support student growth and skill.

### Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Music Education or a related field (Master's preferred).
- Experience in directing high school-level band programs.
- Strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills.
- A personal commitment to Christian faith and the mission of Illiana Christian High School.

### How to Apply:

- Are you or do you know someone interested in helping students glorify God through music? Please email a resume and cover letter to Mr. Brent Vermeulen: [bvermeulen@illianachristian.org](mailto:bvermeulen@illianachristian.org)