



**ILLIANA CHRISTIAN  
HIGH SCHOOL**

## **MARCH 2025**

**\*\*\*\* NOTE: The late start for March is FRIDAY, March 7, instead of the first Monday. \*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*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:**

- Viking Academy Registration Opens, March 3
- Springfield Close-Up Trip, March 3 - 5
- Spring Musical, March 6, 7 and 8
- Late Start 8:15, March 7
- Pulled Pork Picnic, March 8
- Middle School Choir Festival, March 11
- SAT and PSAT tests, March 12
- PREVIEW Illiana is on Thursday, March 13
- Praise Crowd Breakfast, March 20
- Parent Teacher Conferences, March 20
- Spring Break this year is March 31 - April 4
- Fine Arts Week, April 9 - 16
- Grandparents Day, April 11
- Praise Crowd Breakfast, April 17
- No School, Good Friday, April 18
- No School, Easter Monday, April 21

### **ABSOLUTELY AWESOME EVENTS**

- **GRANDPARENTS DAY:** Friday, April 11 from 9:45- 1:15 pm. We welcome and are always excited to spend some time with grandparents here at Illiana! We will be gathering for coffee and donuts in the Commons from 9:45-10:15. Afterwards, grandparents will be visiting two different classes with a grandchild, 3rd and 4th periods. All grandparents will then be treated in the main gym for lunch with some special music and then a presentation by our Head of School, Lance Davids will wrap up the day for grandparents at about 1:15. We will be sending out invitations with rsvp details soon.
- **MOMS IN PRAYER AT ILLIANA-** We meet at 8:00 am on WEDNESDAY MARCH 5 and 19. Check in at the main office. We would love to meet and pray with you! We are encouraged by how we are seeing God move this year at Illiana and in our own lives! Please remember to keep our students and staff in your prayers!
- **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:** Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 21, from 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Teachers will be available, in the gym, for five-minute conferences. Parents are encouraged to come and take advantage of this opportunity to speak with all of their child's teachers. Students are not invited.

- **PULLED PORK PICNIC:** March 8, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Join us for the Pulled Pork Picnic. Illiana on Missions is sending out four teams this year to West Virginia, Uganda, the Dominican Republic, and Ireland. Come out and support the Mission Teams and enjoy pulled pork sandwiches and all the fixings.
- **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 are \$10 and \$12 and are for sale online through Booktix. There is a link on Illiana's website.
- **VIKING ACADEMY: REGISTRATION OPENS TODAY!** Don't miss out on an opportunity to send your kids to one of the best day camps in Northwest Indiana! Viking Academy is offered through Illiana Christian High School and has over 24 options of different day-camps for elementary, middle-school and some high school aged students. Join us from July 7-25, for high quality classes and camps. We are excited to bring a long list of integrative and enjoyable classes to the local community. Click <https://www.illianachristian.org/life-ichs/viking-academy/> to read more about the camps we offer and register your child today. If you have any questions please contact: [vikingacademy@illianachristian.org](mailto:vikingacademy@illianachristian.org)

## **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

### **ADMISSIONS & ENROLLMENT NEWS**

Please contact Jenna Dutton, Director of Admissions, with any questions regarding enrollment, re-enrollment, PREVIEW, and Shadow Visits. Her contact information is: Jenna Dutton [jdutton@illianachristian.org](mailto:jdutton@illianachristian.org).

- **ATTENTION PARENTS OF EIGHTH GRADERS:** High School is just around the corner for many of you! We are now 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 at 6:00pm for the Spring Edition of PREVIEW ILLIANA. Please be sure to register online.
- **RE-ENROLLMENT FEES** for the 2025-2026 school year of \$165 will be billed in March. All Freshman-Junior students will be re-enrolled automatically for the 2025-2026 school year. You will not need to fill out a separate re-enrollment. If your student will not be returning next year, please notify Jenna Dutton at [jdutton@illianachristian.org](mailto:jdutton@illianachristian.org). Families will still need to complete the course request forms through ParentsWeb as directed by the counselors.
- **UPDATE INFORMATION:** Also, since we do not get "fresh" information from re-enrollment, please make any updates in address, phone number, etc., through your Family Portal. To make updates, log in to your School > Web Forms > Family Demographic Form.

### **ATHLETIC NEWS**

**PANCAKE PACER 5K RUN & WALK:** Illiana's Pancake Pacer 5k Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, April 26. The Pacer will start and end at the Midwest Training & Ice Center (Dyer, IN). This course offers a great track for the race and is just a couple minutes from our campus!

- Check-in begins at 6:45 a.m. and the race begins at 7:30 a.m. Our delicious pancake breakfast will be held at the school from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. All registered runners will eat

for free following the race. Gluten free pancakes will be available. Any community members wanting to eat and support athletics can pay \$5.00 each at the door for the pancake breakfast.

- Please [register](#) for the race online. We look forward to seeing you there and appreciate your help in making athletics a great experience for our students.

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

- **CHEER**
  - March 18th 5:30-7:00 (open gym)
  - March 26th 5:00-7:00 (open gym)
  - March 27th 7:00 -8:00 (Parent & Cheerleader Meeting in the Commons)
  - April 21st 5:00-7:00 (tryout clinic)
  - April 23rd 5:00-7:00 (tryout clinic)
  - April 25th 5:00 (tryouts)
- **OTHER SPORT TRYOUTS:**
  - Girls Softball 3/10 (7-9 pm), 3/11 (3:00-5:00 pm off campus), 3/12 (5-7 pm)
  - Baseball 3/17 (7-9 pm), 3/18 (7-9 pm) , 3/19 (7-9 pm)
  - Girls Tennis 3/17 through 3/21 - all 3-5pm pending weather
  - Boys Golf 3/17, 3/18, 3/19 - all 3-5pm pending weather

#### **BUSINESS OFFICE NEWS:**

- **WINTER INCIDENTALS INVOICES** were sent on February 27, 2025. If you are NOT set up for automatic payments, please remit payment in a timely manner.
- **A SPIRE FEE** of \$70 was added to your Incidentals Invoice IF your student placed an order. If there is NO yearbook charge on your invoice, then an order was not placed. To change your student's order, please email Kathy West at [kwest@illianachristian.org](mailto:kwest@illianachristian.org). Please note, yearbooks may also be purchased the night of the SPIRE party at the door for \$85.
- **PIE FEES & CREDITS:** The annual PIE fee of \$250 will 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, please contact Kathy West at [kwest@illianachristian.org](mailto:kwest@illianachristian.org).

#### **COUNSELING OFFICE NEWS:**

- **SCHOOL-WIDE TESTING** will take place on March 12, 2025.
- **The SAT test** will be offered at Illiana Christian High School 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.
- The freshmen and sophomores will also take a College Board assessment on March 12.
- Classes will resume when testing is done. Seniors will be expected in classes beginning at 11:00 am.
- **NEW & REQUIRED!!!** FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Aid)

In 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. Be sure to complete the [24-25 FAFSA Questionnaire](#) to assist us with the tracking process for the state. Even those who do not live in Indiana must complete this requirement due to attending an Indiana school. Contact Mrs. Melanie Benes ([mbernes@illianachristian.org](mailto:mbernes@illianachristian.org)) or Mr. Neil Zandstra ([nzandstra@illianachristian.org](mailto:nzandstra@illianachristian.org)) with any questions.

### P.I.E. NEWS

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer for P.I.E.! We will be adding a couple dinners soon. Please be sure you have registered for [signup.com](https://signup.com/go/WQOCFjL) so you receive the emails about new spots available <https://signup.com/go/WQOCFjL>. If you have any questions, please contact Shaynee Pierce at [shayneebug@gmail.com](mailto:shayneebug@gmail.com).

- **The P.I.E. fee** of \$250 will be billed as an incidental expense in May for families who have not met all their volunteer credits. Families who have met all their volunteer credits for the school year will not be billed.
- A **huge thank you** to everyone who supported our annual P.I.E. Fundraiser Dinner! We were able to raise \$6600 for the Excellence in Education fund, which directly supports our students and staff.
- **SCRIP:** All SCRIP ONLINE orders are due online by 8:00 am on the Tuesday turn-in date. The orders will be ready the following Tuesday for pickup. If you have questions about SCRIP, please contact Jill Rozendal at [scrip@illianachristian.org](mailto:scrip@illianachristian.org).

### MARKETING NEWS

The Times of Northwest Indiana is again holding its "Best Of The Region" competition. Please help us spread the good news about Illiana by voting us "Best Private High School." This helps us raise awareness of the school and reach new audiences in the community. Voting runs until March 23. You can vote once per day at the following link: [VoteforIllianaChristianHS](#)

### MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

TRYOUTS: Wind Ensemble auditions will take place at the end of April. Outstanding 8th grade students who would like to be considered for this high-level ensemble need to contact Mrs. Monroe for audition music and to schedule an audition time. [rmonroe@illianachristian.org](mailto:rmonroe@illianachristian.org).

### TRANSPORTATION NEWS

2025/2026 Bus registration will be open starting March 13, 2025. The link will be available on Illiana's website [illianachristian.org](http://illianachristian.org). Illiana Christian High School provides point to point transportation from Calvin Christian, Lansing Christian and Highland Christian at a fee of \$300.00/student for the school year. Questions may be directed to Duane Kamstra at [dkamstra@illianachristian.org](mailto:dkamstra@illianachristian.org) or 219-558-7066 ext. 147.

## **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)