

December 2011

Dec	2	Dennis Liegghio, <i>Know Resolve</i> , 9th grade Assembly - 8:50 a.m.
Dec	5	Twelve Days of Christmas begins
Dec	7	Band/Choir Concert -7:00 pm -Cafeteria
Dec	8	Challenge Day "Wicked" Evening Performance
Dec	13	Parent Roundtable – L'Anse Creuse N – 7:00 pm
Dec	14	Physics Field Trip
Dec	16	Choir to Sing for Senior Citizens
Dec	20	Vision Screening for 9 th grade
Dec	21-Jan 3	Holiday Break – No School – No Homework
Jan	4	School Resumes

Please Join the Festivities

IAM students are performing in the CVHS production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Performances are held at the Chippewa Valley High School Auditorium, on December 1 and 2 at 7:00 pm; with a matinee on Dec. 3 at 1:00 pm and an evening performance at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.

The Winter Band /Choir Concert is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 7:00 pm, in the IAM Cafeteria.

In the spirit of the season and with support from their families, students are conducting successful food, toy and clothing drives.

Childhood Memories

Once again this year, we're celebrating the twelve school days before Christmas, with reminders of childhood experiences. We draw two names each day and our winners receive cuddly hand puppets.

Gingerbread Cookie Contest

National Honor Society members have invited IAM clubs to participate in this year's gingerbread cookie contest. Members are decorating cardboard gingerbreads to promote their clubs. NHS may decorate with a graduation cap, books and pencils. These *cookies* will decorate our hallways, and the club with the winning entry will receive a prize!

Helping Hands

The members of the IAM Student Council along with Ms. Szabo and counseling intern, Mr. Michalos, traveled to Gleaner's Community Food Bank in downtown Detroit on Monday, November 21. The students spent three hours working on behalf of the needy. Upon arrival, they watched a video that highlighted the impact of food shortages on families in Southeastern Michigan and what Gleaner's is doing to combat this problem. Our students packaged over 18,000 pounds of food for families in need and acquired a deeper understanding of the struggles some families face.

Classroom Cash Grant

Thanks to the wonderful efforts of Mrs. Swanger, our librarian, and our social media network who voted for the Michigan Schools and Government Credit Union Classroom Cash Grant, the IAM was awarded \$1,000 to purchase library books.

Student Council Candy Grams

Student Council will be selling Candy Grams during both lunches on December 7-14. For fifty cents, students can send a candy cane and a note to a friend! Delivery is scheduled for Friday, December 16.

Strong Resolve

On December 2, Dennis Liegghio from *Know Resolve* will be at the IAM to offer his annual presentation to the 9th grade class. Mr. Liegghio is a professional speaker and author of *Building a Foundation for Happiness*. The presentation he offers is based on his book and focuses on his experiences. As a teenager, he lost his father to suicide and struggled with suicidal depression. He covers the major themes of pain, recovery, connection and hope. He notes that assistance is always available and happiness is possible for all. (detourproject.org)

Challenge Day

Challenge Day is an award-winning day-long experiential program for middle and high school students. This year the Chippewa Valley 9th Grade Center has invited 20 IAM freshmen to participate in this program on December 8. Students will experience the innovative workshop, which is designed to break down barriers and promote school and community environments based on understanding, acceptance and respect. The Challenge Day program reduces teasing and bullying, teaches tools for peaceful conflict resolution, and inspires teens and adults to work together as forces for positive change in the world (www.ChallengeDay.org).

IAM Bookfair

The IAM Bookfair is this Saturday, December 3rd, at Barnes & Noble in Sterling Heights. Your holiday shopping can support the IAM! Any Barnes & Noble in-store purchase of books, café items, magazines, toys, games, and movies will support our library if you mention the IAM. Come in and visit Barnes & Noble, and view our student artwork and lego displays from 12:00-4:00 p.m. If you are unable to make it on Saturday, visit Barnes & Noble online.

Spirit Wear

IAM Spirit Wear is scheduled to be delivered prior to Tuesday, Dec. 20. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Szabo at aszabo@cvs.k12.mi.us

Yearbooks

The last day to purchase the 2011-2012 IAM yearbooks at the discounted price of \$50 is Tuesday, December 20. Please fill out an order form and bring to school a check made out to the International Academy of Macomb to reserve your copy. Contact Ms. Szabo at aszabo@cvs.k12.mi.us with any questions. Yearbooks can also be purchased online at www.yearbooksforever.com.

Germany Trip Changed to Summer 2012!

The trip to Germany has been changed to June 2012 to accommodate students interested in attending. If you are interested in enrolling for the trip or looking at the itinerary, please visit <http://www.eftours.com/preview-tour.aspx?pt=SZ-1153878>. Please email Ms. Szabo at aszabo@cvs.k12.mi.us if you have questions.

It's That Time of Year Again

The International Academy of Macomb will be closed when the Chippewa Valley School District is closed due to inclement weather. Students should listen to local radio stations or TV stations for the announcement that "Chippewa Valley School District is closed." If a student's sending school district and/or transporting districts are closed, but the IAM is open, parents should decide if it is safe for the student to travel to the IAM. If the family determines that it is not safe to travel to the IAM, the parent must call in the absence to the attendance office at 586.723.7299. The absence will be marked as exempted and not counted toward the cap of allowable absences. Students should check Blackboard for assignments.

2012/2013 School Year

We are beginning the process of enrolling students for the graduating class of 2016. Information nights for prospective applicants and their parents will be held in the Cafeteria at the IAM on January 10, 11, and 12 at 7:00 p.m. The deadline for all applicants will be Friday, February 3, 2011. Testing will be held on February 29 and March 3. The International Academy of Macomb High School provides excellent educational opportunities for all motivated students.

Dress for Success

The international Academy of Macomb takes pride in its students and expects they will dress in attire that reflects the high quality of the program. Students should dress for success with a focus on business casual. No "questionable" attire should be considered.

A Joyous Celebration

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a beautiful holiday season, in the company of loving family members and friends.

COUNSELOR CORNER – DR. STRONG

ACT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines:

We will register all juniors (at no cost) for the MME, which includes a full ACT plus writing, on March 6, 7, & 8 at the IAM. There is no need to do anything for that test date.

Students may choose to take the ACT as many times as they wish (at their expense). The cost to register for the ACT plus writing is \$49.50. Registration can be done online at www.actstudent.org. Most colleges and universities will accept an ACT or SAT score for admissions purposes; however, please consult the college or university admission webpage to verify this information.

Test Date	Registration Deadline	<i>(Late Fee Required)</i>
September 10, 2011	August 12, 2011	August 13 – 26, 2011
October 22, 2011	September 16, 2011	September 17 – 30, 2011
December 10, 2011	November 11, 2011	November 12 – 18, 2011
February 11, 2012*	January 13, 2012	January 14 – 20, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 10 – 23, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 5 – 18, 2012

If your student is planning to apply to highly selective colleges or universities, he or she may need to register for an SAT Subject Test (in addition to the ACT or SAT). Please consult the college or university admissions webpage for more information in this regard, or feel free to contact me.

Junior College & University Planning Night:

The junior college and university planning night has been scheduled for March 15, 2012. Eleventh grade students and their parents/guardians are welcome to join us to learn details about the college selection and admissions process.

Senior Financial Aid Planning Night:

The first annual financial aid planning night has been scheduled for January 19, 2012. We will discuss financial aid (scholarships, loans, grants, etc.). We will also have a university financial aid representative present to teach students and parents/guardians how to fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).