

Ida Insights

Where Learning Strikes

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Ida Community:

As we bid farewell to another successful school year, I am filled with a sense of pride and accomplishment for all that we have achieved together as a school community. This year has been marked by numerous successes that speak volumes about our collective dedication and hard work. Our students have demonstrated remarkable growth and resilience, and it's truly inspiring to witness their achievements and the impact they've had on our school.

I am grateful for the unwavering support of our teachers, staff, parents, and community members who have played integral roles in making this year a resounding success. It's through your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment that we have been able to create a nurturing and enriching environment where our students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. As we reflect on the

past year and look ahead to the future, I am confident that together, we will continue to build upon our accomplishments and strive for even greater heights in the years to come.

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the dedication and hard work of our entire school community. Your commitment to excellence, your passion for learning, and your unwavering support for one another are what make Ida School District truly exceptional. I am especially grateful for the overwhelming support we received for our successful sinking bond initiative, which will provide vital resources to enhance our facilities and educational programs, including the expansion of our Agriscience program. As we look ahead to the future, I am confident that together, we will continue to build upon the strong foundation we've established, and that the best is yet to come for our students, our schools, and our community.

Wishing you all a relaxing and refreshing summer, and I look forward to the opportunities and adventures that await us in the coming school year.

David Eack
Superintendent

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Ida's 2024 Top 10 Seniors



Valedictorian Madison Steinman

Activities, awards and honors:

- Student Council President
- Band (Drum Major and Trumpet)
- Track and Field
- National Honor Society
- Class of 2024 Executive Board President

College and intended course of study:

Undecided-Organizational Communication Studies and Sustainability



Salutatorian Seth Breitner

Activities, awards and honors:

- National Honor Society President
- Student Council Treasurer
- Class Vice President
- Varsity Football
- Varsity Track and Field

College and intended course of study:

University of Toledo - Mechanical Engineering

Ida's 2024 Top 10 Seniors - continued



**Kennedy
Albring**

Activities, awards and honors:

- National Honor Society
- Junior Livestock Association Secretary
- Varsity Basketball Captain and Varsity Volleyball Captain
- Academic All Star Award 2022-2023
- LCAA Scholar Athlete Award

College and intended course of study:

Undecided: Nursing- Nurse Anesthetist



**Joey
Boucher**

Activities, awards and honors:

- William Capaul Academic Award
- Film as Literature Award
- Physics 1 Award
- Technical Director of the Marching Band's Council
- Treasurer of Drama Program

College and intended course of study:

Ida Early Middle College: Technical Theater



**Grantham
Nelson**

Activities, awards and honors:

- Boys Varsity Soccer Team Captain
- Student Council Vice President
- Tri-M Honors Society Vice President
- Class of 2024 Treasurer
- NHS Member

College and intended course of study:

Michigan State University: Chemistry



**Madison
Poley**

Activities, awards and honors:

- Drama Club Vice President
- William Capaul Academic Letter
- Class of 2024 Executive Board Member
- Rural and Small Town Recognition Award

College and intended course of study:

Eastern Michigan University: Actuarial Science



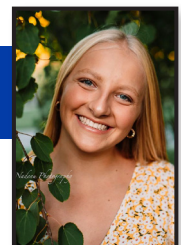
**Sydney
Poley**

Activities, awards and honors:

- Clarinet Section Leader
- Drama Club
- William Capaul Academic Letter
- Rural and Small Town Recognition Award

College and intended course of study:

University of Toledo: Accounting



**Shelby
Potter**

Activities, awards and honors:

- National Honor Society member
- Erie-Ida Girl's Swim Team Captain
- Class of 2024 Secretary
- Student Council Executive Secretary
- Monroe Exchange Club Youth of the Month

College and intended course of study:

Monroe Community College: Business



**Logan
Rinehart**

Activities, awards and honors:

- Low Brass Section Leader in the Ida Band
- Honor's Biology Class Excellence Award
- Art 1 Class Excellence Award
- Mythology Class Excellence Award
- William Capaul Academic Letter

College and intended course of study:

Undecided: Electrical Engineering



**Summer
Smith**

Activities, awards and honors:

- National Honor Society
- Softball Scholar-Athlete Awards
- All-League, All-District, and All-Region honors in Softball
- 4 years Varsity Softball Captain, 2 years Varsity Swimming, 1 year Varsity Basketball, 2 years Junior Varsity Volleyball

College and intended course of study:

Monroe County Community College - Mechanical Engineering

Annalyse Auxter

Michigan Farm Bureau Teacher of the Year



By Kassie Acker, Michigan Farm Bureau

Ida Elementary School teacher Annalyse Auxter is Michigan Farm Bureau's 2024 Educator of the Year.

The announcement comes in conjunction with National Agriculture Week, March 17-24. The award will be presented at MFB's 105th State Annual Meeting in December.

Alongside the title of Educator of the Year, Auxter earned a grant to attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference as well as a \$500 classroom grant from the Michigan Foundation for Agriculture, sponsored by AgroLiquid.

Auxter's teaching practices go far beyond her classroom, with a passion for creating opportunities for students to explore the outdoors by integrating environmental learning with state academic standards. When her students are not outside studying cloud patterns, releasing their hatched Monarch butterflies, or touring local farms, they continue learning through agriculture.

"The most rewarding part about sharing agriculture with my students is teaching them more about the world around them," Auxter said.

"So often what we teach is more abstract to students, but agriculture affects their everyday lives in clear ways. By teaching agriculture, I am taking them deeper in their understanding of their world and inspiring passions that can take them far into future opportunities.

We are taking farming beyond the idea of a farmer standing in their field to a multitude of career-based paths."

Driven to increase agriculture literacy, Auxter integrates agriculture into many of her lessons. A few key resources that she implements are lessons from the Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom Curriculum Matrix and FARM Crates. She's also welcomed the FARM Science Lab to her school. With the support of Monroe and Wayne County Farm Bureaus, Auxter is better able to create these experiences for her students.

"To all educators K-12, I recommend using the Agriculture in the Classroom Curriculum Matrix and contacting your county Farm Bureau or local Farm Bureau agency," Auxter said.

"The amazing staff at Monroe and Wayne County Farm Bureaus that I have had the privilege to work with have inspired and supported me in countless ways throughout our partnership. There are so many ways to integrate agriculture into every subject, including math, science, reading, and STEM. These resources are a wonderful strength to add to any classroom."

Auxter's "Famous Farmer Wax Museum" project implemented curriculum standards using an agricultural lens, with students researching famous agriculture leaders, connecting them to important social events, then sharing their information in a mock wax museum.

MFB's Educator of the Year Award recognizes teachers who excel at integrating agriculture and natural resource concepts into school curricula and who challenge students to develop critical thinking skills through the analysis of agricultural issues and information. Teachers are nominated annually by county Farm Bureaus for this award.

Sponsorship for this award is provided by the Michigan Foundation for Agriculture, a 501(c)(3) governed by Michigan Farm Bureau's Board of Directors, which positively contributes to the future of Michigan agriculture through leadership and educational programming.

Ida Staff

Shining stars across the state and the country



March 13th-15th, Ida Middle School 5th grade teachers Jessica Thompson and Sandra Steinke attended the MACUL (Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning) Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. MACUL is an organization whose mission is to “empower educators with high quality professional development in educational technology.” Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Steinke not only engaged in three days of learning themselves, but also had the opportunity to contribute to other teachers learning: they presented a session on how to create and use

Kahoot, Blooket, Gimkit and Flippity, which are all teacher-created educational games to be used in the classroom at many grade levels. Mrs. Thompson notes that while students love to play these games, there is a lot that goes into creating them and making them meaningful. Their session walked other teachers through how to do this and why it is beneficial to learning.

March 13-16th, Ida Elementary School teacher Alyssa Golden attended the CEC (Council for Exceptional Children) conference in San Antonio, Texas. The CEC conference bills itself as “THE professional development event for special educators to find research, tips, and strategies you can actually apply to supporting students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.” Ms. Golden also had the opportunity to present at this conference with Dr. Melissa Sreckovic, Dr. Jeremy Donovan, and Laura Martin from University Of Michigan Flint, and Dr. Christine Kenney from Grand Valley State University. The topic of their presentation was “Officer Friendly Day: Building Relationships to Keep Autistic Individuals Safe” and provided attendees with a step by step guide for creating their own officer friendly day event. Ms. Golden says “Officer Friendly Day is an amazing event that I am so proud to be a part of. This event was created to keep autistic individuals safe and connected with law enforcement and it is clear that it does just that! I am so excited to receive such positive feedback from the community and staff.”



Sunday

June 2, 2024 @ 12:00 p.m.

Graduation Ceremony

Rain or shine



**Attention Graduates and
non-graduates of the Ida High
School Class of 1979:**

The 45th class reunion will be held on
September 21, 2024 at
the Ida Firemen's Pavilion.

Attending the event or not, please look
through your photographs and submit
recent family pictures and any images of
79er's now or then for a digital display.

Email Jeff Donahoe
hoenews@yahoo.com

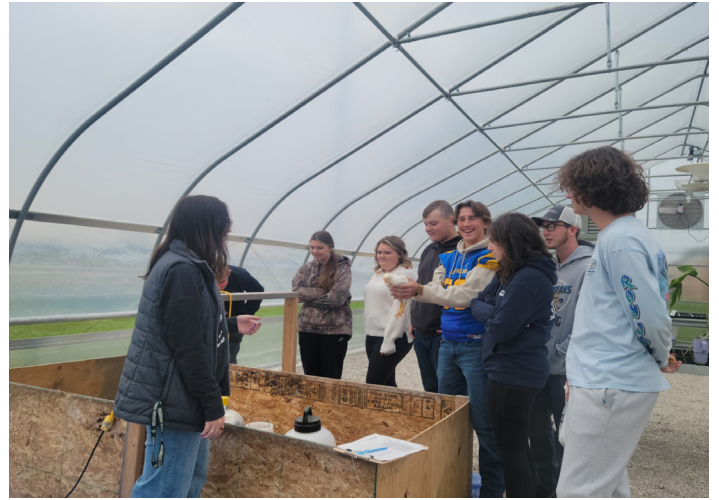
Summer School is Fun for all!



Elementary and Middle School summer school will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday June 18th- August 7th. This year, it will include academic work with Ida teachers and enrichment activities such as crafts and field trips. Students will be invited on a need basis. Students who attended summer school last year showed excellent growth as compared to their peers, and we are so excited to build on this progress again this summer. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Becker at lbecker@idaschools.org

Ida Future Farmers of America

2023-2024 Year in review



National FFA Convention
(Indianapolis) → 6 attendees

Michigan FFA State Convention
(Michigan State University) → 6 attendees

Regional FFA Leadership Contest → 6 participants
(1st place Regional Winner in Demonstration)
(2nd place in Junior High public speaking)

District FFA Leadership Contest → 9 participants
(Demonstration teams took 1st & 2nd)
(Junior high public speaker took 1st)

Demonstration team and Junior high speaker competed
at State Convention (first time since 1972)

Broiler Chicken contest → raised 100 chickens
and took a silver trophy home

2 students received Outstanding Junior
Awards & Academic Excellence awards
(1st time in program history)

1st annual greenhouse sale (200
hanging baskets & 50 patio pots)

Added 2 new classes to our program
(Floral/Landscape Design & Agribusiness)



Lesley Chovan
26 Years of Service

Lorra Drefke
6 Years of Service

Michele Conner
24 Years of Service

Peggy Rowell
18 Years of Service



Retirees as of July 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024

Ida Public Schools Board of Education

Heather Schafer, *Board President*
Jamie Hunter, *Board Vice-President*
Sarah Lambert, *Board Treasurer*
Sara King, *Board Secretary*

Todd Albring, *Trustee*
Edward Stotz, *Trustee*
Ryan Winkelman, *Trustee*

Ida School District Mission Statement

The Mission of Ida Public Schools is to bring students, staff, and community together to maintain our rich traditions. We will provide students with a safe learning environment, an exceptional curriculum, skills to meet the challenges of the future, and the means to become life-long learners.

Ida Insights is published by the Ida Public Schools Board of Education

If you know of someone not receiving the Ida Insights who lives in the Ida Public Schools District please have them contact us.

Disclaimer: The Ida Insights is published for all Ida School District residents. Some of our district boundaries overlap into other townships and school districts. Unfortunately, our postal routes do not coincide with these boundaries and the delivery of the Ida Insights may end up in your mailbox. In the event this is the case, please disregard any or all information in this informational newsletter.

