

The Achiever ▶

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Teaching & Learning



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IN THE KNOW



Dancing to the Beat of Life

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



Commissioners Discuss Immigration, Innovation and Finances

STUDENT SOUND OFF



"...many years ago women could not vote." - April P.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Brigadier Gen. Norris W. Overton
— A Lifetime of Leadership

Celebrating
Women's History Month
March 2017



DAYLIGHT SAVING
IT'S TIME TO SPRING FORWARD!
Don't forget to set your clocks
ahead one hour on March 12

Improving Literacy

As third-grade students prepare for IREAD-3, schools and parents can work together to improve reading proficiency.

Reading is fundamental! It's an age-old saying that is especially true for school children by the end of third grade. According to national research, students who do not read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers. Poverty only compounds the problem.

On March 13-17, Indiana students in third grade will test their reading skills through the Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination (IREAD-3) assessment. The statewide exam is designed to measure foundational and reading standards through Grade 3, according to the Indiana Department of Education website. The assessment has been administered since 2012 and students must pass IREAD-3 before being promoted to the next grade level.

Schools have adopted various reading programs to help students become proficient readers, but there are also many tactics that parents can use at home. As students prepare to take IREAD-3, here are a few reading tips to use with your child.

Ways to improve your student's reading skills

Read to your child and have them read to you.

Encourage your child to read with expression.

If your child comes to a word they are struggling with, ask them how they could figure it out on their own? Does it look like a word they know? What would make sense? Are there little words within a bigger word?

Have your child stop at the end of each sentence, paragraph or page to check that they understood what they have read. Have them tell in their own words what they have just read. If they cannot, have them reread.

Talk to them about what they read, no matter what it is.

Discuss the problem and solution within a story/ book.

If your child takes time to figure out a word, let them get to the end of the sentence and then ask them to read the sentence from the beginning now that they know all the words in the sentence.

Help your child predict what might happen in a story as they read.

Praise your child for reading and give them encouragement to read.

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ENJOY
SPRING BREAK!
MARCH 20-31

CLASSES RESUME
TUESDAY, APRIL 3

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Teaching & Learning

- [Taylor Green](#) works as an office assistant at Clarence Farrington School 61 during the day. After work, she spends her evenings and nights inside the studios at Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre (GHDT) in Carmel. A professional dancer and teacher at GHDT, Green discusses how she intertwines her love of dance and children.
- It's [Women's History Month](#)! Why is it important to celebrate women? "I think it is important because many years ago women could not vote. They stood up for themselves by protesting to achieve the right to vote. We should celebrate them this month because they would not stop fighting until they had their freedom." - April P., sixth grade, Lew Wallace Elementary School 107
- William McKinley School 39 is leading the pack in the [Read to the Final Four](#) competition, which is down to the Elite Eight. The competition is getting stiffer as the final championship nears in the districtwide third-grade reading contest. Find out who else made the list.
- [Micah Nelson](#), the 2017 IPS Teacher of the Year, goes inside classrooms throughout the district to find out what cool things educators and students are working on this semester.



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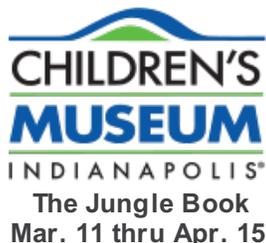
- The IPS [Board of School Commissioners](#) reviewed several initiatives during February's Action

- Session, including a briefing from the Facilities Management Task Force about consolidating buildings; budget development updates; and new innovation school proposals.
- Round 2 of the [Choice Lottery Application](#) ends March 3! But if you're still interested in enrolling your child into one of IPS' 26 Choice programs, there's one more round left. Round 3 runs from March 13 through April 21, and there are more than 500 seats available.
- As IPS prepares for nominations for its 2018 Teacher of the Year program, the Achiever continues to highlight the finalists and winner of the 2017 class. Meet 10-year IPS veteran educator [Dawn Wilkey](#) from Eleanor Skillen School 34.
- **IPS in the News:** President Donald Trump's removal of protection for [transgender students](#) leaves some Indianapolis schools without guidance. IPS shares its policy regarding the decision.



Family & Community

- Crispus Attucks High School alum [Norris W. Overton](#) recalls his early years growing up in Indianapolis and the education he received at IPS schools, which he attributes to his decorated career and leadership in the United States Air Force.
- In this week's [Hot Topics](#), we highlight three-time Olympic hurdler Terrance Trammell's visit to Arsenal Technical High School; Rep. André Carson's upcoming Youth Opportunity Fair on March 6; and the 2017 Rising Stars of Indiana.
- **IPS in the News:** Education professors Susan Adams and Brooke Kandel-Cisco are part of a team that will be recognized with a [B.E.S.T. Award](#) from WFYI (Channel 20) for its "exemplary work ethic and performance" and its efforts to develop a curriculum guide for the documentary "Attucks: The School That Opened A City."
- **IPS in the News:** Several IPS students were among 25 high school seniors to receive scholarships from the Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis during its 42nd Annual [Abe Lincoln Scholarship Awards Banquet](#). The awards are given to students who have overcome obstacles to achieve success.



On the Front Lines
with IPS Dance Teams

3.17.17



Inside the World of
IPS Choice Schools

4.7.17