



*IWA Weekly Newsletter - June 4, 2021*

**"Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened." - Dr. Seuss**  
*From the desk of Jan Cicerchi...*

Retirement is a tricky thing. Some days thoughts of sleeping in, sunny beaches and no deadlines seem perfect, but some days the thought of not entering a school filled with children, faculty and staff to interact with leaves me quite sad.

Yet, when I turn to the words of Dr. Seuss, everything is ok. I don't need to cry because it's over, the wonderful memories I have of the past twelve years makes me smile.



I will be forever grateful to the Sisters of the Incarnate Word for taking a chance and hiring a kindergarten teacher as the new principal of their prestigious school. I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the IWA faculty and staff for their dedication and commitment to gospel values and academic excellence. Their efforts made my job so much easier. IWA parents are beyond compare. Thank you for working with me to do what is best for kids. Lastly, I thank God for leading me in the direction to live the life I imagined – surrounded daily by smiling students with a passion for learning.

***Jan, from all of us at Incarnate Word Academy, thank you for your dedication and service these last 12 years. You will be missed!***

## **A MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION**

*From the desk of Steffany Congelio...*

This year has been a year like no other. In February of 2020, I said “yes” to accepting this position before the word COVID was ever in our vocabulary.



Last summer proved to be brutal. I was in a new building, with a community of new people, in my new office next to my co-principal.

Throughout the summer months, our weekly administrative meetings with Mr. Wisnor, Mrs. Cicerchi, and I were pretty intense. We had many questions regarding the upcoming school year, and it was scary not knowing the answers. Simultaneous learning...what was that? What new technology would we need? Could students catch COVID by sharing supplies? We wondered how little kids would bear wearing a mask all day, when would the first case of COVID impact our school, would we have to quarantine an entire class, and what even was contract tracing??

The faculty spent a lot of time learning how to become Google Classroom experts, how to operate new classroom cameras, what to do during our new dismissal procedure, coding attendance correctly for every period, and so much more....the list went on and on. As we got closer to the first couple days of school, the Diocesan website listing open teaching positions kept growing by the minute. Teachers were afraid to return to the classroom, and *frightened* at the possibility of teaching online again as they had done in the spring.

We are proud to share that all of our teachers and staff returned to IWA in August, willing to take a leap of faith. Their willingness to be wise, accountable, resilient, reverent, intellectual, open-hearted, respectful, and service- driven WARRIORS has forever made a difference in the lives of the children and families that we serve. Throughout the year, they continued to go above and beyond! Co-curriculars and clubs were still offered. They formed a Girls Running Group for our prep students, planned both a girl and boys STEM day, introduced the Lemonade Day club, the Pitch Challenge, offered online spelling bees, online science fairs, band and orchestra lessons, graduations were celebrated, and Fun & Field Day was a success.

This year, while it has been the most challenging, has also been the most meaningful. I am so proud to be a WARRIOR and to work alongside truly amazing people, who are so fiercely committed to IWA, and are committed to continuing the good work of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word.

## WHAT'S THE WORD?

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW  
THE IWA  
2021-2022  
SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)



**Great Lakes Science Center  
comes to IWA!  
July 26-30 for Grades K-8**  
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!](#)

## IWA Class of 2021

### *8th Grade Graduation*

This week saw the end of the school year for our 8th Grade Warriors, the leaders of the school! Led by Ms. Cuevas and Mr. Havel, we celebrated the students' achievements this week at the 8th Grade Honors Assembly, Baccalaureate Mass, 8th Grade Clap Out, and the 2021 Graduation Ceremony. We wish you all the best of of luck as you embark on your high school journey, and please come back and visit us. Have a wonderful and restful summer!

## *Family Farewell*

We would like to extend our best wishes to the families whose last child graduated from Incarnate Word Academy this year. You have been an important part of our Incarnate Word family and you will be missed!

Baker  
Berkheimer  
Blazer  
Butina  
Butler  
Chan  
DiFilippo  
Gabric  
Glaros

Gorczyca  
Gromen  
Iacobelli  
Karmarkar  
Kushmeliuk  
Morris  
Muntean  
Nance  
Pardeshi

Petkovic  
Richter  
Schram  
Simone  
Southworth  
Stephens  
Urs  
Wu  
Yamanuri



## 21-22 School Supplies & New Uniform Guidelines

Please click on the button below and type in Incarnate Word Academy to order your school supplies online! School supplies will be delivered right to your door. Save the date for "Bring Supplies to School Day" on Sunday, August 22, 2021!

[Purchase School Supplies Online Here!](#)

[The 2021-2022 School Year Uniform Guidelines!](#)

[Kinder Prep & Kindergarten Supply List](#)

[Grades 1-5 Supply List](#)

[Prep Academy Supply List](#)

### Are you an IWA Alumni?

Or do you know someone who is? We'd love to hear from you! [Please click here to complete an IWA alumni update](#) or [email Director of Admissions & Advancement, Mrs. Heather Schmuhl.](#)

Incarnate Word Academy

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