WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Iselin Middle School, 900 Panther Way, Iselin, NJ 08830 TEL: (732) 602-8450

Mrs. K. Cilento
Principal

August 2026

Dear Panther Nation Students and Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2026 – 2027 School Year. For those of you who are new I would like to welcome you to Panther Nation! For everyone returning, WELCOME BACK! Please be sure to check the IMS website as it is updated daily and contains valuable information about our school and events. We communicate via email and/or a text often, thus it is imperative that you update your contact information and email in Parent Portal.

We look forward to the arrival of our Panthers on the first day of school, Wednesday, September 2, 2026. The excitement to start the 2026-2027 school year is building here at IMS. Our teachers, counselors, and support staff have worked extremely hard with the hope of making the 2026-2027 school year meaningful, memorable and comfortable.

Student schedules will be available in Parent Portal on August 26, 2026. When Parent Portal opens be sure to log in and complete the required forms to access schedules. Before this date you can check the IMS and WTSD websites as both contain valuable information after reading through this packet.

Parents, we hope to see you at our back to school night on September 2, 2026 beginning at 6:00pm. Our main doors will open at 5:45pm. Our Back to School Night Event will start promptly at 6:00pm. Back to School Night is for adults ONLY, students, their siblings and other young children are not to attend. We will send a reminder about this as it gets closer which will contain the night's time schedule.

We look forward to the start of a terrific 2026-2027 school year. See you on September 2!
The school year will commence with a full day and an open cafeteria on Wednesday, September 2, 2026.
Yours truly,

Mrs. K. Cilento
Principal

General Operating Information for IMS

1. **Student Arrival and Dismissal:** There is no supervision of students until the opening bell, which rings at 8:05am. Please note that morning help is offered, at each teacher's discretion, but not before 7:30 am. Dismissal is at 3:05pm. Students staying for after school activities, Tuesday/Wednesday, must be picked up by 3:50pm.

   When dropping off your child, please enter from Worth Street. All student drop off should be done along the curb and we ask that you pull all the way down towards the gymnasium when dropping off, do not stop at the front doors, and stay in one single lane. We also ask that you **do not** park and walk your child to the entry doors in the morning, nor park and wait at an exit door to meet your child at dismissal. With just under 800 students, non-compliance puts your child and staff in danger.

   Bus – Students that are transported to school via bus will be dropped off at the entry of IMS. It is imperative that your child know the bus route, not the bus number, for example IM-1, IM-2, IM-3, IM-4 and so on or IMS-1, IMS-2a, IMS-2b, IMS-3, and so on. Note there is a major difference between IM busses and IMS busses. At dismissal, busses will be at designated locations based upon their route number; hence, the reason knowing the route number is extremely important. In the event that your child misses the bus, you should have an alternate plan set up as busses do not come back and we have no means to get your child home.

   Walkers – Students that walk to IMS should leave their home at a time that will allow them to arrive at IMS for 8:05am. At dismissal, students that walk home will exit from a variety of doors including 1, 2, 15, 17, or 23.

   Parent Pick-Up –Students that are being picked up by a parent should meet their parent in the back of IMS at JFKMHS by the tennis courts at Door 17. These students should exit the building at Door 17 and proceed along the path to the lot at JFKMHS. Those being picked up by parents are not to be picked up in the front of IMS. Due to the number of busses and students, we cannot have everyone picked up in the front of the building.

2. **Attendance and Punctuality:** The New Jersey Compulsory Attendance Laws require all students attend school on a regular basis. The Woodbridge Township Board of Education has updated the WTSD Attendance Policy 5113 limiting the number of excused absences. Please note that extensive absences may result in student retention. Your assistance in supporting us by encouraging your child to attend school every day, and being punctual, will increase your child's success.

   To ensure the safety of all our students, if your child needs to leave IMS early an adult declared in the Genesis System must come with valid photo identification for your child to be released. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

   If you, or anyone you know, comes to pick up your child and the blue light in the front of the school is blinking that is a warning sign to the outdoors that we are in an emergency situation. Unfortunately, when this is blinking we will not be able to attend to your needs and we recommend that you wait away from the main entrance until that light is turned off.

   Attendance Line: If your child is going to be absent please call us at (732) 602-8450, select option 2. Please make certain to state your child's name, grade, and reason for absence. Upon return, it is important that your child have a note stating the reason for absence, either from a doctor or the guardian.

3. **Unscheduled Early Dismissal:** In the event of an emergency, or when weather conditions deteriorate before the end of the school day, the Superintendent of Schools may announce an early school closing via School Messenger. If this occurs, student dismissal is at 12:45pm. Please establish a dismissal plan with your child; the office cannot notify students of dismissal routines per family.

4. **Delayed Opening:** In the event of a delayed opening, you will be notified via School Messenger. Every delayed opening is two (2) hours after normal start. School opens at 10:05am on these days, with no breakfast served.

5. **A.M. Detention:** Students will be given one detention after their third unexcused tardy to school each month. They will also be given detention for the third late to class. Detention is at 7:30am. Late arrival for detention or missing detention will result in two additional days of detention or ACS.

6. **Genesis / Parent Access:** It is imperative that you log into and maintain access to Parent Portal. All school and district information is shared through email and/or text messages, to your Parent Portal Contact information. Because of this, it is imperative that your contact information is accurately listed and titled i.e. cell phone, home phone, work phone all being under the appropriate heading.

7. **Locker Regulations:** Students will be given a locker and its combination on the 1st day of school. All school lockers assigned to students belong to the school district and can be searched at any time for any reason.

8. **Book Bags/Knap Sacks:** School District Policy requires that students place ALL bags other than a small purse in their lockers during the school day. Bags with wheels are not permitted and bags should not be oversized, as they will not fit into lockers. (See Board Policy#5132)

9. **Electronic Devices:** Personal electronic devices are not to be carried or used during school hours per Policy #5131. If a child has a personal device on them during the day it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day to the child in the main office, this also holds true for headphones, Air Pods and smart watches. Students in Grades 6 – 8 will be given a Chromebook for 1:1 purpose. Returning students will be given back the device they had from the previous year. If you do not wish for your child to be given a device, please email their counselor before September 1st and one will not be given to them. It is imperative that you read the Internet User Agreement and that you are aware that you are financially responsible for damage to devices owned by WTSD while in your possession. Please note - IMS is not responsible for any lost or damaged school or personal devices.

10. **Student Dress Policy:** When Parent Portal opens, one of the required forms for you to sign off on is the student dress policy. Student dress is strictly enforced. Shorts must be of an appropriate length. Shirts must have straps that cover any and all undergarments. See Policy #5132.

11. **Cafeteria Services:** Lunch is available for purchase at the price of $4.40 starting on the first day of school, as is breakfast for the price of $2.65. A complete lunch consists of one entrée, a fruit and a vegetable, and a milk, anything beyond these items is considered an additional purchase. Your child's meal plan can be tracked on the following website, www.payschoolscentral.com; once an account is created, you can safely deposit money, pay loans, and track your child's meal(s) while at school. If you are eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch, please complete the required forms in the portal before September 1, 2026. Failure to do so will result in your loss of this status and you will accrue a balance that you are responsible to pay. (Policy # 3542a). Check the Pomptonian site for allergy information.

12. **PTO Fundraising/Membership/School Store:**
    - **Fundraising** - The PTO will conduct many fundraising efforts for the upcoming school year. PTO fund-raising efforts support many student activities including, but not limited to, Panther Pride Day Events, Discovery Day events and more. Funds raised are also used to supplement the purchase of educational resources, assemblies, and to improve our school grounds.

    - **Membership** – In this packet is your PTO membership form. We encourage all families to join and become active in the IMS PTO, we cannot do this alone! We need your help in many ways!

- **School Store** - The Panther Shack, our school store, is operated by the PTO. There are a variety of items such as school supplies and other items for sale at all times.

Snacks available for purchase

Basketball, Soccer, Music, Color Run Games

IMS BLOCK PARTY & COLOR RUN

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

$10 PRESALE UNTIL 9/16

GETS YOU OUT OF CLASS, SNACK VOUCHER & WATER BOTTLE

AFTER 9/16 - $10 TO GET OUT OF CLASS ONLY

INCLUDE A SHIRT FOR AN ADDITIONAL $5 OR

BE SURE TO WEAR WHITE TO COLLECT COLOR!

SHIRTS ARE LIMITED SO BE SURE TO GET YOURS WHILE THEY LAST!

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE FORM TO IMS WITH PAYMENT

NAME _____ GRADE ____ HR___

CHOOSE A SHIRT SIZE IF PURCHASING (ADULT SIZES) (+$5)

M L XL

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

Iselin Middle School

JOIN OUR PTO!

$20 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

All fundraising proceeds go towards supporting IMS student events.

Please send in your dues today!

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE FORM AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR CHILD. CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO IMS PTO.

STUDENT NAME _____ **GRADE** _____
First Name **Last Name**

STUDENT NAME _____ **GRADE** _____
First Name **Last Name**

WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 Panther Way
Iselin, NJ 08830
(732) 602-8450
FAX: (732) 750-4861

Miss C. Cott
School Nurse
Iselin Middle School

August 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please take time to review all the information including the Immunization Regulations, Medication Policy, Allergy and Asthma Plan and more located on the Iselin Middle School website under the nurse tab. The NJDOH requires that students entering Grade 7 receive specific vaccinations, see below.

It is imperative that your child's immunization records are up to date. If there is any new information please send it to IMS as soon as possible, to Wendy.Medina@wtsdnj.com.

6th Grade ○ Student Health Record Update
7th Grade ○ **Doctor's Verification** of Tdap and Meningococcal Immunizations (must be received within 2 weeks of 11th birthday) ○ Student Health Record Update Scoliosis Screening Program ○ Student Health Record Update
8th Grade ○ Student Health Record Update

Again, immunization records and doctor's verification of Tdap and Meningococcal for Grade 7 students as well as other medical information we should know about can be sent via email to Wendy.Medina@wtsdnj.com. Likewise, if your child has asthma or any other medical issues it is imperative that we have, the action plan signed by the doctor ASAP, please review this link for accurate and necessary forms, https://www.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/o/ims/page/medications.

Thank you,

C. Cott, RN