



The Ireton Christian **BEACON**

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Ireton Christian School
**BACK TO SCHOOL
NIGHT**
MEET YOUR TEACHERS
EAT SUPPER
& SWIM!

Meet Teachers/Eat 5:15- 6pm
Middle School Meeting 5:30
Join us for hot dog & hamburgers (at school)
Swim Party! (Ireton Pool) 6-8pm



**WE ARE
HIRING**

JOB POSITIONS

Part - time 3rd/4th grade classroom para (8:00 - 11:15 M-TH)

Part - time custodian (15 hours a week)

Van Driver - Morning/Afternoon Route (7:15-8:00, 3:25-4:00)

JOIN OUR TEAM

INTERESTED?

email for an application

••••• megan.kooima@iretonchristianschool.com •••••

Principal's Corner

It is our prayer that your summer was filled with reconnecting with family and friends, with rest and relaxation. We hope you've had the opportunity to explore, play and enjoy God's creation! We are looking forward to another school year!

Ireton Christian School is blessed with dedicated staff who are committed to academic excellence and building Christ-like character in our students. It continues to be our mission to partner with our parents to provide an excellent education grounded in Biblical worldview. The mission of Ireton Christian School is to develop knowledge and understanding in each of God's children so they can effectively relate to God, to others, and to creation.

Our school theme this year is "Blessed!" The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most enduring, beloved moments in Jesus' early ministry. Jesus single handedly revolutionized how people viewed God and their relationship with him. On the hillside that day, Jesus made the radical statement that our good deeds won't earn us eternal favor with God - contrary to the popular teaching of the day. Instead, Jesus said, it's our internal transformation that results from our faith that matters to God. Listening to Jesus' teaching, deepening our personal relationship with God, and letting our love for Jesus shine through our behavior and actions - that's what matters. Jesus' message in the Beatitudes is especially important today. Kids face struggles every day. Whether it's trying to understand why they're in trouble for standing up for what they think is right or coping with a friend's situation, Jesus' words in the Beatitudes ring especially true today for the youngest of our faith. Jesus' words are words to live by for the faithful looking for transformation, comfort, assurance, and strengthened faith. This school year we will be traveling through the Beatitudes, inviting our students to journey with us to the hillside where Jesus sat long ago and taught the masses. Our prayer is that our students will impart on a deeper understanding and reliance on God.

It continues to be a privilege and blessing to serve as the principal of ICS. God is at work daily in our student's lives. It brings me joy to think about the impact our staff is making daily to further God's kingdom.

Megan Kooima

2023-2024 School Theme

Our school theme for this year is "Blessed."

We will focus on the Beatitudes. Matthew 5: 1-11 "Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me."

Opening Chapel

Parents and Grandparents you are invited to our opening chapel on Wednesday, August 23 at 8:15am. During this chapel we will be welcoming everyone back to school, introducing our new families (we are excited to have you) and introducing our new theme for the year!

August and September Birthdays

August 7	Hadlee Dekkers	September 18	Collins Waterman
August 11	Vincent De Boer	September 19	Mrs. Emily Toel
September 9	Mrs. Justine Byker	September 27	Kambrie Dekkers
September 15	Mrs. Gina Zylstra	September 29	Mrs. Katie Schuller
September 16	Dalton De Boer		



Welcome New Faculty

New faculty members at Ireton Christian School for the 2023-2024 school year are Rebecca Plendl (KOK Preschool Aide and K-8th Grade Librarian), Julie Hoogland (7th & 8th Grade Homeroom Teacher), Karissa Roghair (KOK Teacher/Director), Renee Saarloos (Reading Interventionist). We welcome them to Ireton Christian School!



Rebecca Plendl

Hello, my name is Rebecca Plendl and I will be the new preschool para and K-8 librarian for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. My husband Eric and I were married August of last year. We live on his family farm South of Maurice. Eric raises cow calf pairs, crop farms, and drives truck hauling cattle. I grew up in Sanborn, IA. I attended Sanborn Christian and Western Christian. After graduating from Western I started working at Hull Christian School as a para for the past 4 years, in a variety of different grades. When I am not at school I am often working at Pat's Jewelry Centre in Sioux Center, helping out on the farm, or playing with and walking our dogs Tex and Diesel. I am thrilled to get to know the families and staff of Ireton Christian School. I can't wait to read with, work with the many students and watch them grow through the year with the many gifts God has given them.

Julie Hoogland

Hi, my name is Julie Hoogland, and I will be teaching 5-8 Math/Science, and 7-8 Bible next year. My husband Jordan and I live on a farm southwest of Maurice, along with our five daughters. Brooklyn is a junior in high school, Sydney a freshman in high school, Rylee a 7th grader, Gracelyn a 4th grader, and Taylor is in kindergarten. Jordan raises heifers for a local dairy, raises cow/calf pairs, does some crop farming, and trucking on the side. He grew up by Maurice, and I grew up by New Sharon, IA. After I obtained my undergraduate degree from Dordt, I taught middle school for 5 years, the last one being part-time at Ireton Christian. For the past 14 years, I have been blessed by staying home to raise our daughters while caring for many other children in my in-home daycare/preschool. Now that our youngest will be entering Kindergarten, I am excited to get back into the classroom and am happy that God has led me back to Ireton Christian!



Karissa Roghair

Hello ICS family! My name is Karissa Roghair and I am thrilled to be the new preschool teacher and Thrive teacher for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. I will be graduating from Dordt University in May with my Elementary Education degree, along with special education and early childhood endorsements. I am proud to say that I am a Northwest Iowa native. I grew up in Sioux Center, and am currently living there. I attended Sioux Center Christian and Unity Christian, and these experiences are what shaped my love for teaching and Christian education! I often say I couldn't imagine my life without children in it. When I'm not student teaching, I am often nannying or spending time with my nieces and nephews. A fun fact about me is that I teach a cardio drumming fitness class at Robin's School of Dance in Sioux Center! Some of my other hobbies include walking with my dog Finn, baking, or anything else outdoors! I am eager to get to know the ICS family & join in on the amazing work that God is doing at this school!

Renee Saarloos

Hello - my name is Renee Saarloos and I will be a new Reading Interventionist at ICS next year. My husband Ben and I live in Sioux Center with our four children. Alex is finishing his freshman year of high school, Jackson is completing seventh grade, Samuel is completing fifth grade and Emilia third grade. I grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan and Ben grew up in Aylmer, Ontario. Ben is an Assistant Professor of Engineering at Dordt University which is what brought our family back to NW Iowa from Orlando, Florida in 2014. I will be completing my Master's in Reading Science from Mount Saint Joseph University in June along with obtaining certification as a Structured Literacy/Dyslexia Interventionist. I am passionate about partnering with parents, educators, and students regarding dyslexia. I am also a founding member of the NW Iowa Dyslexia Support Group that meets in Sioux Center where we desire to spread awareness and deepen community knowledge. I am looking forward to working with the ICS team and see how God uses us in the lives of each student!



Office Hours

SECRETARY- Our office hours for the secretary will be from 7:45-3:30 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. **Please use these times to call, or else it will disrupt class time or no one will be available.** You can leave a message with your name, number, and a brief message and we will get back to you.

Items for the weekly note will be due in the office by Thursday at 8:00am.

New Students

If you are a new student to ICS, we will need these documents: updated immunization record, vision screening, lead screening, dental screening, and if 5th grade or older a completed athletic physical. Please have these present at Back to School Night.

Updated Immunization Information

Parents please make sure your students are updated on all of their immunizations. If you need assistance on where to go to get them, please contact Community Health Partners at 1-800-435-3454 or 737-2971 during regular hours 8:00-4:30.

Athletic Physicals

All Junior High students need an athletic physical by their family doctor before the school year begins. Many places offer physicals throughout the early part of August at a lower or discounted rate, please take advantage of these and turn in your physical forms before the first day of school. **Athletic Physical Forms are available on the homepage of the school website.**

Parent/Student Handbook

The Parent/Student Handbooks will be distributed to families with students at ICS as soon as possible after the new school year begins. **Please read through the materials for your own information, keep on hand.** If anyone needs a copy, we will have more at the office.

A Few Reminders About Our School Week:

School will be Monday - Thursday. The first bell will ring at 7:50 and the tardy bell at 8:00. Students will be dismissed from school at 3:30.

Rally Day Sale

Watch for an upcoming date!

Dress Code

A reminder to parents and students to keep in mind the dress code as you buy clothes for the new school year.

- All clothes should be modest and appropriate for a Christian witness
- Suggestive words or the advertisement of alcoholic beverages, smoking, drugs, or anti-Christian groups on clothing are not appropriate
- Shorts may be worn during months of Aug., Sept., Oct., April and May. Shorts must be mid-thigh length or longer.
- For grades 5-8 shirts must have sleeves. The student's midriff should not be exposed and shirt should not be too tight
- Skirts should be knee length or longer.
- Footwear is required, only athletic shoes, no sandals or flip-flops.
- No black sole tennis shoes.
- Caps, hats, or headbands are not permitted in class.
- Wear appropriate clothing for winter weather such as coats, hats, gloves, and boots.
- Parents will be contacted if the child's clothing is inappropriate.

TRIP NEWS

Upcoming order dates are: August 28.

Orders need to be in the TRIP box in the school office or given to Donna Koopmans by **8:00 AM** on order dates in your family envelope. No late orders will be taken. Do not fax or call orders to my house - money needs to accompany orders or they will not be processed. Please try to remind your child to bring the order to their teacher or the office right away when they get to school, so that orders will not be forgotten or late.

Ireton Christian School

Auxiliary

All mothers with children in our school are automatically a member of the Auxiliary. We also extend an invitation to all ladies who have a vested interest in our children to participate as an Associate member. This organization helps and works many of our school's fund raisers and activities.

President	Angela Dekkers
Secretary	Amanda Van Driessen
Treasurer	Emily De Boer

IRETON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL | 2023-2024 CALENDAR

AUGUST '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

14-17 Teacher Work Days
21 Back to School Night
23 First Day of School (full day)
25 School Day – **Not Friday off**

52.5 hrs/7 days

JANUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1 No School
2 Classes Resume
11 End of 2nd Quarter
22 & 23 P/T Conferences (6 hrs. of instruction time)

141 hrs/18 days

SEPTEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

4 No School - Labor Day

112.5 hrs/15 days

FEBRUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

19 No School – Presidents Day

120 hrs/16 days

OCTOBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

5-6 No School – Heartland Convention
26 No School – Dyslexia Conference
 End of 1st Quarter

120 hrs/16 days

MARCH '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

14 End of 3rd Quarter
28 No School – Easter Break

112.50 hrs/15 days

NOVEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

6 & 7 P/T Conferences (6 hrs. of instructional time)
22 1:30 dismissal
23 No School - Thanksgiving Day

131.5 hrs/16.75 days

APRIL '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 No School – Easter Break
5 Grandparents Day 12:30 dismissal

132 hrs/17.5 days

DECEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

21 1:30 dismissal
22-31 No School – Christmas Break

88 hrs/11.75 days

MAY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

3 Field Trip Friday!
9 Mother's Day Tea (Grade K-2) 3:00 PM
16 Track & Field Day (12:30-3:30)
20 KOK Graduation
22 End of 4th Quarter 11:30 dismissal
 ICS Graduation 7 PM
23 Teacher Work Day

105 hrs/14 days

1,115 total hrs (1080 hrs. required)

1 day = 7.5 hours instructional time
School day = 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Possible build-in snow-days: Currently: 35 extra hours
 Friday, January 5 (4.67 days)
 Friday, February 23