



**Independence**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

*opening worlds of opportunity*

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TO: ICS Families  
FROM: Direktore Jurate Krokys  
RE: 2009-2010 School Year

The 2009-2010 school year is about to begin and, as always, that means a bit of paperwork for parents. Please carefully read through all the enclosed information and complete and return all forms before school begins. Every year at ICS is exciting and 2009-2010 will be no exception. Some of this year's changes include having one **Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>** in order to accommodate families with multiple children at ICS and to be sure that all staff members are available to parents on that night. The evening will run for several hours with a repeating schedule thereby allowing parents with multiple children the ability to visit with all teachers in one night. While 7<sup>th</sup> graders will continue to have Arabic class once a week, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders will now study Kiswahili and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will study Mandarin Chinese. ICS clubs will begin the first week of October and will end the last week of May. Registration for clubs will be available in mid-September. We welcome some new teachers to ICS this year:

Tr. Ericka (Morris)- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Enhanced

M. Andrea (Ringlib)- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Immersion

Tr. Ryan (Dunn)- Middle School Phys Ed & Health

Tr. Joshua (Klur)- Middle School Math

M. Eva (Recio)- Middle School Spanish Language Arts & Social Studies

Tr. Annie (Huynh)- Chinese Language & Culture

Tr. Faten (Baraka)- Arabic Language & Culture

TBA- Kiswahili Language & Culture

Tr. Lela (Betts)- Reading & ESL

Tr. Chris (Gaskins)- Family Liaison Specialist

M. Begona will again be teaching first grade, Tr. Yerodin will be returning to his position as a Special Education and Gifted Support Teacher and M. Andres will return to his position as a multi-prep teacher for grades K-2. M. Leonor will be taking on a new role at ICS as the World Languages Coach. We welcome Dean Kareem (Thomas) as our new Middle School Dean.

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Enclosed is a copy of the 2009-2010 Parent and Student Handbook. Be sure to read through the document and to sign the signature page (one page per ICS student in your household). You also need to complete the other enclosed forms:

- 1) Nurse's Office information sheet
- 2) Consent form
- 3) Student Data Contact Sheet (please do NOT complete this if you've already sent this form to Tr. LaVeta).
- 4) 2009-2010 School Meal Application packet. I urge all families (except those who have already received official notice that their children are eligible for free meals for 2009-2010) to complete and sign this form.

Please be sure to read the information about our new "School Reach" program. Through School Reach, parents will receive regular updates regarding meal account balances, attendance and other important news.

Enjoy the end of your summer! The ICS staff looks forward to seeing you in September (the 8<sup>th</sup> for 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders and on the 10<sup>th</sup> for kindergartners). Please keep an eye out for special drop-off and pick-up procedures at the very start of school since our school playground makeover is somewhat delayed and may not be completed by September 8<sup>th</sup>.