



# Promise

Winter  
2022

**A Brave Publication**  
Indian Hill Exempted Village School District

# *State of Schools*

## *Special Edition*

**Students are center stage for our new strategic plan!**





## A message from our Superintendent

Welcome to a special edition of our IH Promise newsletter, designed to provide you, our valued partner, an insider's look into the State of our Schools.

Our budget is balanced; our financial outlook is stable; our construction is underway. Our laser focus is to provide world-class opportunities to our students, detailed within our new 5-year district strategic plan.

### Building a Brave Future: Our Facilities

We are moving forward to Build a Brave Future that will serve generations of our future global leaders to come.

Across the district, plans are in place for mechanical, safety and security upgrades at each of our buildings, including the construction of our new Indian Hill Middle School building. Indian Hill Elementary School will add a robust new Unified Arts addition, replacing the old sawtooth section.

### Building a Brave Future: Our Strategic Plan

We are in the Brave Construction Zone not only with our facilities, but also as we launch our new 5-year District strategic plan. More than 2,200 stakeholders were involved in developing this plan, and we want to thank every member of our Brave family who invested time in this important work.

It is work that is student-centered to the core, as we move forward in using our Experiences, Environment, and Resources to develop: Learners as Doers; Learners as Individuals; and Learners as the Whole Child. Through these pages, we will define what this means, how we plan to develop our goals in each of these three key areas, and the timeline for implementation.

Keeping our students in the center of all we do, this is our IH Promise to you.

This is what it means to be Brave.

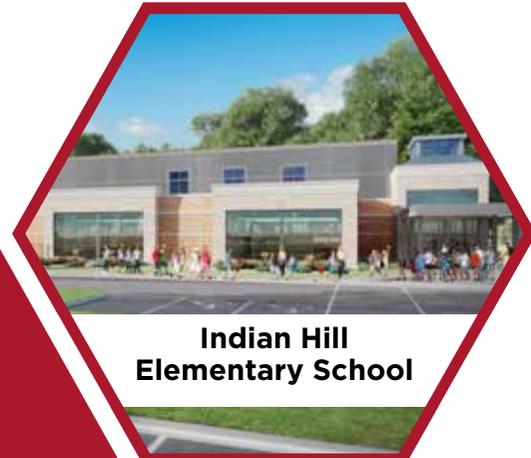
Kirk Koennecke  
Superintendent  
Indian Hill School District  
Kirk.Koennecke@ihsd.us  
@ihsuperbrave



Indian Hill Middle School



Indian Hill Middle School/Indian Hill High School Connector



Indian Hill Elementary School



Indian Hill Primary School



Building a Brave Future:  
Indian Hill Facilities  
Transition Resource

Please note:  
Renderings are in  
draft; these are  
not final designs.

# #IH Promise

## *The State of Our Schools*

*A special video presentation by the  
Indian Hill School District*



**2,200**  
stakeholders  
developed our plan -  
students, community  
members, staff, &  
alumni



### **Indian Hill Strategic Plan Development**

Use your smartphone to access the video  
through the QR code



**160**  
students  
participated in  
focus groups



**22**  
steering team  
members met for  
10-plus planning  
and design  
sessions



**6**  
community  
engagement  
events hosted  
by the District



# Unparalleled Opportunities

## Braves Make Headlines



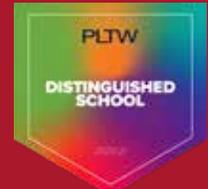
Indian Hill School District  
#1 in Ohio!



Indian Hill School District  
#7 in Ohio!



Indian Hill Exempted Village School  
District is a 2021 Top Workplace!  
7 Years Running



Project Lead The Way Distinguished School in  
STEM two years & running!  
IHHS is one of only 204 high school programs  
nationally to receive this distinction for  
the 2020-2021 school year!



### Indian Hill Primary School earns \$5,000 OSLN Grant, funded by Battelle

IHPS was the only primary school and one of three schools in Hamilton County to receive the Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN) \$5,000 grant, funded by Battelle.

"These are highly selective grants that speak to important cultural work in STEM," said Indian Hill Primary School Principal Dr. Erin Owens. "As one of the few primary schools in Ohio to receive this recognition, this grant is further evidence of the holistic approach to academics that begins with our youngest Braves."



### Indian Hill Elementary School students earn big in The Stock Market Game

The Indian Hill Elementary School first-place team of Jenny Willingham, Devyanshie Rautela, and Chloe Luther earned more than \$21,000 in 10 weeks during The Stock Market Game, sponsored by the non-profit Alpaugh Family Economics Center, part of the University of Cincinnati. The team will compete in the Portfolio Challenge this spring at the University of Cincinnati.



### Indian Hill High School student presents research at national Biomedical Engineering Society conference

Congratulations to junior Elsa Zhou who completed an independent research project on cardiovascular medical devices under the mentorship of a professor at Harvard and the University of Delaware. Zhou presented her findings at the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) annual national conference held in Orlando!



### Indian Hill Primary School Family Literacy Night

What an incredible event for our families - and 200 BOOKS were handed out! Thank you to the IHPS team for pivoting in dramatic fashion to ensure this fantastic event could happen this year for our students and families - excellent work!



### Indian Hill educators achieve premiere certification to empower students through technology

Indian Hill Innovative Teaching and Learning Coaches Ashley Morrison and Lauren Richardson, in addition to Director of Technology Mark Richardson, are officially International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) certified! Please join us in congratulating these dedicated educators for earning this elite status!





### Bravo to Indian Hill Middle School & Indian Hill High School student-performers!

Bravo to all Braves involved in the production of the IHHS fall musical "Little Women" and the IHMS production of "My Son Pinocchio" - both shows were simply outstanding!

ARTS



### Indian Hill High School student selected for Cincinnati Youth Jazz Orchestra

We congratulate sophomore student-musician George Zaring for his selection in the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music Cincinnati Youth Jazz Orchestra. Zaring is one of 15 musicians selected from across the region to participate!



### Indian Hill High School student-musician selected for All-National Concert Band

Congratulations to senior student-musician Jessie Chan, who was selected as a member of the 2021 National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All-National Concert Band!



### Indian Hill Brave Marching Band earns first place!

Congratulations to the Brave Marching Band for a first-place finish at the Miamisburg Band Invitational! Our talented student-musicians also won awards for percussion, color guard, music, visual, and general effect, and they posted their highest score of the season!



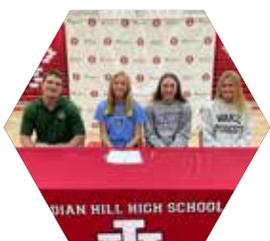
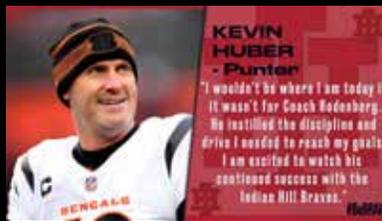
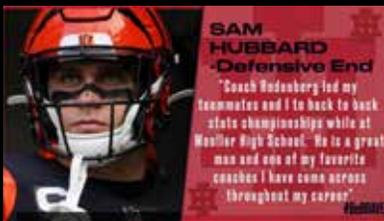
Use your camera phone to buy tickets now!



## A LIVING LEGEND JOINS THE INDIAN HILL FOOTBALL PROGRAM: WELCOME COACH JOHN RODENBERG

ATHLETICS

The Indian Hill School District welcomes seasoned and honored Coach John Rodenberg to the Indian Hill Football Program to lead the Braves starting in the 2022-2023 school year. Coach Rodenberg has developed student leaders on the football field within elite programs for nearly 30 years. His accolades include four State Championship teams, multiple NFL players (Sam Hubbard and Kevin Huber), more than 30 NCAA Division I, II, and III scholarship players, multiple All-State performers, and he has been recognized as the Cincinnati Bengals Coach of the Week five times.



### Indian Hill celebrates student-athletes with signing ceremony

Congratulations to our four student-athletes who committed to continue both academic and athletic careers beyond high school during a college signing ceremony. Participating students included seniors Will Adair, Annie Isphording, Ella Riggs, and Elizabeth Whaley. We also want to celebrate Annie Isphording for her selection as part of the East Team in the ninth annual Girls High School All-American Game. Isphording is one of 43 elite players selected from across the country!



### A celebration of enduring excellence at the Indian Hill Hall of Fame

The Indian Hill Hall of Fame welcomed new members Nicole Bell (2012) and Eppa Rixey IV (1972) on Friday, January 21, 2022 at Indian Hill High School with a formal ceremony.

# #IH Promise

## Strategic Plan

### Learners as the Whole Child

Providing instruction and experiences for learners by fostering self-awareness, developing responsible decision-making skills, valuing diverse perspectives, and establishing positive relationships

#### EXPERIENCE

- School / Life Integration

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Wellness Life Skill Development
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

#### RESOURCES

- Expand Career Pathways Mentorship

### Learners as Doers

Creating learning experiences for students to engage in authentic and real-world applications by emphasizing critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration

#### EXPERIENCE

- Student Agency

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Create New Spaces

#### RESOURCES

- District STEM Advisory

### Learners as Individuals

Offering a guaranteed and viable curriculum by recognizing the unique abilities, learning preferences, and background of each student

#### EXPERIENCE

- Culminating Experiences

#### ENVIRONMENT

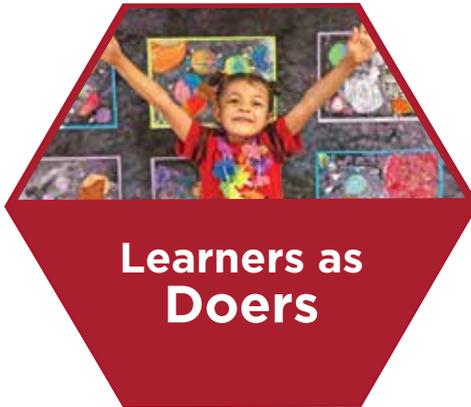
- Practical Life Skill Development

#### RESOURCES

- Streamline Communications



Our #IHPromise prioritizes our students by empowering their voice in a personalized, collaborative, and inclusive learning environment.



**Learners as Doers**



**Learners as Individuals**



**Learners as the Whole Child**

## We promise to...

- ◆ **create** opportunities for student agency in voice, path, and place that empower learners and values process as much as practice.
- ◆ **develop** a variety of different types of spaces which will encourage collaboration, autonomy, creativity, enjoyment, and self-care.
- ◆ **build** sustainable partnerships to address a variety of different types of STEM learning activities/spaces which will encourage collaboration, autonomy, creativity, enjoyment, and self-care.
- ◆ **support** students in each building as they engage in developmentally appropriate research, writing, and presentation of a subject of personal interest or passion to be completed by the time the student transitions out of the highest grade in the building.
- ◆ **create** developmentally appropriate courses and programs in practical skills to prepare students for future success.
- ◆ **develop/refine** the communications strategy to include clear and consistent access to financial and district-wide information, embedded options to drill deeper for more detailed information, and a more surgical approach to specific topics and audiences.
- ◇ **support** students learning how to maintain a healthy balance inside and outside of school through active engagement in BRAVE lessons and tools.
- ◇ **teach** developmentally appropriate, wellness-related, Life Skills through BRAVE Character Education to prepare students for future success.
- ◇ **design** environments and experiences that prioritize belonging, dignity, and love for each learner.
- ◇ **create** a sustained mentorship program, utilizing the Foundation board committee to ensure equitable access to mentorship for all IH students.



## Indian Hill Exempted Village School District

6855 Drake Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243  
(513) 272-4500

 [facebook.com/indianhillschools](https://facebook.com/indianhillschools)

 [@ihschools](https://twitter.com/ihschools)

 [Indianhillschools](https://www.instagram.com/Indianhillschools)

# indianhillschools.org

The Indian Hill Exempted Village School District serves students in the Village of Indian Hill, Kenwood, parts of Sycamore and Symmes Township, Camp Dennison and a small portion of Loveland.

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Cincinnati, OH  
Permit No. 197



*Indian Hill Board of Education (L to R): Bear Tullis, Board President; Craig Sumerel, Board Member; Niki Singh, Board Member; Nancy Aichholz, Board Vice President; Nolan Marx, Board Member*



## beBRAVE

*A Weekly Wrap of News Around the Hill*

September 13 | 2019

# #IH Promise

#IHpromise in ACTION

## beBRAVE

### Sign up to receive District news!

We are sharing all of these exciting new features that tell our Brave story each week within our weekly digital newsletter, beBRAVE! Make sure you are signed up to receive this publication, which also provides you with important financial updates.