

Student Affairs

April 2021 Newsletter

Student Attendance (630)907-5029 / attendance@imsa.edu

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ITS Helpdesk (630)907-5995 / helpdesk@imsa.edu

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Use your IMSA email address for any and all IMSA purposes. Using another email address will delay your communication and may cause confusion.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 12-16 - Selection Committee
- April 21 - IMSAloquium 2021 (virtual in the AM)
- April 28 - SLX, Hollister Lecture (**REQUIRED FOR SOPHOMORES**)
- April 30 - Student wellness break (no classes), Faculty Professional Development
- May 3 - Classes convene

SENIOR CLASS OF 2021

- June 4 - Tentative Graduation practice on June 4th at 9:30 am (location TBD - in-person/virtual).
- June 5 - Graduation: Commencement will take place at Northern Illinois University on June 5th and will begin promptly at 1:30 pm; students should arrive NO LATER than Noon. Additional details from the venue to follow.

RESOURCES:

- ComEd - <https://www.comed.com/MyAccount/CustomerSupport/Pages/BillPaymentAssistance.aspx>
- Nicor - <https://www.nicorgas.com/residential/billingandpaymentoptions/energy-assistance-programs.html>
- **All K-12 schools will provide meals to IMSA students through their local school distribution plans.**
- If you are in need of services during this taxing time, call 2-1-1. Live specialists are on hand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to discuss your needs and concerns and connect you to a wide range of local and state-wide resources. This includes food, shelter, help with aging parents, legal assistance, domestic abuse and much more. This also includes the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the Coronavirus from our most reliable and trusted local and national experts. Calls are confidential and help is available in over 150 languages. Learn more about 2-1-1 here. Alternate toll-free number: 888-865-990.
- **Free Internet Services** If you are in need of free internet for distance learning, Comcast has free wi-fi for 60 days (must apply before June 30, 2021). Review the link to see if you qualify <https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19>
- Applications to the [IMSA Student Emergency Relief Fund](#) are ongoing and provide assistance for basic essentials, including food, rent, utilities and access to remote learning technology. Preference is given to Tier 1 and Tier 2 families, but all families are eligible to apply. If you have any questions about the Student Emergency Relief Fund, please reach out to Mrs. Tami Armstrong at tarmstrong@imsa.edu.
- **Links to Food Banks, Soup Kitchens, Homeless Shelters in Illinois-** When you first click on the link, you will see a screen that allows you to click on the "Alphabetic list of all sites" to see all the food banks, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters in Illinois. Alternatively, by filling out at least one text box and checking at least one corresponding filter, a list of sites that match that criteria will appear.
- **Safety Concerns**

We are pleased to introduce you to the newest members of the Student Affairs team!



Pictured Left to Right 1st row: **Alex Pratt**, School Counselor, **Brenda Perez**, Residential Counselor, **Chloe Katehis-Krencik**, Residential Counselor, **Alyssa Gehrke**, Residential Counselor, **Tatum Butler-Hill**, Residential Counselor,

Pictured Left to Right 2nd row: **John Gnutek**, Day Hall Monitor, **Ashley Portillo**, Day Hall Monitor, **Aniza Razvi**, Day Hall Monitor, and **Alex Smothers**, Day Hall Monitor



MEET OUT NEW SCHOOL COUNSELOR, ALEXIS PRATT

I love being a counselor! Most of my experience has been working with young people. I believe that counseling a person during their teenage years can have a huge impact on a person's future because of the crucial life changes that occur during that time. I really enjoy working in a school, because I know that when I was in high school, school was like a second home to me. I enjoy helping create that comfortable homey environment to the students I serve.

In my therapeutic work I use a combination of Solution-Focused and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. I believe that our thoughts, emotions, and behaviors are connected, and being aware of our habits is the first step towards change. When working with students, I believe it is important to help discover what the student's goals are, and making steps towards those goals. Students are the experts of their lives, and my number one priority is to help and advocate for them when they need it.

I grew up in Downers Grove, IL, and I graduated from Downers Grove South High School. I received my master's in Counseling Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, and my Bachelor's in Human Development Family and Community Studies from The University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana.

Personally, I'm an avid runner, and I have ran too many races to count! I am a certified group fitness instructor, and I also teach several group fitness classes. I love animals, and I have a German Shepard rescue dog named Luna. When I have free time I love to go out to eat, be outside, watch movies, spend time with my family, and exercise!

HEALTH SERVICES

Important Information for parents of Rising Seniors - Class of 2022
IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT 2021-2022

[Meningococcal Vaccine \(MCV4\) Form](#)

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Student Leader Hiring

Changes are currently being made regarding the student leader hiring process for the 2021-2022 school year.

Sophomores and Juniors should watch out for an email coming shortly about this and a timeline for decisions that will be made.

LEAD

The Student Leadership Exchange is happening on Wednesday, April 28th from 9am-2pm. This event is the culmination of all of the hard work students have put into this course and is a celebration of their innovation and problem-solving skills. Attendance is mandatory for all sophomores.

SERVICE LEARNING

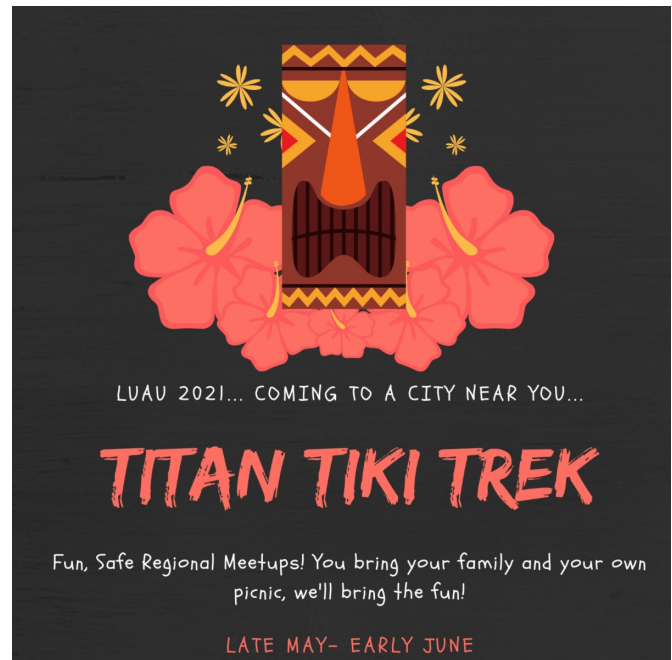
New opportunity!

Statewide Student Initiatives: Summer @ IMSA is coming up, and we're looking for students to help with the nuts and bolts of operations during the weeks of July 5, 12, 19, and 26. Students must be local and able to commute to campus every day that week, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 - 3:30. Students will be able to earn up to 50 hours. Please contact Ms. Megan Scherer at mscherer@imsa.edu for more information.

Students, please don't procrastinate in getting your graduation requirement of 200 service learning hours completed.

Need help obtaining service learning hours? Please check the [service learning](#) page of our website or email commserv@imsa.edu.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES



Congratulations to IMSA's **Future Business Leaders of America** Chapter! While competing in an all virtual State Leadership Conference in March, 24 IMSA students have been invited to represent Illinois at the FBLA National Leadership Conference over the summer. Of those, 14 earned 1st-in-State in their individual or team event. Congratulations! Check out a summary of all of IMSA's FBLA adventures at: <http://slc.ilfbla.org/>

The Illinois FBLA Central Northern Area also welcomes an elected executive board comprised of ALL IMSA members. Shout out to Regional President Edward Zhang('22), Vice-President Valeria Castellanos('23), Secretary Minseo "Emily" Jung('22), and Treasurer Eunice Kim('22).

IMSA Competitors Earning 1st-in-State and their Events:
Broadcast Journalism - Rashmi Alawani, Shreya Chakraborty
Business Communications - Isabel Chen
Business Financial Plan - Edward Zhang, Rishik Ummareddy
Client Service - Revanth Poondru

Health Care Administration - Shrutika Gupta
International Business - Valeria Castellanos
Introduction to Business Communication - Kenith Taukolo
Introduction to Financial Math - Becca Pae
Introduction to Information Technology - Shria Halkoda
Introduction to Public Speaking - Khushi Shah
Political Science - Kevin Fan
Public Service Announcement - Avdhan Kandikattu



ATHLETICS

All Juniors and Seniors planning on participating in the IHSA state series for Track and Field and Boys Tennis needs to sign up by the following:

(Please see the email that was sent on March 16th for details)

Boys Tennis

Sectionals: June 4th & 5th ; **Form due by May 14th**

State June 10 -12

Track and Field (B & G)

Girls Sectional: June 2-4 ; **Form due by May 14th**

State June 10-12

Boys Sectional: June 9 -11 ; **Form due by May 21th**

State June 17-19

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