



# FIELDS & FUTURES: THE JOURNAL

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

WINTER 2026



Keith Marsh, Executive Director

## A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**“** Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with your loved ones. Welcome to the very first edition of Fields & Futures: The Journal, our new quarterly newsletter from Indiana Agriculture & Technology School!

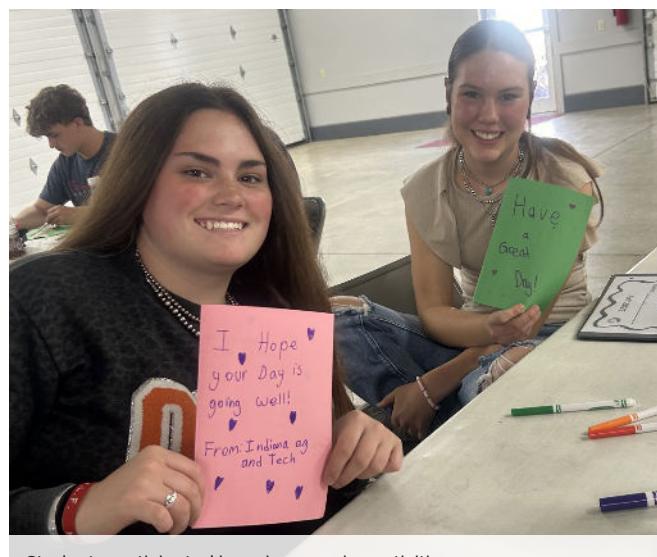
Each issue will highlight stories about each of our campuses throughout the state, and the incredible IATS students, faculty and staff within our community. You'll learn about opportunities to get involved and celebrate all that makes IATS unique.

This first issue is packed with moments from the first semester that capture our school spirit, including updates about our first homecoming celebration, updates from each campus, new staff announcements and more. Enjoy reading, and I look forward to connecting with you in this new year. Thank you for being part of our growing community of learners and leaders. We look forward to a successful second semester. **”**

## SCHOOL NEWS

### IATS FIRST HOMECOMING

Students, staff, and families celebrated IATS' first-ever Homecoming at the end of September! The week was filled with engaging student activities for themed dress-up days, alumni sessions, new club announcements, plus a special gathering at Stuckey Farms in Sheridan, IN, that featured games, food, and fun memories that brought our community closer together. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make it happen!



Students participated in various service activities.



Families gathered and enjoyed Stuckey Farms.



Students participated in various service activities.



Staff members enjoyed PJ Day!



Students enjoyed PJ Day!



Families gathered and enjoyed Stuckey Farms.



Martin Kirkwood,  
Chief Academic  
Advisor

### NOTE FROM CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

#### GRADUATION PATHWAYS & POSTSECONDARY PLANNING:

Chief Academic Officer Martin Kirkwood has been actively supporting IATS seniors as they explore graduation pathways and prepare for life beyond high school. Last semester, he led a series of Graduation Pathways & Postsecondary Planning webinars designed to give students and families clear guidance on college, career, and technical education opportunities. His work is helping seniors fulfill the Employability Skills Graduation Requirement - whether through work-based, service-based, or project-based experiences - and ensuring they have the resources they need to move confidently into their next chapter.

"This is one of the most exciting parts of my role - helping seniors discover what's possible and equipping them with a plan that sets them up for long-term success," said Kirkwood.

The webinar recording and PowerPoint presentation are available in the **"Resources"** section of our website at [indiana.ag](http://indiana.ag).

**SAVE THE DATE:** Commencement is June 6, 2026

## STAFF UPDATES

We're thrilled to welcome several new staff to our IATS family this past semester!

Jodi Eveland,  
Corporation Director of  
Special Education

Cameran Garrett, Dean  
of Students (Evansville)

Michael Sommers,  
Student Learning  
Advocate

Bailey Redmon, Teacher  
of Record

Kendell Sanders, HR/  
Business Manager

Lauren Foster, Student  
Learning Advocate

Abby Brown, Student  
Impact Coordinator

Destiny Peters, Special  
Education Teacher  
(Hybrid/Virtual)

Bailey Redmon, Special  
Education Teacher  
(Hybrid/Virtual)

Michael Rushing, Special  
Education Teacher  
(Evansville/Fort Wayne)

**FW FORT WAYNE CAMPUS**


Tim Captain,  
Principal

Students at the brand new Fort Wayne Campus have settled into their first few months with enthusiasm and creativity. They've enjoyed hands-on projects to field trips to Kuehnerts Dairy Farm and Junior Achievement's Job Spark event, and career Friday visits from Former FWCS Deputy Superintendent Debra Faye Williams-Robbins and Jim Liechty-Owner of Bolder Built Homes. Students are especially competitive during sports activities at the Renaissance YMCA, which they visit twice a week. All enrolled students and their families receive a free membership.

The Fort Wayne Campus continues to grow as the community awareness expands. We're excited to partner with Elite Hockey Academy, whose participants travel often for competitions, and IATS is a perfect educational partner offering flexible learning practices.

**NEW! IATS VIRTUAL NOW ENROLLING GRADES**

**10-12**

IATS has expanded its Fort Wayne campus offerings to include a virtual learning option for students in grades 10-12. Students will use the online Edgenuity education platform to get their credits, but would have the option to come in a couple days a week to get in-person support if needed.

**FW**

**FW**

**FW**


USI  
A group of 8th-12th grade girls toured HBCU colleges in Washington, D.C., visiting Howard University and Morgan State University on an all-expense-paid trip through a partnership with SOR: Sisters of Royalty.



USI  
Students learned about canning foods and the science behind safely preserving fruits/vegetables for long-term storage.



USI  
Students visited Evansville Countryside Orchard and learned about different apple trees.



USI  
IATS leadership celebrated at USI's Presidential Inauguration. L-R: Executive Director Keith Marsh; USI President Bridges; Mrs. Bridges; Board President Allan Sutherlin.

**HY HYBRID FARM CAMPUSES**


Mandy Taulman,  
Principal

Students have settled into their weekly Active Participation Days (APDs), where Amber, Crystal, and Mackenzie are fostering community while teaching agribusiness, communications, leadership, and natural resources, including wildlife and forestry.

This fall, the North Farm Campus in Rensselaer held an Ag Day which featured Belstra Milling, Keystone Cooperative, Lyons Sight Ag Solutions, M5 Trucking LLC, Patriot Aerial Solutions, and Platinum Ag Services.

As part of the Community Service initiative from Homecoming week, the three Hybrid campuses held a food drive competition. The North Campus won with over 800 items collected, and they celebrated with a pizza party! Donations were made to the Trafalgar, Greencastle and Rensselaer food pantries.



## USI EVANSVILLE - USI CAMPUS

Our Evansville students continue to impress us with their curiosity, teamwork, and pride in representing IATS wherever they go. They have been enjoying their new building on USI's campus, as well as regular Active Participation Days at Stendal Farm where they enjoy hands-on activities such as making sausages, canning fruits and vegetables, and making soap from goat milk. Students are also preparing for their first basketball club games in January!



Dr. Ena Winfield,  
Principal

## USI



Students and faculty congratulate new USI President with creative "Congratulations" banner and heartfelt messages.

## USI



## V VIRTUAL SCHOOL



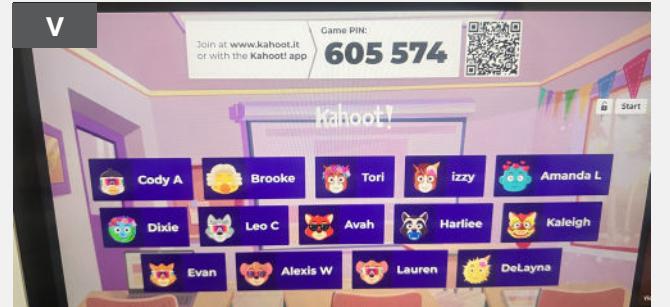
Amanda Lawson,  
Principal

This year, our focus is on connection and consistency - building strong learning habits while ensuring every student feels supported. Virtual students enjoyed participating in the IATS Homecoming activities, such as the online trivia day! Our Virtual school has continued to grow throughout the semester, and one of its greatest strengths is the flexibility it offers. Because students can take

classes from anywhere, it's been easy for new students to start at any point in the year.

Many families exploring a switch find that winter break is a natural time to transfer, and often discover that IATS is the better-suited school their student has been looking for.

## V



## FFA FFA UPDATE

Our FFA members are off to a strong start this year!

Last semester, students visited Beck's Hybrids for Becknology Days, and students have actively been studying for Horticulture, Forestry, Entomology, Livestock, and Parliamentary Procedure competitions. Members also attended the District VIII FFA Kick-Off Fall Party!

A big highlight of the semester was the annual National FFA Convention & Expo in downtown Indianapolis in November. Members and officers explored the Expo Hall, attended leadership workshops, toured agriculture industry sites in the Louisville area, and connected with FFA members from across the country. The IATS FFA Chapter was even named the Cowpoke's Work & Western Wear Chapter of the Year via a lively social media vote!

The convention ended with a big celebration as four IATS alumni received the American FFA Degree, the organization's highest honor earned by only the top 2% of members nationwide.



2025-26 FFA officers



## NEW! ANNOUNCING OUR MASCOT NAME

**EXCITING NEWS:** IATS is unveiling a brand-new school mascot! The IATS community was invited to share their creative names and cast their vote, and the final name selected is... **BENNY!** We can't wait to formally introduce Benny the Bison as he visits the IATS campuses this semester.



## NEW! WATCH &amp; LISTEN TO THE NEW IATS PODCAST

## FIELDS &amp; FUTURES



SUBSCRIBE

[youtube.com/@IndianaAgTech](https://youtube.com/@IndianaAgTech)

## 2025-26 FFA OFFICERS

President: Ariah Neier  
Vice President: Lauren Henry  
Secretary: Layla Clark  
Treasurer: Aaron Moore  
Reporter: Chloe Towell-Crook  
Sentinel: Hannah Bridges  
Student Advisor: Cassie Boggs  
Historian: Cody Amos

Our media team recently launched a new podcast called **"Fields & Futures: The Podcast."** Each episode, we'll explore the stories of students, alumni, educators, and community members who are building skills, forging partnerships, and making an impact. From hands-on agricultural labs to real-world field experiences, we'll show how learning at IATS goes beyond the classroom to open new pathways. Watch and listen on the IATS YouTube Channel.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Introducing "Fields & Futures"
- IATS First Homecoming
- Campus Updates
- Graduation Pathways & Postsecondary Planning
- Student Clubs
- New School Mascot
- Welcome New Faculty and Staff



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Carmel, IN 46032

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## CREATE A LEARNING SPACE

Tips from Director of Special Education, Jodi Eveland



Jodi Eveland,  
Corp. Director of  
Special Education

**STUDENT TIP:** Choose a quiet, consistent spot for schoolwork. Having one place for learning helps you focus, showing that you are prepared and ready to learn.

**PARENT TIP:** Help your student set up a dedicated, organized workspace. Minimizing distractions and providing necessary materials makes it easier to stay focused.

## JOIN OUR SCHOOL CLUBS

Check out our club offerings! Get involved and make new friends by signing up for a student club. There's something for everyone and enrollment for all clubs are open year-round for all campuses, in-person, hybrid and virtual.

IF INTERESTED, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.INDIANA.AG](http://WWW.INDIANA.AG) FOR MORE INFO

## CONTACT US

[enrollment@indiana.ag](mailto:enrollment@indiana.ag)

### IATS ADMIN OFFICE - CARMEL

(317) 975-2746

## HYBRID SCHOOLS

(888) 243-2988

### WEST CAMPUS

Greencastle at Putnam County Fairgrounds

### CENTRAL CAMPUS

Trafalgar

### NORTH CAMPUS

Rensselaer at St. Joseph's College

## VIRTUAL SCHOOL

(888) 243-2988

## FORT WAYNE CAMPUS

7910 S. Anthony Blvd., Fort Wayne

(260) 319-8082

## EVANSVILLE CAMPUS

8600 University Blvd., Evansville

(888) 243-2988 ext. 111

## OUR WEBSITES

### IATS

[indiana.ag](http://indiana.ag)

### IATS FORT WAYNE

[iatstfw.com](http://iatstfw.com)

## CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

### IATS

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

[@indiana\\_ag\\_tech](https://www.instagram.com/indiana_ag_tech)

[@IndianaAgTech](https://www.youtube.com/@IndianaAgTech)

[linkedin.com/company/indiana-agriculture-technology-school](https://www.linkedin.com/company/indiana-agriculture-technology-school)

### FORT WAYNE CAMPUS

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

[@iatstfw](https://www.instagram.com/iatstfw)

### EVANSVILLE - USI

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

[@iatsevansville](https://www.instagram.com/iatsevansville)



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