



2026 - 2027



Indiana Agriculture
& Technology
School
Hybrid and Virtual
School

Student/Parent & Guardian Handbook



WELCOME TO INDIANA AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL

Mission Statement

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will focus on a creative and innovative agriculture/agribusiness focused high school education. The school will promote intellectual and personal development through professionally focused and formative learning opportunities, preparing students to succeed, lead, and serve. The school will provide student-centered services in a professional and compassionate manner, utilizing highly trained and committed staff to individualize educational strategies that will empower each student to succeed.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

No student will be excluded from participating in Indiana Agriculture & Technology School based on race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, nation of origin, or disability. Students applying to Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will be admitted based on academic record, potential for success in an online learning environment, and adequacy of support network for the student who will be working in the home environment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The Indiana Agriculture & Technology School, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, does not discriminate based on disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals with disabilities, or in any aspect of their operations. Indiana Agriculture & Technology School has the obligation to identify, evaluate, and if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services. If the parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school, he/she has the right to a hearing. If there are questions, please feel free to contact the Student Impact Coordinator.

School Calendar and Schedule

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will operate a traditional school calendar with 180 official school days, with its offices open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, except on national holidays or in the event of weather or other natural disaster, or as indicated on the school calendar posted on the school's website. The administrators, faculty, and staff may schedule appointments to work with or assist students before or after the regular hours, or on weekends, as needed. Every student will be provided with contact information for his or her Student Learning Advocate and the school's administrative personnel. This information will

include phone numbers as well as email addresses. All personnel are required to return phone calls and emails within 48 hours or less, Monday through Friday. Students may access their courses at any time, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week during the academic school year. All semester courses are designed to be completed within the academic calendar, with the student spending approximately 45 minutes – 1 hour per class per day.

School Culture

The success of the educational model will ensure that this school's students will have access to the highest quality online curriculum. Imagine Edgenuity and iCEV are the curriculum platforms that provide instructional practices that focus on the individualized learning needs of all students. Continuous communication between the school's faculty, student learning advocates, administration, parents, and students is required and will create an environment where all students have the support needed to achieve academic success.

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will create, as the most important aspect of its mission and vision, a student-centered learning environment that places the student and his or her success and well-being at the center of all activities and efforts. Every student will be assigned to a Student Learning Advocate, a dedicated professional who empowers students to thrive academically and personally by providing them with the support, resources, and advocacy they need to succeed. The Student Learning Advocate will maintain weekly contact with the student and his or her family, assist the student in choosing appropriate courses, monitor attendance and academic progress and be available to meet with the student and family in person or virtually. This multi-layered approach to student support has documented results in increasing student achievement.

Student Learning Advocates spend their days reviewing attendance and grades for every student to whom they have been assigned and contacting the students and their families. Student Learning Advocates create a schedule for contact so that the guardian and student are available for this weekly contact. During the call, the Student Learning Advocate will review the student's attendance and grades in each course, remind the student of upcoming state or school mandated tests, offer any assistance, remind families of field trips and other school activities, order new courses when needed, and provide supplemental programs when needed. If the student is participating in any supplemental programs, time will be spent reviewing exactly how the student is progressing and detailing specific goals and objectives. Student Learning Advocate must return all phone calls and emails within 48 hours or less. Student Learning Advocates may also meet with the student and his or her parents at their homes or via video conferencing to provide additional assistance to the student.

Attendance Policy

Each day that a student is in attendance, the student will log into Imagine Edgenuity to access his or her courses. The students are assigned login passwords and usernames by the Registrar/Enrollment Manager when the enrollment process is complete. Students are provided with extensive orientation by the school about accessing their courses, how to navigate the courses, submit assignments and assessments, and who and how to contact if they have a technical issue. The school expects that a student spends approximately 45 minutes – 1 hour per day per subject, but the school day can be broken up to accommodate a student's needs. The school requires that a student remains on pace in their courses. Logging into Imagine Edgenuity automatically records attendance minutes, time spent on the courses, grades, pacing, and any additional information needed by the school.

This data is housed in Imagine Edgenuity, the Student Information System. Accurately documenting attendance is critically important for every school, but especially for online schools. Accurate and timely data is essential to the effective management of the school and the state's required reports, as well as the documentation of a student's progress. Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will utilize the attendance policies developed by the school. All policies are approved by the IATS Board of Directors.

Attendance Policy:

- Each SOS week (defined as being 5% or more behind pace in coursework) shall constitute one unexcused absence. An email notification shall be sent for each unexcused absence.
- Newly enrolled students shall be granted a two-week grace period before unexcused absences are assessed.
- **5 unexcused absences:** Mailed notification of accumulated unexcused absences.
- **8 unexcused absences:** Second mailed notification of accumulated unexcused absences.
- **10 unexcused absences:** Certified mailed notice of Educational Placement Review Meeting and potential withdrawal aligned with Indiana Code Title 20. Education § 20-24-5-4.5.
 - Upon withdrawal for truancy, students under the age of 18 must enroll in another school. The school shall also submit all required truancy reports to the Indiana Department of Child Services, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children and Missing Endangered Adults, and local sheriff's department, as required by Indiana law.
 - A student who is withdrawn for truancy shall be ineligible for re-enrollment for one full academic semester following the semester of withdrawal. Re-enrollment thereafter is contingent upon completion of a re-engagement plan.
- If special circumstances arise, continued effort to stay on pace and communicate with your student's Student Learning Advocate is necessary. Excused absences with appropriate documentation may be granted for illness, hospitalization, death of an immediate family

member, participation in a county or state fair, and other extenuating circumstances approved by the school in advance.

Student Engagement

Classroom management and student discipline are unique in an online school. Key to the issue of classroom management is the documentation of attendance and course work. Students will need to become acclimated to the online school environment, and the role of the Student Learning Advocate is an important part of this, since the Student Learning Advocate is the student's first point of contact with the school and his or her resource for all academic issues. Processes will be in place to support students who are not yet fulfilling their responsibility academically while a student at Indiana Agriculture & Technology School. This process is called Academic Review Status Policy which has a three-step process.

Academic Course Work

- Student Activity and Pacing will be reviewed daily by your Student Learning Advocate.
- Students are to follow the academic calendar and assigned due dates for the school year when doing academic course work.
- **Students are required to be on pace or greater with Target Completion.**

Progress in Course Work

Students' progress will be carefully monitored by the Student Learning Advocate assigned to that student, and this will be done daily. Each week the principal will email the student and parent/guardian with an Academic Report. They will also share general and specific information relevant to the student in this report.

Students are required to be on pace or greater with Target Completion. If a student is 5% or more behind their Target Completion in the Academic Snapshot in Imagine Edgenuity by midnight on Sunday of each week, they will be on **Side Out Status (SOS)** for the following week. If a student is unsuccessful in the majority of their classes at the end of the semester, the student will be on **Academic Review Status (ARS)** for the remainder of the next semester.

Side Out Status (SOS):

The school will follow the Side Out Status for students who do not stay on pace each week. The process for a student on Side Out Status is as follows:

1. Student's academic course work will be reviewed at the end of each week. If a student is 5% or more behind their Target Completion in the Academic Snapshot in Imagine Edgenuity at the time of the review, they will be on Side Out Status (SOS) for the following week.

2. Students who are on Side Out Status will be required to participate in an engagement intervention which could include a virtual and/or a face-to-face meeting with their Student Learning Advocate and/or administration, virtual or in-person work sessions, etc. to discuss their situation and develop and work on the habits, strategies and plan needed to help get the student back on pacing.
3. These weekly virtual and/or face to face meetings with their Student Learning Advocate will continue until the student is caught up with all their courses and removed from Side Out Status.

For students with IEPs, the school will consider the student's individualized educational program, accommodations, modifications, and documented progress when determining the need for additional interventions.

Academic Review Status Process

The process for a student to be on Academic Review Status is as follows:

1. Students' academic course work will be reviewed at the end of the first semester of a school year. A student will be on Academic Review Status at this time if recommended.
2. Students will be monitored by their Student Learning Advocate with weekly virtual or in person meetings during the following semester of the school year.
3. At the end of that semester, students on Academic Review Status will be reviewed for the purpose of:
 - a. Removing the student from Academic Review Status;
 - b. Staying on Academic Review Status;
 - c. Receiving a 2nd or 3rd Academic Review Status letter; or
 - d. Withdrawal from Indiana Agriculture & Technology School
4. At the end of each semester, a review of current Academic Review Status students, along with reviewing all student's academic course work for the semester, will determine the academic status.

ACADEMIC REVIEW STATUS LETTER DEFINITION

1. Students on ARS are notified through the first ARS letter which will be sent to the student and their guardians. This letter is generated by the principal and emailed.
2. Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will indicate on the ARS Student Roster when the ARS letter has been emailed to the student and their guardians.

3. Parents are to acknowledge receipt of the ARS email by the deadline specified in the ARS letter. Student Learning Advocate, student, and guardian will schedule a conference to develop an academic plan to ensure that the student is following through and is accountable for their academic work.
4. Noncompliance with the process shall result in withdrawal from Indiana Agriculture & Technology School for lack of academic performance.

Student Engagement Policy

Per IC 20-48-7-13, a student who fails to participate in courses may be withdrawn from enrollment with the school provided that the following has been followed:

1. Adequate notice of the withdrawal is provided to the guardian and the student; and
2. An opportunity is provided, before the withdrawal of the student by the school, for the student or the parent to demonstrate that failure to participate in the course is due to an event that would be considered and excused absence under IC 20-33-2.

Our Side Out Status and Academic Review Status policies provide the adequate process required for the Student Engagement Policy.

Attendance for Active Participation Days

The IATS educational curriculum offers a blended model, combining required online course work with interactive hands-on agricultural and technology education lessons. This is a combination of on-site campus activities and various educational experiences at organizations throughout the state. (i.e., Becks Seeds, Caterpillar, livestock operations, orchards, and other natural resource experiences).

Students must follow the rules and procedures listed below:

- Students who attend Active Participation Days must attend **80% of** the scheduled APDs per semester. If a student does not meet the 80% attendance requirement, the school reserves the right to remove the student from the APD and place them in our virtual academic program. Opportunities may be provided to make up missed days.
- Upon successful completion of class attendance requirements and participation rubric, Active Participation Days allow students to earn a high school elective credit.
- Active Participation Days School Hours – **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, local campus time.** Students are **NOT ALLOWED** to leave the campus early or arrive late unless pre-arranged with the teacher along with written permission from parents.

- Advanced Active Participation Days School Hours-9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, local campus time. One week per month will be a personal development day. Details provided during class time. Students are **NOT ALLOWED** to leave the campus early or arrive late unless pre-arranged with the teacher along with written permission from parents.
- Attendance will be recorded at all Active Participation Days.
- If you are not going to attend your scheduled APD due to an illness or scheduled outside appointment, you must notify the teacher at that campus location of your absence.
- Students may be required to wear specific clothing. Advance notice of any required attire will be given.
- Lunch is not provided. Students must bring their own lunch. Students are not allowed to leave the campus at any time during the APD, including lunch.
- Students should bring their school-issued Chromebooks to APDs.

Student Involvement

- National Honor Society - Indiana Agriculture & Technology School sponsors a chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). Membership in NHS is an honor that recognizes students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Students who meet the academic eligibility requirements established by the chapter may be invited to participate in the membership selection process. Selection for membership is based on multiple criteria and is not determined by academic performance alone. Meeting eligibility requirements does not guarantee selection. Membership is open to both hybrid and virtual students.

The chapter will operate in accordance with National Honor Society guidelines and locally adopted chapter bylaws. Additional information regarding eligibility requirements, the selection process, and member expectations will be provided to students and families each year.

- FFA-FFA is a national student leadership organization that develops **leadership, personal growth, and career success** through agricultural education. Open to students with an interest in agriculture, food, natural resources, and related fields, FFA provides opportunities for hands-on learning, competitions, community service, and leadership development.
 - Available for hybrid and virtual students
 - Officers are elected for the calendar year
 - Bylaws are available for review from Ag Facilitators
 - If you have any questions, please contact your administrator
- Clubs – Additional opportunities for student clubs may be offered throughout the school year. Information about joining will be sent out via Parent Square and/or email.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, parents of currently enrolled students under the age of 18 have the right to:

1. Inspect and review their student's educational records,
2. Request the amendment of their student's educational records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights,
3. Consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in their student's educational records, except to the extent that this act and its regulations authorize disclosure without consent,
4. File with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint under the provisions of the Act concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of the Act; in accordance with state and federal privacy laws, students who attain the age of 18 may transfer certain rights related to their academic records.

No member of Indiana Agriculture & Technology School is authorized to release student information without the written permission of the student's parent or legal guardian. Names and images of Indiana Agriculture & Technology School students will not be published in print, video/film, or on our public website without written student and guardian consent.

Special Education

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School is committed to educating students with disabilities consistent with applicable federal and state law.

Least Restrictive Environment

The school recognizes the importance of educating students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment. The school shall ensure to the maximum extent appropriate that students with disabilities are educated with nondisabled students and that students are removed from the general education environment only when the nature and severity of the disability is such that education in general education classes using supplementary aids and services cannot be satisfactorily achieved. The student's case conference committee shall determine the placement in which a student will receive services. These shall be delivered in the least restrictive environment regardless of the identified disability (as documented in the appropriate written notice).

Procedural Safeguards

The school will establish and maintain procedures to provide reasonable safeguards with respect to the provision of special education services. Procedural Safeguards must be given to parents once each year and upon initial referral or request for evaluation, the filing of the first complaint or due process hearing during the school year, on the date of any disciplinary action constituting a change of placement, and at a parent's request.

Transition Services

As identified in 511 IAC 7-32-100 of Article 7, it is required that transition planning begin at the earliest age appropriate. For each student with a disability, beginning at age 14 (or younger, if determined appropriate by the IEP team), the IEP must include a statement of the student's transition service needs that focuses on the student's course of study (such as advanced academic courses, technical training, or intensive employment preparation). Thus, beginning at age 14, the IEP team, in identifying annual goals and services for a student, must determine what instruction and educational experiences will help the student prepare for the transition from school to adult life.

Article 7

Discipline for special education students is subject to the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 1415 et seq. and 511 I.A.C. 7-1-1 et seq.

The school will establish and maintain procedures and guidelines to implement this policy in accordance with IDEA and Article 7.

Protocol/Steps for Special Education Testing

This protocol is always to be followed by Indiana Agriculture & Technology Staff. Referrals for special education services can be obtained by licensed personnel or the parents/guardians. If you think your child may have a disability that is affecting his or her education, you can ask the school to evaluate your child to determine whether he or she would be eligible for special education (considered a child with a disability under IDEA).

When a request for an evaluation is submitted by a parent IATS will provide written notice within 10 instructional days that testing will proceed or is being refused. If IATS is initiating an evaluation, then notification will be sent to parents that an evaluation is being proposed.

All academic and behavioral data will be collected, along with interviews from staff and the guardians to seek information that will assist the team in deciding as to whether to proceed with an evaluation or not.

If the referral team determines that an evaluation is warranted, the school will seek written parental consent for the initial evaluation. Upon receipt of written parental consent, the school will complete the initial educational evaluation and convene a Case Conference Committee (CCC) meeting within fifty (50) instructional days.

A Case Conference will be scheduled with you to present a written evaluation report describing your child's strengths and needs and what instructional or related services are recommended for your child. You will be given a copy of the report along with your parental rights.

[Notice of Procedural Safeguards](#) Please contact our Special Education Department for more information at **317-953-1306**.

Case Conference

The Case Conference committee process is used to develop, review, and revise the educational program and services for students with disabilities who are eligible for special education. Every student who receives special education services must have at least one case conference meeting during a 12-month period. The committee must include but not be limited to a Public Agency Rep, the current Teacher of Record, one of General Education Teachers (parents may grant permission to excuse the teacher) and any extended specialists such as speech, OT, PT etc. A reevaluation must occur at least once every three years, unless the parent and the public agency agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary.

Grading Policy

The following grading scale will be used for all students for semester exams and semester grades.

<u>LETTER GRADE</u>	<u>QUALITY POINTS</u>	<u>GRADING SCALE</u>
89.5 – 100	4.0	A
79.5 – 89.4	3.0	B
69.5 – 79.4	2.0	C
<69.4		No Grade

FINAL EXAM POLICY

- **You will have only one attempt at the final exam.**
- **All final exams have a weight of 10% towards your final grade for the first semester.**
- **You may take the final exam prior to the end of the semester if you have completed your course. You must contact your teacher to have your final exam opened.**
- **ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE FINAL EXAMS.**

Semester Extensions

Semester extensions will not be granted unless appropriate documentation is provided and administration approval has been granted.

Outside Course Review and Policy

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School may grant a student up to 16 credits taken from outside institutions towards their high school diploma, while enrolled with IATS.

1. You must fill out and submit the online IATS Petition for Outside Course Approval Form found at indiana.ag.
2. The request must be approved by the Chief Academic Officer prior to the student's participation in the program. Approval cannot be granted retroactively.
3. The course must be taken through an approved institution or curriculum.
4. For any credits not needed for high school graduation, a student may choose not to post off campus coursework to the IATS transcript.
5. It is the student's responsibility to have a transcript sent to the Indiana Agriculture & Technology School Registrar upon completion of the course. Course information will be transferred to the student's permanent academic record. Once added, courses/credits CANNOT be removed from the IATS transcript for any reason.

Graduation Requirements

To be eligible for graduation by the State Department of Education ruling, a student must be enrolled in high school for a minimum of **six full semesters**. Also, a senior who has completed all requirements may choose to graduate at the end of **seven semesters**. Any student requesting early or mid-year graduation needs permission from his/her parents and approval from the Principal and Chief Academic Officer.

Graduation Requirements – Click on your student's graduation cohort year to find the current Indiana graduation requirements.

- [2026-2028](#)
- [2029 and beyond](#)

State of Indiana Graduation Requirements may be found at in.gov/doe. Student Learning Advocates will use Graduation Checklists with their students to make sure they meet the state graduation requirements.

State Testing Assessments – REQUIRED

Throughout each school year, students may be asked to commute to a testing location throughout the state for required assessments. Testing includes but is not limited to ILEARN, ASVAB, PSAT, SAT School Day, and WIDA. Indiana Agriculture and Technology School does not provide transportation to required state assessments.

Transcript Requests

On the Indiana Agriculture & Technology School website you will find the **Transcript Request Form** that will need to be completed to request transcripts be sent to colleges for the application and admission process or elsewhere for any other reasons. Unofficial transcripts are available to download from Imagine Edgenuity.

Withdrawing from School

To officially withdraw from Indiana Agriculture & Technology School you must:

1. Notify your student's Student Learning Advocate.
2. Complete the school's withdrawal paperwork. Arrange return of Chromebook and ensure all outstanding financial balances are paid.
3. Complete a follow-up Exit Survey with the Student Learning Advocate.

High School Equivalency (HSE) Withdrawal Policy

In accordance with **Indiana Code 20-33-2-9**, students under the age of **18** remain subject to Indiana's compulsory attendance laws. The school will not approve a student's withdrawal to pursue a High School Equivalency (HSE) credential unless the student satisfies the statutory withdrawal requirements and receives all required approvals under Indiana law.

Age Eligibility

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School serves students who are eligible for public education under Indiana law. Students may remain enrolled until they earn a high school diploma or reach age 22.

When a student turns 22 years old, they may become ineligible for continued enrollment and educational services through the school. School staff will work with students approaching this age limit to review graduation progress, discuss available options, and support transition planning whenever possible.

Student Discipline

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School is committed to providing a safe and orderly environment and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of all students. To that end, we expect our students, administration, faculty, and staff to support our vision of providing student-centered services in a professional and compassionate manner utilizing highly trained and committed staff to individualize educational strategies that will empower each student to succeed.

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School will create a positive discipline plan and learning environment to encourage appropriate student behavior. An added component to supporting students will be interventions such as IATS Educator-parent-student meetings, virtually or in person, and other interventions designed to identify the root problems and teach appropriate behaviors. IATS Student Learning Advocates could be a part of the discipline meetings.

Because of the availability and frequency of interactions between students, their families, and school personnel, all students will be expected to conduct themselves appropriately while on school property, attending a school function or interacting with school personnel. Appropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, language use, dress, and non-verbal communication, in compliance with all school policies. Indiana Agriculture & Technology School provides student centered services in a professional and compassionate manner utilizing highly trained and committed staff to individualize educational strategies that will empower each student to succeed. Thus, one of the most important under-girding principles is the creation of a learning environment based on respect for all. The following codes of conduct serve to promote and enforce this environment. The school will have a strict discipline policy for students who engage in fighting or other aggressive behavior as defined by the Indiana Department of Education. In addition, students who are disruptive or a danger to themselves or others will be dealt with immediately through suspension or dismissal. Administrators, faculty, and staff will receive training designed to prevent and minimize disruptive and aggressive student behavior. Students who are in an Exceptional Student Education program will be disciplined according to the state and federal ESE guidelines and the behavior intervention plan prescribed in their Individual Education Plans.

Weapons

The school prohibits students from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the school for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the school including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the school, a school-sponsored event, or in a school vehicle.

The possession of a firearm in or on school property, in or on property that is being used by a school for a school function, or on a school bus is a felony (I.C. 35-47-9-2) and is prohibited. However, State law permits an adult person who may legally possess a firearm to maintain that firearm if it is locked in the person's trunk, kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked vehicle, or stored out of plain sight in the person's locked vehicle. This exception does not apply

to students unless it is a high school student who is a member of a shooting sports team, and the principal has approved the student keeping a firearm concealed in the student's motor vehicle on days the student is competing or practicing as a member of a shooting sports team.

This exception also does not apply to former students if the person is no longer enrolled in school due to a disciplinary action within the previous twenty-four (24) months.

The term "weapon" means any object which, in the way it is used, intended to be used, or represented, can inflict serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health or safety of people. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, tasers, handguns, stun guns, guns of any type whatsoever, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, chemical weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, and destructive devices (bombs, incendiary, grenade, Molotov cocktail, rocket with a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, etc.). A "knife" is defined as "an instrument that: 1) consists of a sharp edge or sharp pointed blade capable of inflicting cutting, stabbing, or tearing wounds; and 2) is intended to be used as a weapon." I.C. 35-47-5-2.5(a)

This policy will also encompass such actions as possession of look-alike items, false fire alarms, bomb threats, or intentional calls to falsely report a dangerous condition.

The Executive Director and/or Principal will report any student who violates this policy to the student's parents or guardians and to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the property where the offense occurs. The student also may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

Drugs/Alcohol

Possession of or use of drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol and any substance which is, or contains, or is a look-a-like: alcohol, stimulants, narcotics, hallucinogens, marijuana, intoxicants, depressants, caffeine, and inhalants (glue or solvents) is forbidden and can result in legal consequences.

Tobacco/Vapes

Possession, use, or transmitting of chewing/smoking tobacco, cigars, e-cigarettes, vaporizers, pipe tobacco, tobacco paraphernalia, etc. is forbidden on school grounds regardless of age.

Cellphones

In accordance with Indiana Code 20-26-5-40.7, students may bring personal wireless communication devices to school under the school's approved storage policy. Wireless communication devices include, but are not limited to, cellular telephones, smartphones, smartwatches with communication capabilities, tablets, personal laptops, and other personal electronic devices capable of voice, messaging, or data communication. School-issued

instructional devices are governed by the IATS Acceptable Use Policy and are not subject to this storage requirement.

Throughout the school day, personal wireless communication devices must be powered off, stored in the school's designated storage area, and remain inaccessible to students unless an exception permitted by law applies.

Upon arrival each morning, students who bring a wireless communication device to school will:

- Power off the device.
- Place the device in their assigned storage location.

Students may not access stored devices during the school day unless authorized by the Executive Director, Principal, or designee. At the conclusion of the school day, students will retrieve their device.

Students participating in field trips, community-based instruction, agricultural experiences, internships, work-based learning placements, or other school-sponsored activities will follow wireless communication device procedures established for those activities unless an approved exception applies.

Exceptions permitted under Indiana Code 20-26-5-40.7 include:

- An Individualized Education Program (IEP);
- A Section 504 Plan;
- Management of a documented medical condition pursuant to an order from a licensed health care provider;
- An emergency authorized by the Executive Director, Principal, or designee; or
- Language translation needs for multilingual learners.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in progressive disciplinary consequences consistent with the IATS Student Code of Conduct.

Students with disabilities may be granted an exception to the school's personal wireless device policy when the use of a device is determined to be necessary for the student to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE), access the curriculum, support communication, address a documented health or safety need, or implement other disability-related supports.

Requests for exceptions will be considered on an individual basis by the student's Case Conference Committee (CCC) and documented in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) when appropriate. The need for continued access to a personal wireless device will be reviewed at each annual case conference and may be reviewed more frequently if warranted by the student's needs.

Possession of an IEP does not automatically entitle a student to an exception from the school's wireless device policy. Any exception must be based on the student's individual educational needs and documented by the Case Conference Committee.

Anti-Harassment / Cyber-Bullying Policy

Harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyber-bullying for any reason, including but not limited to race, color, ancestry, religion, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability in any form is prohibited. Anyone whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. Violators may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

The definition of “Cyber-bullying” is the use of electronic information and communication devices, to include but not be limited to, e-mail messages, instant messaging, text messaging, cellular telephone communications, internet blogs, internet chat rooms, internet postings, and defamatory websites, that:

1. Deliberately threatens, harasses, intimidates an individual or group of individuals; or
2. Places an individual in reasonable fear of harm to the individual or damage to the individual’s property; or
3. Has the effect of disrupting the orderly operation of the course.

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

The Governance for Indiana Agriculture & Technology School has been structured to optimize open and direct communication between the Board and parents. Board Meetings will be open to the public and held to afford participation by as wide a spectrum of parents as possible. Indiana Agriculture & Technology School Board of Directors Meetings are held every **third Wednesday of each month.** **Executive Sessions start at 5:00 PM and are closed to the public. Board meetings start immediately after adjournment of the Executive Session.**

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement is essential to student achievement. One of the most meaningful ways families can support their child is by staying actively engaged in their academic progress. We encourage parents and guardians to:

- Check grades and progress reports regularly.
- Discuss learning and school experiences with their student.
- Monitor course pacing and attendance.
- Communicate with teachers and school staff as needed.
- Encourage responsibility, effort, and a positive attitude toward learning.

When schools and families work together, students are better equipped to succeed both academically and personally.

Parents will be encouraged to attend information sessions held by the school which provide parents and guardians the opportunity to learn about the school, meet with administrators to discuss student progress and learn tips on how to support student learning and attendance. These will be held at specific locations throughout the state and/or virtually. Other parent involvement

activities include volunteering during student field trips and activities, career fairs, post-prom, and student graduation activities. As applicable, parents may share their career experience and expertise during a student career seminar. Effective communication and a positive relationship with parents will promote and encourage parent support and involvement in the school.

To strengthen the partnership between our school and families, we will offer **Campus Connection** meetings each month. The dates will be shared by school staff. These sessions are designed to keep parents and guardians informed about important school updates, upcoming events, and opportunities to become involved in our campus community. In addition, each meeting will provide practical tips and resources to support student success, including strategies for monitoring academic progress, encouraging positive habits, and preparing students for future opportunities. We encourage all families to attend and stay connected as we work together to help every student achieve their goals.

Process for Dissemination of Information

Parents and community members will be informed about the development of the school via the school's web site, Facebook, ParentSquare, newsletter, and other social media. Informational sessions will be scheduled virtually. Parents and students will be informed of these sessions through our website and emails.

Safety and Security

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School is committed to providing a safe and orderly environment and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of all students. Local safety plans at each campus will be followed.

Technology Specifications and Requirements

All students will be provided with a Chromebook by the school in order to access and utilize the curriculum. The school provides student e-mail accounts. These accounts are the only e-mail accounts needed to communicate with Student Learning Advocates, Instructional Supervisors, and any other staff.

Every school-issued computer is pre-installed with an Internet content filter pursuant to federal regulations. The filter is not to be removed because it blocks access to sites deemed inappropriate, as well as sites that have **no educational value**. Social networking sites, pornography, gambling, and proxy sites are blocked through the filter. Use of instant messenger applications is not permitted on school issued computers and is also blocked.

Parents must monitor their children's compliance with these standards. Students who violate these standards may face the loss of school-owned computer equipment, other disciplinary measures, and/or legal action.

For tech issues, **contact your student's Student Learning Advocate who will direct you to the right resource for help.**

Student Acceptable Use of Technology Policy

All students and parents will be required to sign the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy as a part of the enrollment process. As students and their families choose to use their own computers, they must still sign and abide by this policy.

Acceptable Use of Technology Policy

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on the school's computer. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature.

Students are personally responsible for their actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources.

Students are advised never to access, keep, or send anything they would not want their parents or Student Learning Advocates to see. Regarding privacy, computer storage areas may be treated like "traditional" school lockers. The school will supply each student with an e-mail account that will be stored and maintained on the school e-mail server.

School administrators reserve the right to monitor any student e-mail communication that passes through school e-mail servers. Administrators may review communications files to maintain system integrity. This will ensure that students are using the computer system responsibly.

Students should not use profane, abusive, or impolite language when communicating online. Students should not access any materials that are in violation of school rules and policies. If students encounter such material by accident, they should report it to their parents/guardians immediately who should then contact the school with this information.

Username and Passwords

Students must use their own school email and passwords. Sharing usernames and passwords is prohibited. Students may not use another person's account. Students are responsible for making sure their passwords are private and secure. Students should not publicly share their own personal contact information, or anyone else's, without express written permission. Unauthorized access to the school's web site, servers, and systems is prohibited.

The school expects students to observe the following rules of online behavior:

- Students will only access the Internet for educational purposes.
- Students will restrict their access to material deemed appropriate by staff and parents.
- Students will use appropriate conduct toward others.
- Students will observe and respect license and copyright agreements.
- Students will keep passwords and personal information confidential. (Student names, telephone numbers, and addresses should not be revealed over the Internet)

Examples of inappropriate technology use include, but are not limited to:

- Accessing profane or obscene material, material suggesting illegal acts and material advocating violence or discrimination
- Using access for illegal acts
- Attempts to access any resources that are restricted, confidential, or privileged.
- Posting chain letters
- Internet Relay Chat, news groups, or mailing list participation unless directed and supervised by a staff member for a classroom assignment.
- Granting Internet or network access to unauthorized persons intentionally or unintentionally or failing to notify a Student Learning Advocate or administrator if you suspect someone of using your password.
- Posting personal contact information
- Agreeing to meet someone met online without parental approval and under the supervision of a Student Learning Advocate or authorized adult.
- Attempts to disrupt access.
- Causing damage to, or changing function, operation, or design of, the technology
- Using obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, or threatening language
- Harassing another person
- Posting false or defamatory information
- Plagiarizing information found on the Internet.
- Disregarding the rights of copyright owners on the Internet
- Posting web pages without the consent of a Student Learning Advocate or authorized adult
- Buying or selling any products or services

Academic Integrity

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School maintains a positive learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff. Students are expected to respect one another, have academic integrity, and submit work that is their own. Students are always required to conduct themselves honestly. Students are responsible for understanding what behavior constitutes plagiarism and cheating, and properly crediting sources when submitting work.

- Many classes include lessons about academic integrity and the use of artificial intelligence.
- Our learning platforms have academic integrity and artificial intelligence detection capabilities.
- Teachers and Student Learning Advocates are equipped and willing to help you avoid academic integrity issues.

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy will result in a progressive series of consequences such as:

- Warning and chance to resubmit the assignment in a specified timeline for up to 90% credit.
- Warning and chance to resubmit the assignment in a specified timeline for up to 50% credit.
- Zero on the assignment with no chance to resubmit.
- Removed from class with a grade of WF (Withdraw-Fail).
- Dismissal from Indiana Agriculture & Technology School.

Student/Parent/School Agreement

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School is open to all students and is bound by applicable Indiana law governing charter schools. The school strives to exceed the academic, ethical, legal, and moral expectations required by Indiana law and the school's families.

The administration and staff of Indiana Agriculture & Technology School have the desire and obligation to provide the best education to the student body. Part 1 of the following agreement sets forth the expectations of students and parents. Part 2 of the agreement enumerates the expectations of the student and Part 3 is the expectations of the Parent(s)/Guardian(s). Please read the following carefully.

Part 1: Expectations of the School and Staff

The administration and staff of Indiana Agriculture & Technology School agree to the following. We will:

1. Treat students and families with respect and courtesy.
2. Provide the best instructional strategies and most appropriate learning situations for the success of each student.
3. Supervise and provide guidance while in person and virtually with students to provide a safe learning environment.
4. Maintain professional conduct.
5. Identify students who are not making appropriate academic progress and ensure awareness of opportunities to address this concern.

6. Communicate with and make consistent efforts to inform parents/guardians of both the student's strengths and challenges.
7. Respond in a timely manner and engage in communication with students, families, Imagine Edgenuity teachers/staff, and IATS staff.

Part 2: Expectations of Students

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School seeks to be an educational option that provides a challenging, rigorous education that exceeds Indiana state standards. Students engaging in hybrid/virtual education come with additional responsibilities that go beyond what is expected of students in a traditional school setting. Therefore, students agree to:

1. Treat school staff and students with respect and courtesy.
2. Read and respond in a timely manner to all communication with your Imagine Edgenuity course instructors, Student Learning Advocate (SLA), and school staff.
3. Follow Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.
4. Become a self-advocate by reaching out to IATS staff and Imagine Edgenuity teachers when needing assistance.
5. Develop time management skills and maintain daily progress on coursework.
6. Adhere to the academic integrity expectations and act in an ethical and honest manner in all your academic courses.
7. Take care of school equipment and materials. Report damage and issues to your Student Learning Advocate.
8. Maintain passing grades in all your academic course work.
9. Follow all policies and practices set by Indiana Agriculture and Technology School as outlined in the Student/Parent School Handbook.

Part 3: Expectations of Parents/Guardians

Indiana Agriculture & Technology School seeks to be an educational option that provides a challenging, rigorous education that exceeds Indiana state standards. We recognize that without parent/guardian support and sufficient student motivation, this environment may not foster student success for all. Students engaging in hybrid/virtual education come with additional responsibilities that go beyond what is expected of students in a traditional school setting. Therefore, students and parents/guardians agree to:

1. Treat school staff and students with respect and courtesy.
2. Provide (and update as necessary) current phone numbers, mailing address, email addresses, or other means of communication.
3. Return all requested documentation and forms that are requested by IATS school.
4. Commit to timely and full participation in scheduled school academic events and classes. Parents will be encouraged to participate in field trips, informational sessions, and other student activities.
5. Adhere to Indiana Agriculture & Technology School's attendance policies. Immediately inform your Student Learning Advocate of any illness or extended time away from your child's studies.

6. Read and respond in a timely manner to all communication with your Imagine Edgenuity course instructors, Student Learning Advocate, and school staff.
7. Contact your student's Student Learning Advocate immediately if your student's academic work is not on pace or below a passing grade of C in any class.
8. Notify your student's Student Learning Advocate if you have a technical issue that prohibits your child from completing schoolwork based on their academic plan.
9. Liability for the school's equipment and materials is the responsibility of the parent.
10. Provide a study atmosphere and support a regular study schedule at home.
11. Assist student in developing time management skills.
12. Make additional trips to the school designated site if the student requires additional assistance, counseling, or tutoring.
13. Follow procedures and schedules for all required state testing and local assessments. The school does not provide transportation to the required state assessments.
14. To follow the policies set forth in the School Parent/Student Handbook.