

Dear Parents of High School students,

Welcome to ISL's 2016-2017 school year! We are excited to welcome both our new families and our returning families to our community.

Parent and Student Handbooks

We have updated the Parent Handbook where you can find information about our school. It can be found [HERE](#). It is important that you read the Student Handbook [HERE](#) with your student.

Attendance

This year we will be following our updated Attendance Guidelines. We will be reminding you of our guidelines more frequently so you can be aware of the number of days your child has missed and the effect on your student's academics. Please note that a student's promotion to the next grade will be discussed with a parent meeting once a student has missed **eight days of school**. If a student misses **20 days of school**, their parent/guardian must attend a meeting to discuss the coming school year. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for more details.

School Bus Service

We have made changes to the providers for a few of our bus routes (the routes have not changed). For more information and to sign up for the bus service please visit our website or contact Ms. Maira Eriha, our transportation coordinator at merliha@isl.edu.lv.

Lunch at School

If your student will be eating a school-provided lunch, please make sure you read the information on the <http://www.isl.edu.lv/cafeteria>.

Also, in order to better accommodate students in the cafeteria this year, we will be offering a staggered lunch. Middle school students will be served food starting at 11:35, while High School students will be served food at either 11:30 or 11:40 on an alternating basis each quarter. Lunch time will extend to 12:20.

Being "Green" at ISL

We are looking at ways to make ISL more environmentally friendly, and one step in this direction is for all staff and students to use their own water bottles, rather than walking around school with open mugs. We are asking students to purchase their own personal water bottle/thermos (with a lid), in order for each of them to safely consume their beverages around the school, and minimize wastage of plastic bottles/cups.

Advisory

High School is an important part of your student's life and school experience, with many exciting challenges as students mature into independence. One of main jobs is to ensure that High School students feel supported and ready to learn.

Advisory will be one of the support systems for High School students. Each student will be assigned an advisor, who will work closely with them and be another advocate for them. Advisory groups will meet together at least once a week, covering various topics in small groups and as a whole grade.

As the school year begins, please ask your student about Advisory and the things they are covering!

Student Supply list

Please review the High School Supply List, found on our website and [here](#) to make sure your student is ready for the first day of school. It will be very important for each High School Student to bring their laptop computer to school every day this year.

Communication is key to success! If you have questions please feel free to contact me. We are always happy to talk with you about your child's education.

Sincerely,

Sarah Goossens Bevel
High School Principal
sbevel@isl.edu.lv