



# IVSA Newsletter

December Edition



## What's Happening This Month:

- REGISTRATION for the Full-Time Academy is STILL available for this semester.
- REGISTRATION for the January 7th cohort is available now for all students interested in taking courses at IVSA.
- IVSA has launched the K-5 Academy: check out the K-5 Course Catalog.



## *Did you KNOW?*

### **Some students choose IVSA to allow them to compete in DANCE or MUSIC at an elite level!**

Meet one of our Full-Time Academy students: "IVSA has provided me with the incredible opportunity to pursue my passion for ballet at a professional level. Without this exceptional online school, I would not have been able to train at The Joffrey Academy's professional Conservatory program in Chicago. Through IVSA, I get to learn in engaging and rigorous academic courses, including AP-level classes, all under the guidance of dedicated and supportive teachers. The flexibility of IVSA's schedule, combined with its high-quality education and nurturing staff, has allowed me to succeed academically while receiving world-class ballet training. I am immensely

grateful for the chance to continue my education and make significant strides in my commitment to ballet!"

**Sabrina, 12th grade IVSA student**



.....

### **A Day in the Life of an IVSA Full-Time Academy Student**

View our new video on what a "day in the life" of an IVSA FTA student looks like!

**IVSA DITL**

8:30 am-5:00am

**GETTING THE DAY**



# GETTING THE DAY STARTED

Tyler begins by checking his emails and Canvas announcements. Teachers send messages frequently and counselors communicate with Tyler throughout the week.

Tyler will receive updates about his grades, weekly live sessions, and Canvas announcements.



## Meet our new FT Spanish Teacher

Kymerly Farmer (Kym) is a full-time Spanish instructor. She has been teaching Spanish for just over 3 years and has worked in a variety of settings including private, public, and charter schools as both an elementary and secondary Spanish teacher. Although she finds joy and success in teaching students of all ages, she especially enjoys engaging with the upper-level students to cover some of the more advanced grammar points of the Spanish language. She discovered her passion for teaching Spanish during her undergraduate studies at Aurora University. She then went on to earn her master's degree in secondary Spanish education from Saint Xavier University. In addition, Kym spent 3 months living in Costa Rica for an immersion trip and gained many insights related to the culture and dialect; an experience that she loves to share with her students. In her free time, she enjoys caring for her ever growing collection of houseplants and cooking new recipes at home with her family.



## IVSA Programs

- **Full-Time Academy** - We offer a highly supportive full-time virtual learning option for students.
- **Supplemental Course Offerings** - Choose original credit or credit recovery courses in Core Subjects, Electives, World Languages, Business and CTE courses and more.
- **Teacher Shortage Solutions** - Are you experiencing a teacher shortage that may eliminate programs and courses. IVSA offers synchronous and



asynchronous instruction options for full classes.

## IVSA Course Lists

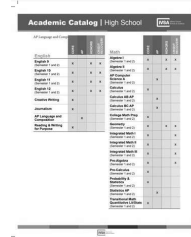
Click below to access our [Course Lists](#).



[K-5 Course List](#)



[MS Course List](#)



[HS Course List](#)

---

## Student Clubs

### IVSA eGaming Club

We have an eGAMING CLUB. IVSA students (both FT and Supplemental) participate in weekly gaming sessions among IVSA students and then compete in 5 online gaming tournaments with Elite Gaming LIVE. Practice began last month, so please [register here](#) if you would like to join in on the fun.



---

## Full-Time Academy CORNER

### ONBOARDING for ACADEMY students

We host **ONBOARDING** sessions for all Full-Time Academy students. Mark your calendars for **Tuesdays at 9am and/or Thursdays at 1pm** to meet your School Counselor and Student Success Coach and get access to the Orientation course with IVSA.

### IMPACT for ACADEMY students

Every week students get to interact with their School Counselor and Student Success Coach and work through our Social Emotional Learning Curriculum (Sown to Grow).



## PARENT/GUARDIAN CORNER

### Observer Access to Canvas

We have a new way that you can follow your student's IVSA course(s) by creating an observer account in our learning management system, Canvas. Please use the [HELP GUIDE](#) to walk you through this.



## School Partner Corner

### School Partner Connection Meetings - December 17th

All school partners and Virtual Learning Facilitators are invited to join us to hear important updates and connect with our team for additional training in Maestro, Canvas, and for Teacher Shortage Solutions schools!

Event Information

#### School Partner Connection Meeting Option #1

When?

**Tuesday, Dec 17, 2024, 12:00 PM**

Where?

<https://zoom.us/my/melissalundgaard>

First Name Last Name Email Address Attend (RSVP)

Event Information
School Partner Connection Meeting Option #2
When?
Tuesday, Dec 17, 2024, 02:30 PM
Where?
https://zoom.us/my/melissalundgaard

First Name Last Name Email Address Attend (RSVP)

Illinois Virtual Course Catalog Intent to Apply

The Illinois State Board of Education Virtual Course Catalog INTENT TO APPLY FORM is now available for the 2024-2025 school year. Please fill this out with an estimate of the number of students you currently anticipate taking courses with IVSA this school year.

The University of Illinois Systems is Partnering with IVSA



IVSA has a new partnership with the University of Illinois systems. We are launching a Pilot program to expand access so that all students in Illinois have access to courses regardless of their zip code. Take a look at the SY24-25 Pilot Program details.

Would you consider opening a classroom for the spring where students can choose an IVSA course that is not offered at your school to allow them access to additional courses?



Coming Up!

IMPORTANT DATES 31

- December 17: School Partner & Virtual Learning Facilitator Connection Meetings
December 20: End of Semester 1 for August and September Cohorts
December 23-January 3: No School, Winter Break
January 7: Second Semester Begins



# Like our Facebook Page

We use social media to send out announcements and for school events. Please take a moment to like our Facebook page and follow IVSA.

# YOU CAN ALSO FIND US ON LINKEDIN

## ILLINOIS VIRTUAL SCHOOLS & ACADEMY

### 2024-2025

#### FTA Calendar



July 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

March 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

#### IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 15	FTA Staff FTF Training
Aug 16, 19	No School - Teacher Workday
Aug 20	First Day of School & Onboarding
Aug 21-23	Onboarding & Diagnostic Testing
Sep 2	No School - Labor Day
Oct 14	No School - Indigenous Peoples Day
Oct 28-29	Parent Teacher Conferences
Nov 27-29	No School - Thanksgiving Break
Dec 23-Jan 3	No School - Winter Break
Jan 6	No School - Teacher Workday
Jan 7	First Day of 2nd Semester
Jan 7-10	Mid-Year Diagnostic Testing
Jan 20	No School - Martin Luther King Day
Feb 17	No School - Presidents Day
Mar 3-4	Parent Teacher Conferences
Mar 24-28	No School - Spring Break
May 5-7	End of Year Diagnostic Testing
May 9	IVSA End of Year Celebration
May 23	Last Day of School
May 27-30	Teacher Workdays
Jun 3	Summer School Begins
Jul 4	No School - Fourth of July Holiday
Aug 1	Summer School Ends

#### LEGEND

	Start/End of Semester		Diagnostic Testing
	Teacher Workday		Parent or Student Event
	No Student Attendance		

#### GRADING PERIODS

	First Semester	Second Semester
Start	August 20	January 7
End	December 20	May 23
Number of Days	81	92



## Illinois Virtual Schools & Academy

The mission of IVSA is to partner with local Illinois schools to provide engaging and supportive online educational experiences to meet the needs of all learners.

**Any Questions?** Reach out to [info@ivsaschool.org](mailto:info@ivsaschool.org)

**Website:** <https://ivsaschool.org/>

**IVSA Phone Number:** 866-890-IVSA (4872)



**Melissa Lundgaard**

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

