



IOS LEADER GUIDE

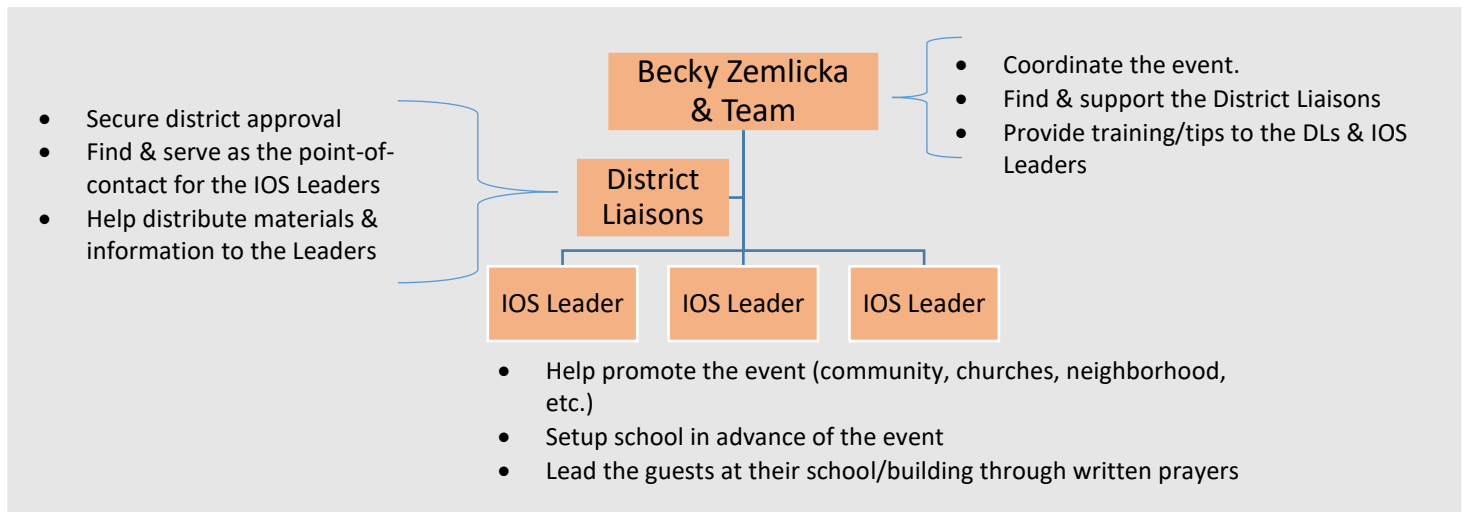
ABOUT INSPIRE OUR SCHOOLS:

Inspire Our Schools is a non-denominational Christian gathering of the community to offer prayers of blessing & dedication over our schools. We believe we're all on the same team, we're better together, and our schools — students, teachers, faculty, staff and parents — are in vital need of prayer.

Inspire: "to breathe or blow into or upon; to infuse (something, such as life) by breathing." We're breathing the Holy Spirit into our schools.

"If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them."
Matthew 18:19-20

"Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.""
John 20:21-22



IOS LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Spread the word!** Support your District Liaison in spreading the word about IOS at the school you are leading. Promote it on social media, text your friends, family members and fellow school parents – word of mouth is the primary way this event is promoted, so please promote it early and often!
- **Share IOS with your home church.** Ask your church to promote IOS in the weeks leading-up to the event or at least the weekend of the event. If they need any materials (graphics, handouts, etc.), contact your District Liaison or Becky Zemlicka at contactus@inspireourschools.org.
- **Watch for materials.** Your District Liaison will provide materials to you (a script of prayers & instructions, as well as a yard sign) for the day of the event. Make sure you have these before the event & take a moment to read through the script.
- **Scope-out your school/building prior to the event.** It's helpful to drive around your school/building prior to the event to make a plan and see where all the doors are located.
- **Day of event.** On the day of the event (8/18), arrive at your location no later than 6:30 p.m. Post your yard sign at the entrance to the sidewalk that leads to your building's main entrance. Don't put the sign next to the building – once you get a crowd, no one will see it. Welcome guests as they arrive and promptly at 7:00 p.m., begin the event. Absolutely every part of the event and everything you say will be provided in your script – please do not deviate from the script.
- **Following the event.** Return your materials to your District Liaison as soon as possible. All of the materials are purchased by a private individual, so it's important that we get the yard signs back. If you would like to keep the script of prayers, that is fine.

A FEW POINTS OF CLARIFICATION & MESSAGING ABOUT IOS:

- This is unapologetically a non-denominational Christian event. Jesus is the focus. However, everyone – regardless of their religious affiliation - is welcome & encouraged to attend.
- It's always important to communicate that this is not a district event, nor is it endorsed by any of the districts involved. Our official message says, *"While this event has received district approval for all participating schools, it is not a district event, nor is it in any way endorsed or sponsored by the districts involved."*
- The event happens at every participating district and every participating school/building simultaneously.
- This single event is the only thing we have been called to at this point. Often people try to make this into an ongoing prayer gathering, but that's not what God asked us to do. We instead encourage them to create one themselves & we will support them in any way we can.
- Please strive to be as respectful as possible with this event. We don't want to give anyone a reason to say "no" in the future.

A FEW DO'S & DON'TS:

- **Spread the word!** The Inspire Our Schools events are promoted primarily through word-of-mouth and social media, so please begin sharing the event & date immediately!
 - **Share IOS with your church!** If they need additional materials or graphics so they can promote it to your congregation, direct them here: <https://bit.ly/2Ft95No> If they need something different, let us know.
 - **Share IOS with your friends & family!** Share our social media posts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), text and email the information and direct them to our website (www.InspireOurSchools.org),
- **Give us your input and feedback!** If you have ideas to promote Inspire Our Schools, or if you have suggestions for improving the event itself, we want to hear from you!
- **Do not speak to the media on our behalf.** If anyone from the media contacts, you, please give them our contact information.
- **Ask questions.** If you have ANY questions, reach out to your District Liaison. If they don't know the answer, they will contact Becky & her team.
- **Don't add to the event.** While we love the passion and excitement people have for this event, please do not add music, food, devotions, etc. to your IOS event. It's really important that every school/building have the same experience, and we want Christ to be the focus.

