



Thank you for stepping-up to serve as a Prayer Leader this year! **Please take some time to review this information prior to the Inspire Our Schools event on August 21, 2022 at 7pm.** If you have questions, please contact your District Coordinator.

PRAYER LEADER REMINDERS

- Please **arrive at your school no later than 6:45 p.m. on Sunday, August 21** and welcome guests as they arrive. This will give them peace that they're in the right place for the right event!
- While we know you're passionate about prayer and blessing your school, please don't add anything to your event. No music, food, etc. We really want every school to have the same experience, so please try to stick closely to the script provided on the following pages.
- **Please ask your guests' permission to take a few photos of your event or ask someone else to do it for you.** Text them to us at 515-344-3044 or email them to contactus@inspireourschools.org. Be sure to include the name of your school with your message!
- We have been praying for God's favor and protection over these events, and we have never had an issue. However, if you have any issues or concern for your safety during the event, please contact the police department in the city where your school is located. (*We have provided a place to write that phone number below – please look it up!*) We have informed your local police department that this event is taking place and that we have district consent to be on the school grounds.

Phone number for the police department where your school is located: _____

If you have concern for your safety, please dial 911.



InspireOurSchools



inspireourskls

www.InspireOurSchools.org | ContactUs@InspireOurSchools.org

If you have any questions the day of your event, please call 515-344-3044.

While the participating districts have given their consent for this event, it is not a district event, nor is it in any way endorsed or sponsored by the districts involved.



2022 PRAYER LEADER SCRIPT

Prayer Leader: Please read this script word-for-word the evening of your event. If you have any questions or concerns about the prayers or verbiage used in this script, please email us as soon as possible at contactus@inspireourschools.org.

WELCOME

Hi! My name is _____ and I'm the "Inspire Our Schools" volunteer Prayer Leader for *[name of school or building]*. I want to welcome you to this event and thank you for inspiring your school with prayer tonight! The word "inspire" means to in-spirit something – so we are literally breathing the Holy Spirit into our school tonight.

We anticipate tonight's event will take about 30 minutes, but the impact on our schools and community will be immeasurable!

Right now there are literally hundreds of people just like us, all across Iowa, who are "inspiring" their schools – we believe God works mightily through His people, so thank you for serving as the hands and feet of Jesus tonight!

If you would like to follow-along with tonight's prayers, please pull out your phone and visit www.InspireOurSchools.org. A link to the "2022 Prayers" is posted at the top of the page.

[Give guests a few seconds to pull-up the website.]

Let's begin with a general prayer over the building...

Note to Prayer Leader:
the "2022 Prayers" tab will not be added to the website until a day or so prior to the event.

Note to Prayer Leader: You do NOT need to read the scripture references listed behind the prayers. They're simply available in case you or an attendee are interested in the origin of our prayers.

GENERAL PRAYER AT BEGINNING

Lord, we commit this building and all of the school grounds to you. Father, may those who enter this campus experience your love in profound and authentic ways. (John 13:35)

Lord, release truth in this school. Help students to rightly discern truth and not believe any false teachings. (Proverbs 23:23)

We ask for your blessings and protection over this campus. We pray it would be a place of great discovery, adventure, creativity, safety and wholeness. May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to love. A place where everyone is respected, and all are deeply valued.

Amen.

PRAYERS FOR STUDENTS

If you are a student, please raise your hand.

(NOTE: If no one raises their hand, simply say, "Ok, let's go ahead and pray for our students" and skip the phrase below.)

If you are standing near a person with their hand raised, please extend your hand toward them as we pray this blessing over them.

Lord, we commit to you the lives and welfare of every student who enters this building. We pray they will become aware of the spiritual gifts you have uniquely assigned to each of them, that they will value their gifts and not be envious of the gifts given to others, and that each student will use their gifts to benefit the entire community.

We pray students will have respect for the authorities you have placed over them and recognize all authority comes from you. Likewise, we pray you will fill the students' lives with trusted teachers and advisers who can lead them toward you and your promises.

(Romans 13:1-5)

Teach them to be kind and unselfish, and to love those who are different from themselves. May they consider their schoolwork an act of worship in that "whatever they do in word or deed, it all be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through Him." *(Col 3:17)*

Grant the Christian students wisdom and boldness in living out their faith, first by living and loving as Jesus did, and secondly with their words. *(1 Timothy 4:12)*

Amen.

Now, I invite you to pray silently for any students God lays on your heart.

[allow 15-20 seconds for silent prayer]

PRAYERS FOR PARENTS

If you are the parent of a student at any school, please raise your hand.

(NOTE: If no one raises their hand, simply say, "Ok, let's go ahead and pray for the parents of our students" and skip the phrase below.)

If you are standing near a person with their hand raised, please extend your hand toward them as we pray this blessing over them.

Father, we thank you for the Godly mothers and fathers you have gifted to our students. We ask that you bless all parents with the strength and power to cope with the pressures and demands of raising a child. Grant them wisdom to raise their children in an atmosphere of love, grace, patience, respect and discipline. Pour out on them patience and persistence in the face of the needs and problems of their children. Bless them with the things they need to carry out this rigorous and demanding responsibility. (2 Samuel 22:3; Psalm 18:1)

We ask for your favor on all parents as they work to keep you and your commands at the forefront of their families despite all the pressures of this world. We pray they will take an active role in their children's Spiritual lives, protecting time for weekly worship and putting you at the center of their homes. We pray for parents to be encouragers of their children by word and example.

We ask that you grant good working relationships between the parents and teachers, showing mutual respect and support for one another. (Ephesians 6:4)

We lift all parents up to you now and remind them that you are parenting alongside them—teaching, training and equipping them to handle every situation so long as they keep you at the center of their lives. They are never alone – they need only to speak your name and you will provide for them. We ask all this in your Holy and precious name. Amen.

Now, I invite you to pray silently for any parents God lays on your heart.

[allow 15-20 seconds for silent prayer]

PRAYERS FOR TEACHERS, COACHES & DIRECTORS

If you are a teacher, coach or director of any extracurricular activity, please raise your hand.

(NOTE: If no one raises their hand, simply say, "Ok, let's go ahead and pray for our teachers" and skip the phrase below.)

If you are standing near a person with their hand raised, please extend your hand toward them as we pray this blessing over them.

Almighty God, we come to you today and give thanks for every person who leads our students. Thank you for the way in which they give of themselves each day, serving and instructing the next generation.

Father, please fill their hearts with **courage** by your mighty Spirit. Fill them with your **strength**, so they may rise to every challenge and not grow weary. Fill them with your **wisdom**, so they may be able to make good judgement when guiding and helping others. Fill them with your **peace**, so that when stress and anxiety come, they would not be overwhelmed. Fill them with your **joy**, so that the passion they have for their subject may become an infectious passion that spreads.

Father, please give these leaders your divine **wisdom**. Show them when they must discipline and when they can show mercy. Remind them that grace is typically most needed when it is least deserved. And above all, may they love and care for each student they lead. Show them how to serve as Christ serves, give as Christ gives, love as Christ loves.

We ask all this in the wonderful name of Jesus. Amen.

Now, I invite you to pray silently for any teachers, coaches or directors God lays on your heart.

[allow 15-20 seconds for silent prayer]

PRAYERS FOR PRINCIPAL, FACULTY & STAFF

If you are a principal, faculty or staff member, please raise your hand.

(NOTE: If no one raises their hand, simply say, "Ok, let's go ahead and pray for the principals, faculty & staff members" and skip the phrase below.)

If you are standing near a person with their hand raised, please extend your hand toward them as we pray this blessing over them.

Father, we thank you for the staff members of our schools who show our students what it means to lead with a servant's heart. We pray for your protection and blessing over them. We ask that you show them daily what an important role they play in our schools, often working behind the scenes to create an environment where our students' minds and hearts are open to learning and growing.

We specifically pray for anyone who is transporting our students, providing nourishment to our students, providing clean facilities, or caring for our students in a variety of other ways. Pour your blessings over them as they create an environment where learning is possible and comfortable.

We also pray that the principal & leaders will recognize the God-given responsibility they have in overseeing the best interests of our students, teachers and staff. May they walk in wisdom, integrity, grace, and truth. May they lean on you for wisdom and discernment in every decision they make, knowing that you and your ways are always good, and you always work for the good of all your people. We pray for your protection over them and their families, and that their service would be appreciated and respected throughout the community. (Proverbs 2:1-11)

We ask all of this in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Now, I invite you to pray silently for a principal, faculty or staff member God lays on your heart.

[allow 15-20 seconds for silent prayer]

PRAYERS FOR ADMINISTRATION / SCHOOL BOARD

If you are a member of the school board or district administration, please raise your hand.

(NOTE: If no one raises their hand, simply say, "Ok, let's go ahead and pray for the members of our school board & administration" and skip the phrase below.)

If you are standing near a person with their hand raised, please extend your hand toward them as we pray this blessing over them.

Father, we lift up those who serve as part of our district administration and impact the operations of our entire school district. We pray for your guidance and direction to fill their days. We ask that they would not be overwhelmed with the tasks before them, but that they would be energized and impassioned by the lives they are impacting each and every day. We pray they would feel encouraged and supported by us, and that they would commit all they do to the Lord so their plans will succeed. (Proverbs 16:3)

We pray blessings on each school board member. Father, may your will be done at board meetings. May they work together for the good of their schools and community, and may they be filled with your wisdom, discernment, grace and guidance. May they have open minds and hearts to listen to one another and the needs of this school system, and may they lean on you for every decision they make. (Romans 13:1)

In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

Now, I invite you to pray silently for any administration or school board member God lays on your heart.

[allow 15-20 seconds for silent prayer]

BLESSING OF EXTERIOR DOORS

Please join me as we bless all the exterior doors leading in and out of this building.

Lord, we commit this building to you. Cover this building with the protection only you can give. We ask that you post one of your angels at every door so evil cannot enter, and all who pass through these doors will encounter your Holy Spirit. Amen.

CLOSING

I want to close tonight's event with a prayer for our community, and then I will have you join me in the Lord's Prayer.

So first let me say a prayer over our community:

Father, we seek your favor on our community. Thank you, Father, that you will bring abundant peace, security and healing to our community. We ask you to shine your light into homes and restore families to wholeness. Lord, place a hedge of protection around the children and their families. Protect them from evil and command your angels to guard them in all their ways. Reign over our community with your righteousness and your goodness. May you be glorified this school year as never before. Amen.

And now please join me in reciting the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who've trespassed against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Again, thank you for inspiring our schools tonight! I encourage you to continue praying for our schools throughout the school year. I also encourage you to get involved with Inspire Our Schools prior to next year's event in August. As a reminder, Inspire Our Schools is 100% volunteer organized, led and funded, so this event can only happen if we, as a community, volunteer and spread the word.

Have a great evening & be blessed!

FOLLOWING YOUR EVENT

- Text photos of your event to 515-344-3044 as soon as possible.
- Please text us a general headcount of the number of people who attended the IOS event at your location.
- We will be emailing a feedback form so you can tell us what went well, what could be improved for next year, and any other suggestions you may have. Please complete and return the form as soon as possible.

We can't thank you enough for your service, and we look forward to connecting with you again next year!

The IOS Leadership Team,
Becky, Wendy & Hannah

Inspire Our Schools FAQs

How and when was IOS started?

Inspire Our Schools was started in 2018 by a parent with a vision to have every school in her district prayed for. Each year the event has grown, and now we have hundreds of people praying over schools all over Iowa.

Is Inspire Our Schools a non-profit organization?

No, the entire event is volunteer led, organized, and funded.

Why is the event called “Inspire Our Schools”?

The word “inspire” means to breathe air into or upon, to infuse (something, such as life) by breathing. We are breathing the Holy Spirit into our schools through prayer.

How often does this event happen?

Inspire Our Schools is held once every year in August.

Are there different days for each school’s event?

No, all participating schools will hold their own Inspire Our Schools event at the same date & time.

Is this event sponsored by the participating school districts?

While the participating districts have given their consent for this event, it is not a district event, nor is it in any way endorsed or sponsored by the districts involved.

How can you hold a religious event at a public school?

The school grounds are public property; however we have secured consent from the superintendent of the school districts that are participating. This event is in no way endorsed or sponsored by any school or school district.

How can I get involved?

Email us at contactus@inspireourschools.org or visit our website at www.InspireOurSchools.org.