

The Place That Cannot Be Replaced

南インディアナ日本人補習校

Southern Indiana Japanese School

The Southern Indiana Japanese School (SIJS) was founded on September 6, 1997 when new Japanese enterprises settled in the south west of Indiana. When the school was founded, there were only three teachers and seven students. Students of different grades shared their studies in combined classes. Nowadays, the number of the students is 53 (April, 2014) and the number of teachers is 11. There are no combined classes any more. The average number of students of each class is 5.

Number of the Students as of April, 2014

Elementary School

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Total
Male	4	1	7	3	5	1	21
Female	1	6	3	2	2	4	18
Total	5	7	10	5	7	5	39

Junior High School

Grade	7th	8th	9th	Total
Male	2	1	2	5
Female	0	2	1	3
Total	3	3	3	8

High School

Grade	10th	11th	12th	Total	Whole School
Male	0	2	2	4	30
Female	0	2	0	3	23
Total	0	4	2	7	53

(Number of Families=35)

Regions Where the Students Live

Regions	Elementary School	Junior High School	High School	Total
Evansville, IN	19	4	5	28
Newburgh, IN	8	1		9
Tell City, IN	3	1		4
Owensboro, KY	5	1		6
Hopkinsville, KY		1	1	2

Marion, IL	2			2
Flora, IL	2			2
	39	8	6	53

Because SIJS is a small school, every student and every teacher knows each other well. Everybody is a member of a big family.

All the teachers and the students enjoy lunch together. Mothers fix elaborate Japanese lunch boxes for their children.

Upper-grade students take care of the younger students and enjoy playing tag and dodge ball after lunch time. It snows in the winter, and the children enjoy snowballing.

We have many Japanese books in the library and the students love reading them. We also have various kinds of encyclopedias and picture books useful for studying in the class.

We Have Fun Events: in the spring, we go on a field trip. We go to the farm where the 16th US President Abraham Lincoln lived in his boyhood. We go to the John James Audubon State Park, named for the writer and artist famous for his picture books of birds, "Birds of America". We go to the New Harmony where Robert Owen tried to establish the Utopia.



In the fall, we have a field day. Students, teachers, and parents enjoy tug of war, running, and relays. We feel as if we are in Japan.

In the winter, we enjoy students' drama and research presentations to their parents on the last day of the school.

On the first school day of a new year, all the students do a special piece of calligraphy for the New School Year. The works of the students are exhibited in the school.

The students enjoy studying at the local American schools from Monday through Friday and they enjoy school life at SIJS on Saturday. Most of the students come to school by the parents' cars but some students come to school by school bus. The SIJS students come from various parts of Indiana and many students come from Kentucky and Illinois as well. For some students it takes one and a half hours or two hours to come to school.

They come to school not only because it is fun to come to SIJS but because studying at SIJS is essential for the students. The SIJS students leave here for Japan after staying here for several years. SIJS is the place for the students to cultivate basic skills to keep up with their friends studying at schools in Japan.

SIJS is a small school like a family. This makes it easy to teach to the students according to the skill of the individual at SIJS. We are always trying to cultivate the abilities of the students.

SIJS students like to study, and they share their opinions and ideas enthusiastically. The teachers identify various thoughts of the students. Then, based on this, teachers think of the questions for the entire student population. The teachers are always developing innovative means so that the students will be more interested in studying. The teachers also strive to have classes that will enhance students' understanding of their studies.

SIJS is the place where teachers teach with passion and students study with enthusiasm. SIJS is the place where both teachers and students spend a fulfilling life on Saturday.



The Town
Beside the Great Ohio River

SIJS is located in Evansville, Indiana, a city with a population of 117, 000, the third largest town in Indiana. The population of its metropolitan area is 350,000, making it the largest town in southern Indiana.

The Ohio River is a great river with its source in the Appalachian Mountains. You can hardly see the opposite shore of the river in the downtown area. Such large cities as Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and Louisville have developed along this river. The Ohio River merges the Mississippi River at Cairo, Illinois, and flows into the Mexican Bay.

Evansville was founded in 1812 and was admitted as a city in 1847.

During the World War Two, the boats to carry the tanks were built beside the Ohio River and the fighter planes were built beside the current Evansville Regional Airport.



At dusk you will see people enjoy walking and jogging beside the Ohio River in the downtown Evansville. Banks and hotels are aligned along the river. You can enjoy the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and the ballet at the theaters.

Washington Shopping Mall was the first indoor shopping mall in Indiana. You can also enjoy shopping at Eastern Shopping Mall. There are supermarkets, restaurants, and various kinds of stores. The citizens enjoy a safe daily life in Evansville.

The Characteristics Of SIJS

(1) **Forty Eight School Days in a Year:** The average number of school days of Japanese Saturday Schools is forty two. However, SIJS is in session annually for forty eight school days. In order to complete this number of days, we have school not only on forty three Saturdays but also on five Fridays when local American schools are on summer vacation.

(2) **Timetable:** One period is 45 minutes and we have 6 periods in a day. The school starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m.

	Time		Time
Teachers' Meeting	8:30 a.m.-8:45	Lunch Break	11:45-12:25 p.m.
SHR	9:00-9:15	4 th period	12:30-1:15
1 st period	9:15-10:00	5 th period	1:25-2:10
2 nd period	10:05-10:50	6 th period	2:15-3:00
3 rd period	11:00-11:45	Putting Things in Order	3:00-3:05

(3) **Subjects :** In Elementary School, Japanese is taught for 3 periods, Social

Studies (Life) for 1 period, and Math for 2 periods. In Junior High School, Japanese is taught for 2 periods, Social Studies for 2 period, and Math for 2 periods. In High School, Japanese is taught for 2 periods, English for 2 period, and Math for 2 periods.

Subjects That Are Taught (the number shows how many periods are taught)

	Japanese	Math	Life	Social Studies	English	Total
1 st -2 nd grade	3	2	1			6
3 rd -6 th grade	3	2		1		6
Jr High School	2	2		2		6
High School	2	2			2	6

- (4) **Exchange Program:** We have 11 teachers. Of the 11 teachers, 7 teachers come here from Japan through the Exchange Program. We recruit the teachers with the help of Tochigi City, a sister city of Evansville, along with Tsukuba University, a sister university of the University of Southern Indiana (USI). The selected candidates arrive in August and teach at SIJS while studying at USI. They study and teach here for 2-3 years.



- (5) **Literature Competition for the Students Living Abroad:** A Literature Competition for the Students Living Abroad is held by the Japan Overseas Educational Services annually. All the students of elementary school and the junior high school participate in this competition before the summer vacation starts. SIJS received the “School Award” in 2006 for the first time. Since then,

SIJS has received the “School Award” till 2013 for 8 years consecutively.

- (6) **Kanji Aptitude Test:** All elementary school students (except 1st grade students), junior high school students, and high school students, participate in this test. The students practice using the tests done in the past from the summer vacation till the actual test. More than 80 % of the students pass the test.
- (7) **School Song, School Flag, and Mascot Flag:** All the students, teachers and parents worked on making the School Song, the School Flag, and the Mascot Flag commemorating the 10th Anniversary of SIJS. Ms. Miyuki Kamiya, a teacher, and the students created the school song. The teachers, students, and the parents worked on making the School Flag and the Mascot Flag.

校歌

平成十九年開校十周年記念事業
先生生徒作詞作曲

一、風薫る 閑静の 小さな教会

清らかに 流れゆく オハイオ川

今日も明るく あふれる笑顔

知性の花を 磨き咲かせて 学びゆく

夢と希望で 光り輝く 補習校

二、紅葉の 鮮やかな エバンズビル

赤レンガ 映える歩道 明日を見つめ

引き継がれてく伝統 胸に

海を越えて 描く未来図 生き生きと

育て心よ 我らの校舎 補習校

(8) Annual Schedule 2014-2015

2014-2015 ANNUAL SCHEDULE (School Days)

SOUTHERN INDIANA JAPANESE SCHOOL

times	mnth	day	events	times	mnth	day	events
1	4	5	Entrance ceremony, New School Yr Begins	26	9	27	
2		12	Tuition collected, Teachers' Meeting	27	10	4	Field day
3		19	Professional Development	28		11	Rain Day for Field Day
4		26		29		18	Tornado Drill
5	5	3	Open school, Parents' day	30		25	Open school, parents' day
6		10	Parents' day	31	11	1	Parents' Day, Kanji Aptitude Test
7		17	Parents' day	32		8	Parents' Day
		24	Memorial day	33		15	
8		31		34		22	semester exam.
9	6	6	School on Friday, Field Trip			29	Thanksgiving day week
10		7	Professional Development	35	12	6	
11		13	Fire Drill, prof. dev. Frid. Sch.	36		13	
12		14		37		20	Last Day of 2nd semester, Students' Day
13		20	School on Friday, semester exam			27	Winter vacation
14		21	School on Friday, writing contest due		1	3	"
15		27	School on Friday	38		10	3rd semester begins, brush writing
16		28	1st semester ending ceremony	39		17	Tuition Collected
	7	5	Summer vacation	40		24	
		12	"	41		31	
		19	"	42	2	7	Professional Development
		26	"	43		14	
17	8	1	2nd sem. Begin. Cere., school on Friday	44		21	
18		2		45		28	Semester exam
19		9	Tuition collected	46	3	7	
20		16	Teachers' Meeting	47		14	
21		23		48		21	Graduation ceremony, Report card
22		30				28	Spring break
23	9	6	Professional Development				
24		13	Textbooks delivered				
25		20					

	School on Friday
	cafeteria or field is used
	no school

(9) How to Contact SIJS

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