

The International Baccalaureate



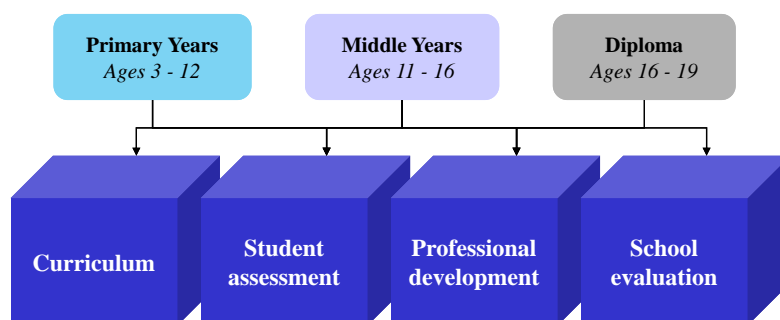
Why Students Succeed and What Can We Learn From The IB Model

What is The International Baccalaureate?

- Founded in 1968
- Headquartered in Geneva
- Three Regional Organizations:
 - IB Americas
 - IB Asia/Pacific
 - IB Africa/Europe/Middle East

Programmes: What are IB Programmes?

The three IB Programmes each contain four core elements



Programmes: What is the Primary Years Programme?

An opportunity for learners to construct meaning, principally through concept-driven inquiry.



- Supported in English, French, Spanish but can be taught in other languages.
- For all students in a school aged 3 to 12.
- Assessment is internal and its function is to demonstrate and enhance the learning
- Organized around six transdisciplinary themes of global significance intended to help children engage with their world and the world around them.
- Students explore each theme through a "unit of inquiry" developed around a central idea, an in-depth study requiring knowledge and skills that may be transdisciplinary or derived from the subject domains.
- The PYP exhibition is the culminating activity of the PYP. It requires students to analyse and propose solutions to real-world issues, drawing on what they have learned through the PYP.
- Evidence of student learning and records of PYP exhibitions are reviewed by the IB as part of the programme evaluation process.

Key features: Students will inquire, make connections, develop conceptual understanding, think critically, work collaboratively, consider multiple perspectives, construct meaning, reflect, take action

➤ Collaboration and mentoring may be the most underused and effective tool for improving our schools. PYP/MYP mandates collaboration. Workshops take teachers to different states and countries and develop relationships with teachers from other places.

➤ PYP and MYP are based on conceptual, transdisciplinary and global perspectives.

➤ IB wisely joins other organizations such as ePals to create virtual learning environments that include the high-tech that our children are used to and connect them, through academics, with students from all over the world.

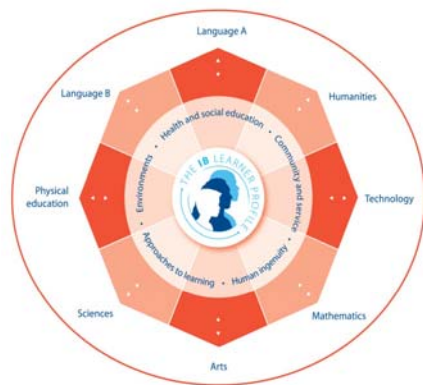
“IB lets children, regardless of their socio-economics or ability, think big thoughts. In the push for literacy and numeracy, many schools are sacrificing 21st Century Skills.”

“There are magnet schools that have been very successful in improving numeracy and literacy. Are they also forming life-long learners who are active community members? PYP/MYP sets the bar higher than reading/writing and math scores.”

*Nelyda Miguel, PYP Coordinator, Whitby School,
Greenwich, CT*

Programmes: What is the Middle Years Programme?

A framework of academic challenge and life skills appropriate to students aged 11 to 16.



- Supported in English, French, Spanish and Chinese but can be taught in other languages
- Aimed at students aged 11 to 16.
- Includes all the major disciplines but is flexible enough to accommodate 'national curriculum' requirements as well as facilitating interdisciplinary work.
- In the final year students carry out a personal project of particular interest to them. This project may be an original work of art, an essay, a piece of fiction writing, an experiment or an invention for example.
- Schools can opt to have the IB validate their internal assessment and an MYP certificate can be obtained. There is no external examination.
- Fundamental concepts of the programme are holistic education, communication and intercultural awareness.
- The five "areas of interaction" help students to make connections between subjects, to link what they learn to the real world and to global issues, and to reflect and act on their learning.

Key features: a broad and balanced curriculum ~ holistic learning ~ communication ~ intercultural awareness ~ inclusive programme ~ assessment for learning ~ academic rigour ~ community and service ~ develops research skills, critical thinking and enquiring skills ~ reflection

"I think that MYP and PYP in magnet schools is all about creating access and opportunity for all children to engage with rigorous curriculum under one philosophical umbrella. Raising expectations and believing that all children can learn to high standards is at the core of bringing programs like this to magnet school environments. Focusing the entire school community in the same direction has been instrumental in creating our success."

*Cheryl DeSpirt, Principal
Van Sickle MS
Springfield, MA*

Programmes : What is the Diploma Programme?

A rigorous two year pre-university course that leads to examinations, for motivated students.



- Over ½ million graduates since 1970
- Available in English, French, Spanish with examinations in May and November each year.
- Aimed at 16 to 19 year old in the final two years of high school.
- Diploma students take six subjects (usually one from each subject group) plus they write a 4,000 word extended essay, complete a course in theory of knowledge, and complete a number of creativity, action and service (CAS) projects.
- The diploma is well recognized by the world's leading universities.
- Alternatively, students can opt to take individual certificates in one or more subjects.
- Many IB schools teach the Diploma Programme along-side national programmes.
- Around 100 languages are available in groups 1 and 2, with 29 subjects in groups 3 to 6. Most subjects are available at higher level (HL) and standard level (SL).
- The [IBCC](#) is a new initiative that aims to add an international dimension to school's vocational offerings.
- The [DP Online](#) project will allow students to study a variety of Diploma subjects with other students from around the world led by an IB teacher at a distance via the internet.

Key features: a broad and balanced curriculum ~ flexibility of choice within a structure ~ concurrency of learning ~ development of international understanding ~ rigorous assessment ~ community service ~ develops research skills, critical thinking and enquiring skills ~ reflection

DP Curriculum

- **Two-year program (11th-12th grades)**
- **Each group is a specific academic discipline**
- **Program provides student with comprehensive HS education**
- **DP experience = freshman year college**
- **External assessment**

DP Curriculum

- Concurrency of learning – interconnect disciplines
- Higher Order Thinking – ToK
- Excellent predictor of college success:
 - 80% of IB students attain Bachelor's Degree
 - In 4-year time span – greater rate than non-IB peers

Assessment

- Internal
 - Tests, quizzes, etc all based on IB assessment model
 - Internal Assessment is a formal part of student work reported to IB
- External
 - IB Exams
 - Written, oral work also assessed externally

Programmes : What is the learner profile?

It's the IB mission statement translated into a set of learning outcomes for the 21st century.



The attributes of the learner profile express the values inherent to the IB continuum of international education: these are values that should infuse all elements of the three programmes and, therefore, the culture and ethos of all IB World Schools.

IB programmes promote the education of the whole person, emphasizing intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth through all domains of knowledge.

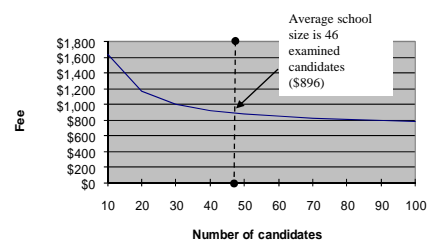
IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers
 Knowledgeable
 Thinkers
 Communicators
 Principled
 Open-minded
 Caring
 Risk-takers
 Balanced
 Reflective

Money: What does it cost to offer an IB programme?

Our fees vary by programme but are just one of the costs experienced by a school.

IB Diploma Programme Fees (2009/10) per student



Diploma Programme fees include fixed school fees (US\$ 9,600) plus a number of per candidate examination fees .

Primary Years Programme (09/10)

- \$7000 annual fee
- Evaluation fee after four years and then every five years

Middle Years Programme (09/10)

- \$8000 annual fee
- Moderation: \$639 per subject and \$62 per student
- Evaluation fee every five years

Other school costs

- Teacher training
- Postage and mailing
- Additional staffing
- Publications
- Special facilities (library, labs, etc)
- Special services (enquiry upon results, legalization, etc)



Connecticut IB Academy (CIBA)

- Magnet School operated by the East Hartford (CT) Board of Education
- **Funding: combination of state grant, tuition from sending districts and local support**
- Authorized IB Diploma Program (2000)
- **Separate magnet facility since 2003**
- 170 Students from the Greater Hartford region – sending districts range from **rural** to **urban**



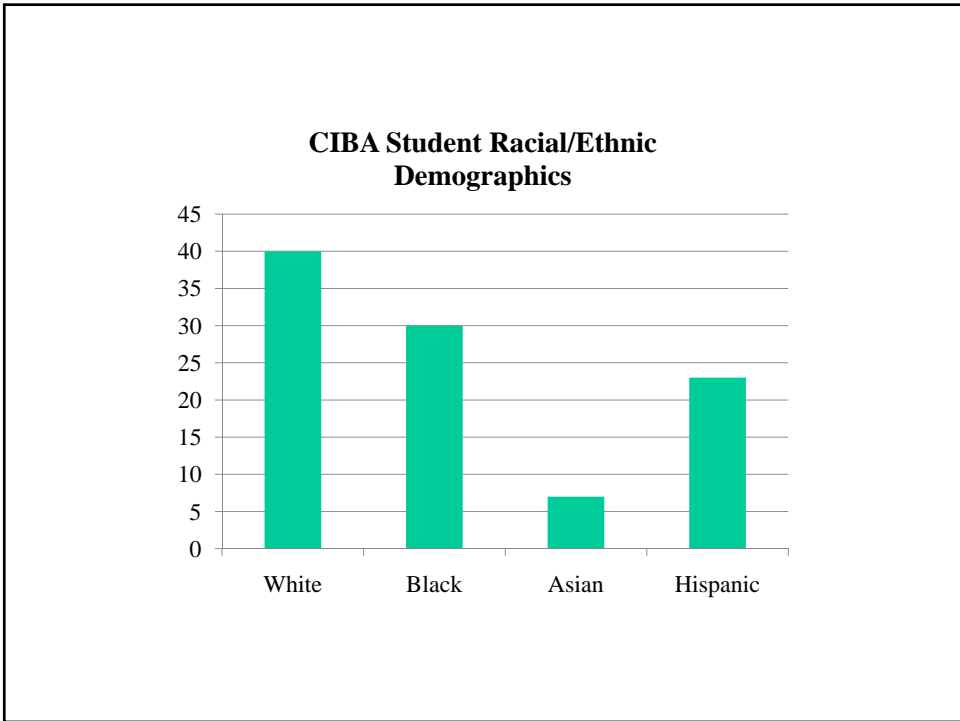
Recognitions of Student Success

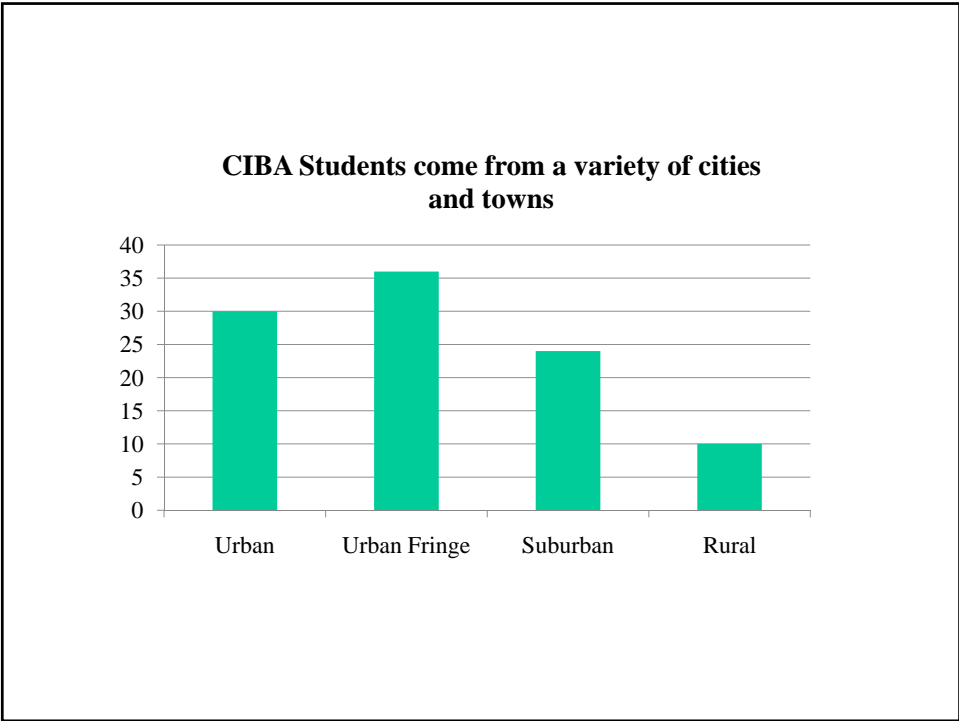
- 2006 – Blue Ribbon School
- **Newsweek Top Public US High Schools –**
2009: # 24
2010: # 22
- 2009 – MSA Magnet School of Excellence
and AES Secondary School Merit Award of
Excellence
- **2010- MSA Magnet School of Excellence**



Secrets of our Success

- All teachers are fully in support of the IB mission and school Mission Statement
- Expectations for high standards of achievement are consistently repeated in each class and over each school year (both academic *and* behavior)
- Positive school climate promoted by teachers and students
- Diverse student population
 - Racial/ethnic
 - Home town environments





Secrets of our Success

- Outreach for prospective students
- Extensive application process
- Families are fully informed of school expectations

Secrets of our Success

- Frequent communication with families
- Monitoring of students
- Quarterly individual meetings with school counselor
- Monthly staff discussions regarding concerns about individual student progress

Preparation for IB Diploma Program

- 9th and 10th grades are designed to “level the playing field”
 - Math
 - World Language
- We also use these grades to ensure that some graduation requirements are met:
 - PE (2 credits)
 - Civics (CT state graduation requirement)
 - CAPT test –grade 10 – state requirement

We Offer Our Students...

- Safe, small learning environment
- High-achieving learning
- High level of technology – student laptops, wireless building, language lab, modern science labs
- Peer support (*not* peer pressure)
- Strong peer tutoring program benefits ALL students
- Students who might struggle socially in their town’s HS thrive at CIBA

CIBA: A Great Opportunity

- Students are challenged to take chances, but are given the support that will allow them to succeed
- Unwritten compact between teachers and students: **if you consistently demonstrate commitment to success we will do all we can to help you achieve that success**



IB Ideas in Magnet Schools

- Regardless of theme, set high standards for student achievement
- RAISE THE BAR: If you raise it, they will reach it!
- Support your students at all times
- Teachers and staff **MUST** buy in to idea of high achievement

IB Ideas in Magnet Schools

- Do your curriculum standards meet or exceed your state standards?
- Technology – prepare your students to succeed in a high-tech future
- Use internationalism to promote student interest in learning

IB Ideas in Magnet Schools

- Your students are choosing to be there –
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS
- Give students a sense of “belonging” to the school – make it something they value
- Tie in student success to being a part of the school – school pride
 - *You are in a special place! Do all you can to make it your own!*

High Achievement

- **MODEL IT**
- **EXPECT IT!**
- **DEMAND IT!**