

Executive Summary

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting 12/12/2006

International Baccalaureate Coordinators (designate)
in collaboration with
Curriculum, Instruction and Staff Development Division

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- Update the Board of Trustees about investigation progress of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programmes in Denton ISD through December 12, 2006
- Present anticipated IB Authorization Timeline

Primary Years Program (PYP)

Newton Rayzor Elementary and Evers Park Elementary schools began investigating the Primary Years Program by visiting three authorized PYP schools in Houston. Between May 3 and May 5, 2006, representatives from the Curriculum Department, administrators from all four IB designated campuses, as well as a cadre of classroom teachers from both elementary schools met with administrators and teachers at Oran Roberts Elementary, River Oaks Elementary, and Mark Twain Elementary.

Of interest were the following:

- The involvement of pull-out programs (ESL, Bilingual, Expo)
- Departmentalized vs. self-contained classrooms
- The role of special areas (P.E., music, art, etc.)
- Training of staff members
- Funding of training
- Other expenses incurred
- Their timetable for implementation

Inspired by everything seen and heard, elementary principals Tricia Bolz and Carmen Lipscomb began selecting teachers to serve on an IBO Core Team at each campus (14 members at Evers and 13 members at Rayzor). The primary objectives of the IB Core Team were to continue the investigative process and inform campus staff members. These teams will also serve as the leaders for decision-making regarding the Primary Years Program (PYP) at each school.

Subsequent steps in this investigation, to date, include:

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| June, 2006 | IB Coordinators were designated for each campus. |
| July 9 – 14, 2006 | Leadership team from each campus participated in Critical Friends Group (CFG) training in Houston. {Evers-4; Rayzor-4} |

***Note:** A CFG is a professional learning community consisting of approximately 8-12 educators who come together voluntarily at least once a month for about 2 hours. Group members are committed to improving their practice through collaborative learning.*

In 1994, the Annenberg Institute for School Reform designed a different approach to professional development, one that would be focused on the practitioner and on defining what will improve student learning. Since the summer of 2000, Critical Friends Groups training is coordinated by the National School Reform Faculty (NSRF) at the Harmony Education Center in Bloomington, Indiana.

Critical Friends Groups are designed to

- *Create a professional learning community*
- *Make teaching practice explicit and public by "talking about teaching"*
- *Help people involved in schools to work collaboratively in democratic, reflective communities (Bambino)*
- *Establish a foundation for sustained professional development based on a spirit of inquiry (Silva)*
- *Provide a context to understand our work with students, our relationships with peers, and our thoughts, assumptions, and beliefs about teaching and learning*
- *Help educators help each other turn theories into practice and standards into actual student learning*
- *Improve teaching and learning*

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| July 23 – 28, 2006 | IBO Core Teams participated in IBNA-sanctioned, TIBS workshop for PYP Level 1 training (Introduction to the PYP) in Austin. {Evers-14; Rayzor-13} |
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| August 2006 | Introduced staff to inquiry via the scientific method [Evers] IB Core Team presented highlights of PYP Level I Training [Rayzor] Staff Development: Introduction of the Learner Profile [Rayzor] Implemented CFG protocols |
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September 2006

Implemented campus-wide activities to encourage students and staff adoption of IB Learner Profile [Rayzor]
Staff development: Best Practices with Correlations to PYP Standards [Evers]
Initiated best practices weekly book study with core team using CFG protocols [Rayzor]
Staff Development: Higher Level Thinking Skills [Rayzor]
Principals and Coordinators met with District IB Leadership Team

October 2006

Staff development: Introduction of the IB Learner Profile and PYP inquiry via the scientific method [Evers]
Implemented campus-wide activities to encourage students and staff adoption of IB Learner Profile [Evers]
Staff Development: TEKS to TAKS to IB [Rayzor]
Staff Development: Higher Level and Authentic Assessment [Rayzor]
Staff Development: Introduction of Central Ideas [Rayzor]
Began CFG for prospective administrators [Rayzor]
Leadership teams attend Texas International Baccalaureate Schools (TIBS) Roundtable in Houston
Leadership teams accompany middle school and high school core teams on site visits to one MYP authorized school and one DP authorized school in Houston
Staff Development: Third and Fourth Grade teachers revised a unit of study by including inquiry strategies and higher level assessment [Rayzor]
Principals and Coordinators met with District IB Leadership Team

November 2006

Staff development: Higher Order Thinking Skills and PYP Assessment [Evers]
Update CLT on all IB/PYP information [Evers]

Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP)

Principals, Darrell Muncy and Anthony Sims, accompanied the elementary personnel to visit the PYP schools in Houston during the spring of 2006. Participation of all educational levels of identified IB campuses provided an understanding of the IBO K-12 Continuum once implemented.

Coordinators and Core Teams from each school attended Level I training in Austin, July 2006 to get an overview of IBO. Teachers walked away from the training with excitement and anticipation for something they believed would challenge students to a higher level of learning. The Core teams, consisting of one teacher per subject area per grade level, will help in the decision-making process regarding the Middle Years Program at Calhoun and Denton High.

To continue the investigative process, representatives from the Curriculum Department, administrators from Evers Elementary, Calhoun Middle School, and Denton High School, as well as a cadre of classroom teachers from both the middle school and high school, met with teachers and administrators at Lanier Middle School (MYP) and Lamar High School (DP) in Houston, October, 2006. The group listened to teachers share their thoughts about being part of an authorized IB world school and also visited classrooms. Teachers were able to view the IB curriculum and strategies being taught. Physical Education and dance teachers included internationalism in their classes and make those connections to the real world which IB promotes. The teachers from both schools were very positive and the overall consensus is that IB “raises the bar and challenges all students.” Our teachers made positive comments about the respect the students had for each other, the higher level of answers and vocabulary the students used, and the student-centered learning that was evident in the various classrooms.

Following these initial investigations the following initiatives have occurred:

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| June 2006 | IB Coordinators designated for each secondary campus |
| July 9-14, 2006 | Anthony Sims, CMS Principal, participated in Critical Friends Group (CFG) training in Houston. |
| July 23-28, 2006 | IBO Core Teams participated in IBNA sanctioned, Texas International Baccalaureate Schools (TIBS) workshop for MYP Level I Training in Austin {DHS-2 Administrators; 1 Coordinator; 6 teachers} {CMS-3 Administrators, 1 Coordinator, 1 Counselor, 12 teachers} |
| August 2006 | Review of IB printed materials; MYP and DP levels Identify teacher interested in teaching and IB training [DHS] MYP- DP coordinators meeting-weekly Open House: Presentation and Distribution of IB informational brochures to parents and students [DHS] |

- September 2006
- Completion of DP Intent to Apply document [DHS]
 - Principals and Coordinators met with District IB Leadership Team
 - Submission of completed DP Intent to Apply to International Baccalaureate North America (IBNA)
 - Staff Development: Rigor/Relevance and IB Introduction to IB Areas of Interaction [CMS]
 - Submitted tentative DP Level I Training plans to Curriculum Department
 - Met with Director of Secondary Curriculum
 - MYP- DP coordinators meeting-weekly
 - Met with Core Team for Update
 - Open House: Distributed IB informational brochures to parents and students [CMS]
 - Site Visit:
 - MYP Coordinator-Hogg Middle School, Tyler ISD [CMS]
- October 2006
- Submitted revised tentative DP Level I Training Plans
 - Registered teachers for DP Level I Trainings
 - Kansas City, MO (8 registered, 0 accepted)
 - Denver, CO (2 registered, 1 teacher accepted)
 - Denton ISD IB Coordinators' meetings
 - Site Visits:
 - MYP and DP coordinators-Trinity High School HEB ISD
 - MYP and DP Coordinators– Hirschi Math-Science Magnet High School (IBO World School)/Kirby Jr. High (Candidate School) Wichita Falls ISD
 - DHS, CMS, Evers, Central Service Curriculum Coordinators – Lamar High School (DP) and Lanier Middle School (MYP), Houston ISD
 - Texas International Baccalaureate Schools Roundtable in Houston
- November 2006
- Registered for Spring MYP Level I Training for Core team [CMS-9 teachers/administration] [DHS-39 teachers/administrators/curriculum coordinators]
 - Principals and Coordinators from CMS and DHS met:
 - developed a partner MYP implementation plan
 - created MYP staff development plan (2007) for curriculum alignment (grades 6-10)
 - Denton ISD IB Coordinators' meetings
 - MYP- DP coordinators meeting-weekly
 - Developed MYP estimated budget needs and timeline
 - Developed DP estimated budget needs and timeline
- December 2006
- Presentation to Faculty: Update of MYP [CMS]
 - Presentation to Faculty: You, Me and IB [DHS]

Fall 2006 Communications as needed with:
 IBNA Office
 Karen Phillips, Ex. Director TIBS
 Tommy Newman, DP Consultant

January 2007 Panel Presentation to Faculties
 IB Level I Trained Teachers
 DP Graduates and Consultant

Objectives

- Obtain guidance from the Board of Trustees regarding preparation of PYP and MYP Application (Part A) for submission prior to May 1, 2007, deadline.
- Obtain guidance from the Board of Trustees regarding continued implementation of the DP at Denton High School.

Operational Impact

Based on information garnered thus far in the investigative process, this is a preliminary estimate of costs for pursuit of PYP, MYP, DP authorization at Evers and Newton Rayzor elementary schools, Calhoun Middle School and Denton High School through the end of the 2007 – 2008 school year. The funding will be a joint effort of campus, district and federal staff development monies. Once authorized at MYP and DP levels, Texas Education Agency offers a registration reimbursement initiative for teacher staff development which the district will access.

Both elementary schools and Calhoun Middle School envision submitting Application Part A on May 1, 2007 and Application Part B on May 1, 2009. Denton High School envisions submitting their Application for Authorization prior to the June 1, 2007 deadline.

Primary Years Program Expenses

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| I. | Staff Development | |
| | Note: Staff development expenses will continue as long as a school maintains IB world school status. | |
| | A. 2007 – 2008 School Year | |
| | 1. TIBS Roundtable (fall 2007) | |
| | 2. Level 1 & 2 Training (12 persons) (fall 2007) | |
| | 3. TIBS Roundtable (spring 2008) | |
| | 4. Level 3 Training (20 persons) (spring 2008) | |
| | 5. On-site consultant (summer 2008) | |
| | 6. Level 1, 2 or 3 Training (summer 2008) | |
| | 7. Collaborative Planning Time (substitute teachers | |
| | Total: | \$82,000 |
| II. | Fees | |
| | A. Continuation Fee (per school per year) | 1,000 |
| | (During which time, staff members are writing and implanting the PYP curriculum in preparation for authorization.) | |
| | 1. Subscription to the Online Curriculum Centre | 470 |
| | 2. Counseling services by IBNA staff | |
| | B. Authorization Fee_(anticipated May, 2009) | |
| | 1. Application B Fee (2 schools) | 9,000 |
| | 2. Authorization Team Expenses (3 persons) (2 schools) | 5,000 |
| | C. Annual Basic Fee (to sustain IBO status) (per school) | 3,720 |
| III. | Personnel | |
| | A. Review assignment of personnel to accommodate second language as required by IB. | |
| IV. | Materials | 4,000 |
| | A. IB Publications | |
| | B. Resources for inquiry, second language teaching, and internationalism | |
| | PYP Grand Total Expenses | \$105,190 |

Middle Years Program Expenses

**Note: Staff development expenses will continue
as long as a school maintains IB world school status.**

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| I. | Staff Development | |
| | A. IBNA sanctioned MYP Staff Development (2007-2008) | |
| | 1. Core team –Level II : Austin - July, 2007 | |
| | 2. On Site Consultants (remainder of staff for Level I) (fall 2007) | |
| | 3. Coordinator/Core Team -6 th grade –Level III | |
| | 4. TIBS (spring 2008) | |
| | 5. Campus Based (CMS/DHS MYP) | |
| | 6. Substitute Teachers | |
| | Total | \$46,000 |
| II. | Fees | |
| | A. Application A (May 1, 2007) | 4300 |
| | B. Continuation Fee (May 1, 2008) | 1000 |
| | C. Application B (May1, 2009) | 4500 |
| | D. Annual Fee (after authorization) | 3380 |
| III. | Personnel | |
| | A. Review assignment of personnel to accommodate second or third languages as required by IB. | |
| IV. | Library Materials (p/yr) | 20,000 |
| V. | Teaching Resources | 8,000 |
| VI. | School Visits | 4,300 |
| | MYP Grand Total Expenses | \$91,480 |

Diploma Programme Expenses

**Note: Staff development expenses will continue
as long as a school maintains IB world school status.**

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| I. | Staff Development | |
| | A. IBNA sanctioned MYP/DP Staff Development: 2007-2008 | |
| | 1. MYP/DP Administrators, Teachers, Counselor, Librarian, | |
| | 2. Expansion of MYP/DP Educated Teachers | |
| | Total | \$93,000 |
| II. | Fees | |
| | A. Application (May 1, 2007) | 4500 |
| | B. Continuation Fee (May 1, 2007) | 1000 |
| | C. Consultant | 3500 |
| | D. Authorization Site Visit Costs (2007-2008) | 3000 |
| | E. Online curriculum | 470 |
| | F. Annual Fee (after authorization) | 8590 |
| III. | Publications-IB Curriculum Guides | 700 |
| | A. Copies of Guides for IB Teachers | 600 |
| | B. Teacher Resources | 1000 |
| IV. | Personnel | |
| | A. Review assignment of personnel to accommodate second, third or fourth languages as required by IB | |
| V. | Library Materials | 20,000 |
| VI. | IB Required School Visits | 3100 |
| | DP Grand Total Expenses | \$139,460 |

DP Implementation Timeline Synopsis

- A. Planning Phase (Intent to Apply-Fall 2006)
(Application-Spring 2007)
 - 1. Academic Year 1 2006-2007
 - a. Plan from implementation of program
 - b. Teacher training
 - c. Curriculum development
 - d. Student recruitment
 - e. Budget
 - f. Scheduling

- B. Review Phase
 - 1. Academic Year 2 2007-2008
 - a. Application reviewed
 - b. Site authorization team (Sept-Jan)
 - c. Authorization decision made on application by end of April

- C. Authorization
 - 1. Academic Year 3 2008-2009
 - a. Begin teaching year one of the Diploma Programme