

Welcome from Denton ISDs' International Baccalaureate Continuum!!

Introductions:

From Denton High School...

the Diploma Programme Coordinator – Beth Hughes and the Middle Year's Programme Coordinator – Kim

Thaggard...who received an IB honor this year. She was selected to go to the PYP Trainer's Academy earlier this year, so she'll be able to evaluate other IB programmes and give IB workshops.

From Calhoun Middle School...

the Middle Year's Programme Coordinator – Amy Metting

From Newton Rayzor Elementary...

the Primary Year's Programme Coordinator – Linda Gavilanes

...and from our IB Candidate school – Broman Elementary...
the Primary Year's Programme Coordinator – Angie Feldman

...and I'm Lori Mabry – Coordinator of Advanced Academics.



We are here tonight to share with you highlights from the 2013/2014 school year.



The Continuum participated in various projects together this year.

We started off the year together doing our first New Teacher to IB workshop.

Each IB Coordinator shared something unique about IB to the group of new teachers.

The topics ranged from International Mindedness to The Culminating Projects of IB.

It was held at Borman Elementary on Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.



The Heads of Schools (HoS) and the IB Coordinators (IBC) had monthly meetings during the 2013/2014

School year. The purpose of those meetings were two-fold:

- 1 To get a feel for each other's campus in terms of its "ib" ness.
- 2 To conduct a study about rigor by examining books, articles, and our IB units for signs of rigor shown through the unit planners.



Another project that the majority of the Continuum is participating in is the development of ePortfolios.

We are working on this in conjunction with Barry Fox and Leslie Taylor and others from the Denton ISD Instructional Technology staff.

The ePortfolios will be a system where the students and teachers can capture artifacts of the student's school year.

This is done through pictures of projects and products that the student has made, copies of stories, audio copies of students reading stories, and videos of student work.

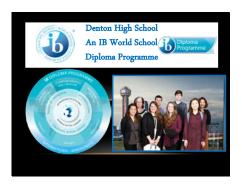
We have called it an electronic time capsule because this work is going to be collected throughout the student's school career. It will all be kept in the "cloud" on a google drive that has 30gig of memory per student and teacher. It's something we're really excited about because this will help in the data collection that IB has to do during IB evaluations and authorizations.



First official IB training in Denton ISD

Making the PYP Happen – Monday, Jan. 6 at Borman Elementary. This included teachers from both Borman and Newton Rayzor.

A total of 30 district employees received official Category I training.



Denton High School hosted two teachers from South Korea for two weeks in February 2014. These teachers accompanied some of our DP students to a World Affairs Council speaker (General Michael Hayden, a retired United States Air Force four-star general and former director of the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency) at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Dallas. None of our DP students had ever been up Reunion Tower, so we splurged for a scenic trip up with our Korean visitors.



Denton High School's Class of 2013 earned over 3.1 million dollars in college scholarships, with our 28 IB students accounting for almost a 1/3 of that amount.

Full-Diploma UNT students earned between 30-41 college credit hours.

15 of our 28 graduates earned the IB diploma, with 7 more that missed it by just 1-2 points in 2013.

Class of 2013 IB graduates attended the following universities: Hendrix College (AR); McNally Smith College of Music (MN); DePaul University (Chicago); Drexel University (PA); University of North Texas; University of Vermont; Texas A&M University; University of Texas at Dallas; Texas Christian University; Texas Woman's University; University of Texas; University of Colorado at Boulder; Pace University (NYC); Trinity University (San Antonio); Stephen F. Austin

An incidental benefit 2013 graduates reported was early registration for classes because of their sophomore standing. They were able to avoid non-preferred class times or professors.

The class of 2013 earned scores above the world average in Language A (English) and all Language B (language acquisition in Spanish, French, German and Latin), Dance, and Computer Science.



The senior class of 2014 will graduate 27 full-diploma candidates. Current schools these students have been accepted to in the fall of 2014 include: Georgetown, George Mason, DePaul, University of Texas, Texas Woman's University, The University of North Texas, Texas A&M, Texas Tech, Oklahoma Baptist University, Texas A & M Commerce, Midwestern University, Baylor, Indiana University, Oklahoma State University, Texas Christian Univ., Univ. of Cincinnati, Ohio State, University of Nebraska, McMurray, University of San Francisco, UT Dallas, Benedictine College, Lamar, UT Tyler, Tarleton State

The class of 2015 currently has 22 full-diploma candidates.

The class of 2016 has 36 full-diploma candidates beginning in the fall of 2014.



Jorge's story
First generation college student
UNT Honor's College
Placed out of 30 hours at UNT with his IB Diploma
Enough scholarship money and financial aide to pay for his education in full.



In the fall, annually we host the "IBlet" (this is a term created by our IB DP students for a future DP student who is currently in 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade) breakfast. This gives our future DP students the opportunity to learn from current DP students about the program from a students' perspective.

We are working to improve bridging the gap between 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grades, future DP student to the time they actually begin the DP in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Underclassmen hear "IB DP is so HARD!" Speaking with current DP students can help.



During December semester exam time, we invited back our IB DP graduates (with representatives from the classes of 2011, 2012, and 2013) to our first annual "IB Reunion". Our IB DP alumni were able to sincerely reflect upon the benefits our program provided them and they were very generous in sharing those tidbits with us.

Some of those reflections included:

- early registration for classes due to their sophomore standing
- first semester college GPA of 3.0+ from everyone who attended the reunion
- feeling prepared for their college classes
- being less stressed than their non-IB peers in college because of their superior preparation
- declaring that college was actually easier than their senior year in IB



Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) hours are a required part of the IB Diploma Program. These DP students are also members of the National Spanish Honor Society. At Christmas time, they passed out gifts to our Denton Spanish speaking community and were able to act as bilingual elves for this project. The CAS component provides students with the opportunity to reflect on involvement and requires an engagement with our community with the goal of a developing life-long, contributing citizens in our local and global communities.

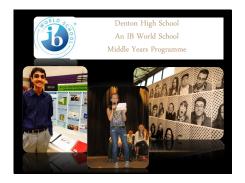


Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS)

CAS isn't just community service; it includes engagement in the fine arts and physical exercise. The IB recognizes the value of a fit or active body that can help fuel the mind. Creativity, such as participation in band, also assists in developing a well-rounded student.



DP senior Jamie Morgan, along with a few other DP students, partnered with Sam Houston Elementary teacher Dawn Ide to work with elementary students who were identified as needing more assistance in reading and literacy, but were not assigned to attend DISD summer school. The DP student helped on a routine basis throughout the summer of 2013.



## DHS MYP

- -Personal Project Fair/ Toulouse Exhibit (358 projects were submitted this year, and we had 9 participants in the Toulouse Exhibit)
- -International Week of Peace Monologues
- -JR Exhibit with Dallas Modern



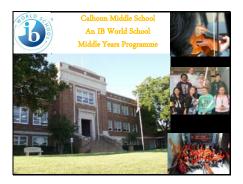
- We were visited by our Official IB Evaluation Team on February 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>.
- We have already received our report and were overall pleased with the outcome.
- Areas they noted need more improvement are physical and health education, language acquisition and technology.
- DHS and CMS have already started working on timelines and action plans to improve in these areas.



- The MYP programme model underwent a number of changes in 2014.
- In addition to transforming the MYP programme model the IB has also revamped the way in which its curriculum is built, focused and assessed. For the remainder of the year we are highly focused on getting our teachers trained on the new Unit Planner.
- This training, which just ended last week, has familiarized teachers with both problem-based and inquiry based learning that the MYP has embraced and for which gives it greater relevance for student's coming up from the PYP.



- As I noted in the last slide, the IB's overhaul of the MYP was to formulate a new model that would provide a fluid bridge between programmes. In terms of bridging the MYP and DP, the IB added Action and Service as a key element of the new model. A greater emphasis on this area will better prepare students for CAS which they will undertake in the DP.
- Next year each course will write a fall unit that includes an element of service.
- Other obvious connections are present in the names of the courses, which also changed to provide a streamlined move into the DP.

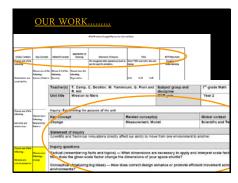


Denton ISD's MYP campus has been very busy this school year.



Our Mission is to develop:

- Inquiring, knowledgeable and caring people who better the world by intercultural understand and respect.
- Rigorous assessment
- Active, compassionate, lifelong learners



Unit plans are an essential component of MYP written curriculum.

At CMS we have created curriculum maps to address the Inquiry component which establishes the purpose of the unit and contains:

Key and related concepts
Global contexts
Statement of inquiry
Inquiry questions
Subject group objectives
Summative assessment
Approaches to learning (ATL)

By creating these curriculum maps this fall teachers were about to adapt to the new MYP planners released in January of 2014. We have begun converting our old units into the new planners.



## Highlights:

- The leadership structure supports the implementation of the global contexts.
- Conversations with teachers reflect the support and guidance that the pedagogical leadership team, especially the MYP coordinators, has given and continues to give.
- The head of school/school principal and the MYP coordinators have participated in past meetings and have planned future meetings to inform the community about the programme.
- The head of school/school principal and MYP coordinators lead or are involved in planned activities to support teachers.
- In Years 1-3 department heads are and will continue to act as global context leaders.
- MYP coordinators have attended training in instructional coaching to assist the development of strong instructional practices.
- The heads of school are acting as instructional leaders on campus by engaging in staff development based on current pedagogical practices and research.
- The school has developed an inclusive programme with policies and practices that effectively support special educational needs.
- The life skills class at the year 1-3 school has embraced international mindedness through the service learning

- aspects of MYP.
- The librarian at Calhoun Middle School has attended multiple trainings and regularly engages in the planning of units with teachers



We have a wonderful year of learning and growth for not only the students, but also the teachers.



Our evaluation visit was a positive one, and IB made several recommendations to help us to continue our implementation of the PYP. We have created a strategic plan to implement the recommendations in a manner that will not overwhelm the teachers, but will give them the opportunity to focus on one planner each semester. As we write the planners we are integrating our standards with the IB scope and sequence that is more conceptual. We received excellent personalized staff development from Tony Stead. With his guidance we have incorporated expository writing in each of the planners. Tony's specialty is teaching children to be effective nonfiction writers. He writes instructional books that are widely used by

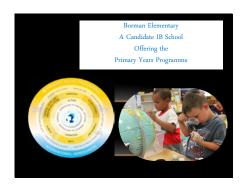
teachers around the country. He also publishes some examples of what children's writing (and illustrating) should look like and uses them to explain stages of good writing. He asked some of the teachers at Rayzor to help him with his next series of books.



Year after year, we are amazed at the learning that occurs at our school. Earlier I referred to having parents as primary sources, this looks differently in every grade level. In Kindergarten, they come and discuss their experiences living in other countries. In second grade, they are part of a panel discussion on being a public official. As we prepare our students with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, we are constantly striving to create opportunities for our students to be critical thinkers, and make connections to the real world. We do this by frontloading our students with information that will help them be successful as they begin to research and delve into the planners. 55% of our population would likely not have the enriching opportunities that we provide in our fieldtrips that are connected to our transdisciplinary units of study.



We are lucky to have had two of our teachers be accepted to the IB Educator Academy. They attended the training in Seattle, and are now members of the IB educator network, and they will be certified to be official IB consultants, evaluation/authorization team members and IBNA workshop leaders.





Borman Elementary thanks the Denton ISD board and administration for supporting and encouraging us during our first year of this exciting journey. We are proud to say all of teachers have received official Category I IB training, and many of our teachers will receive additional training this summer.

Recently, Borman's IB-appointed consultant praised the progress we've made in anticipation of becoming an authorized PYP campus.

As we move into our second year as an International Baccalaureate PYP candidate school, we are looking ahead to our upcoming "big events".

- We will schedule our consultant visit for Fall 2014.
- We plan to submit our application for authorization in Spring 2015.
- Our verification visit is currently expected to take place during the 2015-2016 school year, after which Borman will become Denton ISD's second PYP campus.



One of the most exciting components of the Primary Years Programme is that of providing instruction in a world language to all students. This was not a decision that was taken lightly. Conversations took place with parents, language teachers at other PYP schools, and our campus leadership team. We also sent parents a survey asking for their input.

The results of the survey showed that the majority of the parents preferred their child to receive instruction in either French or Spanish. Some of the other languages suggested were Mandarin Chinese, German, and Portuguese. Several parents commented that they were excited about the opportunity their child will have to learn a foreign language, regardless of which language is taught.

After much consideration, Borman Elementary has chosen to provide instruction in French to all students in Kindergarten -5<sup>th</sup> grade beginning in the 2014 - 2015 school year.



Borman students will experience many benefits from receiving instruction in French.

- Approximately 45% of the words in the English language originated either directly or indirectly from French. In fact, it is believed that an adult who has never studied French already knows 10,000 – 15,000 words of French origin.
- French is the most widely-learned second language after English, and opens the door to easier acquisition of other Romance languages.
- 29 countries list French as an official language, including Canada which is the number one trading partner of the United States.
- Students will be able to continue their French instruction at Calhoun as they pursue the Middle Years Programme.
- We have already established a partnership with members of the World Language Departments from UNT and TCU.



In addition to learning a new language, Borman students will begin to discover the influence and contributions French culture and history have made to our lives.

If you've ever read Les Miserables, watched Disney's Beauty and the Beast, followed the Tour de France, or eaten etouffee in the French Quarter of New Orleans, then you've experienced the French influence in our lives.



Finally, in addition to the academic and cultural benefits Borman students will derive from the implementation of a French program, parents in Denton ISD will be given a new choice. Not only are parents able to choose between an IB and non-IB school for their children, but they will also be able to choose between French and Spanish as Denton will have two elementary campuses providing instruction in two different world languages.

We invite each of you to visit us at Borman so you can see the great things that are happening, and why we are so excited to be working alongside Newton Rayzor, Calhoun, and Denton High School.



The district is providing continuous support for a continuum of IB programmes.



## Any questions?