



IB matters

A World for Learning

September 2014

Douglas County High School
2842 Front Street
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104

Volume 18 Issue 1

DCHS IB Welcomes the Class of 2018!

On a pleasant evening of August 14th, current IB parents and upperclassmen provided refreshing ice cream novelties to IB students new to the program. The annual information night and social is a way for families new to IB to meet and interact with experienced IBers.

IBPO Board President, Kris Kolbus, was introduced to the group and Dr. Fleet gave a welcoming speech.

Current IB Seniors formed a panel in the Commons taking questions on IB from new students while parents adjourned to the auditorium to have a separate session with Dr. Fleet and IB teachers.



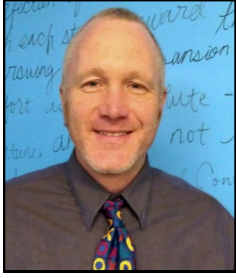
Incoming IB students and their parents enjoy frozen treats



IB Seniors, Lakshmi Senthilnathan, Nicole Hamilton and Natalie Kary enjoy refreshments.



IB Seniors answer questions from incoming IB students



Coordinator's Corner

Active Learning

by Dr. Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

As we encourage ninth and tenth graders to engage in the "Personal Project," and as we require diploma students to complete 150 hours of C A S (creativity, activity, and service), it is important to emphasize the value of putting yourself into your learning.

Our International Baccalaureate program succeeds because it believes that education is a personal experience. You, the student, define and live your education. Active education means that you reflect upon what you do and that you take that renewed awareness into new experiences. Happily, we have no way to measure this. The most valuable learning belongs only to you. If we could measure personal experience, it would not be authentic; it would not be yours. We can catch glimpses of vital education in your reflections and in your presentations but the most vital pieces of active

learning belong to you, the creators of your own experiences. Experiential learning, like the personal project and CAS, put you in a position where you must both ask the questions and seek the answers. The answers, in turn, lead to further questions. This process brings all of the disciplines to life. The scientific method, literary analysis, artistic creativity, and mathematical applications all depend on you placing yourselves in the centers of your learning. Giving you the time and the opportunities to explore and to reflect makes the experience of high school and the International Baccalaureate meaningful and personal.

Douglas County schools have long been committed to this process. We look forward to the coming year when you, the student, make our experiences as teachers new and different.

IB Bulletin Board

10th Graders—take the PSAT for Practice! 11th Graders—take the PSAT for Real!

Sign up to take the PSAT on October 29th. For juniors, this is the test for determining National Merit awards (see page 7 for details). For sophomores, this is good practice for the real thing (no, it doesn't count!) And if you check off the student search box, your mailbox will fill with college solicitation brochures to ponder . . . Sign up in the Counseling office now! This test is first come, first served! It costs \$20, with checks made out to DCHS. (Sophomores: note that the PLAN test for sophomores will be administered on the same day. If you take the PSAT instead, you will be administered the PLAN test at a later date.)

Juniors! See Extended Essay Info on Huskie IBPO Site

Start reviewing the IB essay timetable and guidelines for allowable essay subjects. See some sample topics by past students. Read sample essays and past Grader Reports, so you understand the final product.

All of this (*and more!*) is on the Extended Essay page on www.HuskieIBPO.com.

Seniors! Give Thanks!

Remember to send thank you notes to the teachers and counselors who are helping you with college recommendation letters, and especially, your Extended Essay!

Save the Date!

The Princeton Review practice ACT/SAT testing will be held on Saturday, February 7th at 9:00 am in the DCHS North Building. More information coming in the November newsletter.

Parents, Students and Teachers

Here is a link to the IB World magazine that has some great articles in it for parents, students, and teachers!
<http://www.ibo.org/ibworld/>

Foreign Travel Adventures 2015!

Join us in Spain!

When: June 2015, 12 days



Who: Families, students, friends – anyone who wants to join!

Where: Cities include Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Seville, Cordoba, and Barcelona

Trip Itinerary Link: www.eftours.com/#1616420DW

For more information

contact trip leader:
Kim Clever, Room 114N

(e-mail: ksclever@dcsdk12.org)

Join us in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji!



When: Spring Break 2015

Who: Families, students, friends – anyone who wants to join!

Please contact Lon Smith 303-868-9364 or Nicole Gambatese.

For more information see:
http://www.eftours.com/preview-tour.aspx?pt=1479139PF&utm_source=RecCenter&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=SharedLink

DCHS IB Students In the News



Senior, **Jessica Laury**, achieved a gold medal at the FCCLA National Finals in San Antonio.
(Email from Ms. Masek 7/10/2014)

Seniors, **Paige Trexel** and **Arthur Zabronsky**, have been named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. Finalist will be announced next February.

(DCSD Newslines 9/10/2014)



"IB Your Boss" takes home a win in the Ruff 'N Tuff Volleyball game on September 15th.
(Email from Ms. Holland 9/15/2014)

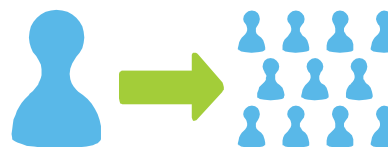
Left to right back row: Christopher (Topher) Ahrens, Alex Mullison, Chase Youngman, Eric Bayman, Aaron Long, and Michael Kirby.
Front: Kelsey Ubben, Tyler Urban

Underclassmen Online Mentoring Site

Sometimes, it's hard to be an IB Freshman or Sophomore. You don't understand IB course flows . . . What if you are not on track to take the High Level courses you want? . . . What if you just need to talk to someone who knows the "IB ropes?"

Fear not! We have a Schoology group called **IB Student to Student Connection** where you can post questions, ideas, and comments for other IB students to answer or comment on.

Log on to your Schoology account, click on "Groups" along the top, choose "Join" and enter this access code: 6GRVD-G7NMQ.



Early Learning of Extended Essay Process Extended Essay Workshop 2014

As any IB student knows, the beginning of summer really just means that it's time to continue school work through a different medium. As IB seniors, the class of 2015 made their way to the University of Colorado at Denver Campus Auraria Library for the annual Extended Essay workshop. Not only does attendance allow for access to a vast amount of academic resources, including databases and books, but also allows for the learning of the process about to be undertaken. I believe many will agree with me when I say that attending this workshop helped tremendously in regards to the focusing of what their Extended Essay will examine, as well as, more importantly, potential questions that the student wishes to research. I personally decided to change my research question upon realizing how limited the information was on the topic I wished to originally research. By promoting research into a topic so early in the process, the workshop certainly allows the student more flexibility towards adaptation for their essay. Furthermore, through interactive workshops from our teachers, as well as a particularly energetic and engaging library worker, students begin

to understand the process and requirements that an academic essay requires. From knowing where, how, and what resources are appropriate, to what is expected of certain areas of each kind of paper, the workshop allows students a better level of comfort with the essay leading to a reduction in the anxiety the essay seems to provide students. These lessons are hardly exclusive to the Extended Essay, or IB in general, but rather offer valuable information for the surely numerous essays students will be asked to write in their future collegiate endeavors. While waking up early to make your way to downtown Denver during the beginning of the summer certainly seems unappetizing at best, the Extended Essay workshop seems to be one of the most valuable tools offered to students in the Douglas County High School IB program and is undoubtedly something that I would recommend to all future IB students moving forward.

~ Chase Youngman '15

2014 IBDP College Information

Our 2014 DCHS IB Graduates received over \$900,000 in scholarships! They were offered almost \$3 million.

96% of the 2014 IBDP candidates are attending college.

27% are attending out-of-state colleges/universities.

Student Art Back on Display at Starbucks

Back by popular demand—the student art is back! Please visit the Starbucks in the King Soopers Shopping Center (not the one inside of King Soopers). Treat yourself to a tasty beverage or snack, and check out the amazing display of photography that is featured at our local Starbucks.

IB matters

HuskieIBPO.com

IB Coordinator

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IB Administrative Assistant

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Newsletter Comments, Suggestions, Articles

Sandy Hamilton newsletter@huskieibpo.com

Huskie IBPO Board

contactus@HuskieIBPO.com

President	Kristine Kolbus
Vice President	
Secretary	Ricardo Arenas
Treasurer	Debbie Schroeder
Hospitality Chair	
Website Coordinator	Kristina Younker
At-Large	Susan Becker
At-Large	

Upcoming IB Events

Juniors—Save the Date!

9th Annual Extended Essay Workshop June, 2015*

The Class of 2016 is invited to attend this valuable workshop next summer.

On-line registration will be open April, 2015.

*This workshop is tentatively scheduled for June 1-4, 2015.

Final dates will be confirmed in early 2015.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on this exciting opportunity!

P.S. You can already RSVP to this event on the Huskie IBPO Facebook page! Do you "Like" us?

8th Grade IB Info Nights!

Thursday, Nov 13th & Wednesday, Dec 3rd
5:30p.m., DCHS North Commons

Students and parents are invited to attend this session as Dr. Fleet gives an overview of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at DCHS. Please pass the word to any 8th grade families you know!

Hear details of the IB curriculum and guidance on applying to the program.

Teachers will be in attendance to explain their subject areas and answer individual questions!



Schedule and Counseling Requests

DCHS has requested we ask all IB parents and students to remember the old adage when it comes to requesting schedule changes or general assistance:

"You catch more flies with honey than you do with vinegar."

Our counselors and the front office staff do the best they can with the limited resources available to them.

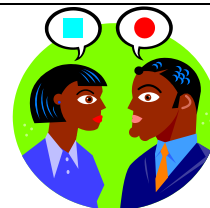
If you cannot find the solution you want at DCHS, remember alternatives are available:

- Check the IBO web site for possible online classes
- Check Arapahoe Community College for course options
- Check with other local high schools for course options
- Check other online resources

While no one will fault you for being your child's advocate, and, in fact, we encourage you in this role, remember . . . counselors are people, too!

IB students are Involved Students!

% of IB students in these groups!



Chamber Orchestra	53%
Student Government	43%
Choir—CHSAA	17%
FFA	6%

<u>Athletic</u>	
Tennis	63%
Girls Softball	32%
Soccer	31%
Cross Country	26%
Boys Golf	21%
Poms	17%
Athletic Training	7%
Spirit Cheers	6%

"Nothing is impossible. The world itself says 'I'm possible!'"

---Audrey Hepburn

What IB Did For Me

By Abby Kimball (DCHS IB '13)

Hi, my name is Abby Kimball and I graduated from Douglas County High School in 2013 and received my IB diploma. I am currently a junior at the University of Colorado at Boulder and I am majoring in Evolutionary Biology and Molecular and Cellular Biology. I often regard my choice to participate in the IB program as one of the best decisions I have ever made because of the experiences the program exposed me to.

My IB diploma enabled me to enter CU as a sophomore with 30 credits, it also allowed me to skip general education classes and experience upper division academia sooner than the average student, and in turn, saved me tens of thousands of dollars. The IB program also enhanced my skills as a writer, reader, and speaker which allowed me to explore more diverse and difficult ideas sooner than my peers. My time management skills and coping methods with stress were also developed in high school so maintaining my grades, gaining research experience, and thriving in two part time jobs were handled with ease.

My previous scientific research when writing my Extended Essay, which was titled 'The Effect of Urbanization on the Freshwater Ecosystems of Douglas County', aided me when applying to

research grants at the University. I received two \$2,500 research grants in the year of 2013-2014 from the Biological Sciences Initiative. The Biological Undergraduate Research Skills & Training (BURST) grant where I studied chemical cues associated with parasitic infections in aquatic organisms; and the Clinical Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) grant where I gathered data for HIV research at the Anschutz campus.

IB is much more than a program, it is an experience which exposes you to many types of ways of knowing, communicating, and encourages you to take academic risks.

IB gave me much more than just academic knowledge, technical skills, and credit hours however, it also allowed me to explore and discover who I was, make lifelong friends, and learn from the most inspiring teachers. IB is much more than a program, it is an experience which exposes you to many types of ways of knowing, communicating, and encourages you to take academic risks. IB also teaches you that school is

more than just a place to learn facts and get straight A's, it encourages you to enjoy and explore knowledge without any restrictions.

Looking for a Few Good Parents

The IB Parent Organization is a group of dedicated parents of IB students at DCHS that organizes events and activities throughout the school year. This year, our board has an immediate need for a Vice-President, a Hospitality Chairperson and someone to change the IB display case every few months. We also have 4 senior parents filling the roles of Treasurer, Website Coordinator and At-large board members. We need freshman and sophomore parents to join the 2014-2015 board to continue this important organization. This is the best way to get involved in IB. You will not only get to know your own student better, but you will also get to know other IB students, dive into the mysterious curriculum flow charts and have fun meetings with other IB parents. Our next meeting is in October. If interested in any position, please contact Kristine Kolbus at kristinekolbus@comcast.net. Note: All board members perform multiple functions; the descriptions below are high-level.



Vice-President

The Vice-President's main duties involve coordinating the Princeton Review Practice Exams and the summer Extended Essay Workshop. This person should be organized and deadline focused. A working knowledge of MS Office is helpful. This position takes the role of the President when the President is unable to hold meetings due to a scheduling conflict.

Hospitality Chairperson

The Hospitality Chairperson coordinates refreshment set-up at multiple events throughout the school year. This position presents event needs to the treasurer at monthly board meetings for approval. Someone in this position has a flare for decorating, organizing large events, and directing volunteers. A Costco or Sam's Warehouse membership is a plus as this board member makes large purchases of foodstuffs for events.

Treasurer

The IBPO Treasurer should have a strong background in accounting. The Treasurer presents the current IBPO budget at monthly meetings and is responsible for collecting and disbursing funds. This role requires a strong knowledge of MS Excel.

What is a National Merit Scholar?

In the fall of the Junior year, students at DCHS participate in the PSAT test. This national test is given to over 1.5 million high school students each year. Of the students tested, the 50,000 with the highest test scores qualify for the National Merit Scholar program. In April following the test year, these students are invited to name two colleges to which they would like to be referred by the program. In September of the Senior year, the students are notified if they are qualified as a "Commended" student or a "Semifinalist."

Commended students, making up 34,000, or 2/3 of the initial pool, are recognized for their academic achievement but do not continue in the competition for National Merit scholarships.

Semifinalists, 16,000 students, representing the highest scorers equally in all 50 states, can advance to the Finalist stage by completing application materials and other academic requirements.

In February, 15,000 students are notified that they have advanced to Finalist standing. Winners are chosen from the Finalist pool based on abilities, skills and accomplishments. Scholarships are awarded to Finalists from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, 250 Corporate sponsors and approximately 200 colleges and universities. Scholarships awarded can be renewable for all four years in college.

DCHS IB is proud to have had many past National Merit Commended and Finalist students.

For more information about this prestigious program, see: <http://www.nationalmerit.org/nmsp.php>



Attention Sophomore & Junior Parents!!

Now is the time to prepare for IB Exam costs!

The average cost of IB exams is **\$825** per student for a total of six exams. Juniors can take up to two exams, spreading the cost of the exams over two years. Each registration is \$160, each exam subject is \$110 and a \$5 shipping fee. These fees are due in early fall of the junior and senior year and are not included in district registration fees. You will be invoiced by the IB office. A late fee of \$50 is assessed if the fee is not paid on time. This cost does not include any AP exams fees, which are due in January of the senior year.

While this fee may seem expensive, should your student gain their IB diploma and attend a public university in Colorado or Texas, they will enter college as a sophomore. Many other colleges & universities offer similar status for IB students. That's a 25% savings on college tuition & room and board!

ESCAPE (Eliminating Student Cost for Advanced Placement Exams) is the federal AP/IB Exam Fee Program in Colorado. Through this federal grant, the Colorado Department of Education will pay for Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams taken by low income students.

Please contact Tracy Hagan, IBDP Secretary, 303-387-1008 for more information on how to reduce your IB Exam Fees. Deadline to contact Mrs. Hagan for this is **OCTOBER 12, 2014**

Your student's college planning should include checking each university's web site for credit they give for the IB diploma and individual IB test scores. If you cannot find the information on the web site, a call to admissions is warranted.

Case Study in the "Value" of an IB Diploma IB Test Fees vs. One year at CU Boulder

2014-2015 Tuition & Fees at CU*:	\$12,945
Room and Board:	\$12,810
One year total:	\$25,755
IB average test costs:	\$825
Your savings:	\$24,930

*CU tuition, fees and room and board figures obtained from the CU Boulder web site. Figures do not include books or personal expenses. Tuition averaged from the four colleges offered.



Universities Recognize IB Diploma with Scholarship Opportunities

Do you often wonder if IB is "worth" it? The International Baccalaureate organization keeps a list of universities, worldwide, who recognize and grant scholarships to graduates who obtain the coveted IB diploma. Many additional universities and colleges offer course credit for the IB diploma and test scores above a certain grade.

Charts are available by state. To view the posted information, visit:

<http://www.ibo.org/recognition/university>

College Standardized Testing National Calendar

SAT Reasoning / Subject Tests

www.collegeboard.com

Register by

November 8, 2014	Oct 9
December 6, 2014	Nov 6
January 24, 2015	Dec 29
March 14, 2015	Feb 13
May 2, 2015	Apr 6
June 6, 2015	May 8

ACT Testing

www.actstudent.org

October 25, 2014	Sep 19
December 13, 2014	Nov 7
February 7, 2015	Jan 9
April 18, 2015	Mar 13
June 13, 2015	May 8

Tulsa University will be talking to IB students on 10/22 in room 31 during AA. Come hear about what they offer IB Diploma Students.

IBO Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Fall College Fairs

www.collegefairsdenver.org

In-State & Out-of-State College Fair

Saturday, October 11, 2014
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Mountain Vista High School
10585 Mountain Vista Ridge, Highlands Ranch

Out-of-State College Night

Wednesday, October 15, 2014
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Monarch High School
329 Campus Drive, Louisville

In-State & Out-of-State College Night

Thursday, October 16, 2014
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
John F. Kennedy High School
2855 S. Lamar Street, Denver

IB *matters* Newsletter Needs You!



The IB matters newsletter is always looking for talented young writers to provide insightful articles about IB. We have immediate openings in the November issue for:

- CAS projects
- Seniors! We are looking for a journal-type article on your upcoming English oral.
- Freshmen! We are looking for articles about why you chose the IB program.
- TOK articles. What it is, when it is, how you are dealing with the night class, and who the teachers are!
- Trips abroad.
- Free association. Just write an essay on what you think is interesting about IB.

Keep your articles, relevant, funny and insightful!

Articles and pictures should be sent to:
newsletter@huskieibpo.com



Where Did They Go?

IB Graduates 2014

Jordan Albert	CU - Boulder	Ashley Knudsen	CU - Boulder
Arnold Andris	Metro State University	Madison Kranse	Colorado State University
Paul Bradford	CU - Boulder	Louise Kuehster	University of Oklahoma
Aaron Brownell	CU - Colorado Springs	Kaitlyn Lewis	CU - Boulder
Austin Brownell	CU - Colorado Springs	Analicia Mathews	University of Denver
Brian Wyatt	Colorado State University	Brigid McCreery	Colorado State University
Shympia Chongtoua	Brown University	Jordan Nettles	U.S. Military Academy
Kyle Christy	Colorado School of Mines	Tanay Nunna	University of CA - Berkeley
Jordan Courtney	University of CA - Los Angeles	Kayla Oldenberg	University of CA - Berkeley
Nicholas D'Ambrosio	CU - Boulder	Shawn Ong	University of Pennsylvania
Bryce DeShazer	Colorado School of Mines	Jean-Christoph Owens	CU - Boulder
Angela DesVeaux	Willamette University	Jenny Pan	Univ of Northern Colorado
Kashmiere Dotson	Spelman College	Jenny Park	CU - Denver
Emily Emerson	CU - Colorado Springs	Zachary Pastorius	Hillsdale College
Ian Fledderman	CU - Denver	Pryanka Patel	Metro State University
Shriya Gandhi	CU - Denver	Salome Philip	CU - Boulder
Audrianna Gilmore	CU - Colorado Springs	Keegen Rogers	Hofstra University
Austin Greene	University of Nebraska	Elisabeth Roy	Colorado State University
Tamar Hedeshian	CU - Boulder	Michael Santoyo	Colorado State University
Ashley Hersey	CU - Boulder	Kathryn Sexton	Colorado State University
Connor Hollenbach	University of Alabama	Sheridan Silla	University of Denver
Benton Hutchinson	Colorado School of Mines	Ashley TenBarge	Colorado State University
Caleb Inglis	CU - Boulder	Lochlan Wilson	CU - Boulder
Sabrina Jain	University of Denver	Bella Yu	Colorado School of Mines
Preetsiman Kaur	CU - Colorado Springs	Jake Zimmer	CU - Colorado Springs
Kaitlyn Kearn	Brigham Young Univ - Idaho		
Austen Kenney	Hamline University		

... Also offered Admission to

*Our students were accepted
at the following fine colleges, but chose not to attend:*

Adams State	Emory University	Utah State University
Arizona State University	Fort Lewis College	University of CA - Davis
Augsburg College	Georgia Institute of Technology	University of CA - Santa Barbara
Baylor University	Indiana University	University of CA - Santa Cruz
Beloit College	McKendree University	University of Hawaii - Manoa
Bethel University	Montana State University	University of Illinois
Boston University	Morningside College	University of Michigan
Brigham Young University	Nebraska Wesleyan University	University of San Diego
Butler University	Northwestern University	University of Texas
Coe College	Northern Arizona University	University of Utah
Colorado College	Regis University	University of Washington
Colorado State Univ - Pueblo	San Diego State University	Valparaiso University
Cornell University	Santa Clara University	Vanderbilt University
Dartmouth College	Seattle Pacific University	Whittier College
Drake University	School of Art Institute - Chicago	

DCHS Calendar



OCTOBER

7	Choir Concert (6:30pm)
8	Parent-Teacher Conferences (5:00pm-8:30pm)
9	Band/Orchestra Concert (6:30pm)
10	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development day)
13-17	FALL BREAK
23-24	DC Live (7:00pm)
24	IB Exam fees due

NOVEMBER

4	NO SCHOOL (Election day)
6-7	Theater Production (7:00pm)
7	End of 2nd 6-week grading period
13	8th grade IB Prospective Student Info Session (5:30pm, DCHS North Commons)
19	9th/10th grade curriculum night (5:30pm, DCHS North Commons)
26-30	THANKSGIVING BREAK

DECEMBER

3	8th grade IB Prospective Student Info Session (5:30pm, DCHS North Commons)
9	Choir Concert (6:30pm)
11	Band/Orchestra Concert (6:30pm)
12	IB applications for new students 2015-2016 due
16	FINALS: periods 1, 2, 3
17	FINALS: periods 4, 5, 6
18	FINALS: periods 7, 8
19	NO SCHOOL (Grading Day)
22-31	WINTER BREAK



Douglas County School District
Douglas County High School
International Baccalaureate
2842 Front Street
Castle Rock, CO 80104