

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

Volume 15 Issue 2

International Baccalaureate—Class of 2013 Induction

September 20, 2011



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Class of 2013 Kicks-Off the School Year

DCHS welcomed 70 Juniors, one of our largest IB classes, into the IB Diploma program in a moving ceremony on a warm September evening. The program began with introspective commentaries from Dr. Fleet and Mrs. Hire on what will unfold in the lives of these students over the next two years and beyond.

The celebration, according to Dr. Fleet, was an occasion to commemorate what the Junior class is about to do, not what they have already done. The presence of friends and family members in the full auditorium, showed support for the decision the students had made, the path of curiosity and discovery. Through CAS, they will promote community and, as they begin TOK next semester, they will embark on a journey of self-discovery.

Mrs. Hire followed Dr. Fleet with a commentary that was, at times, humorous and at other times, moving. Each day, Mrs. Hire makes the long commute from Denver, passing many other high schools at which she could teach. She chooses to teach at DCHS because of IB. The





Coordinator's Corner

~ Five Year Review Report

by Dr. Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

There is some good news to report. We received our feedback from our second five-review and have "no matters to be ad-

dressed." This is an understated official way of saying "good job." The review process required us to submit a 200 page document that examined the practices of the school, the success of our students, the training of our staff as well as an extensive articulation of school policies. Our committee was comprised of parents, staff, students and administration. It is an accomplishment to successfully undergo the newly designed review with "no matters to be addressed."

Furthermore, we received commendations for our program philosophy, Language Policy philosophy, philosophy and practice of assessment, ethical practices, access for students, use of technology, communication, staff training, curriculum implementation, range of subjects offered, connection to our feeder schools, and Theory of Knowledge. Our success can be at-

tributed to the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our students, and the support of our parent organization.

The report reinforces our belief that excellence in education depends upon a vital and engaged community. The staff, students, administration, and parents of Douglas County High School provide a setting where authentic learning promotes intellectual development and a strong sense of responsibility. Our program has an almost perfect correspondence to the aims of the new District Strategic Plan and is a model of how choice can meet a wide array of student needs within the district. It is for these reasons that rumors suggesting the end of the International Baccalaureate are false. Ours is an extremely successful program measured by international standards, district expectations and student performance. We will continue to pursue the values that we know are at the heart of meaningful education.

IB Celebrates 40 years of Graduates from Diploma Program!



Although the IB was officially founded in 1968, it was not until May 1971 that the first full IB Diploma Programme candidates sat their exams. From 1968 to 1970, trial examinations – featuring students from any institution willing to teach a Diploma Programme course – were held at schools across the world. From 1971, only officially recognized IB World Schools were permitted to enter candidates.

Twelve schools on five continents entered a total of 601 students into the 1971 exams, including the International School of Ibadan in Nigeria and Iranzamin International School in Iran, as well as schools that still offer the IB Diploma Programme today such as Copenhagen International School in Denmark and International College Beirut in Lebanon. In total, 76 students sat the full Diploma Programme and 525 took IB certificates. The Diploma Programme pass rate was 70%.

In September 1971, Lord Mountbatten presented qualifications to students at the International School of Geneva, the first official IB World School. "This programme must be really international," he said. "It must not reflect the national bias of different nations. No such programmes and examinations existed until the International Baccalaureate was created. This is its great achievement."

Read about a few of the fascinating careers of the first graduating class of IB:

http://www.ibo.org/ibworld/sept2011/theclassof1971.cfm

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Say Hello to Bella! Our Grads Write Home from College . . .



My name is Bella Peccolo (DCHS IB '11) and I really am enjoying being here at the University of Denver:) IB definitely prepared me for staying up late to finish homework. A few times this year my sister has been feeling

overwhelmed by some of her writing assignments, and I've told her, "Gigi, you did IB. You can do this!" At least we hope we can...:)

Hang onto your notes from high

The classes I'm taking are: Psych 1001, Athens and Beijing (kind of a philosophy class), a social justice class, Calculus I, and Biology: Evolution. Hang onto your notes from high school! They're really nice to have when you get here! I got 24 credits because of IB, and after

this quarter I'm basically done with my math and science requirements. The only thing that upset me about the credits is that DU only gives credit for HL classes (except foreign language), which I feel is unfair given that IB SL courses are just as rigorous as AP classes. I am planning on majoring in psychology.

College life is different from high school life in many

ways. There are no parents telling you when to go to bed, what to eat... it's a lot of freedom, which is nice, but time management is a good skill to have. College also puts you with a group of people that you might not normally hang out with and gives you a broader view on the world.

To prepare for college, I worked over the summer to pay for some of the stuff in my room (but DU's awesome because they supply a fridge and microwave in every room!) Advice for seniors: don't while away the summer. Search

for scholarships! I probably need to be doing that too... Financial aid is nice, but then you have loans to pay back, so why not find a scholarship that will pay for your education? All you have to do is take the time to fill out an application--maybe an essay.

IB HL Biology definitely prepared me for my biology class. I haven't really done any essay writing yet, but ask me to give commentary on a piece of prose and I'm set. I wish I'd taken philosophy because two of my classes delve into philosophy every now and then and I feel overwhelmed by all the terms they throw around.

College is a blast, but remember to enjoy senior year and have a blast with your fellow IB peeps... these are lifelong friends!

Upcoming Events—Save the Dates!

school!

They're really nice

to have when you

get here!

Annual IB Graduate Panel & <u>Mandatory</u> 10th Grade CAS-Essay-TOK Meeting

Thursday, January 5 6:00 pm, DCHS Auditorium

IB staff discuss upcoming CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) hours, the TOK class and the Extended Essay requirement for 10th graders/parents. Following this session, past IB Graduates will



discuss IB experiences, and the value of the program since leaving DCHS.

Both talks are open to <u>all</u> IB students and their parents. Don't miss our most exciting night of the school year!

DCHS IB Freshman Orientation & Registration

Wednesday, January 11 6:00 pm, DCHS Auditorium

This meeting will assist new DCHS IB students in selecting courses for next year. Registration forms for 8th graders are due soon after, and may be turned in at this session. Come to this meeting and get all your questions answered!

Princeton Review Practice ACT or SAT test

Saturday, February 4 9:00 am, DCHS North Building

Sponsored by the IBPO, this annual event allows your student to choose between taking a free practice ACT or PRA (the practice SAT) test. College financial planning and admission workshops are held for parents while students are testing. Watch for registration materials to come after winter break.

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Sharing a Passion For Music

Max LaRue and Tori Weber talk about their CAS project

Without music,

each one of us

would be a com-

pletely different

person than who

we are today.

For our CAS project, we created an Elementary School Music Education (ESME) program. With the recent shutting down of elementary band programs in the district, we felt like that was a position that should be filled. Music has been such a big influence in all of our lives, and we wanted to make sure that it was presented as important to people at a young age and continued even after we graduated. We believe that when beginning a music education, the younger you start the better. The elementary program is important to us in that regard, so this is why we felt impassioned enough to make it our CAS project.

Our project was successful largely due to lucky circumstance. We had connections to the local library system, and were able to reserve a room every Thursday morning before school so that we could teach the kids. Also, being in the marching band program at DCHS, we know lots of people with younger siblings in elementary schools that also played instruments, and wanted to learn

more about them, giving us a great way to start the program off. Our main objective was to help the students learn more about the basics of their instruments. We would start off the morning by playing duets and other pieces as a group. Then we would break into private lessons so that the kids could get some one on one attention with each of us. This was beneficial because each student was at a slightly different level, so we could cater to their needs a little better this way.

We only had one to three students per week, but the number of kids we were helping didn't matter. The few we did help had so much fun and improved so much in the short time we worked with them, which made the long planning process and all of the early mornings worth every second. It was also a great learning process for us, because we learned how to teach some of the intricacies of our instruments and be involved with the community in a way that we hadn't really been exposed to before this. The thing that makes us the most proud

about our project is that we were able to make a real difference in these kids' lives.

Without music, each one of us would be a completely different person than who we are today, and hopefully we were able to help these kids become the amazing people we know they will grow up to be.

We feel satisfied with our project on a multitude of levels. We were able to provide a service to the community that has recently gone amiss, all while enlightening children's lives with the power of music and becoming better teachers in the process. We just hope that this in-

spires other students to continue ESME and continue to enrich the lives of others through music education.

In addition, we'd like to thank David Lee and Marci Castorena, horn players in the DCHS band, who joined us a few times to help a French horn student.

~ Max LaRue '12 & Tori Weber '12



Gabe Quintana, Tori Weber, David Lee, Max LaRue, Christopher Mayberry

Looking for a college system that rewards your hard work in IB?

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln values the time and effort required to complete an IB Diploma. IB Diploma students who score at least a 27 on the ACT and are admitted to UNL are automatically qualified for a scholarship worth \$44,000. In addition, the majority of new students with an IB Diploma earn an average of 25 to 28 credits at UNL including 3 hours of credit in Philosophy for completing the Theory of Knowledge course.

For more information visit: www.admissions.unl.edu/advanced/ib

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DCHS IB Students "In the News"

Madeleine LaRue (DCHS IB '06) is pursuing graduate studies in Cultural Translation at the American University of Paris. She has been appointed as assistant to the director of the University's Center for Writers and Translators.

Lauren Greyson (DCHS IB '06) is working toward her PhD in Cultural Studies (Kulturwissenschaften) at the Graduate Center for the Study of Culture at Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen [Germany].

Madeleine and Lauren share a blog. They'd love you to visit them online:

http://accidentallyintentionally.blogspot.com/

Shannon Simpson (née DeLay) (DCHS IB '02) is studying for her Masters in Information Science at the University of British Columbia.

Ted Chen, (DCHS IB '11), of Castle Rock, was awarded a Nelnet Honors Scholarship for \$5,000. Chen, who graduated from Douglas County High School, will attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall. While attending UNC, Chen will study biology in hopes of pursuing his ultimate goal to be a surgeon. To start gaining experience in a hospital setting, Chen volunteered at SkyRidge Medical Center during his junior and senior years of high school.

(Castle Rock News Press 9/29/11)

Know of any IB Students making the news? Email us at: newsletter@huskieibpo.com



Castle Rock girls rugby's, **Senior**, **Camille Owens**, passes before getting tackled Sept. 28 at Castle Rock Middle School during a recent match against Ranch Rugby.

Photo by Benn Farrell (DC News Press 9/16/10)

News 'n Notes

Congratulations!

DCHS IB is proud to announce our 2012 National Merit Semifinalist Scholar!



Kara Fong

Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state.

Let's hear it for our Boettcher Scholarship semi-finalists from the Class of 2012!

> Kara Fong Jenny Park Kevin Xie

The Boettcher Scholarship is awarded to 40 students in Colorado who plan on attending a college or university in Colorado. Students are selected if they are in the top 5% of their graduating class and have an ACT score of 27 or higher or an SAT score of 1200 or higher. Since all candidates rank very similar academically, the Boettcher Foundation looks at what the students are doing outside of the school setting that ultimately helps their community, state, or even needy countries. This is a huge honor and if they are chosen as winners, all college expenses are paid for 4 years of undergrad studies. Please congratulate these students when you see them.

Want to learn more about National Merit and the Boettcher Scholarship programs? Visit these web sites:

http://www.nationalmerit.org/nmsp.php

"Energy and persistence conquer all things."

---Benjamin Franklin

IB Junior Induction cont.

(Continued from page 1)

students she teaches today, the ones she has taught in past years and her fellow IB teachers make the commute worthwhile. As a testimony to bonds formed at DCHS, Mrs. Hire remains friends with many of our past IB graduates. For her speech, she asked former IB grads how IB influenced their life. The replies included:

- → "Through my Extended Essay topic, I discovered my passion and hence my college major."
- → "I realized I was part of a program that changes lives."
- → "I was able to double major in college due to the credit I received from IB."
- → "I gained valuable critical thinking skills."
- → "I became an active participant in my education."
- → "With the college credit I earned, I graduated in three years from college, traveled the world and am now on track to earn my MBA at age 22. Pretty cool."

After Mrs. Hire's talk, students were presented with their TOK journals, a present Dr. Fleet commented on as one which he felt somewhat guilty giving as it represented homework. In addition, class members were awarded their IB pins and pens for the journals.

Each student was asked to write a reflection on someone who was an inspiration to them. Throughout the audience, you could see many moms and dads wiping away tears as their teens mentioned them. Aunts, uncles, siblings, grandparents, teachers and friends were also among the touching tributes. The audience laughed when a tribute to Lady Gaga was mentioned but then turned reflective as the tribute recognized someone who pushed the envelope and didn't follow the status quo.

Following pictures, Juniors and their families enjoyed drinks, delicious desserts, and a fun social hour in the Commons.



IB Bulletin Board

Seniors!

As you finish (or start) your college application process, remember to write thank you notes to the teachers who have provided recommendations for you.

IB Junior Induction

Thanks to everyone—parents, students, and teachers who sent desserts, came early to help with set-up or stayed a little longer to clean up. We couldn't do it without you!!

... **Tracy Hagan** for preparing the program for the Junior IB Induction.

... Karen Lang-Pluto, Suzanne LaRue, Bob DiLaura, Kathy Harris-Albert and Sharynne Wilson for setting up and serving the desserts for IB Induction.

Juniors—TOK Night begins in January!!

Your Theory of Knowledge (TOK) evening class will be held Wednesday evenings from 5:00—8:00 pm starting next semester after Winter Break. The first night will be January 4!

Apply for Academic Letter!

Students can apply for an academic letter after having a 3.7+ GPA for the last 3 consecutive semesters. You can pick up an application form any time from the north main office, and return it to counseling by the end of January.

2012-2013 IB Curriculum Guide

An updated IB Curriculum Guide is now available on the Huskie IBPO website. Check it out for planning course registration for next year!

National Honor Society 2012 Inductees

We are proud to count 27 IB Juniors and three IB seniors as new members of the National Honor Society. On October 11, 2011, the following IB students were welcomed to the Society.

Juniors

<u>5 u 1110</u>	15
Annie Bashaw	Christopher Lee
Kristen Bowling	Sophie McVicker
Eric Bryan	Susheel Nalla
Avneet Chauhan	Emily Padgett
Sarah Craft	Krutika Patel
Breann Donnelly	Emily Roberts
Madeline Gaffigan	Corinne Schroeder
Jay Gokhale	Mary Jane Shively
Rebecca Houser	Anna Smiley Kallas
William Kakenmaster	Sarah Vander Meulen
Abigail Kimball	Kristina Wagner
Patricia Liu	Adam Walsh
Anna Lansdon	John Whalen

Claire Zai

Seniors

Max LaRue Allyson Medor Camille Owens

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 February issue for:

- Group 4 Physics project articles and pictures
- CAS projects
- Seniors! We are looking for a journal-type article on your upcoming English oral
- HL Music students, we'd like to hear about your composition
- 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

IBPO Board Vacancies

There are over 300 families with students in the IB program at DCHS. Nine families run the IBPO and its mission to support IB students, faculty and staff. Of the current board members, three are parents of graduating seniors with no other students in the IB program. The IBPO cannot continue with this few members to produce the current slate of IBPO sponsored events and continued communication to the community. We invite you to seriously consider joining the board and take a stake in your student's education. You will never regret becoming more involved with IB at DCHS.

In the masthead below, the board member names with senior students are followed by an asterisk. In addition, you will see a vacancy in the Hospitality Chair. In the past, this position has been shared between two parents.

Make a commitment today to join this dynamic group of parents invested in IB at DCHS.

		IB matters		HuskielBPO.com	
			Huskie IBPO Board	contactus@HuskieIBPO.com	
IB Coordinator			President	Dave Kakenmaster	
IB Administrative Assistant Transcharge (203) 387-1131 Steven. Fleet (wacsak12.org	Steven.Fleet@dcsdk12.org	Vice President	Karen Lang-Pluto*		
	Secretary	Suzanne LaRue*			
	Treasurer	Kathy Harris-Albert			
	tracy.hagan@dcsdk12.org	Volunteer Coord	Janie DeLay		
Newsletter Comme Trish Kakenmaste			Hospitality Chair Fundraising Website At-Large	Vacant Bob DiLaura* Trish Kakenmaster Sharynne Wilson, Tiffany Messer, Ken Sexton	

Remember being in 8th Grade?

On two Thursday evenings this fall, current 8th grade students interested in learning about the IB program at DCHS attended information sessions in the North Commons. Dr. Fleet gave an overview of the program and current IB students talked about their reasons for choosing IB. Many of the current students were from Parker and Highlands Ranch and said that the commute was well worth the time to come to DC for the program.

Each session was attended by well over 200 people. After the program overview, a Q & A session clarified items such as CAS, standard level and high level courses and the difference between the Middle Years Program and the Diploma Program. Parents were also interested in college statistics for IB graduates.

Following Q & A, IB teachers were available to review specific course flows and selections.

Students interested in participating in shadowing a current IB student could place their names in a basket for this opportunity.

Applications to participate in IB for the 2012-2013 school year are due by Friday, December 9th.



Dr. Fleet gives advice to an interested 8th grade parent

An 8th grader parent reviews the language course flow chart with Sra. Sorensen



IBPO Marketplace



Looking for a holiday gift that benefits IB at DCHS? How about a versatile sport blanket to keep in your car?

The nylon side keeps grass, wind or moisture away & the fleece keeps you warm.

Easily foldable with velcro closure and pocket. Size is 50" x 60"

Support DCHS International Baccalaureate Program! \$20.00

Contact: Dave Kakenmaster - 303.688.1098 or ibpo@huskieibpo.com

*Limited amounts of 2011 IBPO mugs (\$10) and car window clings (\$3) also available.

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2011 B Exam Stats

The IB Diploma, awarded separately from the DCHS diploma, is based on scores from IB subject exams, the Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge assessments, and the completion of the CAS requirement (creative, action and service hours).

There are also several minimum requirements in these categories, which may keep some students from obtaining the award. For a complete description of the Diploma requirements, see the IB Guidebook on the Huskie IBPO website (www.HuskieIBPO.com).

70% of the IB Class of 2011 received the IB Diploma.

Diploma Scores

For 2011, the average points earned by DCHS IB seniors who received their diplomas was 29 (out of a total of 45 possible points).

The breakdown of the scores is as follows:

36-40	1	student
30-35	18	students
24-29	22	students
Less than 24	18	students

(24 points is the minimum required for the diploma; other requirements also apply)

A look at where last year's IB Exams were graded ...

BiologyFrance, BrazilChemistryArgentina, AustraliaEnglishUnited Kingdom, Ur

English United Kingdom, United States **French** United Kingdom, United States

PhilosophyUnited States, PolandPsychologyUnited Kingdom, CanadaHistoryJordan, Australia, CanadaMathUnited States, New Zealand,

Canada

MusicFrance, United KingdomPhysicsUnited States, Greece

Spanish Canada

Dance United States, Singapore
Theatre Arts United States, France, Brazil,

United Kingdom

Visual Arts United States,

Australia, Philippines



2011 IB Subject Exam Scores

The IB examinations are graded from 1 - 7, with 7 the highest score. Grade distribution for the students graduating in 2011 was as follows:

	6/7	5	4	3	1/2	School Avg	World Avg
HL English	6	28	30	0	0	4.63	4.74
SL French AB	0	0	1	1	0	3.33	4.99
SL French B	1	2	4	4	2	3.69	4.67
SL Spanish	17	16	8	3	0	5.14	4.92
European History	1	15	33	11	1	4.07	4.65
HL Philosophy	1	5	3	1	0	4.60	4.86
SL Philosophy	2	3	5	0	0	4.70	4.56
SL Psychology	1	3	4	0	0	4.63	4.18
HL Biology	1	19	17	8	1	4.24	4.39
SL Biology	0	1	1	0	0	4.50	4.27
SL Chemistry	3	1	8	12	11	3.26	4.08
SL Physics	1	1	2	6	0	4.50	4.07
SL Math	2	13	5	3	0	4.61	4.44
Math Studies	4	7	9	4	0	4.46	4.66
HL Math	1	7	5	3	0	4.38	4.37
HL Dance	1	2	2	0	0	4.80	5.28
HL Theatre Arts	0	0	2	1	0	3.67	4.61
HL Visual Arts	0	3	0	1	0	4.50	4.92
SL Music Grp. Perf.	1	3	5	0	0	4.56	4.45

Attention Junior Parents!!

Now is the time to prepare for IB Exam costs!

The average cost of IB exams is \$750 per student. These fees are due in early fall of the senior year and are not included in 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 and universities offer similar status for IB students.

That's a 25% savings on college tuition and room and board!

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.

DCHS IB Calendar



DECEMBER	
1	Orchestra Concert (7:00pm)
8	Band Concert (7:00pm)
9	FINALS: periods 1, 9
13	Choir Concert (7:00pm)
13	FINALS: periods 2, 3, 4
14	FINALS: periods 5, 6
15	FINALS: period 7, 8
16	NO SCHOOL (Grading Day)
19-31	WINTER BREAK
JANUARY	
3	SCHOOL RESUMES Spring Semester Begins!
4	First TOK of Spring Semester for Juniors
5	IB Grad Panel / Mandatory 10th Grade Meeting 6:00pm, DCHS Auditorium
9	Continental League Concert
11	Freshman IB Orientation 6:00pm, DCHS Auditorium
16	NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Day)
17	IBPO Board Meeting 6:00pm, room # 31, North Building
20	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
FEBRUARY	
3	FBLA District V Conference
4	Princeton Review practice ACT/SAT testing



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

5-7

9-11

16-18

20

23-25

27-28

29

All State Choir

IB Dance Auditions

All State Orchestra, CU Boulder

NO SCHOOL (President's Day)

Parent / Teacher Conferences

DCHS Theater presents The Wiz, 7:00pm nightly

DCHS Theater presents The Wiz, 7:00pm nightly