



Bmatters

A World for Learning

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

Volume 16 Issue 2

International Baccalaureate—Class of 2014 Induction

September 27, 2012



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*Not Pictured, ^Legacy

Class of 2014 Kicks-Off the School Year

54 juniors officially joined the DCHS IB Diploma program in a moving ceremony on a warm September evening. The program began with a short welcome from Dr. Fleet before Mr. Umbach began the main program.

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 auditorium, showed support for the decision the students have made, the path of curiosity and discovery. Dr. Fleet noted that many of the junior class are legacy students, meaning they follow in the footsteps of an older sibling. Indeed, 24% of the current junior class is comprised of legacy IB students. Through CAS, they will promote community and, as they begin TOK next semester, they will embark on a journey of self-discovery.

Mr. Umbach followed Dr. Fleet with a speech that was, at times, humorous and at other times, moving. To the gasps of surprise and



Coordinator's Corner

~ Wisdom in Uniform

My father-in-law, Elwood "Al" Rice served in World War II in both the European and Pacific theatres. He parachuted into France

prior to the invasion at Normandy, received two purple hearts, spent months recuperating from injuries that still cause him pain, attended college as a result of the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act" (GI Bill), found a career in engineering, raised a family and now is a bit restless in retirement. He is among those citizens that so rightly earned the title "the greatest generation." It is only in recent years that he has started sharing the experiences of war with his family.

As a student and teacher of history, I tend not to focus on the specifics of military history. The strategies and the equipment might make for good television but they miss the human story. The lessons of war exist most powerfully and personally in the narratives of our veterans. Theirs are the faces of sacrifice and their tales remind us that war is about the by Dr. Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

souls of very real people. The earliest historical and philosophical writings emphasize not only the roles of those who must go to war, but also the roles of the societies that send their citizens to war. When these two narratives fail to be intertwined: when the sacrifice and suffering of the few no longer contributes to the understanding and appreciation of the many, the fabric that so essentially unites us begins to unravel. We begin to substitute symbols of convenience for the human recognition of what courage and sacrifice really mean.

The Wisdom project sponsored by the IB parent organization is about the real stories of sacrifice and recovery. The narratives of veterans present the personal realities of war, not the political recasting of conflict. On November 16th an opportunity to hear the wisdom of veterans will be available at 7pm in the Douglas County Auditorium. I encourage you to come and hear a portion of the narrative that is such a profound part of the human experience.

Wisdom Within These Walls

DCHS IBPO is excited to present a one night premier event

> Wisdom Within These Walls: Wisdom in Uniform

Friday, November 16, 2012 7:00pm DCHS Auditorium

This reader's theater presentation gathers the wisdom from oral history of local area veterans and shares the stories that capture the essence of our human condition when we commit to something greater than ourselves. Based on interviews conducted with veterans of all eras, these stories have been beautifully rendered into a theatre production. This very special production honors our veterans and provides moving, inspiring, sometimes funny and always touching stories that illustrate what one learns serving our nation.

Tickets available online now: \$8/Students, Seniors, Veterans

\$10/Adults

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http://www.seatyourself.biz/huskieibpo

IB Bulletin Board

Seniors!

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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.
- . . . Sue Becker, Mary Williams, Tucker Middleton, Shrese Rudd and Andrew Rudd 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 9!

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.

Once Again a Freshman

By Grant DeShazer (DCHS IB '12)



There comes a point in life where one looks back at all they have accomplished and is forced to consider the fact that, by comparison of what is to come, they are just getting started. Currently that's where I find myself, three of my classes take place in lecture halls with another one hundred students all listening to a single professor. I can't help but feel somewhat mystified as to how I got

here and looking back I almost feel as though I was meant to be here.

When I was going about choosing a college to go to I can't say I had a lot of hesitation about where I wanted to go. I had decided that the Colorado School of Mines was my college of choice in high school. In that regard I had started to select my classes based on what I thought would look best for an application for Mines, thus the HL Math. By the time it came for me to begin applying for various colleges I

made the choice to send only a single application into Mines. In retrospect that wasn't the best of choices for two reasons.

First, having only applied to a single school I had limited myself to that single choice and most schools had already finished accepting applications by the time I heard back from Mines. Mines might have been my top choice for college but it would have been best if I had applied to other schools as a fallback. In the same breath, it is worth mentioning to apply early to colleges, don't wait for the deadlines to turn applications in.

Second, at the time I was unaware that sometimes one can use their different letters of acceptance as a way to sort of bargain their way into to a better deal in college. I was told after I had already been accepted that if I had received scholarships as part of an application to another school I could have potentially used that as a way to get scholarships from the school I wanted to attend. I can't say for sure whether this would work, but had I applied to more schools I would have known whether or not I had any scholarships at all.

My advice then, would be to apply to several schools even if it seems like a waste of time. Who knows what sorts of scholarships or unique opportunities may come of it. I would also suggest taking advantage of the early application process. The only thing to be cautious of is that some schools require that each early applicant commit themselves to the school they applied to. Other schools also require that there be no other applications to separate schools during their review of early applicants. So be sure to read the fine print of the application before sending it in.

Once all of that mess has been overcome college seems fairly laid back, for the most part. Mines and IB aren't all that different and I find that I enjoy most of my classes here. IB certainly has prepared me for the work load required as well as the amount of studying required just to pass classes. Interestingly enough, like IB, Mines has a core curriculum of classes that every freshmen is required to take such as Calculus, Chemistry, Physics, a Humanitarian Values course geared for engineers, an intro into drafting and design, and either Biology or an Earth science class. So in that respect IB has prepared me well for classes and material that I will cover. Once the core classes have been

passed then a student can move into the major specific classes, I would be moving onto Mechanical Engineering courses for instance.

Overall though, the differences between IB and Mines are mostly superficial. The core concepts taught by IB as well as the study habits and attention to critical thinking provide a strong base for college life. The only thing I have yet to really apply from IB is that of my writing. So far

the only writing I do that is academically related is for lab write-ups, and even then IB has prepared me well for those. The format doesn't change, nor does the expectations of what is supposed to be in the write-up. IB has provided a base from which I can build.

And yet, I am once again a freshman, but the things ahead of me are harder than things I have done before. Even if they are similar in nature their content is more in depth. College is just a deepening and widening of knowledge that one already knows. By comparison there is more to do in college considering that each class is only a semester long, but the information is the same as before. Even though I received little to no credit for my time with IB I have no regrets because of how well prepared I feel for my classes despite how hard they are. In the end it is well worth the effort put in regardless of what returns may come in the form of college credit. The credit is nice to have but the value of IB is not in the future credit, but the quality and abundance of information learned.

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Helping Haiti

Over Two Years After the Earthquake

We should accept that

we have much more

than others, but then

act on that and spread

what we have to those

who do not have

anything.

Over two years ago, the beautiful country of Haiti was thrown into chaos at the devastation of an earthquake that killed over 300,000 people. Well over two years later, the progress that the country has made seems very minimal, especially in Port-au-Prince, the area where the earthquake hit the hardest and the city that we were staying. My first impression after landing in Haiti, along with the 32 others that were on this trip, was Haiti is a very hot and humid place. I found it very difficult to breathe at all for the first five minutes after landing in the country, but after a while, it became unnoticeable. Five months prior to the twelfth of October, the idea was brought to the group that we should go to Haiti as a church

youth group to help out how we could. After months of collecting the funds and the materials needed to go on this trip, the reality that we were in the globally famous, broadcasted region of Haiti that was hit by a lifealtering earthquake over two years ago was amazing to think about. All of the preparations and meetings leading up to the moment of landing did not seem adequate enough

hype as to what we saw. We stayed at a school building where kids ranging from 4 to 18 would attend school, which was right across from a church structure that was said to have over 2,000 attendants every Sunday. After meeting the leaders of Praying Pelican, the group that was hosting us in Haiti, we were shown the school layout. There would always be kids playing in the open area of the school, so we were able to go down and play with them, mainly soccer, and those kids were phenomenal soccer players! We played hours of soccer with these kids, and not once did I ever tire out.



One of the main reasons why we went to Haiti was to help build a church/school for the kids and families of Mariani, a small section of Port-au-Prince north of where we were staying. Our work on the building consisted of forming a line and carrying over 200 cinderblocks for 300 meters uphill four times over. Also, we carried buckets of mortar and cement into the building and helped out the workers with anything that we could. The amount of work was very difficult, but no one complained or got seriously injured the entire time we were there. We were able to work all day without getting tired. After the work, we were able to meet the kids who attended the school and play with them. We would skip rope and play a high-five type of game that was very confusing. They also seemed to enjoy climbing onto me three or four at a time while I spun them around. The bonds that many of us made with the little kids during the entire trip are unforgetta-

ble and many of us are looking forward to another trip.

Throughout the week, we also visited an orphanage where we were able to play with dozens of kids who immediately came running up to us looking for love. Our youth pastor who came along with us had both arms covered in tattoos. In a place like Haiti

tattoos are connected to voodoo practice. The kids were immediately afraid of him, but once one of the leaders told them that he had God in his life, they would run up to him and embrace him closely. At the orphanage, I met a little, 5 year old boy named Rele, who would not let me go the entire time. We played soccer together, ran around together, and on the last day, when it was time for me to leave, he hugged me tight and cried, although I soon found out he was just messing with me. When I left, he told me in Creole that he would see me later. The relationship that we all made with the kids was just amazing, and they were all so desperate for love from us.

The trip in total was life changing and mind expanding. Seeing the people who have nothing but a stack of rocks covered by a plastic tarp as a home to protect their family and a hope in the form of a God that sustains them, that is all they need to be satisfied. Seeing all of this brought a deep internal assessment of how I live. All of my excess that I live with and I am often times unsatisfied, this is a problem. But the lady who ran the orphanage said to us on the last day, "we should not be angry at our situation, God has put us where He has because He has a plan for us no matter where we are or what we have". We should accept that we have much more than others, but then act on that and spread what we have to those who do not have anything. The people we met and the stories we heard about the earthquake have changed my mindset

(Continued on page 5)

Helping Haiti cont.

(Continued from page 4)

drastically. Seeing the happiness within the devastation showed me how to be content in any situation. From our Pastors teaching the week before, we adopted a saying we used for the entire trip. Even though the work may be hard or the cockroaches seven inches long and could fly, we will serve. I cannot wait to go back and see all of the relationships we made.

~ Jeff Buehler '13



DCHS IB Students "In the News"

The following IB students participated in the Douglas County High School Theatre production of "Rally Round the Flag, Boys".

Jax Gonzales, Sophomore
Ashley Hershey, Junior
Bill Kakenmaster, Senior
Anna Lansdon, Senior
Gracie Messer, Sophomore
Emily Padgett, Senior
Andrew Rudd, Sophomore
Michael Santoyo, Junior
Mary Jane Shively, Senior
Sami Wachendorf, Sophomore
Olivia Young, Freshman
James Zanre, Sophomore

Sophomore, **Samantha Barker**, received a bronze emblem in the National FFA Agricultural Sales Career Development Event. The National FFA Agricultural Sales CDE is a competitive event that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. The event includes actual sales presentations, a written exam, team sales situation, an individual practical situation focusing on customer relations, customer service, or prospecting for customers.

(National FFA Organization News Release 10/27/12)

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

News 'n Notes

Let's hear it for our students who qualified for the Boettcher Scholarship from the Class of 2013.

Annie Bashaw
William Kakenmaster
Christopher Lee
Patricia Liu
Sophie McVicker
Susheel Nalla
Krutika Patel
Emma Reading
Katherine Roy

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.

IB Junior Induction cont.

(Continued from page 1)

dismay in the audience, Mr. Umbach started by announcing this school year will be his last year teaching as he has turned in his retirement papers to the district. Mr. Umbach has spent 20 years as a Douglas County teacher; five years at Highlands Ranch High School and 15 at DCHS. Having never spent a long time at any one place, Mr. Umbach attributed his tenure at DCHS to the community he found in the IB program.

The theme of Mr. Umbach's comments surrounded community. He stated: "Success in education comes, first and foremost, from the community. 15 years ago, the community of DCHS voted to bring IB to the school. This decision was made by the teachers and administration as a group, not mandated from those on-high."

Past IB students consistently tell of the community they found in IB where they discovered a safe place to learn and explore new ideas. IB students become involved in the mission and vision of IB and success comes from feeling part of a greater group.

Mr. Umbach then challenged the current juniors to be participants in their education. We are constantly bombarded by the message to consume things. Education should be something you become part of, not a user. His challenges are:

- Make an all-out commitment to the IB program. Enhance your leadership skills and be prepared for class. Strive for continual improvement and excellence.
- 2. Think about and practice respect for your fellow students, teachers and community members. Act with honesty and integrity. Seek to understand and listen and look for common ground.

- Assume that the person you are interacting with has good intentions and, above all, support each other.
- 3. Take responsibility for your actions and the actions of the community. Avoid placing blame on others.
- 4. Value each other: students, teachers and staff.

Mr. Umbach said that the IB community is second to none. Education is an idealistic enterprise designed to inspire. He advised the students they were about to join a larger, global community, the IB Diploma community. When their names were called, they would sign a journal that has the names of all previous IB classes. "You are not only part of your own class community, but you will be part of past classes as well."

After Mr. Umbach'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. Siblings, grandparents, teachers and friends were also among the touching tributes. In particular, Mr. Koppel and Mrs. Benskey, two DCHS IB teachers were mentioned.

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

IB matters

HuskielBPO.com

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Newsletter Comments, Suggestions, Articles

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Web site Trish Kakenmaster

At-Large Mary Kuehster, Kristina Younker

National Honor Society 2012 Inductees

We are proud to count 25 IB juniors and 6 IB seniors as new members of the National Honor Society. On October 29, 2012, the following IB students were welcomed to the Society.

Juniors

guine	715
Wyatt Bryan	Sabrina Jain
Shympia Chongtoua	Ashley Knudson
Kyle Christy	Louise Kuehster
Nicholas D Ambrosio	Kaitlyn Lewis
Bryce DeShazer	Brigid McCreery
Angela DesVeaux	Tanay Nunna
Kashmiere Dotson	Kayla Oldenburg
Megan Duncan	Shawn Ong
Austin Greene	Jenny Park
Tamar Hedeshian	Zachary Pastorius
Connor Hollenbach	Salome Philip
Benton Hutchinson	Ashley TenBarge
Bella	Yu

Seniors

Wilson Kurt Delos Trino	Aidan Manzanares
Anjali Gopal	Rowan Quirk
Lauren Kotre	Emma Reading

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:

- 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 are IB Students From

DCHS IB Student Class Make-up 2012-2013

City	Freshman	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total #
Castle Rock	70	68	31	31	200
Parker	26	32	17	18	93
Highlands Ranch	2	2	5	2	11
Franktown	1	3	0	4	8
Larkspur	0	1	2	1	4
Elizabeth	0	1	1	1	3
Lone Tree	1	0	0	2	3
Sedalia	0	1	1	1	3
Centennial	0	1	0	0	1
Littleton	0	0	0	1	1
Total	101	109	57	61	327

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.

IB participation intent forms for the 2013-2014 school year are due by Friday, December 14th.



Dr. Fleet speaks to a full room of 8th grade families at the Information Session held on Tuesday, October 30th.

Mrs. Clever talks Social Studies to interested 8th grade students and parents.



Upcoming Events—Save the Dates!

9th & 10th Grade Curriculum Night

Thursday, November 29 6:00 pm, DCHS North Commons

Freshman and Sophomore students and their parents are encouraged to attend this meeting. The course curriculum flow for the four year IB diploma program is reviewed. The intent of this night is to encourage pre-planning of the students four year high school career. Teachers from each subject area will be present to answer questions. The IBPO will be on hand to serve pie and answer any parent questions.

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

Thursday, January 10 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.

DCHS IB Freshman Orientation & Registration

Wednesday, January 16 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 9 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.

page 8 DCHS IB Matters November 2012

2012 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).

Diploma Scores

For 2012, 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:

40-49	1	student
36-39	4	students
30-35	8	students
24-29	23	students
Less than 24	10	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 ...

Biology	United Kingdom
Chemistry	United Kingdom
Economics	United Kingdom
English	India, Australia
Env. & Soc.	United Kingdom

French United Kingdom, United States,

Switzerland

Philosophy United Kingdom
Psychology United Kingdom, Peru

History United Kingdom Math United Kingdom

Mandarin United States, Australia, Hong Kong

MusicUnited KingdomSpanishUnited Kingdom

2012 IB Subject Exam Scores

The IB examinations are graded from 1 - 7, with 7 the highest score. Grade distribution for the students graduating in 2012 was as follows:

was as follows:						School	World
	6/7	5	4	3	1/2	Avg	Avg
HL English	8	23	21	1	0	4.74	4.68
SL French AB	0	0	1	0	0	4.00	4.99
SL French B	1	2	5	1	0	4.33	4.83
Mandarin AB	2	1	2	2	0	4.57	5.31
Mandarin B	3	5	4	0	0	5.50	5.96
SL Spanish	6	6	20	5	0	4.41	4.81
HL Economics	0	1	0	0	0	5.00	5.16
SL Env. & Soc.	0	4	13	3	0	4.05	4.12
HL European History	1	8	18	14	3	3.80	4.67
SL History	0	0	1	0	0	4.00	4.60
HL Philosophy	1	5	1	1	0	4.75	4.71
SL Philosophy	1	6	3	0	0	4.80	4.67
HL Psychology	0	3	0	0	0	4.50	4.55
SL Psychology	1	6	6	1	1	4.33	4.18
HL Biology	3	8	8	6	1	4.23	4.39
SL Chemistry	2	5	13	5	2	4.00	4.13
SL Furth. Math Studies	0	1	0	0	0	5.00	4.50
SL Math Studies	2	5	7	1	1	4.38	4.65
HL Math	4	13	3	5	1	4.29	4.38
SL Math	2	6	9	3	0	4.35	4.46
HL Dance	0	6	2	0	0	4.75	5.54
HL Music	0	1	1	1	0	4.00	4.55
SL Music	0	1	6	0	0	4.14	4.29
HL Theatre Arts	0	3	2	0	0	4.67	4.85
HL Visual Arts	3	3	0	0	0	5.50	4.79

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

DCHS IB Calendar



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

29	9th & 10th Grade Curriculum Night, 6:00pm, DCHS North Commons
11	Orchestra Concert (7:00pm)
12	Band Concert (7:00pm)
18	FINALS: periods 1, 2, 3
18	Choir Concert (7:00pm)
19	FINALS: periods 4, 5, 6
20	FINALS: periods 7, 8
21	NO SCHOOL (Grading Day)
24-Jan 4	WINTER BREAK

JANUARY

/	SCHOOL RESUMES Spring Semester Begins!
9	First TOK of Spring Semester for Juniors
10	IB Grad Panel / Mandatory 10th Grade Meeting 6:00pm, DCHS Auditorium
16	Freshman IB Orientation 6:00pm, DCHS Auditorium
17-19	DCHS Theatre Production
18	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
21	NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

FEBRUARY	
2	IBPO Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (7:00am to 10:00am)
3-5	All State Choir
8	FBLA District V Conference
8	Registration Deadline for 3/9 SAT
9	Princeton Review practice ACT/SAT testing
14-16	All State Orchestra
14-16	DCHS Theater Production
15	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
18	NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
21-23	DCHS Theater Production



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