



IB matters

September 2013

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

Volume 17 Issue 1

Celebrating 15 Years of IB at DCHS

DCHS IB Welcomes the Class of 2017!

On a comfortable evening of August 15th, 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 Members were introduced to the group and Dr. Fleet gave a welcoming speech.

Current IB Juniors and 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.



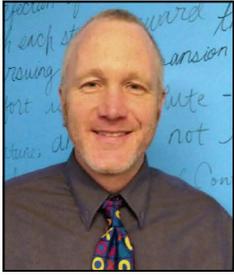
Dr. Fleet gives the opening address



Incoming Freshman IB students and their parents enjoy frozen treats



IB teachers answer questions from the parents of incoming IB students



Coordinator's Corner

15 Years of IB at Douglas County High School

by Dr. Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

This September 24th, Douglas County High School will induct our 15th International Baccalaureate diploma class. When we began, Douglas County High School became one of a handful of Colorado high schools to offer the diploma program. We had fourteen candidates, all of whom tempered their skepticism with determination. Their academic risk-taking, as they engaged in a rigorous curriculum, coupled with their patience, as their teachers engaged in a different approach to education, resulted in a suspenseful and successful first chapter.

Fifteen years later Douglas County High School is one of thirty-three high schools in Colorado with a diploma program. We will soon induct sixty-six candidates, most of whom already have experience with the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program. While only three "diploma level" teachers remain from our first year, we have dozens more teachers involved, and we offer nearly twice as many subjects. Recognition of the International Baccalaureate Diploma by universities continues to grow with three and half million dollars in scholarships offered to our IB diploma graduates last year and that does not even take into account the credits offered. Many of our students begin college with sophomore standing.

These specifics, while impressive, do not sufficiently capture the theme developed by our first graduating class

and carried forward through fifteen years to the excellent junior class of 2015. It is a theme enlivened by risk-taking, dependent upon keeping an open mind, requiring a need for balance, accessed through inquiry and inextricably linked to the other characteristics of the "Learner Profile." Faith in one's talents energizes the highest aim in education, the quest for wisdom. Education must begin and continually move forward with an energy that emerges from natural curiosity and is maintained with an internal sense of play. All students possess these characteristics and all students must work with their teachers and their families to keep their belief in the value of curiosity and play alive. The rigor and variety of an International Baccalaureate education helps. The expectations that students work within their communities, explore topics in depth and relentlessly seek ways of combining the ideas they explore in all of their subjects defines education, not just 21st century education, education since the times of Plato and Cicero when great thinkers encouraged young people to reflect upon the activities of their minds. Requirements and due dates, while undeniable pieces of modern education, do not define the primary goal of an International Baccalaureate education at Douglas County High School. You understanding yourself so that you may participate in the idealistic and fulfilling quest for wisdom does.

IB matters

HuskieIBPO.com

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Newsletter Comments, Suggestions, Articles

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Huskie IBPO Board

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Do you like to travel?
Join us in Spain!



When: June 6 – 17, 2014

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

Where: Cities include Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Costa del Sol, Seville, and Cordoba

Trip Itinerary Link: www.eftours.com/1393948

For more information,

contact any of the following trip leaders:
Wendi White, Kim Clever, or Leah Yates

(e-mails: wendi.white@dcsdk12.org,
kimberly.clever@dcsdk12.org, leah.yates@dcsdk12.org)

“The best way to predict the future is
to create it.”

---Unknown

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.



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 30th. 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!

IB Student Directory

Slightly over 40% of IB families have returned their contact forms for the IB Student Directory. If you want to be included in the directory, please return your contact form (located at: www.HuskieIBPO.com) ASAP. The on-line form will be disabled on October 1st.

Save the Date!

The Princeton Review practice ACT/SAT testing will be held on Saturday, February 8th 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 them for parents, students, and teachers!
<http://www.ibo.org/ibworld/>

Sinister Extended Essay Broken Down into Pieces

Extended Essay Workshop 2013

One week after school got out, IB juniors from DCHS and nearby schools made their way to the University of Colorado's Auraria campus, ready (or not so ready) to work on their Extended Essays. The Extended Essay workshop, sponsored by the DCHS IBPO, can best be described as four days of intense Extended Essay development. Each day consisted of sessions covering different aspects of the essay, through which the sinister Extended Essay was broken down into manageable pieces. Several IB teachers were present at the workshop and helped students begin their essays.

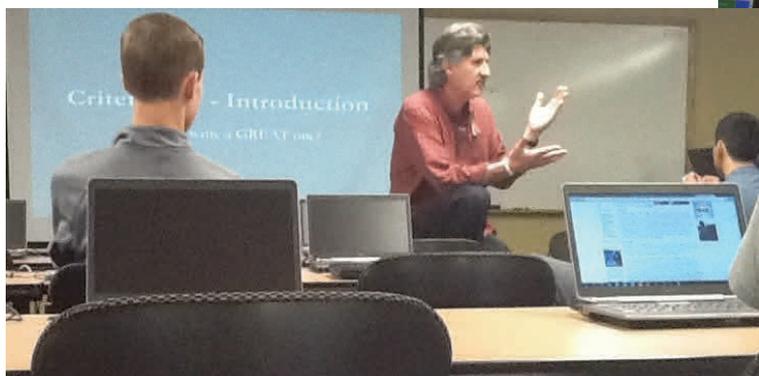
The first session of the Extended Essay workshop, aimed at teaching students how to use the library's resources, was by far the most memorable. The head of the library's research department made sure that everyone remembered how to find relevant sources by enthusiastically running around the room and making wild hand gestures, all while showing students how to properly research stage magic. Though the other sessions weren't quite as entertaining, they were just as informative. IB teachers taught us about everything from introductions and abstracts to formatting and bibliographies.

There were two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Many students stayed late, or, if they were in the afternoon session, came early, to make use of the library's extensive resources. The time we had to research outside of the session was just as valuable as the session itself. By the end of the week most of us had found several credible and relevant sources, and some people had even completed an outline of their essay.

Overall, the Extended Essay workshop was an incredibly valuable experience. It was a great way for everyone to get started on their essays, and will certainly be of help to all of us when we go to college. The juniors this year should know that, though the workshop is held over the summer, it is definitely worth the time and effort involved. Bring a positive attitude and a willingness to work and your essay will be done before you know it. I think all of the students who attended this summer's workshop would agree that it was helpful, informative, and much more interesting than it may sound.

~ Louise Kuehster '14

Mr. Umbach making a very important point.



Mrs. Clever explaining abstracts to the workshop attendees.

Upcoming IB Events

Juniors—Save the Date!

8th Annual Extended Essay Workshop June, 2014*

The Class of 2015 is invited to attend this valuable workshop next summer.

On-line registration will be open April, 2014.

*This workshop is tentatively scheduled for June 2-5, 2014.

Final dates will be confirmed in early 2014

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!

Tuesday, October 29th & Thursday, November 7th
6:00p.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!



Speech & Debate	96%
Chamber Orchestra	53%
Student Council	50%
FCCLA	28%
LINK	25%
String Orchestra	24%
Marching Band	24%
Symphonic Band	24%
Newspaper	21%
Concert Band	9%
Choir	8%
<u>Athletic</u>	
Boys Tennis	67%
Girls Softball	27%
Boys Cross Country	24%
Boys JV Soccer	23%
Spirit Cheer	18%
Boys Golf	17%
Football	8%
Girls Cross Country	8%
Girls Volleyball	7%
Freshman Football	5%

IB Benefits (and Consequences)

By Madeline Pluto (DCHS IB '12)



Amidst explaining the difference between HL and SL, the purpose of TOK, and the process for choosing an EE topic, the IB literature fails to tell you this: IB will help you, and IB will hurt you.

experience (but it does seem hard, right?). Truly, though, after researching for, procrastinating on, and finally writing a 3,221-word essay regarding the number zero, everything seems possible, if not easy.

The problem with IB: I am over-prepared for college.

But this is also the problem with IB: I am over-prepared for college. Even though IB students may feel all they do is procrastinate, they know how to be incredibly productive. Projects, IAs, and homework become habit. I find myself bored by my classes and missing the busy, if stressful, life I was used to. So, IB students,

instead of taking the hardest classes offered, get involved with other activities. Throw yourself headlong into the collegiate scene. Pursue your current interests, and others. IB forces you to learn time management (yes, knowing how long you can procrastinate on your World Lit 2 before you actually have to work is time management) – and in college, I managed to join two a cappella groups, attend eight Villanova basketball games, swim recreationally, make friends, and still have time for twenty credits.

IB taught me what I can and can't do as a student. Can I write a TOK journal the morning it's due? Can I explain the effect of the motif of light in this poem in less than fifteen hundred words? Can I stay up late studying for a chemistry test and still do well? IB forces students to answer these questions (yes, but don't; maybe, but be concise; no, never again), and know their limits. But my collegiate academics pale in comparison to the challenge of IB, and maybe IB is harder than college or IB students demonize their

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 is looking for a three new parents to fill board vacancies. 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 meeting other IB parents. We need parents for the following positions. 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 **\$810** 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 \$157, each exam subject is \$108 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, 2013**

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

2013-2014 Tuition & Fees at CU*:	\$12,503
Room and Board:	\$12,258
One year total:	\$24,761
IB average test costs:	\$750
Your savings:	\$24,011

*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 2, 2013	Oct 3
December 7, 2013	Nov 8
January 25, 2014	Dec 27
March 8, 2014+*	Feb 7
May 3, 2014	Apr 4
June 7, 2014	May 9

+ No Subject Tests that day; SAT I given only

ACT Testing

www.actstudent.org

October 26, 2013	Sep 27
December 14, 2013	Nov 8
February 8, 2014	Jan 10
April 12, 2014*	Mar 7
June 14, 2014	May 9

* Test held at DCHS; registration still required

2013 IBDP College Information

Our 2013 DCHS IB Graduates received over \$870,000 in scholarships!

98.5% of the 2013 IBDP candidates are attending college.

35.4% are attending out-of-state colleges/universities.

6.1% are attending international college/universities.

Do you "Like" Huskie IBPO on Facebook?

If you have a Facebook account, consider "liking" the Huskie IBPO. The page contains upcoming events, scholarship opportunities, advice and deadlines. The easiest way to join is by visiting the IBPO web site, www.huskieibpo.com, and clicking on the link on the home page.

Fall College Fairs

www.collegefairsdenver.org

Out-of-State College Night

Thursday, October 10th, 2013
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

John F. Kennedy High School
2855 S. Lamar Street, Denver

In-State & Out-of-State College Fair

Saturday, October 12th, 2013
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mountain Vista High School
10585 Mountain Vista Ridge, Highlands Ranch
over 250 schools represented
classes and workshops available on various topics

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.

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 (levels 1 thru AP and IB) and advanced drawing and painting that is featured at our local Starbucks.



Where Did They Go?

IB Graduates 2013

Harsh Aditya	CU - Boulder	Jenny Matthew	Colorado School of Mines
Alex Anderson	Colorado School of Mines	Allison Maus	Baylor University
Eloise Bacon	Arizona State University	Sophie McVicker	Colorado State University
Annie Bashaw	University of Michigan	Sushell Nalla	Duke University
Sydney Boyd	University of Nebraska	Jana Nyberg	CU - Boulder
Jeff Buehler	Colorado State University	Emily Padgett	University of Denver
Thomas Chapman	University of Minnesota	Krutika Patel	Colorado School of Mines
Avneet Chauhn	CU - Denver	Mark Phelps	University of Denver
Alexandra Davis	Brigham Young University	David Quintana	Cornell College
Wilson Delos Trino	Calvin College	Rowan Quirk	Stony Brook University
Ryan DePinto	CU - Denver	Rachel Radich	Franklin College - Switzerland
Breann Donnelly	CU - Boulder	Caroline Ray	University of the Arts - London
Abby Freeman	Fort Hayes State University	Emma Reading	Colorado State University
Madeline Gaffigan	CU - Boulder	Emily Roberts	Knox College
Andrew Gentry	CU - Boulder	Katherine Roy	Colorado State University
Dareck Giolians	CU - Boulder	Taylor Ryan	CU - Boulder
Jay Gokhale	University of Texas	MaryJane Shively	Colorado State University
Anjali Gopal	University of Denver	Anna Smith-Kalas	CU - Boulder
Madison Hensley	Tulane University	Kammer Strachan	Northwestern University
Rebecca Houser	Univ. of Southern California	Kayleigh TenBarge	Colorado State University
Bill Kakenmaster	American University	Roxanne Van Hove	CU - Boulder
Varun Katamaner	CU - Boulder	Page Van Ostran	University of Wyoming
Avneet Kaur	CU - Denver	Sarah Vander Meulen	CU - Boulder
Abigail Kimball	CU - Boulder	Adam Walsh	CU - Denver
Lauren Kotre	Colorado State University	Tiffany West	CC of Denver
Anne Lansdon	New York University	John Whalen	Colorado School of Mines
Chris Lee	U.S Military Academy	Sarah Woo	Western State Colorado Univ.
Patricia Liu	Purdue University	Claire Zai	CU - Boulder
Aidan Manzanares	CU - Boulder		
Jasmine Matthew	CU - Colorado Springs		

...Also offered Admission to

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

Adams State	Georgia State University	North Central College	University of Alabama
Alma College	Hastings College	Northeastern University	University of CA- San Diego
America University - Paris	Hawaii University	Northern Arizona University	University of CA - Santa Barbara
Azusa Pacific University	Hendrix College	Occidental College	University of Illinois
Benedictine College	High Pointe University	Ohio State University	University of New Mexico
Boise State University	Hofstra University	Oklahoma Baptist University	University of Northern Colorado
Boston University	Indiana University	Oklahoma State University	University of Oregon
Carnegie Mellon	Iowa State University	Point Park University	University of Puget Sound
Chadron State College	La Cambre Bruxelles	Ripon College	University of the Arts
College of William and Mary	Lake Forest - Knollcrest	Roosevelt University	University of the Pacific
Defiance College	Liberty University	Rose Hulman Institute of Tech	University of Utah
Dordt College	Macalester College	Seattle Pacific University	University of Washington
Drexel University	Manhattan University	St. Olaf College	Wabash College
Elon University	Marymount	Texas A&M	Western New England Univ.
Eugene Lang School	Marymount Manhattan College	Tiffin University	
Fort Lewis College	Mesa University	Tisch School of Arts	
Georgia Institute of Technology	Montana State University	University of Advanced Tech	

DCHS IB Calendar



OCTOBER

- 5 Homecoming Dance (7:00pm-11:00pm)
- 8 Choir Concert (7:00pm)
- 9 Parent-Teacher Conferences (5:00pm-8:30pm)
- 10 Orchestra Concert (7:00pm)
- 11 **NO SCHOOL** (Professional Development day)
- 12 College Fair at MVHS (10:00am-2:00pm)
- 14-18 **FALL BREAK**
- 24-25 DC Live (7:00pm)
- 25 IB Exam fees due
- 29 8th grade IB Prospective Student Info Session (6:00pm, DCHS North Commons)

NOVEMBER

- 1 **NO SCHOOL** (Professional Development day)
- 7 8th grade IB Prospective Student Info Session (6:00pm, DCHS North Commons)
- 8 End of 2nd 6-week grading period
- 14-16 Theater Production (7:00pm)
- 19 9th/10th grade curriculum night (6:00pm, DCHS North Commons)
- 27-29 **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

DECEMBER

- 11 Band Concert (7:00pm)
- 12 Orchestra Concert (7:00pm)
- 13 IB applications for new students 2014-2015 due
- 17 **FINALS:** periods 1, 2, 3
- 18 **FINALS:** periods 4, 5, 6
- 18 Choir Concert (7:00pm)
- 19 **FINALS:** periods 7, 8
- 20 **NO SCHOOL** (Grading Day)
- 23-31 **WINTER BREAK**



Douglas County School District
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