



IB matters

Celebrating 15 Years of IB at DCHS

November 2013

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

Volume 17 Issue 2

International Baccalaureate—Class of 2015 Induction

September 24, 2013



Top Row: Amanda Witherell, Madison, Haywood, Emily Anderson, Jimmy Aslamy, Eric Bayman, Emmalyne Axtell, Elise Becker, Kylie Brunette, Penmai Chongtoua, Caitlyn Christner, Arianna Cord, Elaine Cox, Kayla Eftang, Jonathan Fermin, Maddie Flynn, Jesseri Gauzon, Catie Giraldes, Alex Mullison

Middle Row: Jax Gonzales, Nicole Hamilton, Sam Hardy, Tiffany Huang, Alex Hughes, Hannah Jacobson, Elma Kajtazovic, Natalie Kary, Pratyush Kothiyal, Savvy Lankford, Mitch Lauffer, Mikaeli Lechuga, Emily Li, Hugh McCreery

Bottom Row: Jessica Laury, Gracie Messer, Tucker Middleton, Tess Neel, Victoria Nemchek, Susan Ossareh, Chris Reese, Andrew Rudd, Jaclyn Rufe, Kriti Saxena, Alexis Schroeder, Lakshmi Senthilnathan, Paige Trexel, Addie Vaughn, Kyle Wolfe, Arthur Zabronsky, James Zanre

Not Pictured: Topher Ahrens, Michelle Belden, Kaitlyn Bentivegna, Kelly Bramwell, Morgan Buchanan, Katelyn Doyle, Grant Engberson, Hannah Jorgensen, Michael Kirby, Jacob Reading, Colton Salsbury, Caleigh Stinson, Chase Youngman

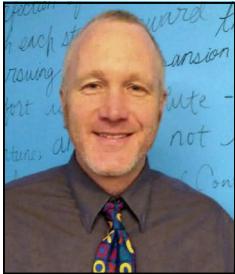
Class of 2015 Kicks-Off the School Year

63 juniors officially joined the DCHS IB Diploma program in a moving ceremony on a lovely fall evening on September 24th, 2013. The program began with a short welcome from Mr. Umbach, who some may remember announced his retirement last year, but as we know that isn't the case, and he currently co-advises the CAS and Extended Essay programs along with teaching Government and Politics. After the wonderful welcome Dr. Fleet began the main program.

Dr. Fleet is a history and philosophy teacher, as well as the coordinator for the IB program. He opened with a video sent by Kara Fong, a former IB student, from her first year at Stanford. Her video spoke about how her IB experience had positively influenced her success at the university.



(Continued on page 6)



Coordinator's Corner

~ Ours is a Humanistic Profession

by Dr. Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

Ours is a humanistic profession, dedicated to the wellbeing of others. No person, genuinely committed to the art of teaching, views education as a field improved by competition. Competition in education uses students as a means to an end and does not see students as ends in themselves. Consequently, moral education requires teachers to promote collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication as valued processes through which students come to understand the subjects that they study and, ultimately, themselves. This process is not more valuable in mathematics than it is in art, or in history than it is in science.

Teachers value thought and they value truth. Teachers recognize that ethical relationships in a democratic society depend upon the ability to pursue understanding and to generate judgments in all of the realms where the mind might choose to play... and not to seek artificial separations that prejudice and divide. Seeing an athlete express her understanding of form and movement provides as vital a glimpse of education as hearing an aspiring engineer enthusiastically explain the power of inertia.

The means and subjects of expression all serve to promote ends that are necessarily undefined and

immeasurable. Should education determine the end, should it submit to the demands of workplaces or examinations or affiliations, it fails. This is the most vital component to freedom. Teachers understand education as a process of activation, as the promotion of undefined possibilities energized by specifics of subjects, but essentially reconfigured in unconventional and unpredictable ways by the minds of learners.

Ours is a cooperative enterprise. We know that the power of student curiosity can be activated in all areas of study and that no secret ingredient exists that reduces education to certainty. We depend upon the diversity of personality, the perseverance of professionals and the uncertainty of outcome to know that we are successful. Societies that believe they have identified the end, the final goal of education, no longer promote freedom because they have deluded themselves into believing they now have identified the realm to which they must escort the mind. I find great relief when I work with young people who, rather than following the simplistic dictates of ignorance, summon the courage to act upon their knowledge. There is no clearer glimpse of hope than that.

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 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.

... **Tracy Hagan, Sandy Hamilton** and **Debbie Schroeder** for setting up and serving the cake 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 8!**

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.

Before you cast off the yoke...

By Bill Kakenmaster (DCHS IB '13)



Thomas Paine wrote in *The American Crisis*, “What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; it is dearness only that gives everything its value”, and if I could sum up my

experience with IB in one quote, this would be it. That which is more costly is inherently more valuable. Over the next four years, you will undoubtedly hear horror stories about ridiculous deadlines, mountainous homework assignments, and frighteningly small amounts of sleep. All of this seems to add up just like factors in a budget for me. In the end, what we're left with is an overall nameless “cost” that is brought about by the International Baccalaureate's immense rigor; the possible cost of losing sleep, perhaps the cost of having less free time, and so on and so forth. Now, by no means am I saying that you will necessarily have less free time or less time to sleep if you do IB. I got through just fine, and so did all of my friends. But what you must recognize is that there is a certain cost to IB; what I might call the cost of commitment.

Recognizing the cost of an academically rigorous education brings with it recognition of its values as well. Not only do we recognize the values of hard work and perseverance in an IB education, but the personal values that follow. There is almost nothing as fulfilling to an IB student as that simple little phrase: “Diploma awarded”. To have finally been recognized for the “cost” of IB gives one a huge sense of value. The values of accomplishment, distinction, excellence, self-discovery, and determination are just a few. From my point of view, these values are unparalleled. There is no prize, regard, or reverence that can compare to them and therefore, no cost, if cost is merely an expression of value. However high the cost of an IB education is – as dictated by whatever factors people may consider it to be, from the workload to the time commitment – it cannot compare with its immeasurable value, let alone with the

tangible benefits of the International Baccalaureate. I received 16 credits from American University, which is nothing in comparison with my friends that went to in-state colleges. Some of my friends earned 33 credits, making them sophomores or higher. At the University of Colorado – Boulder that saves over \$20,000 of in-state tuition; more than \$80,000 at the University of Denver. Materially and abstractly, there is no comparison as to the gravity by which the values of IB outweigh the costs, and conversely, the “cost” of IB is a direct representation of the immense value that it has.

The post-IB world is radically different. What higher education brings is as challenging and unforgiving as it is rewarding. Much like IB, what you will accomplish in your academic career will be tied to how much you put into it. The values of college are tied to the costs. Having a heavy workload means you are getting the most out of your college education, and trust me, college will be a heavy workload. Also very similar to IB is the sense of discovery and personal achievement. The first time I understood the United States' global hegemony and its true implications on the political economy and human rights, I was both terrified and

But what you must recognize is that there is a certain cost to IB; what I might call the cost of commitment.

thrilled. Terrified because of the newfound knowledge and what it meant, and thrilled because that knowledge was distinctly mine; a fruit of my labor; a direct value from the cost of my education. I owe my academic values to the very fact that they were hard to obtain. Critical thought, intellectual curiosity, and knowledge are

hard and costly to attain, but within that cost is buried their value.

So, in the end, what does it all boil down to? I am hesitant to give advice to future IB students and graduates. I do not know the truth, and I do not claim to. I do not even know if I even believe in one, singular truth. While I don't believe that one claim to truth can encompass all of what goes on in our universal reality, I firmly believe in Thomas Paine's words and I would caution the IB community of Douglas County to take them into account. The reality is that IB is costly. But step back and take a look at the cost that you're investing into IB and realize that no matter what way you spin it, it cannot come close to the value of the education that you receive. Before you cast off the yoke of IB, take careful consideration to weigh both its costs and values, and remember that what we perceive as costly is only so because of its inherent value. You can take it from Paine, Edison, Roosevelt, or the numerous other people who have said it, but at the end of the day, hard, costly work is the most rewarding and the most valuable.

IBDP Featured Teacher

Ms. Theresa Hemming

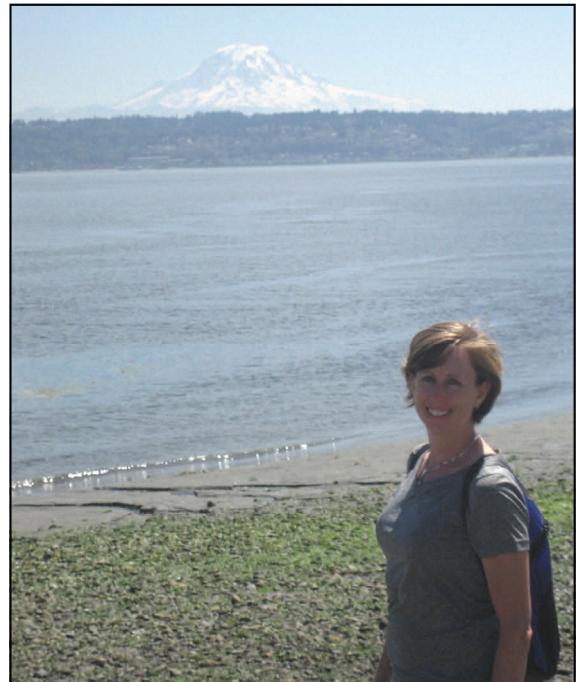
As a continuing feature in the IB Matters Newsletter, an IBDP teacher will be highlighted. This month it is Ms. Theresa Hemming

This is Ms. Hemming's 12th year at Douglas County High School and her 21st year of teaching. This is Ms. Hemming's first year teaching IBDP.

Ms. Hemming thinks the IB Diploma Program offers students the opportunity to gain a global perspective of their learning and learn to ask good questions. She likes that the Diploma Program makes the students think! Ms. Hemming hears lots of fascinating conversations in her classroom where students are connecting biology to their other classes.

Ms. Hemming is a Colorado native. She grew up in Woodland Park, Colorado. Ms. Hemming received her Bachelor's degree from CU-Boulder and received her Master's degree from CU-Colorado Springs.

Ms. Hemming's parents live in Panama (yes, the country, in the jungle) and she has a sister, brother-in-law and two nieces that live in Longmont. She likes to read and hike with her two dogs, Brinkley and Barkley.



Ms. Hemming in Seattle

IBPO Board Vacancies

There are over 275 families with students in the IB program at DCHS. Eight families run the IBPO and its mission to support IB students, faculty and staff. The IBPO cannot continue with this few members to produce the current slate of IBPO sponsored events and continued communication to the community.

Please do not wait to get involved! We welcome parents of Freshman and Sophomores entering the IB Pre-Diploma Program as well as parents of Juniors and Seniors already participating in the IB Program. We work together as a Board and Parent Organization and value the family and time commitments we all have by helping each other in all areas related to IBPO.

The IBPO board has a vacancy of Hospitality Chair. The duties of the Hospitality Chair are to coordinate refreshment set-up at multiple events throughout the school year. 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. If you are interested in joining the IBPO please contact Kristine Kolbus at kristinekolbus@comcast.net.

"Dream your dreams with your eyes closed but live your dreams with your eyes open."

---Unknown

Do you "Like" Huskie IBPO on Facebook?

If you have a Facebook account, consider "liking" the Huskie IPBO. 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.

DCHS IB Students "In the News"

The following IB students are National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Louise Kuehster
Shawn Ong
(District Newsline, 10/1/13)

The following IB students placed 4th in the Regional Tennis Tournament at the Colorado Athletic Club

Patrick Tan
Lochlan Wilson
(Daily Announcements, 10/7/13)

The following IB students on the Speech and Debate team completed at Castle View High School

Colin Kolbus-superior ribbon, Poetry
Paige Trelax-superior ribbon, Original Oratory
(Email from Mary Lewis 10/27/13)

The following IB students on the Speech and Debate Team competed in the Cherry Creek Varsity Invitational

Isabelle Dean-superior rating, Dramatic Interpretation
Benton Hutchinson, Salome Philip (team)-superior rating, Public Forum
Colin Kolbus-excellent rating, Poetry
Jessica Laury-excellent rating, Poetry
Emily Li-2nd place, Original Oratory
Hugh McCreery-4th place, Student Congress
Jadyn Rufe-excellent rating, Poetry
Paige Trelax-excellent rating, Original Oratory
(Email from Mary Lewis 11/3/13)

Sophomore, **Colin Kolbus** was voted Sophomore Homecoming King.

Junior, **Emily Li** was voted Junior Homecoming Queen.

Please congratulate the following students who were accepted into the Continental League Honor Band and Orchestra:

Kristen Fetrow-Violin
Ian Fleddermann-Violin
Madie Kranse-Tuba
Aubrey Kroger-Flute
Wyatt Kuehster-Trumpet
Kaitly Lewis-Cello
(Email from Nick Bidinger 11/8/13)

News 'n Notes

Let's hear it for our students who qualified for the Boettcher Scholarship from the Class of 2014.

Sympia Chongtoua
Angela DesVeaux
Kyle Christy
Austin Greene
Tamar Hedeshian
Benton Hutchinson
Louise Kuehster
Tanay Nunnna
Kayla Oldenburg
Shawn Ong
Jenny Park
Salome Philip
Nathanael Smith

The Boettcher Scholarship is the most prestigious merit-based scholarship available to graduating high school seniors in the State of Colorado. Begun in 1952 by Claude Boettcher, the Boettcher Scholarship was initially modeled after the Rhodes Scholarship Program. The purpose of the Boettcher Scholarship is to attract Colorado's best and brightest students to attend college within the state.

The Boettcher Scholarship covers the cost of a Scholar's tuition, fees and books for eight semesters/twelve quarters at approved Colorado four-year universities or colleges. A \$2,800 living stipend is also supplied to help defray the cost of room and board. The total amount of the Scholarship depends on a number of factors, including the cost of a Scholar's institution, and can range from approximately \$50,000 to \$160,000.

The Boettcher Foundation awards 40 scholarships annually. Approximately 70 finalists are selected to interview for the Scholarship from an initial pool of applicants, which is typically around 1,700. 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.

Please congratulate these students when you see them.

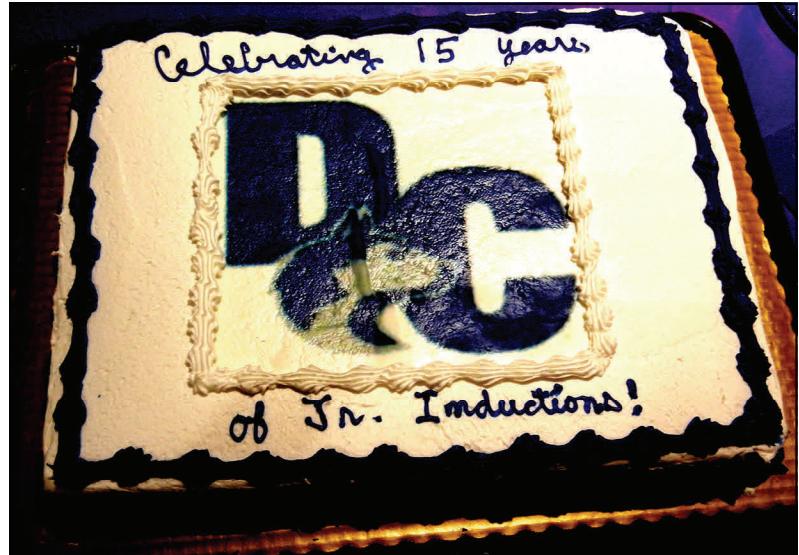
IB Junior Induction cont.

(Continued from page 1)

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.

Dr. Fleet's speech was humorous at times, and quite moving at others, and the reaction from the audience reflected this. He talked about poetry and capturing unexpected opportunities.

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. Commentaries foretold of what will unfold in the lives of these students over the next two years and beyond. Through CAS, they will promote community and, as they begin TOK next semester, they will embark on a journey of self-discovery.



After Dr. Fleet's speech, 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. The students were presented with a Certificate of Recognition containing their reflection, presented to the person who inspired them.

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

IB matters

HuskieIBPO.com

IB Coordinator

Dr. Steve Fleet (303) 387-1152 Steven.Fleet@dcSDK12.org

IB Administrative Assistant

Tracy Hagan (303) 387-1008 tracy.hagan@dcSDK12.org

Newsletter Comments, Suggestions, Articles

Sandy Hamilton newsletter@huskieibpo.com

Huskie IBPO Board

contactus@HuskieIBPO.com

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At-Large

National Honor Society 2013 Inductees

We are proud to count 27 IB juniors and 2 IB seniors as new members of the National Honor Society. On October 28, 2013, the following IB students were welcomed to the Society.



Juniors

Kylie Brunette	Emily Li
Penmai Chongtoua	Tucker Middleton
Caitlyn Christner	Alexander Mullison
Ariana Cord	Susan Ossareh
Elaine Cox	Jacob Reading
Katelyn Doyle	Alaric Rohl
Kayla Eftang	Jadyn Rufe
Jonathan Fermin	Colton Salsbury
Jesseri Gauzon	Sanskriti Saxena
Samantha Hardy	Lakshmi Senthilnathan
Hannah Jorgenson	Paige Trexel
Pratyush Kothiyal	Adele Vaughan
Jessica Laury	Kyle Wolfe

Arthur Zabronsky

Seniors

Caleb Inglis	Jean-Christopher Owens
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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 2013-2014

City	Freshman	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total #
Castle Rock	44	67	37	29	177
Elizabeth	0	0	0	1	1
Franktown	2	2	2	0	6
Greenwood Village	1	0	0	0	1
Highlands Ranch	1	1	2	4	8
Larkspur	2	0	0	2	4
Littleton	1	0	0	0	1
Lone Tree	0	2	1	0	3
Parker	9	23	24	17	73
Sedalia	1	1	1	1	4
Total	61	96	67	54	278

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 held everyone's attention for the whole 45 minutes of the presentation. It's always uplifting to hear how passionate he is when he gives these talks. Junior and Senior IB Council members spoke about why they decided to join the IB program and other activities they are involved in outside of IB.

Each session was attended by close to 150 people. After the program overview, a Q & A session clarified items such as honors classes needed by IB Pre-diploma candidates and the IB application process. After the Q & A, the IB Council members took charge and lead the 8th graders to a classroom to help make them feel comfortable asking their peers questions in a smaller group setting. IB teachers were available to review specific course flows and selections.

IB participation intent forms for the 2014-2015 school year are due by Friday, December 15th.



Dr. Fleet speaks to a full room of 8th grade families at the Information Session held on Tuesday, October 29th.

Mr. Umbach talks to an interested 8th grade parent.



Upcoming Events—Save the Dates!

9th & 10th Grade Curriculum Night

Tuesday, November 19
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 & Mandatory 10th Grade CAS-Essay-TOK Meeting

Thursday, January 9
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.

Princeton Review Practice ACT or SAT test

Saturday, February 8
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 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.

7th Annual IB Celebration

Tuesday, April 29
6:00 pm, DCHS North Commons

Come join us to celebrate our students' achievements. All classes should attend this fun event. There will be Learner Profile Awards, Senior Recognition and Food and Drinks.

2013 IB 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 2013, the average points earned by DCHS IB seniors who received their diplomas was 29 (out of a total of 45 possible points). The highest diploma points awarded to a candidate was 38.

The breakdown of the scores is as follows:

40-49	0	students
36-39	2	students
30-35	11	students
24-29	28	students
Less than 24	10	students

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

**"Don't tell people your dreams,
show them."**

---Unknown

2013 IB Subject Exam Scores

The IB examinations are graded from 1 - 7, with 7 the highest score. Grade distribution for the students graduating in 2013 was as follows:

	6/7	5	4	3	1/2	School Avg	World Avg
HL English	4	26	26	4	0	4.50	4.78
SL French AB	1	2	1	0	0	5.00	4.92
SL French B	1	3	5	1	0	4.40	4.91
HL French B	1	0	0	0	0	7.00	5.33
SL Mandarin B	1	1	0	0	0	5.50	6.03
SL Spanish AB	0	0	3	0	0	4.00	5.13
SL Spanish B	7	11	13	3	0	4.65	5.01
HL Economics	0	0	1	0	0	4.00	5.15
HL European History	2	12	22	4	0	4.30	4.76
HL Philosophy	2	3	3	0	0	5.00	4.75
SL Philosophy	2	1	2	0	0	5.20	4.54
HL Psychology	2	8	3	1	2	4.44	4.57
SL Psychology	1	7	0	0	0	5.13	4.44
HL Biology	2	3	19	13	3	3.73	4.35
SL Biology	0	2	1	1	0	4.25	4.29
SL Chemistry	7	5	8	6	5	4.13	4.10
SL Physics	1	2	1	7	1	3.58	4.18
SL Math Studies	2	12	5	4	2	4.32	4.65
HL Math	1	2	4	3	0	4.10	4.41
SL Math	2	8	11	4	0	4.36	4.46
HL Dance	3	2	0	0	0	5.60	5.45
HL Theatre Arts	0	3	2	0	0	4.60	4.78
HL Visual Arts	2	3	0	1	0	5.00	4.84
HL Visual Arts	0	1	0	0	0	5.00	4.52

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: Sandy Hamilton ibpo@huskieibpo.com



DCHS IB Calendar



DECEMBER

- 4 Parent Open House (6:00pm-7:30pm)
7 SAT Test Date
10 Choir Concert (7:00pm)
11 Band Concert (7:00pm)
12 Orchestra Concert (7:00pm)
14 ACT Test Date
17 FINALS: periods 1, 2, 3
18 FINALS: periods 4, 5, 6
19 FINALS: periods 7, 8
20 NO SCHOOL (Grading Day)
23-Jan 3 WINTER BREAK

JANUARY

- 6 SCHOOL RESUMES Spring Semester Begins!
8 First TOK of Spring Semester for Juniors
9 IB Grad Panel / Mandatory 10th Grade Meeting 6:00pm, DCHS Auditorium
17 NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
20 NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
25 SAT Test Date

FEBRUARY

- 6-8 All State Choir
7 Registration Deadline for 3/9 SAT
8 Princeton Review practice ACT/SAT testing
13-15 All State Orchestra
14 NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
17 NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
20-22 DCHS Theater Production
26 Parent/Teacher Conferences (5:00pm-8:00pm)
27-Mar 1 DCHS Theater Production



Douglas County School District
Douglas County High School
International Baccalaureate
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