

Bmatters

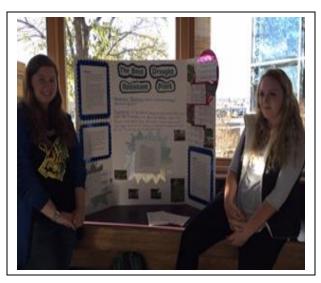
February 2017

Douglas County High School

2842 Front Street

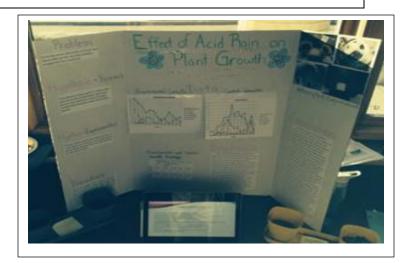
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104 Volume 20 Issue 3





IB Group 4 Project

IB Chemistry and IB Biology I students gathered on November 9th, 2016 to share their Group 4 projects. IB requires science students to design an investigation in interdisciplinary teams using a common theme. This year's topic was food. Students investigated different types of growing methods, how best to preserve food, the healthiest fast food, effects of acid rain, and many other topics. Students enjoyed sharing their findings with each other and staff members.





Coordinator's Corner

by Dr. Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

Theory of Knowledge, to paraphrase contemporary philosopher Alain Badiou, encourages students "to arrange the forms of knowledge in such a way that truth can come along and pierce a hole in them." Theory of Knowledge works by combining what students know, and are learning with how they came to gain that knowledge. The "arrangement of the forms of knowledge" occurs in the mind and comes from a personal commitment to pursue the truth.

In order to pursue the essence of the highest ideals of education, educators and students need to commit to making connections between and among subject areas. Our goal is to emphasize what this means and to try to make this happen frequently and authentically. For teachers, this means that we have to be aware of what other teachers are doing and to make specific connections based upon this understanding.

Additionally, and perhaps even more importantly, students need to make a concerted effort and to insist that we provide continuity to their learning. What is fun about these considerations is that we, as teachers, don't know exactly what this looks like.

We will host a gathering of International Baccalaureate students from around the area to figure our where we can begin. The hope is to invite Theory of Knowledge teachers and subject teachers to discuss how to create opportunities for Theory of Knowledge to impact the subjects. We will simultaneously host a gathering of students to engage on the same topic. Our students need to take advantage of upcoming leadership opportunities to organize and to guide activities.

I want our program to be student-centered in the most meaningful sense possible. Every year we encounter dynamic and creative personalities and yet students frequently comment that education weans them of their imagination. If this is true, we must actively reverse such a trend. I am confident that any effort to bring imagination and curiosity back into our educational model will meet with success if we employ the creative minds that we are lucky enough to encounter every day.

IB Coordinator

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Congratulations to the following students:

Continental League Honor Choir.

Britta Palmer Leah Dowdy Tessa Holt Selena Aguilar Brynn Kehn Isabelle Ellertson Caitlin Lijewski Darcy Brander Jacob Browning **Grant Kellogg Harrison Stone** Travis Pyfer Tyler Chapa Josiah Myers **Ryan Fredericks**

Monday, Jan. 23. for the Continental League Honor Band & Orchestra Festival.

Orchestra -

Dorotheea Arustei **Taylor Barnes** Evan Indge Tamara Coy

Kyle Lewis Grace Wills **Gregory Barr Kaylee Latchaw** Month of Photography Denver is hosting a high school photography show at the GRACE Studios during the month of March. This is a juried show which had high school artists entering from all over the Denver Metro area.

Two of our very own DCHS photo students were selected as winners, and will have work on display in this prestigious show! Please Congratulate Emily MacLean, and Zach Smith!!!

Check out the gallery of student work here - http://denvermopteenshow. weebly.com/information.html

When you get to the page, select "Gallery" and then "Gallery 2017" to see the high school student work selected for this year!

On the information page at the provided link is also a map to the gallery in Denver!

Congratulations Emily and Zach! Zach's photo is a colorful close up of water droplets on a CD, and Emily's is of a glowing Lantern.



Congratulations to **Aubrey Chambers** for being awarded a scholarship to attend Crow Canyon Archaeological Society high school field school this summer.

At the Boulder Snow Invitational, Lina Corrales won the 3200M and set a new school record in the process. Lina Corrales - Broke school record for 3200m-11:34.39 at the Boulder Snow Meet. Congratulations to Lina Corrales

The Middle Schools that the current 9th grade students attended.

Middle School 9th Graders

American Academy Charter School	4
Academy Charter School	7
All Souls Catholic School	1
Aspen View Academy	1
Cimarron Middle School	2
Castle Rock Middle School	6
DCS Montessori	1
Legacy Academy Charter School	1
Mesa Middle School	39
North Star Academy	1
Parker Core Knowledge	3
So. East Christian School	1
Sagewood Middle School	5
Sierra Middle School	3
Sky View Academy	2
Trinity Lutheran School	1
Total	78

Foreign Travel Adventures

Spring break 2018 there is a trip to Greece and the Greek Islands. Links for both trips are below.

2017= www.eftours.com/1774169hn 2018= http://www.eftours.com/educational-tour/athens-greek-islands

Mrs. Rowell and Ms. Stanton will be taking students on the Grand Tour of Italy over spring break 2017. Cities include Milan, Venice, Florence, Assisi, Pompeii, and Rome!

This summer trip is to Fiji to establish a national park. The Link is below.

http://opwall.com/sixth-form- high-school/independent- research-projects/

The Huskie Blood Drive

January 31st was the day I saw the magic of saving a life. At first the blood drive seemed like another day that had to go by. On January 31st, a few of my fellow NHS officers and I (pictured right) took a trip down to the Bonfils at the Lowry Center. That's the day that I realized donating blood meant more than just getting pricked by a needle. We had an entire day of just learning ahead of us. What most people don't realize is that one donation can save *3 lives*. You read that right. Three whole people can start anew because you took the 20 minutes to sit



in a chair and scroll through Instagram while blood was being taken out.

Donations are quick and easy for you. All it requires is a quick physical, a health history questionnaire, the actual donation and finally (the best part), free food. When they take out that blood, they can take anything from white cells (help fight infection), platelets (help blood clot), red cells (help carry oxygen through your body), and the plasma (help severe burns and clotting disorders). I mean, I sit in my IB Biology class and I know blood does these things but I never thought about how important your blood is to living and survival. It saves people in those dire positions. Without all of those components, you could be gone in a matter of minutes. Your whole future taken away from you because someone didn't take 20 minutes to sit in a chair and get free food.

We took a tour of all the facilities and talked through what happens to the blood after it gets donated. The blood is centrifuged (basically spun really fast in this machine so the blood separates into parts) so that each of those four parts aforementioned can be given to different people (most donations don't contain all four parts). The reason you are asked to donate so much is that blood is not useable after seven days. That's why it is so important you donate regularly. Did you know that high schools are nearly 10% of the total donations given to Bonfils? It's truly crazy how much power people like us have to change a couple hundred people's lives.

After the initial session, we talked through possible strategies to get more people to donate. Our regional director, Cathy, really stressed the importance that our school gets more people to donate. In the recent years, our school hasn't been the most eager to participate. In fact, our school fell short of the breakeven point several times. We decided it was about time we changed that. We got several flyers, poster, announcements and information tables set up. In fact, IB students got in and helped us rally around homerooms to make sure everyone knew how to donate. We even set up a raffle for several goodies. Compared to blood drives in years past, I knew we had gotten the word out and I could only hope that we emphasized the importance.

It was only when I went to check on the table a week before the blood drive that I was truly astonished. The table was closed. At first I was furious that no one had showed up. We put in so much time and effort and now people couldn't sign up. That's when I learned we had filled up every single spot. We even had a backup list going. On March 3, 2017, I am proud to say that Douglas County High School donated 63 units of blood and saved almost 200 lives. That's a record number for us! I was so blown away at the number of people who showed up wanting to donate as a backup that Cathy said she will bring in an extra 2-4 beds next year! Maybe we will have another drive during the year (*hint wink wink Class of 2018*). If you didn't get a chance to donate at school, head to any Bonfils center and mention DC for your donation to count for our school.



- Samyuktha Senthilkumar

DCHS Calendar

APRIL

25 IB Year End Celebration – North Commons 5:30pm

MAY

Summer Camp: Tuesday and Wednesday, May 30th and 31st, 2017 at Denver Auraria Library in Denver – First 5 pages Essay Check and Feedback.

This session will happen after the semester has concluded and students will meet their teachers at the Auraria Library. It is recommended that the students take the light rail train to Auraria.



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