



Parent Information Meeting Robinson Secondary School

For Rising Eleventh Grade

Students and Parents

January 2018



What is special about IB?

- ▶ ***Recognized*** around the world
- ▶ Focus on *international perspectives* of learning and teaching, as well as exploration of home culture and language.
- ▶ Emphasis on thinking, *asking questions, applying knowledge*
- ▶ *Enhanced opportunities* at the college level
- ▶ Encouragement to participate in creative and service-oriented activities, while at the same time emphasizing the *importance of reflection* on a personal and academic level.
- ▶ *Multiple assessments* contribute to the final score



How are AP and IB different?

Advanced Placement Program

- ▶ Teachers design course to ensure success on test; emphasis on content
- ▶ Emphasis on analytical reading and writing
- ▶ Breadth over depth; largely Euro and American-centered
- ▶ End of course test to determine college credit
- ▶ One shot assessment – includes multiple choice, short answer and essay
- ▶ Focused on discrete subjects
- ▶ Goal of program is to provide college credit for high school coursework

International Baccalaureate

- ▶ A program with a *prescribed curriculum* and *integrated subject matter*
- ▶ Emphasis on *reading, writing, speaking skills* as well as the learner profile
- ▶ Depth over breadth; emphasis on global awareness and multiple points of view
- ▶ Multiple assessments (portfolios, papers, orals, essay exams)
- ▶ IB emphasizes taking one's education and applying it – changing who you are and making a difference in the world
- ▶ Opportunity to earn a diploma above and beyond the H.S. diploma, providing college admissions advantages



IB Learner Profile:

The IB Diploma Program aims to develop internationally minded people who are striving to become:

Inquirers

Knowledgeable

Critical Thinkers

Communicators

Risk-Takers

Principled

Caring

Open-minded

Well-balanced

Reflective



How will an IB class be different from a regular class?

You will be challenged to think more abstractly and analytically. The reading and writing are more sophisticated.

- ▶ You must be committed to 30 minutes of homework per night on average and able to handle long-term assignments.**
- ▶ You will need to complete an internal assessment (which could be written or oral, depending on the course and which may involve research).**
- ▶ You will need to sit for the exam at the end of the course.**



What are my options for coursework within IB?

- ▶ **IB Diploma**
- ▶ **IB certificates – individual IB courses in subjects about which you have a passion and an interest**



IB Diploma Requirements

To be completed in grades 11 and 12

Extended Essay (EE)- MOSTLY JUNIOR YEAR

- ▶ 3,000 – 4,000 word essay, on a topic of student interest
- ▶ Provides excellent preparation for independent study at university level

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) – JUNIOR YEAR WITH RAISE MEETINGS DURING SENIOR YEAR

- ▶ Critical reflection of how we know and what we know
- ▶ Develops awareness of cultural perspectives and biases
- ▶ Allows for connections to be established between disciplines

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) – SUMMER 2018-MAY 2020

- ▶ A framework for experiential learning, involving students in new and active roles
- ▶ Develops awareness and a sense of responsibility towards the community



IB Diploma Requirements

To be completed in grades 11 and 12

One course from groups 1-5, and a 6th subject from either group 6 or any other group.

Students must take three Higher Level (HL) and three Standard Level (SL) courses (or four HL's and two SL's)

▶ **Higher Level**

▶ **Exams taken in Grade 12**

▶ **Standard Level**

▶ **A maximum of two SL subjects may be *anticipated* by Diploma Program students (this means exams taken in Grade 11)**

▶ **Exams taken in either grade 11 or 12**

Complete core requirements: EE, CAS, TOK



Why pursue the full diploma?

- Preparation package for college (the IB has always been designed to get students through college courses, not necessarily *out* of them)
- IB emphasizes reading, writing, and speaking skills; students learn to ask and answer their own questions
- College admission advantages
- Lifelong learners, critical and compassionate thinkers, global citizens
- Possible college course credit or advanced standing for impressive IB exam scores
- Scholarship opportunities
- Most rigorous high school program



Why choose certificates over the diploma?

- ▶ **Challenging oneself in some subject areas and getting good grades in those courses is better than doing the full diploma and earning weaker grades.**
- ▶ **Some students want to take Academy courses and the diploma is difficult to do when you are out of the building for multiple periods.**
- ▶ **Some students who have a strong interest in and commitments to extra-curriculars find that they do not have enough time to meet the demands of both the full diploma and their activities.**

ROBINSON IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

4.77

Average grade obtained by diploma candidates in May 2017 exams

84%

Percentage of 2017 diploma candidates who received the IB diploma

1220

Total number of current students in at least one AP or IB course

316

Current total number of junior and senior diploma candidates

780

Current number of students who are taking at least one IB exam this year



University of British Columbia Study

A 2013 Survey of all incoming freshmen found that IB students rated higher than other freshmen in:

- ▶ Research and library skills
- ▶ Ability to read and comprehend academic material
- ▶ Ability to be clear and effective when writing
- ▶ Ability to speak clearly and effectively
- ▶ Ability to take personal social responsibility
- ▶ Ability to motivate and lead others toward a goal

IB Students are also more likely to work on a research project with a faculty member and to study abroad.



University Acceptance Rates

	<u>Average Rate</u>	<u>IB Rate</u>
Boston University	58%	70%
University of Virginia	32%	64%
UNC Chapel Hill	32%	63%
Stanford University	7%	15%
Harvard University	7%	10%
Duke University	16%	28%
New York University	30%	57%
University of California-Berkeley	26%	58%



University Acceptance Rates

	<u>Average Rate</u>	<u>IB Rate</u>
University of Florida	42%	82%
University of Michigan	51%	71%
University of Miami	30%	72%
Columbia University	9%	13%
University of Pennsylvania	14%	24%
Cornell University	18%	31%
Yale University	7%	18%
Florida State University	60%	92%



Save the Date: 2018 IBMA College Fair

- ▶ **Saturday, April 21st , 2018, 12 – 3 p.m.**
- ▶ **Gar-field HS, Woodbridge, Virginia**
- ▶ **About 150-200 colleges from around the world who are coming to meet you!**
- ▶ **If you would like more information (including a list of schools which attended last year's fair), go to <http://www.ibmidatlantic.org/Fair.html>**



English options:

IB English Literature I- 11th grade

- ▶ This is the first half of a two year course. This is a traditional literature course where students will work on the development of reading, writing and oral communication skills.

IB English Literature Standard and Higher Level:12th grade

- ▶ Students will choose one of these two courses to complete the IB English Literature sequence. Standard Level includes the study of 5 works. Higher Level includes the study of 7 works.

IB English Language and Literature I- 11th grade

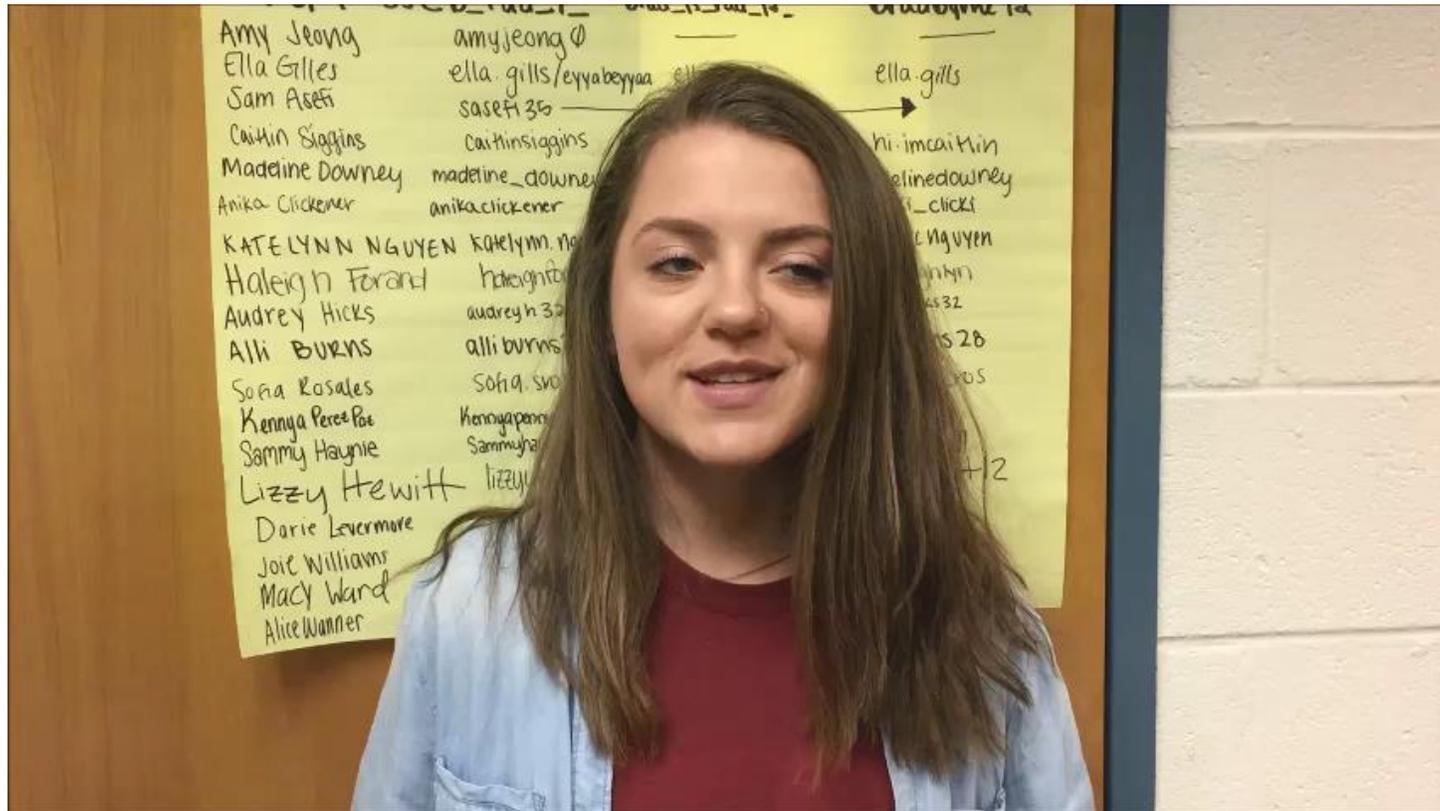
- ▶ This is the first half of a two year course. This is a course that combines the traditional study of literature with the study of other media and genres-considering the meaning behind the language we see in our world.

IB English Language and Literature Standard and Higher Level: 12th grade

- ▶ Students will choose one of these two courses to complete the IB English Language and Literature sequence. Standard Level includes the study of 2 works. Higher Level includes the study of 3 works.



English Options: Student Experiences





IB World Language Options:

At both the Higher and Standard levels, students are asked to do the following:

- **Communicate clearly and effectively in a range of situations, responding to texts, and to each other, engaging in discussion with the teacher through writing and speaking**
- **The Higher Level Language option requires students to read and respond to two works of literature in the target language. (5 years of a language is required for this option)**



IB History Options:

Choices as a junior:

IB History of the Americas HL I, AP US History or US History

Choices as a senior:

Topics in 20th Century World History HL II: a continuation of the study of history beginning in junior year with IB History of the Americas. Instruction focuses on the how and why of significant historical events, and includes an emphasis on peace-making in history.

Geography SL: A stand-alone course that satisfies the state requirements for graduation in the history sequence. Course focuses on issues of spatial analysis-urbanization, population development and environmental qualities.



IB Science Options:

- **Biology Higher Level (2 year course)**
- **Biology Standard Level (1 year course)**
- **Chemistry Higher Level (assumes IB Chem 1) and Chemistry Standard Level (assumes Chem 1 or IB Chem 1)**
- **Environmental Systems Standard Level (is a transdisciplinary course and count as either a science or history for IB): course that explores the influence/impact society has on the environment**



More Science Options:

- **Physics Higher Level (assumes IB Physics 1)**
- **Physics Standard Level (assumes Physics 1 or IB Physics 1)**
- **Design Technology Standard Level (counts as a science for IB, but not for Fairfax County): course for those interested in architecture or engineering**



IB Math Options:

Math Studies Standard Level: a study of math in our world. Emphasis on probability and statistics with an introduction to calculus topics. (one year course; assumes PreCalculus or a semester of Trigonometry)

Mathematics Standard Level: a course similar to Calculus. Course also includes a unit on probability and statistics. (Two year course)

Mathematics Higher Level: Course involves study of Calculus similar to the AP BC level. Study also involves extending calculus topics including two-and three-dimensional vectors, three-dimensional coordinate geometry and linear algebra.



IB Electives

- World Religions SL
- Philosophy SL
- Social & Cultural Anthropology SL (one year)
- Social & Cultural Anthropology HL (two years)
- Psychology SL (one year)
- Psychology HL (two years)
- Business SL (one year)**
- Business HL (two years)

- Economics SL **
- Economics HL (two years)

Both SL and HL in the following courses are two year courses:

- Film SL or HL
- Visual Arts SL or HL
- Theatre Arts SL or HL

*****satisfies state requirement for economics/personal finance***



If my child decides to pursue the full diploma, what is the next step?

- ✓ We presented to all of the students in English 10 in January. Students should circle their choices in each of the six groups of IB courses, making sure that they are setting themselves up for 3 HLs and 3 SLs.
- ✓ Students must bring their completed sheet to the IB Office and meet with Ms. Vu or Ms. Cho to go over their choices prior to meeting with their counselor February 5th -9th.



What do I do if my child doesn't want to pursue the full diploma?

- ▶ There are many perfectly good reasons not to pursue the IB diploma. Please support your child in this decision-it is up to them and they are the ones who will have to do the work.
- ▶ They may still take one or several IB courses in subjects that they like and in which they want a greater challenge.
- ▶ They should consider one of the fabulous IB electives – an opportunity to study a subject that is new to them.



Considerations in Planning for High School Courses

**Academic
Challenge**

**Academic
Success**

**Extra-
curriculars**

Create a healthy balance!



Advice from Current Junior and Senior IB Diploma Candidates:

- ▶ “If you find yourself with 6 IB courses and not doing the IB diploma, that's the moment you should go to Mrs. Vu and Mrs. Cho. It's important to know that *CAS hours come naturally*, the *extended essay is a struggle at times*, but Mrs. Vu and Mrs. Cho prepare you well and give you everything you need to succeed.”
- ▶ Challenge yourself but *be prepared to be stressed. It happens.* You'll get the essay turned in, you'll pass the test, and then you'll feel better. Just prepare for it and *make sure not to procrastinate.* **TIME MANAGEMENT IS EVERYTHING.**



Advice from Current Junior and Senior IB Diploma Candidates:

- ▶ “Your classes for Junior year practically decide your classes for Senior year, so choose carefully. Remember *there's room for at least one non-IB course per year* within the IB diploma.”
- ▶ “*Challenge yourself* but don't take on more than you are able to. By this point, you know where your strengths and weaknesses are and how your after school schedule operates. *If you have a very busy schedule, don't enroll in too many advanced classes* because the workload can strain your life outside of school.”



Advice from Current Junior and Senior IB Diploma Candidates:

- ▶ “Be very careful about what you're taking, if you have any doubts about taking a class, don't take it. *It's better to have a good grade in an easier class than to struggle, stress, and have problems over a harder class.* Take harder classes in what you enjoy and want to take.”
- ▶ “The most gratifying thing about IB classes is the feeling of leaving school more educated and enriched than when you arrived. As much work as it is, *I take a lot of pride in calling myself an IB student.*”



Questions???

Please write your questions on the index cards provided at the table by the door. Include your name and email address.

We will get back to you this week!



Contact Information:

Email us at:

HTCho@fcps.edu

WMVu@fcps.edu

**The IB office is located in the main hallway
next to the main guidance office.**

703.426.2254