

York High IB News



October 2017

IB AMBASSADORS

When I tell people about my job they invariably ask the same question: "Why is there so much work?" Unfortunately, this is the public perception of our program; that students are always up until 2 a.m. and they have no time to do anything else. This is just not true. Our students play sports, join clubs, and volunteer for numerous organizations. As members of the IB family we should all be IB Ambassadors and share our accomplishments with those who may have that one perception.

Is there work in the program? Yes, IB is a rigorous academic program which prepares our students for life beyond high school. That preparation includes the course work, but also task such as the Extended Essay (EE). The EE is designed to teach students skills they will utilize at the next level. In a study conducted at the University of Virginia, researchers found that students who completed the EE tended to exhibit growth in writing skills, research methods, and time management. Additionally, the study concluded that students' anxiety concerning college writing assignments decreased while creativity and autonomy increased through working on a topic of their choice. *

As IB Ambassadors these are the positives we should routinely stress: the opportunities to develop valuable skills, the positive peer associations, highly trained teachers, and the chance to be part of an internationally recognized program that college admissions offices know and respect.

Being part of IB cannot guarantee a student will get into Harvard, but it does help a student stand out in any applicant pool. There may even be an occasional late night, but they should never be routine. The IB Learner Profile states that IB students should strive to balance the different pieces of their lives. They should be able to finish their school work, play sports, participate in clubs, and even, from time to time, do nothing at all.

* <http://www.kufeld.org/cms/lib/NY19000286/Centricity/Domain/58/Benefits%20of%20the%20IB%20Extended%20Essay.pdf>

Welcome to all new and returning students and families!

Science Fair

Science Fair participation is mandatory for all 9th, 10th, and 12th grade students in the pre-Diploma and Diploma programs. All initial paperwork should have been turned in to your science teacher. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Valliant or your individual science teacher.

CAS

A core component of the IB Diploma Program (DP) is Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS). Juniors received materials to formulate their CAS plans and will be meeting individually with Dr. Valliant in November. Seniors should continue recording their activities on ManageBac. Remember you need activities in all three areas, evidence to show participation in, and/or completion of activities, and reflections demonstrating the seven learning outcomes.

Exam Registration

Exam registration has begun for all Juniors and Seniors. Parents should have received invoices in the mail. If you have not please contact Dr. Valliant.

Shout Outs

IB students must balance their school work, clubs and sports, family commitments, and a dozen other things. Sometimes it is nice to know that all your hard work is being noticed and not just by parents and teachers, but by your peers as well. With that in mind, York IB is starting Shout Outs. If you know of someone who has done something that deserves recognition, let Dr. Valliant know.

Important Dates

November 6 – Freshman Pizza Social; Exam payments due (Juniors and Seniors only)

November 15 – Last day for exam registration

If you know a York High IB graduate, please let us know how they are doing.