

# York High IB News



November 2017

## IB COMMUNITY

Our IB Juniors and Seniors develop special bonds within their group. They see each other every day either in English or history. They create study groups and chat groups for support. They hang out on weekends and go to parties and movies together. In our recent middle school recruiting trips, these bonds were something that our Seniors shared with interested eighth graders on several occasions. The IB experience is unique and not only helps prepare students for the challenges of college and career, but can also forge lasting friendships.

For our Freshmen and Sophomores those connections can be a little bit trickier. AP World History is the one class which all Freshmen share not only the course, but the teacher. Our Sophomores all take AP U.S. government, but they might have different teachers. To try to foster more connections IB Juniors Yusera Ishrat, Hailie Vega, and Alyson Youngpeter and Seniors Isabella Mock, Suraj Patel, and Isabella Mock led mini-workshop discussions on time management, study skills, and school participation during our Freshmen Pizza Social.

Another way to create connections across classes is to have the Sophomores participate in the Pinning Ceremony for Juniors. We need student volunteers to usher during the event and we are asking Sophomore parents to contribute an appetizer-type dish for the reception. This allows the Juniors and their parents to focus on the main event.

Community building will remain a focus throughout the year.

## The Pinning and Diploma Ceremony is December 19<sup>th</sup>!

The Pinning and Diploma Ceremony is a special occasion in the life of the IB student. For recent graduates, it is a time to return to school, share their experiences with current students, and be recognized for their achievements. For Juniors, it is their official welcome into the Diploma Programme and they will each receive their IB pin. Last year, to create a more closely knit IB family, we asked the Sophomore parents to contribute an appetizer for the reception following the ceremony. This allows the Junior parents to focus on their student's achievement. Please let Dr. Valliant know if you are able to contribute.

## CAS

A core component of the IB Diploma Program (DP) is Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS). Juniors will be meeting individually with Dr. Valliant starting December 1. 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 is complete for Juniors and Seniors. Parents should have received invoices in the mail. If you have not please contact Dr. Valliant.

## Shout Outs

Shout out to the Seniors who accompanied me on the middle school recruiting trips! Megan Cooker, Elena Evans, Alex Arnette, Maya Patel, Karthik Kashyap, Kayla Schiltz, Kristen Schiltz, Joe Topp, Suraj Patel, Tyler Insley, Zion Rowe, Isabella Mock, and Josh Zutell all did a superb job sharing their IB experiences.

Students – give each other or teachers a shout so that everyone can see the wonderful things you do.

## Summer Opportunity

Attention rising Juniors and Seniors! Christopher Newport University is offering a two-week Summer Humanities Institute which not only offers an exciting educational opportunity, but also the potential to earn college credit. The theme is Shakespearean Voyages and it runs from June 17-28, 2018. More information can be found here:

<http://cnu.edu/summerhumanities/>

## Sophomore Information Meeting

Related to the goal of building up the IB community is a goal of retaining more of our pre-Diploma Sophomores. Decisions on Governor's School, SOA, or IB are looming and I would like to give Sophomore parents the opportunity to revisit the attributes of the IB Diploma Programme. I will be holding an informational meeting for all Sophomore parents on Monday, December 11, at 5:30 in the KIVA. Please bring whatever questions you may have about the next two years of IB.

## Graduate News

Our most recent graduates will be joining us on the 19<sup>th</sup>, first during the IB Panel during 4<sup>th</sup> block, and then at 7 pm for the Pinning and Diploma Ceremony. If you know a York High IB graduate, please let us know how they are doing or have them contact Dr. Valliant at [kvalliant@ycsd.york.va.us](mailto:kvalliant@ycsd.york.va.us) or 757-890-5014. We would love to share their stories.

## Important Dates

December 1 – Junior CAS consultations begin

December 1 – All Science Fair paperwork due

December 11 – IBAC meeting 4-5; Sophomore Information meeting, 5:30

December 19 – IB Panel with Class of 2017, 4<sup>th</sup> block, Pinning and Diploma Ceremony, 7