

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program: A New York Public School Model

Grades 11 and 12



The IB program is designed to academically challenge students and teach them to relate the content of the classroom to the realities of the world outside.

- *Rigorous course of studies and examinations that challenge students.*
- *Prepare students to be life-long learners.*

Results



- *After participating in the IB Diploma Program, students are better prepared for college and perform better, as measured by course grades and grade point averages. Evidence for this claim is furnished by three university studies comparing IB graduates with comparable control students.*

The Program

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program: A New York Public School Model is an academically challenging, internationally based and recognized program offered to high school students. The program can be an inclusive one, open to *all* students during their final two years of high school. The Program offers rigorous courses (in most cases exceeding the demands of traditional Advanced Placement courses) in six subject areas, as well as opportunities to conduct independent research, critically reflect on knowledge and experience gained inside and outside of the classroom, and engage in activities and service in the community. Student performance is evaluated through varied forms of assessment and by a worldwide network of IB examiners.

In addition to satisfactorily completing at least six courses and their corresponding IB assessments, diploma candidates must meet three extra requirements: 1) passing a Theory of Knowledge course, intended to stimulate critical reflection, 2) meeting a Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) requirement, a self-designed and assessed program of experiential learning (e.g., theater, sports, or community service), and 3) writing the Extended Essay, a 4,000-word independent, original research paper.

The IB Program is based on the philosophy of providing intellectual development and high academic standards, as well as emphasizing the ideals of international understanding and responsible citizenship.

Professional Development

Implementing the IB Program takes place in four phases: 1) Consideration/ Exploration, 2) Application, 3) Affiliation, and 4) Participation. With each phase, experienced IB teachers and administrators can offer professional development sessions, trainings, and a Summer Institute for administrators and teachers.

Costs & Funding Options

Any school wishing to offer the IB Program to its students must be authorized to do so by completing a comprehensive application. There is an Application Fee of \$3500 which includes an on-site authorization visit. A 6- to 18-month affiliation period follows authorization. The Affiliation Fee is \$2600 per year, and once the conditions of affiliation are met, schools can begin implementation of their programs. The IB's Annual Subscription Fee is \$8000 plus per capita and exam fees. Total annual costs for this phase can vary from \$20,000 - \$100,000 per school.

Costs of participation in the workshops offered by South Side High School vary. There are also curriculum guides and other publications available for purchase.

Learning Standards

The program helps students to meet all of the learning standards.

Contact

David Weiss
Assistant Principal
Commack High School
1 Scholar Lane
Commack, NY 11725
631-912-2109
Fax: 631-266-2408
E-mail: dhweiss@optonline.net