



**International Baccalaureate Diploma & Certificate Programs
at Northport High School**

5th Annual IB Open House

January 6, 2010

NHS Large Cafeteria

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Dear Parents and Students:

Educational research clearly indicates that the academic intensity of a student's high school curriculum counts more than anything else in secondary education in providing momentum toward successful completion of a bachelor's degree in college. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Program is one of the many outstanding educational programs at Northport High School which provides students with opportunities to engage in their own learning and achieve success in all aspects of their education prior to graduation. We would like to invite you and your son/daughter to our **fifth annual IB Open House** to be held from 7:00–8:30PM in the large cafeteria on January 6, 2010 in order to explore this opportunity for your child.

The IB diploma and individual IB coursework are widely recognized by universities around the world as a symbol of academic excellence and one of the strongest educational experiences available today. This advanced, comprehensive program of study offers an integrated approach to learning across the disciplines with an emphasis on meeting the challenges of living and working in a global, technological society. **Any student at Northport High School may enroll** in the full diploma program beginning in their junior year **or** challenge one or more IB certificates in either their junior or senior years. Due to its demonstrated quality, depth and breadth, and its inclusive rather than exclusive nature, the IB Program at Northport High School continues to grow at an impressive rate.

The IB program has a strong support system, with an IB Coordinator helping students manage their time and necessary paperwork, arranging for special seminars, and serving as a sounding board and resource for all IB certificate and diploma students. Ninth and tenth grade students interested in qualifying for the full IB diploma program should attend the IB Open House and sophomores should schedule an appointment with the IB Coordinator. Proper planning of courses from 8th grade on is beneficial for all potential IB students, but it is especially true for those students who are considering the IB diploma path.

The entire IB program is self-selecting, which means students who want to challenge the IB diploma may simply complete course selection forms in their sophomore year, interview with the IB Coordinator, and register for the courses. Forms must be submitted to the IB Coordinator (Room K-204) on or before January 15, 2010. Beginning January 11th IB Diploma applicants and their parents should schedule a meeting with the IB Coordinator to outline their two year sequence of IB coursework.

To learn more about the IB Program please join us on January 6, 2010! In addition, please review the enclosed *A Brief Overview of the IB Program*, and visit our IB web page at http://northport.k12.ny.us/ib/IB_Website%202009-2010/Home.html. A complete *IB Information Guide for Students and Their Parents* can be downloaded from this site and includes the current IB diploma candidate course registration forms in the "Planning an IB Diploma" section. If you have any questions please call the IB Office at 262-6890 or email dstorch@northport.k12.ny.us.

Sincerely,

David Storch
IB Coordinator

The International Baccalaureate Program at Northport High School



A Brief Overview



Introduction

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Northport High School was chartered by the International Baccalaureate Organization in July 2002, and Northport's first IB class graduated in June 2005. The IB Program is a rigorous, internationally recognized, college preparatory program that seeks to educate the whole student by means of a comprehensive liberal arts curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, responsibility, and intercultural understanding. Northport is proud to be a member of a distinguished group of schools worldwide that are authorized to offer the IB Program.

Northport's Self-Selective IB Program

The trendsetting IB Program at Northport is highly unusual because it is **completely self-selective**. Each Northport student decides whether to participate in the IB Program, and if so, to what extent.

Northport's IB Program is intended for students who have a strong work ethic and seek academic challenge and personal growth. Personal motivation is probably the single most important factor in success.

Two Pathways: IB Diploma or IB Certificates

Students can choose one of two pathways in the IB Program: the Diploma or one or more Certificates. In 9th and 10th grades, students begin to prepare themselves for the rigor and concepts of IB courses, which are taken in 11th and 12th grades.

Although the choice between the IB Diploma and Certificates is actually made in the winter of the sophomore year, students should become familiar with the IB Program before registering for 9th grade classes. Proper planning of courses from 8th grade on is beneficial for all IB Program students, but it is especially so for those students who are considering the IB Diploma path.

The IB Diploma Pathway

In order to earn the IB Diploma, a student must study six areas in depth and successfully pass an exam in each group:

1. Language - English A1
2. Second Language (Spanish, French, German, or Italian)
3. History of the Americas
4. Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Systems, or Design Technology)
5. Mathematics (Mathematics or Math Studies)
6. Arts & Electives (Visual Arts, Music, Theatre Arts, Business & Management, Economics, Philosophy, Social & Cultural Anthropology, a 2nd Language, or a 2nd Science)

To allow for specialization, normally three subjects (but not more than four) are chosen at Higher Level (HL), and to ensure a broad education, three subjects are chosen at Standard Level (SL). Higher Level subjects require intensive, in-depth study over two years. These generally reflect a student's areas of interest and academic strength. Standard Level subjects are less demanding, but are still on par with introductory level college courses. SL courses require one full year of study (except for Group 2 subjects which require two years).

In addition, an IB Diploma student must complete the following requirements:

1. Theory of Knowledge (ToK) Course. This two-semester course challenges students to question the bases of knowledge in the disciplines that they study and to develop the ability to analyze evidence that is expressed in a rational argument.
2. Extended Essay (EE) Project. Working with a faculty mentor, a student undertakes original research in one of 60 IB fields and presents the results in a 4,000-word paper. The EE project provides experience in independent research and develops writing skills expected at the college level.
3. Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) Activities. The CAS requirement reflects the importance that the IB Program gives to life outside the world of academics. IB Diploma candidates receive CAS credit for participating in school, community, or international activities of their choice. Students are required to complete 50 hours in each of the three areas.

The IB Certificates Pathway

A student may earn an IB Certificate in one or more of the six areas listed above by pursuing the same course of study in that subject area as that required for the Diploma and successfully passing the corresponding exam. Higher Level courses may only be assessed in a student's senior year. The three requirements listed above for the Diploma (ToK, EE, and CAS) are not part of the Certificate option.

Strengths of Northport's IB Program

- High quality academic experience
- Dedicated and experienced IB faculty & staff
- Excellent preparation for college level work
- Supportive student environment
- College credit and advanced placement
- Higher college acceptance rates
- Strong community support

Potential pathways toward the IB Diploma are included on the following page. A full description of each IB course can be found in the International Baccalaureate Section of the 2009-2010 Northport High School Course Catalog. All prerequisites should be met.

The above information is a brief overview of the IB Program at Northport. For a more comprehensive explanation of the IB Program please go to Northport High School's IB web page at http://northport.k12.ny.us/ib/IB_Website%202009-2010/Home.html. A complete ***IB Information Guide for Students and Their Parents*** can be downloaded from this site. In addition, please contact the IB Coordinator, Mr. David Storch, by e-mail (dstorch@northport.k12.ny.us) or phone (631) 262-6890 if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment.

Northport High School ♦ Potential Pathways to the IB Diploma ♦ Four-Year Plan/Course Sequence

Group	IB Subject Area	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Examination
1	Language A1	English 9 or 9H	English 10 or 10H	IB English 11 (January Regents)	IB English 12	HL
2	Language B (Spanish, French, Italian, or German)	Level 2R	Level 3 R (June Regents)	Level 4 Pre-IB	Level 5 IB/AP	SL or *HL
3	Individuals and Societies	Global History I	Global II or AP World or AP European History (June Regents)	IB History of the Americas 11 (June Regents)	IB History of the Americas 12	HL
4	Experimental Sciences	Regents or Honors Earth Science or Biology (June Regents)	Regents or Honors Biology or Chemistry (June Regents)	IB/AP Biology or IB/AP Chemistry or IB/AP Environmental	Regents or Honors Physics (June Regents)	SL
		Regents or Honors Biology (June Regents)	Regents or Honors Chemistry (June Regents)	IB Physics 11 (June Regents)	IB Physics 12	HL
		Regents or Honors Earth Science or Biology (June Regents)	Regents or Honors Biology or Chemistry (June Regents)	IB Biology (Spring Semester)	IB Biology	HL
				IB Design Technology	IB Design Technology	SL or HL
5	Mathematics	Geometry R (June Regents)	Algebra II	Algebra 2/Trigonometry Intro to IB Math Studies (June Regents)	IB Math Studies	SL
		Math 9A (January Regents)	Math 10A Intro to IB Math (Spring Lab, June Regents)	IB Math 11A (Fall Lab)	AB Calculus or AP Statistics	SL
		Math 9H (June Regents)	Math 10H Intro to IB Math	IB Math 11H	BC Calculus	SL
6	The Arts and Electives		AP Music	IB Visual Arts	IB Visual Arts	SL or HL
				IB Theatre Arts	IB Theatre Arts	SL or HL
				IB Music	IB Music	SL or HL
				Second IB Science or Second IB Language B	Second IB Science or Second IB Language B	SL or HL
				IB Economics	IB Economics	SL
				IB Business & Management	IB Business & Management	SL or HL
				IB Philosophy	IB Philosophy	SL or HL
				IB Soc & Cult. Anthropology	IB Soc & Cult Anthropology	SL
7	Central Elements			Theory of Knowledge (Spring Semester)	Theory of Knowledge (Fall Semester)	Essay/Oral Presentation
				Extended Essay	Extended Essay	Argument Paper
				CAS	CAS	Extracurricular Participation

Diploma Candidates must choose one pathway in each of the 6 groups in addition to all of the central elements in Group 7.

Diploma Candidates must challenge at least 3 but not more than 4 Higher Level 2-year IB Courses in 11-12th grade.

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