



An Overview of
Yorktown Middle School's
International Baccalaureate
Middle Years Programme

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS IN A GREAT COMMUNITY

A Context for Our Work

- Derek Sivers
presenting a
TEDTalk at
TEDIndia in
2009.



What is the International Baccalaureate?

- An international non-profit organization that began in 1968. Currently, there are 3,294 IB World Schools in 141 countries world-wide.
- There are currently almost 975, 000 students enrolled in IB programmes.
- IB offers a Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Diploma Programme (DP).

Three Programmes, One Mission

- Introduction of IBO's Mission Statement:

“The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and *caring* young people who help to create a *better and more peaceful world* through intercultural understanding and respect.”



IB Programmes in YCSD

- The IB includes a Primary Years Programme (PYP) not offered in YCSD.
- The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is located at Yorktown Middle School.
- The Diploma Programme (DP) is housed at York High School.

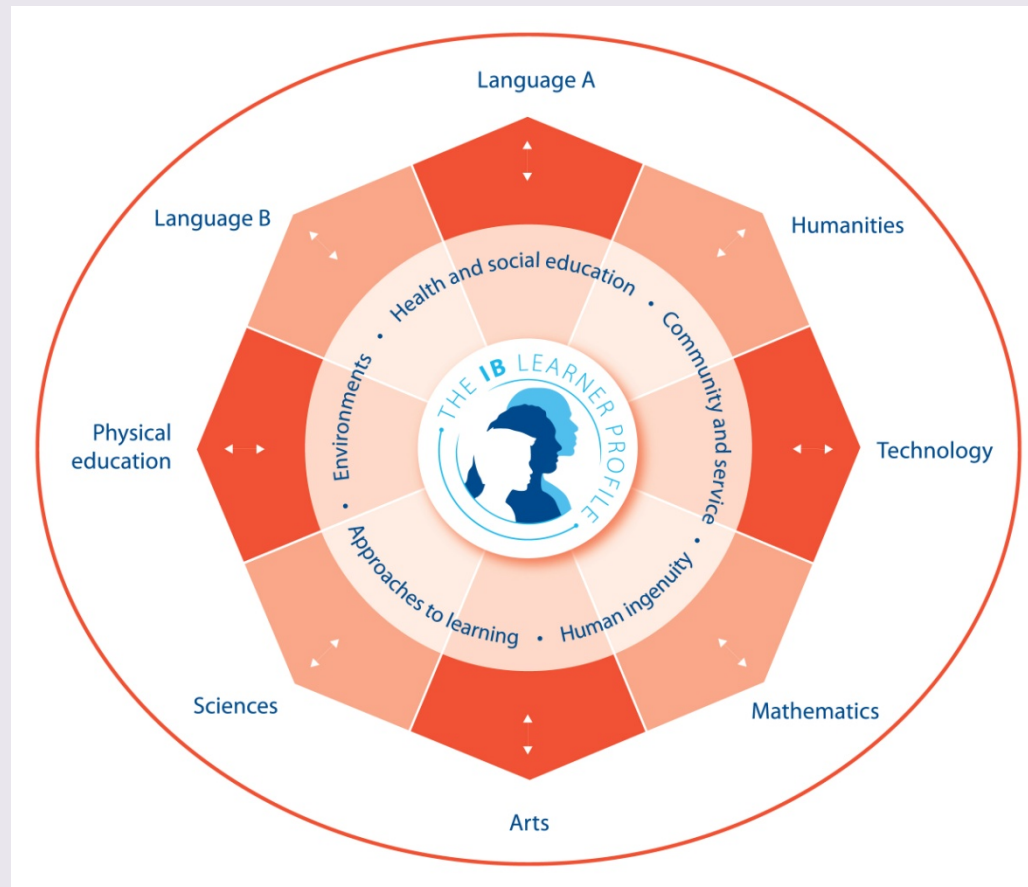
The IB MYP at YMS

- YMS is one of 924 IB World Schools offering the Middle Years Programme.
- Although the MYP was founded by IBO in 1994, YMS first enrolled sixth graders in MYP in 2008-2009 school year.
- Currently in transition toward a whole-school model.

Goal of the MYP

- To prepare students for a globalized, interconnected, 21st-century world by:
 - Encouraging a positive attitude toward learning
 - Providing opportunities for students to form real life connections to what they are learning in class
 - Fostering international-mindedness
 - Promoting reflective, critical thinking in **all** students, *regardless of ability level.*

IB MYP Subject Groups



Curriculum Alignment

YCSO Course	MYP Description
English	Language A
Social Studies	Humanities
Science	Sciences
Mathematics	Mathematics
Technology	Technology
World Language (French or Spanish)	Language B
Physical education	Physical education
Art	Arts

Course Selection for YMS MYP Students, 2012-2013 School Year

Grade 6

- Students select English 6 or Advanced English 6
- Students select French or Spanish for 1 wheel course
- Students are placed in appropriate math course
- Students also take Fine/Performing Arts, Digital Literacy, & Academic Seminar on the Wheel (or band)

Grades 7 & 8

- Students must take Advanced English 7 and 8
- Students must select French or Spanish I (or above)
- Students take accelerated math sequence
- Students must select at least 1 semester of both Fine/Performing Arts and Technology encores each year

Thematic & Interdisciplinary Teaching

- Experiment distinguishing a pure substance from a mixture; analysis of water

Science

- Critiquing work of an artist who uses water as his/her inspiration

Art

- Essay arguing for the right to drinkable water for all global citizens

English

Physical
Education

- Discussion about the importance of proper hydration during exercise

PS.2b: The student will investigate and understand the basic nature of matter. Key concepts include elements, compounds, mixtures, acids, bases, and salts.

Introduction to World Languages



- MYP students select either French or Spanish prior to enrolling in classes
- Study throughout the program
- WL study enhances understanding of English

Development of International-mindedness

- 8th Grade Blogging Project
 - Blogging with students in Seoul, South Korea to increase cultural understanding *while discussing content-specific information* in the four core classes



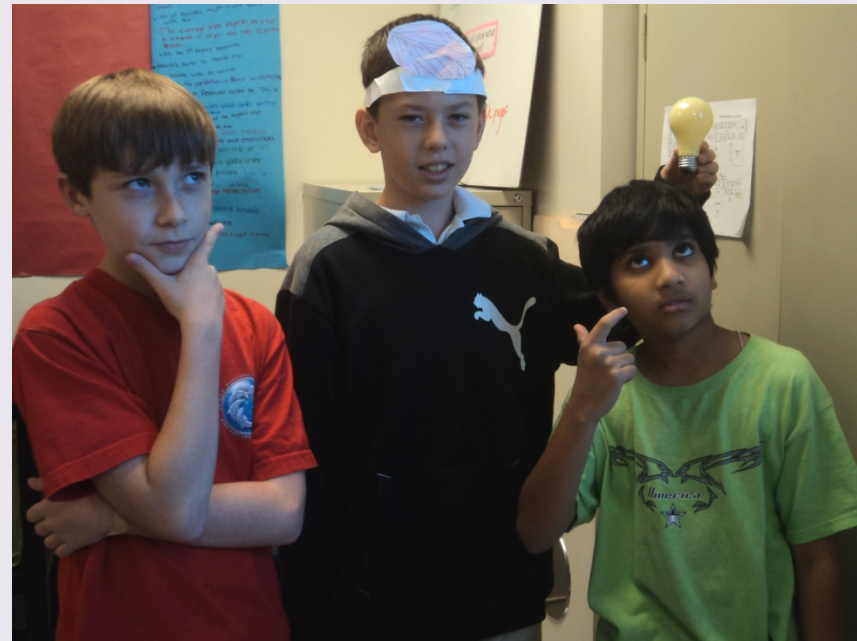
Increased Community Involvement

- TGAL = Think Globally, Act Locally
- MYP Student Involvement in YMS Holiday Canned Food Drive
- 6th Grade Culture Storybooks – lessons for elementary students



Focus on the Whole Learner

- Teachers work with students to develop characteristics of the IB Learner Profile:
 - Inquirers,
Knowledgeable,
Thinkers,
Communicators,
Principled, Open-
minded, Caring, Risk-
takers, Balanced,
Reflective.



Connections with Local Experts

- MYP Guest Lecture Series
- “My Place in the World”
- Quarterly presentations
- Globally aware, multidisciplinary presentations



What the MYP is ***NOT***

- An exclusive programme. The MYP is designed for all learners; in fact, the IB requires that IB World Schools move towards offering the MYP to all students
- An accelerated or advanced course of study
- A “fast-track” or guaranteed-admissions program for the DP (high school)

Logistical Considerations

- MYP students are enrolled at YMS for entire school day
- Students zoned for YMS are transported to and from school on normal bus routes
- Students not zoned for YMS must be transported to and from school by parents; YCSD does not provide transportation
- Activity buses available for extracurricular activities for YMS-zoned students

Application Process: Current 5th Graders

- All current YCSD 5th graders zoned for YMS will be in the MYP
- Out-of-zone 5th graders obtain and submit an interest form (available online, [here](#), or through elementary guidance)
- Interest form due to YMS IB Coordinator by March 23, 2012.

Selection Process: Current 5th Graders

- All applicants are entered into the lottery
- School Board Office Operations staff determines enrollment at YMS
- Students selected by lottery will be notified on April 20

Application Process: Current 6th and 7th Graders

- Verify that student meets eligibility requirements:
 - Minimum grade of B in most recent semester of English and Math
 - Passing scores on most recent English: Reading and Mathematics SOL tests
 - Good attendance and citizenship record

Application Process, continued

- Obtain an application online, here, or from Middle School Guidance
- Student completes 250 word essay on why they wish to be in the programme & detailing awards/extracurricular involvement
- All application materials are due by March 23, 2011

Selection Process: Current 7th & 8th Graders

- All eligible applicants grouped by grade level and entered into the lottery
- Currently: 4 slots for next year's 7th grade class and 9 slots of next year's 8th grade class
- Students selected by lottery will be notified on April 20

For More Information

- Contact Matt Ellis, Program Coordinator:
 - mellis1@ycsd.york.va.us
 - 757/890.5014 (YHS) *or* 757/833.2373 (YMS)
- IB website:
 - <http://www.ibo.org>
- YMS MYP website:
 - http://www.edline.net/pages/YMS/Middle_Years_Programme

Questions?

