

Principal's Town Hall



October 6, 2022



Agenda

- Thank You
- DHS 101
- IB/AP Fees and Exams
- Grading
- Support - staff and students
- Sports Participation
- Course Registration



Why hasn't there been a DHS 101 for parents/guardians as there has been in the past? I have heard rave reviews about this and really think it would be helpful.



IB/AP Exams

- Committee: Members of the Curriculum and Instruction Department at Wilson Center, Equity and Student Support, Data and Analytics, Finance, and the DHS Principal.
- Other school information - emailed 33 schools and had responses from 10
 - 5 - district paid for all IB fees
 - 2 - families paid for all IB fees
 - 3 - district paid for some IB fees
 - ALL of the schools that responded had less than 50 seniors in the IBDP program and the average size was 23 seniors
 - DHS currently has 173 seniors attempting the IBDP diploma
 - 4 of the schools do not allow anyone to take IB courses except for diploma students
 - 2 of the schools allow a la cart participation but at the cost of families
 - 3 of the schools allow a la cart participation and district pays (5 - 30 students take 1- 2 exams)



AP/IB TEST EXAMINATION COST



IB/AP Exam Fees

- November Registration Deadline
- No refund for tests not taken
- No vote but Board decision as part of the 2022-2023 budget.



Has the administration ever discussed setting limits on how many AP and IB classes a student can take per year or giving the individual student input on the most appropriate level of coursework for them?





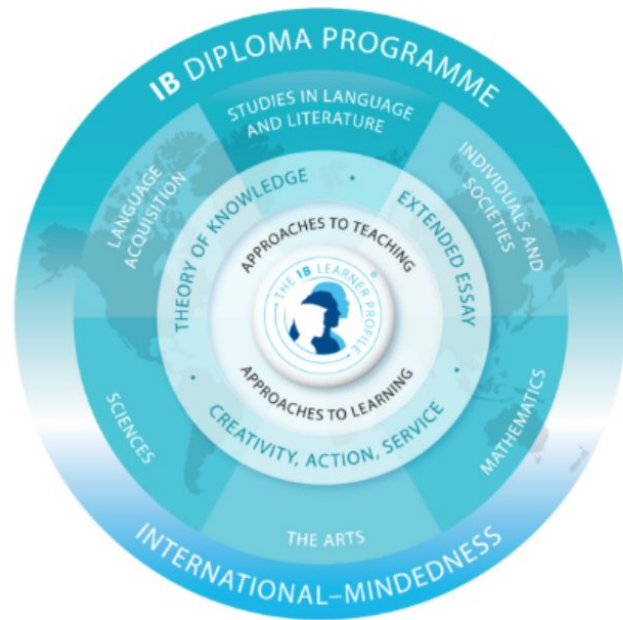
What are the requirements of the IB DP?

IB DP Course Requirements

- Six IB courses
 - 3-4 HL, 2-3 SL
 - Groups 1-5 plus one more

“IB DP Core” Requirements

- Theory of Knowledge
- Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS)
- Extended Essay (EE)



DP Students have room for one non-IB elective which could be a career tech course, band, chorus, PE or any other non-IB course.

Earning the Certificate

DHS Requirements

- Complete all 3 courses in a Pathway
- Pass the End-of-pathway assessment
- Earn 3 or higher in two IB subjects (IB - Exams/External Grade)
- Pass the Reflective Project
- WBL (Senior Year)

IB Career Core Requirements

- Service Learning (50 hours)
- Personal and Professional Skills Course (11th & 12th Grade)
- World Language (Junior Year)



What is the motivation for changing the grading system? What specific problem is this solving? Please also explain why a 100 point scale cannot be used.

Grading

<https://sites.google.com/csdecatur.net/csd-grading-for-parents/home?authuser=0>

- Grading system has not changed.
- How we communicate grades HAS changed - Managbac vs. Infinite Campus
- 100-pt scale may not accurately reflect what a student is learning. There's no explanation for what got a student to the grade they achieved. Some may be learning more than others, but not able to apply their knowledge well to the task at hand.
- 1-7-pt scale has a focus on student growth and achievement levels



In Mr. Hatfield's presentation, he showed a helpful example of how grades from each unit in a course will be weighted equally. However, I'm wondering how final exams, EOCs, AP exams, and/or IB exams factor into the grade calculations for a course, since they span multiple units.

Right now, under Grade Book Updates in Infinite Campus, I don't see all my child's classes, nor all their grades per class. Is something wrong? Will I eventually be able to see all classes and assessments going back to the beginning of the school year?



During Mr. Hatfield's video about grading he mentioned teachers can make changes to reflect growth and mastery. What safeguards are in place to ensure this is available to all students? Are the changes announced (I will drop the lowest grade for all students) is there an audit to make sure a newer grader does replace an older one? How is this implemented?



How can parents best
support DHS staff and
teachers?



As parents how do we best navigate giving our student space to make decisions and “own” navigating HS but also allow for guidance as they are still teens and have limited “big picture” capacity in some scenarios.



Anecdotally, we have noticed that sports participation at DHS seems to be lowest among students in the class of 2024 likely as a result of these students missing their first year of high school in person. Is this accurate?

Will there be an opportunity for parents to learn more about the differences/ benefits/intricacies between IB and AP before our children have to choose their "track" next month?





Thank You!

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