



# IB INTELLECT



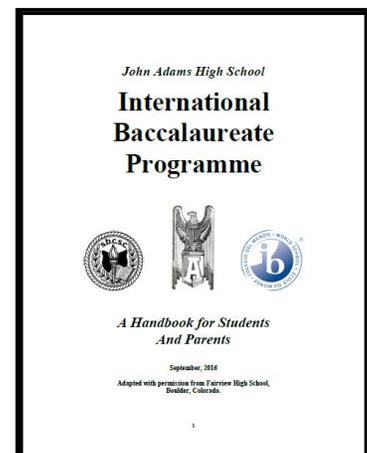
## A NEW YEAR – AND NEW THINGS

The 2016-2017 academic year is starting with much excitement! There is a major event planned for every month until December, and students as well as teachers are feeling the excitement in the air as we move forward into the New Year. The IB Programme was recognized by the SBCSC School Board of Trustees at a board meeting on September 6, during which time Principal Seitz and Dr. Mika were excited to share about future plans. With the release of a new IB Student/Parent Handbook (see below), it is hoped that the programme shows its possibilities to all students and parents in South Bend and beyond. We are excitedly looking forward to a great new year!

## IB HANDBOOK FOR STUDENTS/PARENTS RELEASED

For the first time in its existence, the IB Programme at John Adams High School has published a Handbook for IB Students and their Parents. The handbook was developed by Dr. Mika over the summer, and was guided by previous handbooks done by other IB World Schools. Specific permission was obtained from Mr. Darren Bessett, IB Coordinator at Fairview High School of Boulder, CO in using their publication for developing our own book. You are welcome to see the Fairview High School handbook online at [http://bvsd.fhsib.org/Nav\\_docs/8\\_IB\\_Handbook.pdf](http://bvsd.fhsib.org/Nav_docs/8_IB_Handbook.pdf)

As a result of this work, John Adams High School is happy to present to all students and their families a detailed explanation of the IB Programme. The many questions on what is the IB, where did it come from, why take the IB courses and more, is presented in a 30-page booklet. Copies were distributed to all IB Magnet families at a September 14 IB Basics+ meeting held in the auditorium, where several teachers, as well as students spoke of the schoolwork needed in order to complete the IB Certificate or IB Diploma tracks. If you and your family did not get a copy of this handbook, please see Dr. Mika as soon as possible. This book will be a great reference for the duration of the students' high school experience. An electronic copy of the handbook is posted on the JA IB website as well.



## ARE YOU READY FOR THIS? INDIANA IB STUDENTS TO PRESENT AND ATTEND IB STUDENT CONFERENCE

Plans are almost complete for IB students to attend and participate in *IB Student Conference* to take place at Holy Cross College on October 21, 2016. The event promises to bring together a few hundred students from across the state to present for each other, network, and interact in enriching the International Baccalaureate program. The *IB Student Conference* is a student-led conference specifically designed for students participating in the IB program. The event is organized by the Hoosier Association of IB World Schools, and the event features a keynote speaker, general sessions, and admissions officers from several colleges and universities from Indiana. The keynote speaker is IB Diploma graduate Brianna Smrke from Toronto, Canada.

She earned a perfect score of 45 in 2010 and spoke at the IB Conference of the Americas (photo above) in 2014. Listeners will want to hear her story and consider obtaining a copy of her book "*High School Hacks*" which will be available at the conference. Students, as well as many of their peers, will lead sessions on topics such as Theory of Knowledge essays, how to manage time – IB & employment, CAS project, and college plans. Attending students gain perspective from others going through similar struggles and successes. Student registration is being coordinated by Dr. Mika. Please sign your name on his list.

**HOLY CROSS  
COLLEGE**  
at Notre Dame, Indiana



## CLASS OF 2016 IB DIPLOMA GRADUATES

Our graduating IB Diploma class was the largest in the history of the IB Program at JAHS. We recognize all 27 students below who earned the Diploma along with the school they are attending this fall:

Cleome Barber – Columbia Univ.  
Aliyah Darling – Chapman University  
Cindy Dang – Loyola Univ. Chicago  
Santiago David – Claremont McKenna Coll.  
Arianna Eaton – Alma College  
Emma Ehnberg – Kävesta Folkhögskola, Sköllersta, Sweden  
Isabella Griffin – IU Bloomington  
Caroline Hall – Carleton College  
Sydney Hargis – IU Bloomington  
Madeleine Hartzler – Macalester College  
Sarah Henderson – IU Bloomington  
Joshua Isaacson – IU Bloomington  
Kylie Joines – Xavier University  
Nicholas Klebusits – Notre Dame  
Sarah Konkey – Notre Dame  
Mi An Luu – Saint Mary's College  
Karina Malkovsky – Notre Dame  
Sydney Matthys – IU Bloomington  
John Monger – IU Bloomington  
Rachel Ott – IU Bloomington  
Alicia Porile – Duke University  
Emily Price – Arcadia University  
Aidan Reilly – U.S. Naval Academy  
Nathan Ritzler – IU Bloomington  
Emma Spiess – Notre Dame  
Katie Stahl – IU Bloomington  
Melinda Zumazuma – Brown Univ.



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION RAISES FUNDS

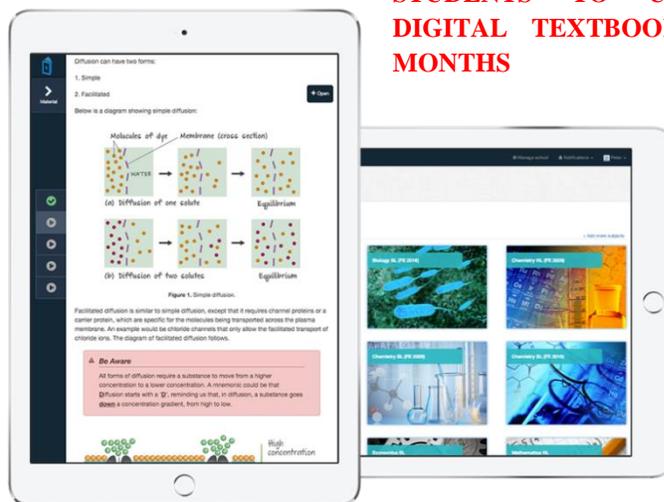
Before school started this past August, a group of dedicated students washed cars on Saturday, August 13 in the parking lot of the local Salsa Mexican Grill Restaurant.



Under the direction of Savino Rivera Jr., a group of nine students representing countries such as Bosnia, Palestine, Mexico and Laos helped wash and dry cars that lined up to get cleaned. According to

Rivera, the fund raiser was to help raise money for field trips that take students for college visits around the state.

## STUDENTS TO USE KOGNITY DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS FOR TWO MONTHS



A training session with a total of 188 IB students and teachers were spread throughout the day on August 31, as Kognity digital textbooks connected with Adams High School by Skype.

From one period to the next, students and teachers from Biology HL, Chemistry SL, Environmental Systems & Societies SL, as well as Mathematics SL spent time learning from teaching specialists. Our instructors came from around the world, as we heard two instructors from Stockholm, Sweden; along with speakers in Bogota, Colombia, Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, and Manchester, England.

Teachers and students can engage in online activities such as “strength battles” in which students challenge their peers at John Adams or around the world to respond to subject related questions, which is a fun way to improve and retain your knowledge of any subject.

The two month free trial period that accesses the digital textbooks is sponsored by the *Hoosier Association of IB World Schools*. The trial period concludes at the end of October. Teachers can later decide whether this resource is a valuable resource to incorporate into the course, perhaps supplementing or even replacing traditional textbooks with a digital textbook.

## IB STUDENTS COMPETE AND WIN IN STATE-WIDE FINALS OF INDIANA SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH



A big congratulation goes to six John Adams IB students who were selected to present their research findings at the finals of the Indiana Science Talent Search at Indiana University Medical Center, September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Only twelve high school student researchers across the state made this year's final competition—and six of these students were from John Adams. We proudly recognize IB students (from left to right in photo) Robert Howard,

Naomi Freel, Caroline Pitts, Alyssa Ignaco, Renee Nerenberg and Jack Lloyd for their accomplishments. The top two winners will be presenting their findings in Boston, MA at the American Association for the Advancement of Science Convention in Mid-February 2017.

## ADAMS HOSTS NOTRE DAME PROFESSOR

On September 14, the John Adams English and Social Studies Departments sponsored a visit by Notre Dame professor and author Dr. Eileen Hunt Botting who spoke on the "Political Theory and Philosophy in *Frankenstein*." Senior IB English students who have recently completed reading novel with Ms. Raymer were joined by Mr. Weaver's IB History and IB Philosophy classes and Mr. Elrod's Film class. Dr. Botting attended a public high school in northern Maine, and noted that she was honored to be able to visit Adams High School and was appreciative of the record of educational excellence our school has. Dr. Botting spoke on Mary Shelley's 1818 masterpiece as a literary form of political philosophy that invites readers to consider the fundamental rights bestowed upon children at birth. According to Dr. Botting, "*Shelley wrote a philosophical novel that allows us to explore the issue of basic human rights. She's setting up a kind of philosophical thought experiment that enables readers to envision and justify the fundamental rights of children to care and education.*"



## 15 GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS VISIT ADAMS

Also on September 14, A group of 15 German exchange students and two teachers from Deggendorf, in Bavarian Germany visited Adams High School as part of their 10-day stay with St. Joseph High School families. The students wanted to see how an American public school works. The students were excited to visit numerous classes and meet teachers and students who interacted together. The visitors were treated to pizza for lunch, and the group left with memories they are sure to remember. We have a big school, with much technology – white boards and computers – that German students do not have in their schools. Many thanks to all JA teachers that hosted our visitors, and thanks to the five IB student guides – Aubrey Dubree (Gr.11), Amia Weatherspoon (Gr.11), Gwen Butler (Gr.12), Mayra Garcia (Gr.12), and Avianna Torres (Gr.12) who helped spend a day with our German guests.



## LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates. This month we share the success of **Alysse Crimmins** (IB Certificate 2014).

*My life after JAHS and the IB program has been an amazing experience. I am currently a junior at Indiana University Bloomington with a major in Speech-Language Pathology with minors in both Spanish and Gender Studies. I am absolutely in love with my major and minors and I cannot stress enough to current students to keep up on studying, because while you may not know what you want to do now, honing in on the skills that the IB provides will make you a better prepared college student. I feel especially honored to have been part of the Spanish IB program at JAHS. The skills I learned in high school have helped greatly in college classes. I tested into a high level of Spanish at IU and this summer went to the Dominican Republic with a club called Timmy Water Project to help make and distribute water filters to communities there. My background in the language helped me to better communicate and establish relationships with the people and I gained an amazing cultural appreciation for the Dominican. JAHS prepared me to love learning and to this day I still think about all the amazing teachers and administrators I had to guide me through.*

(Source: e-mail from Alysse to Dr. Mika Sept.21, 2016).

## WHERE DID YOUR TEACHERS GO THIS SUMMER?

Some teachers traveled thousands of miles – 6600 miles for one and 5500 for another – across the country. Who are they? You will have to ask your teachers to find out who traveled that far. All of these travels were done by automobile! The following teachers shared a bit about where they went. Thanks to all who contributed.



**James Elrod (English HL)** - *"This summer I got to travel out east to New England. I spent some time hiking in the coastal mountains of Maine, and I visited the five-college region around Amherst, Massachusetts. While there, I got to see Emily Dickinson's home as well as the old undergraduate stomping grounds of Sylvia Plath at Smith College. Since I teach both of these poets in the IB program, it was a really great experience for me."* (Photos left & right).

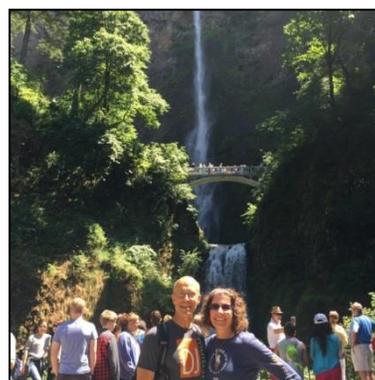


**Bryan Cline (History HL)** *"I canoed the Manistee River."*

**Marilyn Arney (Math Studies SL)** *"Nothing exciting for me - played nurse to my mother-in-law who had foot surgery and painted 4 rooms in my house."*



**Jim Bartholomew (Math SL)** *"[My] wife and I spent two weeks in Oregon this summer. We watched the USA Track and Field Olympic trials. Amazing! We traveled all over Oregon, too. We hiked many trails and saw amazing waterfalls! Very breath taking atmosphere."* (Photos left & right).



**Heath Weaver (TOK, History HL, Philosophy SL)** reports: *"My daughters, Sierra and Rajiya and I traveled to Paris, Mont St. Michel and Copenhagen*

*for two weeks. We were then met by My wife, Wyllette and friends Jay and Deloris Johnson with their two children who are both Adams Students, Zach and Alex Johnson for two weeks. We then traveled to Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, Italy (Venice and Florence), Lichtenstein, Switzerland and then back to Paris. I even argued American Politics with another American under the statue of Kierkegaard in Copenhagen."*

## UPCOMING EVENTS & DEADLINES

Oct.21	IB Student Conference, Holy Cross College
Nov.1	City-wide Magnet Fair, Century Center
Nov.2	John Adams Magnet Information Night for incoming Magnet Freshmen
Nov.11	Magnet Freshmen field trip to Indiana International Festival
Nov.15	First Deadline for May 2017 IB Test Registrations (registration fees for students apply <u>after</u> this date)

## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE IB INTELLECT

Stories from students and teachers are encouraged. Please submit materials to Dr. Mika. The deadline for the next issue will be Friday, Dec.2, 2016. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list for Adams IB Magnet families, please send your e-mail address to Dr. Mika at [mroinila@sbcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:mroinila@sbcsc.k12.in.us).



*The IB Intellect* is a Newsletter of the John Adams High School  
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