



IB INTELLECT



A DAY WITH THE AMISH AT JOHN ADAMS

Possibly the first visit of its kind in a South Bend high school, the much expected visit by a group of 14 Amish from Shpshewana took place on Tuesday, April 15. Our guests – none of whom had ever been to a high school - included four Grade 8 students, each with a parent from Northside Amish School; a boy who had recently graduated from the school; three teachers; and Raymond Wingard and Jacob Yoder who have known Dr. Mika for over five years. The group arrived at school in time for a breakfast reception in Period 1, and after some brief introductions between the Amish and students in the Grade 11 Anthropology class, the Amish were taken around the school for a brief tour as we visited the library, auditorium, swimming pool and gymnasiums. A quick basketball game between Amish teacher/student and Adams teacher/student ended with an Amish victory (a second game was played during Period 7 – with the Amish winning again!). Following the walkabout, the Amish were split into four groups that visited numerous Grade 9-12 classes for the remainder of the day.

The Amish were surprised at some things, such as the big size of the school and the number of students, and all the facilities we have. The Amish enjoyed visiting all the classes on their schedule. For example, they were impressed how our students are taught high German, and they enjoyed seeing all the tools and equipment used in the construction class. The food and cafeteria experience were enjoyed by all. Comments from teachers and students alike from both schools were positive. According to junior Alyssa Joyce - *"The high-light for the Amish visit for me personally was to see their curiosity and actual interest in our school and culture. I had forgotten how truly different their lives are from ours and their visit must have given them a new view of our culture."* Senior Camilla Alway added - *"I learned that they are just normal people that just so happen to have a different way of dealing with things and living life."* Teachers had similar comments as follows: *"It was great to have the Amish input with what their daily meals are and at what time of day. It was a fantastic opportunity for us to learn about their culture and for them to learn about ours (and that of some Spanish-speaking countries)."* - Beckie Hernandez, Spanish. *"My students were intrigued that the eighth grade Amish students were finished with their formal education. I think my students would like to have more opportunities to interact with the Amish students."* - JoAnna Woodruff, English. Senior Samantha Stitt said it best - *"I'm so glad they came because it was both a benefit for our school and for the Amish."* Many thanks go to the parents who provided juice and snacks for a nice breakfast reception at the start of the day and all students who helped lead our visitors through the school. We hope to do this again next year, as we build closer relationships with each other.



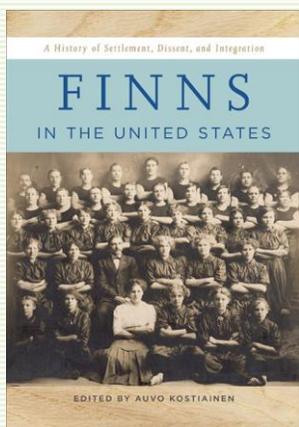
Amish students, parents and teachers visit with Adams students.

TWO IB STUDENTS TO PRESENT SCIENCE RESEARCH FINDINGS AT INTEL INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING FAIR

NEW BOOK FEATURES THE IB COORDINATOR

A fresh and up-to-date analysis of Finnish Americans entitled *Finns in the United States: A History of Settlement, Dissent, and Integration* was published by Michigan State University Press in March 2014. The new book lays the groundwork for exploring a unique culture through a historical context, followed by an overview of the overall composition and settlement patterns of these newcomers.

Edited by historian Auvo Kostiainen of the University of Turku, Finland, the 327 page book accepted two chapters written by Dr. Mika. One chapter is devoted to Finland's minority emigrants – "*Finland-Swedes in North America*", while the second entry is the concluding chapter entitled "*Adjustment and the Future*".



The IB Intellect is a Newsletter of the John Adams High School International Baccalaureate Program
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Chloe Sherry and Adam Staszewski, two John Adams students, have earned all expense paid trips to the Intel Engineering Fair to be conducted in Los Angeles, CA during May 12-16. They along with a few other students will represent Indiana at this International fair which will be attended by 1500 students representing the best high school conducted investigations from 35 other countries. A wide range of prizes and scholarships up to \$75,000 will be awarded to these students.

Chloe's investigation was entitled "A Study of the Effects of Transplantation of Tissue from Planarian Flatworms with Light-Shock Therapy into Naive Planarian Flatworms." Planarian flatworms are gaining notoriety in the scientific field as creatures extremely useful for research. These worms possess the curious facility to regenerate lost tissues and repair damage to their structure; if cut in half, the worm will regenerate new anterior and posterior ends accordingly to form two new fully functioning planaria. This work is closely based on concepts related to stem cell reproduction. The worms can also be classically conditioned with a light-shock therapy. A minute amount of tissue can then be transplanted between worms, effectively establishing a learned behavior where none had been before.

Adam's investigation focused on "Identifying Pollen Cells Using Computer Analysis: An Aid for Allergists, Immunologists and Other Health Care Specialists." The project was to create a computer program that would analyze digital images of different pollen cells and quickly identify them using computer analysis software. A digital library of images was created of pollen grains then each image was labeled and classified accordingly within the computer's memory. An unknown pollen sample could then be submitted on a glass slide to a health care specialist. It would then be cross-referenced with the digital library and would present the patient/specialist with a brief summary of the grain's nature and the degree of expected allergic reaction. The program further makes suggestions related to anti-allergy medications and possible side effects of the treatment.



Chloe Sherry and Adam Staszewski

THREE JOHN ADAMS IB STUDENTS INVIGORATE AN ANCIENT SPORT

From the Renaissance Days of the 1400s athletes and warriors have competed in fencing, a modification of dueling and sword fighting. The sport originated in Spain and is still a major sport in the World Olympics, even though there are few competitors in the United States. Presently the leading medal winners are from Italy, South Korea, China and Ukraine. The US placed 13th in the 2012 Olympics. While most John Adams students compete in track, tennis, soccer, basketball and football, three of our IB students have competed in local, state and regional fencing contests for several years. Juniors Nicole Gorman and Matt Brewster and freshman Max Lander practice several times a week at the Escrime du Lac Club in Mishawaka. Our IB students are a part of approximately fifty students from this area who are developing their fencing skills under the direction of their coaches Gia and Nato. Because of the limited number of students engaged in the sport, they often travel great distances to compete. Nicole recently drove to Columbus, Ohio, a four hour one way trip, to compete.

Their protective uniform is made of a ballistic fiber which resists puncture and their face is protected by a mask and bib combination which also covers their neck. Other protective gear is worn to cover the remainder of the body. Players alternate with offensive and defensive moves with a point being scored when the épée/foil (simulated sword) touches a target area. A bout ends when one of the competitors reaches a predetermined-prematch total of 5 or 15 points.



Pictured left to right-Nicole Gorman, Max Lander and Matt Brewster

IB TESTING IN MAY IS ALMOST HERE

Students are starting to get ready for the IB test which begins on May 5. Many parents have volunteered to help with proctoring and IUSB will graciously accommodate us for most test dates. A total of 179 students will take tests, with 150 registrations in seven higher level subjects, and 243 registrations in ten standard level subjects that are offered at Adams. A total of 28 students are aiming for the IB Diploma.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 5-23 IB testing at JAHS & IUSB
May 31 Deadline for next issue
June 8 John Adams High School Graduation



LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates. This month we hear from Amaryllis Adey, a 2013 IB Certificate graduate who currently studies at the University of Washington – Seattle.

I just wanted to email you to thank you for the great preparation I received from you through senior IB English last year. I am attending the University of Washington - Seattle. Every student here is required to take a English Composition course, no matter what their background was for high school English.

Due to the preparation you provide in your classroom, I feel as though this college course has been rather useless to me. However, in talking with other students in my class, they are all overwhelmed with the expectations of the course and the level of writing required.

I just wanted to thank you for requiring more complex thought processes and a more intense level of learning than seems to have been required in other high schools, even other IB high schools. You even managed to make it seem easy to write and think on a higher level, to the point that my current course is overly simplified

- Amaryllis Adey, in e-mail to Mrs. Cwidak in March, 2014.



CREATING MEMORIES IN COSTA RICA!

This past Spring break, IB Spanish teacher Cecilia Stanton took 31 students to Costa Rica. *It was a great trip and experience for the kids. They had such a wonderful time and I am so happy I was able to give them the opportunity to experience the world outside of South Bend.*

We traveled to different parts of Costa Rica and went on many adventures. We visited the crater of a volcano, a few national parks, hot springs, schools, etc. Students had the opportunity to go horseback riding and on a Canopy tour (zip-lining on left) in the rain forest. They also went to the beach and were able to see sloths and monkeys. Each student planted a tree and we ate great food and did many cultural activities. For me, one of the best parts, was visiting a couple of the schools and listening how students used their Spanish. The experience in the school was great for our students to see how education and realities are in other parts of the world.

I would like to say thanks to Mary Dickerson, Emily Zablocki, Chelly Freel and Ed Szucs, for all of their help and making this an unforgettable experience.



Alyssa Joyce plants a tree



Everyone enjoyed the visit to the volcano!



Blago Ugrinov helps in class

MAJOR EVENTS AT ADAMS

Several events have taken place that should be noted. These include the National Honor Society induction ceremony, held on March 26 in the auditorium. A total of 78 juniors were inducted, represented by 5 officers. We have a wonderful group of students that have started strong doing their community service. On March 21, the annual dance "Sabor Latino" was held and was a complete success. It was great to see how much fun the kids had. Thanks for Ms. Stanton for working with all our kids and for organizing and arranging these fantastic events.



Ms. Stanton with some NHS students above and the Sabor Latino below

