



IB INTELLECT



THE STATE OF ADAMS IB – SPRING 2014

This has been a record setting year! I can simply state that “the state of the Adams IB” is perhaps healthier and stronger than it has ever been in the past. We are moving forward and upwards with great students, solid encouragement and guidance from the teachers, and fantastic parental involvement and support. It is a pleasure to review with you the highlights from this year and share some of the plans for the future. I thank everyone who is involved in the IB Program in our school. You are awesome!

The IB Program has attracted more Diploma students than in years past, and this year a total of 27 Diploma candidates are hoping to receive their Diplomas in July when grades are released by the International Baccalaureate Organization. The number of candidates sets a record for the program, and we expect the number of graduates also to exceed all previous accomplishments. With IB Certificate students added, a total of 179 students registered for testing this year, which is a record for the school.



IB testing schedules are plotted in class

The IB Steering Committee, under the guidance of Dr. Kelly Jordan engaged the IB teachers in a self-assessment study this spring that helped lead to a dialogue between the committee and Superintendent Dr. Schmidt. A very productive meeting at the end of May promises to lead to some concrete results; namely changing the textbook adoption procedures for IB courses; allocation of needed resources for continued IB teacher training; and limits to student enrollment numbers. The guidance and support of the Steering Committee should be greatly appreciated by all in our school as well as the families of our students. The committee will, in fact, work through the summer to take advantage of the momentum gained as Dr. Schmidt welcomes the input of the committee members. As if in concert with the concerns voiced by the Committee above, support for the training of IB teachers has reached a new high, as the school corporation will enable a total of eight teachers (to date) to receive the much coveted training for various subject areas in the coming summer and fall. Among the teachers are some newcomers to IB, namely Dan Walsh (Physics), Mark Wilson (Chemistry), Dawn Worsham & Amanda Zablocki (Visual Arts), Sally Troxel (Biology), and James Elrod (English). We look forward to working with you!



IB Biology HL testing at IUSB

Of the many special events we had in school this year, perhaps the most talked about was the visit of our Amish guests from Shipshewana. While many people were skeptical and nervous about this visit, the results were fantastic and everyone was happy for being involved on this day of cultural exchange. We can only hope to continue this interaction in years to come.

So what will next year bring? A total of 233 incoming Magnet Freshmen students have registered and have been scheduled to begin classes next Fall. We also anticipate a total of 46 Diploma candidates to continue through the TOK course and complete the Diploma. A total of 72 rising Juniors have signed up to take the TOK course in Spring 2015, which will ensure another large pool of IB Diploma candidates. Summer 2015 will offer a travel opportunities to China; Junior IB students can attend and

participate in the IB Student Experience conference; and other events of interest are bound to come up for everyone. Finally, much is owed to our Principal Mrs. Reese who has been supportive of the IB Program during her tenure as school Principal. Without her guidance and continued support, we would not be where we are today. Our sincere thanks to her for all she has done. With her retirement this year, we await the appointment of the new Principal as life continues at Adams. It will be an interesting year ahead, but before we get there, I wish everyone a great summer and well deserved break! Dr. Mika

GRADE 10 MAGNET STUDENT AIDEN REILLY REPRESENTS INDIANA IN THE NATIONAL STOCKHOLM JUNIOR WATER PRIZE COMPETITION



CLASS OF 2014 IB DIPLOMA STUDENTS

Our graduating IB Diploma class with 27 students is the largest in the history of the IB Program at JAHS. We are very proud of them, and wish them much success as they head off to college next fall. We take this opportunity to identify and share with you the schools where they will study next year. Congratulations to all our students who have worked hard in accomplishing their dreams.

- Kelly Beatty – U. of Michigan
- Abigail Brockman – U. of Chicago
- Galen Brown – Dartmouth College
- Michael Dang – U. of Notre Dame
- Paddy Driscoll – IU Bloomington
- Anton Gillespie – Harvard University
- Kirill Gillespie – Skidmore College
- Raymond Han – U. of Chicago
- Andrew Henderson – IU Bloomington (Wells Scholar)
- Lukas Hostetler – G. Washington U.
- Daniel Jackman – IU Bloomington
- Madeline King – IU Bloomington
- Heidi Kwok – U. of CA Riverside
- Paul McDowell – Ohio State Univ.
- Niall O'Regan – Washington U. St. Louis
- Harvey Mills – IU Bloomington
- Phillip Moss – Duke University
- Natasha Reifenberg – Notre Dame
- Claire Rice – Vanderbilt University
- Thaameran Sarveswaran – Georgetown University
- Jessica Steinhiser – IU Bloomington
- Samantha Stitt – School in United Kingdom to be determined
- Deanna Stangas – Northwestern Uni.
- Ashley Strzelecki – Drake University
- Lauren Strzelecki – Creighton Univ.
- Willow Thomas – IU Bloomington
- Kassidy VanGundy – Hanover Coll.

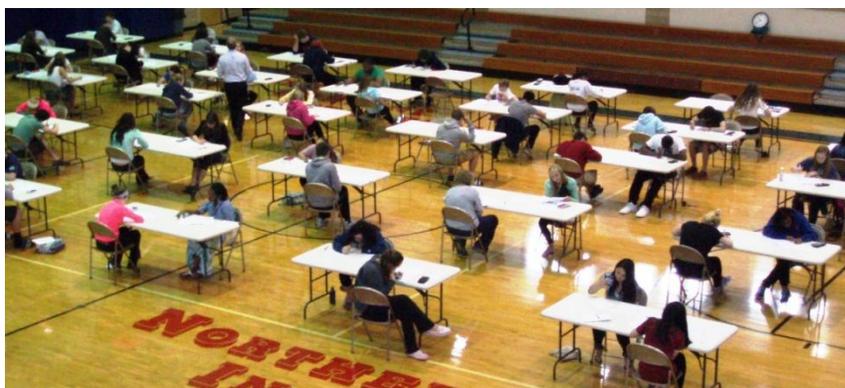
No country on Earth values their water supply more than Sweden. Their interest in an adequate, clean source of water extends beyond their country to the remainder of Earth and as such, they support science investigations focused on drought/flooding, ground water issues, salinization, pharmaceutical problems related to water sanitation and hygiene.

For 17 years, Stockholm Junior Water Prize has congregated the world's imaginative young minds for outstanding competition in the capital of Sweden, encouraging their continued interest in water and sustainability. Each year, thousands of participants in over 30 countries all around the globe join national competitions in hopes of earning the chance to represent their country. The winner of the Stockholm Junior Water Prize receives \$15,000 along with an all expense paid one-week trip to Sweden. Of the 45 submitted entries from Indiana, Aiden's research paper was selected as the single best paper to represent our state at the National Competition in Reston, VA on June 12-15, 2014.



Aiden testing the bioremediation process in experimental tubes

Aiden's work has focused on improving the efficiency of removing ground water pollution by a unique process called bioremediation. In brief, the process involves enhancing the oxidation processes in specific bacteria, which are found naturally in the soil, to remove soil water contaminants. Given the fact there are twelve Superfund sites within a fifteen-mile radius of John Adams High School, this is an especially timely topic. Aiden has focused on this area of study for more than eight months and expects to continue his work during the next school year. Following the excitement of this experiment, he has indicated an interest in pursuing water studies as a career. Further, he is well on his way to completing his investigation for the Extended Essay requirement of the IB Diploma. Indiana Water Environment Association organized Aiden's selection and provided the monetary funding of the trip. We congratulate Aiden on his accomplishment!



IB students take tests in the JAHS Gymnasium

2011 IB PROGRAM RANKING HIGH IN STATE

So how does the Adams IB program compare to other schools in the state? This is a question many families have asked, and for teachers and everyone interested in the IB program – including the IB Steering Committee that discovered this uplifting information - many will be surprised to learn that according to 2011 Indiana Department of Education sources, the IB Program at JAHS ranked high in comparison to all other high schools in the state. Data shows that we ranked second in the state for public high schools with 17.5% of all graduating seniors who passed IB tests. Only one other public school - Goshen High School - ranked higher with 23.2% of graduates in this category. A few private schools ranked higher, led by the International School of Indiana with 100% success, followed by Signature School in Evansville with 85.2%, and Guerin Catholic High School in Noblesville with 64.6%. John Adams ranked 5th in the state! In addition, we ranked third in the number of graduates who took IB tests, with 70 students, behind Goshen HS (81) and Guerin HS (79). To all teachers who work tirelessly to educate our students, this is some good news that we can all be proud of. We wait for more recent data to show us how things have developed in the last few years.

School Name	2011 Graduate IB Data			
	# Grads	# of Grads Took IB	# of Grads Passed IB	% of Grads Pass IB
International School of Indiana	33	33	33	100.0%
Signature School Inc	61	52	52	85.2%
Guerin Catholic High School	96	79	62	64.6%
Goshen High School	311	81	72	23.2%
Adams High School	339	70	59	17.4%
South Side High School	306	29	24	7.8%
Cathedral High School	288	20	20	6.9%
Northridge High School	275	19	19	6.9%
North Central High School	638	29	29	4.5%
Fishers High School	444	20	20	4.5%
Pike High School	664	23	23	3.5%
Zionsville Community High Sch.	372	10	10	2.7%
Chesterton Senior High School	441	12	11	2.5%
Ben Davis High School	840	20	18	2.1%
Lawrence Central High School	512	10	10	2.0%
Carmel High School	963	14	13	1.3%
Lawrence North High School	517	9	***	***
Northwest Community High Sch.	133	9	***	***
Valparaiso High School	476	7	***	***
Benjamin Bosse High School	138	2	***	***

*** Due to federal privacy laws, student performance data may not be displayed for any group of fewer than 10 students.

Note: The figures above represent the percentage of 2011 graduates that passed an IB exam (scored a 4 or higher) during their high school careers.

Source: <http://www.doe.in.gov/accountability/find-school-and-corporation-data-reports>



Mary Dickerson (l), Paulette Cwidak, and Lynne Pantea

LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates who continue to stay in touch with their former teachers.

This month we honor the IB teachers who will be moving on to a new career and who have taught countless students over the years. We congratulate them on their retirement and wish them blessings ahead.

Mary Dickerson (IB English) – has spent 14 years as a “full fledged teacher” at Stanley Clark School and the last 5 years teaching IB classes at Adams.

Lynne Pantea (IB Chemistry) – has taught IB classes for five years and is retiring after teaching at Adams High School for the past 40 years and serving as the Chair of the Science Department for the past nine years.

Paulette Cwidak (IB English) – was the 1985 Indiana Teacher of the Year, and has taught IB English the past 8 years. With 45 years of service – all at JAHS, including 31 years as Department Chair - she is remembered by students who continue to stay in touch with her, affirming her influence on the lives of our students.

“A teacher affects eternity, she can never tell where her influence stops.”
– Henry Adams



ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENTS VISIT A FINNISH SAUNA

On two different dates this past year, several senior anthropology students were able to visit the home of Dr. Mika to experience a Finnish sauna. In November, a group of seven students and then in April for a second time, a group of four students came to experience something new. On both occasions, the sauna



Thaameran Sarveswaran and Collin Heritz

initiates entered the sauna to the heat of 200°F and after several minutes, were perspiring at a tremendous rate. While some students felt uncomfortable with the sweating and being in close quarters, all students were able to take in the experience. When all were ready to cool off, the students ran out and jumped into a swimming pool for a quick dip in the 45°F water in November, and 50°F in April. Any apprehension expressed by some faded and the students clearly enjoyed themselves. After several heating and cooling sessions, along with experiencing the Finnish *vihta* (birch whisk) everyone enjoyed some European wieners (grilled on the sauna heater) and soda.



Joey McNulty and Luigi Fuerte

FALL 2014 PLANS FOR RISING SENIOR IB STUDENTS

Last fall, junior IB Diploma students traveled to the University of Indianapolis to attend the IB Student Experience conference, where they learned about the IB program. Some of the students who attended were excited about the experience and had thoughts about getting involved as seniors next year in organizing a talk or session that others might be interested in. If this interests you, consider taking part in the IB Student Experience conference that will take place next fall in Indiana (location TBA). The event attracts senior IB students from around the state who put together the one-day event. I highly recommend all Junior IB Diploma students to go on this trip. Depending on numbers, we will arrange for transportation for the day and the students can learn from their peers, and possibly serve others if our own students get fully involved. All students will want to know that **all of this will count towards CAS hours**, and it would be a fantastic way to complement the core requirements of the IB Diploma program. We are hoping to waive the registration and/or travel fees to seniors who will present at this conference. More details will follow in the fall, but it's never too early to start thinking about upcoming opportunities.

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, September 12, 2014. 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.



All English IB students celebrate in preparation for testing in early May – thanks to Mrs. Cwidak!



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