

February 2012

A MYP AND PYP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THE BACCALAUREATE BULLETIN

Building Global Perspectives



Bill Shell, MYP Consultant, Spent Four Days in Washington Township Visiting Schools and Meeting with Faculty

IB Uncovered

What Does It Really Mean To Be Internationally-Minded?

A common question from WT faculty is, "What does it really mean to be internationally-minded?" In its simplest definition, it means to exhibit the attributes of the learner profile. This quote from the IBO Learner Profile Booklet may provide clarification regarding international-mindedness.

As a key cross-program component, the learner profile will become the central tenet of the IB programs and central to the definition of what it means to be internationally-minded. Thus, the IB is placing the focus for schools where it belongs: on learning. It is not intended to be a profile of the perfect student; rather, it can be considered as a map of a lifelong journey in pursuit of international-mindedness. It places the learner firmly at the heart of IB programs and focuses attention on the processes and the outcomes of learning.

- IBO Learner Profile Booklet, 2008

DISTRICT UPDATE

MYP consultant, Bill Shell, visited Washington Township secondary schools February 7-10. The purpose of his visit was to guide and coach faculty and staff through the IB implementation and development process. He commended Washington Township for the high-quality teaching staff, model students, supportive administration, and well-kept facilities. Mr. Shell was impressed with the number of teachers who have attended IB training and with their deep level of understanding so early in the implementation process.

He recommended that schools continue to clearly articulate the IB

continuum in regards to curriculum and continue to provide level 2 and 3 IB training.

He stressed the importance of process over product, and he encouraged teachers to regularly reflect with their colleagues on unit planners and instructional strategies.

Schools will receive his official report in the next 2-3 weeks, and they will work with their school teams to develop an action plan for the 2012-2013 school year.



THE IB COMMUNITY - LOCAL AND GLOBAL

Allisonville's World Fair

By Chad Wallace

The central idea for our third grade "Who We Are" unit was, 'The choices people make form and influence societies and governmental systems'. The students inquired about the roles and responsibilities of government, and the effects of citizens' choices on self,

others, and the community. As their summative assessment, each student had to create their own country and develop a system of government that

demonstrated their understanding of how governments function.



MYP: The Next Chapter

IBO is currently conducting a program evaluation of the Middle Years Program. The evaluation addresses three key challenges for MYP:



1. Access for schools with national and state curriculum requirements
2. Continuum between the three IB programs
3. Age appropriateness

The IB Board of Governors is expected to approve final changes to the MYP in April of 2012. To learn more about the proposed changes visit the [Washington Township MYP Wiki](#) or read an announcement about [MYP: The Next Chapter](#) at www.ibo.org

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR IB COMMUNITY?



All MSDWT schools are engaged in professional development, unit planning, and

community service activities that promote international-mindedness and other key concepts of IB. Don't miss out on an opportunity to share your work with the Washington Township community! Send your IB ideas to Allyson Smith at alsmith@msdwt.k12.in.us

Staff of Greenbriar Embrace the Learner Profile

The staff at Greenbriar Elementary School recently redid their staff profiles to emphasize the attributes of the learner profile. What a great way to model for students how adults also continually strive to be internationally-minded.



Professional Development



IB World

IB World magazine is the International Baccalaureate's official magazine. It is published

three times a year in paper and online. Access the online version [HERE](#).

Sharing PYP Practice

Check out this IB PYP blog created to give practitioners a forum for sharing examples of how the PYP is working in their classroom and in their schools. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the experiences of other IB practitioners and IB students around the world.

Preparing for PYP Authorization

Wondering what types of questions the authorization team might ask you? Visit the [Preparing for Authorization wiki](#) to view a list of sample questions for administrators, teachers, students, and parents.



Thank you to the Foundation for helping to sponsor the Washington Township IB initiative.



Crooked Creek students inquire about sound and record their observations in their science notebooks.