



# International Baccalaureate<sup>®</sup>



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*Education for a better world*

# Purpose of the Presentation

The purpose of this presentation is to provide parents of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with information about Upper St. High School's International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program.

The information presented will help parents determine if the Middle Years Program is appropriate for their child.

# Presentation Overview

- ✓ MYP Overview
- ✓ The MYP Classroom
- ✓ High School MYP Course Offerings
- ✓ Requirements of the Program

*MYP in Upper St. Clair:  
An Overview*

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# Scheduling Timeline

- January – Teacher course recommendations are due.  
(*Students are recommended for classes not programs*)  
Course recommendations are available on MMS.
- March 6 – 8<sup>th</sup> Graders meet with counselors (during the day)  
Evening parent meeting to discuss scheduling & classes
- **March 17-21 – 8<sup>th</sup> Graders schedule**
- Week of April 7 – Course verifications mailed from Fort Couch
- Last Day – Simulation Day

# MYP Information

- **Referred to by level not grade**

Grade 5 is an introduction to the MYP (Level 0)

Grade 6 = Level 1

Grade 7 = Level 2

Grade 8 = Level 3

Grade 9 = Level 4

Grade 10 = Level 5

**Level 5** is the final year of the MYP.

**Levels 0 - 4** are designed to prepare students for the personal project and portfolio of achievement. Both items are culminating learning experiences of the MYP that occur in Level 5.

# Enrollment

	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
• Grade Five	167	164	219
• Grade Six	147	172	169
• Grade Seven	169	154	175
• Grade Eight	135	173	159
• Grade Nine	100 (82 full)	102	119
• Grade Ten	77 (57 full)	81	93
• <u>Total</u>	<u>795 students</u>	<u>846 students</u>	<u>934 students</u>

# The IB Middle Years Programme of Study



## 8 subject areas

Language A  
Language B  
Humanities  
Mathematics  
Physical Education  
Sciences  
Technology  
Arts



# Program of Study

Students can take a maximum of two of the eight required courses as semester courses (typically technology and arts).

**All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students must have a complete MYP schedule which includes:**

- Language A (English 9)
- Language B (French 2, German 2, or Spanish 2)
- Humanities (Civics/Geography)
- Sciences (Biology)
- Mathematics
- Physical Education / Wellness
- Arts / Technology
- Additional Program Components
  - Personal Project
  - Community Service

# Global Contexts

- Instruction is through the lens of the global contexts:
  - Identities and Relationships
  - Orientation in Space and Time
  - Personal and Cultural Expression
  - Scientific and Technical Innovation
  - Globalization and Sustainability
  - Fairness and Development
- 
- Curriculum is the same in the MYP, it is the approach that differs. MYP lessons are planned via the MYP unit planner.

# Community Service

- All students in the MYP must complete community service.
- Grade 5 15 hours
- Grade 6 30 hours
- Grade 7 30 hours
- Grade 8 30 hours
- Grade 9 30 hours
- Grade 10 30 hours

# Learner Profile

*IB learners strive to be:*

**Inquirers**

**Knowledgeable**

**Thinkers**

**Communicators**

**Principled**

**Open-minded**

**Caring**

**Risk-takers**

**Balanced**

**Reflective**



# Teacher Development

- External training from the IBO
  - Minimum one teacher / discipline
- Internal training
  - Ongoing

# USC Program Evaluation

- The District receives an external evaluation from IB every five years. The evaluation is based on the MYP standards and contains commendations, recommendations and matters to be addressed.
- Prior to the evaluation, the district must complete a self-study as well as provide samples of student work in all subject areas.
- The district was evaluated most recently in December 2012.

*What should an  
MYP classroom look like?*

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# The MYP Classroom

## 1. Evidence of an MYP Unit Question:

This question will be posted in the classroom to provide a larger conceptual understanding of the content being addressed. This question is NOT content specific, rather it can be traced back to the more global conceptual understanding for each MYP unit of work. Students will feel challenged to think beyond the text and materials supplied.



# The MYP Classroom

**2. Opportunities for students to practice critical thinking:** Teachers will present focused questions (MYP unit question) and/or MYP assessment tasks that invite critical student reflection about the content of the curriculum. Students will be active participants.

# The MYP Classroom

- 3. Real-world problem solving drives instruction:** Students are engaged in studying, developing solutions for, and creating products and systems that address critical concerns in the world. Students will be active in their pursuit of knowledge and understanding.

# The MYP Classroom

- 4. An interdisciplinary focus where appropriate:** Holistic learning breaks down artificial barriers of different subjects commonly found in school, enabling students to discover the relationships between different knowledge areas and the real world.

## **5. Evidence of Global Contexts and Approaches to Learning:**

The six global contexts will be used as a lens by which the curriculum is viewed on a unit-by-unit basis each year of the program.

# The MYP Classroom

**6. Learner-centered:** A broad teaching approach/methodology that engages teachers in a process of looking at how they teach. It may mean replacing lectures (direct instruction) with active learning that is inquiry based, and/or cooperative group situations. Ultimately, the students becomes responsible for their own learning.

# The MYP Classroom

## **7. Evidence of international-mindedness:**

This is a process of developing students' attitudes, knowledge, and skills as they learn about their own and others' cultures.

Students develop an openness to and curiosity about the world and people of other cultures, and a strive toward a profound level of understanding of the complexity and diversity of human interactions.

# The MYP Classroom

## **8. Criterion related assessment:**

Each subject area has specific assessment tasks and related criteria that are to be used on a regular basis each year of the program. These assessment pieces are holistic in nature and give a much more honest appraisal of a student's learning than just a test. Students demonstrate their understanding of material in an authentic manner.

# The MYP Classroom

## **9. Development of the attributes in the IB Learner Profile:**

Over the course of the program, the students are engaged in becoming inquiring, knowledgeable, thinking, communicating, principled, open-minded, intellectually risk-taking, balanced, caring and reflective life long learners.



## 10. Community and Service:

Teaching staff take advantage of units that are planned through Community and Service to have service learning **arise straight from the curriculum.**

*How does a student successfully  
earn an MYP certificate?*

*Course Offerings & Program Requirements*

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# Program Requirements

- Completion of Levels Four and Five (Grades 9 and 10)
- Must take all eight MYP subjects concurrently
- Complete community service component
- Personal Project – Grades 9 & 10
- Portfolio of Achievement – Grades 9 & 10
- *Completion of the MYP is denoted on the student's official transcript.*

# The Personal Project

- Demonstrates the students' understanding of the Areas of Interaction and their relationship to subjects and the world.
- Enables the students to apply the methods and techniques contained in the Area of "Approaches to Learning."
- Students are guided through the project by a faculty advisor. Some students may also need an "expert" or mentor to help guide them with the content of their research.
- Enables the students to demonstrate their personal abilities/skills and knowledge.
- Completed by March of the Sophomore year.

# Examples of Past Personal Project

- A lab research project studying microorganisms;
- A robot designed to pick fruit;
- A talent show to raise funds for charity;
- A book of student-written international poetry;
- A structured essay on environmental safety.

# Follow-Up & Questions

## Contacts

Dr. Tim Wagner, MYP Coordinator

Your child's counselor  
(*by student last name*)

A-Di – Mr. Malarkey

Do-Ka – Dr. Rullo

Ke-M – Mr. Marquis

N-Sh – Mrs. McGinty

Si-Z – Mrs. Kirk

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