



IB News

Notre Dame Lower Division-

What is the IB Mission?

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end, the organization works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

IB LINGO

Often terms are used that are unique to IB which can make it very confusing to someone new to the program. To better understand the lingo, below is a primer on key terminology:



IB= International Baccalaureate

PYP = Primary Years Program (JK-5th grade)

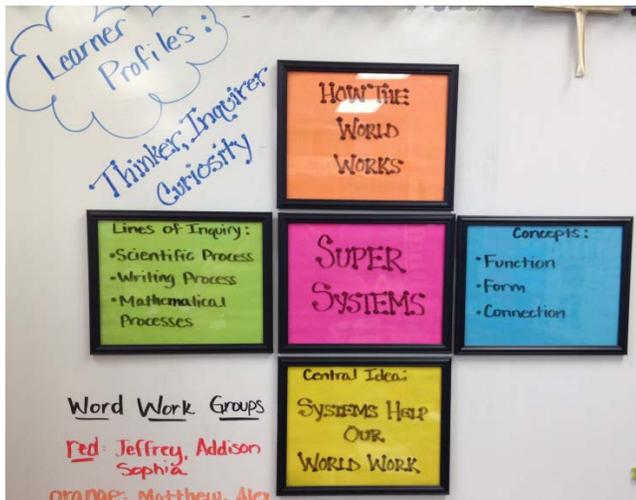
MYP= Middle Years Program (6-10th grade)

DP= Diploma Program (11-12th grade)

POI = Programme of Inquiry. The POI shows the horizontal and vertical articulation of our curriculum for grades JK-5. You will find this located on the bulletin

board across from the office. Each grade has its own color.

UOI = Unit of Inquiry. With the exception of JK, each phase contains a unit of inquiry. There are six units (four for JK) throughout the course of a school year. You will find a UOI planner outside of each core classroom. This will give specific information on the current UOI the class is working on. Inside the core classrooms you will find current unit information posted. Each teacher has his or her own way of providing this information.



C.I. = Central Idea. This is the theme or focus for the unit.

Transdisciplinary Themes- =Six transdisciplinary themes of global significance provide the framework for exploration and study:

- **Who We Are**
- **Where We Are in Place and Time**
- **How We Express Ourselves**
- **How the World Works**
- **How We Organize Ourselves**
- **Sharing the Planet**

Teachers are guided by these six transdisciplinary themes as they design units of inquiry that both transcend and articulate conventional subject boundaries.

Essential Elements = The five essential elements of the IB are concepts, knowledge, skills, attitudes, and action. The Essential Elements help students:

- Gain knowledge that is relevant and of global significance
- Develop an understanding of concepts, which allows them to make connections throughout their learning
- Acquire transdisciplinary and disciplinary skills
- Develop attitudes that will lead to international-mindedness
- Take action as a consequence of their learning.



Key Concepts = Powerful ideas that have relevance within the subject areas but also transcend them. Students must explore and re-explore these ideas in order to develop a coherent, in-depth understanding. **Key Concepts** include: **perspective, connection, change, causation, responsibility, reflection, function, and form.**

Approaches to Learning Skills = Those capabilities, which may be disciplinary or transdisciplinary in nature, that the students must demonstrate to succeed in a changing, challenging world, which may be disciplinary or transdisciplinary in nature. Skills include: **self-management, research, social, thinking, and communication.**



Learner Profile = The aim of the IB program is to develop internationally minded people who are—recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet—helping to create a better and more peaceful world. The Learner Profile words include: **inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective.**





Formative Assessment = Part of the instructional process. It is an assessment for learning. Formative Assessments are on-going throughout a unit.

Summative Assessment = An assessment of learning. This takes place at the end of a unit.

Essential Agreements = most schools have "rules." IB schools, however, have Essential Agreements. The Essential Agreements in a classroom are created by the entire class and teacher. They promote a safe and positive learning environment. Below is a picture of the first grade Essential Agreements.

Attitudes = Dispositions that are expressions of fundamental values, beliefs, and feelings about learning, the environment and people. They include:

curiosity, integrity, creativity, enthusiasm, appreciation, respect, cooperation, empathy, tolerance, confidence, independence, and commitment.





NDLD PEACE PLEDGE

I pledge to use my words to speak
in a **kind** way.

I pledge to **help** others as I go
throughout my day.

I pledge to **care** for our earth
with my healing heart and hands.
I pledge to **respect** people in each
and every land.

I pledge to join together as we
unite the big and small.

I pledge to do my part to **create**
PEACE for one and all.



If you have any questions or would
like to know more about the IB
Programme please email Paul Frank
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