

# The IB Diploma Program

*as presented by*

## **Elizabeth Nisler-Cross**

*IB Coordinator  
Assistant Principal*

## **Student & Graduate Guest Participants**

*Mia (grad)*

*Hannah (12)*

*James (12)*

*Kayleigh (12)*

*Amelie (11)*

*Nazneen (11)*

*Tatiana (grad)*

*Mike (12)*

*Noah (12)*

*Owen (12)*

*Cayleigh (11)*



*Introductory remarks by*

**Patrick Walsh, Ed.D**  
*Principal*



# The IB Diploma Program



**Patrick Walsh, Ed.D**  
*Principal*

## Approaches to Learning

- Thinking skills
- Research skills
- Communication skills
- Social skills
- Self-management skills

## The IB Learner Profile



# ***International Baccalaureate Diploma Program***

- A world-class curriculum based on educational best practice
- Open to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Meets state and international standards
- Helps your child develop valuable academic and personal skills and habits of mind



# Agenda

- **Why IB at South Side HS?**
- **Course Options** – understanding the choices; selecting a personalized sequence of classes
- **How will your child benefit?**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**

## IB Learner Profile

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

## Approaches to Learning

- Thinking skills
- Research skills
- Communication skills
- Social skills
- Self-management skills

*National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)* conducts a yearly survey of hiring managers to determine what skills and abilities employers most value (beyond a strong GPA):

1. Problem-solving
2. Analytic / Quantitative skills
3. Ability to work in a team
4. Communication skills - Written
5. Initiative
6. Strong work ethic
7. Technical skills
8. Flexibility / Adaptability
9. Detail-oriented
10. Leadership
11. Communication skills – Oral
12. Interpersonal skills

*From naceweb.org, Results of the 2022 survey*

# ***Why the RVC school district chose the IB Program...***

We know it is the best program for **college and career preparedness.**

## ***Why we believe this...***

- Strong liberal arts foundation
- Allows for student choice
- Emphasis on inquiry and critical thinking
- Authentic learning experiences
- Builds awareness of local, national and global issues
- Diploma requires multilingualism
- Variety of assessment modes
- Emphasis on writing
- Not just about the academics



The IB is an inclusive program  
at South Side.

Any student is welcome to  
pursue IB coursework or the  
full IB diploma, provided they  
have the right mix of classes.

# ***Ways to participate in the IB program...***

## **❖ IB Diploma Candidate**

- Take 3 higher level (HL) and 3 standard level (SL) courses from 6 core curriculum groups
  - HLs = 2 years of study (completed in Senior Year)
  - SLs = 1-2 years of study (two SLs can be completed in Junior Year – Math Analysis, Physics)
- Participate in 3 Central Elements (TOK, EE, CAS)

## **❖ IB Course Candidate**

- Take individual IB courses (i.e. one to five IB courses)





***Building an IB Diploma Program***



***Building an IB Diploma Program***

# IB Course Offerings

SUBJECT GROUP	HIGHER LEVEL	STANDARD LEVEL
<i>1. STUDIES IN LANGUAGE &amp; LITERATURE</i>	ENGLISH	
<i>2. LANGUAGE ACQUISITION</i>	SPANISH FRENCH	SPANISH FRENCH
<i>3. INDIVIDUALS &amp; SOCIETY</i>	HISTORY BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	BUSINESS MANAGEMENT PSYCHOLOGY ( <i>Jr yr pre-req</i> )
<i>4. EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES</i>	CHEMISTRY BIOLOGY PHYSICS	CHEMISTRY BIOLOGY PHYSICS ENV. SYSTEMS ( <i>Sr yr only</i> )
<i>5. MATHEMATICS</i>		MATH ANALYSIS ( <i>1 yr</i> ) MATH APPLICATIONS ( <i>2 yrs</i> )
<i>6. THE ARTS</i>  (optional but recommended)	VISUAL ARTS THEATRE MUSIC FILM	VISUAL ARTS THEATRE MUSIC FILM

***Strong liberal arts foundation and allows for student choice***

# An IB Diploma Sequence

## ***Higher Level***

**English<sup>1</sup>**

**History<sup>3</sup>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> higher  
level course**

## ***Standard Level***

**Spanish *or*  
French<sup>2</sup>**

**Math Analysis *or*  
Math Applications<sup>5\*</sup>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> standard  
level course**

\*Math Analysis = 1-year course;  
Math Applications = 2-year course

# An IB Diploma Sequence

## *Higher Level*

- English<sup>1</sup>
- History<sup>3</sup>
- Music<sup>6</sup>
- or* Visual Arts<sup>6</sup>
- or* Theatre<sup>6</sup>
- or* Film<sup>6</sup>

## *Standard Level*

- French<sup>2</sup>
- Math Analysis<sup>5</sup>
- Physics SL<sup>4</sup>



# An IB Diploma Sequence

<i>Higher Level</i>	<i>Standard Level</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• History<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Chemistry<sup>4</sup> <i>or</i> Biology<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Math Analysis<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• Physics SL<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>



Junior Year Science Snapshot

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
Per 1	IB Physics	IB Physics	IB Physics	IB Physics	IB Physics	IB Physics
Per 2	<i>IB Chem or Bio</i>	IB Physics Lab	<i>IB Chem or Bio</i>	IB Physics Lab	<i>IB Chem or Bio</i>	IB Physics Lab

# An IB Diploma Sequence

## *Higher Level*

- English<sup>1</sup>
- History<sup>3</sup>
- Business<sup>3</sup>



## *Standard Level*

- French<sup>2</sup>
- Math
- Applications<sup>5</sup>
- Environmental Systems<sup>4</sup> (*Sr Year*)

# An IB Diploma Sequence

## *Higher Level*

- English<sup>1</sup>
- History<sup>3</sup>
- Spanish<sup>2</sup>

## *Standard Level*

- Math Applications<sup>5</sup>
- Environmental Systems<sup>4</sup> (*Sr Year*)
- Psychology<sup>3</sup> (*Sr Year*)





## South Side High School Program Planning Guide



A Guide for Students and Parents  
2023 - 2024

- Regents courses
- IB courses
- Electives
- Pathways program
- CORE 12:1:2 program
- BOCES



## South Side High School



and



## The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

**2023-2024**

Contact: Elizabeth Nisler-Cross, Assistant Principal, IB Coordinator  
enisler@rvcschools.org, (516) 255-8834

Overview for  
anticipated IB  
Diploma or Course  
candidates



## ***What Do Colleges Reps Say?***

“Students with the IB Diploma gain a breadth and depth of knowledge that no other high school curriculum offers. They come to campus with comprehensive knowledge that allows them to perform very well on the college level. IB diploma candidates certainly have an advantage in the admissions process.”

- JR Gaige, *Director of Admissions, SUNY Albany*

*Find IB testimonials by Stanford & Univ. of Maryland admissions directors on our high school's IB sub-site.*

*[https://sshs.rvcschools.org/academics/international\\_baccalaureate](https://sshs.rvcschools.org/academics/international_baccalaureate)*

“[The IB Program] is a thoughtful and genuinely intellectual curriculum with an unusually high degree of integrity and connectedness. There is no other curriculum anywhere that does a superior job of both educating students and inspiring a true and broad-based love of learning.”

- William Shain, *Dean of Admission, Vanderbilt University*

# ***Inquiry, Critical Thinking, Authenticity***

- **Going beyond simple memorization and recall.  
Students must engage in inquiry and critical thinking.**

Example(s): Students create their own research question for individual exploration in a variety of subjects...

Math Internal Assessment – “Can a back bend in gymnastics be modeled using quadratics?”

Music Extended Essay – “Can a soundtrack from a video game be considered ‘classical’?”

English Extended Essay – “How does the predator-prey motif reflect gender dynamics in Margaret Atwood’s *The Edible Woman*?”

# ***Inquiry, Critical Thinking, Authenticity***

## **➤ Analysis of and response to real-world scenarios and case studies.**

Example: On written assessments, students are asked to apply their knowledge of theory and methodology to given scenarios.

### Business Management Paper 1 Case Study

#### *Sample exam questions:*

- Describe the advantages of using a cash-flow forecast, based on a given table.
- Explain the difference between leadership and management, with reference to Sue and her managers.
- Discuss the value to Sue of a force field analysis in deciding whether to grow through change.

# ***Inquiry, Critical Thinking, Authenticity***

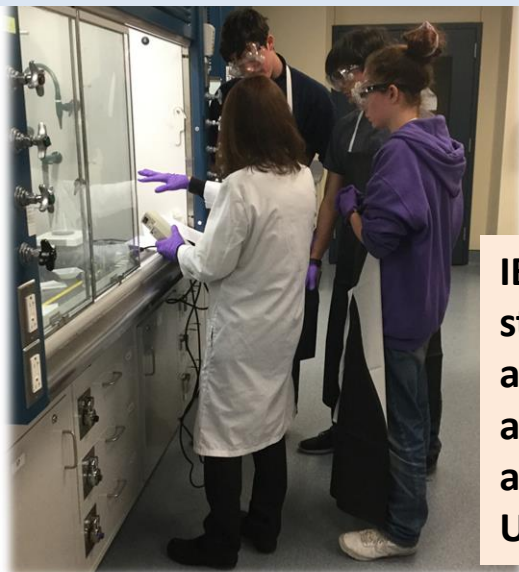
➤ **Practice, not just theory**



**IB Physics SL students setting up experiments and gathering data for their IAs**



**IB Visual Art Year 2 Student Exhibition**



**IB Chemistry students learn about sustainable chemistry at Stony Brook University.**



**Students perform at IB Music Night**

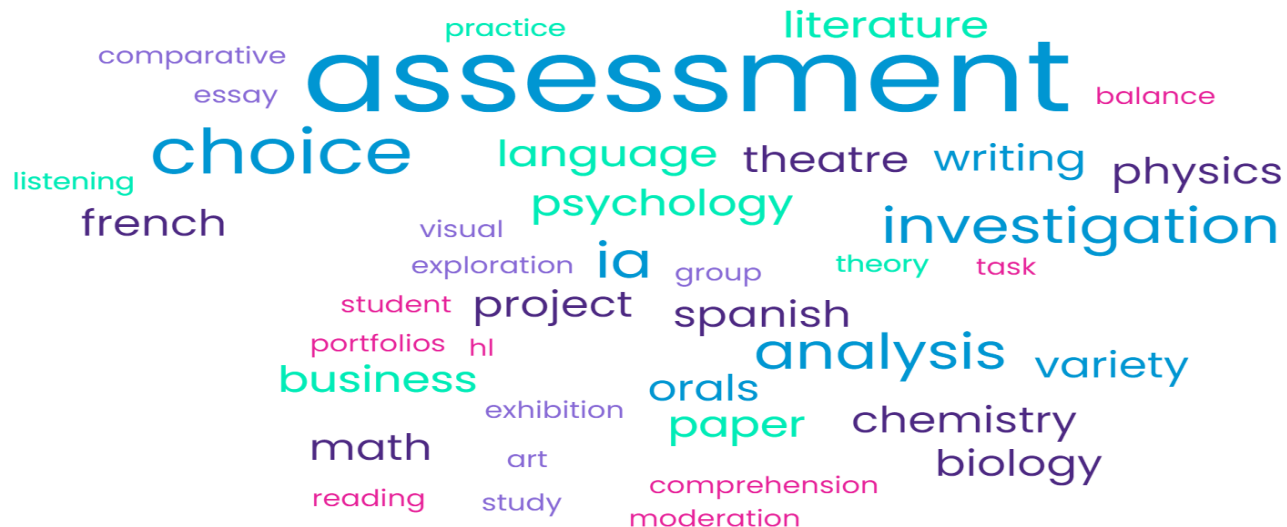


The International Baccalaureate uses *multiple assessment methods* to measure student achievement in all its courses.

The guiding philosophy is to give students an opportunity to demonstrate what they know, rather than focus on what they don't know.

# Assessment

- Internal and external assessments, using established grading criteria
- Varied skills tested across disciplines
- Balance between independent and teacher-supervised work
- Students maintain control over many aspects of assessment



# ***Consistent Writing Practice***

## **Writing Across the Curriculum**

- Spanish/French – writing (ex: letter, brochure, news article) in response to a given scenario
- The Arts – writing to critically reflect on the process of creating and experiencing art
- Math & Sciences – writing an investigation based on a student-generated research question

## **Emphasis on the Process Model**

- Proposal → Draft → Feedback and Revision → Submission
- Supports: In-class workshopping, peer editing, teacher feedback throughout all steps of the process, etc.

## **Extended Essay**

- 2-year research paper; a requirement for full diploma candidates



From the *National Association for College Admissions Counseling - State of College Admission, 2023*:

**Factors seen as “considerably important” in the admission decision include:**

- Grades in college prep courses
- Grades in all courses
- Strength of curriculum

**Next most important factors include:**

- Positive character attributes
- Essay or writing sample



# Extended Essay

- A formal research paper investigating a topic of special interest

## Music EE:

How were The Beatles influenced by classical Indian music ?

## Visual Art EE:

How did Japanese culture and mythology influence Horiyoshi's art and tattoo style?

- Related to an IB subject

## Business EE:

How do Burger King's fast food menu options affect service efficiency?

- Develops the kind of independent and authentic research and writing skills expected at the college level

## Environmental Systems EE:

How has overfertilization affected the water quality and ecology of the Pine Brooks Stream?

## History EE:

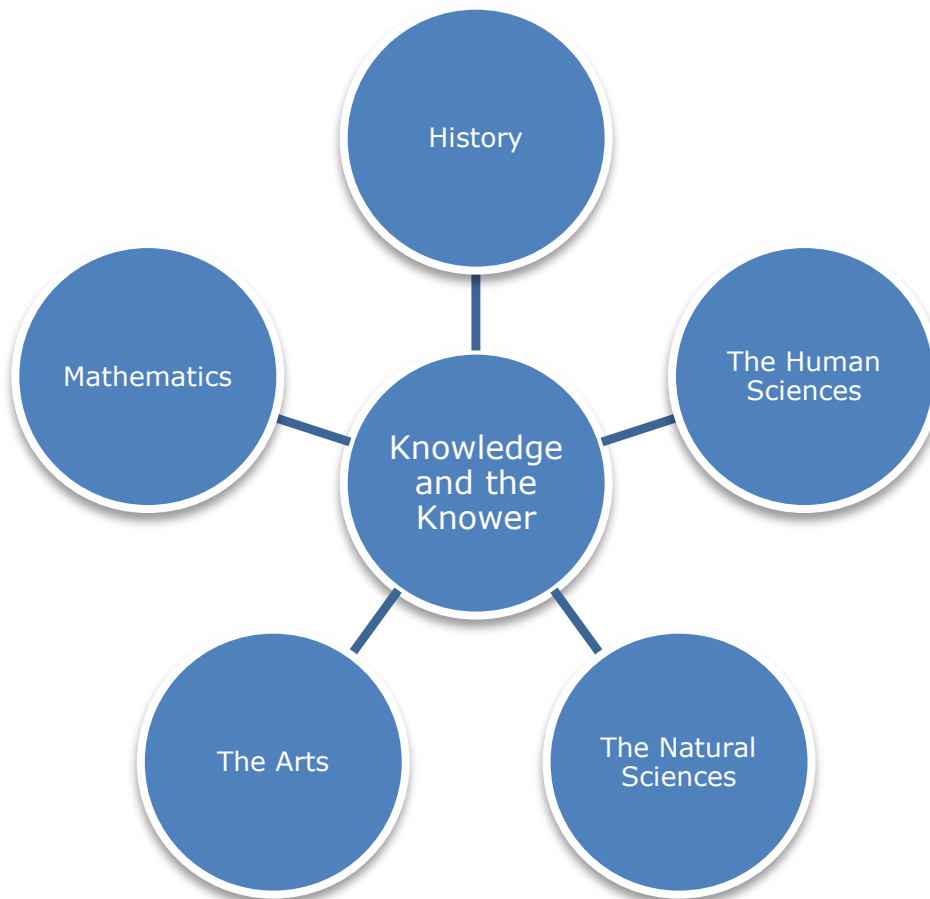
To what extent were the initial Yugoslav Wars (1991-1995) influenced by foreign governments?

# Creativity, Activity and Service

- **Creativity:**  
arts and other experiences  
that involve creative thinking
- **Activity:**  
physical exertion contributing  
to a healthy lifestyle
- **Service:**  
engagement with the  
community in response  
to an authentic need



# THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE



**TOK Exhibition**

**TOK Essay**

The IB Diploma Program is meant to be:

- Broad
- Balanced
- Conceptual
- Connected

TOK plays a key role in making this happen.

*Pulling it all together...*

***To earn the Full IB Diploma, students must:***

- **take 3 HL classes, 3 SL classes and 3 Central Elements (EE, CAS, TOK)**

Note:

- Group 1-6 subjects are graded on a 1-7 scale (*4 = satisfactory*)
- EE and TOK graded on A-E scale (*C = satisfactory; E = failing*)

- **accumulate 24 points from the 6 courses completed**

Note:

- Student may earn up to 3 overall bonus points from TOK and EE
- Higher grades in one course can be used to make up for lower grades in another course, provided that the total points is 24+

# ***Frequently Asked Questions***

- Does my child have to register for the full IB Diploma?
- My child is not sure whether to register for the full diploma or take individual IB courses. I think he/she is capable, but I can't be certain if it will be too much. What should we do?
- If my child receives special testing accommodations through his/her IEP or 504 plan, will they transfer to IB exams?
- Which IB exams could my child sit as a junior?
- Are there fees associated with IB courses?
- How do colleges respond to IB in terms of admissions, credits, advance standing?





# ***Supports for IB Course & Diploma Candidates***

Jan 4 email  
10th Gr.  
Parent Meeting  
with Counselors  
1/22  
-26

## ***Standard Practice:***

0 Period Extra Help  
Homework Helpers  
Support Classes  
Math Resource Center

## ***Staff Support:***

School Counselors  
\*Scheduling\*  
Library Media Specialist  
EE Co-Coordinator  
Extended Essay Mentor  
CAS Co-Coordinator  
CAS Advisor

## ***Central Elements Support:***

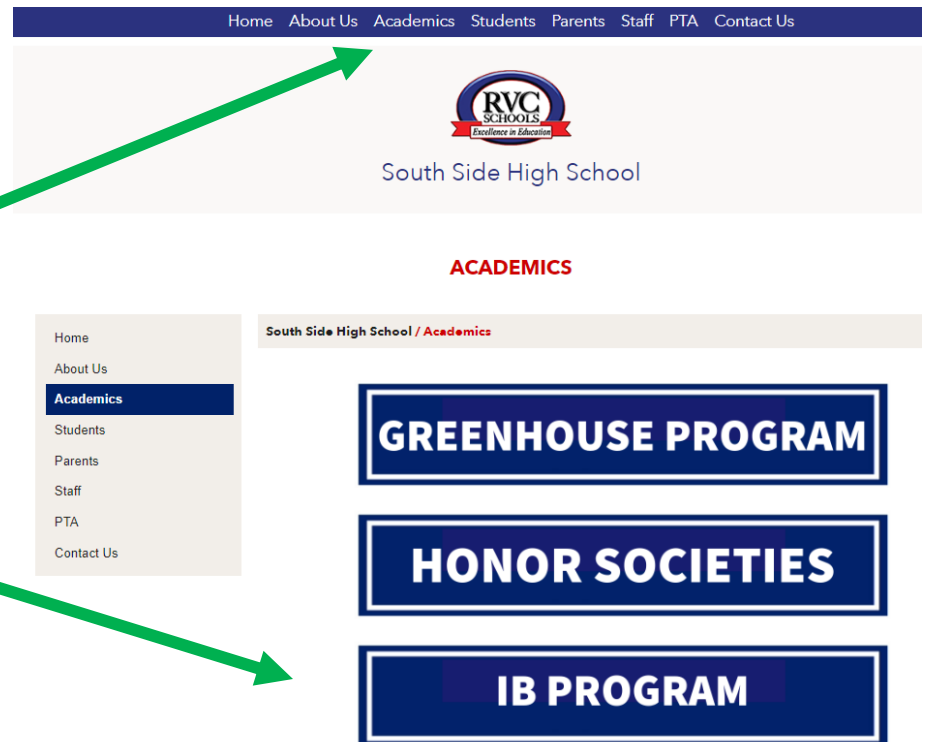
Junior IB Orientation  
TOK/Central Elements  
CAS "Field Trips"  
Summer EE Workshop



# To learn more about the IB at South Side...

Visit the IB sub-site on  
our high school website

Click on “Academics”  
and go down to  
“IB Program ”



# ***Contact Information***

## **IB Program:**

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## **Counseling Center:**

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**Thank you for joining  
us this evening!**