

DEAR JUNIOR FAMILIES,

Thank you for working with your students to ensure the state testing went smoothly this week. Your student completed a full SAT, ACT WorkKeys, and M-STEP test in science and social studies. We appreciate you having the students arrive on time to school to conduct the tests efficiently.

Here is some information from the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals to help you understand how to use the information you will receive from your student's test results:

It is a great benefit to all Michigan students that our State pays for 3 PSATs and a free college entrance exam (the SAT) and that it is provided during the school day in a familiar environment by school personnel.

Here are some critical pieces of follow up information:

- Students "own" their data and results. The College Board provides all students with the opportunity to set up an online account to access their scores in the reporting portal. As they create the account, they will be asked for our school's code, and it is 230347. Student scores will be available individually in the reporting portal at the end of May before the school will be provided with scores for the cohort as a whole at the end of June. *For instructions on how to set up a College Board account [click here](#). To see a video demonstration, [click here](#).*
- Once students have created College Board accounts they can choose to create the accounts for access to FREE online official SAT practice. *For information on Academy accounts [click here](#); or watch a video [here](#).*
- When results become available in the portal, we will notify you to go online and check your student's scores. We will also provide information that will help you to navigate the reporting portal and to make sense of the various score reports available. One exciting feature is that every student will be able to see actual test questions if they had the correct or incorrect answer and some feedback on next steps to make improvements before they test the following year again. We look forward to providing you with more information on this at the end of May.

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JUNIOR CHECK IN

By now your student should have submitted a rough draft of their history internal assessment. Currently, they are in the subject selection phase of the Extended Essay process. Your student should have chosen the Extended Essay subject area in Managebac by April 10th. Juniors should be soliciting teachers to be their supervisors and conducting background research independently. You can talk with your student regarding Extended Essay requirements and review all the steps which your student can show you on Managebac.

IB INFORMATION FOR JUNIOR FAMILIES



The coming year will be an exciting time. It is full of many "lasts" and plans for the future. As students head into summer, the International Academy wanted to give you an overview of the senior year in terms of IB exams, the costs associated with senior year and some general guidelines about the college application process.

REGISTERING FOR IB EXAMS

For the IB Diploma, students must take three IB exams at the SL level and three at the HL level. In general, students are encouraged to take those subjects that they are most passionate about at the HL level. This selection will occur in early fall via the Managebac system. In general, most students at the IA take Literature at the HL level and a science at the HL level. Last year, about 50% of students took History at the HL level. Students should have conversations with their current teachers about guidance towards HL or SL and then again with their senior teachers when they return in the fall.

REGISTERING FOR THE IB EXAMS IS A THREE-STEP PROCESS:

- Step 1:** Students identify their HL and SL selections in the Managebac system. This step needs to be completed by **September 23, 2019**. Directions will be given in-person in the fall to complete this step.
- Step 2:** Families and student confirm student information and IB registration. **This is the most important step as any incorrect information on this form may result in additional charges if the errors are not detected before the first deadline.** These additional charges can be up to \$200+. Students and families are responsible for correcting any errors on this form in a timely manner. The registration information as submitted on the Managebac system by the student will be locked and then copied to green paper. This will become known as "The Green Sheet". "The Green Sheet" will be mailed to your home along with directions on how to make payments for the IB exams. When you receive The Green Sheet, please:
- Carefully review all of the demographic information. Please make sure the student's proper name is correct as this allows the colleges to link the IB scores to the student.
 - Carefully review ALL of the HL and SL selections and courses and make sure the Extended Essay subject is correct.
 - Sign the form and return it to the main office of your campus by **October 14, 2019**
 - IF THERE ARE CHANGES to the information on The Green Sheet, there will be a Google Form for the student to complete and a new Green Sheet will be issued for confirmation.

Step 3: All payments must be made through the Community Pass system.

Deadline for payment is November 1, 2019.
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PAYMENT FOR IB EXAMS

The deadline for the lowest costs for registering for IB exams is November 1.

The IB fee breakdown is:

Registration Fee*	\$ 185
Subject Fee (\$125 per subject x 6)	\$ 750
Total	\$ 935

**this fee includes the Extended Essay, CAS and TOK*

All payments must be made through the Community Pass system. The Community Pass system can begin receiving payments beginning on August 1st as part of the back-to-school registration process. Full payment is due by November 1, 2019.

STUDENTS THAT QUALIFY THROUGH THE HOME DISTRICT FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH STATUS:

The State of Michigan will cover some of the subject fees for IB exams and registration. Therefore, families that qualify will only be responsible for a reduced fee for the exams. The specific amount will not be known until the fall and the state releases the information.

It is important to note that families must file Free and Reduced Lunch paperwork each year. NOTE: Free and Reduced Lunch status also entitles students for reduced costs (often no costs) for ACT and SAT registration and submission of test scores, free college applications (the fee is waived) and ease in application for financial aid for college. All families are encouraged to consider filing the paperwork regardless if the student wants lunch at school. To file, please fill out [this form](#) and submit it to the main office on your campus. The main office will send it to the proper district. Additional information can be found [here](#) to assist families in filing the forms.

Phoenix Fund: For 10-15% of IA families, the costs of the IB exams are a significant financial burden. These are families that fall outside of the Free and Reduced Lunch parameters. **Please consider making a donation in any amount when making your payment to help defray the cost for these students. The additional donated funds will be put into a Phoenix Fund account and dispersed to those students with expressed need for financial support.** This option is available on the Community Pass System.

DEADLINES

Sept 23	HL and SL selections made in the Managebac system (seniors have access)
Oct 14	"Green Sheet" needs to be verified and returned to the main office at each campus
Nov. 1	IB Exam Payment due through the Community Pass system
Nov. 4	4 HL application due (It will be made available via Managebac on November 1 after first quarter grades)
Nov. 10 – Jan. 10	Changes can be made to selections. Each change costs \$75
Jan. 11 – Feb. 10	Changes can be made to selections. Each change costs \$200.

Non-payment of exam fees will result in the exam results being withheld from the student and colleges until full payment is made.

May 2020 IB Exam Schedule

8:00 AM Exam Start Time			1:00 PM Exam Start Time	
Day	Morning	Time	Afternoon	Time
Monday, May 4, 2020				
Tuesday, May 5, 2020	Music HL Paper 1	2h 30m	History HL Paper 1	1h
	Music SL Paper 1	2h	History SL Paper 1	1h
			History HL Paper 2*	1h 30m
Wednesday, May 6, 2020	History HL Paper 3	2h 30m	History SL Paper 2*	1h 30m
Thursday, May 7, 2020			Biology HL Paper 1	1h
			Biology SL Paper 1	45m
			Biology HL Paper 2 *	2h 15m
			Biology SL Paper 2 *	1h 15m
Friday, May 8, 2020	Biology HL Paper 3	1h 15m		
	Biology SL Paper 3	1h		
Monday, May 11, 2020			Math HL Paper 1	2h
			Math SL Paper 1	1h 30m
			Math Studies SL Paper 1	1h 30m
Tuesday, May 12, 2020	Math HL Paper 2	2h	German HL Paper 1	1h 30m
	Math SL Paper 2	1h 30m	German SL Paper 1	1h 15m
	Math Studies SL Paper 2	1h 30m	German Ab Initio SL Paper 1	1h
Wednesday, May 13, 2020	German HL Paper 2**	2 h	Economics HL Paper 1	1h 30m
	1h reading, 1h listening		Economics SL Paper 1	1h 30m
	German SL Paper 2**	1h 45m		
	1h reading, 45m listening			
	German Ab Initio SL Paper 2**	1h 45m		
	1h reading, 45m listening			
Thursday, May 14, 2020	Math HL Paper 3 ***	1 h		
	Economics HL Paper 2	1h 30m	Literature HL Paper 1	2h
	Economics SL Paper 2	1h 30m	Literature SL Paper 1	1h 30m
	Economics HL Paper 3*	1h	Literature & Perf. Paper 1	1h 30m
Friday, May 15, 2020	Literature HL Paper 2	2h	Chemistry HL Paper 1	1h
	Literature SL Paper 2	1h 30m	Chemistry SL Paper 1	45m
	Literature & Perf. Paper 2	1h 30m	Chemistry HL Paper 2 *	2h 15m
Monday, May 18, 2020			Chemistry SL Paper 2 *	1h 15m
	Chemistry HL Paper 3	1h 15m	ESS Paper 1	1h
Tuesday, May 19, 2020	Chemistry SL Paper 3	1h		
	ESS Paper 2	2h	Spanish HL Paper 1	1h 30m
Wednesday, May 20, 2020			Spanish SL Paper 1	1h 15m
	Spanish HL Paper 2**	2 h	Spanish Ab Initio SL Paper 1	1h
	1h reading, 1h listening			
	Spanish SL Paper 2**	1h 45m	Physics HL Paper 1	1h
	1h reading, 45m listening		Physics SL Paper 1	45m
	Spanish Ab Initio SL Paper 2**	1h 45m	Physics HL Paper 2 *	2h 15m
Thursday, May 21, 2020	1h reading, 45m listening		Physics SL Paper 2 *	1h 15m
	Physics HL Paper 3	1h 15m		
	Physics SL Paper 3	1h	French HL Paper 1	1h 30m
Friday, May 22, 2020			French SL Paper 1	1h 15m
	French HL Paper 2**	2 h	French Ab Initio SL Paper 1	1h
	1h reading, 1h listening			
	French SL Paper 2**	1h 45m		
	1h reading, 45m listening			
	French Ab Initio SL Paper 2**	1h 45m		
	1h reading, 45m listening			

* All back-to-back exams will begin approximately 15 minutes after the end of the HL time frame. Students will exit the room and have a break between back-to-back exams.

** The Language reading and listening exams will include transition time between the language and listening portions.

*** Students that have two exams scheduled at the same time will have one exam rescheduled. This will depend on the unique exam schedule for each student and be communication in February.

The exam period is

May 5 – May 22, 2020

Please be aware of the
start times and
the length of each exam period,
**especially if the student
participates in spring sports, clubs
or the arts.**

**THIS EXAM SCHEDULE CANNOT
BE ALTERED**

Morning exams begin at
8:00 AM.

Afternoon exams begin at
1:00 PM.

OTHER IMPORTANT IB DATES:

Extended Essay

Rough draft due in late August

Final draft due October 7

CAS: due March 15

Academic Honesty with ALL IB Components

Philosophy and Principles:

At the International Academy, the IA and the IB define malpractice as behavior that results in, or may result in, a student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components.

“Academic Honesty in the IB is a set of values and behaviours informed by attributes of the Learner Profile. The principle of Academic Honesty serves to promote personal integrity, engender respect for the work of others and ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they acquire during their studies,” (IB 25 November 2015)

Academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The International Academy **expects** that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize, or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. The well-being of the entire school community depends on the student accepting responsibility for personal conduct in both social and academic endeavors. (Patrick Henry School Sample)

Academic Conduct

It is the school's intent to maintain and encourage high standards of personal conduct. These standards include personal honesty, discipline and integrity.

The IA trusts that students are in school to do their own work. It is assumed that any schoolwork that is turned in for credit by a student is a result of that student's effort. Generally, academic misconduct occurs any time a student turns in work that was copied or otherwise duplicated from another source. Academic misconduct is a serious violation of school and IB policy.

The IA and the IB define malpractice as behavior that results in, or may result in, a student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components. Malpractice includes:

- **Plagiarism:** this is defined as the representation of the ideas or work of another person as the student's own.
- **Collusion:** this is defined as supporting malpractice by another candidate, as in allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another student.
- **Duplication of work:** this is defined as the presentation of the same work for different assessment components and/or diploma requirements.
- Any other behavior which gains an unfair advantage for a candidate or which affects the results of another candidate (for example, taking unauthorized material into an examination room, misconduct during an examination, falsifying records, disclosure of receipt of confidential information about assessments, etc.).

Any Academic Misconduct on any Middle Years or Diploma program component (internal assessment or external assessment) or Core requirement (CAS, EE or TOK) will result in the loss of the IB Diploma or MYP certificate. This applies to components of an assessment, rough drafts, as well as final submissions. The student will not be eligible to take the DP exam for that subject/course. Additional consequences may also be imposed that could affect grades and/or include suspension from school or reporting misconduct to colleges.

Considerations for Families in the Senior Year

As your family enters senior year, it is essential to understand and plan for the financial requirements for college application, IA graduation requirements, IB exams and other costs associated with senior year. The chart below is not exhaustive. Please use it to help you plan for the senior year and beyond.

Item	Fees	Additional information
College Costs		
College Applications	\$40 – 100+ per college/university	Check on the college website for the exact fee (can be waived for Free and Reduced Lunch or if you demonstrate interest early**)
ACT, SAT and SAT Subject Tests	\$35+ per test	Check ACT and SAT websites for exact costs – can be waived for Free and Reduced Lunch status

Sending test scores to colleges	Up to 4 free if identified before or soon after the test, then \$12-20 per test after that date	Check ACT and SAT websites for exact costs – can be waived for Free and Reduced Lunch status
College Visits	Costs varies by location and travel	If an interview is required, check to see if you can do a local interview rather than traveling to the college
International Academy/IB Diploma Requirements		
IB Exam Fees	\$935 (due November 1)	Reduced fee for students with Free and Reduced lunch status
Group IV (senior year IB requirement)	\$75 – 150+	See exact amount from packet. *there is a free option if students decide not to do the overnight trip
Enrichments (not completed)	\$95+ per enrichment	There is a requirement of a career mentorship for an enrichment. Contact the enrichment office for more information. 6 enrichments required for graduation.
Cap and Gown	\$35+ depending on the package purchased	
OPTIONAL:		
Stratford Trip	\$65+	
Clubs	Varies	Please check with club sponsor
Sports	Varies	Please check with home district
Senior All Night Party	\$35+	Information will come out in the fall
Prom	\$45+ just for ticket	
Yearbook	\$60+	
School events	Varies	Dances, benefits, spirit wear, etc.

****NOTE:** Some colleges will waive application fees if you let them know you are interested by a specific date. Please check the college website for application fees to find out if there is a waiver for early interest.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT SENIOR YEAR

Q: *WHEN ARE THE IB SCORES RELEASED? HOW ARE THEY REPORTED TO COLLEGES?*

A: The IB scores are released electronically on July 6. Before this date, students will indicate which college should receive the full IB Diploma score. Depending on the college, this score will either be delivered electronically on July 6 or via regular mail in mid- to late-August.

Q: *MY CHILD IS APPLYING TO COLLEGES OUTSIDE OF THE US. IS THERE A PROCEDURE THAT IS DIFFERENT FOR THEM IN REGARDS TO IB SCORES?*

A: Most colleges and universities outside of the US will require IB predicted scores as part of the application process. Many schools in the UCAS system (Europe and UK) will give a student a conditional acceptance based on the predicted scores. If the student's actual scores released in July do not match the requirements of the school, the acceptance will be rescinded. **It is in the best interest of the students to receive these scores as close to the application deadline as possible.** It is vital for families to read the requirements of all schools and specifically those that fall outside of the US system as each country has different requirements.

Below are some general guidelines; however, please double check the requirements of each school to which you are applying.

For students applying to colleges in Europe and United Kingdom: Most students will be applying through the [UCAS](#) system. The UCAS system requires IB predicted grades to either be reported by the student or by the referee (counselor or teacher writing the letter of recommendation). Students can request their predicted grades via a Google Form from Mrs. Fairman by the following dates:

- October 1 for those students applying to Oxford and Cambridge (scores will be available October 5)
- December 3 for those students applying to other UCAS schools (scores will be available December 7)

***** Note: Students MUST tell the referee (counselor or teacher writing recommendation letter) that IB predicted scores must be submitted and the deadline. This does not come automatically in the notification to the referee.**

For students applying to colleges in Canada: Most colleges in Canada require that IB scores be sent to the school directly from the IB Coordinator. Specifically, University of British Columbia, University of Toronto and McGill have specific forms which the student must download, include information such as birthdate and application number and then submit the form to the IB Coordinator to be sent to the college with the school seal. Again, it is important to understand the requirements and deadlines for each university.

Students can request their predicted grades via a Google Form from Mrs. Fairman by the following dates:

- January 7 for schools with a February 1 documentation deadline (scores will be available January 11)

Q: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IB AND AP?

A: There are two significant differences between the two programs and the preparation for the exams.

For IB:

- Students **MUST** be enrolled in the course for two complete years (in most cases) at an authorized IB World School for junior and senior year. The two-year period allows for depth and breadth of understanding of the content.
- Assessments in the IB courses, both internal and external, challenge students to analyze and evaluate issues in unfamiliar contexts, therefore requiring higher level thinking skills. Except for one multiple-choice assessment in science, all IB exams are written.

For AP:

- Students are **NOT** required to take an AP course in order to take an AP exam
- AP assessments are multiple choice in general with some written work. The score is based on the one exam in May.

Q: WHAT IS THE IB DIPLOMA?

A: The IB diploma is earned when students pass exams in six different subject areas and complete the Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge course and Creativity, Action and Service requirements. The subject areas are listed with the IA offerings below.

Group 1: Language and Literature

- *English: Literature (HL or SL)*

Group 2: Language Acquisition

- *French B (HL, SL or ab initio SL)*
- *German B (Okma campus only) (HL, SL or ab initio SL)*
- *Spanish B (HL, SL or ab initio SL)*

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

- *History of Europe (HL or SL)*
- *Economics (HL or SL)*
- *Environmental Systems and Societies (SL only)*

Group 4: Sciences

- *Biology (HL or SL)*
- *Chemistry (HL or SL)*
- *Physics (HL or SL)*
- *Environmental Systems and Societies (SL only)*

Group 5: Mathematics

- *Mathematics Studies (SL)*
- *Mathematics SL*
- *Mathematics HL: Calculus*
- *Further Mathematics (HL)*

Group 6: The Arts

- *Visual Arts (HL or SL)*
- *Music (HL or SL)*

Options to Group 6 (for those students not in the courses above):

- *Another Group 2 course (not the same language)*
- *Economics*
- *Another Group 4 course*

Q: What does HL and SL mean?

A: HL indicates "higher level" and SL indicates "standard level" for the exams. All courses, except for Math, Environmental Systems and Societies and ab initio language, are taught at the HL level. HL indicates at least 240 hours of study and SL suggests at least 150 hours of study. Students decide at the beginning of the senior year the level for each exam. In general, HL exams are more rigorous than SL exams. The content is the same in most cases; however, the expectation of a student's ability to apply knowledge is on a higher level.

IB requires students to take three exams at the HL level and three at the SL level to be considered for an IB diploma. Students may opt to take four HL exams with the approval of the administration.

Q: WHAT ARE THE POINTS NEEDED FOR IB DIPLOMA?

A: **HOW TO INTERPRET IB GRADES AND TRANSCRIPTS FROM WWW.IBO.ORG**

A student's examination performance in individual subjects is scored on a scale of 1–7 points with a further 3 points available based on a matrix of performance in the [theory of knowledge](#) (TOK) and the [extended essay](#) components. Students who display satisfactory levels of performance across all subject areas and achieve a minimum of **24 points** (out of a possible 45) are awarded the IB diploma. All others receive a certificate of results for the subjects examined.

Subjects are marked according to the following scale.

7	Excellent
6	Very good
5	Good
4	Satisfactory
3	Mediocre
2	Poor
1	Very poor
N	No grade

The TOK course and the extended essay are graded according to the following scale.

A	Excellent
B	Good
C	Satisfactory
D	Mediocre
E	Elementary
N	No grade

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANIZATION:

Article 13: Award of the IB Diploma - Requirements

13.1 All assessment components for each of the six subjects and the additional Diploma requirements must be completed in order to qualify for the award of the IB Diploma.

13.2 The IB Diploma will be awarded to a candidate provided all the following requirements have been met:

- a. CAS requirements have been met.
- b. The candidate's total points are 24 or more.
- c. There is no "N" awarded for theory of knowledge, the extended essay or for a contributing subject.
- d. There is no grade E awarded for theory of knowledge and/or the extended essay.
- e. There is no grade 1 awarded in a subject/level.
- f. There are no more than two grade 2s awarded (HL or SL).
- g. There are no more than three grade 3s or below awarded (HL or SL).
- h. The candidate has gained 12 points or more on HL subjects (for candidates who register for four HL subjects, the three highest grades count).
- i. The candidate has gained 9 points or more on SL subjects (candidates who register for two SL subjects must gain at least 5 points at SL).

EXTENDED ESSAY						
TOK		A	B	C	D	E
	A	+3	+3	+2	+2	Failing Condition
	B	+3	+2	+2	+1	
	C	+2	+2	+1		
	D	+2	+1			
	E	Failing Condition				

HL AND SL SELECTION

All students **must** register for three higher level (HL) and three standard level (SL) exams at by the beginning of their senior year.

The process begins in May of junior year with the initial selection. HL subjects require additional rigor for each internal and external assessment component of the IA score.

Four HL Courses: Students may apply to take four courses as HL after first quarter grades are released via the Managebac on November 1 of senior year. In addition to completing the Four HL application that is available on Managebac system, students must demonstrate:

- at least a 3.8 grade point average overall un-weighted
- a card-marking grade of "A" or "A-" in all four HL courses and a printed report card must be attached to the Four HL application
- teacher approval for each of the HL courses including signature on the Four HL application
- parental and administrative approval.

The deadline for the Four HL application is November 4, 2019. Late applications will not be accepted.

Examples of student results

6	ENGLISH HL
7	SPANISH SL
A	ECONOMICS EE
6	HIST.EUROPE SL
6	CHEMISTRY SL
7	MATH. HL
7	ECONOMICS HL
A	TOK

EE/TOK points: 3
 Total Points: 42
 Result: Diploma awarded

4	ENGLISH HL
3	FRENCH HL
C	ENGLISH EE
3	HIST.EUROPE HL
4	ECONOMICS SL
6	MATH.STUDIES SL
4	BIOLOGY SL
C	TOK

EE/TOK points: 1
 Total Points: 25
 Result: Diploma not awarded
 Reason: Did not receive 12 points on HL exams.

4	ENGLISH HL
5	SPANISH HL
C	HISTORY EE
4	HIST.EUROPE HL
3	BIOLOGY SL
5	MATH.STUDIES SL
4	VISUAL ARTS SL
B	TOK

EE/TOK points: 2
 Total Points: 27
 Result: Diploma awarded

4	ENGLISH HL
5	FRENCH HL
E	ENV. AND SOC. EE
4	HIST.EUROPE HL
5	PHYSICS SL
4	MATH.STUDIES SL
C	TOK
5	ESS SL

EE/TOK points: 0
 Total Points: 27
 Result: Diploma not awarded
Reason: Candidate received an E on Extended Essay

4	ENGLISH HL
4	SPANISH SL
D	HISTORY EE
4	HIST.EUROPE HL
4	CHEMISTRY SL
4	MATH.STUDIES SL
4	VISUAL ARTS HL
D	TOK

EE/TOK points: 0
 Total Points: 24
 Result: Diploma awarded

3	ENGLISH HL
6	SPANISH SL
C	HISTORY EE
3	HIST.EUROPE SL
3	PHYSICS SL
2	CHEMISTRY HL
6	MATH HL
C	TOK

EE/TOK points: 1
 Total Points: 24
 Result: Diploma not awarded
Reason: There are three or more grades at three or below.

Q: WHEN ARE THE IB ASSESSMENTS?

A: Once student enters junior year, IB assessments will happen over the two-year period. Internal assessments begin in January of junior year and conclude in February of senior year. The external assessment (the IB exams) take place in May of senior year. A schedule of the May exams was included in this packet on page 3. It will also be posted on Managebac and on the iatoday.org website.

Calendar of Internal and External Assessments																							
	Junior Year													Senior Year									
	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
Literature									EX								IA					EX	
Language Acq.																			EX	IA		EX	
History						IA															EX		
Economics	Economic Commentaries																						EX
Bio/Chem/Phy									IA					IA								EX	
ESS																		IA				EX	
Math Studies														IA								EX	
Math SL		IA																				EX	
Math HL		IA																				EX	
Visual Arts	All works of art and developmental workbook pages are included in the external assessment																						
Music	Solo, Group and/or Compositions																				EX	EX	
CAS	CAS Activities																						
EE								EE Process							EX								
TOK								Presentations											EX				
Key: IA = Internal Assessment EX = External Assessment																							

Q: WHAT IS AN INTERNAL IB ASSESSMENT?

A: Each subject area has internal assessments. These are assessments that are required by the IB and administered and assessed by the IA teachers.

An example is the **History internal assessment**. Juniors will complete a historical investigation for the History internal assessment. Below is the statement about this internal assessment:

Internal assessment is an integral part of the course and is compulsory for both SL and HL students. It enables students to demonstrate the application of skills and knowledge, and to pursue their personal interests, without the time limitations and other constraints that are associated with written examinations. The internal assessment requirements at SL and at HL for history are the same. All students complete a historical investigation into a historical topic of their choice. The internal assessment allows flexibility for students to select a topic of personal interest.

same.

- Diploma Programme History Subject Guide, 2017

For History, the internal assessment is due in spring of junior year. Teachers will mark these assessments according to the IB criteria. These scores are then reported to IB in March of senior year. At that time, IB will randomly select 10 students (three high, four middle and three low) to serve as the moderated samples. The written work for the selected students and the marks by the teachers are sent to a moderator. The moderator checks to see how closely the TEACHERS are marking according to the standard, not remarking the students work. Depending upon the degree of “hard” grading or “easy” grading, the teachers’ internal assessment marks may be moderated up or down. The results of this sample are then applied to all students in that subject area.

With the importance on the internal assessment, the IA teachers moderate all internal assessments together. Each department does grading for internal assessment collectively. More than one teacher may view a student’s paper to assure accuracy in marking.

Q: *WHEN ARE THE INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS?*

A: As each subject area has internal assessments, the IA faculty coordinates an assessment calendar to avoid overlapping of internal assessments. Dates of internal assessments may vary depending upon space availability or other factors. A general calendar of assessments is listed below.

Group 1: Literature:

- Individual Oral Presentation – Fall of junior year (student choice of poetry or novels)
- Individual Oral Commentary – generally late November/early December of senior year
- Written assignment (external assessment) – completed in class during May of junior year

Group 2: Language Acquisition

- Individual Oral Activity – Fall of senior year (student choice)
- Individual Oral – based on a visual prompt and generally February/March of senior year
- Written assignment (external assessment) – second semester of senior year

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

- Historical investigation (internal assessment) – second semester of junior year
- Economics: Students produce a portfolio of three commentaries, based on different sections of the syllabus and on published extracts from the news media over the two year course of study

Group 4: Sciences

- Group IV Project (an interdisciplinary project) – September of senior year
- Independent Lab Investigation - 10 hours - May of junior year

Group 5: Mathematics

- Math Studies – Project – spring of junior year – mostly in class
- Math SL – Exploration – begins spring of junior year and ends fall of senior year
- Math HL – Exploration – January of junior year and ends spring of junior year

Group 6: The Arts

- Visual Arts – developmental workbook and pieces are created throughout the two years
- Music – Musical Links Investigation is completed during senior year

Q: WHAT ARE THE IB EXAMS LIKE?

A: There are rigorous requirements for the IB exams including the administration of the tests. The calendar of when an assessment may be administered is dictated by the IB and applies to all IB schools around the world.

Depending upon the subject a student takes, they may sit for upwards of 18 papers (or exams) over the three-week testing period. All morning exams begin at 8:00 AM and afternoon exams begin at 1:00 PM. The length of the exam varies from 45 minutes for some SL exams to 3 hours for some HL exams. Please refer to the IB Exam Schedule for more information about times.

To help alleviate some confusion and stress about the IB exams, a simulated IB exam will be taken by all seniors in early April of senior year. The students will experience the full “formal” exam setting including working with the coversheet, exam booklets and invigilator instructions in the actual exam space.

Q: WHAT ARE THE EXAM QUESTIONS LIKE? WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN SL AND HL EXAM?

A: The HL and SL exams are different based upon the subject area. For example, the Chemistry, Physics and Economics HL Paper 3 have more math application than the SL exam for these subjects. For History, Paper 1 and Paper 2 ask the same questions but the weight of the grade is different for HL and SL.

Below is a sample of a History HL Paper 3 exam. Please note that the exam is History of the Americas NOT the subject taught at the IA. This is provided to help parents understand the rigorous questions asked of the students. Please note that the words **bolded** and underlined were done by Sarah Fairman to demonstrate **the command terms** for history and the depth of thinking required of students.

HISTORY

HIGHER LEVEL

PAPER 3 – ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS

INSTRUCTIONS to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer three questions. Each question is worth **[20 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[60 marks]**.

2 hours 30 minutes

Independence movements

1. To what extent was hostility between Spain and Britain the main cause for at least one war of independence in the Americas?
2. **Compare and contrast** the contribution of two of the following leaders to the process of independence in the Americas: Adams; Jefferson; San Martín; Bolívar.

Nation-building and challenges

3. How important was the Durham Report (1839) in the struggle by Canadians to achieve responsible government?
4. **Analyze** the effects of the Mexican–American War (1846–1848) on any two countries of the region.

United States Civil War: causes, course and effects 1840–1877

5. In what ways, and to what extent, did the events of the 1850s contribute to the increase of sectionalism and the outbreak of the United States Civil War?
6. Why, and with what results, was there political opposition to the plans for Reconstruction in the United States between 1863 and 1867?

The development of modern nations 1865–1929

7. **Examine** the impact of immigration on one country of the region from the late nineteenth century to the early twentieth century.
8. With reference to at least one country of the region, to what extent were the aims of Progressivism achieved by 1929?

Emergence of the Americas in global affairs 1880–1929

9. “The United States’ policies of the Big Stick and Moral Diplomacy in Latin America had different motives but similar consequences.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
10. **Evaluate** the arguments that took place in the United States over ratification of the Versailles Treaty following the First World War.

The Second World War and the Americas 1933–1945

15. **Assess** the social impact of the Second World War on women and ethnic minorities in any one country of the region.
16. “The Second World War greatly transformed inter-American diplomacy and economic interaction in the years 1939–1945.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Q: *HOW ARE THE IB EXAMS GRADED?*

A: After an exam session, all exams are immediately sent to an IB scanning center in the United States. The exams are scanned on a high-speed processor and then sent to examiners around the world. This system of examination allows students to be assessed against the criteria and removes bias from grading. All examiners are trained and their grading is checked by a double-blind system throughout the grading process.

Once all exams are graded, a subject-area team meets in Cardiff, Wales at the IB assessment office to review the results. During this critical meeting, questions are reviewed and input from teachers regarding the exams is examined. This meeting then determines the markbands for the 1-7 scoring.

Q: *ARE IA STUDENTS PREPARED FOR THE IB EXAMS?*

A: In a word – yes. The IA prepares students for the IB assessments from the time students walk into the building. The process of critical thinking begins in ninth grade and continues throughout all four years. In junior and senior year, students work on many “practice” internal and external assessments to deepen critical thinking and problem-solving abilities prior to the actual assessment. These are the formative assessments created by IA faculty based upon previous IB questions. Formative assessments provide feedback and understanding of areas of growth. The IB internal and external are the summative or cumulative assessments.

IA students repeatedly score above the world average on IB exams. In May 2018, 365 students took the full IB diploma and 92% of these students earned the diploma. As the second largest IB diploma school in the world, this acquisition rate is outstanding.

Q: *WHAT ABOUT IB AND COLLEGE CREDIT?*

A: Every school differs on acceptance of college credit. Parents and students are counseled to look for proper placement in classes over just credit. General “credit” can be added to a college transcript but students are still required to take the same number of courses, often at a higher tuition rate. In general, IB credit is given for HL courses, however more schools are offering credit for SL courses as well. Students are counseled to take a college’s entrance exam for SL subjects for proper placement. For example, if a student took the Physics SL exam, go to the college and ask for the placement exam to place out of the freshman course.

The IA has created this document – [HL and College Credit: A Place To Start](#) – to help families understand how to view IB scores and college credit.

To see how colleges treat IB credit, these are some samples:

University of Michigan - <http://www.admissions.umich.edu/drupal/ib-guidelines>

Michigan State University - http://admissions.msu.edu/admission/freshmen_ap-ib-clep.asp

University of Pennsylvania - <http://www.admissions.upenn.edu/apply/freshman-admission/ap-ib-and-pre-college-credit#International%20Baccalaureate>

Alma College – 32 credits if IB diploma is earned - http://www.alma.edu/content/catalog05-06/1-advanced_placement.html

Q: *WHAT CAN I DO AS A PARENT TO HELP MY CHILD?*

A: Encourage them to sleep and prepare in advance for all assessments.

- For an internal assessment, students **MAY NOT BE ABSENT**. Work with your student and the teacher to insure attendance. Teachers publish the specific dates of internal assessments early and often students sign up for a particular session. KNOW THESE DATES.
- As parents, work hard to support but not stress out students. This is a delicate balance.