



International Academy West
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“One of America’s Top Ranking High Schools”
- Newsweek -
Ranked Among Top High Schools in the United States
- U.S. News and World Report -

Dear 12th Grade Parent,

Well, this is it - senior year! I am thrilled to continue working with your child and supporting him/her in all endeavors. The IA has some unique policies and procedures that are in place to ensure the long-term success of our students. Your son/daughter will again receive the student guidebook which outlines all of these policies and procedures. Given its detailed nature, the counseling department has highlighted some of the major points below to ensure you are fully informed, but hope you read the whole guidebook.

Senior Focus:

Please refer to the “senior to-do list” on the counseling page of the IA website to help determine what your child should focus on as a senior.

College & Career Planning:

College applications are now requiring much of your student’s free time. Please encourage your student to continue to utilize all of the resources in SCOIR. In addition, your student may want to meet with his/her counselor to verify applications and final details. Take the guesswork out of it and ask questions if there is any uncertainty. Be aware of deadlines. Plan to attend the Financial Aid evening program in September and the College Panel Night in October. Students will commit to their college choice by May 1st.

Standardized Testing:

Unless a student is retaking the ACT/SAT or taking SAT II subject tests, the only standardized tests this year are the IB Exams in May. Refer to the counseling website for more information. Students should be sure to send ACT/SAT test scores directly from the testing organization to the colleges to which they apply (don’t wait on this step).

IB Requirements:

Students will continuously work on their IB Courses. Students will work on CAS experiences & reflections through March 15th. Students will complete their Extended Essay by early fall of senior year. Seniors will pick their SL/HL exam subjects and pay for their IB tests early in first semester.

Grading Policies:

Please familiarize yourself with both the Grading Policy and the Failure and Low Grade Policy sections in the guidebook. Seniors with a first semester grade of D are not eligible to sit for the IB exam in that subject thus placing the IB diploma in jeopardy.

If you have questions about anything listed above, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Brigid Piagentini



*Principal: Lynne Gibson; Associate Principals: Ryan Brinks, Ryan Parrott, Christopher Smith; IB Coordinator: Sarah Fairman
Counselors: Lisa Ann Acton, Whitney Bernstein, Jane Dittus, Alex Phelps, and Brigid Piagentini*