

Dear 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent,

We look forward to another enriching and exciting year with your student. At this point, we hope that your child has settled into the IA community and is participating in many of the opportunities we offer. 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 during the first week of school. Given its detailed nature, the counseling department has highlighted some of the major points below to ensure you are fully informed, but we hope you read the whole guidebook.

**Sophomore Focus:**

Please refer to the “What Should I be doing this Year” on the counseling section of the IA website to help determine what your child should focus on as a sophomore.

**College & Career Planning:**

Students will be utilizing SCOIR to continue their post-secondary planning. Please encourage them to become familiar with all of the resources available in SCOIR. SCOIR is our new college planning platform that will be replacing Naviance.

**Standardized Testing:**

10<sup>th</sup> graders will take the PSAT 10 in April at school on a weekday. The PSAT 10 is a practice SAT designed for sophomores. More information will follow later in the year. No other testing is recommended and test preparation is not necessary.

**IB Requirements:**

10<sup>th</sup> grade students begin selecting IB courses during the second semester of this year. Sophomores will work on their Personal Projects in their MYP Product Team class during the first semester. Please be sure to attend the IB Information Night in March.

**Grading Policies:**

Please familiarize yourself with both the Grading Policy and the Failure and Low Grade Policy sections in the guidebook.

If you have questions about anything listed above, please contact your counselor. We look forward to another wonderful year with you and your student.

Lisa Acton and Jane Dittus, Counselors