

Why Pre-IB English 10 for nearly all 10th graders?

High School is about opening doors.

Despite wide disagreements about the role of schools and even the aims of education in our society, there is a growing consensus across a broad political and ideological spectrum that more students than ever before must graduate from high school prepared to meet high standards for postsecondary education or the workforce. The past few years have seen a movement among states and districts to eliminate barriers to college access and to increase student preparation and college attendance.

Northshore School District and Inglemoor High School are joining this movement to eliminate barriers that limit future options for our students. High school is a time to open doors, to explore, to find passions, and to get ready to make choices about life after high school. In 2019, we began this journey by having all 9th grade students take Pre-IB English 9. This is because we wanted all 9th grade students to begin in courses that prepare them to take many different courses, including eventual AP or IB courses. Currently, all 9th graders take the same version of Biology and the same version of Algebra 1 and Geometry. These courses open doors to the further study of both science and mathematics. The results were fantastic as students rose to the challenge. Academic success did not drop, and after 1 year, 51 more students signed up for Pre-IB English 10 than had the year before. After 4 years, the number of on-level English 10 classes dropped from 6 to 3; that is a difference of over 90 students. This tells us that all of our students are ready to take the same step in English 10 by all taking Pre-IB English 10.

Taking Pre-IB English 10 opens doors by preparing students to have the option to eventually take AP or IB courses in English, whereas the other course does not. Does this mean kids in Pre-IB English 10 have to take an AP or IB course later? No. Just like students in Biology do not have to take an AP or IB science class, students may still opt to take either our AP or IB English option for 11th grade, or on-level English 11. However, we are confident that every student will be prepared and have the option to take an upper level English class in 11th grade if they choose.

We know that some students will find Pre-IB English 10 challenging, and Inglemoor English teachers, counselors and Administrators are prepared to help any student who struggles. We currently have support mechanisms in place such as Study Buddies on Tuesdays and differentiated help within the classroom. More supports will be in place by the fall of 2023.

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Mission Statement

To provide a safe, caring environment that fosters life-long learning and inspires students to develop their full potential as contributing members of a global society.

If after reading the above information, you still want to opt out of Pre IB/AP English 10, here are the steps:

- 1. Contact your student's counselor about opting out.**
- 2. The counselor will register your student for either Pre-IB/AP English 10 or English 10 depending on what happens in the conversation between student, parent and counselor.**