



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

**PLAZA MIDDLE SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM**



Applications are now being accepted for the 2024-2025 school year.

January 8, 2024 is the deadline for applications.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Online application at <https://academyapplication.vbcps.com> for students within Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

PROGRAM INFORMATION NIGHTS

**PLAZA MIDDLE SCHOOL
3080 S. LYNNHAVEN ROAD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452**

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

6:00-8:00 PM

Students attending a Virginia Beach City Public School should submit their application online by January 8, 2024. All other students should mail their application directly to Plaza Middle School, Attn: Laura Purvis, 3080 S. Lynnhaven Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452, and must be postmarked by January 8, 2024. Questions? Email Laura Purvis, MYP Academy Coordinator, at laura.purvis@vbschools.com.

The IB Middle Years Program Overview

Our world places many changing demands on students in their adolescence. They are at a crucial period of personal, social, physical, and intellectual development, of uncertainty and of questioning. The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP) is designed to help them find a sense of belonging in the ever-changing and increasingly interrelated world around them and to foster a positive attitude to learning.

Recognized around the world as a premier program of study, the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program focuses on thematic instruction where learning is part of an integrated whole. Important concepts that support global thinking, civic-mindedness, and service learning are fundamental to the program. Students in the MYP are bright, passionate young people who thrive on challenges and real-world problem solving. Involved in school and in their communities, these leaders of tomorrow know they can make a difference. We promote intercultural understanding and respect as an essential part of life in the 21st century.

IB MYP Mission Statement

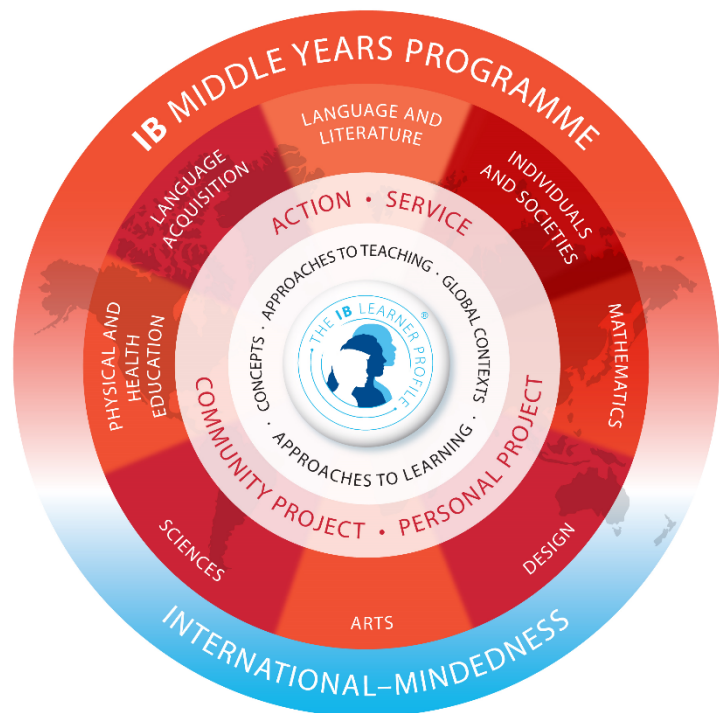
The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end, the organization works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

The overall philosophy of the program is expressed through three fundamental concepts that support and strengthen all areas of the curriculum: INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS, HOLISTIC LEARNING, and COMMUNICATION.

Middle Years Program Model



Taken as a whole, the curriculum provides a balanced education that will equip young people for effective participation in the modern world. More information can be accessed online at <http://www.ibo.org/>



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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APPLICATION

Advanced Academic Program

Plaza Middle School
International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP)

APPLICATION DUE: January 8, 2024

Student Data Sheet

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home Address _____
(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Current Grade Level _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Perm # _____ Phone # _____

Mother's/Guardian's Name _____ Phone # _____

Father's/Guardian's Name _____ Phone # _____

Current School _____ Zoned Middle School _____

Parent/Guardian's Email _____

I give permission for my student to be issued a VBCPS email account for the sole use of the school management software ManageBac for the duration of their enrollment in the program.

Parent Signature: _____

Please list below the core curriculum teachers from whom you have requested recommendations:

1. _____ Subject: Mathematics (Recommendation #1)
2. _____ Subject: English (Recommendation #2)

Student's Career Aspiration: _____



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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STUDENT ESSAY

Student's Name: _____

In the space provided, please write a short **Essay** addressing your personal mission statement as a learner and why you believe the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program is the ideal environment to facilitate your growth as that learner (*Essay is to be student's own work and in Times New Roman 12-point font*).

Student's Signature

Date



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

STUDENT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/COMMUNITY SERVICE/AWARDS/HONORS

Student's Name: _____

In the space provided, list the **Extracurricular Activities/Community Service** in which you participate (school and/or community).

In the space provided, list the **Awards/Honors** you have received in school.



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM # 1

These are confidential recommendations and will not be shared with the applicant or their parents.

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Subject: _____

Directions to Student: Complete the information above and give a separate form to the following two teachers for recommendations: current mathematics teacher and current English teacher.

Directions to Teacher: The student listed above is applying for admission to a Virginia Beach City Public Schools advanced academic program. Please mark the box below that best represents your assessment of this student's Learner Profile. Specific examples may be included in written description on the next page.

	Almost Always	Often	Seldom
Inquirer - Develops natural curiosity. Acquires skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. Actively enjoys learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knowledgeable - Explores concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, acquires in-depth knowledge and develops understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thinker - Exercises initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and makes reasoned, ethical decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicator - Understands and expresses ideas and information confidently and creatively. Works effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Principled - Acts with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice, and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups, and communities. Takes responsibilities for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open-minded - Understands and appreciates their own culture and personal histories and are open to the perspectives, values, and traditions of other individuals and communities. Accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view and are willing to grow from the experience.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring - Shows empathy, compassion, and respect towards needs and feelings of others. Have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk-takers - Approaches unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought and have independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas, and strategies. Brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Balanced - Understands the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reflective - Gives thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. Are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Organized - Manages time, resources, and materials in an efficient way; meets deadlines; divides tasks into subtasks; long-term planner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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OVER

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM # 1

Student's Name:_____

Please provide any comments that might assist us in determining your child's potential to succeed in a rigorous academic program. (Do not exceed one page and use Times New Roman 12-point font).

Teacher, please check only one:

	Highly recommend	Recommend	Recommend with Reservations	Do not Recommend
Overall Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Teacher's Signature

Date

Thank you for completing this form. Your input is valued.
Please return this form to the guidance counselor indicated on the front prior to January 8, 2024.



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM # 2

These are confidential recommendations and will not be shared with the applicant or their parents.

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Subject: _____

Directions to Student: Complete the information above and give a separate form to the following two teachers for recommendations: current mathematics teacher and current English teacher.

Directions to Teacher: The student listed above is applying for admission to a Virginia Beach City Public Schools advanced academic program. Please mark the box below that best represents your assessment of this student's Learner Profile. Specific examples may be included in written description on the next page.

	Almost Always	Often	Seldom
Inquirer - Develops natural curiosity. Acquires skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. Actively enjoys learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knowledgeable - Explores concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, acquires in-depth knowledge and develops understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thinker - Exercises initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and makes reasoned, ethical decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicator - Understands and expresses ideas and information confidently and creatively. Works effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Principled - Acts with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice, and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups, and communities. Takes responsibilities for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open-minded - Understands and appreciates their own culture and personal histories and are open to the perspectives, values, and traditions of other individuals and communities. Accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view and are willing to grow from the experience.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring - Shows empathy, compassion, and respect towards needs and feelings of others. Have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk-taker - Approaches unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought and have independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas, and strategies. Brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Balanced - Understands the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reflective - Considers their own learning and experience. Are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organized - Manages time, resources, and materials in an efficient way; meets deadlines; divides tasks into subtasks; long-term planner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM # 2

Student's Name: _____

Please provide any 1 comments that might assist us in determining your child's potential to succeed in a rigorous academic program. (Do not exceed one page and use Times New Roman 12-point font).

Teacher, please check only one:

	Highly recommend	Recommend	Recommend with Reservations	Do not Recommend
Overall Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Teacher's Signature

Date

Thank you for completing this form. Your input is valued.
Please return this form to the guidance counselor indicated on the front prior to January 8, 2024.



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

PARENT RECOMMENDATION FORM

Student's Name: _____

Directions to Student: Complete the information above and have a parent or guardian complete this form.

Directions to Parent: Your child is applying for admission to a Virginia Beach City Public Schools advanced academic program. Please mark the box below that best represents your assessment of your child's Learner Profile. Specific examples may be included in written description on the next page.

	Almost Always	Often	Seldom
Inquirer - Develops natural curiosity. Acquires skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. Actively enjoys learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knowledgeable - Explores concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, acquires in-depth knowledge and develops understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thinker - Exercises initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and makes reasoned, ethical decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicator - Understands and expresses ideas and information confidently and creatively. Works effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Principled - Acts with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice, and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups, and communities. Takes responsibilities for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open-minded - Understands and appreciates their own culture and personal histories and are open to the perspectives, values, and traditions of other individuals and communities. Accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view and are willing to grow from the experience.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring - Shows empathy, compassion, and respect towards needs and feelings of others. Have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk-taker - Approaches unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought and have independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas, and strategies. Brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Balanced - Understands the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reflective - Gives thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. Are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organized - Manages time, resources, and materials in an efficient manner; meets deadlines; divides tasks into subtasks; long-term planner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OVER

PARENT RECOMMENDATION FORM

Student's Name: _____

Please provide any 1 comments that might assist us in determining your child's potential to succeed in a rigorous academic program.
(Do not exceed one page and use Times New Roman 12-point font).

Parent's Name (Printed)

Parent's Signature

Date

Thank you for completing this form. Your input is valued.

Please return this form to the guidance counselor indicated on the front prior to January 8, 2024.



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

ADMISSIONS AGREEMENT

The Virginia Beach City Public Schools Academy Programs and Advanced Academic Programs offer a broad variety of specialized curricula for highly interested and motivated students. For students to be successful in these programs, the student must be a consistent, dedicated learner. Therefore, Virginia Beach City Public Schools require that students and parents make the following commitment.

I agree to the following terms and conditions for participating in a Virginia Beach City Public Schools Academy Program or Advanced Academic Program. I will

1. follow the rules of the Academy or Advanced Academic Program as well as those rules outlined in the *Student Handbook* and *Code of Student Conduct*.
2. actively participate in each class by being prepared, listening attentively, offering relevant comments, posing insightful questions, taking notes, and doing any other activities necessary to meet the expectations set forth for each class.
3. submit quality work in a timely fashion seeking additional assistance from my instructors as needed.
4. manifest the highest degree of academic integrity. Incidents of cheating may be grounds for immediate removal from the program.
5. maintain an excellent attendance record, scheduling appointments or vacations at times that do not conflict with classes.
6. fulfill all academy or advanced academic program requirements.

I understand that if I do not meet the standards or follow the rules of an academy program or advanced academic program, I may be asked to withdraw from the program to enroll in a course of study which better meets my needs. If I am asked to withdraw from an academy or advanced academic program, by the program coordinator, I understand that I may appeal that decision to the building principal. **I also understand that if I leave the academy program or advanced academic program, I must return to my zoned school, and, according to Virginia High School League rules, I would not be eligible to participate in VHSL activities for 365 days unless I was granted a waiver under VHSL rule 28-6-2(14).**

Student's Signature

Date

I hereby grant permission and consent for my son/daughter to enroll in a Virginia Beach City Public Schools academy program or advanced academic program and agree to all terms listed above. Finally, I will support my child's academic growth and encourage development of independent study skills. I understand that my son/daughter may be withdrawn from an academy or advanced academic program by the program coordinator and/or the principal if he/she does not fulfill the terms of this agreement.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date



Directions to the Student: Students attending a Virginia Beach City Public School should submit their application online. All other students should mail their application, postmarked by January 10, 2022, directly to Plaza Middle School International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program Coordinator, 3080 S. Lynnhaven Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452. **Application deadline is January 8, 2024. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

[illegible]

Because you have the opportunity to see this student from a different perspective, your opinion is important to the selection committee. Please indicate below your assessment of this student's potential for success. If you wish to provide additional information, please add your comments to the back of this sheet.

	Highly recommend	Recommend	Recommend with Reservations	Do not Recommend
Overall Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 1. Student Data Sheet
- 2. Student Essay
- 3. Student Extra-curricular Activities & Community Service/Awards & Honors
- 4. Teacher's Recommendation Form #1
- 5. Teacher's Recommendation Form #2
- 6. Parent's Recommendation Form
- 7. Copy of Fourth Grade Report Card and Fifth Grade Report Card through current 1st semester (front and back)
- 8. Copy of Standardized Test Scores such as: Grade 4 Math and Reading SOLs/Final Grade 4 and First Grade 5 SRI and/or SMI, Naglieri, etc...
- 9. Signed Admissions Agreement
- 10. Signed Counselor's Form

Counselor's printed name: _____

Counselor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for assisting in the completion of this student's application packet

Donald Robertson, Jr., Ph.D., Acting Superintendent
Virginia Beach City Public Schools
2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038

For further information, please call (757) 648-4900

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation/gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, disability, marital status, age, genetic information or veteran status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and regulations (including, but not limited to, Policies 2-33, 4-4, 4-6, 4-43, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 4-4.1, 4-4.2, 4-6.1, 4-43.1, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials and extracurricular activities.

To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write Catherine Susewind, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 3080 South Lynnhaven Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452 Telephone 648-4900 (voice); fax 757-431-5331 263-1240 (TDD) or email him/her at catherine.susewind@vbschools.com.

Your virtual link to Hampton Roads' largest school system

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