



# Harding

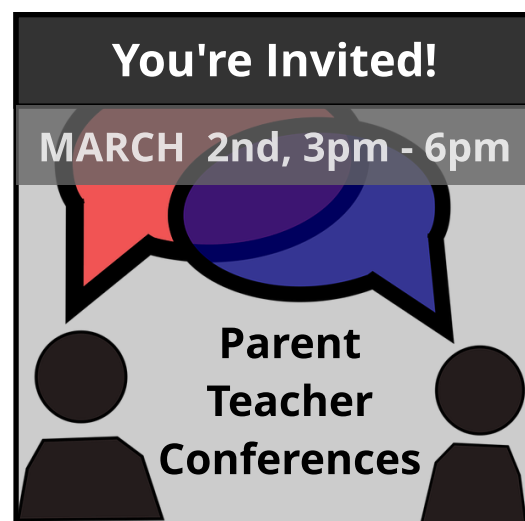
# Parent Newsletter

## WELCOME TO 2ND SEMESTER

We hope your son/daughter is now used to our school routine and is comfortable talking with their teachers.

Your involvement in their learning can make such a difference in their success. Here are some good ways to become involved and help them be successful.

- Attendance is a real key to success in school. When students are tardy, we call parents. The Campus Parent Portal will let you monitor attendance and academic performance.
  - Each student will do better when they know someone cares how they are doing. We are working with families to build caring relationships so all of our students feel connected at Harding.
  - Parent Teacher Conferences are a good opportunity to talk with teachers and hear students talk about their progress. Our final conference will be Thursday, March 2 from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M. New at this conference, we will conduct these meetings in the classrooms rather than in the hall. We hope you will enjoy your conversations with our teachers while you also learn more about the classroom environment.
  - Keep up to date on your child's progress! On the Harding Website, <http://harding.spps.org>, click "ONE STOP". Here you can access student grades, missing assignments, etc. through SCHOOLGY or CAMPUS. Need help with your Parent log-in information? Call the Harding Office. 651-293-4700.
- Support for your student is available! Contact your student's Counselor for tutoring and other available support. 651-293- 4700.
- Parent Engagement monthly meetings in which we work to create a community where parents and teachers collaborate to support students' educational experiences.
  - Our Harding website has a new look and feel! The most noticeable change can be seen on phones, where the site automatically adjusts itself to the size of your screen. All of the information on the old site is still available on the new site.



Please take advantage of these opportunities to help your child. We want all of our students to be successful!

-Doug Revsbeck, Principal



# Harding Parent Newsletter

## HARDING KNIGHTS OF EXCELLENCE



Congratulations to the students awarded the first ever Knight of Excellence. These students were nominated by their teachers because they exhibit the qualities we hope all students develop through the International Baccalaureate Program.

### COMMUNICATOR

Mark Williams

### RISK TAKER

Tavonne Miller-Celestine

### THINKER

Boon Xiong

### CARING

Martinie Chhin

### INQUIRER

Kenji Thao

### KNOWLEDGEABLE

Elizabeth Kue

### OPEN-MINDED

Trayshawn McShan

### BALANCED

Chao Xiong

### PRINCIPILED

Dominique McGowan

### REFLECTIVE

Erica Phillips



## ATHLETICS UPDATE

We are winding down our winter sports season. Our boy's swimmers and wrestlers have just completed their end of season conference tournaments - and both were very successful. We have a couple of wrestlers we are hoping advance to the state tournament this season.

The boy's and girl's basketball teams are also moving towards the end of the season - they both have a few conference games left and then move into tournament play. The winter sport teams had very good numbers - we were blessed with great participation and very good student/athletes.

We are now starting to look forward towards spring sports- as badminton starts on March 6, softball and track on March 13th, baseball and boy's and girl's golf starts on March 20th, and boy's tennis begins on March 27. We are looking for a large turn out this spring - encourage your young person to stop by the athletic office and turn in forms and fee so they are ready to go when their sport starts.

Go to the Harding athletic web site to get forms - [hardingathletics.org](http://hardingathletics.org) - copy and mail out the forms - check the fee for your sport - and be sure your young person has a good physical exam on file at school. They are good for three years. Give us a call if you are not sure and we will check for you. 651-744-3236.

### Start Dates for Spring Sports

March  
6

Badminton begins.

March  
13

Track and softball begins.

March  
20

Boy's and girl's golf

March  
27

Boy's tennis



Image courtesy of the Harding Beacon, March 2016



# Harding Parent Newsletter



Harding is celebrating its 23rd year as an IB World School! There is so much to celebrate in our diverse, challenging, nurturing and flexible Diploma Program. All of our Harding IB DP students graduate prepared for the academic challenges of university and our 2016 IB DP graduates are currently in colleges all across the USA (Augsburg, Boston, Carleton, Century, St. Ben's/St. John's, Hamline, Macalester, Mankato, Princeton, St. Paul College, St. Kate's, St. Cloud, Stanford, UMD, UMTC, Yale and many, many more).

## Looking back at 2015-2016:

- Congratulations to the 14 students who worked toward earning their IB Diplomas!
- Congratulations to the 287 students who took 1 or more IB DP exam last May!
- Congratulations to the 485 students who took 1 or more IB DP class last year!

Last year was filled with many, many successes. Harding's IB Diploma Program boasted 287 students taking 714 IB DP exams! These numbers continue to qualify Harding for the Washington Post's renowned "Challenge Index" -- which annually identifies America's best high schools. To find a place on this list, schools must have given at least as many IB DP or AP exams as the school had graduating seniors. Harding has been on this list for the last several years and this recognition raises our profile statewide and nationally.



We are proud to declare that three of our IB Diploma Candidates earned the very challenging IB Diploma last May—the ultimate academic achievement at Harding.

## Looking forward to 2016-2017:

Harding's IB Diploma Program continues to grow, with more and more students challenging themselves with IB DP classes. It is our goal that EVERY student who attends Harding takes at least one IB DP class either in 11th or 12th grade (or both!). The class of 2016 has 16 students striving to earn the IB Diploma. These students will take at least 3 "Higher Level" and 3 "Standard Level" IB DP classes and exams, as well as complete an Extended Essay (EE), "Creativity, Activity & Service" (CAS) hours and expand their minds with the Theory of Knowledge (ToK) class.

## 2016 IB Diploma Candidates

Gabriel Das	Osman Sesay	Kathleen Tran	Bae Wa
Vue Pao Her	Bao Nhia Thao	Tri Tran	Jenny Yang
Pa Dao Moua	Pa Thao	Summer Vang	
Grace Passus-Yang	Philip Thao	Yeng H. Vang	



# Harding Parent Newsletter

## IB DEPARTMENT CONTINUED

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- There are 1007 Harding students taking at least one Accelerated or IB DP course this year—which means that at least 54% of Harding students are taking academically rigorous classes. Many of these students are taking 2+ classes.
- Harding's AVID program is a key player in creating these wonderful numbers—AVID gives students the skills they need to be successful in school as well as encourages them to take at least one academically rigorous course each year.

### Helpful Things to Know...

- IB has a website that features statistics, information and much, much more—including old exam papers that students can download for practice for free! The website is:  
**[www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)**
- Want to know a college's policies regarding IB DP exam scores? Simple Google search the college's "IB credit policy." For example, search for "Macalester College IB credit policy" and you'll quickly find what you're looking for!

### IB DP EXAMS ARE COMING!

The month of May can be a very stressful and challenging month for our IB testing juniors and seniors. Parents and guardians can support their IB students by encouraging their students to try their best on the exams, to make sure their students are getting enough sleep and are eating healthy, balanced meals. Go to <http://harding.spps.org/Page/11814> for the complete testing schedule.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR IB DP EXAM PROCTORING IN MAY

Want to volunteer to help Harding's IB program? We would greatly appreciate your help! Please contact coordinator, Erik Brandt, at [Erik.Brandt@spps.org](mailto:Erik.Brandt@spps.org) or 651-744-3095

Please contact Erik Brandt if you have questions about the IB Diploma Program.

Erik Brandt

IB DP Coordinator

[Erik.Brandt@spps.org](mailto:Erik.Brandt@spps.org)

651-744-3095





We are excited to announce that Harding is a full IB school! Last year our Middle Year's Program (MYP) was authorized by the International Baccalaureate (IB) to become an official IB program. This is a huge accomplishment for our school and a great opportunity for our students! The Middle Years Program at Harding includes all of our 9th and 10th grade students. It provides a framework of learning, which encourages students to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers. We focus heavily on the skills students need to become independent learners and be successful at Harding and beyond. The MYP encourages students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and to the real world. The traditional subjects include:

- English/Language and Literature
- Math
- Science
- World Language/Language Acquisition (a language other than the mother tongue)
- Social Studies/Individuals and Societies
- Physical Education/Health
- Tech/Design
- Art

In their 10th grade year, each student completes a personal project. This is a significant piece of work of the student's choice that is the product of the student's own initiative and creativity. It includes a product, journal and a report. Students have been working very hard since October to complete their projects. The due date is March 1 with a showcase being held at Harding March 15. If you are interested in attending, contact the MYP coordinator to find out where your child will be presenting.

If you have questions about the MYP or would like more information, you may contact the MYP coordinator, Shandyn Benson.

[Shandyn.Benson@spps.org](mailto:Shandyn.Benson@spps.org)

651-744-3263



## Tech & Library

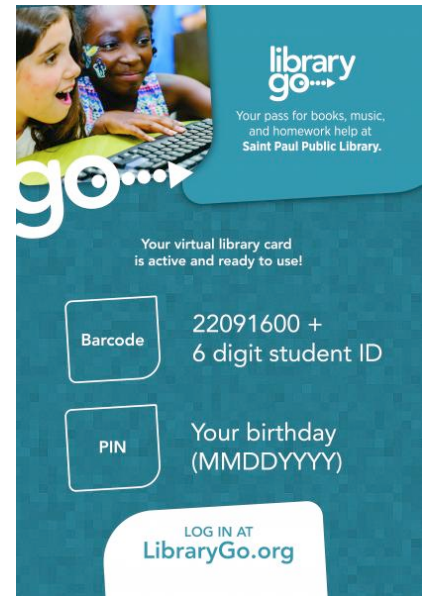
### Free Resources through Library Go

This year, Saint Paul Public Schools and Saint Paul Public Libraries partnered together to bring a library card to every student. These digital cards give students access to many resources, including:

- Homework Rescue, an online tutoring service
- eBooks and eAudiobooks
- Test Prep
- Up to 5 books or movies from the library
- Research resources
- Free Music downloads

Go to <http://sppl.org/go/students> for more information, or tell your student to stop by the library.

**Betsy Dadabo, Librarian** · [betsy.dadabo@spps.org](mailto:betsy.dadabo@spps.org) · 651-744-3159



### iPad News

Hello Parents,

Your students are experiencing learning on a new level this year as teachers and students become more familiar with the wonderful opportunities that can be accessed through digital means. Please reinforce the following with your students:

1. EVERY IPAD - EVERY DAY - EVERY HOUR! Students should have their iPads charged and at school for every class period.
2. REMEMBER THE DIGITAL FOOTPRINT YOU ARE BUILDING WITH EVERY POST: What you post on the internet, or send digitally, is out there forever, and can be accessed by future employers or colleges. Leave a POSITIVE digital footprint!
3. NEVER REMOVE THE CASE! If case is removed, the warranty is null and void and the \$400 replacement cost may be charged to student/family.
4. LEAVE CORDS AND BRICKS AT HOME IN A SAFE PLACE! Students must return their Apple brand cord and charger brick with their iPad at the end of the year. Replacement costs \$13 for each piece.

Please contact the main office if you don't know how to see your student's grades or attendance.

THANK YOU! With your support, we can teach students how to navigate and be safe in the digital world.

**Margie Motzel, Harding Tech TOSA** · [margaret.motzel@stpaul.k12.mn.us](mailto:margaret.motzel@stpaul.k12.mn.us) · 651-744-3165