

### **Philosophy**

The faculty and staff of W.E. Mitchell Middle School (MMS) and Cordova High School (CHS) recognize that our student body is diverse and that the needs of students can and do vary. We believe it is our duty as educators to identify the needs of our students and to recognize that this diversity of needs is a strength and a resource and an opportunity to provide a stronger and more balanced education. At W.E. Mitchell Middle School and Cordova High School our goal is to increase access to learning for all students. We believe that it is our job to identify and remove the barriers that may prevent a student from fully accessing programs, including the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP).

### **Identification**

It is important that faculty teaching within the IB Middle Years Programme at MMS and CHS are aware of the needs of their various students. To meet this end, the MYP Coordinator will work the Special Education Department to identify which students in the Middle Years Programme are currently on an IEP or a 504 plan. Teachers of students with a 504 plan or IEP are given copies of the accommodations necessary for the student and are required to implement those accommodations. Parents of students with an IEP or a 504 plan attend annual meetings to discuss their student's progress and accommodations. Teachers with students on an IEP or a 504 plan are strongly encouraged to attend these meetings so that they can better understand the nature of their student's accommodations.

### **Meeting Needs within the Classroom**

The MYP Coordinator acts as a resource and intermediary for parents, students and teachers. To this end, the MYP Coordinator can and will conference with parents, students and teachers to discuss the best ways to meet the student's special needs within the classroom.

### **Meeting Needs with MYP Personal Project**

It is the Coordinator's duty to monitor a student's progress toward completion of the MYP Personal Project in year 5. The Coordinator will be responsible for informing parents, teachers, and students of the options available to them within the IB regulations. Each student will be given the opportunity to work with a Folsom Cordova Unified faculty member. This faculty member will serve as the student's supervisor through the Personal Project. In addition, students are encouraged to work with a mentor who can provide additional support.