

Assessment Policy for the IB Programme

The Mount Pleasant High School and Talley Middle School IB Programme is committed to the success of each student. The faculty aims to prepare students in anticipation of their IB assessments, by effectively and efficiently delivering course curricula, providing opportunities for students to display content knowledge in a variety of ways, providing students with practice IB assessment opportunities, familiarizing students with the IB assessment procedure and ensuring that student workload is manageable. Understanding that we have two programmes, **MYP and DP it is important to have a vertical alignment from one to the other. To ensure the above standards are maintained, the following principles have been adopted for each programme.**

1. Students will receive guidance and support in course selection that provides them the highest potential for success.

Our students are assisted in course scheduling by guidance counselors, teachers and other stakeholders to help students with decisions that will lead them to success.

2. Students will be adequately prepared for the IB assessments through practice examinations and exposure to scoring criteria.

MYP

- a. Middle Years Programme (MYP) at Talley Middle School and Mount Pleasant High School, students will be assessed according to IB Criterion at least twice a year in each MYP course. Students learn important skills in the MYP program that are practiced, modified and mastered to ensure success in the DP.
- b. We suggest that topics and skills are revisited often and across curriculum to ensure understanding. For example, multiple writing opportunities in a variety of curricula and styles will help students succeed in assessments like but not limited to the Personal Project.
- c. MYP Monitoring Assessment samples will be used as available for assessing student progress.

DP

- a. Mount Pleasant High School administers the Diploma Programme (DP). These programmes are carried out so that students have the full benefit of the MYP and the DP continuum.
- b. Assessment topics and skills are revisited often and across curriculum to ensure understanding. For example, multiple writing opportunities in a variety of curricula and styles will help students succeed in assessments like but not limited to the Extended Essay. [ATT: Teaching focused conceptual learning.]
- c. Students are exposed to practice IB exams and are given multiple opportunities to complete practice IB exams and sample IB questions prior to the examination session. Our teachers use released IB exams and mark schemes to expose our students to question formatting and terminology that may be different from the language most students are familiar with.
- d. It is required that IB teachers provide students with opportunities for a timed practice IB examination over the course of the two years of the DP.

3. IB teachers will be provided with examination data and will be required to establish goals for the following year based on previous examination session data. Examination data will serve to drive curriculum changes in all IB courses. Teaching informed by assessment (formative and summative).

MYP

- a. Teachers will develop their data from internal assessments conducted twice a year as prescribed by IBO.
- b. Subject assessment samples from IBO MYP monitoring will be made available for staff to use for vertical alignment.

DP

- a. Predicted grades and awarded grades for the previous examination session
- b. Subject component grades for the previous examination session
- c. Curriculum examination data since the first examination session, including school average and worldwide average for each subject area.
- d. Examination copies from the previous examination session.
- e. EUR reports for subjects in which students performed worse than predicted, performed below the worldwide average or when specifically requested by the subject area teacher.

4. Classroom grading practices will be designed to support IB assessment criteria in all IB courses.

MYP

- a. Students will receive a semester update on their progress based on IB grading of their work. The grading will be determined by the IB MYP General Levels of Achievement. (Middle Years Handbook)
- b. MYP teachers (Years 1-5) will provide an end of year assessment grade based on the criterion rubrics of the course.

DP

- a. Our school provides a framework for the weighting of grades.
- b. Within IB courses, teachers reflect the internal assessment versus external assessment in the content areas and assignments.
- c. IB Criterion Rubrics are used on internal and external assessment practiced throughout the year.

5. Inquiry will be encouraged in all classes. [ATT: Teaching based on inquiry.]

- a. Teachers will model questioning for students to encourage an atmosphere of inquiry
- b. Teachers will allow opportunities where students may ask questions in a comfortable manner.
- c. Good questioning techniques provide a useful resource for formative assessment and evaluate student understanding.

Reporting Assessment Data

Throughout a course, teachers will assess each IB Rubric (**MYP/DP**) in their subject area at least twice per year. At the end of the course, teachers will determine and report to parents and guardians the appropriate judgment for each criterion and assign a student an IB MYP mark of 1- 7 using the grade boundaries for their subject. After determining the MYP criterion related marks, teachers will then use the established and agreed upon conversions to the BSD grading system. The MYP criteria are the used as part of the grading for student's quarterly grade.

DP rubrics and mark schemes are used throughout the year in the 8 subject areas as measures of student performance and evaluation towards successful participation in the IB Diploma programme.

*see the MYP and DP Parent & Student Handbooks for details on grading and assessments

Ongoing Parent Communication

- Teachers will update parents about student assessments on a regular basis, using different modes of communication.
- Teachers will share individual student performance information with tutors for bimonthly updates.
- Teachers will electronically share examples of student work with parents.
- Teachers will call or email parents directly as needed in order to keep them informed.