

Alverta B. Gray Schultz Middle School

IB MYP Candidate School*

Spring 2021 Update



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The Middle Years Program (MYP) is one of three programs offered by the International Baccalaureate Organization. It is designed for students age 11 – 16. We are currently in the authorization phase for grades 6 – 8. The MYP meets students where they are academically, socially, and emotionally. The program seeks to provide students with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to be successful inside and outside of the classroom.

At ABGS, we believe that all students can achieve at high levels when they are both challenged and nurtured. MYP provides a healthy balance of student-centered teaching, inquiry-based instruction, service, and academic support that will help all students perform at their full potential.

The Middle Years Program involves ALL students, ALL teachers, and ALL courses. It is inclusive and focused on every student. During middle school years, students are in a crucial period of personal, social, physical, and intellectual development. The MYP is designed to help them find a sense of belonging in this ever-changing and increasingly interrelated world and to foster a positive attitude toward learning.

Alverta B. Gray Schultz (ABGS) Middle School is a candidate school* for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme and pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to improve the teaching and learning of a diverse and inclusive community of students by delivering challenging, high quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision.** Only schools authorized by the International Baccalaureate can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme or the IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit www.ibo.org

**Mission Statement from the IB 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 programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

IBorg Middle Years Program

For additional information on MYP Middle Years Program

Inquiry Based Instruction

Inquiry-Based Learning: Developing Student-Driven Questions



Monthly IB Learner Profile Assemblies



Monthly assemblies are held to celebrate students who represent characteristics of the specific learner profile trait that is highlighted for each month. During the COVID-19 pandemic these ceremonies continue virtually.

April * give thoughtful consideration to the own learning and experience.*	Learner Profile Traits Calendar 	May * act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for myself and others.*
June * understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication*	IB Logo	September * will acquire the necessary knowledge, inquiry and research, and show independence in learning.*

IB Monthly Calendar 2020 - 2021



Inquirer



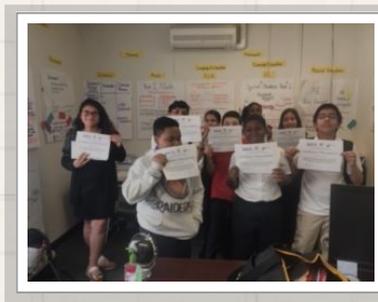
Knowledgeable



Inquirer



Knowledgeable



Leadership



Knowledgeable

ABGS Eighth Grade Community Project

We Care about our Community!

ABGS Students are fully immersed in their respective community projects. Our 8th graders are nearing the end of their Community Projects! They have worked tirelessly on researching a topic of interest that they feel will benefit their community. They utilized a range of critical thinking and research skills to complete and be prepared to present their projects by the end of Spring 2021.

ABGS, partnered with over 20 community agencies as part of the Nassau Coalition of Services to assist students by mentoring and helping students to bring to life their visions of social justice, eradicating bullying, and building home for the homeless to name a few of their much needed ideas for change in the community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the students' work was done independently and their collaboration with teachers and mentors was done virtually. However, the students made the adjustment and worked diligently to develop and share their vision.



Community



Altruism



Festive



Compassion



Caring



Service

Yes We Can

ABGS students enjoy the benefits hydration stations

For the 2019 - 2020 school year student ambassadors surveyed the student body at ABGS to determine the top three initiatives that would be the focus for the school year. The top request was that of improved water fountains. Through the efforts of Ms. Jovin, Director of School Implementation, a grant was secured through the Participatory Budgeting Project. As a result, 10 Hydration Stations are now here at ABGS! They were installed at the start of the school year. The hydration stations allow students to drink refreshing filtered water as well as being equipped with an additional spout to fill water bottles. We are currently voting on our next Participatory Budget initiative, so stay tuned!

Participatory Budgeting Project ...

www.participatorybudgeting.org



Participatory Budgeting in Schools



The Power of Teamwork

IB Students Ambassadors gained valuable knowledge by attending the LICEE Leadership Institute. As a result, students collaborated, brainstormed and set goals. Students brought back ideas to present to the student body and all students participated by voting for the 10 new hydration stations now being enjoyed by students and staff at ABGS..



Leadership
Planning



Hydration Station



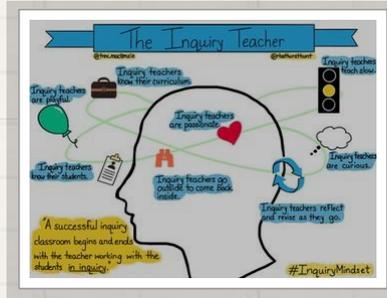
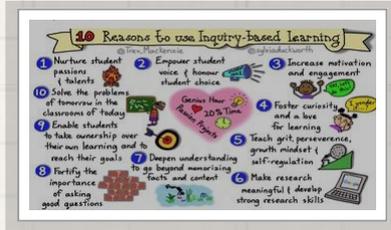
Collaboration and
Brainstorming

IB based Curriculum and Instruction 2019-2020

The IB content specific training ABGS teachers attended and worked diligently to develop Units of Inquiry across all core content areas in 2019, is now being implemented in their instructional practices. The units are standards based, comprehensive, and involve collaborative efforts and ideas from all ABGS teachers. At the core of the units

are Power standards that were used to reinforce areas identified through analysis of NYS assessment data.

Additionally, teachers attended a 2-day 2019 Summer Learning Institute that highlighted IB principles of Growth Mindset and Understanding by Design (UBD) model. IB Professional learning is on-going and targeted inform instructional practices.



A Summary of the MYP Assessment Criteria

Area	Individuals & Societies	Language and Communication	Language Acquisition	Mathematics	Science and Technology	Arts	Physical Education
Learning and Understanding	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4
Communicating	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4
Thinking	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4
Responding	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4

Learning and Teaching through Inquiry

The Inquiry Teacher

MYP Assessment Criteria