



SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL



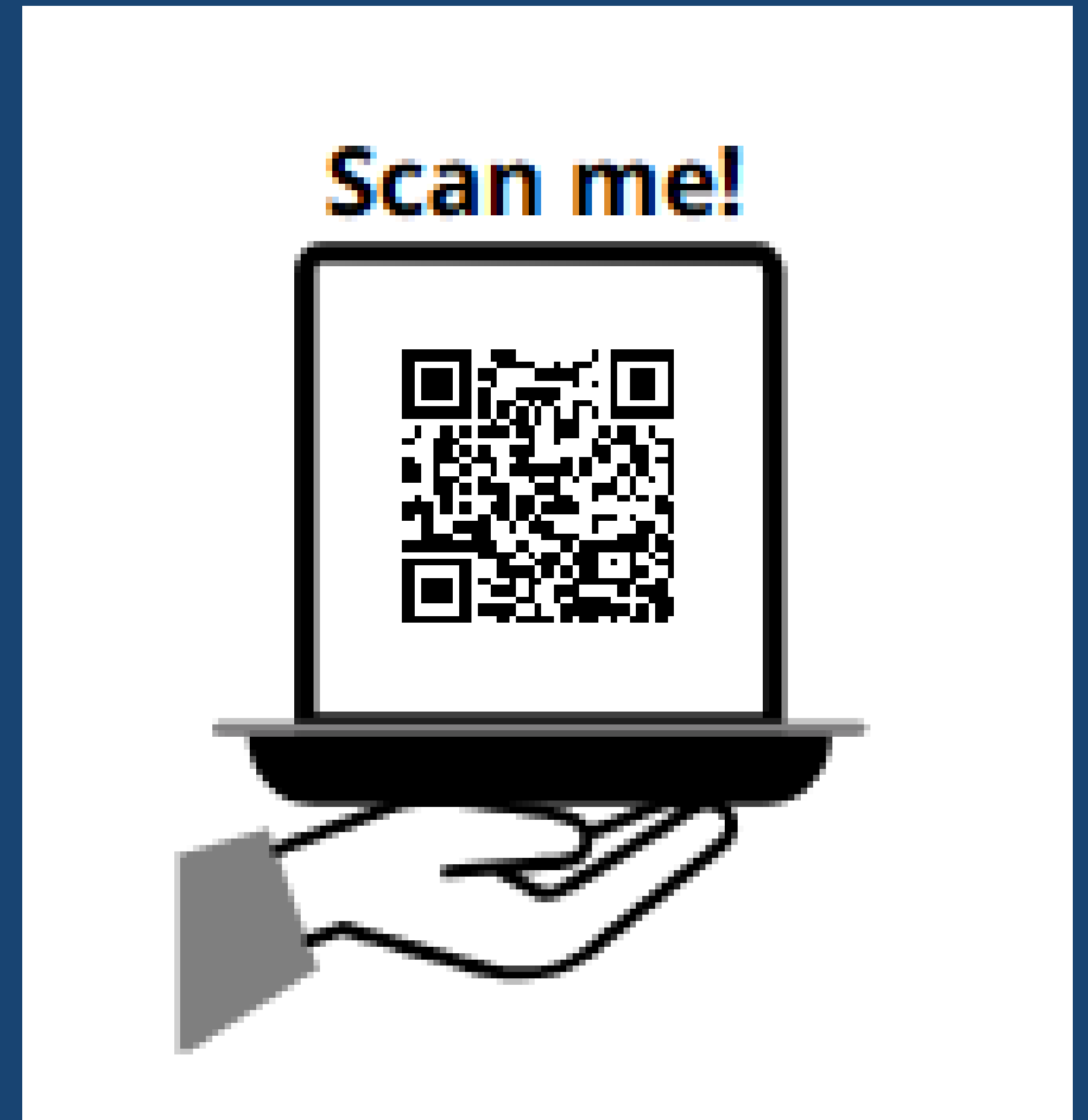
Diploma
Programme



Have you considered becoming an IB Diploma Candidate?



Scan Here for a link
to this Power Point
Slide Deck



Scan Here for a link to
the SHS IB DP Student
Handbook

DO YOU ENJOY ASKING QUESTIONS?

How does doubt impact our pursuit of knowledge?

How do we know when we are interpreting data correctly?

Should we use scientific knowledge that was gained in unethical ways?

How does the way that knowledge is conveyed, stored, or shared impact its power?

Can “bad” people produce “good” art or literature?

What is the Diploma Programme?

- 2 year comprehensive college preparatory programme
- Classes are focused on the interconnectedness between subjects with an international mindset
- Classes can be used for college credit
- Multiple ways to demonstrate mastery
- Internationally sanctioned diploma
- Students can participate in the full program, or choose to take a few classes

How Do Colleges View IB?



"NYU recognizes the rigor and difficulty of the IB diploma program, and welcomes many high-achieving students each year to our three degree-granting campuses who have successfully graduated from the program."



"RIT considers the IB Diploma program to be among the most rigorous curricula offered worldwide. To be competitive for admission to RIT, students should be pursuing the diploma if they attend an IB school.

Automatic IB Diploma Scholarship
25,000/year offered to freshmen who have earned an IB diploma.



"Take the most rigorous classes that you can. Academically, this [junior year] should be your most challenging year... **Do the IB programme if your school offers it. The IB diploma is more valuable than individual IB classes, but it requires more, like community service and a research paper...**

Take the most challenging courses that you can... Colleges take into account what opportunities you had as well as what you did with those opportunities. Talk to your academic counselor if you need help with your plan—they are your friends."

See page 10 of the handbook



"Cornell is a leader among American Universities in enrolling undergraduate students who have earned the International Baccalaureate (IB). **Cornell regards the IB program as a rigorous, advanced program of study,** and students are pleased to find similar opportunities here at Cornell through interdisciplinary courses, independent majors, honors programs, and undergraduate research opportunities."



"Ithaca College has found the IB curriculum prepares students well for the academic rigor they will encounter while enrolled in college."



How Do SUNY Colleges View IB?



An IB education pushes students beyond the status quo of learning, immersing them in college-level writing, self-directed research, and independent thought. These skills complement Geneseo's commitment to developing well-rounded, critically thinking, and ethically aware students prepared for global citizenship and lifelong learning.

The Extended Essay requires students to conduct independent research. They select a research question, identify sources, compile and analyze data, and present their findings. A significant benefit of going through this process at the high school level is learning how to write and think critically.

The IB curriculum parallels Geneseo's Learning Outcomes for Baccalaureate Education (GLOBE) curriculum in many ways, making it a helpful platform for understanding and preparing students for our approach to education.

SUNY Geneseo recognizes IB programmes, launches scholarships for IB students (USA) **The State University of New York's (SUNY) Geneseo grants USD 1,000 scholarships to both national and international incoming students who have earned the IB Diploma.**

Students may also be eligible for a one-time, \$1500 innovation grant in their 2nd year at Geneseo. Using their extended essay research topic or CAS project (creativity, activity and service) as a foundation, they may choose to expand their ideas into new knowledge and make positive change in the world.



Students in the IB Diploma Program may receive up to 32 credits. The following conditions must be met: The IB Diploma must be completed with a score of 30 or more points; and The student must complete at least three Higher Level exams with a score of 5 or higher.



Supportive statement for IB students

We welcome IB students at UAlbany! We have excellent programs that will fit your accelerated academic background, and scholarships to help you fund your education.

UAlbany will award up to 30 credits to students who have completed the requirements for an IB Diploma with a cumulative score of at least 30 — including both Standard Level and Higher-Level exams — and no score lower than a 4 (satisfactory).

Students who have completed an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma with a score of 30 will be awarded 30 credits (maximum) toward their degree and, in some cases, toward major or UB Curriculum requirements. Students with a score of 29 or less—or those who did not complete a diploma—are guaranteed credit for higher-level exams with scores of 5 or higher. This credit will apply toward their degree and, in some cases, toward major or general education requirements



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is a rigorous pre-university course of studies, leading to examinations. Designed as a comprehensive two-year curriculum that allows its graduates to fulfill requirements of various national education systems, the diploma model is based on the pattern of no single country but incorporates the best elements of several.

A student with an International Baccalaureate Diploma is eligible to receive up to 30 college credits.

SUNY Geneseo, which is now the Honors College of the SUNY System and automatically confers Honors Degrees on all graduates, is actively recruiting IB Diploma Candidates.

This is a letter that one of our seniors (name redacted) received after applying there, encouraging that student to pursue college studies on Geneseo's campus.

SUNY Geneseo is also running an Extended Essay (EE) Summer Program on its campus, available to Class of 2027 students this year.

GENESEO

Office of the President



1 College Circle, Doty Hall 310
Geneseo, New York 14454-1450

Dear [REDACTED] family,

I am delighted that [REDACTED] has expressed an interest in SUNY Geneseo.

When I became president nearly 10 years ago, I was immediately drawn to the warm, welcoming, and close-knit atmosphere of the College and Village. Since then, I have been privileged to witness countless magnificent sunsets over our beautiful valley and have come to know our incredibly talented students and dedicated faculty and staff. SUNY Geneseo offers an honors college experience to all students, with a wealth of opportunities to explore their interests and create meaningful futures.

As [REDACTED] is an International Baccalaureate (IB) student, I want to highlight how Geneseo values the rigorous, global education that the IB curriculum provides. At Geneseo, students who have completed IB coursework or earned an IB diploma are eligible for college credit, which can help them advance in their academic journey and engage more deeply in their chosen fields of study. This commitment aligns with our aspiration to cultivate global citizens ready to contribute to their communities and the world. More information on our IB program can be found on our website.

At Geneseo, [REDACTED] will get to know our outstanding professors. With small class sizes, our faculty members form strong connections with students, nurturing their talents and guiding them toward internships, research, and career opportunities. This personalized approach ensures our graduates can apply their knowledge to their professions and make meaningful contributions to society.

We look forward to supporting you through the college search process. If we can assist, please don't hesitate to contact our Admissions Office at 585-245-5571.

Warm regards,

Denise A. Battles, PhD
President, SUNY Geneseo

The Benefits of Being an IB Diploma Candidate

IB courses help students learn to think in interconnected ways, to research and write across disciplines, to consider multiple perspectives, and to ask good questions. Colleges value these skills and know that IB Diploma graduates tend to be very successful in college.

Below are some colleges and universities that confer Sophomore Status to IB Diploma Graduates upon entry.

See page 8 of the handbook

Example 1: Bard College

International Baccalaureate: A student may be allowed to accelerate for up to 32 credits (a normal full year) at the time of Moderation if the Moderation Board so recommends. To be eligible for credit, IB students must score 5 or above in individual subjects.

Example 2: SUNY Albany

The University at Albany will award 30 credits to students completing the requirements for the IB Diploma with a cumulative score of at least 30 (including both Standard Level and Higher Level exams) and no score lower than a 4.

Example 3: Hofstra University

Students in the full International Baccalaureate program may receive up to 30 credits. In order to receive the full 30 credits the following conditions must be met: The IB diploma must be completed with a score of 30 or more points and the student must complete at least 3 higher level exams with a score of 5 or higher.

Example 4: Florida Gulf Coast University

International Baccalaureate Program (IB). Students may be awarded up to thirty (30) semester hours of credit in FGCU courses for scores of four (4) or higher on IB exams, in accordance with the equivalency table in the University catalog. IB equivalence will count toward communication and computational skills requirements. In addition, IB Diploma holders will be invited to apply to our honors college.

Example 5: Sarah Lawrence College

Students who enter the College with a full IB diploma may earn 30 credits toward a Sarah Lawrence degree. Nondiploma IB students who score 5 or above on higher-level exams may request three credits for a maximum of three subjects or a total of nine credits. If a student has earned an IB diploma and other credits prior to matriculation, a maximum of 30 credits will be awarded.

Example 6: Boston College

Scores of 6 or 7 on HL exams will earn advanced placement units and will satisfy a core requirement. You will still be required to take the full 120 credits necessary for graduation, unless you have the equivalency of 30 credits, in which case you may qualify for advanced standing and would be eligible to graduate from Boston College in 3 years.

Example 7: George Washington University

First-year applicants may earn college credit before they matriculate. As many as 24 credits will be awarded to IB Diploma earners.

Example 8: Georgia Tech

Students entering Georgia Tech may receive up to 30 college credits based upon their IB Diploma scores and status.

The IB Diploma and College: A Snapshot



How do I become an IB Diploma Candidate?

What will my schedule look like?

Group 1

**Studies in Language
and Literature**

Group 2

**Language
Acquisition**

Group 3

**Individuals and
Societies**

Group 4

The Sciences

Group 5

Mathematics

Group 6

The Arts

See pages 1-3 of the
handbook

SHS IB Course Options			
Group 1 Language A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Language and Literature HL Literature and Performance SL (one-year course with a lab) 	Group 4 The Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Systems and Societies SL Physics SL Sports Exercise and Health Science SL
Group 2 Language B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> French HL or SL Spanish HL or SL Italian SL 	Group 5 Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math Applications and Interpretation SL Math Analysis and Approaches SL
Group 3 Individuals and Societies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History of the Americas HL Business Management SL Psychology SL 	Group 6 The Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Film HL or SL Visual Arts SL
IB Core <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) Extended Essay (EE) Theory of Knowledge (TOK) 			
<p>Students will need to take 3 HL courses and 3 SL courses and satisfy TOK, CAS, and EE requirements to be eligible for an IB Diploma.</p>			

IB Student Question:
 Did IB's requirements encourage you to take courses outside your comfort zone? In what ways did or does this impact you?

See the handout on your tables or the QR Code in the Appendix of the handbook

See also pages 1-3 of the handbook

TOK

EE

CAS

IB Student Question:

Can you give an example of a memorable TOK lesson?

IB Student Question:

What is your EE topic & what has been the most impactful part of this experience?

IB Student Question:

What is/was your CAS project? What was experience this like for you?

See pages 5-7 of the handbook

What is IB Assessment like?

IB Student Questions:
What were some of your
IA assignments?
What were some of your
EA exam tasks?

Internal Assessments

- ▶ Designed by IB
- ▶ Given during class time
- ▶ Scored by teacher/
Moderated by IB

External Assessments

- ▶ Designed by IB
- ▶ Given in May,
during exam time
- ▶ Sent away to be
scored by trained IB
examiners

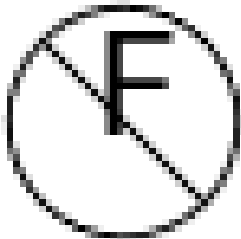
What's a “good” score in an IB course?

IB Student Question?

What are IB External and Internal Assessments like?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ▶ 7 Excellent | ▶ 3 Mediocre |
| ▶ 6 Very good | ▶ 2 Poor |
| ▶ 5 Good | ▶ 1 Very poor |
| ▶ 4 Satisfactory | ▶ N No grade |

How many points do I need to earn an IB Diploma?

6 courses * 7 possible maximum points per course	42
TOK + EE possible maximum bonus points	3
A Perfect Score	45
Minimum Passing Score	24
Caveat #1: Required minimum on HL courses	12
Caveat #2: Required minimum on SL courses	9
Caveat #3: No failure of TOK or EE	

From 2019-2025, 70 SHS students have attempted the IB Diploma.

51 earned it.

Here is where they have gone to school →

Many of these students entered college with sophomore status!

In 2026, there are 26 Seniors and 17 Juniors pursuing full DP.

**Barnard College
Bryn Mawr College
Carnegie Mellon University
Clemson University
College of the Holy Cross
Connecticut College
Cornell University
CUNY Hunter Macauley Honors College
Franklin and Marshall
George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Hofstra University
James Madison University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Loyola Marymount School of Film &TV
Northeastern University
New York University (NYU)
Penn State University
Pratt Institute
St. Lawrence University
SUNY Albany
SUNY Buffalo
SUNY Geneseo
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Stonybrook
Syracuse University
Temple University
UCLA
University of Central Florida
University of Georgia
University of Exeter, UK
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Notre Dame
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Texas—Austin
University of Wisconsin—Madison
Western Connecticut State University
Washington University of St. Louis
Vassar College
Yale University**

IB Student Question:
What IB skills have you found useful as a college student?

IB Student Question:
What advice would you give to someone who is on the fence about becoming a DPC?

IB Student Question:
What is/was the most challenging aspect of being a DPC at SHS?

IB Student Question:
What is the workload really like? Is it manageable? Were/are you able to balance your school and home life?

IB Student Question:
Can you describe a moment or a class from the IB programme that significantly impacted you?

IB Student Question:
What does it feel like to be part of a cohort?

What advice would you give to someone who is on the fence about becoming a DPC?

What is something about IB that you think others should know?

What is/was the most challenging aspect of being a DPC at SHS?

What IB skills have you found useful as a college applicant?

What is the workload really like? Is it manageable? Were/are you able to balance your school and home life?

Can you describe a moment or a class from the IB programme that significantly impacted you?

What does it feel like to be part of a cohort?

Many courses are about the answers.

IB is about the questions.

As an IB Diploma Candidate, you will learn to

- Think from an inquiry-based perspective
 - Write convincingly and thoughtfully
 - Work really hard!

Please Consider Joining Us!

IB Diploma Graduates

- Are seen as taking on the most challenging coursework their high school offers
- Have a 22% higher rate of admission in US Schools
- Often earn college credit while still in high school
- Can enter SUNY schools with sophomore status
- Earn an internationally recognized diploma
- Have a higher rate of completing a Bachelor's Degree in 4 years
- Participate in a program that helps them be more prepared for the challenges of college, with a high school support system in place

Your Questions?

Next Steps

- **Look for a Schoology Update in *Class of 2028* about a lunch meeting to discuss scheduling options with Ms. Scanlon**
- **Discuss IB Diploma Candidacy with your counselor at your scheduling meeting**