



MEADS MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

WHAT DOES I.B. MEAN?

An International Baccalaureate (IB) education challenges students to think critically about their learning and excel not only in their studies, but their personal growth as well. The Middle Years Programme (MYP), grades 6-10, begins with a foundation of 10 attributes (Learner Profile Traits) which help students become responsible members of local, national, and global communities. Throughout the programme, students gain global perspectives in each class while transferring their learning from one class to another-examining how their learning connects!

SERVICE and ACTION

SIXTH GRADE MAKING AN IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY:

MOTT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FUNDRAISER

During the months of November and December Sixth grade Language and Literature students worked on their Courage unit. Their conceptual question for the unit was "How do people's actions influence a community?" Students explored stories and articles relating to courage and other students making a difference in their communities. As a result, they had an opportunity to make a difference in their community as well. Students worked hard to create videos, posters, and daily announcements to help promote the Mott Children's Hospital fundraiser. This year they were able to collect \$425 in checks and gift cards, as well as four boxes of gifts to donate to Mott Children's Hospital. It was a great success!



Alphabet Soup-

WHAT DO ALL THESE LETTERS MEAN?

IB: International Baccalaureate

MYP: Middle Years Programme

ATLs: Approaches to Learning

Upcoming Events

February 9

MYP Informational Night- join us for a workshop-style evening at Northville High School, beginning at 6:00 p.m., with sessions focused on the philosophy of the Middle Years Program, the assessments, and the Learner Profile Traits.

April 18

Meads Mill's first International Night- join us for an evening to explore the variety of cultures in our Meads Mill community.

Upcoming Learner Profile Traits

Each month the school focuses on one of the ten Learner Profile traits.

February: Inquirer

March: Communicator

April: Principled

May: Balanced

June: Reflective

*Refer to your child's planner, page 5, for a detailed description of each trait.

Global Context Poster Winner



The winning poster for the Global Contexts Poster Contest was submitted by Hillary Luan from Hillside Middle School. Sanjana Krekar, of Meads Mill Middle School, received an Honorable Mention for her poster design.

Honorable Mention



Winning Global Context poster.

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Balagna:

Mr. Balagna has been teaching in Northville Public Schools for eleven years. He spent his first six years at Northville High School and the last five years here at Meads Mill.

When asked what he likes about the IB Middle Years Programme, Mr. Balagna stated that he liked the idea of the picture teaching. MYP focuses on what the kids need to know in fifteen years, not just what they need to know for a test. It helps student become productive members of society. He also likes the organization of the unit planner and the idea of the unit questions that kids can revisit throughout a unit.

Risk-taker and open-minded are the two Learner Profile traits Mr. Balagna think best describe him. He believes in trying new things, being involved and putting himself out there. He also values others opinions and likes to learn about different philosophies and thought processes.

His favorite unit to teach is "The Road Not Taken". It teaches students about the greater good. In this unit students learn to put other people before themselves. This unit also has a service and action component in which students run a canned food drive.

Mr. Balagna is a wonderful teacher who has done great things with MYP. We are lucky to have him at Meads Mill!

MYP in Action

FROM CAVES TO CITIES – Year 2

In 7th grade Individuals and Societies classes, while students studied the Ancient Eastern Hemisphere, they inquired about innovation and revolution and how those are the turning points that led to the development of civilizations.

To help bring history to life and inspire students, the classes took a field trip to visit the Detroit Institute of Arts. Then students were asked to become cyber-archeologists digging deep into research on a topic of interest to them. After that they became hands-on learners by creating artifacts from the Ancient Egyptian civilization they researched. After research was completed students wrote a historical analysis of their artifact. Then they were asked to put their communication skills to use by presenting their artifact to the class and sharing their historical analysis.

Mrs. Howells and Mrs. Woodrich both stated that their students enjoyed learning from each other. Mrs. Howells also noted that her students were able to make connections between each other's presentations which was really wonderful. Mrs. Woodrich shared that her students actually became archeologists and historians while working on this project. She also stated that it was wonderful for the students to have the opportunity to experience the D.I.A. and see real artifacts.

A few great projects that came from the unit were a hieroglyphics game from scratch, an oil painting that mimicked real cave paintings, a timeline project of Ancient Mesopotamia, and a replica of Pharoah Khufu's boat.



A lobby showcase of students' artifacts