



International Academy  
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*“One of America’s Top Ranking High Schools”*  
- Newsweek: 2003--2015  
*Ranked Among Top High Schools in the United States*  
- U.S. News and World Report, 2009-2015

January 4, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In January, the International Academy (IA), will be sending home two semester report cards for each ninth and tenth grade student. The first report card is a traditional high school transcript of student achievement marked on an A-E scale and includes the student’s grade point average (GPA). When your student applies to college, this report card is similar to the transcript that will be sent to universities.

This letter and attached documentation applies to the second report card, the MYP Report Card. The MYP or Middle Years Program is the International Baccalaureate educational program for ninth and tenth grade students at the IA. The MYP Report Card is based upon four IB assessment criteria in each of the different disciplines of the MYP: literature and language, language acquisition, individuals and societies, sciences, mathematics, arts, physical and health education and the personal project (tenth grade only). The MYP Report Card offers information regarding a student’s growth against an internationally recognized set of criteria.

The MYP Report Card will be delivered along with the traditional report card at the end of each semester. Scores in each criteria range from 1-8. These scores do not correlate to an A-E scale but rather identify student growth in the application of content knowledge, methodology and critical-thinking skills. While the traditional report card may establish a student’s understanding of content knowledge, the MYP Report Card captures a student’s ability to apply the knowledge and/or skills to new situations. Better put, it provides an opportunity to describe a specific student’s growth as he/she matures in the critical thinking skills that are fundamental to success in the Diploma program and college. The MYP Report Card will not be sent to colleges and is only shared with students and their families.

Through the MYP Report Card, parents, teachers and students are able to analyze holistically a student’s growth in the critical thinking skills for every subject area. Patterns of growth will emerge as students matriculate through the MYP and become more adept with the higher order skills required with each criterion. The scores on the MYP Report card will identify the student’s most recent score in that criterion and is not an average of the scores. Therefore, some criterion will not have a score as that specific criterion was not evaluated in a summative assessment during the current semester. The skills and content may have been taught and assessed in a formative assessment (quiz, classwork, homework, etc.), however only summative (end of unit) assessments are recorded on the MYP Report Card.

Please review the documents “Understanding the MYP Report Card” and the “MYP Fast Facts” included in this letter prior to the MYP Report Card coming home at the end of January. There are also parent meetings at each campus entitled “Understanding the MYP Report Card” if you require additional information. The dates, times and location at each campus are listed below:

- Tuesday, January 19 - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at **IA East**
- Wednesday, January 20 - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the ISC at **IA Central**
- Monday, January 25 - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the CPA at **IA West**

Please feel free to contact any member of the administrative team with any questions.

Best,

Sarah Fairman  
IB Coordinator  
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*Principal: Lynne Gibson; Associate Principals: Ryan Brinks, Ryan Parrott, Christopher Smith; IB Coordinator: Sarah Fairman  
Counselors: Lisa Ann Acton, Jane Dittus, Renee Jamil, Brigid Piagentini and Julie Weatherhead*