

## McCluer North IB Diploma Programme Admissions Policy-

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is one of the most challenging and yet, fulfilling high school experiences that exist. The IBDP exists in over 3,000 schools in 140 plus nations around the world and focuses on the last 2 years of high school. Many experts believe it is the best way for high school students to prepare for college during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade years.

The McCluer North IB faculty would like to communicate two important messages about the IBDP admissions process. The first is we do not intend North's IB programme to be an exclusive club for only those who have had past above average success in school or considered gifted. IB has stressed at the international, national, and state levels the importance of inclusion and successes of all types of students. Here at North, we believe an IB education can be obtained by many "non-traditional" students. While this is a foundational belief for IB at all levels, we also know there is a level of dedication and time commitment involved for success in the programme. This second message about the rigor of IB requires diligence from students, parents, and teachers. IB does not claim to be easy but has a goal for all programme participants (students and adults) to continually develop their thinking skills. Developing thinking takes time and work, but the benefit of self-improvement is worth all of this extra effort.

By writing this Admissions policy for IB we hope to communicate important information to students and parents/guardians in order for them to make the best decision for their particular situation. All students have strengths and areas of interest. By outlining the requirements of the IBDP in this policy, all stakeholders will be able to make informed decisions leading to the best academic placement for individuals.

To prepare for the IBDP the last 2 years of high school and also meet Missouri State requirements, the student should have completed the following courses by the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

<b>IB Subject Area</b>	<b>North Course Name and Number</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>
I	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Literature/Composition 0501 <b>or</b> Advanced Literature & Comp. 0502	1
I	American Multicultural Literature/Composition 0504 <b>or</b> Advanced American Multicultural Literature/Comp. 0505 <b>or</b> American Studies 0561	1
II	Spanish I 0601 <b>or</b> French I 0611	1
II	Spanish II 0602 <b>or</b> French II 0612	1
	<i>Complete 2 consecutive years of the same language – We strongly suggesting completing 3 years of the same language by the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade</i>	
III	American Government 1505	.5
III	American History 1503 <b>or</b> American Studies 1561	1
IV	Physical Science 1332 and Biology 1301 Honors Biology 1294 <b>or</b> Biology I 1301 <b>or</b> Honors Biology 1304	1

IV	Chemistry I 1302	1
V	Algebra I 1101	1
V	Geometry I 1110 <b>or</b> Honors Geometry 1112	1
VI	Any Fine Arts Elective	1
	Personal Finance	.5
	Health and Wellness 0801/0801R	.5
	Fitness for Life 0802/0803/0803R	.5
	Any other applicable PE course	.5
		12.5 credits in the courses listed above
	Earn credit in any other courses not listed above	1.5 other course credits in any other courses not listed above <b>14 credits or more</b> in all courses

#### Steps to being admitted to the North's IB Diploma cohort :

1. Meet all the course criteria requirement listed above
2. Schedule an appointment to attend one of the IB cohort informational meetings for students and parents/guardians held in February, March, & April – further individual meetings with the IB Coordinator as needed
3. After receiving all the information about IB, students and parents should discuss the demands of the programme and make an informed decision based on what is best for the individual student
4. If students want to join the IB cohort after meeting the first 3 criteria, they should obtain the IB academic honesty & commitment to the learner profile signature page from the IB Coordinator – the student and parent signature on the form is required to join the IB cohort

Students will be admitted into the IB Diploma Programme after the IB Coordinator verifies the completion of all 4 criteria – At least once a semester while a student is in the programme, the Coordinator will verify the IB DP student is making progress in all IB course work, CAS commitment, and the Extended Essay. Students not making sufficient progress in any area related to IB can be dismissed from the programme. Students can also be removed from the IB cohort for violating the principles of the academic honesty and learner profile agreement (AH&LPA).

#### Students wanting to take individual IB courses:

It is also important to note that while the full IB diploma is the best preparation for university work, North students may take individual IB classes and assessments if openings exist. Students taking

individual IB classes listed do not have to meet with the IB coordinator. However, students taking single IB courses will need to meet any pre-requisites for the course, request the academic honest and learner agreement, and agree to the AH&LPA. The forms will be available from the Counselors when scheduling begins, the Coordinator during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester, and the IB teacher. Both student and parent must sign this agreement before the ending of the first week of individual IB courses. All forms will reside in the IB office for IB cohort and individual class students.

Like all IB policies, the Admissions Policy needs to be revised and updated to meet the needs of students and IB requirements. The IB Coordinator will bring the policy to the IB Steering Committee as needed, but at least every other 1<sup>st</sup> semester for review.

Sources-

*The Diploma Programme: From Principles Into Practice, April, 2015*