

Dear Parent:

Franklin High School is honored to host a prestigious, internationally recognized magnet program. We are excited to offer your child the opportunity to apply to our esteemed International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program. FHS offers this university preparation as a school within a school model. It is the only International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program in Wayne County.

IB demands a rigorous college preparatory curriculum based on international standards. The IB program meets and exceeds the standards expected by the State of Michigan and the national Common Core Standards. The students who complete the diploma requirements are exceptionally well prepared to compete academically at the collegiate level.

The IB classes are challenging and interesting. They are taught by dedicated professionals who have undergone extra training to be certified to teach the IB curriculum. Courses in the IB Diploma Program stress depth over breadth in learning and developing students' critical thinking and problem solving skills. This provides many advantages to students including classes which offer an emphasis on writing and communication skills, small class sizes (capped at 25), university recognition and credit, and an education that is considered one of the most prestigious in the world. For students who will attend college in another country, it is essential.

In our program, we stress that students accept responsibility and accountability for their education. Students in our courses are in a positive classroom environment with like minded peers who are focused on learning, improving themselves and community involvement.

On average, the IB student can expect to do approximately 1-2 hours of homework outside the classroom each day. The workload can vary depending on the particular assignment and how the student utilizes his or her time during the school day. Our students also compete in varsity sports, participate in clubs, student government and are an integral part of the fabric of student life at Franklin High School. Our school facilitates individual growth. We strive to nurture positive life experiences, provide opportunities for each student to showcase their talents, and help them develop leadership and character.

The cost of attending college is high. Our IB students have gotten a financial leg up on other students. Most received college credits upon entrance often averaging over 15 credits due to their performance on the IB exams.

I want to share with you the following quotes:

"I will be able to finish college in three years. IB greatly prepared me for college..." Grace Modes – FHS 2011 IB Diploma Recipient; Michigan State University.

"IB prepared me for college by teaching me time management. This helped create a stress-free transition to college life." Meghan Lark – FHS 2011 IB Diploma Recipient; The University of Michigan.

"I'm flying through my college Chemistry and math classes because of what was taught in IB." Jake Allen – FHS 2011 IB Diploma Recipient; Kettering University.

"We definitely take note of the IB Diploma in the admissions process at Michigan! Feel free to quote me on that!" Joseph Gore- Admissions Counselor; The University of Michigan.

“...IB students who attended {our} university as freshmen significantly outperform all other freshmen, including students who had taken Advanced Placement courses.” Dr. Eugene Carson; Virginia Tech.

Our program is open to all Livonia Public School residents. There are also a few seats open to Out-of-District students. Those seats are chosen through a lottery system in June. Students selected in this program would take a similar curriculum to their advanced peers in 9th and 10th grade. In 11th and 12th grade, students would take a full IB schedule. A sample schedule is enclosed. If you would like additional information about the IB program at Franklin, please contact Sunshine Weber at sweber4@livoniapublicschools.org.

I want to leave you with this final thought. Parents want their child to receive the best education available. This often includes having a positive and fun high school experience. We want students who want a great high school experience. We want students who are curious about the world and who wonder how everything fits together. We want them to ask questions. We want them to see themselves as successful college-bound students and understand that learning is a lifelong journey.

Franklin High School is proud of our 50 year history. We have earned a reputation for personal warmth, academic challenge, school spirit, a sense of community and a family atmosphere to our building. We have high expectations for our students. I believe that Franklin High School is the **right place, right now** for your child. We hope your child will join Franklin High School's IB Program.

Sincerely,

Sunshine Weber
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