

George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

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From the IBPA Co-Presidents

For students, parents and our entire GW community, the school year has taken off with tremendous energy – from academics to sports, clubs, and social events, to plans for college and the future, life for our IB students is BUSY!



It is hard to believe but we are already into the month of November. As we head toward Thanksgiving, we would like to give thanks that

Thanksgiving

DPS has such a tremendous IB Diploma Programme at GW, and that our students have access to such a well-rounded, rigorous academic program.

The May 2012 IB World Magazine has an article on 10 Reasons Why The IB Diploma Programme Is Ideal Preparation For University. These reasons are:



1. It offers academic breadth and depth
2. Graduates care about more than just results
3. It creates independent learners who feel prepared
4. It's a genuinely international qualification
5. Universities recognize it – and give credit for it
6. The IB encourages critical thinking
7. You'll never need to learn time management
8. It assesses more than examination techniques
9. Subjects aren't taught in isolation
10. And here are 10 more.....

To read the full article and the definitions for all of these reasons, click on the following link: <http://www.ibo.org/ibworld/may2012/document/s/10reasons.pdf>. That will download a PDF version of the article.

We are thankful that the GW IB Program provides a place for all of these things to happen for our intellectually motivated students.

On another note, we are thankful for the parent participation and successful start to the activities that the IB Parent's Association provides. Many of you attended our IB Welcome Picnic in August and it was a great success. Then in October the IBPA hosted an evening with Peter Van Buskirk on "The Admission Game: An Interactive

Presentation of the College Admission Process.” If you were at that presentation you saw how many parents and students jammed into the library to hear Mr. Van Buskirk. It has been wonderful to see so many of you at these events. Our monthly IB Parent-Student meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 PM. Locations vary from month to month. Find the meeting schedule on page 2 of this newsletter.

We are also thankful for all of you who have already paid your voluntary dues and made donations to the IB Foundation which funds the activities of the IBPA. Your dues and donations fund events like the evening with Mr. Van Buskirk, so please be generous to the IB Foundation when making year-end donations. And, if you are as thankful for the IB Programme at GW as we are, please consider including the IB Foundation for giving above and beyond the dues amount of \$40. The dues and donation form can be found on page 5.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you!

Cora Neslin and Leslie Lilly

IBPA Co-Presidents



IB Parent Association Monthly Meetings 2012-13

December 11: Mandatory Sophomore meeting

January 8: Senior Panel—Former GWIB grads

January 30: Welcome Fest

February 12: Guest Speakers Dana and Pam Wakefield, “When Good Kids Make Bad Decisions”

March 12: No meeting

April 9: Mandatory Junior meeting

April 17: Mandatory Sophomore meeting/CAS Fair

April (TBA): Freshman Orientation

May (TBA): Book Buy Back and Sale



I.B. Broadcaster

A Note from the Newsletter Editor:

It is my privilege to help the IBPA in this monthly effort to communicate with the entire GW IB Community. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time if you wish to add an announcement or an article. Items large and small are welcome. Help get the word out!

It's especially gratifying to acknowledge the wonderful accomplishments of our outstanding student body, so don't hesitate to brag about your students, and send photos too. Please e-mail your contributions to me, Paul Day-Lucre, at pkdaylu@gmail.com.

Meanwhile, don't hesitate to visit the georgeib.com website, enter your e-mail address in the green box on the right side, then click “GO.” You will receive notification when the electronic version is available on the website each month.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Notes from the Coordinator

Two George Washington Students have been selected as finalists for the Questbridge Scholarship. This is a four-year full-ride scholarship, including room and board for low income students who have distinguished themselves. Here's the program's description:



[QuestBridge](#) works with over 33 partner colleges that actively seek students who have overcome economic obstacles to achieve academic success. The



QuestBridge application provides admissions officers with a fuller picture of students' unique circumstances and accomplishments. If a student is admitted to a partner college through the College Match, the college will provide a scholarship that covers the full cost of tuition, room, and board, typically worth around \$200,000 or more.

GWIB GWIB

The following GWIB students have been selected as commended students by the National Merit Program: **David Chan, Elijah Durso-Sabina, Elizabeth Gile, Dylan Hertel, Alexander Levesque, Emily Mares, Gaston Min, Victoria Rowe, and Ashley Swisher.**

Congratulations!

GWIB GWIB

We have two students selected as "Outstanding Participants" in the National Achievement Scholarship Program. While not semifinalists, they scored in the top three percent of more than 160,000 black Americans who took the PSAT as juniors. These students will be referred to colleges as recommended scholars. Congratulations to **Elicia Dennis** and **Langston Williams!**

—Suzanne Geimer



Coming Events

- November 12 No Classes (Veterans Day)
- Nov 21-23 No Classes (Thanksgiving)
- November 26 Regular and Rolling Decision Deadline for Seniors
- December 1 Early Decision and Early Action Deadline for Seniors

GWIB GWIB

Several IB students contributed to the GW Boys Golf Team dominating the Denver Prep League this fall by winning the league championship and the Denver City Cup. **Eric Young** was the league medalist and he and **Eli Gordon** were both named to the all-league first team. Eli was also the medalist in the city Cup tournament with a personal best score of 73. **Thomas Angus, Liam Meyers, and David Chan** also had solid seasons on the JV Team. Congratulations to all!



— Thomas Bancroft



GW Featured in Fun [Denver Post Story](#)

GW Debaters **Elijah Durso-Sabina, Parker Davis, Suzanne Steele, and Adam Wise** were quoted in a Denver Post article about debates prior to the October 3 Presidential Debate that took place at the University of Denver. [Click to take a look!](#)

Download the complete DPS Calendar at <http://www.dpsk12.org/calendars/>

IB Shadowing Program

The IB shadowing program is going strong this fall. **Marjie Lane** has been at the helm of this program for the last four years and every year she refines the process a little bit more. This year Marjie has added an evaluation form for 8th grade students to fill out after their day of shadowing, and reading through the forms has been very insightful. One thing is very clear from the shadow comments: we have excellent 9th grade shadow hosts and they are making a big and positive impression on the prospective students who spend the day at GW.



Typical comments made by the 8th graders include the following:

- Of host **Hannah Lyford**, one student wrote, “She answered all my questions and helped explain a daily school schedule. Hannah helped me learn the hallways and extra-curricular activities. I like GW a lot more because of her.”
- Of host **Coleman Schwayder**, another student wrote “...he is exactly the type of kid I want to be in high school.”

Another common theme that 8th graders write about in response to the prompt about their impressions of the students in the classes they visit is how engaged the students are and how nice the kids are. “Most of the kids in the classes I visited were really smart and extremely nice. Most of them introduced themselves to me and I didn’t see them behaving wrong so that’s a good thing.”

So parents, please let your students know how much we appreciate what they are doing to help attract 8th graders to GW and to our IB program. As always, positive word-of-mouth by current students and by current parents is the best advertising we can do for GWIB.

Thank You!

—**Cora Neslin, IBPA Co-President**



FRIENDS OF IB SCHOLARS FOUNDATION

AT GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Donations to the IB Scholars Foundation (tax exempt 501(C) (3)) support all of the items listed below.

We need 100% participation from our parent group.

One donation benefits both organizations and is tax deductible.

IB Parents Association (IBPA)

The IBPA strives to provide IB students and families with information, education, social and supportive meetings and gatherings so that all may gain more knowledge about the IB program and its unique experience.

- Teacher Appreciation
- Senior Brunch
- Fall Picnic
- Guest lectures
- IB Broadcaster newsletter
- College & Scholarship information
- Up-to-date Website (georgeib.com)
- Extracurricular Activities (CAS)

FRIENDS OF IB SCHOLARS FOUNDATION

The objective of the Foundation is to fund educational programs directly related to George Washington High School's IB program

- Equipment, books, and supplies
- Grants to teachers for continuing education
- College counselor
- Securing long term financial support
- Summer enrichment program



Please indicate your level of contribution. The first \$40 of any contribution is for the IB Parent Association ("IBPA") dues. We greatly appreciate any additional donations! **Make checks payable to: *Friends of IB Scholars Foundation.***

Amount enclosed:

_____ \$40 (IBPA dues)	NAME: _____
_____ \$60	STREET: _____
_____ \$100	CITY: _____ ZIP: _____
_____ \$250	STUDENT'S NAME(s): _____
_____ \$500	
_____ Other amount \$ _____	

Mail to: John Murray, Treasurer, 1243 South Williams Street, Denver, CO 80210

THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER



Many thanks to Future Center Director **Michael Jennings** for his excellent coordination of college admission representatives' visits to GW. Students should follow up with reps via e-mail. Take this opportunity to ponder how admissions officers would view your **e-mail address**. Instead of ih8skool@hotmail.xyz, consider creating a new account with an address along the lines of firstlastname@highachiever.com. Changes in e-mail addresses should also be sent to Ms. Lane (Marjorie.Lane@dpsk12.org) and Ms. Cassidy (LEIGH.CASSIDY-HARKLEROAD@dpsk12.org), so that students don't miss important messages from the IB office. **Naviance** is another important communications tool. E-mail Ms. Cassidy if you don't have your access code and haven't set up your account!

This is crunch time for SENIORS. All regular application materials are due to Ms. Cassidy by November 30. November and December are "Be Kind to Seniors" months, as they work hard to complete coursework and extracurricular commitments, keep up their grades, AND pull together their college applications. Here are the instructions that seniors must follow in working with the IB Office on apps:

- For each college you are applying to, you must turn in a **correctly addressed 6" x 9" envelope** (self-sealing preferred; no return address) **and a completed half-sheet checklist**, with the admissions address also written on the reverse. Include 4 stamps per college, but don't attach them to envelopes.
- If any of the schools require a **supplemental school report** (instead of, or in addition to, the Common Application school report form), please include that form and make a note on the half sheet under "Special Instructions." Please read the supplement form carefully to determine what information is required, and note it on the checklist. If the form has a narrative section, that means Ms. Cassidy should include a **counselor's** letter of recommendation.
- If your schools require **teacher recommendations**, be sure to get those recommendation forms and stamped/addressed envelopes to **teachers** by the 26th as well.
- Complete your "**colleges to which I'm applying**" list in **Naviance** now. Ms. Cassidy will be relying on Naviance as a tracking tool, so it is essential that you enter your school list promptly and accurately.
- Any supporting documents from the school that are not sent out before Winter Break begins on December 20 will have to wait until after school resumes on January 8, and will therefore miss early January deadlines.
- Of course the **application is not complete until the student submits her/his own portion** of each application (including any student-generated supplements) directly to the colleges.
- Early Decision/Action deadlines have either passed or will soon, and Regular Decision and scholarship deadlines are rapidly approaching. Reduce stress by completing applications and paperwork sooner rather than later! Students who wait until the last day to submit online applications may find that the system overloaded and unable to accept their submissions before the deadline.
- If you need supporting materials from the IB office for separate **scholarship applications**, please use the gold half-sheets to make those requests. Be clear, specific, and timely in completing and submitting those sheets and mailing envelopes.

PARENTS OF SENIORS who are applying for financial aid should be gearing up to prepare 2012 tax returns and the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA; www.fafsa.ed.gov) as early in the New Year as possible. Some colleges also require the CSS/PROFILE and/or their own additional applications (some with December deadlines). The CSS/PROFILE can be completed now (<https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>).

JUNIORS' to-do lists are getting longer too.

- Juniors and their parents can schedule individual meetings with the IB college counselor, **Rusty Haynes**, beginning in January. Students initiate these appointments by contacting Mr. Haynes via phone (office: 719-576-9487 or cell: 719-232-5305) or via e-mail, which is the best option (collegemasters@comcast.net). Please feel free to contact him with your questions in the meantime.
- If your junior wants to visit out-of-state colleges while they are in session, it's not too early to start thinking about a Spring Break trip.
- This is also a good time to plan for the ACT with or without the Writing Test and/or the SAT with or without Subject Tests. The ACT (without Writing) will be administered during the school day on April 23. The testing program web sites (www.act.org and www.collegeboard.com) have more detailed information and are a good source for test preparation books, as are local book stores. See also Mr. Haynes' test prep recommendations on the College Prep page of the George IB website at <http://georgeib.com/wp1/college-counseling/college-prep-presentations/>

SOPHOMORES and FRESHMEN who think they might apply to highly selective colleges that require Subject Tests should investigate whether they should take one or more at the end of this year. This would only be indicated for students who might need a specific Subject Test (e.g., Chemistry or Biology) and who do not plan to continue with that subject after May.

ALL STUDENTS are encouraged to explore options for **summer**. Possibilities abound, although some involve a competitive application process and many involve fees. There are good no-cost and low-cost programs and internships as well, but they tend to fill early. The most meaningful summer jobs tend to go to the early birds too. This is a good time to research what's out there, so that you are timely in your applications.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

November 1: Deadline for seniors to submit their portions of **Early Decision and Early Action applications** to many colleges. Check your selected schools’ timelines and requirements carefully.

November 30: Deadline for seniors to submit Regular and Rolling Decision application details to IB Office - see details above. Complete your “Colleges to which I’m applying” list in Naviance now as well.

December 1: Deadline for submitting Early Notification applications to U of Colorado – Boulder, in order to be notified by January 15. All materials, including those sent from GW, must be **RECEIVED** by the CU Admissions Office by this date to qualify for early notification. CU’s Regular Application deadline is January 15, with notification by April 1.

January 1: Deadline for submitting **Regular Decision applications** to many colleges. Again, check your selected schools’ requirements carefully. Some schools have earlier deadlines if you want to be considered for scholarships. The **FAFSA application** becomes available online and should be completed by aid applicants and their parents ASAP.

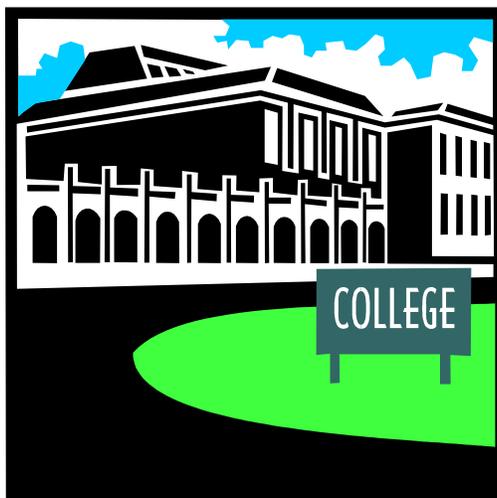
April 23: State-mandated **ACT** testing for all **juniors**. GW arranges registration and fees, and the test is administered during the school day. Please note that this version of the ACT does **not** include the optional Writing Test.

2012-2013 STANDARDIZED TESTING

Juniors should be planning when they will complete standardized testing required by the colleges they might apply to. The December test dates are the last ones that can meet most **seniors’** application deadlines. Please familiarize yourselves with what various colleges require and plan accordingly. Details and online registration are available at www.act.org (ACT) and www.collegeboard.com (SAT). In an effort to decrease cheating, ACT and SAT both now require students to submit a digital “head shot” photo and their high school code as part of the test registration process.

Standardized Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late (added fee) Registration
SAT or Subject Tests	November 3	passed	passed
SAT or Subject Tests	December 1	November 1	November 16
ACT with writing option	December 8	November 2	November 16
SAT or Subject Tests	January 26	December 28	January 11
ACT with writing option	February 9	January 11	January 18
SAT (no Subject Tests)	March 9	February 8	February 22
ACT with writing option	April 13	March 8	March 22
ACT <i>without</i> writing (CO ACT)	April 23	Automatic and free for all juniors	
SAT or Subject Tests	May 4	April 5	April 19
SAT or Subject Tests	June 1	May 2	May 17
ACT with writing option	June 8	May 3	May 17

—Linda During, College Counseling Chair



Contact Information

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