

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 Board



Welcome to all George Washington IB students and their families; especially to the 9th graders (Class of 2016) and first-year IB Students.

The IB Parents Association strives to provide GWIB students and families with informative, educational, social, and supportive meetings and gatherings so that everyone may gain more knowledge about the IB experience. There are so many ways to be involved as an IB parent—the more you know, the more you learn how to help, the greater the IB program functions. The IB Parents Association helps to foster communication and the exchange of ideas: we are allies for the success of our IB students and our IB program. The IB Parents Association also works hard to support our valued IB faculty and staff. Our Board is made up of dedicated IB parents who look forward to sharing their experiences with all IB parents.

The 2012-13 school year is off to a great start for the IBPA. The “Get Acquainted” IB picnic was a fun, well-attended family gathering. A big thank you to Jody Kerr for organizing it and to those who helped with setting up and cleaning up: **Liz Shane, Thom Kerr, Terri Learned, Cora Neslin,** and **John Murray**. Creekside Park is a great setting for an evening of volleyball, ultimate frisbee, socializing and food. Thank you to **Shelly Moorman** and **David Wollins** for manning the computers and signing up over 60 families for inclusion in the GWIB distribution list. Our local merchants deserve a mention for their support—



JL's Cheers for donating ice and a large container for drinks and **Piccolo's** for donating a tray of rigatoni. Let's not forget, special kudos to the faculty for taking time from their evening to come and meet the families.

Monthly Meetings

The IB Parents Association Board meets the first Tuesday of most months in the Welcome Center (Room 125) from 6:30-7:30 PM and everyone is welcome to attend. Please note that our October meeting will be on the second Tuesday, October 9.

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.

The first meeting this year, on October 2, will feature [Peter Van Buskirk](#), author of “Winning the College Admission Game: Strategies for Parents and Students, motivational speaker, and former Dean of Admissions at Franklin and Marshall College. He will present: **The Admission Game: Student Centered Solutions for College Planning**, an interactive and informative presentation about the selective college admission process. This is a must-see for every IB student. Mr. Van Buskirk will not return to GW for 2-3 years, so do not miss this opportunity.



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Future meetings will provide information on various interesting and relevant topics, including:

- Presentations from IB teachers on the IB curriculum
- Panel discussions with IB alumni who are now in college
- The annual CAS Fair

Voluntary Dues



The voluntary dues fundraising campaign for the IB Parents Association is well underway and the response of GW's IB families has been excellent this year. Thank You! Your generosity again this year ensures that the IB Parents Association will continue to be a strong and active group, and that our IB students, teachers, staff, and families will continue to receive support and benefits. If you have not yet made a contribution to this year's dues campaign, please do so. Please see the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation letter on page 6 of this newsletter for more information. Our dues campaign is the main way we raise money for the IB Parents Association. The dues enable the Association to fund programs, activities, and publications sponsored by the Association. The Board asks for a minimum contribution of \$40 per IB student. A generous response from our IB families allows us to help keep the IB program and GW as strong as ever. All donations are tax deductible.

Please send your donation to **John Murray**, Treasurer, 1243 S. Williams St., Denver, Colorado, 80210. Checks should be made payable to "IB Foundation."

IB life is exciting, all-encompassing, challenging, and rewarding. The IB Parents Association is a

direct way to stay connected, to be "in the know," and to help our kids succeed not only as IB students, but also as "citizens of the world."

We look forward to meeting you and hearing your thoughts, ideas, and opinions always.

Cora Neslin and Leslie Lilly

IBPA Co-Presidents



IB Parent Association Monthly Meetings 2012-13

October 2: Peter Van Buskirk, "The College Admission Game"

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



A Note from the Coordinator

GWIB GWIB

David Back, (GWIB '08) is making us proud. [An item in the Harvard Law Bulletin](#) includes a photo of David and information about his work as co-director of entrepreneurship of the Harvard Association for Law and Business. Scroll down most of the way toward the bottom to see this item.



GWIB Alumna and Gettysburg College Senior **Cam Nguyen** recently reached the finals of her school's Photo of the Day contest. Here's an example of one of her photos: [Cam Nugyen Photo](#)

—Suzanne Geimer

GWIB GWIB

A few items were left at the Get Acquainted Picnic at Creekside Park and they remain unclaimed. Are any of these yours?

- Blue Plastic Bowl
- Clear Salad Bowl
- Salad Tongs
- Plastic Spoon

Please send your student to the IB office to collect them.

Please give to the Friends of IB Foundation online at www.georgeib.com

Coming GWIB Events

- October 2** "The Admission Game" with Peter Van Buskirk
- October 10** College Fair 9:30-10:30 AM at GW
- October 13** Saturday College Fair 10 AM - 2 PM at Mountain Vista HS, Highlands Ranch
- October 25** No Classes (DPS Parent-Teacher conference day)
- October 26** Fall Break, no classes

An opportunity for IB students:

Al Campo International offers service learning and adventure travel in the developing world. Take part in one of our many sustainable village development projects like solar power for schools, greenhouses to improve nutrition or composting latrines to improve sanitation. Add SCUBA diving, canyoneering or surfing to your trip to make it a complete journey while exploring Nicaragua, Honduras, or the Philippines. Go on a unique adventure and experience a different culture! For more information, visit our webpage at www.alcampointernational.org.



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Congratulations!

Paige Witter and **Aaron Lane**, GW seniors, competed in the Youth World Championships for Modern Pentathlon in Tata, Hungary Sep 19-23. The event includes swimming, fencing, horse jumping and a combined running and shooting event. Along with four other American youth members of the team, Denver's own world class Modern Pentathletes make GW proud!

See the full article online: [Denver Post Your Hub](#).



Paige and Aaron in Hungary

More outstanding news:

Six incredible GW seniors have been named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. They are **Chloe Briney, Samantha Hoffman, David Kolet-Mandrikov, Zachary Papadopoulos, Paige Witter, and Robert Zirinsky**. They are now in the running for 8,300 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 Million to be offered next spring. See more about the National Merit Program by [clicking here](#), and congratulate these hard-working students the next time you see them.



Speech and Debate

Indianapolis, IN

Debaters from GW were nationally and internationally ranked at the 2012 LFG/NFL National Tournament held in Indianapolis in June. GW was one of 20 schools to win the “Debate School of Excellence” award.

Senior **Dan Morgan-Russell** placed 4th in International Extemporaneous Speaking. Juniors **Langston Williams** and **Eli Gordon** were finalists in Congressional Debate. Senior **Angie Neslin** was a semi-finalist in Original Oratory.

A total of 13 GW students participated in the June Finals. Dan Morgan-Russell was a four-time qualifier; Angie Neslin, **Michael Homiak** and **Matt Zavislan** were three-time qualifiers; **Sarah Pierce, Lucy Shen, Emma Thompson**, and Langston Williams were two-time qualifiers. **Olivia Czufin, Elis Aune**, Eli Gordon, **Miles Moore**, and **Sarah Papich** all attended for the first time.

Nearly 3,000 students participated in the 2012 NFL National Tournament, billed as the world’s largest academic competition. The event drew visitors from across the country and beyond. Top performers take home more than \$200,000 in college scholarships.

To attend, students must qualify at one of NFL’s 108 district tournaments. National competition occurs in eleven main events—Policy Debate, Public Forum Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Congressional Debate-House, Congressional Debate-Senate, Original Oratory, United States Extemporaneous Speaking, International Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, and Duo Interpretation—as well as seven consolation and supplemental events.

—Joanne Ostrow



Congratulations to our 2012 National Team!

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

A Letter From Principal Johnson

Dear IB Parents and Families,

I would like to personally welcome you all back to the George Washington High School International Baccalaureate (IB) program. I want to thank each parent for their support of the program and the school as a whole. With your support the entire school community is strengthened. I especially want to thank our teachers and IB coordinator, Mrs. Geimer, for outstanding dedication to the program and the students.



It is with that continued support of parents and teachers that I look forward to this year. I am excited about the great options the IB program will continue to provide for students. Further, I am looking forward to growing and enhancing the IB program to improve upon already great student outcomes. I look forward to your continued support of our school and anticipate working with you to strengthen our school community.

Sincerely,

Michael Johnson, Principal



From the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation

Last month's college prep meeting for seniors was instructive for the valuable information presented by IB's college counselor, **Rusty Haynes**. We also witnessed firsthand the great value of the IB program for our kids and parents as Rusty guided them through the labyrinth of the college application process. Services of this sort ensure the highest standards. And they come at a *very* steep price. *Very Steep*.



The IB program of excellence – and truly, it is the gold standard of excellence in the area – is *not* free. This year, as you know, the IB Foundation is funding many requests by teachers, financial aid for needy students, ongoing programs like National History Day, and personnel.

So, I ask *all* of you to donate more to the Friends of the IB Foundation. Many of you have been so generous already, but please do more. Dig deeper in these times of economic uncertainty. For those of you who have not donated (or have not *paid your \$40 dues*), you need to step up and do so, please. Those who pay their dues should not be footing the cost of IB alone.

Donations can be made easily online, at: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/?key=friendsfib>. Or, fill out the form and mail it in, at: http://www.georgeib.com/pdf/GWIB_Donation_Form_2009_09.pdf

There are other ways to contribute as well. Check out http://www.georgeib.com/ib_fundraising.html for all the options. Or, purchase everything from travel to toothbrushes through our partnership with MarketAmerica, at <http://www.marketamerica.com/>

If you've paid your \$40 dues, think of doubling that with a donation. If you've generously given \$100 in the past, why not \$250? Why not \$500 or \$1,000?

Parents of *seniors*: a donation indicates your appreciation to the program for its three years of education while also helping with Rusty Haynes' salary;

Junior parents: counseling and materials are costly in this first official year of IB;

Sophomore parents: you now understand how wonderful this program is after the freshman year so please help;

Freshman parents: you've paid dues but that funds just a tip of the IB iceberg of educational resources your child will benefit from this first year.

Think of your kids, think of the teachers, think of the IB program. Thank you for all you've done already. And please *dig deep* to ensure the *future* is as bright as the past – and that includes not just IB but George Washington as a whole, a school now under the dynamic leadership of our new Principal, Michael Johnson. Let's help out the administration by doing our part.

Thank you,

—Tom Zeiler, President, Friends of IB Scholars Foundation

THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER



Standardized test schedule:

STANDARDIZED TEST	TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	DEADLINE FOR LATE REGISTRATION (additional fee)
SAT or Subject Tests	6-Oct	passed	passed
PSAT/NMSQT (G11, some G10)	20-Oct	Registration through GW	Counseling Office
ACT with writing option	27-Oct	21-Sept	5-Oct
SAT or Subject Tests	3-Nov	4-Oct	19-Oct
SAT or Subject Tests	1-Dec	1-Nov	16-Nov
ACT with writing option	8-Dec	2-Nov	16-Nov
SAT or Subject Tests	26-Jan	28-Dec	11-Jan
ACT with writing option	9-Feb	11-Jan	18-Jan
SAT only – no Subject Tests	9-Mar	8-Feb	22-Feb
ACT with writing option	13-Apr	8-Mar	22-Mar
ACT without writing option	23-Apr	Juniors only - registration through GWHS	
SAT or Subject Tests	4-May	5-Apr	19-Apr
SAT or Subject Tests	1-Jun	2-May	17-May
ACT with writing option	8-Jun	3-May	17-May

October Dates of interest:

October 1: CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, required for aid/scholarship consideration at many private colleges, becomes available for online filing. Seniors, submit at least 2 weeks before the first deadline.

October 1: Deadline for Seniors to submit Early Decision and Early Action college application details to IB Office: completed half-sheet, addressed envelope, and postage for each EA/ED school; School Supplement form(s) if required, application fee/waiver (if a college wants it submitted with the school report). Students who wish to apply for Early Notification at CU-Boulder should observe this deadline.

October 2, Tuesday, 6:30 PM, GWHS Auditorium: **“The Admission Game” with Peter Van Buskirk**. “The Admission Game” is a lively and informative program that teaches students what makes a college a good fit for them and what makes an applicant attractive to that college. All are welcome at this return engagement with college admission advisor Peter Van Buskirk. You can learn more about Mr. Van Buskirk’s approach, and sign up for his blog at <http://www.theadmissiongame.com/>

October 10, Wednesday, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: GWHS will host a **College Fair** run by Colorado Day/Night College Fair Programs. Evening sessions of this fair are offered at several metro area schools; see www.coloradocouncil.org.

October 13: Saturday College Fair (In- and Out-of-State), 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, Mountain Vista HS, 10585 Mountain Vista Ridge, Highlands Ranch, offered by College Fairs of Greater Denver (www.collegefairsdenver.org). This is the largest of the college fairs, with many schools represented and a wide variety of workshops and information sessions for students and parents.

October 20, Saturday AM: **Juniors (and sophomores** who want a trial run) have the opportunity to take the PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) at GW. Registration is through the school, not online. Alternatively the test is offered on Wednesday, October 17, but not at GW. Students will receive more information in school.

October 25-26: If you are planning college visits this fall, please schedule them during this week. Since school is not in session October 25-26, faculty will assume that **seniors** will be using that week **to complete any final revisions to their extended essays and to visit colleges**. If you **MUST** extend your visits to include any days earlier in the week (October 22, 23, and/or 24) please consult with your teachers ahead of time to stay current in your work. Planful **juniors** may also want to visit some colleges while they are in session.



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