

# George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



## World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

April 2013 – Vol. 25, Issue 7

### From the IBPA Co-Presidents

Happy Spring to all of you! Given that it is spring in Colorado and the weather can change on a daily (or hourly!) basis, you might be reading this while it is snowing outside or you could be enjoying a glorious sunny day. Whatever the weather, the school year is quickly heading down the homestretch and hopefully you and your children are keeping up with busy spring schedules.

**Ms. Geimer** and **Ms. Lane** survived another busy recruiting season and were happy to admit 100 students to the IB program for the coming school year. Thank you to parent volunteers **Larry Williams** and **Corine Lensink** who have helped me with the shadow program for the past three years. Larry's son **Langston** will be graduating this year but maybe we can twist Larry's arm to help with the shadow program again next year.

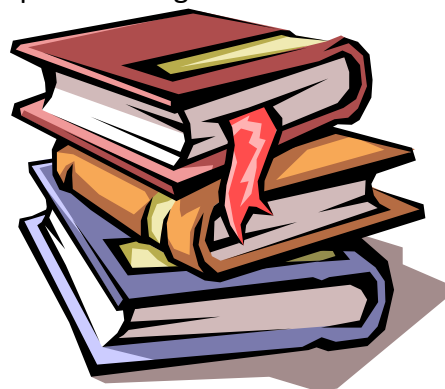
Sophomores have a mandatory meeting on **Wednesday, April 17** to learn about CAS. The evening will include the CAS Fair, which showcases CAS activities of our senior class of 2013. The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 in the gym and all parents and students are welcome.



The April IBPA meeting was postponed due to the potential for hazardous weather from April 9 to **Monday, April 22 at 6:30 PM**. This is a mandatory meeting for juniors and their parents on "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About College Applications." Ms. Geimer, Ms. Lane and **Ms. Cassidy** will provide detailed information, including specific

due dates, to help rising seniors get on top of the process and stay there.

Other activities keeping the IBPA and parent volunteers busy include organizing volunteers to help proctor the May IB exams, planning the senior brunch and preparing to conduct the spring Book Buy Back and Sale. If that's not enough to keep everyone busy, throw in plans for prom and after prom, year-end team banquets and graduation. These high school years fly by in the blink of an eye, so we hope you are enjoying all of these rituals!



And whether you got a laugh out of the high school senior girl from Pittsburgh who had an op-ed piece published in the Wall Street Journal or not, this is something we can relate to at this time of year. Check out Suzy Weiss' letter "To (All) the Colleges That Rejected Me" at [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324000704578390340064578654.html?mod=wsj\\_streaming\\_latest-headlines](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324000704578390340064578654.html?mod=wsj_streaming_latest-headlines). We hope that our seniors received the acceptances they were eagerly anticipating and are having an easy time making college decisions! Best of luck to all of you in making those choices.

— *Cora Neslin and Leslie B. Lilly Wollins*  
IBPA Co-Presidents



## IB Parent Association Calendar

**April 17:** Mandatory Sophomore meeting/CAS Fair

**April 22:** Mandatory Junior meeting (Note date change from April 9)

**May 15:** Freshman Orientation

**May 29, 30, 31:** Book Buy Back and Sale



### From the Editor

As we near the end of the 2012-13 school year I'm approaching the end of three years as the volunteer editor of



the Broadcaster. My daughters enter their senior year this coming fall so I would like to work with another volunteer who could take over this task sometime during the 2013-14 school year. Any rising freshman or sophomore parent would be ideal, as you would be able to provide some continuity like I did and edit the Broadcaster for two or three years.

This is an ideal task for someone who might not have volunteer time to be at school during the days, but can work on their own computer to produce a newsletter during evenings or weekends. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact me via e-mail at [pkdaylu@gmail.com](mailto:pkdaylu@gmail.com). I'll be happy to answer any questions and help you decide if this is the right opportunity for you.

—Paul Day-Lucore



## Coming Events

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>April 23</b>        | <b>ACT for juniors</b>  |
| <b>April 30-May 22</b> | <b>IB Organization official testing dates (modified class schedule for juniors; no classes for seniors)</b> |
| <b>May 5</b>           | <b>Senior Brunch</b>  |
| <b>May 27</b>          | <b>Memorial Day observed (no classes)</b>   |
| <b>June 4</b>          | <b>Last day of classes, end of spring semester</b>  |



## Donate to the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation:

- You can contribute online at: <https://secure.ggiv.com/for/friendsofibdues/>
- Or download the form at: [http://georgeib.com/wp1/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Friends\\_of\\_IB\\_Donation\\_Form\\_2012\\_10.pdf](http://georgeib.com/wp1/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Friends_of_IB_Donation_Form_2012_10.pdf) and mail the completed form with your check to:

**Friends of IB Scholars Foundation**  
**c/o John Murray, Treasurer**  
**1243 South Williams Street**  
**Denver, Colorado 80210.**



Your future Facebook profile pic involves the Eiffel Tower.

Sound interesting? Come see Ms. O'Ryan in Rm. 15 about the Europe trip. Like seriously.



## 2013 Senior Brunch

**When:** Sunday, May 5, 11 AM – 1 PM

**Where:** DoubleTree Hotel at DTC, 7801 E. Orchard Rd.

**Attention all IB seniors and senior parents!** By now you should have received your brunch invitation in the mail. What we need from you:

- Please return your RSVP card along with payment by April 16
- Students: please upload three to five photos of you to the “2013 GW IB Brunch” event page on Facebook. These photos will be used for the “Then and Now” DVD that will be played at the brunch. As of April 4, only 22 of 61 students had uploaded their photos. Don't be left out! If you cannot upload or do not have Facebook access, please contact **Jody Kerr** at 303-748-1963 or [jody.kerr@husqvarnagroup.com](mailto:jody.kerr@husqvarnagroup.com). Photo deadline is April 15.



## CAS Corner: Junior Profiles

### Catie Brown:

Catie runs track, started Fashion Club, is a member of International Baccalaureate Black Organization and the thespian society. She has also performed in the GW Productions of "Everyman" and "Fiddler on the Roof."

Catie serves as a member of the Student Board of Education. Every year the Board develops two projects to increase attendance and engagement of students. This year they have planned a variety of activities and rewards designed to increase school spirit and excitement around being a Patriot.



### Lianna Holston:

Lianna has been involved in Irish Step Dancing for the past 10 years. This year she transferred dance schools, enabling her to continue to grow as a performer and as a person. Her thoughtful reflections in ManageBac attest to her increase in self-awareness of both her strengths and areas she seeks to improve.

Lianna is also active in theater at GW. She is Vice President of the Drama Club, which helped to organize "Dessert Theater," one of the most popular



variety shows at GW. Drama Club also hosts events outside of school and runs bi-monthly workshops.

Lianna worked on the Obama Campaign and voter registration. She participated in summer organizing, working for nine weeks as an intern at the downtown campaign office. She worked phone banks, canvassed neighborhoods, and spent time with MetroCareRing Food Band to register voters and give out polling place locations.

### Allison DeSarro:

Allison started the GW Orchard Project, a student-led initiative to plant an orchard in an unused parking median between the upper and lower south lots.

Through grant money from the Colorado Garden Show, as well as private donations, six to ten fruit trees are to be planted in mid-April. Allison is still looking for private donations through the sale of tree plaques.

—Marjorie Lane

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## Volunteer Proctors needed for IB Exams in May

A few slots remain for volunteer proctors. As of April 4, slots were open on the following dates: May 2 (afternoon), May 3 (afternoon), May 6 (morning and afternoon), May 7 (afternoon), and May 9 (afternoon). **Please contact Elaine Tintera at [dtelainet@msn.com](mailto:dtelainet@msn.com) to volunteer for one or more of these dates.**

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## GWIB GWIB GWIB GWIB GWIB

## Books to NOOKs

Sophomores and incoming freshmen will be transitioning from Books to NOOKs during the 2013-2014 school year. The use of a NOOK HD will be mandatory for each incoming freshman and elective for each sophomore. Sophomore used books will be available at the May used book sale for students wishing to continue using hard copies. Barnes and Noble has a money saving school program that allows schools (IB) to purchase one digital copy of a book, and save it onto 5 NOOKs. Management of the NOOKs will be done digitally through Barnes and Noble. The usual freshman reading list has cost parents up to \$40, now it will only cost \$8.00.



Do not purchase your own NOOK, because this discount purchase program is only available on NOOKs purchased as a class set. Freshman and sophomore parents watch your mail for details about the program and send your order forms back before April 26th. The 2013-2014 NOOKs will be loaded with English books and either a Spanish or French 501 Verb book. I have not found a foreign language dictionary that is user-friendly at the time of this printing, so you may have to use a hard copy. We are not using NOOKs in the Junior and Senior classrooms at this time, but will use them for the 2014-2015 school year. So far, the only 10th grade English book that is not available in a digital format is **Epic of Gilgamesh** Norton's Edition, but there will be lots of used copies available at the Used Book Sale.

Sophomores who already have NOOKs, Kindles or iPads, may use those devices. ISBN's will be provided so you can load the appropriate books onto your devices.

Teachers will be interacting with students through their NOOKs, so freshmen must purchase one of the classroom set NOOKs.

—Debi Roads

## Introducing Kevin McGuire

Did you know we have a new Athletic & Activities Director? I had the pleasure of sitting down with Kevin McGuire to find out a bit about his background and to explore what he has planned for George Washington High School athletics and activities.

Kevin has been married for about 13 years and has three children—two daughters and a son. He and his wife dated for about 5 years prior to getting married. They lived in North Carolina where he worked as a Recreational Director. His wife received a job transfer to Ohio. While in Ohio, Kevin again worked as a Recreational Director. They remained there for about six years until she received another job offer in about 2005 for a move to Denver. Prior to coming to GW, he has worked in youth sports for both Aurora and Littleton's YMCA.

I asked Kevin why he considered accepting a high school job. Kevin shared that his "dream job" was to be an Athletic & Activities Director at a high school because it gives him the opportunity to work with young people. Kevin's philosophy is that academics come first. It is a privilege to participate in sports and represent your high school, not a right. Kevin played baseball in college.

Kevin has only been at GW for a few months but he has been actively forging relationships in the community to help bolster our teams and clubs. He has many creative ideas for improving both athletics and activities at GW.

Stop by his office and introduce yourself to one of GW's newest additions to its administration.

Contact Kevin McGuire at [kevin\\_mcguire@dpsk12.org](mailto:kevin_mcguire@dpsk12.org).



— *Leslie B. Lilly Wollins*



### *Decorative flourish* National History Day

On Saturday, April 5, 2013, 70 George Washington students competed in the National History Day District Competition. Students entered a wide variety of categories, including Exhibit, Web Site, Paper, and Documentary. George Washington's history students continued the school's strong tradition of success at NHD, qualifying 15 projects and 30 students for the state competition to be held on May 4, 2013. Congratulations to all the qualifiers and good luck at state.

— *Richard Leeds*

### *Decorative flourish* Freshmen... Turn On Your Ovens!

The Class of 2016 will be holding a bake sale fundraiser in conjunction with the CAS Fair. Funds will go toward the After Prom (May 2016) which may seem to be a long way off, but getting a jump raising money now help make that after-prom a great event.

Please contact **David H. Wollins, Jr.** at [wollinsd@gmail.com](mailto:wollinsd@gmail.com) or **Cole Ossian** or **Neck Brehm** and sign up to bring a baked good for the sale. Your goodies are to be dropped off in the IB office in the morning on Wednesday, April 17.



**Sophomores: Don't forget that the CAS fair is a mandatory meeting for you and your parents. August 17, at 6:30 PM in the Gym.**

# GW Community Gateway Project to be built in 2013!



After four long years, the wait is over. The north entrance renovation of George Washington High School will take place this summer.

Thanks to a grant from the Colorado Garden Show and to matching funds from DPS, the project can move ahead. But, of course, more funding is needed!

Be a part of it! Order your engraved pavers today. All proceeds from these sales go directly to the project. With the matching grant, your contribution will be doubled! See the order form below, or pick a form up from GW's main office. See our website ([gwhsgateway.com](http://gwhsgateway.com)) for more drawings of the project and to

order on-line. You can also find personalization examples there to spark your creativity.

We thank all who've already purchased a paver and for showing such faith in this project.

Celebrate your graduate, school club or team, add a favorite quote, or honor a teacher or other person who's made a difference in your life.



Yes, I want to change the face of George this summer!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day-time phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

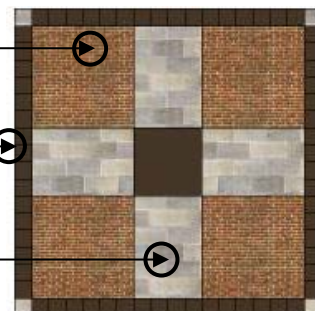
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send the completed order form with your payment to:

**GW Community Gateway Project**  
8653 E DOANE PL  
DENVER CO 80231

### Choose from three sizes of pavers:

- Brick paver 4" x 8"  
\$100 up to 3 lines of text; 16-20 characters per line
- Stone paver 8" x 8"  
\$500 up to 8 lines of text; 16-20 characters per line
- Stone paver 8" x 16"  
\$1,000 up to 8 lines of text; 30 characters per line;  
Symbols or logos can be included



**Designate my donation.** Print the text in the box below as you would like to see it on the paver. See the guide above for the maximum number of lines and characters. Please include spaces in your character count. Please check all your spelling! Note if you would like include a logo or symbol, and we will contact you.



## THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER

Congratulations **SENIORS!** You survived the application process and the waiting! Now that April is here, you finally have answers from all your colleges. Here's your college to-do list for April:

- Inform Ms. Lane in the IB Office of your final decision ASAP (Marjorie\_Lane@dpsk.org).
- Enter all decision, financial aid and scholarship information into your Naviance account.
- If you have not made your final decision, compare your “yes” schools (and their aid offers) very carefully so that you commit to the one that truly fits you the best.
- You may want to appeal low financial awards if you have a better offer elsewhere.
- If you accept a place on the wait list at your first choice school, follow it up promptly with a letter of VERY strong interest that includes any new positive information for your application, and/or a campus interview if you haven't had one and/or a new and exciting letter of recommendation—but put down a deposit at your best-fit “yes” school at the same time.
- If you will be taking a gap year, call AND write your college about your plan.
- Be sure to reply to ALL offers of admission ASAP (and definitely by May 1) so that students who are on wait lists do not have their suspense needlessly prolonged.
- Complete housing, orientation, course placement and all other forms from your college sooner rather than later. Choice spots are generally allotted on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Seek help from Mr. Haynes, Ms. Geimer and Ms. Lane as needed to get through these last steps.
- Thank all the people who helped you with this process—Ms. Geimer, Ms. Lane, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Jennings, teachers, outside recommenders, coaches, parents...etc.

**JUNIORS**, you're almost rising seniors and your lives are getting really interesting. You've been introduced to Naviance and you and your parents are learning about the general procedures and timelines for the application process. The next steps are simple but critical. From this point on, time begins to matter, so being in control of the process and keeping up with it are both important. Here's a checklist of some things to think about for the spring and summer ahead:

- Prepare for the mandatory junior ACT this month.
- Register for the ACT plus Writing, the SAT Reasoning Test and/or the SAT Subject Tests as recommended by your schools-of-interest (SOIs).
- Bookmark the websites (and admissions pages) for your SOIs and browse them often to become familiar with their admission requirements, procedures, deadlines, etc., as well as with general information about each school. Deadlines and procedures can change from year to year, so you need to stay up to date.
- Plan campus visits.
- Book an appointment with Mr. Haynes, if you haven't already done so, to discuss your interests and the “right fit” for your future school: collegemasters@comcast.net, 719-232-5303 or 719-576-9487.
- Work on your college essay.
- Develop a list of schools to which you may want to apply. Ultimately, you'll want to include a “dream” school and a “safety” school in the list. And remember that “dream” and “safety” don't mean the same thing to every applicant, nor should they!
- Talk to teachers about writing recommendations for you. Colleges, if they want them at all, usually require that these come from teachers you've had during junior and senior year. Give them a copy of your résumé.
- If you're interested in financial aid, begin searching for scholarship, grant and loan help that may be right for you. Parents, this is an area where you can and should provide help and support.
- Continue working hard in all of your classes. This is the last semester that will be included on the transcript that will accompany the Secondary School Report Form and recommendation letter from Ms. Geimer in the fall. (Grades from fall of senior year—AKA the Mid-Year Report—will be sent to colleges in January.)

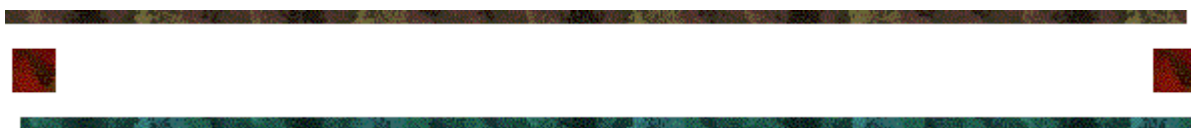
**SOPHOMORES**, keep up your grades, follow your interests and take advantage of whatever opportunities for personal development come your way. Plan to meet some CAS requirements this summer—you'll be glad you did, once the junior year course load hits.

**FRESHMEN**, remember that this year's grades will follow you all the way through senior year as part of your high school transcript. Make this a year to be proud of. Stay involved in your classes, in extracurricular activities and in your community, doing things you care about and/or that you want to learn more about. Keep up some involvements over the summer.

### SPRING 2013 STANDARDIZED TESTING SCHEDULE

Standardized Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late (added fee) Registration
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

NB: No SAT/ACT testing during the summer. Testing resumes in the fall; dates TBA.



### A farewell to Mr. Bancroft

GW's IB Program has lost another dynamic teacher in the recent death of Tom Bancroft.

Tom started teaching pre-IB courses at GW in 2006. He had recently retired from The University of Denver High School and brought impressive credentials from the Cherry Creek School District where he had taught for over 28 years. It was clear from the beginning that Tom was a force as a teacher. He was confident, enthusiastic, well read, eager to make a difference, opinionated and unafraid of both the academic and personal challenge that our program presented.



Students found Tom demanding and focused on them; they couldn't slide by not reading. His standards were high. His students needed to be prepared to put in a genuine effort. He thrived in making personal connections and was especially proud of his efforts to promote admission for seniors to top tier colleges. Students at George Washington knew him as an advocate, basketball and golf coach, and friend of academic excellence. In the last few years he chose to teach IB psychology. Tom chose to push himself to new challenges every few years and recently opted to teach English in the traditional curriculum.

Tom loved his family first and unequivocally, but he will be remembered at school for his authentic affection for his students. He sought to know them as individuals and brought his professional passion to helping students reach deeply; to think and to read and to write well. We can only hope that some of those students who found his influence profound will be future classroom teachers.

Tom, you will not be forgotten.

—*Suzi Geimer*

## Contact Information

### 2012-2013 IB Parents Association Board of Directors

#### 2012-13 Co-Presidents

Secretary/Historian

Treasurer

Senior Brunch Chair

Student Directory Chair

Teacher Appreciation-Chair

Eighth Grade Welcome Fest Chair

IB Ambassadors Chair

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Spring Book Sale & Buy Back

College Counseling

Alumni Representative

Distinguished Teacher Chair

Web Site & Public Relations

Friends of IB Foundation President

Friends of IB Foundation Secretary

IB Coordinator

IB Administrative Assistant

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