

George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

March 2013 – Vol. 25, Issue 6

From the IBPA Co-Presidents

The IB office has been abuzz with activity this past month. All college admission paperwork has been completed. 53 early action/early decision applications and 406 other applications were processed through the IB office. Of the 28 students who applied for early action/early decision, 20 were admitted. Presently, the IB office is working the senior class exams, internal assessments, and the mailing of the Extended Essay as well as making preparations for our incoming freshman class of 2017.



The turnout for parent-teacher conferences from 4 to 8 PM on February 11 and 12 was excellent. Teachers were treated to a bit of sustenance to tide them

over on these long days by a most thoughtful parent, **Maya Lynn**, who brought in pizza, coffee, drinks, and a sandwich tray.

The February 12 IB Parent/Student meeting featured a discussion on potential pitfalls and temptations students may face, **Good Kids Making Bad Decisions**. Thank you to **Pam Wakefield**, former Douglas county Juvenile Prosecutor, for once again volunteering her time to help educate our community.

Many thanks to Welcome Fest chair **Linda Williams** and co-chair **Terri Learned** for organizing this year's event. Student volunteers (greeters, club, sport and activity reps, and tour guides) as well as parent donors (water, cookies and other goodies) were a big part of the success as well. A special thank you goes to Terri Learned for stepping up to chair this committee next year,

and to Linda Williams for her years of leadership in this area.

The April IBPA meeting will be a kind of “**Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about College**



Applications but Were Afraid to Ask” session, and is mandatory for juniors and their parents. **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. The pace of the fall of senior year is incredibly fast and furious. This meeting will help tame the beast. **Juniors: DO NOT MISS THIS MEETING**—Tuesday, April 9, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium.

Wednesday, April 17 is a mandatory meeting for sophomores and our annual CAS Fair that showcases the CAS activities of our senior class of 2013. It is scheduled for 6:30 PM in the gym. We welcome all parents and students!

In addition, the IB Parent Board is hard at work organizing volunteers to help proctor the May IB exams, to help with the senior brunch, and to conduct the spring Book Buy Back and Sale.

As always, the IBPA welcomes parent involvement. We want to extend a special welcome to new families and look forward to meeting you at upcoming events. Please feel free to contact us with any questions – especially those regarding how you can get involved!

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

IB Parent Association Calendar

March: No meeting

April 9: Mandatory Junior meeting

April 17: Mandatory Sophomore meeting/CAS Fair

May 15: Freshman Orientation

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



I.B. Broadcaster

Please keep your IB Broadcaster contributions coming to Paul Day-Lucre, at pkdaylu@gmail.com.



GWIB GWIB

Sister Cities and GW French students

The Denver Sister Cities organization has invited 11 French students from GW to participate in a student exchange program over spring break as well as the following week. Denver and the City of Brest, France were the very first sister cities in the world. Brest is located on the western-most tip of Brittany and was totally destroyed during World War Two. Some American soldiers from Denver experienced the devastation and were so touched that they returned

home and organized aid for the residents of Brest that helped them survive and rebuild. The rest is history, the foundation of a world-wide sister cities programs. Our students will leave on March 24 and return to Denver on April 6th. Our participants are **Jacob Durso-Sabina, Isabella Fawson, Isabella Gianani, Anna Howard, Emma Miner, Katia Olson-Shipyatsky, Anna Ostrow, Gillian Robertson, Ellie Storer, Ellen Scherner** and **Emma Theis**. **Mme Ward** will co-chaperone the trip with **Mr. Christian Roche** from DPS's international school DSIC. These students will participate in a home-stay with French families that have previously sent their students to visit and attend classes at DSIC.

Coming Events

Mar 25	César Chávez day observed (no school)
Mar 25-29	Spring Break (no school)
April 23	ACT for juniors
April 30-May 22	IB Organization official testing dates

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KUDOS!

An article by senior **Langston Williams** is featured at the National Kappa League website. This is for young people thinking about college. [Click here for his article, "Basic Tips for Applying for College."](#) Thank you, Langston for sharing your words of wisdom.

Donate to the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation:

- You can contribute online at: <https://secure.qgiv.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 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.



2013 Senior Brunch

Sunday, May 5, 11 AM - 1 PM, DoubleTree Hotel at DTC. Price: \$29
Volunteers needed! Please contact Jody Kerr at 303-748-1963.

CAS Fair and Senior Presentations

This event will take place on **April 17, 2013** at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria. All grades – 9th, 10th, and 11th are invited – both students and parents. Parents of seniors are invited as well. This is a **MANDATORY MEETING FOR SOPHOMORES AND THEIR PARENTS**.

In the past, the CAS Fair was held in the fall as a separate event to expose students to outside opportunities. This built enthusiasm. The final CAS requirement was a peer interview giving each student the opportunity to share her or his CAS experience, accomplishments, and reflections. Again this year, we have combined both events into one. This creates a unique opportunity for the seniors and all the other IB students and parents, including those about to undertake CAS requirements, to understand the CAS explorations of this senior class and to explore many of the options available to start their own CAS journeys. Many of the participant organizations will be in attendance. In addition, all class of 2013 seniors will be present to share personal CAS experiences from the past two years.



To receive an IB diploma, each student is required to complete three additional components along with classroom work: an Extended Essay, a Theory of Knowledge (TOK) class and project, and CAS requirements.

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) is at the heart of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies. The three strands of CAS which are interwoven with particular activities are characterized as follows:

Creativity: Arts and other experiences that involve creative thinking.

Action: Physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle, complementing academic work elsewhere in the Diploma Program

Service: An unpaid and voluntary exchange that has a learning benefit for the student.

CAS enables students to enhance their personal and inter-personal development through experiential learning. At the same time it provides an important counterbalance to the academic pressures of IB. A good CAS program is both challenging and enjoyable, a personal journey of self-discovery. Each individual student has a different starting point, and therefore different goals and needs; but for many, CAS activities include experiences that are profound a life changing.

CAS activities must include:

- Real, purposeful activities with significant outcomes
- Personal challenge—tasks must extend the student and be achievable in scope
- Thoughtful consideration, such as planning, reviewing progress, and reporting

- Reflection on outcomes and personal learning

Juniors and seniors work with Ms. Lane to document and reflect on their experiences. Their creativity takes the form of writing, music, dancing, acting, leadership, debate, cooking, landscaping, student intern teaching, and even problem-solving in research labs. Our seniors participated in every sport GWHS offers, often assuming leadership roles on the teams. They worked locally and globally on service projects. If you ever thought that IB students would not have enough time to engage in activities outside the classroom, you need to simply examine and appreciate CAS—a unique and wonderful part of the IB experience.

—Leslie Lilly, IBPA co-President

Volunteer Proctors needed for IB Exams in May

Seniors and some juniors will be taking IB examinations during May. IBO has stringent guidelines for the conduct of these exams, and meeting them is a logistical challenge that Mrs. Geimer manages to meet every year – but she needs our help to do it.



Parents, this is a golden opportunity to get an insider's glimpse of the IB External Assessment experience. Please consider volunteering to proctor ("invigilate," in IB-speak) one or more of the May exams.

For more info and to volunteer to proctor, contact Elaine Tintera at dtelainet@msn.com.

Help Us Help Our School



There's an easy way to help us raise money for our school. It's called "Take Charge of Education" and it's a program of Target stores. Many of us shop at Target from time to time. If we

use a REDcard (Target credit, Target debit, or Target Visa credit card) when we shop there, we can designate as much as 1% be sent to GW!

Visit <https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home> and designate GW to receive this bonus. GW has received money from this program in the past, but we could get more. How much would 1% of your past Target purchases have netted for our school?

Opportunity NOW to Dedicate a Tree on the GW Campus!



Choose a tree for this year's spring tree planting for the New GW Orchard to celebrate your graduate, school club, or a favorite teacher.

A plaque will be placed in front of your fruit tree to tell the world of your appreciation. If we receive enough tree-dedication orders, the plaques can be put in place this spring as the trees are planted. A minimum number of plaques need to be ordered at once, so if you've been considering a tree dedication, **now** is the time to **ACT**. Go online to <http://gwhs.dpsk12.org> and click on the Parent tab, then Gateway Donations or send an email to jjanes@ecentral.com for an order form.

✂ — — — — —

Yes, I want to help create the fruit orchard at George!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day-time phone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please send the completed order form with your payment to:

GWHS Grounds Committee
8653 E DOANE PL
DENVER CO 80231

Choose your method of contribution:

Donation in any amount – thank you!

Tree dedication \$500 - Dedication plaque available if you wish.

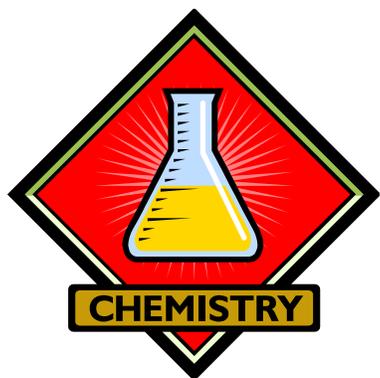
Up to 3 lines of text; 16-20 characters (including spaces) per line

Designate my donation. Enter the text in the box below as you would like to see it on the paver.

Please print clearly and check all your spelling!

Note if you would like to include a logo or symbol, and we will contact you.

Letter from the IB Foundation President



PARENTS!! CHEMISTRY CLASSES NEED YOUR HELP

Is your student a rising sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled in chemistry? Then, the IB Foundation needs your help!

The chemistry teachers need to replenish *supplies* plus Dr. More has requested a *USB2000-UV-VIS Miniature Fiber Optic Spectrometer*. Say that three times, really fast! I am informed that this is a small-footprint, plug-and-play version of our revolutionary S2000 Miniature Fiber Optic Spectrometer. WE NEED TO RAISE \$5,000 FOR THEM or they cannot provide the superb, required education for our students that we have come to expect.

Your past generosity to the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation has provided the IB program at George Washington High School with funds critical to supporting our students, teachers, and staff. We now come to you in a time of very pressing needs with this fundraising drive specifically targeted on chemistry.

Chemistry courses require the \$5,000 to pay for equipment and supplies to meet the standards of IB and, therefore, to serve your students' needs. Dr. More relies on IB funding each year for her classes, but this time around we are short of money to provide her and her students with the resources they need.

We ask you to donate at least \$50 to this campaign so all of our kids can benefit. For those of you who can do more, please do so; surely, a contribution of \$100 or \$250, or more, for these essential programs is possible for many of us.

Please mail a check, indicating the Chemistry Drive, to: Friends of IB Scholars Foundation, c/o John Murray, Treasurer, 1243 South Williams Street, Denver, Colorado 80210.

OR donate online on our secure payment system, and simply indicate your desire for the funds to go to the Targeted Chemistry/Counselor Drive at:

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/friendsofibdues/>

Thank you for your support - we need it!

Tom Zeiler, President
Friends of IB Scholars Foundation
thomaswilliamzeiler@gmail.com





THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER

SENIORS:

1. Look for the rest of your application results to arrive between now and April 1. Good luck! Inform Ms. Cassidy of your final college decision and all scholarship and awards offered. Celebrate and share your college choice to the class of 2013 college board in Ms. Cassidy's office.
2. Complete any last financial aid application requirements.
3. Consider making "admitted student" visits, preferably without missing school.
4. Compare financial aid packages;

College Scorecards in the U.S. Department of Education's College Affordability and Transparency Center make it easier for you to search for a college that is a good fit for you. You can use the College Scorecard to find out more about a college's affordability and value so you can make more informed decisions about which college to attend. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/education/higher-education/college-score-card>. Also, <http://www.collegeboard.com> (among others) has helpful tools.

5. Keep looking for private scholarships. Ms. Cassidy has several new books with scholarship information, stop by the IB college counseling office to utilize this resource.
6. Update your Naviance with resume and college essay. Please do not delete colleges you are not attending, we use the data.
7. Follow procedures for college housing, particularly if you've decided on a public college. Don't delay.
8. Go to every class, every day, and keep up with assignments, IAs and exam prep.

JUNIORS:

1. Create or update your résumé to bring to your upcoming interview with Ms. Geimer and Ms. Cassidy. They will use the résumé and other information you provide to complete the "Secondary School Report Form" and accompanying recommendation letter for your college applications. You will receive a website address to schedule your interview, which will take place soon.
2. Continue to research colleges and develop your realistic list of schools. bigfuture.collegeboard.org and collegeprowler.com are great sites to explore.
3. Continue to use Mr. Haynes and Ms. Cassidy for your individual college counseling needs. Schedule an appointment with Mr. Haynes at rustyhaynes@outlook.com or by phone at 719-434-3573.
4. Visit colleges over spring break, if that fits for you, to see professors and students in action. Ms. Cassidy has a list for making your campus visit count.
5. Attend MANDATORY Junior/Parent College Application meeting on April 9. Ms. Geimer will walk you through the IB timeline for applications, including what will be due by September of senior year and how to complete it on time!
6. After the MANDATORY meeting for juniors, stay for the junior parent night and attend three of the workshops that will be offered to provide more information to prepare for college. More information will be coming soon.
7. Do not miss the in-school, free, state-mandated ACT (without writing) test on April 23.
8. Register for standardized tests that are required at colleges on your list—ACT (if you need it, with Writing), SAT, and/or Subject Tests. June test dates are the last ones until the fall.
9. Prepare for the SAT/ACT, either on your own (books, practice tests) or through a test prep program.
10. Decide which teachers you will ask to write letters of recommendation for you.
11. Plan your summer. There are some great enrichment programs out there, but application deadlines are approaching fast. Explore. Think CAS (and get signatures). Include some college visits, perhaps.

IMPORTANT COLLEGE DATES AND DEADLINES

March 31: Virtually all college decisions are mailed or posted online by this date. Financial aid packages typically arrive simultaneously, or within a week of the acceptance.

April 14: **Spring College Fair** aimed at juniors and interested sophomores, University of Denver, 1-3:30 pm.

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.

May 1: Deadline to respond to colleges that have offered admission, with a confirmation deposit (typically \$200-500) to the chosen school.

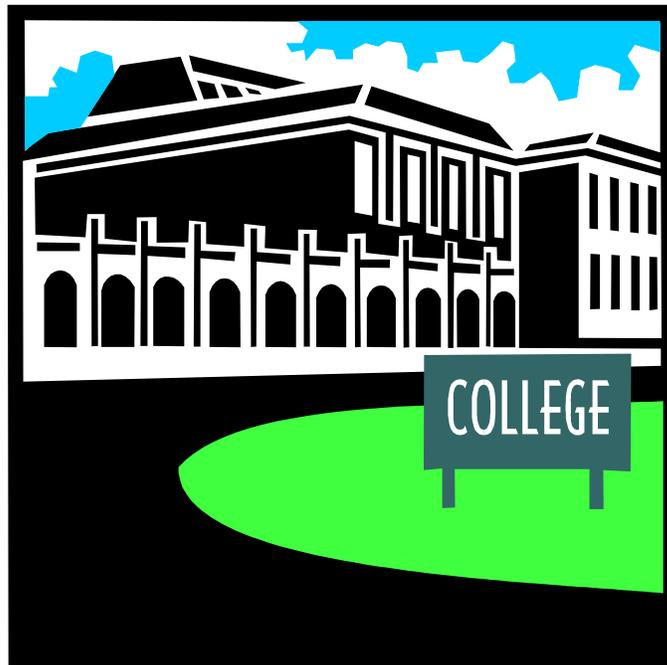
June 2: **“What’s My Story” Workshop** for junior wishing extra help preparing their applications, offered by Peter Van Buskirk for a fee, with an Early Bird discount before April 22. <http://www.theadmissiongame.com/wms-workshops.php>

SPRING 2013 STANDARDIZED TESTING SCHEDULE

Standardized Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late (added fee) Registration
ACT with writing option	April 13	passed	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

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

—Leigh Cassidy, Counselor



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