

George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

March 2012 – Vol. 24, Issue 6

From the IBPA Board

Second semester has been unusually stressful for the GW faculty and staff. Principal Maas's leadership style has generated mounting tensions within the building that ultimately led to a 'School Climate' survey being conducted last month by a group of teachers in collaboration with representatives from the Denver Classroom Teachers Association. Every employee at GW had an opportunity to participate in the survey. The results of the survey reflected a strong disapproval rating of the administration, especially principal Maas. After an overwhelming vote of no confidence by building personnel, a letter was hand delivered on Friday, March 2, 2012 to Superintendent Boasberg and to each member of the Board of Education requesting that our principal, Loan Maas be promptly removed and an interim principal be appointed for the remainder of the school year.

As of today, March 6, 2012 we are awaiting a resolution to the situation.



In the event that district administration does not take immediate action to rectify this situation, parents, students and community members are encouraged to attend the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. to hear public comment from George parent and/or student patriots.

—*Kristi Butkovich*

IBPA President

IBPA Board

We are committed to providing excellent educational opportunities at GW and your involvement in your child's education matters and it does make a difference. Thank you so much for attending the IB Parents Association meetings and for supporting our parents organization as you do – we have a strong and committed group of families and we feel fortunate to be a part of such a unique blending of ideas, activities, and interests. The years we share with our high school kids are so special, and we hope you are enjoying every minute.

Coming GWIB Events

Mar 13	IB Parent Meeting: Dana & Pam Wakefield
Mar 20	College Prep Teleseminar
Mar 26-30	Spring Break
Apr 10	Mandatory meeting for juniors and parents
Apr 17	College Prep Teleseminar



An informative, eye-opening, and important evening...

featuring a DISCUSSION WITH:

Dana and Pam Wakefield

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

6:30 – 8 PM

IB students are bright, competent, clever, and intelligent, right? Hardworking, ambitious, dedicated high school students abound in GW's IB program, and we know they love learning, enjoy feeling independent, and thrive in challenging situations. Yet, life isn't always smooth sailing. Even our students will face dilemmas at times. You will go home from this discussion with many new ideas and levels of awareness regarding our children's lives. With their combined experiences, Dana and Pam will provide us much to think about. **Both parents and students are encouraged to attend.**



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**

HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!



IB Parent Association 2011-12

- Mar 13:** “When Good Kids Make Bad Decisions” Guest Speakers: Dana and Pam Wakefield – Court Appointed Special Advocates
- April 10:** Mandatory meeting for **juniors** and parents
- April:** **Incoming freshman orientation** (date TBD)
- May:** Buy-Back **Used Book Sale** (TBD)

Attention Senior Class of 2012!

Do you have fines or fees to pay? You may pay by check until Friday, March 23. After that date you must pay by cash, and all payments are due by Friday, April 27. You may bring payment along with student ID to the Treasurer’s office.

**Please give to the Friends
of IB Foundation online!
Follow the
fundraising link at
www.georgeib.com**



Attention Juniors!

Juniors and your parents, plan now to attend the **mandatory April 10** meeting. Mrs. Geimer will lead a discussion of the college application process, the assessment schedule, Extended Essays, CAS, test fees, books, and tips on surviving the last big year in IB.

2012 Senior Brunch Sunday, May 6, 2012 11AM-1PM

Seniors: save the date for this wonderful IB tradition! **PHOTOS NEEDED!** The IB Senior Brunch will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel, 7801 E. Orchard Rd. in Greenwood Village, in the Citrus Ballroom. Watch for your invitation with all the details.

The planning committee is asking for a baby picture, a current picture, and an activity picture from each senior by **March 12**. Any other photos that include groups of current seniors would also be appreciated. Digital or print formats are accepted. Send digital photos to [Julia Fitzpatrick](mailto:julia@georgeib.com), or bring prints to the IB Office.

CAS Fair and Senior Presentations



This event will take place on **April 23, 2012** 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.

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 his/her CAS experience, accomplishments, and reflections. 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 the varied options available to start their own CAS journeys.

Over 30 organizations will be in attendance. In addition, all class of 2012 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 interpersonal 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 and 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 a leadership role on the team. They worked locally and globally on service projects. If you ever thought that IB students would not have time to engage in activities outside the classroom, you need to simply examine and appreciate CAS.

CAS is a unique and wonderful part of the IB experience.

—Leslie Lilly, IB Parent Association Board member



Speech and Debate

Congratulations to the GW speech and debate competitors and especially to the finalists for a great showing at the Denver School of the Arts tournament on February 11. **Langston Williams** and **Eli Gordon** deserve special recognition for good sportsmanship; although they were undefeated in Public Forum (PF) debate, a tabulation error kept them from competing as finalists. Finalists automatically finish in the top six.

DPS tournament at DSA Feb 11 results:

1st Place:

PF: **Jack Kealey/Dylan Hertel**
Lincoln Douglas (LD) debate: **Michael Homiak**

2nd Place:

PF: **Emma Thompson/Miles Moore**
Original Oratory (OO): **Angie Neslin**

4th Place:

US Extemp: **Margaret Schaack**

5th Place:

Cross Exam (CX) debate: **Sarah Pierce/Lucy Shen**

6th Place:

International Extemp: **Dan Morgan-Russell**

On the long President's Day weekend, GWSD competed locally at Fairview High in Boulder, and also at the national circuit tournament in Berkeley, California. The team has been participating in the California Invitational at Berkeley for the past several years, and each year our results get better and better. Way to go, Patriots!

Results from Berkeley, Feb 18-20:

Quarter Finalists:

OO: **Ben Reilly**
Extemp: **Dan Morgan-Russell**
JV Policy (CX) Debate: **Jordan Janoff & John Halliday**

Octa-Finalists:

Extemp: **Margaret Schaack**
Extemp: **Suzanna Steele**

Double Octa-Finalists:

PF: **Jack Keale & Dylan Hertel**
LD: **Matt Zavislan**
JV LD: **Nate Bloom**
JV Policy (CX): **John Conrad & Alec Madrid**

Triple Octa-Finalists:

PF: **Langston Williams & Eli Gordon**
PF: **Jacob Waters & Aidan Murray**

Results from Fairview Fling, Feb 18:

1st Place:

Creative Story Telling: **Sarah Papich**

5th Place:

Dramatic Interpretation: **Richard Medina**

6th Place:

International Extemp: **Jack Glaser**

Continuing their tradition of excellence, GWSD took home four first-place trophies (out of nine events) at the Jeffco Invitational in Golden the last weekend of February. Wow, Patriots!

1st Place:

Drama Interp: **Richard Medina**
US Extemp: **Margaret Schaack**
Foreign Extemp: **Dan Morgan-Russell**
PF: **Emma Thompson & Matt Zavislan**

2nd Place:

Foreign Extemp: **Jack Glaser**
OO: **Monisha Lensink-Vasan**
Policy (CX): **John Conrad & Parker Davis**

5th Place:

LD: **Meley Gebresellassie**

Go Patriots!

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Elicia Dennis Wins NCWIT Award



The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) has given a national “Aspirations in Computing” award to

GWIB student **Elicia Dennis**. Elicia spends her days focused on computer science and community service. She competed with GW’s first Robotics team her freshman year. She is the secretary for GW’s Raveled Threads club, which makes blankets for premature babies at a local hospital. She is the president of the club “Patriots of Hope” and she also founded the STEM club to provide students with the technology materials they need. Elicia also helps teachers to better understand their classroom technology and to integrate technology effectively. Although Elicia first wanted to be a programmer, she has now turned her attention to wanting to study computer hardware engineering, and ultimately she would like to find a way to make technology more accessible for people in low income situations.



Thank you, Elicia, for making a difference for others!

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Mooji Boldbaatar—Distinguished Mongolian Woman



Munkhazaya “Mooji” Boldbaatar will receive an award as one of 10 nation-wide recipients of “The Most Distinguished Mongolian Women in Art and Culture” by the Mongolian Women’s Development Foundation. The award will be presented on March 10 at the Foundation’s **Conference of Mongolian Women in the USA — Empower Women**. This conference will be held in Chicago.

Mooji and countless others from around the country were nominated and 10 in each category were chosen to receive the award. In addition to Arts and Culture, awards will be given in Sport & Health, Food & Nutrition, Education, and Empowering Women.

Mooji’s particular Art is dance. She’s been dancing for almost 12 years and is a professional Mongolian traditional, Latin, and Ballroom dancer. She is also a dance instructor, a five-time National Champion in Mongolian dance, and two-time Colorado Star Ball Champion. **Mooji is the only recipient of this award who is under 30 years of age.**

Amazing!



Rachel Baiyee-Cady — 9Who Care April Honoree

KUSA channel 9 has selected GWIB student Rachel Baiyee-Cady as a 9Who Care winner. This honor recognizes volunteer work Rachel has done for many years. Some of her activities include Volunteers for America (working in the food bank and raking leaves for the elderly), the Ronald McDonald House (cooking breakfast for sick children's families), Rosalinda's Restaurant (feeding the hungry), Excel Institute (teacher's helper and office assistant), Medical Center of Aurora (ER area), Iliff Care Center Nursing Home (playing games with residents), and Somalia Center (tutoring children).



Sheri Hunter-Miller, owner of Hunter's Beauty Supply heard about Rachel's volunteer activities and decided to nominate Rachel for 9Kids Who Care. 9News discontinued the 9Kids Who Care program and combined all the nominees in with the 9Who Care program. Rachel is the first student to be nominated since the two programs were combined.

Rachel's story will be featured in the 6 AM and 4 PM Channel 9 newscasts on Friday, April 6, the 8 AM newscast on KTVD channel 20, and repeated on Saturday, April 7 in the channel 9 7 AM newscast. 30-second spots saluting Rachel will run throughout April, and the story will be featured on 9news.com. The Gannett Foundation will make a \$900 donation to the charity of Rachel's choice. Rachel will be recognized at the annual 9Who Care event on June 1.

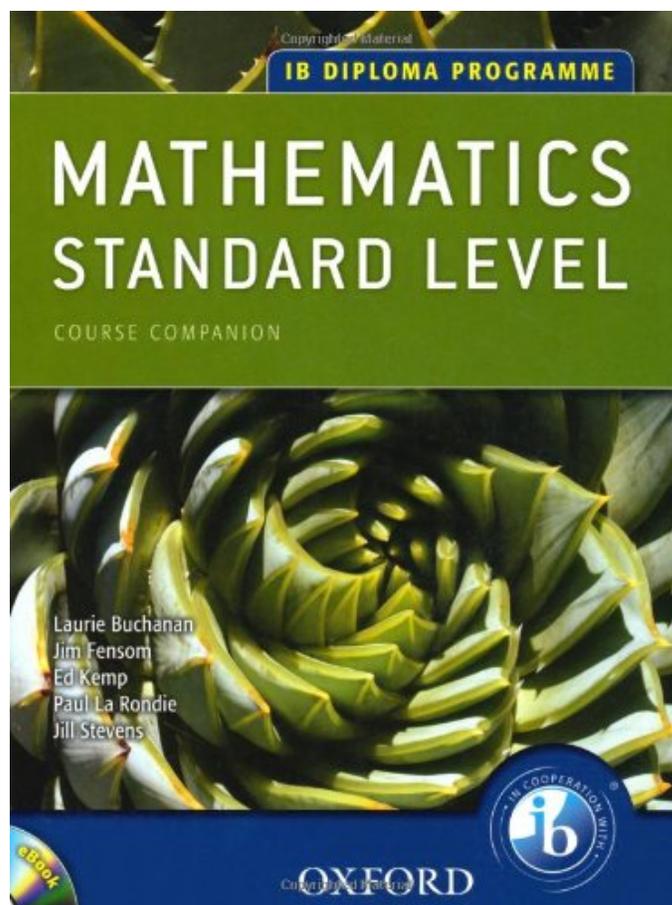
Congratulations, Rachel!

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Faculty Author

GW IB has a published author on the faculty: **Laurie Buchanan** is co-author of **IB Mathematics SL, A Course Companion**, published by Oxford university Press. This text will be used by most IB schools throughout the world. We are honored to have Mrs. Buchanan as our resident expert in maths Standard Level. She also serves as a moderator, workshop leader, and international committee member for IB.

—Suzi Geimer



Is it Spring Yet?



Like me, I bet you're ready for permanently warm weather! Spring is around the corner, so we at the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation are getting into the defrost mood!

Here's something to warm your heart: the Foundation notes that for the third year in a row, more families paid their \$40 annual IB dues than ever before. We perceive multiple shoots of flowers springing up in our treasury! And what an investment it is: many of you have not only kindly stepped up with your dues but you have also increased donations to the IB Foundation account. We thank you for your generosity. And you've made a wise choice since you're enriching the soil and supporting your kids and a great program!!

Ah, but let's keep fertilizing! You've got many options, as many as colors of tulips!

- Go online, pay your **DUES** (\$40), and donate even more if you can: https://secure.ggiv.com/cps_donors/index.php?key=friendsofib.
- Mail in a check to Treasurer Janice Thomas: Friends of IB Scholars Foundation, c/o Janice Thomas, Treasurer, 1634 S. Leyden Street, Denver, Colorado 80224.
- Buy all sorts of products and services and have part of the proceeds go to IB: <http://www.marketamerica.com/>
- Support IB and the entire school by buying a paver for the Gateway beautification project: <http://gwhsgateway.com/GWorderform.html>.
- **VOLUNTEER!!!** We need parents and friends to join both the IB Foundation and the Parents Association, as well as the numerous other activities that engage our students – Speech and Debate, publications, Parents Association committees, sports, etc. If not money, give your TIME!

And you know what? You'll be glad you did because you are so instrumental to maintaining the best high school academic program in the city, state, and nation! And when you've cultivated this IB garden, you'll sit back in pride as your investment blooms into a bouquet of success!

And I promise one thing: I'll end now before the English teachers fire me!

—Tom Zeiler, President, Friends of IB Scholars Foundation Board





THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER

SENIORS:

1. Look for the rest of your application results to arrive between now and April 1. Good luck!
2. Complete any last financial aid application requirements.
3. Consider making “admitted student” visits, preferably without missing school.
4. Compare financial aid packages; <http://www.collegeboard.com> (among others) has helpful tools.
5. Keep looking for private scholarships.
6. Thank **Mrs. Geimer, Ms. Lane** and the teachers and counselors who helped you apply.
7. If you reach a college decision, inform Mrs. Geimer and Ms. Lane — by e-mail is good.
8. Update your Naviance account with acceptances, scholarships and your decision.
9. Follow procedures for college housing, particularly if you’ve decided on a public college. Don’t delay.
10. Go to every class, every day, and keep up with assignments, IAs and exam prep.
11. Complete and turn in your CAS portfolio by the deadline and schedule your peer interview.

JUNIORS:

1. Create or update your resume to bring to your upcoming interview with Mrs. Geimer. She will use the résumé and other information you provide to help her 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. Attend a college application training session during TCAP week; details to come via GW’s Counseling Office.
3. Continue to research colleges and develop your realistic list of schools.
4. Continue to use **Mr. Haynes** for your individual college counseling needs. Schedule an appointment with him at collegemasters@comcast.net or by phone at 719-232-5305 or 719-576-9487.
5. Visit colleges over Spring Break, if that fits for you, to see professors and students in action.
6. Attend MANDATORY Junior/Parent College Application meeting on April 10. Mrs. Geimer will walk you through IB’s timeline for applications, including what will be due by September of senior year and how to complete it well on time!
7. Get your parents to complete the Parent Survey (AKA Parent Response Form, to be distributed at the spring meeting) and return it to Mrs. Geimer before the end of the school year, for her to use in writing your counselor recommendation letter.
8. Do not miss the in-school, free, state-mandated ACT (without Writing) test, which will be given this spring.
9. 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.
10. Prepare for the SAT/ACT, either on your own (books, practice tests) or through a program.
11. Decide which teachers you will ask to write your letters of recommendation.
12. 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.

SOPHOMORES:

1. Review your ACT PLAN results with your parents (already distributed).
2. Plan your summer! It’s a great time to accomplish CAS goals that don’t fit into your school year routine. Do something fun, something that you care about, something that will help you learn more about yourself. You might even visit a college or two.
3. See juniors' #9 and #10 above. Actually, check out the whole to-do list, just to see what’s in your future. Let yourself dream!

FRESHMEN:

1. Review your ACT EXPLORE results with your parents (already distributed).
2. Check out what the older students are doing (above) and start putting yourself in their shoes. It’s coming sooner than you think.

STANDARDIZED TESTING: 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).

ACT Dates

April 14, 2012
June 9, 2012

Registration Deadlines

March 9, 2012
May 4, 2012

SAT Dates

May 5, 2012
June 2, 2012

Tests

SAT and Subject Tests
SAT and Subject Tests

Regular Registration

April 6, 2012
May 8, 2012

Late Registration (a fee applies)

April 20, 2012
May 22, 2012

College Prep Presentations

Our Tele-Seminars with IB College Counselor Rusty Haynes are a great way to gather lots of information from the comfort of your own home. Upcoming topics:

Tele-Seminar Presentation

How to Write Your College Essay
How to Survive Your First Year of College

Date

March 20, 2012
April 17, 2012

Target Audience

Juniors
Seniors

You can access the Tele-Seminars in one of three ways:

1. Telephone mode only:

- A. Call 712-432-0900 and enter the passcode 303332.
- B. Download PowerPoint presentation slides at GWIB's website www.georgeib.com under the College Prep tab on the left.



2. Online “live slide presentation” with telephone conferencing:

- A. Log on to www.freeconferencing.com.
- B. Select "Participant Login."
- C. Fill in Meeting ID "509-996-23-9" plus your email and your name.
- D. FreeScreenSharing software will install on your computer.
- E. Call 712-432-0900 and enter the passcode 303332 to hear audio.

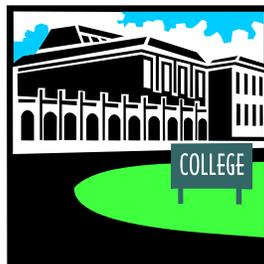
3. Recorded presentation:

The recorded presentation will be accessible as an mp3 file that is downloadable to your computer or mp3 player the following day. Go to GWIB's website www.georgeib.com and click on the College Prep tab on the left.



Need more information? Log on to www.georgeib.com and click on the College Prep tab on the left. Don’t have internet or long distance? Send your questions about accessing these presentations to **Shelly Moorman** at smoorman@comcast.net or 303-696-6781.

—Rebekah Spetnagel and Peggy Morse



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