

George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

August/September 2012 – Vol. 25, Issue 1

From co-Presidents Leslie Lilly and Cora Neslin



Welcome to all George Washington IB students and their families. We especially want to welcome our freshman and new students to George Washington High School and to the IB program, the oldest and the finest IB program in the state!

We are excited to be heading up the IB Parents' Association this year. We both have had children in the IB program for a number of years and have been involved with the IBPA and George Washington community in many ways during that time. We hope you will become involved with both the school and the IBPA and become as passionate about GW and IB as we are.

The role of the IB Parents' Association is to provide students and families with support via informative and educational gatherings and meetings. We also support our incredible faculty and staff. The board is comprised of current IB parents and is supported in many endeavors by IB alumni parents. We can't thank our dedicated parents and alumni parents enough for everything they do.

Our first IB event of the year will be our annual Welcome Picnic to be held on August 29 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Creekside Park. This get acquainted gathering for both new and returning families is a great way to socialize with one another and to meet IB teachers in a casual

setting. Our next big event will be on October 2 and will feature Peter Van Buskirk, author, motivational speaker and former Dean of Admissions at Franklin and Marshall College. He will present "The Admission Game: An Interactive Presentation of the College Admission Process," an informative presentation about the selective college admission process. His talk is a must see for every IB student and parent! Mr. Van Buskirk will not return to GW for 2 – 3 years so mark your calendar now and plan to attend this special event.

IB life at GW is exciting, all-encompassing, challenging and rewarding. We hope that both you and your students take advantage of all the good things that IB has to offer. Supporting the IBPA with your time, talents and financial resources is a direct way to stay connected and to be "in the know" as we help our children succeed not only as IB students, but also as "citizens of the world."

Again, welcome to GW and to the IB program and we look forward to working with each of you during the coming school year.



Leslie Lilly and Cora Neslin

IBPA Co-Presidents

Coming GWIB Events

- August 27 First Day of school for Freshmen
- August 28 First Day of school for all others
- August 29 Get Acquainted Picnic 4-8 PM at Creekside Park
- October 2 "The Admissions Game" with Peter Van Buskirk



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

It's almost here!

**Wednesday, August 29, 2012,
4:00 to 8:00 PM
Get Acquainted Picnic at
Creekside Park**



A Note from the Coordinator

Welcome returning and new GWIB students. GW will have a new principal, Mr. Johnson, and we anticipate more support from that office as the new leadership team develops.



As always, we have a few changes to look forward to: The term Pre-IB will no longer be used to designate our grade 9 and 10 classes; instead we will be using pre baccalaureate. On the personnel front, Leigh Cassiday-Harkelroad returns as our IB counselor, but will now reside in the office directly across from the IB office where the welcome center was previously. She now can be more in touch with the daily business of our program and easily accessible to our IB community. Thad Hildner, a long time English teacher at GW will be taking over the some of the pre baccalaureate classes formerly taught by Mrs. Morrow who has resigned. Mr. Betcher and Mr. McCardle will share the junior IB English schedule and Mr. Bancroft has chosen to teach some traditional program English classes in addition to IB psychology. Linnea Mulder will take on a full IB schedule of PB biology and PB chemistry. The rest of our faculty will be returning and we look forward to another great year of learning and academic adventure. Let's make 2012-13 one of the best years of all!

—Suzanne Geimer
George Washington High School



Give to Your Child: Volunteer with the IB Parents' Association – Come One - Come All!

Whether they admit it to you or not, when you volunteer to help at school, children notice. And it means a lot to them – and to the school! You can give a gift to both by volunteering for IB Parent Association projects. Keep in mind that we all know everyone is very busy, and as a volunteer you will not be called on to do too much! Your child thanks you, and GW thanks you! If you have any questions about, or would like to help with any of the various committees listed, please feel free to contact any of the current members of the Association board. Please help us continue our tradition of volunteer service by giving a little of your time to ensure our students, teachers, staff and families receive the benefits of a strong parent group!

Some of the activities the IB Parent Association is involved in are:

- **Teacher Appreciation**
- **Volunteer Coordination**
- **IB Ambassadors Outreach Programs**
- **Get Acquainted Picnic**
- **georgeib.com website**
- **Monthly articles for the Broadcaster**
- **8th grade Welcome Fest**
- **IB graduate student panel**
- **CAS**
- **Distinguished Teacher Award**
- **Freshman Orientation**



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-Lucore, at pkdaylu@gmail.com.

I'm also grateful for your corrections and I will publish those in the next issue.

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 "JOIN." You will receive notification when the electronic version is available on the website each month.

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



CAS (Creativity, Action, Service)

Rising juniors and seniors have been busy this summer. They've been playing ball, swimming, learning to fence, teaching around the world, volunteering at local hospitals, working on political campaigns, and more. Hopefully, they have also been tracking and reflecting on their activities in ManageBac.

ManageBac

ManageBac (gwib.managebac.com) is the required online tracking system for all CAS activities. Students must be doing 3 things in order to get CAS "credit" for all these extracurricular involvements:

- entering their activities for approval by the CAS coordinator, Marjorie Lane,
- entering reflections at least once a month on personal learning and growth, and
- having a supervisor fill out the evaluation form once the activity is complete.

Parents may have access to their student's account by emailing Marjorie.Lane@dpsk12.org. Please put "ManageBac for parents" in the subject line, and include your name, your email address, and your student's name in the body of the message. Your access will be available within a week.

In addition, a new CAS website is being created by David Chan, a senior in the IB program. This website will be linked to the GWIB website (thanks to Kelly Morrison). We hope to have this up and running by the start of school.

Please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns regarding CAS activities and requirements.

—Marjie Lane
IB Assistant/CAS Coordinator

Image from the spring 2012 CAS Fair and Senior Exhibit



A joint letter from the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation and the IB Parents Association to the GW IB Community



Dear George Washington IB Parents, Students, and Faculty,

As the new school year begins, we thought this would be a good time to explain again the interaction of the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation and the IB Parents Association.

The Friends of IB Scholars Foundation was established by a group of IB parents and faculty in 1995 to support the IB program at George Washington by funding activities related to the GW IB program. These activities include loans to needy students for the cost of IB exams and books; grants to teachers for advising on IB extended essays; requests from IB teachers for equipment, books, subscriptions, and continuing education; loans to the Model UN group, support for National History Day participation by IB students, and other such requests. The Foundation also funds the position for the part-time college counselor for IB juniors and seniors. Through its tax exempt, 501(c)(3) status, the Foundation offers the opportunity for tax-deductible contributions. The Foundation Board, comprised of IB parents, an IB faculty member, IB Program Director Suzanne Geimer, and alumni parents, meets several times a year.

The IB Parents Association was formed more than 15 years ago by IB parents to support the IB program at George Washington by organizing informational and educational meetings for IB parents and students about the IB program, the college application process and other topics of interest to IB families; organizing social and student recruiting activities for the IB program; providing support for the IB program through the Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) component of the IB program; providing teacher appreciation events and gifts for the IB faculty; organizing the IB Senior Brunch; and publishing the IB Directory and the IB Broadcaster newsletter to enhance communication among IB families. The Association also helps to fund projects which support programs at George Washington outside of the IB program in which IB students participate, such as drama, music and sports. The Foundation provides some financing for the Parents Association, and collects the dues for the Association.

We encourage IB families to support both of these organizations, whose success is critical to the continued excellence of the GW IB program. Your annual dues are necessary, at a minimum, to maintain the funding support of the program, but we also welcome additional donations.

Donations can be made online: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/?key=friendsofib>. Or, fill out the form at: http://www.georgeib.com/pdf/GWIB_Donation_Form_2009_09.pdf and mail it to: John Murray, Treasurer, 1243 South Williams Street, Denver, CO 80210.

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

We look forward to the continued support of the George Washington IB community!

—Tom Zeiler, President, Friends of IB Scholars Foundation
—Cora Neslin and Leslie Lilly, Co-Presidents, IB Parents Association

THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER



This feature of the Broadcaster helps keep you informed about important dates, activities, and meetings that are related to the college application process. It is extremely important for students to plan ahead so as not to miss deadlines and not to overwhelm faculty and administrators with last-minute requests which they may not be able to accommodate.

Leigh Cassidy-Harkleroad is the GWHS counselor for all IB and pre-IB students. Her office is now located across the hall from the IB office, in the former Welcome Center. She can be contacted by

phone at 720-423-8604 or by email at LEIGH_CASSIDY-HARKLEROAD@dpsk12.org.

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation, IB juniors and seniors also have access to the services of veteran college counselor **Rusty Haynes**. Mr. Haynes' tele-seminars and college prep documents are available on the www.georgeib.com website under the College Counseling tab, and he will be offering new seminars over the course of this year (dates TBD). Seniors (with or without their parents) are encouraged to schedule an individual meeting with him ASAP to firm up college lists and to cover other details related to preparing applications, etc. Juniors should begin meeting with him in late fall and in the spring. Mr. Haynes' contact information is as follows:

Rusty Haynes, CEO, College Masters, LLC
 E-Mail: collegemasters@comcast.net (best method)
 Phones: Direct [719.576.9487](tel:719.576.9487); Cell [719.232.5305](tel:719.232.5305)
 975 Woodmoor Drive, Monument, CO 80132

Juniors should begin and **seniors** should complete any standardized testing, aka the ACT, SAT, and/or SAT Subject Tests. 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).

| STANDARDIZED TEST | TEST DATE | REGISTRATION | DEADLINE FOR LATE |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | DEADLINE | REGISTRATION (additional fee) |
| ACT with writing option | 8-Sept | passed | passed |
| SAT or Subject Tests | 6-Oct | 9-Sept | 21-Sept |
| 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 |

August 27, Monday: **Mrs. Geimer** will meet with **all Seniors** to collect the following materials: a draft of the Common Application main essay, the School Report Form from the Common Application with student section *completed and signed*, a list of three teachers who have agreed to write letters of recommendation, an updated résumé/list of activities, and a list of up to seven colleges to which the student plans to apply.

College admissions representative visits to GW will take place throughout the year, but **September and October** are the busiest months and the week of October 8 is the busiest time of all. **Juniors and Seniors**, use the "Visit Schedule" page on Naviance to sign up for the visits you will attend AND get teacher passes from any classes that you will miss in order to meet with the reps. Attendance will be taken! Be judicious in the number of sessions you attend, as you will not be excused from completing your class work. Some college reps hold meetings at other Denver Metro locations; check the websites of the schools you're interested in for details. Rep visits are a great way to establish a connection with a person who will be involved in the decision to admit applicants from this region.

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.

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.

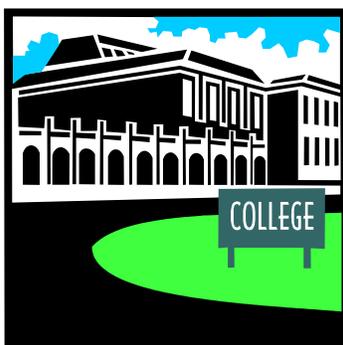
November 26: Deadline for seniors to submit Regular and Rolling Decision application details to IB Office – see October 12. Complete your “Colleges to which I’m applying” list in Naviance now as well.

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.

Linda During, College Counseling Chair



Contact Information

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Treasurer

Senior Brunch Chair

Student Directory Chair

Teacher Appreciation-Chair

Eighth Grade Welcome Fest Chair

Freshman Orientation Chair

IB Ambassadors Chair

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