Communication Skills are Vital to an IB Education

Communication in the MYP

Middle Years Programme students are constantly challenging themselves to push their communication skills. In French and Spanish classes, the students write and send valentine cards for students in Spain, France and England.

In every MYP subject area, including Math, communication is one of the four assessment criteria.

Communication in the DP

Throughout the year, DP students complete internal assessments (IAs) as part of their final IB grade. These all have high levels of communication, oral and written, as a foundation for high levels of college preparedness. These IAs include:

- History of the Americas: Historical Investigation
- Extended Essay
- English literature oral assessments
- Spanish, French and German Individual and Interactive oral assessments
- CAS reflections
- TOK essays
- Math Investigation

Communicators

We understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. We work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.
Service is integral in all levels of the IB continuum. The MYP Principles to Practice guide states “IB learners strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.” Service is manifested at in the LHS IB through the Freshman community project and the DP CAS and CAS projects. Because of this, we are in the initial planning of a local volunteer fair and an international service trip for next school year.

**Fall 2015: Volunteer Fair**

The United Way of Larimer County offers a wide database of volunteer organizations in the area. We are planning on bringing representatives from a variety of local volunteer organizations to Loveland High, to give students the opportunity to find the organization that best suits them.

**Spring/Summer 2016: Trip to Ecuador or Nicaragua**

International-mindedness is an important key phrase of IB. However, it can be challenging to nurture that perspective if you’ve never stepped on foreign soil. We are in the early planning of an international service trip through the Ft. Collins based SAGE (Studies Abroad for Global Engagement). Students from all LHS service organizations, including Key Club and NSS are invited to participate. More information can be found at: [www.sageprogram.org](http://www.sageprogram.org)

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**Open Minded Celebration**

IB students and staff nominated and recognized the following members of our community for their being open-minded: Nicole S. (So.), Jule G. (So.), Bayley W. (Sr.), MaKenzie P. (So.), Liliana P. (Fr.), Jake K (So.), Kevin B. (So.), Carrie W. (So.) and Wendy D. (So.). Their token award was an ugli fruit (also ugly fruit), which takes an open-minded individual to enjoy this natural hybridization of oranges, grapefruit and mandarins.

**Ongoing MYP Projects**

**Freshmen: Community Project**

Our freshman MYP students are working on the following projects. Their completion target is March 4, with a presentation to their supervisors by March 11 and the CP Open House during conferences on March 19:

- Raising money to bring the internet to a Zimbabwean town
- Research on the peregrine falcon conservation progress
- Chocolate smiles with Meals on Wheels
- Write, produce and direct a play on eminent domain: Show is Friday, Feb 20, 3:15 in the LHS Auditorium
- Tutoring students at Van Buren Elementary
- Basketball academy
- Hockey camp
- Guitar lessons for elderly

**Sophomore: Personal Project**

Our sophomore MYP students are working to complete their year-long personal projects. Some upcoming deadlines include writing the rough draft of their report by March 18 and the presentation to the supervisor by April 24. Projects include:

- Making a recycled violin
- Responsible fishing
- Running a marathon
- The psychology of music
- Automotive restoration
- Autonomous camera drone

**Extended Essay CSU Field Trip: April 22**

Mr. Hoberg is planning a field trip for the juniors to go to the extensive libraries at CSU so that they can dive into their EE at a research institution. Their goal will be to begin writing their capstone research project before summer, so as to complete it before registering for IB Exams.