



IB INFORMED!



Volume 1 Number 4 April 31, 2006

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

This year's junior IB class has FIVE National Merit Commended Students:

- Stephani Babcock
- Kaitlyn Burgess
- Jonathan Busse
- Joe Chisholm
- Alexandra Newton

Congratulations to these students for scoring in the top 3% on the PSAT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test), high enough to continue in the selection process for National Merit Semifinalist. Only 50,000 of the 1.4 million juniors who took the test were selected.

THE MONEY IS ROLLING IN

Two of our IB graduating seniors, Mickey Skaret (FSU) and Katie Wines (UF), will receive major scholarships for being National Merit Finalists.

Students are also reporting exciting awards from ROTC, Clay County Education Foundation, Florida League of IB Schools and Orange Park Women's Club. Come to the Senior Awards Night on May 11 to watch students accept their awards. It's a very motivating experience.

BRIGHT FUTURES

All IB seniors are eligible for the Bright Futures Academic Scholarship, an amount equal to 100% of tuition and fees (including lab fees up to \$300 per semester, plus \$300 per semester for college-related expenses) for a Florida public university. The student must either receive the IB diploma or successfully complete the IB curriculum (12 classes and TOK) in the junior and senior year and make at least 1270 SAT or 28 ACT (and have 75 hours of community service as documented on CAS).

If all 53 seniors meet this criteria, then they would generate over **one million dollars** from this scholarship alone.

TEST WELL

As you can see, these tests are worth a lot of money. It PAYS to practice.

FREE Practice SAT on-line is available to all students at Ridgeview High School:

www.Floridaaccessbridges.com
click on Achieve
click on New Student Enrollment
Universal Code 14777629

The practice ACT is \$19.95 and is available at www.ACT.org

Students who took the PSAT in October, 2005 also have an additional website available for practice.

www.collegeboard.com/psatextra
Use the code on the PSAT Answer Sheet to log in.

TEST YOUR LOYALTY

Even if your brain is fried, your stomach probably still works. Joe Haynes, photographer at large, took these mystery photos. Be the first to identify the owner of these feet, or that classroom door, and a \$25 Sonic card is yours.



Call Amy Howard with your answer: 334-7380

EXTENDED ESSAY

IB-11 is off to a great start with the Extended Essay preparations. All students have completed selection of the mentor, the topic, developed a research question, begun research, written the introduction and first paragraph of the analysis. The last formal meeting with mentors occurs by May 11. After that point, the students continue to write the remainder of the essay over the summer holiday. The first draft is due shortly after we return in August.

CAS

The Class of 2006 provided more than 4,000 hours of service to the community over the past 2 years. Their total CAS participation was 14,000+ hours from creativity, action, and service combined. These totals do not document this group's total involvement in school and community - just the hours they've elected to use for their CAS components. Highest portfolios over 400 hours:

Casey Miskowski - 795
Allison Williams - 485
Nick Carroll - 451
Kelly Sanderson - 416

The average CAS portfolio for May 2006 was 265 documented hours.

Great job, CLASS of 2006 !!

All CAS forms should be available via www.rhsib.org. Access ID codes are available through the IB office if anyone loses or forgets their codes. If over the summer an opportunity for a CAS activity arises, the appropriate forms may be faxed to Mrs. Bandy at 904-213-3033. It would be helpful if students were to also send an email indicating that the fax has been sent.

BUDDY DAYS

April 10 and 11 were the IB visiting days for incoming PIB-9 students. Guests came from Green Cove Springs, Keystone, Lake Asbury, Lakeside, Orange Park, Pinewood Christian, St. Johns Country Day, Wilkinson. They were able to experience first-hand a full day of PIB classes. We hope they enjoyed being with us as much as we enjoyed having them here. Looks like a good group again for next year!!!

Welcome Social

Thursday, August 3, 6pm - 8pm
Ridgeview Cafetorium

It's a great way to mingle with your classmates and their parents before classes begin. Mail in the registration form on the Booster page.

EXAMS FOR 2006

New this year is our off-campus site for most of the AP and IB exams. The Thrasher-Horne Conference Center on the St. Johns River Community College campus will be exam central. The campus is located on College Drive in Orange Park. All testing materials, including graphing calculators, will be provided for the students-less to stress about!!! Getting sufficient rest is key to the students' doing well. Transportation cannot be provided to / from SJRCC.

These are the subjects that will be tested this year, along with the countries where various components are sent to ensure an international perspective in grading. Each examiner marks the work according to the IB assessment criteria for each subject.

Our own David Campbell [biology] is an IB examiner for part of the biology assessments. He does not mark his own students' work, but he does receive papers to mark from other parts of the world.

English	UK, Canada, USA
French B	Venezuela, UK, Denmark, France
Spanish B HL	Argentina, Switzerland, Spain
Spanish B SL	USA, Spain, Equador
History SL	UK, Canada, Australia, Germany
History HL	UK, Canada, Australia, USA, Germany
ITGS	India, Peru, Vietnam, Bahrain, Brazil
Biology	Australia, Wales, [TBD], Sweden
Chemistry	Uganda, Wales, Canada, Argentina, Uruguay
Physics	Canada, Wales, Azerbaijan, Botswana, Indonesia
Math Studies	Japan, Australia
Math SL	Australia, USA, Sri Lanka
Math HL	United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Hungary, UK, Canada
Music HL	UK, Portugal, Germany, Canada
Music SL	Germany, USA, Canada
Theatre Arts	France, Spain, UK, USA, Scotland
Visual Arts	Spain, USA, Kenya
TOK	Sudan

IB Booster Club

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

The \$20 fee to becoming a member of the IB Booster Club goes a long way toward club efforts to support the program. It also gets you a inclusion in, and a copy of, our ample membership directory. This is invaluable for getting ahold of other people in the program for information and carpool contacts.



The Booster Club has developed an agenda of support projects that we'd like to see continue year after year. It's gone quite well, as interested parents have come forth to help make things happen. But it's in danger of disbanding for lack of officers. We need you to take a piece of next year's action. Here's a tentative to-do list:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| July | Membership directory, carpool |
| August | Welcome Social |
| September | Juniors' Pinning Ceremony |
| October | Rummage Sale |
| December | Christmas Social, Gifts for teachers,
Decorate school |
| January | Orientation for candidates |
| February | Teachers' Valentines luncheon |
| March | IB medallions engraved |
| May | Graduating class photo |
| Year round | Board positions, Newsletter articles,
Faculty assistance |

PLEASE come to our final meeting Tuesday May 9, 7pm in the library to volunteer for something Contact Amy Howard at 334-7380, or any other board member.

✂-----

<u>IB Boosters Membership Directory</u>	
IB Student's Name _____	
Grade _____	
Parents' Name(s) _____	
Address _____	
City, St, Zip _____	
Phone _____	
Parent's E-mail _____	
IB Welcome Social	
# of attendees over age 10 _____ @ \$10 = _____	
IB Boosters membership	
For 2006/2007 school year (optional) _____	\$ 20.00
Total. Make check payable to "RHS" _____	
Mail to:	Ridgeview High School IB Boosters 466 Madison Avenue Orange Park, FL 32065

THANK YOU'S

Heritage Signs in Orange Park generously made four outdoor banners to support the IB students, Free of Charge! These durable, 2' x 6' banners can be used for years to come to advertise the IB Booster Club's rummage sale. This sale is such a success, we don't anticipate the need for other fundraisers. It's also open to participation from other organizations at Ridgeview. When you see these signs out, stop by and shop.



Ridgeview High School IB Boosters Mission Statement

The mission of the Academic Boosters for IB is to provide support to the Administration, Faculty and Students of the International Baccalaureate World School and to inform parents about the IB program.

IB Boosters Board 2005/06

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| President | Amy Howard |
| Vice President..... | Chuck Haynes |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Richard Morgan |
| 9th Grade Rep | Andrea Jackson |
| 9th Grade Rep | Cara Freitag |
| 10th Grade Rep | Harriet Shaughnessy |
| 11th Grade Rep | Daisy Podmeyer |
| 12th Grade Rep | Peggy Williams |
| Webmaster | Sam Rogers |

Senior News

By Mrs. Williams

Class of 2006

Senior Update

(Contributed by Allison Williams)

The time has come: this is the last "Senior Update" of the year. We are very busy trying to manage senior fun with IB exams. Prom, grad bash, and graduation all fall in the midst of prepping and taking our IB exams. College or other post-high school plans have been made, and now the time has come to face those "tests" we have come to know and love... or at least know. The countdown is most certainly on for graduation, but that is not the end. Spanish students have their final exam after graduation! Nonetheless, the light at the end of the tunnel seems slightly less far away, and the vision of walking across that infamous stage with our IB medallions may indeed become a reality.

*Your Fellow IB-er,
Allison Williams*



IB GRADUATES PHOTOGRAPH

The 2006 IB Class photo will be taken at Senior Awards Night. All seniors please come to the podium immediately following the ceremony. This picture will be mounted in Ridgeview's front office. Individual copies may be purchased separately from Flashback Photography.

Senior Awards Night

First Baptist Church on Kingsley Avenue
Thursday, May 11, 2006
7:00 – 9:00 pm

Junior News

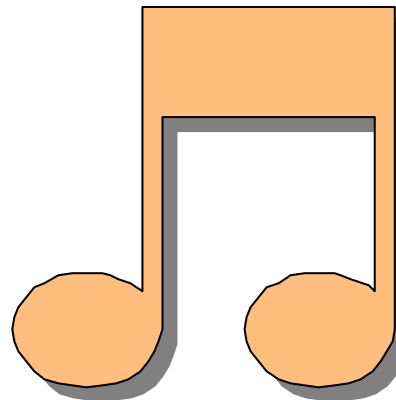
By Mrs. Podmeyer

Juniors, by now you're almost at the end of this very important high school year. You have experienced TOK, UNF lectures, prepared and taken SAT's and/or ACT's and probably started sifting through all the college information you have been bombarded with in the mail. Don't slack off now! You still have AP exams, orals, end-terms, and more SAT's before you can take a well-deserved summer break. Do take time to relax, go on vacation, hang out with your friends by the pool or beach, and enjoy!

That does not mean, however, that the entire summer goes without being productive. Take advantage of the time and leisurely work on accruing service hours, and completing your extended essay. Also, start actively searching for the various scholarships available to you; look on the links available on the IB site. Once you hit your Senior year, you'll be thankful that you used your summertime wisely making your final IB year much more enjoyable!

WINNING TALENT

The Concert on the Green Competition was held April 24, and three of the ten finalists in the senior division were from the IB Program. Christopher Brazelton (IB-11) and Caroline Brazelton (PIB-9) both won honorable mention and \$250 music scholarships. Joe Chisholm (IB-11) placed second and earned a \$1,000 scholarship. All did very well and should be congratulated.



If you want to hear them perform, there will be another concert at the Penney Retirement Community on May 10th. Admission is free.

Sophomore News

By Mrs. Bandy

TIME TO THINK ABOUT CAS

Many students and their parents worry about finding international hours for CAS. We are privileged in Clay County to have two organizations' activities which meet the international hours criteria. The PET project in Penney Farms is available year-round for student participation. PET is a hand-cranked wheelchair that is designed to provide mobility to persons who have lost the use of their legs due to polio, landmine injury, amputation, etc. The Penney Farms site is one of only 4 in the US. Larry Hills is the director here and he may be contacted at 904-284-5495. Students must call ahead to schedule a work time as the site is not open every day.

Another opportunity is involvement with Operation Smile. This organization is represented at RHS by Mr. Jesse Hancock, a teacher in the English department. This past year the students participated in fund-raisers to provide financial assistance to this charity. The emphasis is to provide corrective surgery on cleft palates for economically disadvantaged children in many countries. US surgical teams volunteer their services, but Operation Smile helps offset expenses. Students can contact Mr. Hancock at 213-5203.

Option 3 can be a student's participation with a church mission team's summer effort in another country. Activities often include building homes and schools, repairing storm damage, agricultural improvements, etc. Beware, any hours devoted to religious services / instruction will not be counted for CAS or Bright Futures. If a student is considering this option, it is best if he/she discusses the activity's plans and goals with Mrs. Bandy before undertaking those projects for international hours.

Or... Make a New Friend

Hosting an exchange student is a fourth option. There are several organizations, including the Rotary Club and Educational Forum [EF], which may need summer hosts for short-term programs. Many of the short-term programs have students arriving in late June for a 4-6 week stay in the US. The students usually leave for home at the end of July or in early August. Watch for announcements in the local newspapers. The hours earned in this manner are 10 hours per week for each week of the stay.

Freshman News

By Mrs. Freitag and Mrs. Jackson

LAST YEAR OF FREEDOM

(Contributed by Andrea Yadon)

*Well the school year is almost over, little freshman, and after just two glorious months of basking by the waves and swaying in the hammock to Jimmy Buffet, August will be here again! And you know what that means... sophomore year! Now I'm sure you're all probably thinking, "YES! Now no one can call us 'little freshmen' anymore!" So I apologize for the name calling, but just you wait till next year and see how fabulous it feels. **grins** So aside from your newly achieved food chain promotion, what else happens sophomore year?*

I'm pretty sure that every single one of you has heard the old rumor that sophomore year is going to be a breeze, the party year, a light workload, nothing too terrible, right? Well I am here to tell you... that's pretty much it. Don't get me wrong, of course you still have to actually try and work and take tests and all that jazz, but in perspective this is probably going to be the most laid-back year. Freshman year you have to meet new people and adjust to a brand-new, "scary" environment, like those of us from Catholic schools (just kidding), and then junior and senior year...well it's IB what can I say? Tough stuff. But this year, really do try to enjoy it and savor it like a big, juicy steak, because it's kind of like the nice deep breath before the plunge into Poseidon's raging waters (or so I've heard).

Now for all of the brainy dorks like me who are probably wondering about the academic side of things, I'll try to relax you as much as possible. Rest assured that all the teachers this year are great and understanding, and all with quite fun senses of humor. As for the workload, we have about an hour, give or take, of homework a night, and one to two tests a week. Grade-wise, as long as you do your homework and turn it in on time and study the material again one or two nights before the test, you should be fine. Unfortunately, toward the end of sophomore year, a lot of us are going through "Lazy Slacker" syndrome or, like me, have developed a nasty strain of the "Naps are Fun" virus. Just be sure to watch out for this around 4th quarter and to not let your grades slip too much!

Alas, this is goodbye for now, as my river of advice has run dry and Boy Meets World reruns are on. So be excited about next year and enjoy it to the fullest because good times are ahead. After all, as Paul McCartney once said, "It's getting better all the time."

Andrea



I THINK, THEREFORE IB

**RIDGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL
IB BOOSTERS
WWW.RHSIB.ORG**

Ridgeview High School
IB Boosters
466 Madison Avenue
Orange Park, FL 32065