



# IB INFORMED!



Volume 2      Number 4      July 1, 2007

## Welcome Social

By Lynnette Chakkaphak, IB Booster President

Please mark your calendars for the IB Booster Social on Thursday, August 16 from 6 to 8 pm in the Ridgeview High School cafeteria. There will be great food, fun and fellowship as we welcome our incoming freshman class and their families. We will also be welcoming back our returning sophomore, junior and senior IB students and families to another great year in IB.

As returning IB students and parents, you will have an important role to play as ambassadors of the IB program and as mentors to the incoming students and parents. Having “survived” the IB program thus far, you are the experts on the IB freshman experience and beyond. I hope you will plan to attend the social and help welcome these new families as we answer their many questions about what to expect in the coming year(s).

Again this year, dinner will be catered by Carrabba’s. See the enclosed insert to make your reservation. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the social, please contact me at [llchak@aol.com](mailto:llchak@aol.com). We will need parents to help with set up and serving, and students to serve as tour guides and greeters.

### IB BOOSTER MISSION FOR 2007-2008

By Lynnette Chakkaphak, IB Booster President

Since its founding in the year 2002, the mission of the IB Boosters has remained the same... *“to provide support to the Administration, Faculty and Students of the International Baccalaureate World School and to inform parents about the IB program.”* During the 2007-2008 school year, we hope to carry on this mission by continuing to support the IB Booster initiatives our administrators, faculty and students have come to count on us for. At the same time, we hope to be able to support new initiatives that will enhance the IB program and benefit IB students.

Recently, I met with Mrs. Bandy, Mr. Westmoreland, and Mrs. Partridge to ask how we can better meet our IB Booster Mission in 2007-2008. I came away with ideas for several new projects that should benefit our students and strengthen the IB program at Ridgeview. I am hopeful that I can count on your support for these programs in the coming year.

### New IB Booster Initiatives



#### IB Booster Scholarship

With the rising cost of a college education, scholarship money is something all IB families can appreciate. Even a small scholarship can help to pay for books, fees, or other freshman year necessities. I hope we can initiate a new IB Booster Scholarship to be awarded to a graduating IB Senior in 2008. With your support of our annual fall fundraiser, the IB Rummage Sale, I believe we can make this scholarship a reality this year and for years to come.

#### Guidance Materials

Mrs. Partridge has identified two publications that would be extremely beneficial to every IB student at Ridgeview. One is a student study guide and the other is a booklet for college bound students. It would be wonderful if IB Booster funds could be put to use to provide these materials for our students at a cost of \$2.00 per book.

*(Continued on the next page)*

#### IB Boosters Board 2007/08

President	Lynnette Chakkaphak	272-6420
Vice President	Debbye Knotts	272-3669
Secretary/Treasurer	Lynda Edwards	291-4100
9th Grade Rep	Stacia Asimos	272-2325
10th Grade Reps	Luis & Andrea Febus	213-4482
11th Grade Rep	Mary Rose	406-5621
12th Grade Rep	Daisy Podmeyer	278-6966

Other's assisting the Board will include:

Carolyn Magwood	Assistant to the Secretary/Treasurer
Amy Howard	IB Newsletter Coordinator
Sam Rogers	IB Website

#### 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.

## New IB Booster Initiatives (cont.)

### **Career Fair/Career Exploration Projects**

A Career Fair is in the planning stages for RHS in the coming year, and the time and talents of IB Booster parents will be needed greatly. Also, RHS students will be working on career exploration projects in their field of interest this year. Support from parents and businesses in the community is essential. I hope many of you will commit to helping with either or both of these programs in any way you can. I will keep you informed as more details become available.

**HELP  
WANTED**

#### **How Can You Help?**

- Complete your 2007-2008 Membership today (see newsletter insert). Your membership dues will go a long way in helping to support our mission in the coming year.
- Volunteer your time and talents to support the IB Booster initiatives and our Rummage Sale fundraiser in the fall. There will be sign-up sheets at the IB Welcome Social in August, and I will be calling for volunteers throughout the year. Please say *Yes!*

### **\$ RUMMAGE SALE \$**

The Ridgeview High School IB Boosters will have a giant rummage sale in the RHS cafetorium on Saturday, October 20. All proceeds will become club funds for the support of IB faculty and students. Other clubs at school are invited to join us, creating somewhat of a one-day flea market.

Start stockpiling things to sell, and begging contributions from family, friends and neighbors. Drop them off at the RHS cafetorium Friday, Oct. 19, (after school), then come shopping on Saturday.



## Continuing IB Booster Initiatives

We hope to continue to use IB Booster funds to support the following activities:

### **IB newsletter**

*IB Informed!*, the quarterly IB Booster publication, has proven to be an invaluable tool in keeping IB students and their parents informed. Everyone looks forward to the arrival of the latest issue.

### **IB Student/Parent Directory**

All IB Booster members receive a copy of the IB Student/Parent directory with contact information for students, parents, teachers and administrators. Parents and students agree this directory can be a real lifesaver. Left your textbook in your locker and need to get your homework done? Someone in the directory is bound to come to your rescue.

### **IB Teacher Luncheon**

The IB teachers are a truly committed and caring group. Once a year on Valentine's Day, the IB Boosters coordinate a potluck luncheon to honor the teachers and say thank you for all their efforts.

### **IB Pinning Ceremony**

The IB Pinning Ceremony each fall marks an important milestone for Junior IB students as they are officially welcomed into the International Baccalaureate World School. The IB Boosters help make this event extra special by providing and serving refreshments each year.

### **IB Welcome Social**

Each August, a new freshman class enters the IB program at Ridgeview. These students and their parents are both excited and apprehensive about the path they are about to undertake. The IB Welcome Social each fall has become a wonderful tradition. Returning IB students and their parents gather to greet our newcomers and help to answer their questions. It is a great way to start off the new school year!

### **Other IB Social Events**

IB Social Events such as the Christmas Social and the End of the Year Get Together are perfect opportunities for students to unwind and enjoy each other's company.

## IB BOOSTER END OF THE YEAR GET TOGETHER

If you missed the “End of the Year Get Together,” you missed a great time! About seventy-five IB students and parents gathered together on May 21 to say farewell for the summer, sign year books and eat ice cream and pizza. There was great music and a slide show of IB students coordinated by Amy and Chelsea Howard.

This was club’s second “End of the Year Get Together” and it looks like it will become a yearly event. Special thanks to all our volunteers who helped make this event possible; the Gebhards, the Cantrells, Lynda Edwards, and Debbye Knotts.



## Don't Forget Your Summer Reading Requirements

IB English I – Freshmen

**Mythology**

by Edith Hamilton  
(you'll want to take notes)

IB English II–Sophomores

**Woe Is I**

by Patricia T. O'Connor

IB English III – Juniors

**Lost Names**

by Richard Kim  
(an amazing book!)

IB English IV – Seniors

**Imagining Argentina**

by Lawrence Thornton  
(great opportunity for cross-curricular influences in the history, Spanish, and English courses)

The entire school –  
including faculty

**Hope Was Here**

by Joan Bauer

## MYSTERY PHOTO



Kids, how well do you know your school? Look closely. Be the first to identify this intimate glimpse of Ridgeview, and a \$25 Sonic card is yours. Call Mrs. Chakkaphak with your answer: (272-6420).

Answer to the last Mystery Photo: Graffiti on the vending machine in the courtyard. Winner: Chelsea Brown.

### Incoming Freshmen News

By Mrs. Chakkaphak

Welcome to Ridgeview High School and congratulations on your acceptance into the IB Program. We look forward to meeting you and your families at the IB Welcome Social on August 16. At the social you will hear from sophomore, junior and senior IB students who have already experienced freshman year. They have all been in your shoes and know the kinds of questions you have on your mind.

- How much homework will I have?
- Will I be able to keep my grades up?
- What will the teachers be like?
- Will there be time for sports, clubs and other activities?

On the night of the social there will also be time to tour the RHS campus and mingle with IB students, families and teachers. If you have a question before the social that we might be able to help you with, please feel free to contact Mrs. Chakkaphak (llchak@aol.com) or any member of the IB Booster Board. We will help in any way we can.

See you soon!

## Exiting Senior News

By Mrs. Podmeyer

# Class of 2007

The Seniors have finally done it.....graduated from the IB program! You never thought that day would arrive! But you did indeed as many of us witnessed, and we were overcome with pride!



The week of Graduation was a whirl-wind! The seniors participated in the Awards Night, Senior Bash, the Baccalaureate Service, and then culminated their week with the Commencement Ceremony!

Accumulating over \$3.5 million in scholarships and pursuing higher level education in a wide variety of junior colleges, colleges, academies and universities, the Ridgeview Class of 2007 is going off to pursue many challenges and leave their footprints on this small world of ours. Congratulations and Godspeed!



## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

By Mrs. Partridge

Two of our IB graduates have received very special scholarships. Jon Busse has received the National Merit University of Florida Scholarship and Aleigh Newton received the National Merit Vanderbilt University Scholarship. Congratulations to our two National Merit Finalists.

## Rising Senior News

By Mrs. Chakkaphak

# Class of 2008

Now that summer vacation is in full swing, hopefully you have had a few free moments to look back on all that you accomplished during your junior year.



In the fall you became official members of the International Baccalaureate World School, leaving behind the pre-IB courses that you “cut your teeth on.” During junior year, you dove right into your first HL courses, navigated the rules, regulations and paperwork required to document your first CAS hours, explored new ways of thinking in TOK, and somehow managed to survive your toughest year of high school.

# Great Job!

On August 20th you will arrive back at RHS for your highly coveted Senior Year. While 2007-2008 will be your chance to bask in all the glory of your own “senior-ness” it will also be a busy time for you...

- Completing your Extended Essay
- Filling out college applications\*
- Finishing up your CAS hours
- Tackling your IB exams
- Making decisions about your future

Although you’ve made it to senior year, your journey is not yet complete.

So enjoy this, your last summer as a high school student, and come back in August ready to complete the journey you started in August 2004.

2008 is your year!

*\* If you’re interested in UF, be sure to read “The UF Challenge” in this newsletter.*

## Rising Sophomore News

By Mr. & Mrs. Febus

# Class of 2010

As the school year finished in May, so did your first year in High School. Many had to adjust to new study habits, and as it was pointed out by guidance, time management was the key to stay afloat, to stay successful. New friends were made and new opportunities discovered which hopefully will help future endeavors—not only in school. Some made the decision to change programs, but most of you stayed with IB and continued the journey.

The end-of-the-year social with pizza and ice cream was a well received opportunity to have yearbooks signed and to exchange telephone numbers for the summer.

We are looking forward to welcoming the new group of ninth graders at the social the week before school starts to give them heads up for a great beginning for the next year.

Tenth grade will bring new challenges, but I believe both students and families adjusted to the program well, and the next year will be just a continuation of what started a year ago.

## Rising Junior News

By Mrs. Asimos

# Class of 2009

### It is finally summer!!

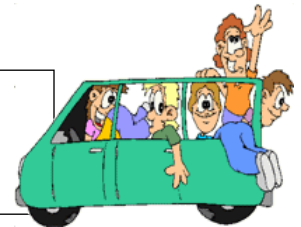
When you aren't swimming, camping, shopping and generally running around having fun, try to fit in your summer reading, *Lost Names* by Richard Kim and *Hope was Here* by Joan Bauer. We have had a hard time finding the *Hope was Here* book, since it is required reading for the entire school. If you can't get it, try borrowing it from a friend.

And, if you are still looking for something to do, this is a great time to begin to think seriously about your Community Service time. You can begin your volunteering this summer, and that will ease the pressure of trying to get all those hours in during the school year. I know that the last thing on your minds during the summer is what is required for next year, but the more you get done now, the less stress on you during the school year.

Have a great, safe summer, and we'll all see each other in August!

### Carpool Information

- Sign up at the IB Welcome Social on August 16<sup>th</sup> -OR-
- Contact Lynda Edwards at [lynda\\_edwards@comcast.net](mailto:lynda_edwards@comcast.net)



## Volunteer Opportunities

Please plan to visit our volunteer table at the IB Welcome Social.  
We will have sign-up sheets for parent volunteers for all of the following IB Activities:

<b>IB Pinning Ceremony</b> (September 18, 2007) Volunteers needed to help set up and serve refreshments.	<b>IB Newsletter</b> (Oct. '07, Jan. '08, Apr. '08, Jul. '08) Volunteers needed four times a year to meet at school for 1-2 hours to fold newsletters, attach address labels and add postage.	<b>IB Rummage Sale</b> (October 19-20, 2007) Volunteers needed on October 19 to help receive and price donated Rummage Sale items. Volunteers needed on October 20 to sell donated items and clean up afterwards.
<b>IB Christmas Social</b> (December 1, 2007) Volunteers needed to help plan, coordinate and chaperone this event.	<b>IB Teacher's Luncheon</b> (February 14, 2008) Volunteers needed to be at school for the morning to receive pot-luck dishes and to coordinate set-up and drinks.	<b>End of Year Get Together</b> (Date to be announced) Volunteers needed to help plan, coordinate and chaperone this event.

# THE UF CHALLENGE

By Amy Howard

Got your eyes on University of Florida? So do about 26,000 other seniors. Granted, most of them aren't waving IB diplomas; but so many are now that it's no longer a guarantee for acceptance. According to Sandy Hayden, Assistant Director of Admissions, "This year, many students present[ed] amazing portfolios and academic credentials to our institution. Unfortunately, we did not have enough space to admit all of the wonderfully qualified applicants to our school."

It sounds like a swarm of superheroes converging on UF, but really, they are high schoolers just like you, who made the most of the same opportunities available to you. In a tour orientation in June, Hayden admitted, "The applications all start looking the same after a while." Here's her advice for a competitive edge:

"We are trying to choose a diversified class composed of students that we feel will make a difference and be an asset to the University of Florida community... The holistic review is a student's opportunity to tell us EVERYTHING about themselves and, as this part of the review is purely subjective, to convince us that they will be an asset to UF... In the extracurricular activities, we are not necessarily looking for a laundry list or want to see involvement in every organization or activity. We are looking for involvement, continuity of involvement, leadership roles, unique specialties, honors, awards, special recognitions. etc.

"Involvement is inclusive of school and community... If a student's involvement is limited or hampered by home responsibilities (i.e., younger siblings, grandparents they have to help with, jobs to help with family finances, etc.) they need to explain so they aren't erroneously penalized for their lack of participation or involvement."

Still, doing all the right things puts you in good company—and a lot of it. How can you stand out among the other high achievers who apply with you? That's exactly what the admissions officers are eager to find out. Hayden says,

"Students can help alleviate the 'sameness' by expressing their uniqueness, something that makes them different, makes them stand out, makes the admission officer reading their application think 'Wow, this student will really bring something to UF!'

They should brag about themselves!!"



A good place to brag is in the application essay. Here's the essay prompt from UF's website:

## The Personal Essay

Your essay is a very important part of your application. What you provide helps the university know you as an individual, independent of grades, test scores and other objective data.

Write a concise narrative in which you describe a meaningful event, experience or accomplishment in your life and how it will affect your college experience or your contribution to the UF campus community. You may want to reflect on your family, your school or community activities, or your involvement in areas outside of school.

Remember to keep within the 400-500 word maximum length.

IB guidance counselor Polly Partridge would like to remind you that UF has changed their application process for this coming year. "ALL applications are due by November 1, 2007 for the 2008-09 school year. There is no Regular Decision I & II, or Early Decision; all applications are going in the same applicant pool. If you decide to apply after November 1, your application will only be considered if space is still available (which usually never is)!"

The freshman application is available online at [www.admissions.ufl.edu](http://www.admissions.ufl.edu) as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. That gives you four months to perfect your essay and application. Although no decisions will be made until February, the Admissions office begins reviewing applications as soon as they start coming in. When 6,600 students will be chosen from a pool of 26,000, do you want to look the same as everybody else who followed the status quo, or do you want to snap your admissions officer to attention with the best *you* possible? You are an IB student.

**You've got what it takes.**



# 2007-2008 IB Booster Membership Ridgeview High School



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

## We need your support!

IB Booster funds help to support the quarterly IB newsletter, the IB Student/Parent Directory, the IB Teacher Luncheon, IB Pinning Ceremony refreshments, and social events like the IB Welcome Social in August. In the coming year, we also hope to raise funds to provide new guidance materials for all IB students and to establish a new IB Booster scholarship. Yearly membership dues are \$20.00. Please make checks payable to RHS.

Student Name	Grade	Parent Name(s)
Address	City	Zip
		Phone
Student Email	Parent Email	

Mail completed application and check to:  
Ridgeview High School, IB Boosters  
466 Madison Avenue  
Orange Park, FL 32065

*Thank-you for supporting the  
Ridgeview IB Program.*

## IB Welcome Social

You are cordially invited to share dinner with IB students and parents from Ridgeview High School. It will be a 'get to know each other' event filled with fun & fellowship. Upper classmen will share insights into their experiences in the IB program. Underclassmen will have the opportunity to ask questions in a relaxed atmosphere. Parents and siblings are invited to attend as well (under 6 free).



...will be serving Chicken Marsala, Caesar Salad, and Cavatatti Pasta with crushed tomato garlic sauce in the Ridgeview High School Cafeteria Thursday, August 16, 2007 from 6 – 8 p.m.

The Booster Club will supply drinks and dessert. \$10.00 a plate (until August 1 / \$15 at the door)

Dinner reservations: # of attendees (under 6 free) \_\_\_\_ X \$10 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

IB Student's Name	Grade
Parents' Name	
Address/Zip	
Student e-mail address	Parent e-mail address

Make check payable to **RHS** and send to:

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

Questions? E-mail Lynnette @  
LLCHAK@aol.com



# **I THINK, THEREFORE IB**

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

Ridgeview High School  
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