



## FROM OUR COORDINATOR



Vickie Bandy

### The Five-Year Review

In May 2008, we will graduate our fifth group of diploma candidates. IBO reviews each diploma program from top to bottom every five years. The process is not unlike the process that schools had experienced in the past with accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The IB process involves an in-depth self study which includes every group of people in the program. The self study requires that we look back at what we have done in the past, at what we currently do, and at our plans for the next five years.

- Subject area teachers for 9-12 review their own subject groups.
- IB-12 teachers from each subject group, along with the coordinator, then review the total program.
- RHS administration reviews the role of the program and its leadership as it relates to the whole of RHS.
- Students in grades 11-12 participate.
- A team of parents represents the families.
- Representatives from the CCSD office evaluate the program.

Every aspect is considered: the physical plant, the admissions policies, the curriculum, the exam statistics, etc. The process is expected to take 9-12 months. The final report is due in September, followed by IBO's response in December. A final copy of the self study will be available in the IB office after October 1. Further feedback will be provided to the families in the spring newsletter when we know IBO's recommendations.

### Changes! Changes! Changes!

Change is good! But does it all need to happen at once? We are experiencing IBO's total revision of the CAS program, which begins this spring for rising juniors. Mrs. Harvey and I attended the training session for the new expectations in December. We are very excited about what IBO has in mind. Their intent is to ensure that CAS becomes a meaningful activity rather than just a random collection of hours. A few adjustments will impact the IB-12 students, but only regarding future hours. PIB-10 and their parents learned about the new program at our CAS meeting on March 18th.

**Extended essay** has also undergone revision, including better guidelines and clearer expectations for each subject area. Mentor involvement has increased from 1-3 hours to 3-5 hours. The mentor must also document an oral interview has taken place. There is an even stronger emphasis on guarding against plagiarism, whether due to carelessness or intent. IB-11 began the new cycle on February 27 and are now in the process of selecting their subject area, mentor preference, and topic. As in the past, we have created an extensive handbook for them and gone over it with them in great detail. They have a timeline and incremental due dates to ensure that this does not become careless, last-minute effort in late August. We encourage parents to look over the handbook to see the information and requirements presented there.

And finally, **TOK** has undergone its curriculum revision. Again, there are marked improvements to aid both teacher and student. An exciting change is the emphasis on relating the TOK course to CAS experiences. There will be teacher advisors to assist the students. To help the correlation of TOK and CAS, students will set goals before undertaking any CAS activity. They will provide progress reports over the course of the activity. The final evaluation is no longer the 8-question write-up, but includes their evaluation of how effectively they met their goals. More details as we develop that program this spring.

## EXAMINERS 2008

By Mrs. Bandy

Here are the Round One assessments that reached their international evaluator on March 15.



English World Lit	UK
History EE	Spain
History EE Span	Spain
ITGS EE	Malaysia
Soc./Cult. EE	UK
Bio EE	USA-Maryland
Physics EE	Australia
Music EE	USA-Michigan
Theatre EE	Argentina
Vis Arts EE	Australia
TOK Essay	Malaysia
Vis Arts Examiner	USA-Florida (as requested)

The IB exam papers in May, theatre assessments, historical investigations, and musical investigations will travel to other parts of the world. That list is much longer than this one because there are usually 3 subtests for each exam, and each must be sent to a different location.

This extensive worldwide diversity is to ensure that IB World Schools maintain the world focus and are not caught up in regionalism in the grading.

Again this year, two of our own continue to be IB examiners: Ms. Guha for English A1 and Mr. Campbell for Biology. This is an asset for us as it helps teachers see that the standards are consistent and the published assessment criteria are valid. They are also able to share first-hand the lengths that IBO goes to in the sense of fairness to the students.

## YEAR-END SOCIAL



School work will all be over and a summer of fun will lie ahead. Join your IB friends for one last hurrah to send this school year into the past. Eat food, jam some music, sign yearbooks, and laugh at:

### The Year in Pictures

The End-of-the-Year Social is highlighted with a fun slideshow of students' pictures. CDs of the pictures will be distributed freely to students at the social.

### **!! REPRESENT !!**

In all school-related photo collections, including yearbooks, the pictures are heavily concentrated on those students who get involved in the picture taking and collecting. This does not always yield a true representation of our year at Ridgeview.

You are a crucial part of the picture, so please make sure you're in it. Send some photos to [amyjace@bellsouth.net](mailto:amyjace@bellsouth.net). If you have a public MySpace and would like to share photos from there, e-mail your screen name and we'll copy them from the internet.

### **IB Party**

June 2  
6-8 pm  
RHS Cafetorium

## WAY TO GO, SENIORS

By Mrs. Howard

We asked seniors to share their college plans after graduation. The request went out on the Booster Club's e-mail list of active members. Only two students responded, but we'd like to say "Bravo" to these two, and all the rest who are on their way to dorms, schedule-change lines, Greek letters, and 24-hour breakfast diners.



Christina Gaddie  
Florida State University



Chandler Larsen  
University of Georgia

## IB BOOSTER MEETING & BOARD ELECTION

By Mrs. Chakkaphak

Please join us as we plan refreshments for the "IB Year-end Social" and elect our Board Members for the 2008-2009 school year.

### Booster Meeting

April 17  
7:30 – 8:30 pm  
Media Center

Several wonderful parents have volunteered their names as nominees for the Board, but we still have a number of important positions to be filled.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
Secretary/Treasurer	Lynda Edwards
Grade Representative 12th	Stacey Asimos
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Anderson

### Nominees still needed:

#### President

- Communicates information about the IB program and IB events to parents and students.
- Coordinates IB Booster events with the assistance of other IB Board members and parent volunteers.

#### Vice-President

- Assists in coordinating IB Booster events.
- Seeks volunteers to support IB Booster events.

#### Grade Representatives: 9th, 10th, and 11th grades

- Helps with IB Booster events.
- Submits a newsletter article with information pertinent to their grade level (for example "Senior News"). There are 4 newsletters per year.

For more information, contact:

Lynda Edwards (lyndac\_edwards@comcast.net)  
-or- Lynette Chakkaphak (llchak@aol.com)

## IB CARPOOL INFORMATION

By: Mrs. Edwards

All the IB Boosters understand that many families have a difficult time scheduling their jobs around getting their IB student to and from school everyday. We understand that many students come a long way to get to Ridgeview for class each day. To ease some of the stress for parents in this area we provide a service for families living close to each other to connect to form car pools.

We have loosely divided Clay County into fourteen different areas and ask parents interested in connecting with a car pool to sign up on any and all areas that are close to their house. The spread sheet is then sent out via e-mail to named families. It is then the responsibility of the families to contact each other to work out the plan they would like to use. The areas are:

Green Cove Springs	Middleburg	Argyle
Wells/Blanding	Wells/Park	Keystone
Kingsley/Blanding	Kingsley/Park	Moody
Eagle Harbor	Coppergate	OakLeaf
Fleming Island	Doctor's Inlet	

These car pool lists were available at the introduction meeting held in January for 8th grade students who were invited to apply for the IB program. A week before the start of school we have an IB Welcome Social to give the students and parents another opportunity to ask any questions about the program they may have. These car pooling spread sheets will again be available for people to sign up.

For further information, contact Lynda Edwards at: lyndac\_edwards@comcast.net.

### IB WEBPAGE UPDATE

We will no longer be using the [www.rhsib.org](http://www.rhsib.org) site and it will eventually be shut down. The current info for the website will now be accessed via the RHS home page by clicking on the IB link. The content there has been imported from the other site and is now more appropriate.

## BOOSTER CLUB ENROLLMENT MATTERS!

By: Mrs. Howard

There are two major reasons to enroll in the Ridgeview IB Booster Club: More money goes to the kids, and more communication comes to you.

Membership dues are \$20 per family per year. All dues go directly to student benefits, including this newsletter, the Mystery Photo prize, socials, and the new scholarship fund. The more people that enroll, the larger that scholarship award will be next year.

Also, far more communication takes place through the Booster Club's e-mail system. For example, the RHS IB Booster Scholarship that you see in this newsletter was distributed via e-mail on March 11th. Other scholarship opportunities come almost daily from Mrs. Partridge. Invitations for activities, newsletter contributions, and slideshow photos come through e-mail. You must be a paid member each year to be on the e-mail list.

Remember, no matter how many children you have enrolled in the IB program you need only pay one \$20.00 membership fee.

Please take the small step that yields great strides. Fill out this registration form and send it in with your check. You will be enrolled ahead of the game for next year.

✂-----

### IB Boosters Membership Registration

IB Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, St, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

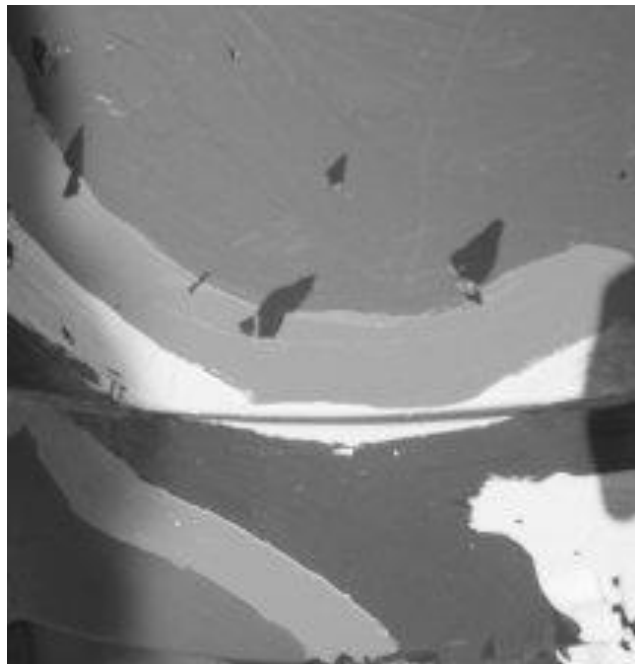
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

IB Boosters membership  
For 2008/2009 school year                      \$ 20.00

Mail check, payable to "RHS," to  
Ridgeview High School  
IB Boosters  
466 Madison Avenue  
Orange Park, FL 32065

## 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).

There was no winner last time to the mystery photo! This is the photo from last newsletter. How well DO you know your school!?!?

### IB Boosters Board 2007/08

President	Lynnette Chakkaphak	272-6420
Vice President	Debbie 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	Vacant	
12th Grade Rep	Daisy Podmeyer	278-6966

Other's assisting the Board include:

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

### **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.

## JUNIOR NEWS

By Mrs. Howard

Class of

# 2009

### Grounded by Gas Prices

You're finally licensed to grab the keys and hit the open road, and what happens? Gas prices skyrocket and you can hardly stand to crank the engine.

It may be time to go green and invest in a carpool. Most of us pass near other RHS students' houses on the way to school. Those students could hitch a ride and pitch in gas money. Some working parents are even willing to pay more to get their student a dependable ride to school.

If you are a safe driver, and willing to endure the hassle of coordinating schedules, you could earn half your gas money back, or possibly even make a profit. See the article on page 2 for contact help.

### Embrace Your CAS

Community service is often shunned like a foul-tasting medicine. This is why there are always a few seniors scrambling to get in their CAS hours at the last minute.

But some lucky students have discovered the joy of serving in ways that have personal meaning. Think of volunteering as an opportunity to develop a background and expertise in something that interests you. Not only will you feel a more solid sense of identity, you will look impressive on applications and sound impressive in interviews.

Sandy Hayden, UF's Assistant Director of Admissions, said, "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, etc."

Pam Proctor, author of The College Hook: Packaging Yourself to Win the College Admissions Game, even advises students to tie their volunteer work in with their hobbies and goals, creating a full-bodied, focused persona.

As Mrs. Bandy explains on page 3, IBO has now tailored the CAS requirements to be a more meaningful activity for you. The medicine will taste much better now.

## EXPRESS YOURSELF!

IB Informed! is your newsletter and we welcome your contributions to every issue. Whether it's a story, poem, cartoon, drawing, or commentary, we'd love to publish it for you. Last year, Chandler Larson shared her experiences in the Outward Bound program. Perhaps you have something you'd be willing to share with your fellow IBers. Just send it along to [maggie1964@bellsouth.net](mailto:maggie1964@bellsouth.net) for consideration.

### Hope

By Vivian Asimos

*It was spoken of by every abolitionist  
And is religion in times of war.  
It's in the hearts of abandoned families.  
It makes tears sparkle as they fall.  
It flies upon the wings of love  
In the blue skies of justice.  
Every man in every land  
Watch it with wide eyes.*

### April

By Vivian Asimos

*The winter air no longer bothers my skin.  
I feel spring come,  
Wrapping its warm sun along my arms.  
The bright mornings light up my eyes  
With an all new sensation.  
The fear of night that had once crawled up my back  
Has been replaced with the anticipation  
For a new day to begin.  
Wake me, my Spring,  
And let me love you for another morning.*

## SOPHOMORE NEWS

By Mr. & Mrs. Febus

Class of

# 2010

As FCAT is finished and we are going to the end stretch of this year, many of you are looking forward to the summer break!

Just a reminder, school is not over yet and your grades still count. Congratulations to all of the students who received their letter of acceptance into the IB Program. You have another two more years of hard work ahead! Pay close attention to your CAS hours and remember, they start to count this summer.

Class of

**2011****Get Smart About Tests**

Here are some tips from Linda Stream at GreatSchools.net on how to succeed on tests and make sure that tests are tools for learning at school.

**1. Learn from Tests.**

Go over your tests to see if there are concepts you still don't understand. Ask yourself if he knows how he was able to achieve the grade he got or how he can get a better grade next time.

Many teachers use "rubrics," or scoring guides, to show students the difference between A, B and C work. Rubrics can break down a more subjective area, such as writing, into components that students can more readily understand.

**2. Learn the Questions to Ask Before the Test.**

The path to a good grade shouldn't be a mystery. At the beginning of the school year or semester, the teacher should make clear how students will be graded.

Some teachers give points for homework, quizzes and projects and add them up to calculate a grade. Others count only major assignments.

Before a test, you should know the specifics: the test format, the scope of material covered, whether you need to show your work for math problems and whether you'll be penalized for guessing on a multiple-choice test. If a teacher isn't providing enough information to help you prepare, make an appointment to speak with the teacher.

**3. Before the Test, Go Over Strategies**

Some good strategies are:

- Preview the test before you start work on it. Note the number of points for each question. Then, you should quickly figure out how much time to spend on each section.
- Read the question carefully so you understand what you are being asked to do. On a multiple-choice test, a question that asks "Which of the

following does not....." has a far different answer than "Which of the following does...."

- Understand how the answers would be different if you are asked to:
  - Compare (identify similarities and differences)
  - Contrast (show differences)
  - Summarize (give a concise account without detail)
  - Prove (support a point of view with facts)
- Answer the easiest questions first. Then go back to the tougher ones.
- Make educated guesses on multiple-choice questions. If points are deducted for guessing, it's better to leave an answer blank than to make a wild guess. But if you can eliminate one or more incorrect answers, or if there is no penalty for guessing, it's a good idea to guess.
- On questions that require matching, you should read all the items before you write any answers so you can get an idea of all the possibilities. This is less time-consuming than going back to erase and change an answer.
- For short-answer questions, keep in mind that the teacher has something specific in mind from the assigned reading or her lectures.
- Know that first impulses are usually correct, so be careful about going back to change answers.
- Use all of your time. If you finish, you should check your answers. If you have checked the answers once, cover up the answers and think through the question again to see if you should rework the answer.

**4. Learn More About the Test.**

Find out what the test is designed to measure. Don't draw conclusions from a single test score and question your ability or intelligence based on a single test.

When looking at your test scores, assessing whether your scores have improved or declined over time is more useful than looking at the results of a single test.

Class of **2008**

Well.....it's finally here. The time you have been working so hard for!! The end of your IB school years. But you still can't slack off because there's still a lot to do for all you high achieving students! There's Grad Bash, Prom, Senior Award's Night, Exams, and Graduation. There's also the last of your CAS hours, documentation, and finalizing decisions on where to attend college.

Let's not forget the pictures that you should be sending Mrs. Amy Howard of all your high school years! She so kindly has volunteered to put together an e-collage of senior's pictures throughout their four years at RHS. Please send pictures as soon as possible to [amyjace@bellsouth.net](mailto:amyjace@bellsouth.net).

Don't fret Seniors! It all gets done, and soon enough, you will all be on your way to discover our world and leave your footprints!

**IB BOOSTER SCHOLARSHIP**

By: Mrs. Chakkaphak

The IB Boosters will award the first ever IB Booster Scholarship of \$750 to an IB senior in May. Scholarship applications can be picked up in the guidance office. The scholarship will be presented as a cash award to be used by the student for college expenses as needed. The application deadline is April 21, 2008.

The scholarship will be presented to the student who best exemplifies the characteristics of an "IB Learner" by striving to embody the following traits:

- Inquirer ♦ Thinker ♦ Communicator ♦ Caring
- Principled ♦ Knowledgeable ♦ Open-Minded
- Risk-taker ♦ Reflective ♦ Balanced

**Guidelines**

1. The 2007-2008 IB Booster Scholarship will be limited to senior RHS IB students who will graduate in May 2008.
2. The scholarship award for 2007-2008 will be one scholarship of \$750.00.
3. Scholarship applications for 2007-2008 will be due in the RHS guidance office no later than 2:00 pm on April 21, 2008.
4. The IB Booster Board will annually determine the number of scholarships and the scholarship award amount.
5. The IB Booster Scholarship Committee will review, approve and select the scholarship recipient(s) each year.
6. The composition of the IB Booster Scholarship Committee will include RHS faculty & staff and/or IB Booster parents. Scholarship Committee members must not include the parents of any IB senior student.
7. The Scholarship Committee in its applicant review will give greater credence to the subjective attributes of the individual applicants, as they personify the ideals of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, than to any formula of quantitative criteria.
8. Teachers asked to submit letters of recommendation on behalf of a student need to send scholarship specific letters. Generic letters of recommendation will not be sufficient.
9. The scholarship winner(s) will be announced on RHS Senior Awards Night May 22, 2008.



Awards will be made directly to the recipient.  
Use of the award will not be restricted.

*Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did.  
So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor.  
Catch the trade winds in your sails.  
Explore. Dream. Discover.*

*~Attributed to Mark Twain, unconfirmed*

# RHS IB BOOSTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

I. List the colleges to which you are applying: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

II. Attach two original letters of recommendation from IB faculty members, specifying:

- The student's contributions to **IB** Program
- The student's contributions to the school/community
- The letters of recommendation should be scholarship specific

III. List the top 5 honors, awards, scholarships or prizes you have received in high school.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

IV. List and describe, in the space below, the top 4 school or community activities (including athletics) in which you have participated: (no attachments will be considered)

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

V. Type and attach on a separate sheet the following essay (approx. 300-500 words): The IB Learner Profile includes the following characteristics: Inquirer, Thinker, Knowledgeable, Communicator, Principled, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-taker, Reflective, Balanced. Which three of these attributes best describe you as an IB student? Why?



# RHS IB BOOSTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(page 2)

**This page should be completed by the IB Guidance Counselor**

Student name \_\_\_\_\_

1. List passing scores of any IB (4-7) or AP (3-5) tests already earned:

<u>IB Subject Exam</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>AP Subject Exam</u>	<u>Score</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

2. Cumulative GPA (weighted) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Test Scores: ACT Composite: \_\_\_\_\_ SAT (critical reading): \_\_\_\_\_ (math): \_\_\_\_\_ (writing): \_\_\_\_\_

4. Please write a brief paragraph conveying information that would be helpful to the committee members as they consider this application. (Limit remarks to space available.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



# I THINK, THEREFORE IB

RIDGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL  
IB BOOSTERS  
[WWW.RHSIB.ORG](http://WWW.RHSIB.ORG)

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