

In Their Own Words: Quotes About The IB

Quotes from Educators

The International Baccalaureate (IB) has provided the opportunity for our students to challenge themselves to higher levels of educational excellence. The IB has provided the foundation for intellectual curiosity and academic rigor to thrive. ... In reality, the IB has been one of the most effective ways our school district has leveled the playing field for students no matter where they live, who their parents are, and despite their socio-economic status.

*Delores Hopkins, Former Associate
Superintendent
Jackson Public Schools
Jackson, Mississippi*

Students seeking an innovative, culturally-based, civic-minded, and academically rigorous course of study should well consider the IB programme. IB prepares students to become free thinkers, to see the world in all its colors, to participate in that world from multiple perspectives, and to question as they learn and what they learn.

*Kedra Ishop
Associate Director of Admissions
The University of Texas at Austin*

One of the advantages of an IB curriculum is its structure and quality. It is a coordinated program, well-established, well-known and well-respected. We know the quality of IB courses, and we think the IB curriculum is terrific.

*Christoph Guttentag
Director of Undergraduate Admission
Duke University*

Students seeking the finest [high school] preparation available for an American college should consider the IB. The IB offers an integrated curriculum that provides students with the skill needed to be world-class scholars and an educational philosophy that prepares them to be first-class citizens. I do not know of a more comprehensive and appropriate learning model.

*Jimm Crowder
Director of Admissions
Macalester College
St. Paul, Minnesota*

The International Baccalaureate (IB) provides rigorous academic programs and assessments and an unwavering commitment to prepare students to be citizens in an international community. IB is to be commended for its visionary approach to promoting a more peaceful world by engaging students, staff and community in a greater awareness of, and appreciation for, differences between and among the peoples of the world.

*Dr. Gerald Tirozzi, Executive
Director, National Association of
Secondary School Principals*

IB is well known to us for excellent preparation. Success in an IB programme correlates well with success at Harvard. We are always pleased to see the credentials of the IB Diploma Programme on the transcript.

*Marilyn McGrath Lewis
Director of Admissions
Harvard University*

Quotes from Educators

(continued)

The IB programme teaches our students that being smart is not a matter of heredity, but of motivation and hard work. The program leads students to deeper understandings of themselves and the world around them—basic skills for success in the 21st century.

Bernadette Glaze, Former Advanced Academic Programs Specialist, Fairfax County (Virginia) Public Schools

I have always been a supporter of the International Baccalaureate. It is a thoughtful and genuinely intellectual curriculum with an unusually high degree of integrity and connectedness. There is no other curriculum anywhere that does a superior job of both educating students and inspiring a true and broad-based love of learning.

William Shain, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, Vanderbilt University

Graduates of the IB programme are very well prepared for the challenges and opportunities presented at the university. The rigor inherent in the IB curriculum is widely recognized as giving students the tools to excel in any academic program they may wish to pursue.

*Greg C. Ferguson
Director of Admissions
Saint Mary's University
Nova Scotia*

Oregon State University has had a progressive International Baccalaureate admission policy for many years which is based on the performance and success of IB scholars on our campus. Our study of IB students has shown that they are well prepared for the academic rigor at the university level and perform exceedingly well.

*Michele Sandlin
Director
Office of Admissions
Oregon State University*

McGill has enthusiastically recruited IB students for over two decades. Even today, when reviewing an application from an IB Diploma candidate . . . our admissions officers can be assured of the candidate's strong and broad-based academic preparation. We have seen that IB students embrace the rigorous academic challenges of university life and perform well in their McGill programmes. As a member of the College and University Recognition Taskforce, I can attest to the respected position of the IB diploma at prestigious universities throughout North America.

*Kim Bartlett
Director of Admissions
McGill University
Québec*

For many years I have been an IB fan. It has taken seriously more of the issues in the world of today (and tomorrow), and has been less influenced by fads, and the test-taking obsessions of ministers of education, than any organization its size. The development of separate programmes for the early and middle years is also meritorious and I applaud the inclusion of the arts as subjects worthy of serious study. The theory of knowledge course is consonant with the importance today of metacognitive capacities and the need for synthesizing thinking that integrates separate disciplines and rival perspectives.

*Howard Gardner
Hobbs Professor of Cognition and Education
Harvard Graduate School of Education
IB World Magazine, September 2007*

Quotes from IB students in the United States

The IB program prepares you for any life activity—it should become nationwide and be available in all schools. With the level of work and the rigor of the courses, you have to learn extremely quickly how to manage your time, and that’s a skill that will carry into every aspect of my life.

*Chanté Stubbs, Warwick High School, Class of 2006
Newport News, Virginia*

I really think the IB programme is amazing. I would not be going Harvard and be so confident if it were not for the program. There is room for individuality and independence in what you are studying, and it’s lot of fun. Living near the US-Mexico border, I really appreciate being able to use my bilingual education.

*Diana Robles, Nogales High School Class of 2006
Nogales, Arizona*

I am very thankful for the opportunity to participate in a program that holds my future to a standard of excellence that does not waiver. From the IB programme, I have acquired study habits and work skills that will serve me well in college and throughout my life.

*Sierra Minott, Fort Myers High School, Class of 2006
Fort Myers, Florida*

The IB programme allows you to be part of a unique classroom experience . . . not only are the classes more interesting, but you will also be constantly challenged by your peers, which I think is more important than anything else in terms of furthering your education. Stick with it. Persevere. You’ll take a lot of interesting classes. Just plough through, it will be worth it when you get to college.

*Jeremy Schifberg, South Eugene High School, Class of 2006
Eugene, Oregon*

The IB programme is challenging yet fun. Many people say that it’s a difficult endeavor, but if you follow the teachers’ directions, stay on time with all your tasks, and put forth your best effort, it’s not difficult at all. IB educates students for success beyond school. Non-IB education simply gets you out of high school, while the IB programme prepares you for life.

*Tony Craddock, Jr., Gar-Field Senior High, Class of 2006
Woodbridge, Virginia*

I think that IB is a great opportunity, not just for me but for everybody. It doesn’t just give you a challenge—it helps you grow, mature and learn responsibility, and it teaches you to become a better person.

*Jovina Yang, Luther Burbank High School, Class of 2006
Burbank, California*

IB was a great experience. It allowed me to really grow and expand my horizons beyond what a normal high school would give. It was challenging academically and socially, and I think that’s what’s great about it—creativity, action and service.

*Melvin La, South Fork High School, Class of 2006
Stuart, Florida*

Quotes from IB students in Canada

Having undertaken the IB programme, I find that its greatest benefit was that it left me with a better understanding of myself: my capabilities, my strengths as well as my weakness. By pushing my boundaries, the program compelled me to strive for a higher degree of excellence and in doing so it fostered within me both academic and personal growth.

*Christie Ma
McNally Composite High School
Class of 2004
Edmonton, Alberta*

I feel like the IB programme added a lot to my life. It's a very well rounded program: it not only incorporates academics but also extracurricular activities, especially the CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) hours. The IB programme creates a social conscience within teenagers through community service.

*Naheed Hirji
Turner Fenton Secondary School
Class of 2006
Brampton, Ontario*

This program has motivated me to go beyond what I thought I was capable of doing and it has given me the challenge that I was looking for all through elementary and junior high school. It has also given me the chance to meet people who share the same enthusiasm for learning. All these positive results have not come without a lot of effort on my part...but I truly feel prepared for university and the level of work that I will have to do when I get there.

*Reynaldo Glombowski
Park View Education Centre,
Class of 2005
Bridgewater, Nova Scotia*

More than anything, the IB programme fostered in me a love of learning. Time is a precious commodity these days; however, I still value a balanced life and make time to volunteer, participate in athletic activities, and indulge my passion for literature, a passion developed by the IB English program, while engaging wholeheartedly in my studies. In pursuing IB studies, young people will only better prepare themselves to become the future leaders of their communities.

*Erin Wiley
McNally Composite High School
Class of 2002
Edmonton, Alberta*