

IB Educating for Excellence.

About Expectations and Relationships in the IB Diploma Program

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Since the IB Diploma Program has a reputation for its rigor, some students and parents might wonder if it is a good fit for their family and individual educational goals. While it is true that the Diploma Program (DP) is not for everyone, it is, in fact, the ideal program for more students than is commonly believed.

About Expectations

The Corning-Painted Post Area School District believes that **all students are gifted and talented**, and is committed to providing the best educational opportunities for each of them to reach their true potential. We know that young people rise to the expectations adults have for them. Interestingly, a landmark national study called "The Silent Epidemic" found that many high school drop-outs said they would have worked harder in school if expectations had been higher.

In a survey of East and West High DP students conducted in March 2006, only 57% of respondents said they felt challenged in school. So, while the IB Diploma Program is indeed rigorous, it is certain to provide a healthy challenge for many of our students. Furthermore, the premium instruction students receive in the DP prepares them

quite well to meet the high expectations of the program. Teachers work hard to ensure that IB learning objectives and course requirements are known and understood among pupils and parents by maintaining open lines of communication via e-mail, meetings, newsletters and Web sites. It is also important to note that our trained DP teachers coordinate with one another to balance the timing of tests and intense classroom assignments so DP students do not experience an undue burden caused by converging deadlines.

About Relationships

Still, DP students may feel stressed, uncertain or unsure of themselves at times. They may have questions about their coursework or need to think through their time-management and school/life balance decisions. In addition to their parents, students have a network of nurturing, supportive adults at school whom they can turn to for advice, encouragement and answers. Showing their commitment to students *and* to *Quantum Leap's* Relationships learning goal, DP teachers, in-school IB coordinators and guidance counselors are glad to respond to individual students' needs.

Because District staff are concerned with the students' entire school experience and with the entire student, they are eager to be helpful in fostering the success of each DP candidate. One of the many benefits of the IB framework is that teachers have more flexibility. Students who raise a concern or problem find that teachers can often make adjustments that smooth the way for a solution. **The key is that students have only to ask.** C-PP staff encourage and welcome students and parents to approach them with questions, concerns and observations.

C-PP IB Diploma Program Coordinators

Remember, the IB Diploma Program coordinators and all the IB teachers are ready to assist you. Please feel free to contact them at the phone numbers or e-mail addresses below.

West High - Cathy Honness
T: (607) 936-3794 ext. 3004
E: CHonness@cppmail.com

East High - Michelle Caulfield
T: (607) 936-3746 ext. 2930
E: MCaulfield@cppmail.com

District IB Coordinator - Eileen Bowen
T: (607) 962-3704 ext. 2711
E: EBowen@cppmail.com

Questions? Know Where To Go For Answers.

The Guidance Counselor helps with academic planning, career goals, scheduling, testing and the like. This is someone who can navigate academic challenges with students.

The School Psychologist helps with emotional problems like depression, extreme fear or worry and other intense feelings. This is someone who can help students sort through strong feelings, especially when they become overwhelming.

The School Social Worker helps with social problems that can make it hard for students to do their best at school. This is someone to visit if there is not enough food for everyone, not enough money to pay the bills, the adults can't care for the young children or there is violence at home. The social worker can help the student and family find help to overcome these and other obstacles, too.

IB Coordinators and IB Teachers help with questions, concerns or observations specifically about the IB program and IB classes. They will certainly be glad to direct students to other kinds of help, too, when needed.

Visit C-PP's IB site to learn more.

www.corningareaschools.com

- ✓ information
- ✓ resources
- ✓ news