

IB Educating for Excellence.

IB Middle Years Program Brings Out the Best in ALL Students.

IB-trained teachers use a range of teaching activities to honor different styles of learning and foster the success of every student.



All Students Are Gifted and Talented
As stated in its Master Plan, the Corning-Painted Post Area School District (C-PP) believes that its youth are capable of leaning and achieving at high levels.

Every student in grades six through ten in the Corning-Painted Post Area School District receives instruction within the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum framework. **C-PP is the only public school district in New York State to give every secondary student in every school the advantage of the IB Middle Years Program (MYP).** Over 200 district staff have been trained extensively in the principles and practices that make IB one of the most highly acclaimed and widely respected instructional models in the world. Teachers are concerned with the students' total school experience and are committed to the success of every student.

The MYP's *Approaches to Learning* — one of the program's five Areas of Interaction — is an indispensable tool for giving every student excellent instruction that suits his or her personal learning style. *Approaches to Learning* also prepares every pupil to demonstrate his or her knowledge through the assessment process.

Our MYP teachers understand that young people learn in different ways: some learn best by *hearing*, others by *seeing* and still others by *doing*. That is why they use a host of classroom practices designed to give everyone an opportunity to learn the way they learn best. Plus, students themselves begin to understand their own learning style and, when they have the choice, can seek out opportunities to deepen their understanding of lessons through the activities that work best for them. Diverse learning experiences include: formal classroom instruction, presentations and exploratory projects, open-ended investigation and problem-solving activities, games, role plays, field trips and extra-curricular activities.

Honoring different learning styles isn't the only way the IB MYP helps students become better learners. The *Approaches to Learning* tool also helps students become aware of thought processes and learning strategies. Other MYP activities develop students' organizational, problem-solving and thinking skills, as well as their ability to reflect on what they have learned. In addition, they learn how to collaborate and develop a strong work ethic. Through it all, their knowledge of each subject deepens as does their appreciation for how the

subjects are connected with each other and the "real world." What is more, MYP *Approaches to Learning* activities prepare students to demonstrate what they know by explicitly teaching them how to communicate effectively when speaking and in writing. **Equipped with the skills and practices for successful learning and communication, ALL students can achieve their personal best in school.**

The MYP also respects different learning styles and academic strengths in the way it tracks student progress by giving students an array of opportunities to demonstrate what they know. In other words, even students who struggle with written tests can get good grades because tests aren't the only thing that counts. In addition to tests, other activities like projects, experiments, organized debates and class assignments can count toward a grade. Where traditional, narrow testing methods fail to give some students an appropriate tool to prove their subject expertise, the MYP gives them more freedom to use their best talents to show what they know.

With its thoughtful emphasis on using a variety of teaching methods and assessment tools, the IB Middle Years Program cultivates a school environment in which everyone can thrive.

IB Delivers Excellence in Special Education

When the District says it believes all students are capable of high-level achievement, it means ALL students — no exceptions. **IB is great opportunity for district students receiving Special Education services to achieve their true potential.** The IB framework helps students find their natural strengths and discover how they learn best. Teachers have the flexibility to plan lessons on topics of interest to students. Plus, assessment practices in IB offer students different ways to express themselves, so everyone can find an ideal way to demonstrate what they know.

Like their peers, Special Education teachers attend MYP training and use IB teaching methods in class. In fact, Special Education teachers already have a head start on IB because they have experience in working with different learning styles and collaborating with colleagues on curriculum. These skills are critical to the way C-PP's Special Ed teachers teach today, and they are fundamental to IB.

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

www.corningareaschools.com

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- ✓ resources
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