
IBMYP Newsletter December 2016

North Atlanta High School IB MYP

North Atlanta High School

4111 Northside Pkwy Atlanta, GA 30327

<http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/3377> T: 404-802-4700

Dear IBMYP Community,

Thank you for taking the time to read the fourth edition of the 2016-2017 IB Middle Years Programme (IB MYP) newsletter. I hope that you find this newsletter informative! My goal is to improve the understanding of the IB MYP as we continue to implement the International Baccalaureate Programme here at North Atlanta High School.

Why is reflection critical in IB MYP? Critical reflection is the process by which curiosity and experience can lead to deeper understanding. Learners must become critically aware of the way they use evidence, methods and conclusions. Reflection also involves being conscious of potential bias and inaccuracy in their own work and in the work of others. – *MYP: From Principles into Practice*. **Thoughtful and purposeful reflection can occur before, during, and after the lesson**, and it is vital that both teachers and students engage in meaningful reflection.

Thank you,

Dr. Nikia Showers
IB MYP and Personal Project Coordinator

IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. The 10 attributes are **Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective**.

The Learner Profile Characteristic of the Month is **Principled**. We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

Email submissions to Dr. Showers at nikia.showers@atlanta.k12.ga.us



C. Douglass, Principal
R. Whitman, Assistant Principal
M. Kaltman, Assistant Principal—9th
Y. Williams, Assistant Principal—10th
Dr. A. Mitchell, Assistant Principal—11th
J. Stewart, Assistant Principal—12th
Dr. N. Showers, IBMYP and Personal Project Coordinator

Upcoming Events

December 1

World AIDS Day

December 6

Journal 11 due- Personal Project

December 13

Journal 12 due- Personal Project

December 14

Begin process to create Product-
Personal Project

December 16

Last day of 1st semester



Page 1 of 3

Teaching and Learning

IB Spotlight on Reflection: Why should teachers and students reflect?

The “**Reflection**” section of the MYP unit planner provides teachers with an invitation to record their reflection at three important periods in the unit’s development and implementation. **Reflection** in the unit planner can provide a starting point for **collaborative planning**, an ongoing reminder for **reflective practice** throughout the teaching process, and a format in which to **evaluate** teaching strategies and learning outcomes.

Reflection involves individual and collaborative consideration of the unit’s planning, process and impact. Reviewing each of the required elements of MYP unit planning is a valuable strategy for reflection. Teachers can profitably reflect **prior** to teaching the unit, **during** teaching and **after** the unit has been taught. A chart with sample questions are below:

Prior to teaching the unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why do we think that the unit or the selection of topics will be interesting?• What do students already know, and what can they do?• What have students encountered in this discipline before?• What does experience tell us about what to expect in this unit?• What attributes of the learner profile does this unit offer students opportunities to develop?• What in the unit might be inspiring for community or personal projects?
During teaching
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What resources are proving useful, and what other resources do we need?• What student inquiries are emerging?• What can we adjust or change?• What skills need more practice?• What is the level of student engagement?• How can we scaffold learning for students who need more guidance?• How well are the learning experiences aligned with the unit’s objectives?
After teaching the unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What were the learning outcomes of this unit?• How well did the summative assessment task serve to distinguish levels of achievement?• Which teaching strategies were effective? Why?• What student-initiated action did we notice?• What will we do differently next time?• How will we build on our experience to plan the next unit?• How effectively did we differentiate learning in this unit?• What can students carry forward from this unit to the next year/level of study?

Including students in reflection on the unit is an important strategy to promote the **student-centered approach** to education valued in IB programmes. Teachers and students need not engage in reflection on every question; choosing a focus for reflection often leads to more meaningful results. **Teachers and students should also consider other questions that can help to improve the planning, process and impact of inquiry in the MYP.** Reflection will always be shaped by the specific needs of teachers and students in particular contexts. - *MYP: From Principles into Practice*

Global Awareness- December

The internationally-minded IB student is a critical and creative thinker. They engage in global ideas and issues with humanity and compassion. The world can be unpredictable and challenging at times, but the IB student can break down problems and make ethical, reasoned and balanced arguments based continual development.-- *ibo.org*. For the month of December, engage in global based activities to better understand the world around us.

Reflection/Inquiry Question

When will we be able to eradicate HIV/AIDS?

What can the world health community do to slow down the spread of HIV/AIDS?

Why is HIV/AIDS unevenly distributed in the world?

How do social and cultural understanding affect its transmission?

Know

Scientific, financial, and political commitments by the global community, including the development of widespread use of effective and affordable antiretroviral treatments, have dramatically reduced the incidence of HIV/AIDS and extended the lifespan of those who live with the disease.

Think/Communicate

Make a list of myths and misconceptions about the HIV infection. What knowledge, attitudes, and life skills do young people need to possess in order to make informed, responsible, healthy choices about their behavior?

Did You Know...?

