

IBMYP Newsletter March 2019

North Atlanta High School IB MYP

North Atlanta High School

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Dear IBMYP Community,

Thank you for taking the time to read the fifth edition of the 2018-2019 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 it important to “learn how to learn”? Metacognition is the awareness of one’s thinking and the strategies one is using. It enables students to be more mindful of what they are doing or learning and why, and how skills they are learning might be used differently in different situations. In IB MYP, the **Approaches to Learning Skills** represents the skills that students need in order to become self-regulated, intrinsically motivated learners. In other words, these skills build students’ metacognitive-awareness, understanding, and control of their personal learning processes.

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 Attribute of the Month is **Risk-takers.** We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

Upcoming Events

March 1

Women’s History Month

March 6

Personal Project presentation

March 8

International Women’s Day

March 18

Teacher Professional Learning Day

March 26

IB Showcase



Teaching and Learning

IB Spotlight: Approaches to Learning (ATL) Skills

According to IB, the focus of **approaches to learning** in the MYP is on helping students to develop the self-knowledge and skills they need to enjoy a lifetime of learning. **ATL skills** empower students to succeed in meeting the challenging objectives of MYP subject groups and prepare them for further success in rigorous academic programmes like the IB Diploma Programme and the IB Career Related Certificate. Ultimately, **ATL skills** help to prepare students for responsible participation in local and global communities. See Appendix 1 in *From Principle into Practice* for more details of each cluster.

IB ATL skill categories	MYP skill clusters
Communication	I. Communication
Social	II. Collaboration
Self-Management	III. Organization
	IV. Affective
	V. Reflection
Research	VI. Information Literacy
	VII. Media Literacy
Thinking	VIII. Critical Thinking
	IX. Creativity and Innovation
	X. Transfer

The most effective way to develop **approaches to learning** is through ongoing, process-focused disciplinary and interdisciplinary teaching and learning. Teachers can use key and related concepts along with global contexts as vehicles for teaching effective learning strategies. Likewise, **approaches to learning** can be powerful tools for exploring significant content. This dual focus (content and process) promotes student engagement, deep understanding, transfer of skills and academic success.

When specific **ATL skills** become an explicit focus for teaching and learning, students can begin to take responsibility for their own development. Over time, students can identify themselves and their competence in any learning strategy. Some key questions to be answered by students with respect to ATL skills include:

- What are my present skills in this area and what evidence do I have of my development?
- What skills can I improve?
- What new skills can I learn?

Global Awareness- International Women's Day

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 March, engage in global based activities to better understand the world around us.

Reflection/Inquiry Question

What is gender parity?

How does the gender gap affect both women and men?

What resources should we devoted to creating gender equality?

How can you help forge a more gender-balanced world?



Know

Every person - women, men and non-binary people - can play a part in helping drive better outcomes for women. Through meaningful celebration and targeted bold action, we can all be responsive and responsible leaders in creating a more gender inclusive world. The World Economic Forum predicts the **gender gap won't close entirely until 2186**. This is too long to wait. So around the world, International Women's Day provides an important opportunity for ground breaking action that can truly drive greater change for women—www.internationalwomensday.com

Think/Communicate

Use International Women's Day (IWD) on March 8 as an important opportunity to:

- **celebrate** the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women because visibility and awareness help drive positive change for women
- **declare** bold actions you'll take as an individual or organization to help progress the gender agenda because purposeful action can accelerate gender parity across the world

