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# IBMYP Newsletter November 2020

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## 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 this second edition of the 2020-2021 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.

**All 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students are IB students!** Students in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade are in IB's Middle Years Programme. Students are required to engage in inquiry-based learning in 7 subject areas: Language and Literature, Mathematics, Sciences, Individuals and Societies, Language Acquisition, Physical and Health Education, and Art. If you would like to know more about NAHS IB MYP Programme, please visit [www.ibmypnorthatlanta.weebly.com](http://www.ibmypnorthatlanta.weebly.com).

Thank you,

Dr. Nikia Showers  
IB MYP and Personal Project Coordinator

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C. Douglass, Principal  
L. Bonner, Assistant Principal  
Dr. A. Mitchell, Assistant Principal  
Dr. Y. Roebuck, Assistant Principal  
J. Stewart, Assistant Principal  
L. Woods, Assistant Principal  
Y. Yisrael, Assistant Principal  
D. Costarides, CP and DP Coordinator  
Dr. N. Showers, IBMYP and Personal Project Coordinator

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### Upcoming Events

#### November 3

Election Day

#### November 16

International Day of Tolerance

#### November 20

Personal Project Conference #2

#### November 23 - 27

Thanksgiving Break

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### 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 **Communicators.** We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspective of other individuals and groups.



# IB MYP Programme Development

## Middle Years Programme: **Virtual Learning**



### How can we effectively teach virtually?

Due to the pandemic, millions of teachers are teaching virtually. Some instructors began teaching without the skills necessary to teach online effectively or efficiently.

To address this obstacle, education experts are focused on improving the pedagogy of online teaching and learning. Edutopia's Youki Terada and fellow experts reviewed the research about online learning, finding **seven high impact, evidence-based strategies**.

## 7 High Impact, Evidence-based Strategies

### 1. **Your virtual classroom is a real learning space- Keep it organized**

Similarly, to a brick and mortar class, students value a well-organized virtual classroom. Students are more likely to be engaged and confident.

Try to consider holding "learn your technology" days with your class to walk through common-use cases, like submitting work or signing on to synchronous lessons. Or try to get rid of visual clutter. This includes hard-to-read fonts and unnecessary decorations or images.



### 2. **Chunk your lesson into smaller, digestible pieces**

Based on the concept and/or topics being taught, online learning can be mentally taxing. What would normally be a 30-minute activity in a face-to-face classroom should be much shorter in the virtual one.

Instead of recording an entire lecture, consider creating several smaller ones, each covering a single key idea. In order to give students additional time to process the material, alternate high- and low-intensity activities, and incorporate brain breaks regularly throughout the school day.

### 3. **The best online teachers solicit lots of feedback**

In a virtual setting, especially with students' cameras off, determining student engagement or what is working is almost impossible. A teacher may be unaware that students are confused or unclear about processes and materials.



Teachers can use formative assessments to determine how well students can access the virtual material. Create a Zoom poll to ask: Are you having technical problems? Are you able to quickly find and submit your work? Is this virtual classroom easy to navigate?

#### 4. Annotate and interject to scaffold learning

In a brick and mortar classroom, teachers can easily point to information on the board or on the presentation. This is not so easy in a virtual classroom.

Use arrows or text labels to emphasize information on documents and in presentations. Purposely interject inquiry questions during a video to check for understanding. The video may become more engaging and promote deeper understanding of the material.



#### 5. Frequent, low – stakes quizzes are easy to do, and highly effective

Daily formative assessments, such as practice quizzes, can help students better retain material and learn concepts or topics. This practice can help struggling students or help teach more complex concepts and topics.

Even though they may seem too juvenile for high schoolers, tools such as Kahoot and Quizziz, may be a fun way for students to re-process and retain material.

#### 6. Fight the isolation of remote learning by connecting with your students

Due to the physical, psychological, and emotional distance, it is even more important for teachers to make connections with their students. Using SEL activities daily can help build a class community.



Try using breakout rooms to split students into small groups for show-and-tell, two truths and a lie, or other relationship-building exercises. At the end of the day, ask students to reflect on their learning with discussion prompts or a closing activity like appreciation, apology, or aha! Pose fun questions like “What’s your favorite movie?” in your all-class video tool, or on digital whiteboards like Jamboard or Padlet, and have students share out.

#### 7. Take care of yourself

Stress is contagious. If a teacher is stressed, the students will have higher levels of stress and lower academic performance.

Practice self-care. Reach out to district- provided resources to support well-being.

Terada, Youki. “7 High-Impact, Evidence-Based Tips for Online Teaching.” *Edutopia*, George Lucas Educational Foundation, 9 Oct. 2020, [www.edutopia.org/article/7-high-impact-evidence-based-tips-online-teaching?s=09](http://www.edutopia.org/article/7-high-impact-evidence-based-tips-online-teaching?s=09).

You can't pour  
from an empty cup.



Take care of yourself first.

# Teaching and Learning

## IB Spotlight: International- Mindedness



### Global Awareness and International Mindedness

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 on continual development.-- *ibo.org*. For the month of November, engage in global based activities to better understand the world around us.

### International Day of Tolerance

**"Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human."** – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s 1995 Declaration of Principles on Tolerance.

The United Nations is committed to strengthening tolerance by fostering mutual understanding among cultures and peoples. This imperative lies at the core of the United Nations Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is more important than ever in this era of rising and violent extremism and widening conflicts that are characterized by a fundamental disregard for human life.-  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/tolerance-day>

### How can Intolerance Be Countered?

<b>Laws</b>	Governments are responsible for enforcing human rights laws, for banning and punishing hate crimes and discrimination and for ensuring equal access to dispute settlement.
<b>Education</b>	Laws are necessary but not sufficient for countering intolerance; greater emphasis needs to be placed on educating more and better.
<b>Access to Information</b>	The most efficient way to limit the influence of hatemongers is to promote press freedom and press pluralism, in order to allow the public to differentiate between facts and opinions
<b>Individual Awareness</b>	Intolerance breeds intolerance. In order to fight intolerance, individuals should become aware of the link between their behavior and the vicious cycle of mistrust and violence in society
<b>Local Solutions</b>	When confronted with an escalation of intolerance around us, we must not wait for governments and institutions to act alone. We are all part of the solution.

\* <https://www.un.org/en/observances/tolerance-day>

