

# IBMYP Newsletter October 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 this second edition of the 2019-2020 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.ibmynorthatlanta.weebly.com](http://www.ibmynorthatlanta.weebly.com).

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 of October is **Thinker**. We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

Email submissions to Dr. Showers at [nikia.showers@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:nikia.showers@atlanta.k12.ga.us)



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

## Upcoming Events

### October 5

World Teacher's Day

### October 8

Personal Project Proposals due  
Conference #1- Personal Project

### October 17

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

### October 24

Personal Project Appointments



# IB MYP Programme Development

## Middle Years Programme: Concept- Based Inquiry

According to Marschall and French (2018), concept-based inquiry represents "a form of learning that supports students in articulating transferable conceptual understandings and developing the inquiry skills and strategies present in other inquiry models" (pg 8). This model includes seven phases: **Engage, Focus, Investigate, Organize, Generalize, Transfer, and Reflect.**



### Engage in Action

In the **Engage** phase, we use strategies to help students to activate their prior knowledge, which includes their personal experiences and previous exposure to ideas. Meaningful learning occurs when new information is linked to previously acquired concepts (Marschall & French, 2018). Activating prior knowledge gives teachers a chance to formatively assess students' current thinking about the unit's concepts and any misconceptions. Ultimately, this phase increases motivation and curiosity and sparks initial questions and thinking.

**Four-Corner Debate** is an example **Opinion- Based strategy** that can be used in the **Engage** phase. This strategy directs students to take a stance on debatable/ provocative statements and use the four corners of the classroom to group themselves based on their opinions.

**How it works:** Label each corner using rating-scale words (strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree). Create the debatable/ provocative statements from the unit's debatable inquiry questions. See examples below. Show several statements and ask students to go to the corner that best reflects their thinking. Students need to think about their reasons for choosing the corner. While in the corner, students consolidate their reasons and then share reasons with other corners. Finally, students have the opportunity to change their corners and jot down the main ideas from each corner to be reviewed later in the unit- once they have completed their inquiry.

| Debatable Inquiry Question                                     | Debatable/Provocative Statement                                      |
|--|--|
| Who is the most important person on a team?                    | Offense is more important than defense in a game.                    |
| Does fiction reflect reality?                                  | Readers can identify better with stories that resembles their lives. |
| Should scientist work to eradicate all mutations?              | All mutations are harmful.   |
| Is the world a better place with or without industrialization? | The benefits of industrialization offset the environmental costs.    |

Marschall C. et. al. *Concept-Based Inquiry in Action: Strategies to Promote Transferable Understanding*. Corwin, a SAGE Company, 2018

# 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 continual development.-- [ibo.org](http://ibo.org). For the month of October, engage in global based activities to better understand the world around us.

### International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

The theme is **“Acting together to empower children, their families and communities to end poverty.”** Here are a few ways you can get involved and take action:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Post about this day on social media outlets                   | Invite family and friends to mark this day   |
| Arrange a walk or march through your neighborhood or town     | Hold an information stand in a public space  |
| Organize a community workshop to promote awareness            | Plant a tree or support a community garden   |
| Get involved in a community development or renovation project | Host a debate around a film (such as “Extreme Poverty is Violence” or “I Bear Witness to You”) |
| Volunteer at local food bank                                  | Organize a concert or cultural event   |

\*<http://overcomingpoverty.org/>



**INTERNATIONAL  
DAY for the  
ERADICATION  
of POVERTY**  
17 OCTOBER

