



27 March 2019

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Sent out by: schools

Dear Parents/Guardians;

In 2016, the Upper Grand District School Board directed staff to investigate establishing an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) in Dufferin County and/or the County of Wellington.

In 2018, the Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) included a French Immersion/International Baccalaureate (FI/IB) Impact Assessment for Orangeville/Dufferin and Erin secondary schools.

As a first step, the Board needs to confirm interest in and the feasibility of establishing an IB Programme in Orangeville/Dufferin or Erin. A survey is available online from March 28 - April 12, 2019 at www.ugdsb.ca/IBsurvey. Survey results will be included in a report to Trustees in June 2019 and will be one of several factors considered in determining the potential for offering IB.

Important note: Subsequent review processes are necessary to implement changes. At this time, the earliest a Grade 9 IB preparatory programme could start is the 2022/23 school year. Therefore, the survey is primarily applicable to students in Grade 4 or lower.

Description of the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP):

The IBDP is respected by leading universities across the globe. IB offers an education focused on teaching students to think critically and independently, and how to inquire with care and logic (www.ibo.org). The Diploma Programme is two years and covers Grade 11 and 12. In preparation, IB students enrol in Grade 9 and complete a Grade 9 and 10 preparatory programme. Students who successfully complete the DP will also attain their Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma (OSSD).

There is an application process to be accepted into the IB Programme and students must be academically capable and must have or must be working toward the following characteristics:

- Self-motivated, self-disciplined and demonstrate intellectual curiosity and a strong desire for learning
- Organized and have strong time management skills
- Demonstrate strong academic potential with high academic standing
- Have demonstrated coping strategies with assignment timelines
- Possess a commitment to second language learning
- Possess a global perspective with an interest in international issues
- Competent reader and possess a broad range of academic and other interests
- Understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others
- Show commitment to community service

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If there are any questions about this survey, please contact the Planning Department for more information:
planning.info@ugdsb.on.ca or 519-822-4420, extension 821.

Sincerely,

Upper Grand District School Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Passy', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer Passy, BES, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning