



September 10, 2014

Welcome to High School

Welcome Parents of the Class of 2018

Our MISSION:

We will educate and inspire our students to reach their full potential and contribute to the world by providing an exemplary English language education enriched by our multicultural community.

Today's Agenda

- Welcome to Parents of 9th Grade Students
 - John Shea, High School Principal
- Graduation Requirements and Transition to High School:
 - Nina Kuziel, High School Counselor (A-K)
Akuziel@isp.edu.pa
 - Sam Scoggin, High School Counselor (L-Z)
Wscoggin@isp.edu.pa

Transition to High School

- Different classes with different students
- Advisory meets once each week
- Greater independence and responsibility
- Need for more effective time management
- Taking ownership of learning and the complete High School experience

Support and Communication in HS

- **Teachers**
- **Advisors** - Meet every Wednesday
- **School Counselors**
 - Nina Kuziel (A-K)
 - Sam Scoggin (L-Z)
- **Administrators**
 - Principal - John Shea
 - Assistant Principal - David Swartwout

- **Communication**
 - Daily Bulletin
 - Dolphin Dispatch
 - Canvas
 - Naviance
 - RenWeb

Diploma Options at ISP

- **ISP Diploma**
- **Panamanian Diploma**
- **International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma**

One, two, or all three

Earning Credits

- One Credit (or Unit of Credit) is awarded for passing one full year of a course. At ISP students earn one-half of a credit for each semester of a course.
- Most courses are 2 semesters, some are only 1.
- Students who do not pass a semester of a required course must do recuperation for that course. If recuperation is not successful, students must retake that semester.

ISP Diploma

Graduation Requirements:

English	4.0
Spanish	4.0
Social Studies	3.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science	3.0
Physical Education	1.5
Arts	1.0
Additional Electives	4.5

Total Minimum to Graduate 24 credits

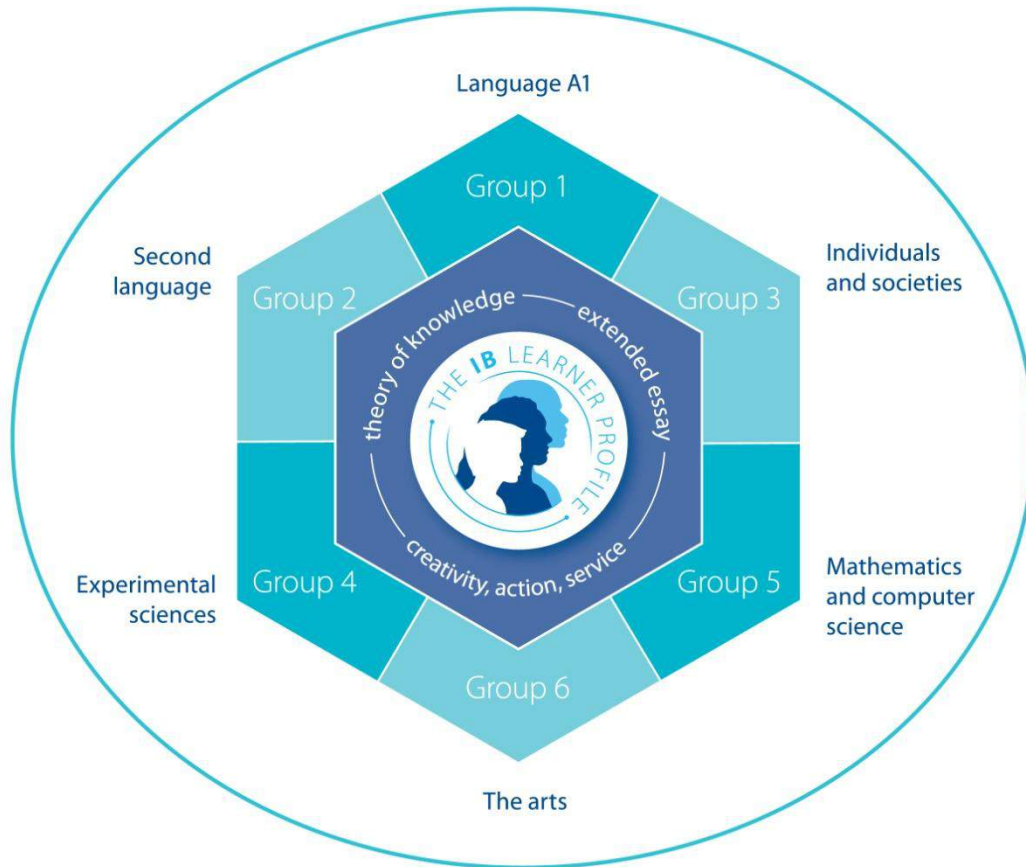
The Panamanian Diploma

- For students who may attend university in Panama or Latin America.
- Required Courses in High School:
 - Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Philosophy / ToK (one year of each)
 - Math and Spanish (4 years of each)
 - 4 Panamanian Courses (1 semester each)
Early History, Modern History, Civics, Geography

The Panamanian Diploma

- Other Requirements
 - Documentation depending on citizenship
 - Health statement, passport photos
 - Community Service

The IB Diploma



This is not something you need to decide now. This will be a decision in 10th grade.

All ISP High School Students are IB Learners

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

Checking Canvas

- Canvas is the best source of information on classes and grades.
- Students must develop the habit of checking their grades and assignments on Canvas regularly.
- Parents are encouraged to do this with their son or daughter.

Homework & Time Management

- Typically 1.5 to 2 hours of homework each night in 9th grade
- Use the Student Agenda and other organizers
- Parents: Be aware and monitor computer use during study time.
- Find a healthy balance between academics and extracurriculars.

8th Grade vs. 9th Grade

- 9th grade students must take ownership of their own education.
- Fostering independence, self-discipline, and a strong work ethic without constant reminders from parents and teachers.
- Empowering students to self-advocate.

Get Involved!

- Something for Everyone:
 - The Arts – Theatre, Music, Visual Arts, Choir
 - PANAMUN
 - Athletics & After-School Activities
 - Clubs, Stuck in a Flux, Community Service, Knowledge Bowl, and more!

Helpful Hints for Parents

- Trust but verify.
- Help establish an effective study routine.
- Encourage your child to try new things.
- Minimize distractions (Internet, cell phones, TV and computer games, etc).
- Communicate with teachers, counselors, and administrators as often as needed.
- Allow your child to advocate for him/herself.
- Be patient and supportive.
- Encourage reading for pleasure.



Any Questions?

Thank you for coming!

