

1. Welcome and Introductions

Today is Anne's last break-out session as our MYP Lead. Nikki Stansfield has volunteered to lead our MYP. She gave her candidacy speech. Nikki was voted in unanimously.

Flowers were presented to Anne, and a huge thank you and HUGS.

For all you have shared with me and taught me, I say, "Kiss your brains!" (from Anne Frazier)

2. Symposia

IBARMS has committed to symposia in November again. Is this November time restrictive? Can we make the ELL more like a symposium rather than a roundtable? The Board pays for Symposia. If ELL is in November (as a symposium) it won't happen in September in Summit. Symposia tend to happen on weekends. Roundtables tend to happen on weekdays.

3. Roundtables

Roundtable Suggestions for 2011-12: (New) Personal Project? Art? PE? ELL? International-Mindedness? Interdisciplinary Units? Inquiry? Content-Specific MYP/DP Articulation? Summit County can host ELL in September if it is a roundtable. Check with IBO for an ELL lead. We need to be considerate of asking teachers to work off the clock.

Decision?: ELL Roundtable in Summit County in September...

4. Keystone

Debbie Getzel is our official Keystone Coordinator. dkgetzel@aps.k12.co.us

Dates for next summer: June 28 – July 1, 2012

Will try to keep cost at \$775.

Keystone Workshop Suggestions: Anything at Level 3 (Content-Specific Assessment)?

International-mindedness? Inquiry? MYP/DP Articulation (Content-Specific)? Spanish or General Language B? PE Level 2? Visual Arts? We gave all our ideas to Debbie G.

5. Global Explorers – presentation to group

They have been around for 8 years, are out of Fort Collins, are non-profit, have raised \$50,000 in student travel scholarship funds, are trying to make kids question their place in the world,

mostly travel to developing countries, and develop leadership skills. Trips are one to three weeks long, curriculum aligns with IB, and kids do projects (to expand meaning) after they return. Sighted and sight-less student programs are available as are partial or full scholarships. Global Explorers offer small group travel (unusual for travel groups), and student/teacher groups become cohorts. There will be seminars that help connect kids to international issues. In-country travel is generally around \$2000. Find them at www.globalexplorers.org/

Global Explorers Teacher Fellowship Program: looking for groups of 15 MYP/DP teachers, to commit to traveling with students. You get resources for your school, free travel, technology resources, etc. Global Explorers are seeking feedback around what IB students gain from this experience. Travel is typically in the summer, but this is flexible. Teacher travel is free. A suite of things is available to teachers. Apply by September 1, and travel within the next 18 months. You may partner with your high school so that you can have follow-up connections with the students after their trip. www.globalexplorers.org/IBfellows

6. The **MYP Summit!**

a. We were there – Friday, April 15 at Century Middle School in Thornton, Colorado!

MYP Summit Update:

a. There were 300 kids, 30+ presenters, and 20+ teachers who attended. Students were randomly assigned to three sessions and heard dynamic guest speakers, played Baffa Baffa, learned about the history of the Dragon Boat Festival, created terracotta warriors, traced Ma Yan's journey through China and much much more. Sessions focused on the book, The Diary of Ma Yan, and the culture of China. The summit theme is: Education is your ticket to the world. Unit Question: How does where you come from influence where you go? Area of Interaction: Health and Social Education

The keynote speaker at the end of the day was Mr. David Thomson, currently the head of the YIP Foundation and Deputy Director of Economic Development for Colorado. He was a great motivational speaker about overcoming adversity in your life.

b. There was a teacher training session provided by the Program for Teaching East Asia at CU-Boulder about teaching international-mindedness. <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/> They have an abundance of resources for both classrooms and prof development + travel opportunities for teachers.

c. MANY MANY thanks to Coordinators Debbie Getzel, Nikki Stansfield and her principal Monique Flickinger, Karen East, Stephanie Gronholz and of course, Kristin Vollmar, the site hostess for lots of hard work, big thinking and skillful problem solving skills. We will send evaluation forms to all participants and have more solid information and details for our Sept. 2011 mtg.

d. For next year's Summit, we talked about linking up with a past guest speaker at IBARMS. Her name is Kari Grady Grossman, she lives in Ft. Collins. Nikki is working on a July 1st publication date of "The Bones That Float," a student version. We will consider this text when planning next year.

7. **Discussion Topics** from our MYP Coordinators:

a. "Could I ask how schools might be addressing the **new national standards for Technology Literacy** in the context of the MYP Tech assessment criteria? Our district is finding that the national standards are a bit more extensive than the Design Cycle assessment criteria, and I'm wondering if any other schools are responding to this issue."

Julie Fishman

<JFishman@summit.k12.co.us>

Response: These are your ATL skills. This is building-wide, across grade levels - this is information literacy.

Response: Our building technology coordinator (6-12) says all are using ATL.

b. Efforts to help in **Japan:**

- "Quick question... is anyone out there doing anything particularly interesting regarding Japan relief? If so, please let me know." Principal, Leshar Middle School- an IB World School

Tom Dodd

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-“I have a group of MYP students who are putting on a fundraising event Friday, May 13. It will involve a talent show and Japanese food items and paper cranes. The event is a little undefined as yet, but they are competent students. I’m sure they would love to collaborate with other IB schools!”

Stephanie Gronholz

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-“North Middle School is going to be dedicating its Penny Harvest grant to the Japanese Red Cross, or similar organization, and will be completing a letter writing/origami crane making activity as well. We would also love to collaborate if there are activities or connections that we can agree upon.”

Ron Hamilton

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8. **Concurrency of Learning** announcement and initial discussion points made by the group:

Concurrency of learning in the Middle Years Programme

Within the Middle Years Programme (MYP), holistic learning is associated with a number of themes, one of which relates to concurrency of learning, as described in *IB Programme standards and practices* and further explained in *MYP From principles into practice* and the *MYP Coordinators handbook*.

In practice, IB World Schools are sometimes faced with the fact that local, state or national requirements prevent them from meeting the concurrency requirement for all eight subject groups. Therefore, should circumstances as previously described apply, it will be permissible for schools to implement the following, as of September 2011:

1. A maximum of two out of the eight subject groups may be offered as semester courses in any year of the MYP provided that within that year:

- a minimum of six subject groups are offered concurrently
- each subject group offered as a semester course meets the 50 hour requirement
- language B is not offered as a semester course.

It should be noted that this exception is designed for schools where a genuine need for this arrangement exists due to unavoidable scheduling constraints. This option is not intended to be a routine aspect of the programme, as the MYP philosophy encompasses the principle that all courses are designed as full-year learning experiences in each year of the programme for the eight subject groups.

2. Schools applying the curriculum flexibility option in MYP years four and five cannot offer subject groups as semester courses in those years.

We are aware that schools are currently planning their schedules for the next school year and are sending you this message in order to aid your planning. The text above will also be included in the *MYP Coordinator's Notes* of May 2011 and in the *MYP Coordinator's Handbook* 2011-2012.

This query was sent by an MYP World School principal to Ted Williams, IBA MYP Regional Manager

Good morning Mr. Williams,

I received the above communication from IBO communications and would like to make sure that I am clear about the statements above. While alluding to year four and five in the context of this email, would those requirements extend to years one through three? The impact of decreasing our school districts budget by over \$30 million this year will have a profound impact on the offerings available, much less the ability to offer language B to all students on a daily basis. Colorado has placed great emphasis on Mathematics, Language A, Sciences, and Humanities (as targeted for statewide assessment). Our district's middle schools offer a six period day on a trimester basis. Each student is allowed to select one area of personal emphasis for year-long/daily concentration. Students then meet the other MYP requirements within the rotation of trimester classes during their second elective period. A number of our students have selected Arts (Band/Orchestra/Art), Technology, or Physical Education as their preferred area of personal emphasis (a single year long course). Will the above statement mandate that Language B take the place of that student choice area of emphasis and be the only available year-long offering?

The new rule does include levels 1, 2, and 3. What we are saying is language B must be one of the six courses offered in the concurrent group. The school will have to figure out how they will offer the final two courses taught to the students in a semester or trimester scheduling structure. I hope this helps clarify the new requirement.

Kind Regards

Ted Williams

Our best thinking regarding the "Concurrency of Learning" issue

- We interpret this to mean that Language B must be taken throughout each school year, but this creates difficulties for some who do not have the staff to meet that requirement.
- Even when we call Ted, we are sometimes unclear as to his solutions. The bottom line is: either choose curriculum flexibility or choose concurrency of learning (you can't do both).
- Middle Schools are bound by "Concurrency of Learning" as they are years 1-3.
- Technology can be embedded in other courses as long as you are doing the required assessments. This meets the concurrency requirement, but this option usually only exists for schools that have been authorized since the first decade of the 21st century.
- Where do special needs kids fall? (IEP=yes, ILP=yes) Look at IBO Special Needs Guide.

Notes provided by Nancy Kennedy, MYP Coordinator, Ranch View MS, Douglas Cty.