Welcome to IBARMS, 2020 style

You have been stretched as you never have before!

The first quarterly meeting was held virtually on September 18. Thanks to all who were able to join us.

It was good to connect with returning members and welcome new faces!

You can find our meeting minutes on our website. If you want to see the recording of the General Session, email director@ibarms.org

For those of you new to IBARMS, the purpose of our organization is the continuous improvement, support, and recognition of established and developing International Baccalaureate Programs in the Rocky Mountain region.

We offer funding for Special Projects; Collaboration Projects, and the Virtual IB Conference Scholarships right now. Please see the Forms tab on our website to apply.

We also have an opportunity to match up new leaders with a mentor; see the mentor form on our website. We NEED our experienced leaders to help out our new members!

IBARMS Board members are currently participating in a book study of Ibram X. Kendi’s book, “How to be an Antiracist” and encourage our members to consider how your school can pursue excellence through equity.
Dear IBARMS Members,

We reach out to you during this heartbreaking time of civil unrest to publicly acknowledge our deep sadness over the recent deaths of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Ahmaud Abery and other black Americans. These killings are not isolated events, but part of our country’s ongoing history of oppression, violence and discrimination against people of color in our communities. Across the country and around the world, the demand is clear for each one of us to leverage our influence and lift our voices to end long-standing racial divides.

To this end, as Board members for IBARMS, we vow to use our influence as leaders to better inform ourselves and others about discriminatory school policies and practices and take decisive action to create school communities in which all students are able to thrive. This promise is in keeping with the work of IB and its mission to create a better world through educational excellence.

As we look to the coming year of learning and leading together, we commit to the following actions designed to strengthen our efforts as activists for equity and excellence in IB education:

IBARMS will provide new forums for learning about, discussing and enacting equity in education reforms. These will include: Book studies, guest speakers and resource libraries.

IBARMS will allocate additional grant money specifically dedicated to support equity in education for example:
  - Collaboration among member schools through our Collaboration Project funding;
  - Financial support for local events that can be part of Special Projects funding

IBARMS will highlight school progress and success in reforming racial inequities as part of our celebration of what’s happening in IB schools within our association.

We acknowledge that we have a lot to learn about our own complicity in broken education systems, and we commit to doing the heavy lifting needed to align our actions with our values of delivering exceptional IB education in equitable and empowering ways. We welcome your input about ways IBARMS can better support antiracist practices within our organization, and in the IB schools we serve.

Sincerely,
IBARMS Board

IBARMS 2020-21 Board Members

President: Melissa Capozza
President Elect: Nanci Morse
Secretary: Hope Forgey
Treasurer: Mark Wahlstrom
DP Level Rep: Claudia Anderson
MYP Level Rep: Carolyn Derr
PYP Level Rep: Jennifer Bozic
At Large Rep: Leticia Raymond

Executive Director: Jan Lotter
Administrative Assistant: Veena Kumar
How does IBARMS support its members?

- Special Projects Funds
- Collaboration Project Funds
- Student Scholarships to World Student Conference
- World Affairs Challenge registrations
- ARC presenters registration scholarships
- TOK Student Seminar
- Many roundtables at each level

Congratulations to Sharon Muench, of Mackintosh Academy in Littleton, for being selected as the CAGT Educator of the year! Thanks for all you do to support the students and staff at Mackintosh!

World Affairs Challenge

The World Affairs Challenge (WAC) is a nonprofit that promotes diversity, global awareness and develops youth leadership skills through a fun and dynamic annual competition, where high school and middle school students present their big ideas for solving the world’s most challenging global problems. Reach out to Hope Mukai at program@worldaffairschallenge.org for information and support.

Thanks to all who attended our first meeting. We were pleased to have two wonderful presenters:

Kelsey Day, IB World Schools Manager
Kathy Zaleski, Social Studies teacher at Northglenn High School shared her experiences and practices for connecting with students.
This webinar is for all teachers (not just MYP) interested in learning about how to use technology to promote inquiry in the virtual classroom. It is free for members, just register under the Roundtables on our website. It will be on Tuesday, October 13, from 4:00-5:00. The meeting link will be sent to you after you register.

Next Meeting Dates:
November 13, 2020
January 22, 2021
April 9, 2021

IMPORTANT TRAINING ALERT
IBARMS is in the process of submitting an RFP (Request for Proposal) to IB to host the Keystone 2020 Workshop virtually in January 2021. Details will be sent to schools as soon as it is available!