



THE LEARNER PROFILE

The aim of IB programs is to develop internationally minded people who help to create a better and more peaceful world. IB learners strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Critical Thinkers
- Communicators
- Risk-Takers
- Principled
- Caring
- Open-Minded
- Well Balanced
- Reflective

THE IB MYP JOURNEY AT TWAIN & EDISON

In early 2013, the Twain/Edison partnership began the three year process to become authorized IB MYP partner schools. Collaborative teams of teachers across all disciplines, administrators and support staff are being trained in pedagogy and methodology to better instill the rigor of the IB MYP to the classroom. At the end of 2015-2016, we expect to be fully authorized as IB MYP Partnership schools.

While many of the following characteristics are already evident in Twain and Edison, our teachers will be collaborating even further in the coming years to increase the following in classrooms:

- ◆ Use of guiding questions to advance learning
- ◆ Provide opportunities to practice critical and creative thinking
- ◆ Instruction inspired by real world problem solving
- ◆ Interdisciplinary focus
- ◆ Student centered learning

Twain MS and Edison HS are excited to provide for, and share with, your students this IB MYP journey.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT**

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**THE 2015 GUIDE FOR THE
TWAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL/EDISON
HIGH SCHOOL IB MYP
PARTNERSHIP**

Edison Pyramid
Alexandria, Virginia



**PREPARING STUDENTS TO BECOME
PRODUCTIVE, GLOBAL CITIZENS
AND LIFELONG LEARNERS**

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP) is an internationally acknowledged course of study for students 11 to 16 years of age. It provides a framework of academic challenges that encourages students to embrace and understand the connections between traditional subjects and the real world while also becoming critical and reflective thinkers.

THE PROGRAM

- ◆ encourages international mindedness in students, starting with a foundation in their own language and culture
- ◆ emphasizes holistic interdisciplinary learning
- ◆ encourages a positive attitude toward learning by challenging students to solve problems, show creativity and resourcefulness, and participate actively in their communities
- ◆ reflects real life by providing a framework that allows students to see the connections among the subjects themselves, and between the subject and real issues
- ◆ supports the development of communication skills to encourage inquiry, understanding, language acquisition, and to foster student reflection and expression
- ◆ emphasizes, through the learner profile, the development of the whole student – physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically

The IB MYP is authorized independently, and thus gives our Twain/Edison partnership the flexibility to best determine how to shape the program to meet the needs of our students. The IB MYP program will be delivered within the context of FCPS Programs of Study and aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning. As the IB MYP program is fully implemented in the coming years in our schools, the IB MYP model will be uniquely shaped to meet our students' growing needs.

THE PARTNERSHIP

The partnership of Twain Middle School and Edison High School is excited to introduce to the community the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP) for grades 7-10.

The Twain/Edison IB MYP is a collaborative effort being undertaken by both schools, beginning in 2013-2014. The IB MYP is a coherent, challenging and continuous program that respects the quality and requirements of existing Fairfax County and Virginia curricula. Together, in our partnered schools, we will emphasize intellectual challenges, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects to the real world and to become critical, reflective and internationally minded learners.

THE VISION

Edison HS and Twain MS will work collaboratively to ensure all students learn to their fullest potential through inquiry and critical thinking. Our vision, as a community, is to develop lifelong learners who value global perspectives, compassion, and social engagement to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The IB MYP student at Twain/Edison will be in school and classroom settings that:

- ◆ center on the student
- ◆ emphasize rigor and critical thinking skills
- ◆ challenge with a coherent, relevant, and engaging curriculum
- ◆ provide a systematic approach to learning how to learn
- ◆ use a variety of teaching and learning methods
- ◆ foster an understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures
- ◆ invest in the community through service



IB MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM & IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Twain and Edison together offer two distinct International Baccalaureate programs - the IB MYP as a partnership, and the IB Diploma by Edison. The IB MYP and IB Diploma are part of a continuum of education which incorporates the best practices in teaching. The IB Diploma was authorized in 1999 for Grades 11/12. We are currently undertaking the authorization process for the IB MYP, with final authorization anticipated in 2015-2016.

Once MYP is fully implemented in our schools in 2016, an FCPS IB MYP Certificate will be available to complement the IB Diploma. However, students are not required to complete the FCPS IB MYP Certificate. The IB MYP program is intentionally included in all our classrooms, to elevate the learning of our students, so that all students will develop the skills and experiences necessary to participate successfully in our most challenging and rigorous courses as juniors and seniors.

IB MYP PROGRAM SUBJECTS

The IB MYP has a core composed of eight subjects (for grades 7/8) and six subjects (for grades 9/10). Once fully implemented, each student in the IB MYP is expected to have access to all subjects each year. In Grades 7/8, the eight subjects are: Language & Literature, Language Acquisition (World Languages), Individuals & Societies (Social Studies), Mathematics, Sciences, Arts, Design, and Physical & Health Education. During Grades 9/10, students have a choice of 6 among the 8 subject areas, with World Languages being mandatory. Thus, students will have flexibility in subject choice while maintaining a balance of learning. All students learn to view these content groups through Global Contexts: Personal and Cultural Expression, Scientific and Technical Innovation, Identities and Relationships, Orientation in Space and Time, Globalization and Sustainability, and Fairness and Development. We will ensure that the MYP is accessible for our students enrolled in the Advanced Academics Center, Honors, Special Education, English for Speakers of Other Languages, and Standard education classes.