



## Minnetonka High School IB Diploma Program Admission Policy



### General Statement

Minnetonka High School is a part of the Minnetonka Public School District #276, a public school district in the west metro area of Minneapolis, MN. As such, we are a public school that allows for open enrollment from surrounding districts into our school and programmes. As for the International Baccalaureate (IB), we offer the Diploma Programme (DP) at the 11th and 12th grade level. Generally, entrance into the DP is through self-selection, coupled with guidance from the DP coordinator, counseling, and teaching staff. Two of our building goals include:

- Students engage in learning environments that promote curiosity, critical thinking, authentic learning, and collaboration.
- Students are inspired and challenged to explore their passions through new learning experiences and making connections beyond the classroom.

The implementation of this process is as follows:

### Promotion of the Diploma Programme

Throughout the course registration process, the IB leadership and staff provides a variety of events and avenues through which information about the programme can be received.

- An all-school mailing is sent to all high school families, and available on the website, highlighting IB as an option for any student, along with all high school options.
- Evening and before school information sessions are offered in February and March.
- IB leadership visits 10th grade English classes to present programme information and invite interested students to informational sessions.
- Programme information is clearly published in school registration documents and online resources.
- A series of videos detail information and personal testimony regarding experiences with the programme.

### Description of how students are advised regarding their options

In March, students register for courses for the following year. During the month preceding that time, the school at large goes through a course selection process that involves learning about course and programme choices, including counselor seminars conducted by grade level. Also, each department communicates with students regarding their options for the following year, including any applicable recommendations by students. The following will be considered as students and their families make course selections.

*For Diploma Programme--student application.* Those students who are interested in pursuing the full IBDP are encouraged to do so; students are asked to complete an interest/application form that includes a reason for their interest and a teacher recommender.

*For further points of consideration for all IB students (diploma or individual course):*

- *Fulfillment of prerequisites (recommended or required)*
  - Have students taken a proper set of courses that will allow future success in advanced IB coursework? Prerequisite requirements exist for certain DP courses--one should consult the Minnetonka High School Skipper Log (course catalog) for further details.
- *Review of former performance (i.e. GPA, specific course grades)*

- Have students demonstrated adequate performance in their previous coursework? For those students looking into the full DP, consideration is given to this, but not required.
- *Teacher recommendation*
  - What do teachers say about student placement? If there is a concern regarding a student's past coursework performance, teacher input may be taken into consideration.

Further note: we recognize that participation in IB involves a balance of prior knowledge and personal drive. In some cases, a significant amount of personal initiative can overcome gaps in prior knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary to consider these qualities in students when advising their courses of study. Students who receive SPED services will be supported in the IB program through an adherence to the accommodations identified in IEPs and 504s.

### **Policy Revision Process**

This policy is a living document. It is an ongoing process that will be systematically reviewed, evaluated and modified as needed by the IB faculty, coordinators and administrators. Policy revised in October 2021

### **Guiding Documents**

Champlin Park High School Admission Policy  
Portage Central High School Admission Policy