



Thomas Jefferson Middle School

IBMYP October Newsletter



Learner Profile Attribute of the Month: OPEN-MINDED

As IB learners we strive to be **open-minded** by learning about six global contexts in all eight subject areas. We encourage our students to understand content from multiple perspectives through a variety of learning activities and assessments.



Our top student-selected open-minded learners are: **Dolphins - Ray Briscoe, Dragons - Sami Stewart, Eagles - Quin Castelli, Gators - Dakota Bannach, Monarch - Sarah Eichorn, Owl - Berivan Hanish, Penguins - Cheyenne Klapper, Phoenix - Bilguun Zolzaya, and Stingrays - Matthew Abramson.**

Source :<https://pixabay.com/en/sky-freedom-happiness-relieved-2667455/>

Written Curriculum

Last month we highlighted language and literature (English language arts) and math, this month we will focus on Individuals and societies (social studies) and sciences. In year one (6th grade) history students are learning about early American Indians, in year two (7th grade) history we learn about the expanding nation and sense of citizenship. In year three (8th grade) we learn about physical and cultural geography.

In sciences, in year one our students are learning about astronomy, in year two we learn about scientific inquiry and in year three we learn about measuring matter and starting the Science Fair day.

See units for every subject for every [grade-level here](#).

An IB Policy Language Policy Review



Our Jefferson Language Policy is ready for review. At Jefferson we have students from all parts of the globe. Our language policy ensures that all students learn an additional language, have the support

they need to learn English and support to continue to learn in their mother tongue if it isn't English. We are lucky to be able to offer language acquisition classes in American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, French, Latin & Spanish. [Our policy is still in draft form now \(read it here\)](#) & we welcome all feedback on it. Source: pixabay.com/en/welcome-words-greeting-language-905562/

MYP Classrooms & Authentic Assessments

Last month we focused on student centered learning and this month we wrote about authentic assessment. Ms. Boda's families and consumer sciences class engaged in a competition for best international pizza. Students created Greek, Russian, French, and Mexican pizzas. They were all assessed using an IB Rubric with task specific clarifications for levels of deliciousness. Almost all pizzas received mastery-level feedback. Dominos and Papa John's better watch out, Yellow Jackets are bringing it with global pizza! Photo by Malinosky



Community Project

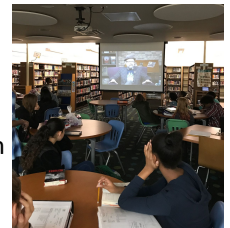
The Community Project is now underway! Already 139 student groups have submitted their ideas for Community Project goals to address a community need. The most popular goals have been participating in direct service and raising awareness of social causes.



The Community Project, however, is not some apparition haunting 8th graders, but rather a project that should be linked to classroom instruction. The popular subject links are Individuals and societies, Sciences and the Arts. [Find out more here](#).

Global Events

As the [refugee crisis](#) around the world continues to intensify, Jefferson students have been reading Alan Gratz's *Refugee* a novel about three young refugees: one from Germany in the 1930s, one from Cuba in the 1990s, and one from Syria in 2015. To support the reading experience, our library hosted a webcast with the author who talked about how and why he came to write the book.



This book has been among the most popular at TJ. It is also used in both language & literature and Individuals & societies classes.

Jefferson in the community



At the Harvest Festival, on October 19th, students sang and danced for the community. Students performed songs from the "Greatest Showman" and performed Kenyan dances.

In addition, Jefferson's Model UN Club participated in their first conference at Holton-Arms School in MD. Our students represented Venezuela, Singapore & many other countries.

Source: <https://twitter.com/DJordanAPS/status/1053411664178102272>

Upcoming dates/Service needs

- Every Wednesday starting November 7, Community Project Investigation help in the library
- Every Tuesday at 5pm volunteering at Phoenix Bikes to repair bikes, 909 S. Dinwiddie St ([full details here](#))
- Every Wednesday at 6:30pm volunteering at AFAC to bag chicken, 2708 S. Nelson St, ([full details here](#))
- Coordinating a Food Bus contact [Mr. Malinosky](#)
- 8th graders finalize Community Project Goal Oct 29
- [Service Learning Calendar is here](#)

