



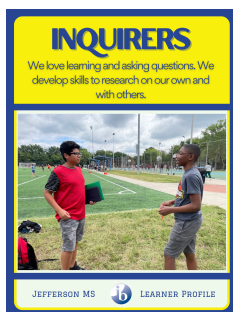
Thomas Jefferson Middle School

IB MYP November Newsletter

Learning together to understand and improve ourselves, our futures, and our world.



Learner Profile Attribute of the Month: Inquirer



We want all students to be inquirers into all parts of life. At the beginning of every unit, we ask teachers to create at least three big inquiry questions including, factual, conceptual, and debatable questions. We want students to ask their own question, sometimes students are able to turn their questions into research projects for Science fair projects. [See the larger poster here.](#)

The School Action Plan's IB Focus



As part of Jefferson's IB MYP Action plan we are prioritizing promoting international-mindedness and service learning. We want to ensure students see themselves in the curriculum and classroom activities. Since our students come from dozens of countries, it is important teachers make those international connections. We do this by teaching through global contexts to understand issues through different perspectives. Furthermore, where relevant we are looking to build service-learning activities in every subject at least once during the school year.

An IB Policy explained: Inclusion



The TJMS Assessment policy establishes that grades should be consistent, transparent, inclusive, fair and equitable in-line with IB standards. In order to do this, we have rights and responsibilities for everyone.

-Teachers will: ensure summative tasks are aligned with standards and clear rubrics that are shared with students before they are assessed. Furthermore, teachers will give feedback on formative tasks and grade examples of student work together

-Students will: strive to complete assignments, be academic risk-takers, and ask for help when needed.

-Families will: check-in with students and check ParentVue.

Source: pixbay.com

Social Emotional Learning



During Teacher Advisory this month our focus on social emotional learning has been on the approaches to learning skills of self-management, specifically on organizational and stress management skills. Students learned how they could better organize their time and keep track of their materials. Then students learned about stress and anxiety. They practiced determining what things cause them stress and simple strategies to help reduce it like "six seconds pause." This means creating lists, naming different things, or doing some simple math problems. These strategies can help anyone go from the red zone to a more relaxed state.

Source: pixbay.com

Community Project: Revised Dates



The Community Project is now underway. More than a 100 students have already submitted their initial ideas for addressing hunger, climate, refugees and more. We now have a revised set of dates:

-Nov 7 - Community Selection Document: this is the assignment that helps students choose a community they want to investigate.

-Dec 12 - Community Investigation: this assignment helps students focus on a community need they want to address.

-Jan 18 - Proposal for Action: this is a goal to help a community.

-May 5 - Presentation Submitted: this is the Google Slides presentation. Source: pixbay.com

Global Goals and Service Learning

Throughout October we in Teacher Advisory classes students learned about the Global Goals. Students responded to survey questions about which goal they thought was the most important and overwhelmingly

students "Zero Hunger" is the most important. Therefore, for the Month of November we will be partnering with the Arlington Food Assistance Center to host a food drive. **During TA, we will be collecting canned tuna, canned soups, canned vegetables, canned tomatoes, peanut butter, and cereal.**



Word Languages Crepe Day



A Jefferson tradition with Ms. Moran's French classes are making crepes for students and some staff. The kids took delight in cooking this delicious French dessert. They even created a new subject objective: E Crepes to explain the specific strands of what makes

great crepes.

Student Council Advisory (SCA) Update



The Student Council Advisory group has been meeting to plan service activities, dances, the school store and fundraisers. And our President and Vice-President went on the news to remind all students to get involved in after

school activities, raise grades, and ask teachers to spread out summative assessments. More to come from the SCA!