



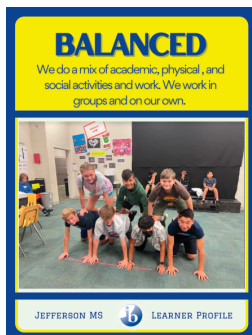
Thomas Jefferson Middle School

IB MYP September Newsletter

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



Learner Profile Attribute of the Month: **BALANCED**



We are beginning the 2022-2023 year as we usually do with a focus on being balanced learners. All IB schools focus on 10 Learner Profile attributes that we want to see everyone develop and practice. Each month we will focus on a different attribute. We want our students to practice being balanced by taking a range of courses, participating in physical activities and making new friends. [See the larger poster here.](#)

IB MYP Standard-Based Grading



For the second year we are using IB standards-based grading. Grading at Jefferson will be

more transparent, consistent, fair, and inclusive. In every class, grades will be determined by mastery of subject specific standards. Learn more about how we will apply these values in this letter [IB MYP Standards Based Grading](#), [En Espanol IB MYP Standards Based Grading](#), [watch a video explanation](#) and [visit this website](#) to see additional resources.

An IB Policy explained: **Academic Integrity**



All IB schools have four required policies that should receive input from the whole school: [Academic Integrity](#), [Assessment](#), [Inclusion](#) and [Language](#). Every policy was reviewed or rewritten last year. We recently revised our Academic Integrity policy in order for students to learn how to correctly credit

the work of others and work in groups. We have an Academic Integrity Pledge that we ask both students and caregivers to sign, [you can find it here](#). We put a new focus on how to appropriately cite sources using APA format. Next we will summarize the assessment policy.

Source: pixbay.com

MYP Classrooms Gifted Differentiation

Gifted services information night was September 29th. If you missed the presentation, it will be posted to the [TJMS gifted services website](#) by October 7th. Parents and guardians may also watch the back to school video from Mrs. Detweiler [here](#). Our first critical and creative thinking



strategy took place in 8th grade science with a Socratic Seminar on Ethics. Students engaged with Ted Talks, movie clips, and leveled text on Henrietta Lacks. They participated in a dialogue focused on the ethics behind her story and were successful in reflecting individually on why ethics is critical in science. Please follow gifted services on twitter @TJMSgifted for highlights and updates.

Community Project



The Community Project, our capstone project for the MYP has been changed this year to ensure every student completes it. The project will be supported in Geography classes. Students will be exploring the objectives of investigating, planning, taking action and reflecting on a community need they

choose. Furthermore, the Geography objectives investigating and communicating will be assessed. The Community Project will be introduced Wednesday, October 12. [Find out more here.](#)

Source: pixbay.com

Global Goals and Service Learning

A core mission of IB schools is to promote International-mindedness. One way we do this at TJMS is by focusing on the United Nations' 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs). The SDGs focus on four areas: climate and our planet, poverty and inequality, justice and human rights, and gender



inequality. Our students have been introduced to these Global Goals and have been asked to explore connections to local service organizations. In the months to come, students will have the service opportunities connected to the SDG.

After School Activities

Inline with our theme of being balanced, we have lots of opportunities for students to participate in after school activities. For sports, we have: soccer, basketball, ultimate frisbee, track, swimming and wrestling. For academic enrichment have: Art Club, Model UN, the Environmental Club, Math Counts, the Gay Straight Alliance, and Gardning Club. [Please check all the opportunities here and encourage your student to get involved if they are not already.](#)

Student Council Advisory (SCA) Update

We are thrilled to announce that our new Student Council Advisory group has just been elected. There were 49 students who indicated their interest in running, 33 who ran for office and 9 winners. In order to have everyone who wants to participate have a chance we will have both an executive committee and a full committee. We hope to make our school a better place by promoting a positive culture, a clean environment and openness to new ideas.