



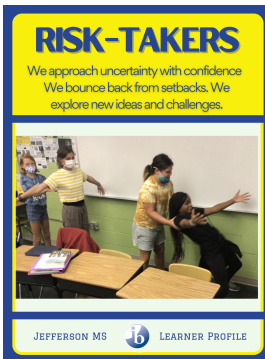
# Thomas Jefferson Middle School

## IB MYP March Newsletter



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

### Learner Profile Attribute of the Month: Risk-Taker



This March our theme from the IB Learner Profile is Risk-Takers. We want our students to approach uncertainty with confidence. Whether trying out for a new sport, answering a difficult question or speaking in front of a class we want our students to take responsible risks. And if at first we make mistakes and don't succeed, we want to try again to be successful with our goals. [See the larger poster here.](#)

### Interdisciplinary Learning



As we approach the 4th quarter, we are looking at broadening our interdisciplinary learning units. In

6th grade, our Reading classes and Science classes are going to implement an international water unit. Students will read different stories about the freshwater scarcity issues around the world and then present solutions. Our 7th grade students will be working on an Earth Day interdisciplinary where students will come with ideas for how they can be more sustainable citizens. Our 8th grade students are exploring renewable energy in both Sciences and Geography.

### Design: Pizza Competition



It's time again for the annual Family and Consumer Sciences International Pizza competition. In the words of Ms. Boda, "8th graders are designing pizzas to reflect the foods and flavors of different countries around the world."

The most creative and delicious pizzas are from El Salvador, Mexico, and India with a Tandoori chicken pizza. And 7th graders are holding their international grilled cheese competition.

### MYP Classrooms Gifted Differentiation

Next year APS will have intensified courses in 7th and 8th grade. Students who demonstrate readiness to take on rigorous course-work in English, science and social studies should discuss this option with their families. Students may select one intensified course based on their strengths, or they may choose to do all intensified courses. These courses are designed to dive deeper into content through the use of critical and creative thinking strategies. Teachers will use the same IB units for general education and intensified courses, but assessments and learning activities will be more rigorous and the workload will be significantly higher.

### Community Project: Taking Action

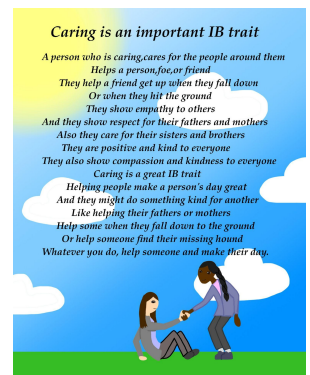


We are making progress on the Community project. Many students have finished their investigation, proposal and are now taking action or already working on their final presentation. Students have bake sales going to help the unhoused, murals are

being designed to support mental health, and anti-vaping campaigns are underway. Students who have not yet completed their investigation will receive support to get it done. We want to ensure that every 8th grader completes a Community Project this year.

### Learner Profile Awards

The IB Mid Atlantic is hosting it's annual Student Excellence Award, which recognizes students who engage in community service and create a Learner Profile essay, story, poem or visual. The top prize will be \$500. At TJMS, we recognized outstanding achievement on each team with a T-shirt. Our winners are: Preontee Barua, Juliet Milder, Emma Tramontozzi, Darius Cowell, Peter Li, Fathimah Chowdhury, Chelsea Guzman Delgado, Sarah Hershey.



### Congressman Beyer Visits TJ



On Friday, March 17 Congressman Don Beyer joined our entire 7th grade class in the theater for a townhall. Previously students had written letters to the Congressman, then they got to hear him answer all their questions from nuclear

fusion, mental health, gun violence and climate change among many other concerns.

### Student Council Advisory (SCA) Update



The Student Council Advisory is working in committees to address a variety of issues, including: stress relief and test tips, welcoming rising 6th graders, planning for a Spring dance, and international night. We want to make sure students feel included

and supported with all activities as we plan for the end of the school year.

