

After having heard some recent radio interviews where guests were asked about the IB, it made me realize that there are still misconceptions regarding the International Programme. In lieu of this, I have decided to look "within" ...in our own CPIS community. You received a survey, here are the answers.

True or False

1-The acronym "IB" stands for International Baccalaureate.

True

What used to be called IBO, (International Baccalaureate Organization), is now the IB (International Baccalaureate). A new brand was launched in March 2007 which included a logo change.

2-The IB offers 4 official programmes.

True

Diploma Programme-first offered in 1968 for ages 16-19

Middle Years Programme-first offered in 1994 for ages 11-16

Primary Years Programme-first offered in 1997 for ages 3-12

Career-related Programme-first offered in 2012 for ages 16-19

3-One of the IB programmes is the "PYP" which stands for Preparatory Years Passage.

False

PYP stands for the Primary Years Programme

4-All IB World Schools are required to introduce a third language.

False

Schools offering the PYP make provisions for students to learn a language, in addition to the language of instruction, at least from the age of seven. IB World Schools with two languages of instruction are not required to offer an additional language.

5-The PYP is designed to cater mainly to high academic achievers.

False

Differentiation is key. The intent of this practice is to create a dynamic learning situation that will best serve the individual needs of students. The continual "regrouping" of students, including into mixed-ability groups is pivotal to the success of all students within the programme.

6-Because IB World Schools are considered elitist, they are required to give some form of entrance exam.

False

Although IB World Schools strive to offer the utmost quality education, they do not perceive themselves as elitist, in the definition of "a select part of a group that is superior to the rest in terms of ability and qualities." IB World Schools pride themselves in offering quality education for ALL. There is no IB requirement that stipulates the pre-selection of students. Therefore, the decision to have entrance exams is entirely at the discretion of the individual schools.

7-The practice of single-subject teaching supports the PYP philosophy.

False

The PYP philosophy supports transdisciplinary teaching and learning.

8-The PYP promotes teacher-directed instruction and student-initiated action.

False

Although student-initiated action is definitely encouraged in the PYP, it's natural to have this preceded by a student-centered instruction. In this environment, students are stimulated to think critically - asking questions and searching for answers. They drive their own learning.

9- The PYP is implemented in place of the QEP (Quebec Education Programme).

False

The PYP is a framework designed to work in conjunction with the state (provincial) curriculum.
All IB World schools must adhere to standards and practices provided by the IB for quality assurance. Regular IB visits are scheduled for verification.

10-The PYP is scheduled approximately one hour a day, when the units of inquiry are explored.

False

The philosophy of the PYP is meant to permeate the walls of the school. Developing inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young minds is not limited to one hour a day, nor is it the responsibility of one person. All stakeholders in the school community are responsible for the development of the students.

11- The 8 elements of the IB Learner Profile promote critical minds and compassionate hearts.

False

There are 10 elements of the IB Learner profile that promote critical minds and compassionate hearts. They are:

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Inquirers | Knowledgeable |
| Thinkers | Communicators |
| Principled | Open-minded |
| Caring | Risk-takers |
| Balanced | Reflective |

12- At the heart of of the International Programmes the focus is to explore the 5 f's (the study of flags, festivals, foods, famous people, and family).

False

By now, I should think you'd know the answer to this one...Way false!!!!
Developing critical minds and compassionate hearts, as they move forward to become active citizens of the world. That's what we're all about.

Thank you for your interest in taking the challenge.

PYP coordinator,
Grace Palmieri