

# Board of Education Informational

## *Update on the Journey Toward International Baccalaureate (IB)*

**March 28, 2013**



# Q & A Welcomed

**Please ask questions during and after our brief presentation.**

# Some History / Reminders

- ▶ Three leaders attend an IB orientation in Austin, TX. February 2007. Interest in IB generated.
- ▶ *IB shared by Dr. Sherri Miller with high school building leadership team. Momentum gaining.*
- ▶ IB Leaders from North Kansas City SD shared IB information with school and district leaders and momentum was built. Excitement spreads.
- ▶ *CSIP Revision Process led to IB getting into our CSIP during the 2007–08 school year.*
- ▶ Information re: IB referenced/shared with BoE:
  - July 16, 2009, Nov. 19, 2009, Aug. 24, 2010, Nov. 23, 2010, July 21, 2011, Sept. 20, 2012

# IB Orientation Seminar, Minn.

## ▶ **Participants:**

- Kim York
- Kyle Gillespie
- Karen Hurst
- Steven Meek
- Steven Miller
- David Mitchell
- Karmin Ricker
- David Ulrich

## ▶ **Information sharing from the meeting:**

# Current IB Action Steps

- ▶ Prepare “Application for Candidacy”.
- ▶ *Met with IB consultant, Mr. Stan Elliott 2/20.*
- ▶ HS Advisement conferences held recently.
  - Students are having to make difficult choices.
- ▶ *Send selected teachers to IB training.*
- ▶ Inform students, parents, and community of the challenges and benefits of the IB program.
- ▶ *Prepare curriculum in lower grades (8<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup>) for a smooth transition into IB courses.*
- ▶ Address problems such as scheduling conflicts in the 2015–16 school year.


# Future IB Action Steps

- ▶ Identify and purchase textbooks and materials needed for the IB program.
- ▶ *Send support staff to training (counselor, librarian, etc.).*
- ▶ Prepare “Application for Authorization”.
- ▶ *Continue to develop recruiting materials for the program.*
- ▶ Look into additional IB classes (French, Information Technologies, etc).
- ▶ *Prepare for IB site visit .*
- ▶ Prepare for 2015–16.

# What does IB look like?



# IB learners strive to be:

- ▶ **Inquirers:**
  - ▶ **Knowledgeable:**
  - ▶ **Thinkers:**
  - ▶ **Communicators:**
  - ▶ **Principled:**
  - ▶ **Open-minded:**
  - ▶ **Caring:**
  - ▶ **Risk-takers:**
  - ▶ **Balanced:**
  - ▶ **Reflective:**
- 



# The World turned Upside Down



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The New Internationalist magazine reports on issues of world poverty and inequality. It brings to life the people, the ideas and the actions in the fight for global justice.



**The Robinson Equal Area Projection**

All printed world maps we see show a distortion of the true shape and size of the earth. This is not a deliberate plot on behalf of the map makers, but stems from the impossibility of representing a spherical surface on a flat piece of paper. You need only peel an orange and try to flatten it to verify the problem — the peels will curl but without being broken into small pieces.

In the 18th century, the mathematician Gabriel Mercator (1734-1799) developed the Mercator Projection which's sought to preserve fidelity of direction for navigators so that bearings taken from the map would be correct compass bearings on a journey. Unfortunately, the small regions scale so much that high latitudes are now too large. China, for example, appears much smaller than Greenland, whereas in reality it is 4% times larger.

It was not until the late 19th century that the concept of area preservation of all shapes on the globe — fidelity of area, distance, direction, and shape — cannot all be achieved on a world projection. Most projections are a compromise, where some of the qualities is totally preserved but a balance is struck.

The process of globalisation encourages us to focus on the map parts of the world that were once considered unimportant. To make our maps a balance of representation of all regions, a new projection has been developed which preserves the property of equal area, that is, all countries are the correct size in relation to one another. This is the Robinson Equal Area Projection. It is still based on a cylinder, but in such a way that shapes are fairly correct up to about 45 degrees. At higher latitudes, the shapes are progressively flattened in compensation for the fact that the lines of latitude do not come to a point at the poles. Another equal area projection, called the Peters Projection, uses a similar principle but shape is less consistent in lower latitudes. Other commonly used projections, such as the Robinson Projection, usually fail to preserve equality of area, shape, angle or direction but offer a compromise between these properties.

The Robinson Equal Area Projection allows the shapes of geographic areas, whether topographic or thematic, without scale bias in any region. The loss of true shape polarwards of about 45 degrees is a small price to pay for the preservation of equal area.

# First IB Courses Offered

## ▶ 2015–16 school year

- *Students who are currently 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking IB classes their junior year.*

# IB Connections and Alignment

- ▶ IB connects closely and aligns well with:
- ▶ The **rigor** and **relevance** framework of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) dubbed Core Academic Standards (CAS) in Missouri.
- ▶ The CCSS/CAS transition which is creating the need for a more **standards-based** approach to teaching, student learning and schooling.
- ▶ The district's journey toward implementation of a **Standards-Referenced Reporting** system that will co-exist successfully and peacefully with post high school institution requirements..
- ▶ It's a good time for implementation of IB.

# Questions & Comments from BoE

