

January 2010

Dear Middle School Parent:

As the parent of an eighth grader in a Volusia County School, you may wish to consider the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program as a viable high school option for your son or daughter. IB is a pre-university program of advanced studies beginning in ninth and tenth grades with advanced preparatory classes and culminating with the actual IB courses in eleventh and twelfth grades.

At Spruce Creek, Pre-IB/IB is designated to be a four-year program which helps motivated students reach their potential in six subject areas: English, Foreign Language, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and a sixth IB area of choice. Due to the comprehensive and challenging nature of the curriculum, many universities and colleges offer advanced standing or credit to IB students.

To qualify for the IB Program, a student must:

- Currently be enrolled in Algebra I or Algebra II
- Complete an application prior to February 19th
- Have a 3.0 grade point average or better in academic courses in grade 8
- Present 7th grade reading and math FCAT test scores (or other standardized test scores)
- Obtain recommendations from five teachers
- Complete an on-site essay on either Saturday, February 6th, 2010, 8 – 9 a.m. or Wednesday, February 10th, 2010, 6 – 7 p.m.

IB is a “magnet program” in Volusia County and, as such, the school district currently supplies limited transportation using a depot-centralized pick-up system. Transportation services are subject to change on an annual basis.

Applications for the program are available online at www.sprucecreekhg.com/ib. Due to staffing needs, course selection, and space considerations, we are able to accept applications through February 19th, 2010. Applications must be completed and returned to Spruce Creek High School by that date.

There will be an IB information evening Tuesday, February 2nd. Prospective IB students and parents will have an opportunity to hear a program overview and speak with current IB students and parents. From 5:30 – 6:00 p.m., we will offer informal student-led tours of the school. Tours will originate in the atrium. From 6:00 until 6:50 p.m., we will offer student-led seminars on a variety of topics. Enclosed you will find a list of those seminar choices. You will have time to attend any three of those listed. You might also want to consider reserving a space for one of our special 2-hour Spruce Creek Tours. Space may be reserved by calling Joy Swebilus at 322-6272 x 37805.

If you think that your son or daughter might qualify for the program, please attend our informational meeting. If you would like more information, please call Spruce Creek High School at 322-6272 extension 37720. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Vicki Murphy
IB Coordinator



Spruce Creek Wants You...

We know that as the new year begins you are faced with many exciting opportunities for high school programs next year. We hope that as you make your selection, you will consider the **International Baccalaureate Program** at Spruce Creek as one of your options. In order to help you become better informed about IB, we would like to invite you to join us for our annual IB information evening on February 2nd from 5:30 until 8:00 p.m. at Spruce Creek High School.

Our information evening is designed so that you can learn more about Spruce Creek and our IB Program both informally and formally. We are offering small group tours of the school from 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Tours will originate in the atrium. From 6:00 – 6:50 p.m., we want to extend to you some of our Spruce Creek hospitality as we give you the opportunity to meet us in a small, personal setting. You will be able to choose three (3) fifteen-minute seminars from the list below. Following the seminars, we will present a formal IB program overview from 7:00 until 7:45 p.m. in the auditorium.

The following seminars will be available to you from 6:00 – 6:50 p.m. Remember that you will have time to attend three (3) sessions. We can't wait to meet you!

Seminar Choices

Room No.

Clubs at the Creek: So Many Choices (Student Panel)	O-19
IB and Sports: The Best of Both Worlds (Student Panel)	Cafeteria
Will I Really Have a Life? (Student Panel)	C-23
Papers and Clubs and Sports; Oh My! How Will I Manage? (Student Panel)	O-11
Freshman Year: A Senior Perspective – Things I Wish I Had Known	C-11
IB– Why Do It? The Benefits of IB	G-01
Freshman Year: What Will I Take? (A Freshman Panel)	O-12
Rumors: Separating Fact from Fiction (Student Panel)	O-15
What Exactly Is IB Anyway? IB in 50 Words or Less	C-14
Freshman Year: Survival Tactics! (A Freshman Panel)	L-01
Art at the Creek: Something for Everyone	L-33
Music, Music, Music: Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Chorus	J-12
Theatre at the Creek: All the World's a Stage at Spruce Creek	C-25
IB Computer Science: Tomorrow's Technology—Today!	B-34
Love Science? Opportunities Abound at the Creek: SSTP, Siemens Westinghouse, Science Fairs	D-01
IB German: Willkommen	F-03
IB French: Bienvenue	F-22
IB Spanish: Bienvenidos	F-01
Go Army! IB and JROTC: A Great Match	O-20
Algebra Camp: It's FUNctional	C-03
IB Dancin'	O-1 Lobby/Freshman Atrium

Hope to see you in February!