

Friday, March 5, 2021

Dear Families of students registered for an IB Exam,

Our global community has now faced over a year of disruption and heartache due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to be humbled by our teachers' and students' efforts toward continued learning and the perseverance of all.

With the International Baccalaureate Organization's approval and due to significant changes in instructional time and methods which continue to impact these students, the Wake County Public Schools International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme leadership teams have decided to utilize the option for all May 2021 IB Examinees to complete their assessments using the IB's non-examination route in lieu of the traditional May examinations.

As the culmination of IB Diploma courses for 2021 will not be the anticipated testing in May, the IB will use the following data points for grade/IB Diploma awarding:

- Coursework marks
 - Internal Assessment scores assigned by the students' teachers
 - External Assessment scores (non-examination external assessments scored by IB graders in some courses)
- Predicted grades

The Predicted Grade will be used in place of an IB exam score. As such, a student's total mark will be a combination of their coursework mark(s)/grade and their Predicted Grade, using the established weighting process placed on course work and exams for each subject and component.

The International Baccalaureate Organization will establish consistent expectations to ensure that there is comparability in grades between the districts/states/countries using the traditional exam route and the non-exam route. This is the process that the organization used last year and they have spent the last year reviewing and tuning the process as well as training IB assessors to ensure equity for all students during this unique time.

In closing, we understand that two years ago, no one could have imagined that this would be the culmination of the programme that our students have invested so much time, effort and tenacity into, but again, we are so appreciative for the commitment and perseverance that they have shown and believe that the non-examination option is best for all.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to be in touch with Principal Carter Hillman, (chillman@wcpss.net) or IB Coordinator Jon Sherwin (jsherwin@wcpss.net).

Regards,

Carter Hillman

Carter Hillman, Principal
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