

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board



Ancaster High School



Westdale Secondary School



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Land Acknowledgement



The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Meeting Norms

- This PowerPoint will be posted following the presentation on our school websites as well as on the HWDSB website under International Baccalaureate [International Baccalaureate | Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](#)
- Questions will be addressed throughout the presentation and at the end
- Bathrooms are located to your left

Introductions

Michelle Lemaire – SO of Program, Equity and Innovation, K-12

Nicole Lee – SO of Equity and Student Achievement, K – 12, FOS4

Lindsay Snell – Acting SO of Equity and Student Achievement, K – 12, FOS5

Jen Burleigh - System Principal, Secondary Student Success

Jen Petrossi Currie – 7 – 12 Student Success and Guidance Program Consultant

Ancaster Staff

- Jason Monteith – Principal
- Mandy Toor – IB Coordinator

Westdale Staff

- Brian Goodram – Principal
- Kim Parkes-Hallmark – IB Coordinator

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The History of IB and IB Statistics

- The International Baccalaureate was founded in Geneva, Switzerland in 1968 as a non-profit educational foundation
- There are more than 5900 IB schools (PYP, MYP, DP, Career Program) in more than 160 countries
- 377 IB World Schools in Canada: 186 in the DP
- First Canadian School in 1974
- IB Diploma Pass Rates (2025): World Average 81.3%, Westdale 88% (7/8), Ancaster 100% (12/12)

IB in the HWDSB

- Two Schools offer the IB Diploma Programme:

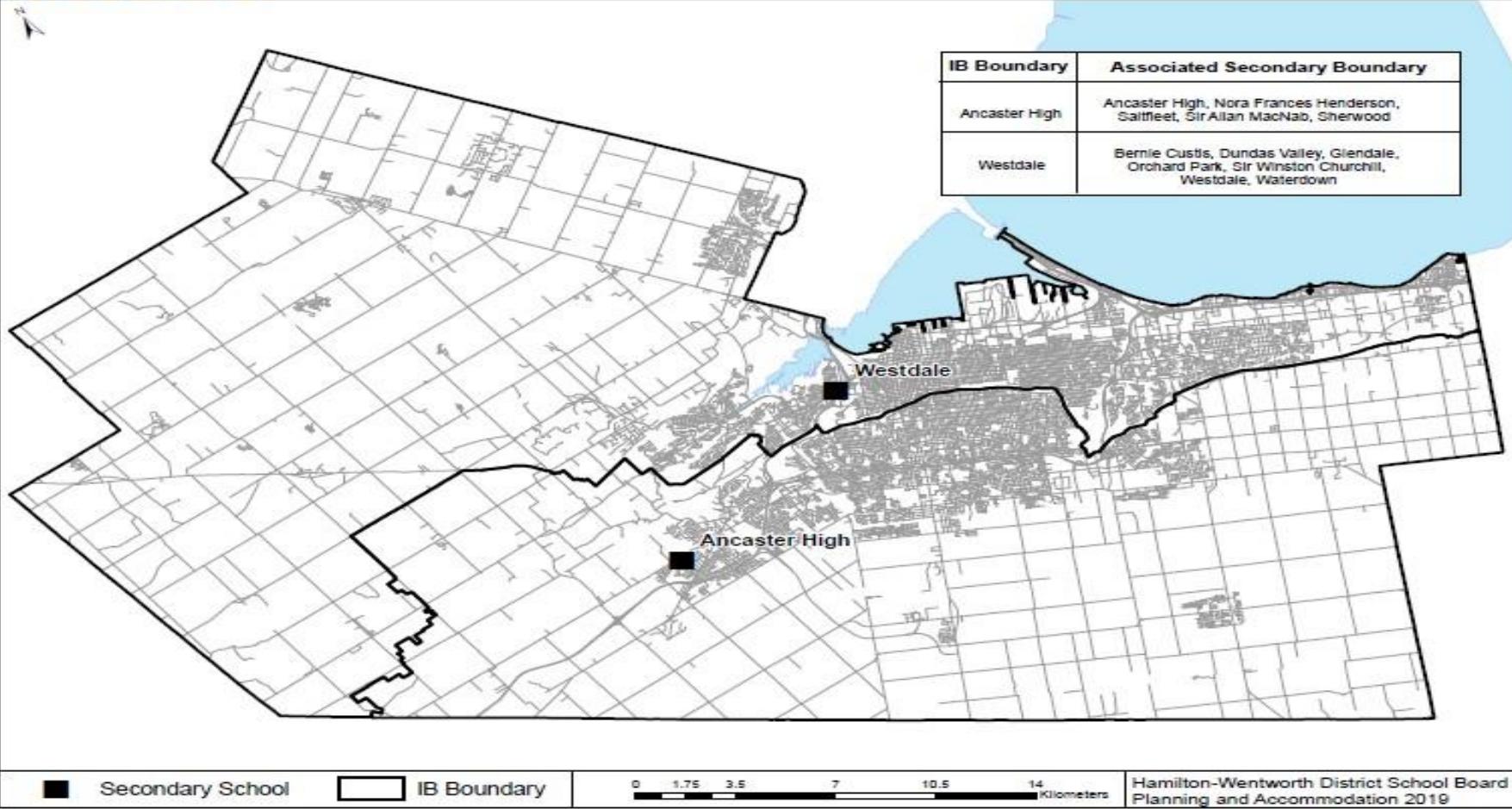
Ancaster Secondary School
Westdale Secondary School

- Students apply to the IB Programme in the designated IB catchment boundary in January of their grade 10 year
- Diploma Programme offered only in grades 11 and 12

IB School Catchment Boundaries

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IB Program Boundaries



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Organization: What is the IB mission?



The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

What is the IB Learner Profile?

It's the IB mission statement translated into a set of learning outcomes for the 21st century.



IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers

Knowledgeable

Thinkers

Communicators

Principled

Open-minded

Caring

Risk-takers

Balanced

Reflective

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University Recognition

The IB diploma is widely recognized by the world's leading universities.

Universities vary in the way they recognize IB Diplomas around the world.

Please investigate the IB Recognition Database at the following link for more information:

<https://www.ibo.org/university-admission/find-countries-and-universities-that-recognize-the-ib/>

Who is it for /what are the benefits ?

- University preparation program
- Internationally written, standardized curriculum
- Transferable to many countries
- University admissions
- Transfer credit

Diploma Programme Curriculum

Students study over two years:

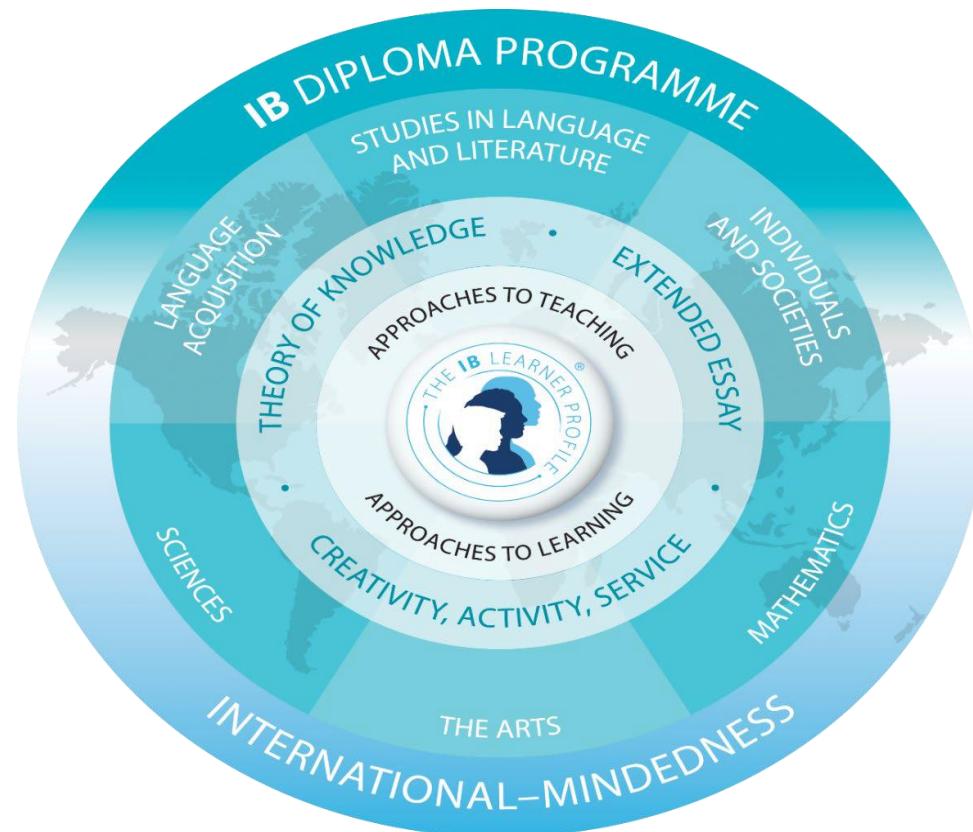
- three subjects at higher level
 - (3 semesters/240 hours).
- three subjects at standard level
 - (2 semesters/150 hours).
- all three parts of the core.

*****The IB Learner Profile and The Core are central to the philosophy of the Diploma Programme.***



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HWDSB IB Programme Curriculum



Group 1: English Language and Literature

Group 2: Language Acquisition: French or Spanish (Ancaster)

Group 3: Individuals and Societies: Geography (Westdale) or History (Ancaster) - SL only

Group 4: Experimental Science – Biology

Group 5: Mathematics – Analysis and Approaches (SL only)

Group 6: 2nd Science - Chemistry

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The Core: Non-Classroom Components

All **three components** must be completed to earn the Diploma.

Up to **3 Bonus Points** towards their Diploma.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
OSSD credit for this component

Extended Essay (EE)

4000 word essay.

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

7 Learning Outcomes over a variety of experiences



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IB Assessment: How is it Different?

- Diploma Programme assessment includes both final examinations and an internal assessment undertaken by the teacher using IB criteria and then externally moderated by the IB
- **IB assessment is rigorous, criterion related, standards-based, consistent and differentiating of student ability.**
- Marks awarded for each course range from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest)

IBSO Table of Equivalents

Developed by IBSO in conjunction with Ontario Universities to ensure consistency around reporting of grades on the OSSD

IB Grade	OSSD % Range	MoE 4 Point Scale
7	97-100%	4++
6	93-96%	4+
5	84-92%	4
4	72-83%	3
3	61-71%	2
2	50-60%	1

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Grade 9 and 10 Course Selection

Grade 9	Grade 10
English	English
French*	Math (10)
Geography*	Science (10)*
Math*	History*
Science*	French*
Health/Phys Ed	Math (11)
Arts elective*	Careers and Civics*
Tech elective	SPH3U/elective

*offered in French at Westdale

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Typical IB Schedule

Grade 11	Grade 12
<u>Semester 1 Grade 11</u>	<u>Semester 1 Grade 12</u>
Geography/History	English
French	Math
English	Biology
Biology	Chemistry
<u>Semester 2 Grade 11</u>	<u>Semester 2 Grade 12</u>
Geography/History	3 HL subjects
French or Spanish (SL/ab inito)	Spanish/French (ab inito)
Math	
Chemistry	

Earning the IB Diploma

- Pass each subject (no marks of 1), 12 points in 3 HL courses
- Receive a minimum of 24 Diploma Points
- Complete the TOK and Extended Essay (pass both)
- Complete CAS

Example:

IB Subject	IB Score
Group 1 – Language	6
Group 2 - Second Language B	5
Group 3 - Individuals and Societies	7
Group 4 - Experimental Sciences	6
Group 5 - Mathematics	6
Group 6 - The Arts	5
Bonus TOK and EE (maximum 3)	3
IB Diploma Score	38

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IB Subject Briefs

Course selection guidance - International Baccalaureate® (ibo.org)

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Subject Brief

Language A: language and literature

First assessments for SL and HL—2021

II. Curriculum model overview

Syllabus component	Recommended teaching hours	
	SL	HL
Readers, writers and texts	50	80
Time and space	50	80
Intertextuality: connecting texts	50	80
Total teaching hours	150	240

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Time (hours)		Weighting of final grade (%)	
		SL	HL	SL	HL
External					
Paper 1: Guided textual analysis	Guided analysis of unseen non-literary passage/passage from different text types.	1.25	2.25	35	35
Paper 2: Comparative essay	Comparative essay based on two literary works written in response to a choice of one out of four questions.	1.75	1.75	35	25
HL essay	Written coursework component: 1,200–1,500 word essay on one literary work or a non-literary body of work studied.				20
Internal					
Individual oral	Prepared oral response on the way that one literary work and one non-literary body of work studied have approached a common global issue.			30	20

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Inclusive Access Arrangements

- Students with an IEP, through their Diploma Coordinator, can request inclusive access arrangements from IB
- IB must authorize any accommodations
- Accommodation requests must be accompanied by 2 of the following: educational evidence, medical evidence, psychological evidence (documentation must be no older than 3 years before intended exam session)
- Accommodations for extra time grant 25% on exams (both written and oral assessments)
- Other accommodations can include word processing among others

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OFSAA Transfer Eligibility

- HWDSB students attending their catchment school for Grades 9 and 10 who transfer schools for IB in Grade 11 will most likely be eligible for school sport
- Students must still complete transfer paperwork and have their request presented and approved at the appropriate HWDSB transfer committee meeting

Items to Consider as a Family

- Is it right for YOUR child (do they demonstrate the attributes of the IB Learner Profile?)
- Can they work independently and in groups?
- When pressure mounts can it be dealt with effectively?
- Cost of programme
- Transportation (see next slide)
- Commitment to the programme including the Core of the Program (CAS, TOK, and the Extended Essay)?

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Transportation

- Provided to students who live within their IB school boundaries, who are completing the **IB Diploma** and live greater than 3.2 km from their IB school
- The method of transportation is determined by HWSTS and communicated to families in the summer
- **No** transportation is provided for students who live out of catchment for their IB school and are completing **IB courses** only
- School boards are not permitted to transport students across board boundaries; students living outside HWDSB boundaries are responsible for their own transportation and can choose the IB school that best suits their needs

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Cost of the Programme

- Reasons for Program Fees
 - IB Schools, once authorized from IB, pay yearly fees to the IBO to be permitted to deliver their curriculum
 - IBSO fees, Managebac fees, Kognity fees
 - Exam Fees
 - Courier Fees- All examinations must be sent for marking and moderation around the world
 - Teacher Training – all IB teachers need to be trained regularly.
 - Programme Maintenance and Promotion
 - IB resources: textbooks, study guides, lab materials

Program Fee Structure 2026- 2027

\$600.00 (CAD) payable at the start of each semester in Grades 11 and 12 (total of 4 semesters) (Note: USD may cause changes in this fee)

Total for complete programme: \$2,400.00

Families requiring financial support can apply for a fee reduction through the IB Coordinator at their school in the fall

Fees are paid through School Cash Online

Timeline for Applications

- Online applications open Dec 10, 2025 at 9:00 pm
- Completed applications due to school by January 9th, 2026
- Acceptance to the program communicated by individual school process by January 29th, 2026 and option sheets sent home.
- Families indicate acceptance of placement in IB to their coordinator by February 9th, 2026

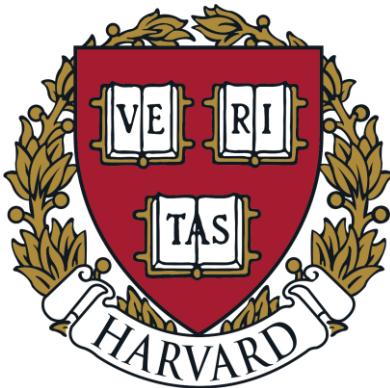
The Application Package

- The following documents are required for submission by the application deadline:
 - Application, including demographic information, student response questions and parent response questions
 - Status Sheet if not currently a Westdale or Ancaster student
 - **Students coming from other provinces or countries need to be assessed by the Board at the Welcome Centre for prerequisite courses to give Prior Learning Equivalent Credits**

Student Panel

**Current and Former
Ancaster and
Westdale IB Students**

Gladys Kozyra – Class of 2024



SL Geography, Biology, English and HL Math, Chemistry, French

Admitted to Harvard Electrical Engineering

Was able to test out of foreign language requirement and skip two Calculus course requirements allowing room for more electives



Harvard courseload seems manageable so far because of the skills developed in IB

Words of advice: the rigors of IB will challenge you in ways you can't even yet imagine but the end result will be full of growth, resilience, fulfilment and camaraderie that will carry you through to wherever your dreams take you

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Thank You!!

Ancaster: Mandy Toor (mtoor@hwdsb.on.ca)

Westdale: Kim Parkes-Hallmark (kiparkes@hwdsb.on.ca)



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School Application Links

Ancaster IB Application September 2026 –
Fill out form

Westdale IB Application September 2026 –
Fill out form