

Parents/Guardians of Piedmont Students,

As a part of the Middle Year's Program (MYP) of the International Baccalaureate Organization, schools are required to report to parents and students how students are progressing using the MYP assessment criteria. All IB Middle Year Programs throughout the world use these same assessment criteria.

All of the work of MYP students is internally assessed by teachers. There is no external system of assessment and IB does not provide MYP examinations. Schools are responsible for organizing relevant, authentic assessments according to the objectives published in the subject group guides. Authentic assessment is the use of learning activities that are related to real-life situations to assess student competency in designated skills. It assesses what a learner understands and can do.

Internal assessment of student work must be carried out using a criterion-related approach. It will play a major role in students' development and preparation for final assessments in Year 5 (10th grade). Each subject area has different assessment criteria (can be found on Piedmont's website under Middle Years IB- IB Policies and Assessments). Each different type of assessment task must address at least one of the assessment criteria. Piedmont requires teachers to assess each criterion at least once per semester. The IB report card will be sent home twice a year, (at the end of the second quarter along with the CMS report card and at the end of the year with the fourth quarter CMS report card.)

When the judgments on the various tasks have been made, teachers will be in a position to establish a final profile of achievement. The final levels for each criterion must then be added together to give a total for each subject for each student. This is a totally separate evaluation from the CMS Report Card you receive that reflects mastery of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The MYP program insists that all schools teach the curriculum mandated by their state, while integrating the MYP Aims and Objectives throughout units of study. **Parents should not compare the CMS Report Card with the IB Report Card.** While there may be some similarities, parents need to keep in mind that the IB and CMS report cards are not graded using the same criteria. Parents should also note that any IB grades posted in PowerSchool will be exempt.

For more explanation, please refer to Piedmont's wiki page.

<http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/piedmontMS/Pages/Default.aspx>.

Sincerely,

Karen Gorman
IB Coordinator