



# The Advocate

Official Newsletter of the St. Petersburg High School International Baccalaureate Program • Fall, 2011

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## MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS NAMED

National Merit Semifinalists: Seven SPHS seniors, all IB students, were named as National Merit Scholarship semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. They will be eligible to compete for more than 8,300 scholarships valued at \$34 million that will be offered next spring.

The semifinalists were selected from a pool of 1.5 million high school students taking the 2010 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test. These winners represent less than one percent of the total United States 2012 graduating seniors. The SPHS semifinalists are:



Caleigh Everingham, Nicholas Fansler, Arjun Krishnaswami  
Ankitha Lingamaneni, Gaurie Mittal, Kathryn Plant, Eric Tong

Additionally, another nine students were named as Commended Students for their academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2012 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Commended Students placed among the top five percent.

They are: Rachel Chase\*, Anne Do\*, Wren Eber, Madison Hayes\*, Anthony Nguyen\*, Aubrey Russak-Pribble\*, Elizabeth Valentine\*, Cody Veyera, and Danny Zakria\*

*\* Denotes IB student*

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## The IB Mission

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and life-long learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

## **Letter from the IB Director**

Dear Parents,

*I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all IB students and families and a special welcome to the Class of 2015! The school year is in full swing; in fact, I have already registered the senior class for IB exams! The class of 2011 performed very well on their IB exams—88% of the students earned the IB Diploma. We are very proud of these students and we hear they are enjoying their college experience.*

*Many thanks to all the families who have joined the IB Boosters. I don't know what I would do without the support of this group. If you would like to get involved in Boosters, we need volunteers to help with the Pinning Ceremony, Senior Celebration and also proctoring IB exams.*

*I am looking forward to a great year!*

**Susan Farias**

**International Baccalaureate Coordinator**

**Assistant Principal, St. Petersburg High School**

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## **Letter from the IB Booster President**

Dear Parents,

*As September slips into October, the school year is underway. I hope everyone has adapted to their new schedules and routines. Welcome to every IB Booster family member, new and returning. Without each family IB Booster membership, we would not be able to support IB classrooms, teachers, and students. We look forward to an increase in IB Booster membership this year and support from our members—either monetary donations or valuable time to provide teacher hospitality, student celebrations and assisting the IB program itself. I thank each of you.*

*By now, I hope you have discovered our school website, [www.stpetehigh.com](http://www.stpetehigh.com), for school news. On the left hand side of the home page, you'll find a link for the IB Program. Check it out! Then click on IB Boosters and find us! Check out our posts, and if you cannot find the information you are looking for, send us an email with your needs. We value your opinions and want to provide the most current information.*

*Also, if you are a current IB Booster family member, you can join our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/SPHSIBBoosters>. You can "Like" the page and get the information on your home page on Facebook. Or you can become a member of the group if you want to post information or comment on other postings.*

*Last, I look forward to a great school year. Please contact us if we have not contacted you yet! Our goal is to have all IB families supporting each other.*

*Have a great day,*

**Becky Hoyt, IB Booster President**

**[sphisboosters@gmail.com](mailto:sphisboosters@gmail.com)**

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## **PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL!**

The IB Boosters Executive Board cordially invites all IB parents to an ice cream social on Tuesday, October 25, from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm here at SPHS. This is a great opportunity to meet other IB parents and to learn about what support and services the Boosters provide. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

# SPHS IB PROGRAM FIRST SEMESTER CALENDAR 2011-12

- Oct. 3rd ..... Performing & Visual Arts Fair at USF Tampa, 7-9pm ([www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org))
- Oct. 4th ..... End of first 6-weeks  
General PTSA meeting-7pm Media Center
- Oct. 6th ..... Financial Aid seminar at Northeast High School, 7pm
- Oct. 10th ..... SAC meeting 7pm  
IB Pinning Committee meeting 6:30pm
- Oct. 11th ..... IB Booster Board meeting 6:30pm
- Oct. 12th ..... Report cards distributed
- Oct. 12th ..... PSAT test at SPHS, mandatory for all IB juniors. Cost & registration process TBA
- Oct. 14th ..... Professional Learning Day – school closed for students
- Nov. 1st ..... General PTSA meeting-7pm Media Center
- Nov. 3-5 ..... Fall Play 7pm
- Nov. 7-12th .... Homecoming Week
- Nov. 8th ..... IB Booster Board meeting 6:30pm
- Nov. 12th ..... Homecoming Dance- Coliseum
- Nov. 14th ..... SAC meeting 7pm  
IB Pinning Committee meeting
- Nov. 16th ..... End of second 6-weeks
- Nov. 21-25 ..... Thanksgiving Holidays-school closed for students
- Dec. 1st ..... Report cards distributed
- Dec. 1st ..... Goldfever! 7pm.
- Dec. 1st ..... Bright Futures application opens for seniors.  
Seniors must apply at [floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://floridastudentfinancialaid.org) prior to graduation  
in order to receive Bright Futures aid next fall
- Dec. 12th ..... SAC meeting 7pm - IB Pinning Committee meeting 6:30pm
- Dec. 13th ..... IB Booster Board meeting 6:30pm
- Dec. 15th ..... General PTSA meeting-7pm Media Center
- Dec. 19th ..... Winter Holidays-schools closed for students
- Jan. 3rd ..... School reopens  
General PTSA meeting-7pm Media Center
- Jan. 9th ..... SAC meeting 7pm - IB Pinning Committee meeting
- Jan. 10th ..... IB Booster Board meeting 6:30pm
- Jan. 13th ..... 7th period exam followed by regular school day
- Jan. 16th ..... Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday-schools closed for students
- Jan. 17th ..... 1st and 2nd period exams followed by regular school day
- Jan. 17th ..... Senior Celebration Committee meeting 6:45pm
- Jan. 18th ..... 3rd and 4th period exams followed by regular school day
- Jan. 19th ..... 5th and 6th period exams followed by regular school day
- Jan. 20th ..... Professional Learning Day –school closed for students
- Jan. 23rd ..... Second semester begins
- Jan. 30th ..... Report cards distributed
- Feb. 7th ..... General PTSA meeting-7pm Media Center
- Feb. 8th ..... IB Pinning Ceremony – IB Juniors-auditorium
- Feb. 24th ..... Professional Learning Day –School closed for students
- Feb. 26th ..... National College Fair at Tampa Convention Center 12-3pm

# THANKS TO OUR IB BOOSTER FAMILIES!

The IB Booster Executive Committee wishes to thank sincerely the 214 families who have become IB Booster members for 2011-12. If you are not an IB Booster member, we encourage you to join us for just \$25 per family for the entire year! We've included a membership form below for your convenience. Please take a moment to complete it and return it to the IB Office with your payment. Thank you for supporting our children!



## ST. PETERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

### IB Booster Mission Statement

The mission of the IB Boosters is to support the students, their families, the faculty, and administration of the St. Petersburg High School International Baccalaureate program by providing financial and administrative support, disseminating information about this program, maintaining the IB Booster website, sponsoring social and study events, and performing alumni outreach.

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### Membership Fee 2011/2012 school year: \$25 per IB Family

Please complete the membership form below and mail it with your membership check payable to: **IB Boosters**  
St. Petersburg High School  
Attn: IB Office  
2501 5th Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Student's name(s) and graduation year(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By providing your e-mail address you are giving consent for the IB Booster Organization to contact you electronically for official notification purposes and assistance. Please choose which committee you are interested in supporting below.

### Please contact me to help with the committee(s) checked below:

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Office/Admin Help Helping in the office or guidance with various administrative duties
  - Hospitality/Events Provides refreshments for various events throughout the year/Teacher appreciation luncheons
  - Newsletter (IB Advocate)/Website Updates the IB Website with related info/Helps write, assemble, and mailing of newsletter
  - Proctoring Adults are needed at the end of the year for proctoring IB Exams
  - IB Pinning Helps with the planning of the IB Pinning Ceremony for IB Juniors
  - Graduation Celebration End of the year celebration for IB graduates, various sub committees plan entire event
- \*\*\*\*\*

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# **WELCOME TO OUR NEW IB FACULTY!**

The IB Program is delighted to introduce four new faculty members this year. You'll see two common themes—previous ties to St. Petersburg High, and a love of animals!

While **Kristie Delk** (History) is new to the IB Program, she's a familiar face at St. Petersburg High. She taught four years in the traditional program, and she also serves as the varsity softball coach. She hails from Cedar Lake, Indiana (about 40 miles south of Chicago) and received her B. A. in History and Master of Arts in Teaching from Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, IL.

Prior to teaching, Ms. Delk served as a collegiate softball coach at Olivet Nazarene and Eckerd College. She is married to Jason Delk, a commercial lender, and they have a 3-year old son, Jace Walker Delk. They also have two Dachshunds, Phoebe and Brewster. In addition to obviously enjoying sports, Ms. Delk also enjoys reading and traveling.

**Elizabeth Scussel** (History) knows the IB Program well because she graduated from it herself! She has "tremendous appreciation" for how the IB Program influenced her and she is excited to be able to work towards creating an equally positive experience for her students now.

Ms. Scussel earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Florida and her graduate degree from USF. Although this is her first full-time teaching position, she interned in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties and taught Spanish at the Sunflower School in Gulfport.

Ms. Scussel resides with her partner, Christopher, and their son, Owen, who just turned three. An "enormous shaggy dog" named Arlo and five chickens complete the family! In her spare time, Ms. Scussel enjoys vegetable gardening, bike riding and spending as much time outside as possible. While she rarely finds the time to act on it, she loves doing anything artistic with her hands, especially watercolor, wheel throwing, and sewing.

**Hugo St. John** (English) proves that you *can* go home again. Mr. St. John grew up in St. Petersburg, attending Bay Vista and Bay Point Elementary, Bay Point Middle, and then starting in the IB program here at SPHS before going to boarding school at the Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire. He then graduated from Williams College with degrees in both Economics and English (focus in poetry composition).

While this is Mr. St. John's first year of formal teaching, he was selected for tutoring and honor societies by both the English and Economics departments at Williams. He also spent three years providing management consulting expertise with the Monitor Group, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Mr. St. John has opened his home to a rescue dog, Kyra, who he believes definitely has some English or Australian Shepherd in her. In his free time, he enjoys reading, writing, playing sports (varsity baseball, swimming, tennis in high school—baseball in college for a year), cooking (and eating), kayaking, fishing, and traveling.

In spite of being away from Florida for a decade (in Red Sox country, no less!), Mr. St. John reports that he never gave up on the (Devil) Rays. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the Buccaneers, though they remained his favorite NFL team throughout.

**Scott Trewin** (Math) may have graduated from Dixie Hollins High School, but don't hold that against him—he's become a true Green Devil! He has spent his entire 10-year teaching career here at SPHS, and his wife, Jenny Trewin, also teaches at SPHS (AP Art History and World History). Mrs. Trewin is an SPHS alumni, her mother taught at SPHS, and the Trewins even met at SPHS! Mr. Trewin and his wife truly enjoy working at SPHS.

Mr. Trewin earned his A.A. from then-St.Petersburg Junior College and his B.S. from USF. The Trewins have two daughters, Taylor (4) and Ivy (9 months), and a black Labrador, Molly, whom the children adore. Mr. Trewin reports that Taylor loves coming to all the many events at SPHS and hopefully Ivy will, too. The Trewins spend all of their free time with their daughters.

In addition to these fine faculty additions, the IB Program also welcomes a new guidance counselor, **La'Tina Johnson**, who was introduced in the last edition of the Advocate. We also welcome the new IB Guidance Clerk, **Alice Engelke**.

## FACULTY WISH LISTS

Our dedicated IB faculty provides our children with a top-notch education on a public school budget—no mean feat! But sometimes, there's that extra item or two they'd love to have to further enhance the students' educational experience, but the budget simply won't cover it. Right now, our faculty would be thrilled to be able to obtain the following items:

**Biology:** Rats, fetal pigs, sheep brains and hearts for dissection — \$600

**Chemistry:** 5 balances at \$232 each, and 6-8 hotplates at \$204 each

**Physics:** Student precision air track — \$367

**Math:** Printer ink cartridges and TI- Smartview Emulator Software for 84 Family Calculator — \$139.00

**Spanish:** Color printer

**English:** Office supplies, printer ink, electric pencil sharpener and hole punch

**TOK:** Explore and Discuss Series, "TOK in a Box" — \$280.00

This is where your participation as an IB Booster can really help! Or, if you can contribute directly toward the purchase of any of these items, please contact the IB Office. Thank you!

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## DONATIONS APPRECIATED!

As cold and flu season approaches, our teachers are thankful for any donations you can provide of tissues and large pump bottles of hand sanitizer. Small candies are also appreciated. Donations may be dropped off at the IB Office.

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## YOUR TARGET PURCHASES SUPPORT THE IB PROGRAM!

Choose the IB Program as your designated school for your Target REDcard and 1% of your purchases at Target or on Target.com will be donated to us. It all adds up, so please remember us the next time you're at Target!

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## NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- The PSAT for all junior IB students will be given on October 12th at 7:00 a.m. in the SPSH gym.
- Please remember to visit Naviance for upcoming college visits that are held in the SPSH Media Center.
- The monthly scholarship opportunities list is now available in the SPSH Guidance office.
- SENIORS: Good luck with your college application process!

A special thank you to all the students and parents who attended the IB senior meeting held on August 30th. We truly appreciate your taking time to come out and support the IB Guidance Department. We are very excited about the new year and are looking forward to a very successful and positive year!

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## ALUMNI NEWS

**Alvin Tang** (2009) interned this summer at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, where he worked in the area of immunology and allergies. He is also first author on an abstract on herbal medicine intervention for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and will present a poster on this abstract at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology conferences in Orlando in the spring. Alvin is a student in Applied Physiology and Kinesiology at the University of Florida.

**Paul Iankov** (2011) is singing with the competition choir at the University of Central Florida.

**Kristen Wilty** (2011) is a theatre tech at Emory University.

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## PINNING CEREMONY SCHEDULED

IB Juniors, mark your calendars . . . the IB Pinning Ceremony has been scheduled for February 8, 2012, in the auditorium.

# Pitchforks

The following students were selected as Pitchforks for the 2011-12 school year.

**Sophomores:** Brett Buchert\*, Jessie Deggans\*, Elea McLaughlin\*, Daniel Robles, Anna Tobin\*, Samantha Wassmer\*

**Juniors:** Christina Colon\*, Sylvester Wright

**Seniors:** Kyle Bulleit\*, Andy Cressman\*, Jeremy Koch\*, Ben McBride\*, Aubrey Russak-Pribble\*, Olivia Shi\*

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## Freshman Class Officers

Congratulations to the newly-elected officers for the Class of 2015:

**President:** Liam McCarthy

**Secretary:** Quinn Galanos\*

**V.P.:** Morgan Gonzales

**Treasurer:** Jeffrey "JT" Hadley\*

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Srihar Nirmalan

**Council Members:** Katie McDaniel, Marcus DelVecchio\*, Alyssa Jouret\*, Ana Gabriela Rocha\*, Lane Marshall\*, Olivia Buckley\*

**Public Relations Committee:** Jonathon Patton\*, Cullen Molaskey\*, Kenneth Stuck\*, Sydney Quin, Meghan Sircar\*

*\* Denotes IB student*

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## Cast of Fall Drama Production

The following students were selected for the cast of the Drama Department's fall production,

*The Diary of Anne Frank:*

Anne Frank.....Shelly Mogil\*

Margot Frank.....Anna Tobin\*

Miep Gies..... Olivia Short\*

Otto Frank..... Alex Windisch

Edith Frank.....Paige Himebaugh

Mr. Van Daan..... William Gross\*

Mrs. Van Daan.....Christina Colon\*

Peter Van Daan.....Jacob Zdan

Mr. Dussel.....J.J. Hubler\*

Mr. Kraller.....Jeremy Koch\*

Nazi Officer /First Man....Tim Walch Nazi Officer /Second Man.....Joshua Harvie

Dutch Collaborator/Third Man.....Shamus Shoaf

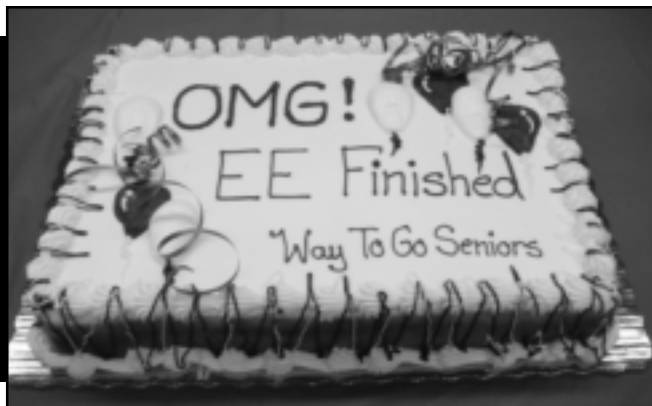
*\* Denotes IB student*

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## Seniors Complete Extended Essay!

Congratulations to the Class of 2012 for successful completion of the IB Extended Essay (EE)! The EE is a 4000 word essay that gives the students the opportunity to show knowledge, understanding and enthusiasm about a topic of their choice. The EE has often proven to be a valuable stimulus for discussion at college interviews and/or applications.

On September 5th, the IB Seniors were treated to a celebration as they presented their EE's to Mrs. Farias. Refreshments, including two beautiful cakes, were provided by the IB Booster Parent Organization. Mrs. Hayes, parent of Elliot, served the students after they presented their EE.



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St. Petersburg Senior High School  
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St. Petersburg, FL 33713

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