



# The Advocate

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

## 2011 Florida State Spanish Conference First Place Winners



**Our team earned First Place in Division I 5A/6A!** This was a great experience for our students; they got to demonstrate what they have learned in the classroom in a statewide competition! Our team excelled in all areas of competition. We brought home 14 Outstanding (highest ratings) and 2 Superior ratings in Impromptu Speeches; 5 Outstanding and 1 Excellent ratings in Poems; Outstanding in our Play; first place amongst all 45 school in the scrapbook; and all three seniors that took the Senior Exam were awarded a scholarship! In addition, our Regional Dress received third place. Here is the list of participants, all of which are IB Students.

### **IB Seniors**

Amy Smith - \$500.00 scholarship to travel to Spain this summer; Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Play

Ed Corty - \$250.00 scholarship, perfect score in the Impromptu Speech; Outstanding Play

Sean Lynch - \$100.00 scholarship; Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Play

Will Keyes - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech

### **IB Juniors**

Maria Abdo - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech

Arjun Krishnaswami - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech; Perfect score in Poem

### **IB Sophomores**

Gabriela Calderon - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Play

Kim Leshko - Superior in Impromptu Speech and Perfect in Poem

Mala Nath - Superior in Impromptu Speech and Outstanding in Play

Shreya Nirmalan - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Play

Alexis Rosenthal - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Excellent in Poem

Morgan Shettle - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech

Solomon Howard - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Perfect in Poem

Eric Mulligan - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Outstanding in Poem

Ike Okwonko - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech and Perfect in Poem

Manuel Gonzalez - Outstanding in Impromptu Speech

# SPHS IB SECOND SEMESTER CALENDAR 2011

- April 4<sup>th</sup> ..... School reopens  
April 5<sup>th</sup> ..... IB Theater Orals-SPC  
April 11<sup>th</sup> ..... 19<sup>th</sup> FCAT testing  
April 12<sup>th</sup> ..... IB Booster Executive Board meeting – IB Conference Room 6:00 pm  
April 15<sup>th</sup> ..... Prom – Coliseum (Juniors & Seniors only)  
April 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Training for IB test proctors – IB Conference Room, 6:30 pm  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> ..... End of 5<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks  
April 25<sup>th</sup> ..... Schools closed for students  
April 26<sup>th</sup> ..... Senior Celebration Committee meets, 6:45 pm in room 151  
April 27<sup>th</sup> ..... ACT exam for all Juniors  
April 29<sup>th</sup> ..... Last day for IB seniors  
Seniors wear college T-Shirts to school  
Proposals due for new Bright Futures projects  
Completed Bright Future paperwork (log & reflections) due for Seniors  
Seniors Bright Futures community service hours due  
Disney Grad Night – Seniors \$93.00  
May 1<sup>st</sup> ..... National College Decision Day  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Report cards distributed  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> - May 13<sup>th</sup> ..... AP Exams  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> - May 23<sup>rd</sup> ..... IB Testing – off campus (seniors)  
May 10<sup>th</sup> ..... IB Booster Executive Board meeting – IB Conference Room 6pm  
May 17<sup>th</sup> ..... Senior Celebration Committee meets, 6:45 pm in room 151  
May 24<sup>th</sup> ..... IB seniors return to school (testing complete)  
May 25<sup>th</sup> ..... IB Senior Celebration – Coliseum (IB seniors)  
Yearbook Assembly & distribution, Auditorium  
Cap & Gown distribution  
May 26<sup>th</sup> ..... Awards Ceremony – 6:30 pm, Auditorium  
May 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Move-Up Assembly-Auditorium  
IB 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Celebration  
May 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Memorial Day – Schools closed  
June 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... 7<sup>th</sup> Period Exam  
June 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Period Exams  
June 5<sup>th</sup> ..... Commemorative Sunday (Seniors)- First United Methodist Church  
June 6<sup>th</sup> ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Period Exams  
June 7<sup>th</sup> ..... 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Period Exams  
June 8<sup>th</sup> ..... Special Observance day – regular school day - no exams  
Student Parking Hang Tag Sale  
June 9<sup>th</sup> ..... Senior Breakfast – 8:00 am, Cafeteria  
Mandatory graduation practice – 9:30 am, Stewart Field  
Graduation Ceremony – Stewart Field, 8:00 pm  
Last day for Seniors to apply for Bright Futures online  
June 14<sup>th</sup> ..... IB Booster Executive Board meeting – IB Conference Room 6pm

Note: dates are subject to change

# GUIDANCE UPDATE

Ann McCoy and Cathy O'Kelley Rome, IB Counselors

**FRESHMEN:** This is Registration season at SPHS, so counselors & teachers are helping students sign up for classes for next year. In Inquiry Skills class, Ms. McCoy worked with students on registration and on beginning the Bright Futures community service process. Students (grades 9, 10, 11) wishing to begin their Bright Futures project this summer must turn in their forms to Ms. O'Kelley by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**SOPHOMORES:** Ms. O'Kelley will work on registration during US History classes in early April. Since sophomores will be choosing their two-year IB courses of study, sophomore registration is especially important. Sophomores will also register on Naviance for the first time.

**JUNIORS:** Juniors have had three sessions of the Beyond IB college planning curriculum with Ms. O'Kelley in their TOK classes, including one session working on Naviance in the computer lab. They will be using Naviance extensively in their college process. Juniors received blue Naviance parent registration code cards to give to their parents. Each parent has a registration code for initial access; after signing in with the code, parents create their own password for future access to Naviance. Parents can also request their Naviance access codes from Ms. Rollins at rollinsg@pcsb.org. IB Junior Night was a big success—thanks to parents who attended and to our excellent speaker, SMU Regional Director of Admissions Carol Morris.

**SENIORS:** Seniors have been reminded to keep their grades up, as colleges sometimes rescind admissions offers to students whose final grades are below the college's standards. College Tshirt Day will be on seniors' last day before IB exams, April 29<sup>th</sup>, when seniors wear the tshirt of the college they will be attending in the fall, always a very festive day at SPHS.

## AP EXAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

May is a busy testing time for our juniors and seniors as they take AP exams. With the large number of exams offered here, we are always in need of proctoring help. Volunteers help staff monitor the 3 to 4 hour exams by being another set of caring & watchful eyes and ears. If you are able to help with one or more of these exams in May, please contact IB Guidance Clerk Gini Rollins at rollinsg@pcsb.org or 893-1842 x. 1028. Thank you!

## ACT TEST FOR JUNIORS

All SPHS juniors will be taking an ACT test during school on April 27<sup>th</sup> at no cost. Students can prep for the test at [www.kaptest.com/quizbank](http://www.kaptest.com/quizbank)

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## PARKING HANG TAG SALE!

Seniors and Juniors it's time to purchase a hang tag for an assigned parking space in the SPHS lot for the 2011-2012 school year. Tags will be sold in the IB Office, Room 157 on June 8<sup>th</sup>. For more information and details on which documents are required to purchase your tag, please visit the IB Website.

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## Group 4 IB Junior Showcase

Family and friends of IB Junior Class students are invited to the Group 4 Showcase on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> in the SPHS cafeteria from 6:30-7:30. In fulfillment of an IB requirement in the sciences, teams of students worked collaboratively to design and implement a scientific investigation around this year's theme of "Water". Students will display and answer questions about their Group 4 projects. Refreshments will be served.

## IB BOOSTER ELECTIONS

An election of officers for the 2011 IB Booster Executive Board will be held during the IB Booster General Membership Meeting on May 10th. Elected officers serve for a period of one year, starting July 1st, and do require a dedicated time commitment. Each officer must be approved by the IB Coordinator and act in accordance with the IB Booster Bylaws. A brief description of the officer responsibilities are below:

### IB Booster Officers

**President:** Presides at all IB Booster Executive Board meetings, including preparation of agenda items. Is a signature authority on the IB Booster bank account.

**Vice-President:** Assists President with duties and responsibilities and will assume the President's duties in his/her absence or upon President's request. Is a signature authority on the IB Booster bank account.

**Secretary:** Responsible for recording official minutes of all IB Booster meetings (Executive Board). Also keeps attendance, maintains the calendar and committee roster. File the records of official business and correspondence.

**Treasurer:** Responsible for maintaining an auditable set of financial records for the organization. Has signature authority on IB Booster bank account, keeps the checkbook and makes timely deposits, balances checkbook monthly. Generate financial reports for meetings and at year-end. Must attend annual insurance meeting and file annual Florida Corporate report. Candidate will have a working knowledge of Quicken.

**Note:** Anyone interested in submitting their name for nomination on the ballot must send the following information (Name, Phone, Email, Child's Name and Grade, Desired Office, and a Brief Bio) to the IB Coordinator, Susan Farias at [fariass@pcsb.org](mailto:fariass@pcsb.org) by May 1st, 2011. Copies of the IB Booster Bylaws will be given upon request.

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### SPHS Debate Team

By: Leila Davis

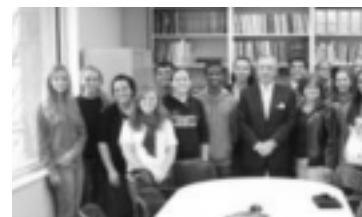


The SPHS Debate Team returned from its annual trip to the Harvard National High School Invitational tournament brought back a couple of trophies along with us. Two of our Green Devils, IB Junior Elizabeth Valentine and IB Sophomore Caroline Wallace, made it to the semi-finals in Student Congress at Harvard. Caroline was also nominated for the finals, but did not advance. In addition, the other five team members who went did a terrific job in representing St. Pete High. They are: seniors Nina Wilczynski and Nate Collard, juniors Dylan Allen and Lauren Cashmore, and freshman Aaron Torop

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### The Spanish Honor Society meets with the Ambassador of Spain!

Here is a picture of the St. Petersburg High School Spanish club who met with H.E. Dezcallar, the Ambassador of Spain, for an hour and conversed with him completely in Spanish. The ambassador was in town for the Dali opening and wanted to meet some high school students who are interested in Spain/Spanish.



*Congratulations to Mrs. Crum on the birth  
of her new baby, Mackenzie!*



## **IB T-SHIRTS A HIT!**

The IB Faculty and Staff want to thank all the parents for their new IB shirts!

They look great, the shirts were a wonderful Valentine surprise.

Thank you all!

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## **Thespian News**

By: Patricia Grunz

Your SPHS Thespians did a fantastic job at this year's four day festival and competition. Congratulations to Miles Postlethwait, IB Junior Jeremy Koch and IB Senior Michael McBride for receiving a Superior rating in small group musical. Further congrats to IB Senior Paul Iankov for receiving an Excellent in Solo Musical – though in the opinion of many he deserved Superior!

Students participated in a variety of workshops including: Improvisation for the Actor, Mime Master Class, Mask and Mold Making, How to Be a Working Actor, Stage Management, Costume Construction, Dialect Triggers, Special Effects Makeup, The Singing Actor, Building Actor Skills, Flying with ZFX, Speaking onstage, Playwriting Jumpstart, voice and Movement, Ritual Warm-up, Aerial Theatre and Partner Acrobatics, Landing the Role, Acting for Musical Theatre, Writing a Monologue, Auditioning for Universities, Unleashing Creativity, A Director Prepares, Lighting for Musical Theatre, Tap Dancing, Alternative Careers in Theatre, and everyone's favorite: African dance with Mama Yeye.

Students also attended some wonderful Main Stage Productions including: Aida, The Light in the Piazza, For Colored Girls who have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf and NINE. Student behavior was excellent! Full festival information can be found on [www.flthespian.com](http://www.flthespian.com)

Miles Postlethwait is a Walker's Rising Star's Scholarship Finalist for Acting and IB Senior Ambra Papa was accepted into the MFA Music program at Florida State University! Please congratulate these talented seniors.

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## **SPHS IB Booster General Membership Meeting**

There will be an annual General Membership Meeting of the SPHS IB Boosters at 7:00pm on Tuesday, May 10th 2011 at St. Petersburg High School in the Little Theater next to the IB Office.

The purpose of the meeting will be to report the IB Booster activities for this past year, approve changes to the organization Bylaws, elect Executive Board Committee Officers for the following 2011/2012 school year, report the financial status of the organization, and discuss other items submitted by the membership. This is also a good time for those of you who are interested in volunteering or joining a committee to learn more about how your time and financial support directly benefits the IB Program.

For more information or to submit items for discussion please contact the IB Boosters President, Tammie Ballentine at [sphsibadvocate@gmail.com](mailto:sphsibadvocate@gmail.com).

# 2011 GRADUATION CELEBRATION!

The Class of 2011 Graduation Celebration will be held at the Coliseum on **Wednesday, May 25th, 2011** and will be a wonderful time of celebration for our graduating seniors and their families. Here are the key dates and details.

**April 9th**     **IB Graduation Celebration Program Ad Deadline:** Submit a camera-ready copy of your ad to the IB Office or email a high resolution PDF to Catherine Valentine at [c.valentine@verizon.net](mailto:c.valentine@verizon.net).

**Sponsorship: \$200.00**

**Business Ad: Full Page \$150.00, ½ Page \$75.00.**

**Personal Ad: Full Page \$75.00, ½ Page \$40.00, ¼ Page \$25.00**

**April 9th**     **Tributes Deadline: \$10.00** - Tributes are a wonderful inexpensive way to show your appreciation to someone who has inspired you: loved one, a BFF, graduating senior, fellow student, mentor, sibling, teacher, or just a shout out to a special person in your life.

**April 12th**    **Expect Celebration Dinner Invitation in the mail:** \$25.00 per ticket, IB Seniors no charge - RSVP as soon as possible; seating is assigned upon receipt of response card. Seniors will sit in special designated seating area.

**May 1st**       **IB Senior Dues Deadline:** \$45.00 IB Sash, Diploma mailing, Yearbook IB Class Photo. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Derrickson in the IB Office.

**May 1st**       **Slide Show Photos Deadline:** We are preparing a slide show which will play during the meal of student photos from all the high school years. Parents and students are encouraged to submit photos of sporting events, club activities, or student gatherings. Please provide high-resolution photos on a CD to the IB Office or email your photos (with students identified) to: [sphsibphotos@gmail.com](mailto:sphsibphotos@gmail.com). The slideshow will be on the Celebration DVD keepsake with a video of the event. Order your DVD copies now for \$25.00.

**May 9th**       **IB Graduation Celebration RSVP Deadline**

**RSVP's or checks cannot be accepted at the IB Office**

**May 25th**      **Cap & Gown distribution:** Seniors

**May 25th**      **IB Graduation Celebration:** Coliseum Ballroom, St. Petersburg

**June 9th**       **Graduation Ceremony:** 8:00pm, SPHS Stewart Field

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: IB BOOSTERS**



# FINDING A COLLEGE THAT FITS

With more than 3500 colleges in the US, students & parents can feel overwhelmed at the thought of narrowing a student's college to the recommended list of 5-7 schools. One successful approach is for students to consider their thoughts on the following:

- **LOCATION**—Part of the country, size of the community, and the weather are important considerations. Find out if the weather is humid, rainy or if it will snow four months of the year. How easy is it to travel home and does this matter to you?
- **SIZE**—This matters to some students and not to others. SPSHS has 2200 students—have you felt lost in this large environment or would you prefer to be at a school of 20,000? Students at small schools are more likely to know their professors while larger schools may have classes of 200 taught by graduate students. On the other hand, larger schools generally offer more areas of study. There may be more activities and intramural offerings at large schools, but at a small school you might have more opportunities to participate.
- **STUDENTS**—Who are the students who attend and where do they come from? Do you want to experience college with many international students? What is the male/female ratio? Do students come mainly from the surrounding community and how many of them are in school full time?
- **ACADEMICS**—Does the school have the major you are considering? If you change your major are there enough other choices? Colleges have an amazing number of special offerings to consider—accelerated programs, honors colleges, dual enrollment, internships and study abroad. All of these can be considered.
- **ACADEMIC CHALLENGE**—Students need to consider how they perform academically and if the school is a good fit. Attending an academically demanding college and getting all “C’s” won’t be as valuable as attending a school where you can be successful.
- **RETENTION & GRADUATION RATES**—Find out how many students return after the first year and how many years it takes them to graduate. Good retention and graduation rates are a reflection of how well the school supports students academically, socially, and financially.
- **LIVING OPTIONS**—Is there campus housing? Are students required to live there? How many students live on campus or off campus? How hard is it to find off-campus housing? Do you care if there are sororities and fraternities?
- **EXTRACURRICULAR OPTIONS**—What clubs and teams are available? Is there a fitness center? Are there off-campus options for recreation, the arts, and community service?
- **COST**—Look beyond the price tag and investigate what scholarship and financial aid opportunities are available. Some private schools are able to offer enough financial aid to make the school comparable to a public school.

There are many avenues for gathering answers to the above questions—visiting colleges, meeting admissions representatives who come to our campus, and of course many, many resources on the web. For an up-to-date list of helpful online sites, your student can pick up a College Web Resources list in the Guidance Office. In the end, remembers—students will be happiest in college if they focus on the best fit, not the biggest prize.

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