



# Texas IB Schools



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It's hard to believe another year has come and gone! We know everyone is ready to wrap up this school year and enjoy some fun in the sun. Speaking of fun & sun, there are quite a few activities happening in the IB world this summer. We hope some of you are able to make it to the Conference of the Americas in Riviera Maya this July. TIBS will be at the conference, so stop by and say hi if you are down there. Also, if you haven't registered for the PYP & MYP workshops in Austin this summer, please do so soon—sessions are filling up quickly! Last, but certainly not least, don't forget about the IB World Student Conferences in Vancouver and Spain. There is still space available for both students and chaperones if you are interested!

Most importantly, stay safe this summer and take some time to relax—you all deserve that!!!

Courtney Smith & Karen Phillips  
TIBS Associate Executive Director TIBS Executive Director

## **TIBS Board of Directors Spring 2012 Election**

This was a year of firsts for our Board of Directors election. Not only did we have a record turnout for voter participation (50%--up from last year's 22%), but we had to have our first run-off election this year. This is truly a testament that every vote counts!!! Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote—both in the general election and the run-off election. We know everyone is really busy during the spring and as a special thank you to those who voted, you will be entered into a drawing for a free Roundtable registration for the 2012-'13 school year. To all of our candidates—thank you for your continued support of TIBS. Last, but certainly not least, a big thanks goes to Ann Wink for her help with our election (especially this year). Counting ballots is not an easy job, and we appreciate her taking the time out of her busy schedule to help us out—not only with the election but in all that she does for our IB schools in Texas!! The 2012-'13 TIBS Board includes the following members:

Jan Ace (MYP)  
Rick Fernandez (At Large)  
Keri Fovargue (At Large)  
Lynn Hobson (PYP)  
Kim Kamin (DP)

Sharon Kotarski (DP)  
Kelly McBride (PYP)  
Juanita Sacco (At Large)  
Janice Swarts (MYP)

## **IBA Authorizes 2000<sup>th</sup> IB World School**

The IB reached a milestone on April 27, 2012, with the authorization of its 2000<sup>th</sup> IB World School in Edinburg, Texas. The 2000<sup>th</sup> school authorization was awarded to South Texas Business, Education, and Technology Academy, better known as BETA, to offer the prestigious IB Diploma to students. BETA was ranked first in the state of Texas and 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the U.S, News & World Report Most Connected Classroom Rankings. BETA will be formally recognized and honored as the 2000<sup>th</sup> school at the Conference of the Americas in Riviera Maya, Mexico, July 12-15. We hope many of our IB colleagues in Texas can join TIBS in celebrating this historic event in the IB's history. Congratulations to Magdalena Gutierrez, principal of BETA, and her staff for a job well done.

## **TIBS and the Conference of the Americas**

TIBS is actively involved as part of the Local Arrangements Committee in the planning of school projects for the Conference of the Americas with Karen Phillips and Alexandra Castro participating in planning sessions in Mexico City. Texas and Mexico are participating in a joint project that allows schools to be showcased at the conference through a QR code that is linked to the school's website. We at TIBS thank Alexandra Castro at The Magellan International School in Austin for all her hard work to make this project a success. Please continue to send your links to Alexandra at [acastro@magellanschool.org](mailto:acastro@magellanschool.org). We want to share the success of our Texas schools with everyone in the IBA region.

## **Texas IB Diploma Recipient to Speak at ARC**



Ludwig Barragan, 2006 IB Diploma recipient from Lamar Academy in McAllen, has been selected to share his IB story and to introduce a keynote speaker at the Conference of the Americas in Riviera Maya, Mexico. Ludwig graduated with high honors from the University of Texas at Austin in 2010 with a degree in Latin American studies and a specialization in business. He is currently studying for a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership and Ethics at Saint

Edward's University in Austin. Ludwig now works for the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Consulate General of Mexico in Austin. He describes his position there as his "dream job" which he secured right out of college! We want to thank Jeanette Lafevers for helping us locate such a worthy and impressive speaker. What an honor for all of us in Texas to have one of our former IB students recognized at the ARC!

### Spring Events

**~Regional Associations Meeting**—Karen Phillips and Courtney Smith attended the annual meeting of Regional Associations of IB World Schools in Bethesda, MD, on March 1-3, 2012. We attended a plenary session each morning that focused on updates from key people in the IB organization (Jeff Beard—Director General, Siva Kumari—Chief Operating Officer, Drew Deutsch—IBA Director, and Judith Fabian—Academic Director). In addition, we were briefed on the upcoming changes to the MYP (MYP: The next chapter). There were various breakout sessions during the day that included topics such as a learner profile focus group, communications/marketing updates, and an IBCC update (to name a few). It was great to see our colleagues in the other regional associations and to witness the growth of IB in the Americas region.

**~February Roundtable Report**—For the first time since 2006, our spring Roundtable was held in Houston. We are so thankful to have such a great partnership with Rice University—they really do know how to take care of us! We had a wonderful turn-out for our February 25 event—142 people attended the Saturday sessions at Rice University. Dr. Jerry Chris flew in from California to lead our DP session on TOK & the Art of Asking Questions. Susan Beard traveled from Arkansas to facilitate our PYP Assessment session. Our MYP Assessment Tasks and Rubrics session was led by Jeanette LaFevers, from McAllen. From the feedback we received, all three sessions went very well. Thank you to all who attended and a special thanks to Amy McClurd and Michelle Verduzco from Rice University for their help in coordinating this great event!

**~Books 2 Kids 2K**—Courtney attended the Books 2 Kids 2K at Round Rock ISD's Kelly Reeves Stadium on May 4. The event was organized by Grisham Middle School and TIBS was one of the sponsors. Grisham Middle School raised \$6,500, the district raised over \$17,000, and Nyle Maxwell, a local car dealership, matched the total amount raised so over \$34,000 was donated to the Dell Children's Medical Center Half Pint library. The event was well organized and middle school students from all of RRISD's schools participated in the 2K.

**~Round Rock ISD Partner Appreciation Breakfast**—Karen Phillips attended the breakfast which was sponsored by the Partners in

Education Foundation on May 17. Partners, mentors and volunteers were recognized for their service to the district. TIBS has been a partner with Round Rock ISD since 2004, partnering to bring training to over 1000 teachers and administrators each July.

~ **IB World Student Conferences**—The IB is hosting two World Student Conferences this summer to bring students together from all over the world and show the true spirit of internationalism and “thinking globally.” One conference will be held in Segovia, Spain, from July 2-6, and the other conference will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, from July 23-27. The TIBS Board of Directors voted at our February meeting to offer scholarships for these two conferences. Each scholarship carries a \$795 value which covers the registration cost of the conference. The following students were selected as this year’s scholarship winners and the students chose which conference they wanted to attend:

- Abigail Diaz, MB Lamar High School (Houston)—Segovia, Spain
- Cierra Duckworth, MB Lamar High School (Houston)—Vancouver, British Columbia
- Edwin Hinojosa, MB Lamar High School (Houston)—Segovia, Spain
- Alexa Lichtenberger, WB Ray High School (Corpus Christi)—Segovia, Spain
- Vivek Pranavamurthi, MB Lamar High School (Houston)—Vancouver, British Columbia
- Samuel Sawhook, WB Ray High School (Corpus Christi)—Segovia, Spain

Congratulations to our winners and we look forward to hearing about your experiences!!

~**TIBS Scholarships and Grants**—Texas IB Schools has been awarding student scholarships for college and innovative teaching grants for the past five years. This year, we added another grant opportunity for our teachers—a local roundtable grant. All three applications were available starting in January and the deadline was March 2. Once again, we had a record year for applications submitted. The TIBS Scholarship and Awards Committee read and evaluated a total of 92 scholarship applications and 12 grant applications. Once again IB Source provided one scholarship, bringing the total number to seven \$1,000 scholarships that were awarded to the following students:

- Elizabeth Arriaga, Luther Burbank High School, San Antonio
- Wendy Gonzales, Eisenhower Sr. High School, Houston
- Brette Machiorlette, MB Lamar High School, Houston
- Breeanna Mendiola, Luther Burbank High School, San Antonio
- Carmin Munoz Lavanderos, MB Lamar High School, Houston
- Nastassia Palanetskaya, Eisenhower Sr. High School, Houston
- Zeyan Xu, Robert E. Lee High School, Tyler

Innovative teaching awards, each in the amount of \$1,000, were given to the following teachers:

- Corey Allen, Leonard Middle School, Ft. Worth
- Jennifer Barnett, Teresa Milliger, & Mary Jo Fatke, Grisham Middle School, Austin
- Diane Hance, Grisham Middle School, Austin
- Rao Olayeye, The Woodlands Preparatory School, The Woodlands
- Sam Tate & Tara Rollins, Kujawa Elementary, Houston
- Michelle Womack & Adam Brandner, Shotwell Middle School, Houston

Local Roundtable Grants, each in the amount of \$1,000, were given to the following schools/areas:

- Graciela Garcia Elementary (Pharr/South Texas)—PYP
- Spicewood Elementary (Austin/Central Texas)—PYP
- Ranchview High School (Irving/DFW)—MYP
- Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD (North Texas)—DP & MYP

A special thanks goes out to the members of the TIBS Scholarship and Awards Committee. We appreciate your time and dedication to this important part of TIBS. Members included:

- Lynn Hobson, Committee Chair, Peebles Elementary, Killeen
- Beth Hughes, Denton High School, Denton
- Robbie Johnson, Lancaster High School, Lancaster
- James Henneke, Barbara Bush Middle School, Irving
- Janice Swarts, Hirschi High School, Wichita Falls
- Linda Johnson, The Woodlands Preparatory School, The Woodlands
- Jan Zimmern, Anderson Mill Elementary, Austin

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who applied! ~**Presentations and meetings**—TIBS remains active in spreading the message of the IB as well as staying involved in events that play a role in shaping its future. The following is a list of upcoming presentations and meetings that will impact the IB in Texas:

- IB World Student Conference—Segovia, Spain (July 2-6)
- IB World Student Conference—British Columbia, Canada (July 23-27)
- IB Conference of the Americas—Riviera Maya, Mexico (July 12-15)
- TIBS PYP/MYP Workshops—Austin (July 22-25 & 25-28)
- TIBS Fall Coordinator Meeting & Roundtable—Austin (October 19 & 20)

## **TIBS Spotlight Section**

✓ **Recently authorized schools**—Congratulations to our newly authorized schools in Texas!!! We are so proud of all of your hard work!! (If you are not on this list and have been authorized, please contact the TIBS office and let us know.)

- Grandview Hills Elementary—Austin (Leander ISD)
- Harvard Elementary—Houston
- Humble High School (MYP)—Humble
- Ross Sterling Middle School—Humble
- South Texas Business Education & Technology Academy—Edinburg

### *Stony Point High School IB hosts first-ever 5K Run/1K Walk for Prader-Willi Syndrome*

On October 2, 2011 Stony Point High School IB students of Round Rock, Texas collaborated to host the first-ever 5K Run/1K Walk for Prader-Willi Syndrome. Local community members came out to enjoy a day filled with fun activities, healthy foods, and entertaining emcees. The event raised over \$24,000 which was donated to One SMALL Step, an international organization dedicated to the research of Prader-Will Syndrome in hopes of finding a cure.

Substantial planning took place in organizing this CAS project, involving the commitment and collaboration of an entire community. As a result, everyone reaped the rewards.

Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) is a rare genetic disorder affecting one in every 12,000-15,000 infants. The most common symptoms of PWS are short stature, inhibited cognitive skills, dysfunctional genitals, and, most devastating, an insatiable appetite. The child's constant hunger often leads to obesity, and all of the problems the ailment encompasses.

The race took place on a beautiful, crisp Sunday morning around 8:00 AM, however, the IB students involved in the project arrived much earlier. Making sure every aspect of the event was perfect, the students manned all stations, all day. From blowing the horn to start the race, to supervising kids jumping in the moonwalk, it was a busy day for SPHS students. Matthew Myatt, a second-year IB student, enthused, "It was great promoting healthy lifestyles in the local community while offering our services for a much greater cause." The students' publicity committee was able to encourage five local PWS families to participate in the day's festivities; their appearance greatly moved the volunteers and they in turn were moved by the generosity and compassion of those involved with the event.

Stony Point High School students gained valuable knowledge in the areas of planning and initiating a large event. After splitting into various committees such as entertainment, logistics, and publicity, each committee tackled their respective areas and sought assistance from professionals in the field. The publicity committee, for example, met with Austin-area representatives of Facebook. The Facebook officials taught the IB students various methods of marketing such as advertisement and ways to improve site views. The collaboration with Facebook was a partnership, and the IB students were fully able to propose and implement their own ideas. Students from the publicity committee also met with Dell Computer public relations professionals.

The results of the planning and effort that was put in to the event were substantial. Large sums of money were raised for a great cause, students acquired valuable work-related knowledge, and a legacy project was established for future generations of IB students to tackle. The event was a monumental success. We hope that next year will be just as rewarding as this year!



## *Klein Oak High School IB class of 2012 supports PRATHAM organization*

The Klein Oak I.B. class of 2012 began planning a fundraiser event during their junior year to support the PRATHAM organization. As the largest educational movement in India, PRATHAM is inspiring people around the world to stand up for children's right to an education. PRATHAM's programs are all driven by the simple, singular mission of "Every child in school and learning well." From its start in providing pre-school education to the children in the slums of Mumbai, PRATHAM has grown into the largest educational organization in India reaching 2.4 million children in 21 states. Central to this success has been a whole new way of approaching the education problem to create a national impact.

In order to contribute to this charity, the Klein Oak I.B. class of 2012 decided that they wanted to have Klein Oak's first dance-a-thon and International food tasting event. A small group of the I.B. seniors took the lead last year and formed the various committees they felt were necessary for such an event. These committees then began meeting last spring. As they quickly discovered that there would be expenses involved, the seniors also decided to go to various businesses, family members, etc. over the summer to ask for donations. They collected over \$800 to help cover the expenses of the event.

Prior to the date of the event this fall, posters were made to advertise the dance-a-thon contest and food tasting event. The seniors were hopeful that many Klein Oak students would pay a small admission to enter the dance-a-thon as a prize for first and second place were being offered. They were also hopeful that our community would attend to watch the dance contest and of course for a small fee, try various dishes prepared by our I.B. students and their parents.

On November 12, 2012, the I.B. seniors met in the commons to decorate and prepare the room for the food tasting event. Although there was not as large of a turn out as hoped for, the senior class did raise, after expenses, just over \$2,500 dollars to donate to PRATHAM.



Upcoming TIBS Activities  
(Mark your calendars!!)

**IB Americas Regional Conference**

July 12-15, 2012

Riviera Maya, Mexico

Hotel: Moon Palace Golf & Spa Resort

**July 22-28, 2012    Austin, TX    Summer Workshop**

Registration and the plenary sessions will be held at the Renaissance Austin Arboretum hotel.

PYP Categories One, Two, and Three: July 22-25

MYP Categories One and Two: July 22-25

PYP Categories One, Two, and Three, July 25-28

MYP Categories One, Two, and Three: July 25-28

Registration information can be found on the website, under activities.

**October 19, 2012    Austin, TX    Coordinator Meeting**

The Coordinator Meeting will be held at the Renaissance Austin Arboretum hotel from 1-5pm. This meeting is free for all coordinators to attend (interested schools, candidate schools, and authorized schools are all welcome)

**October 20, 2012    Austin, TX    Fall Roundtable**

Our annual Fall Roundtable will be held at the Renaissance Austin Arboretum hotel.  
Topics TBA

Registration information can be found on the website in August 2012.