



# Bellaire High School

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Program



### **What Is International Baccalaureate?**

The International Baccalaureate diploma is the highest level of educational achievement that is available in the K-12 school system. IB is an internationally recognized program for college admissions and course credit based on earned course scores and recognized by many US universities and colleges. The IB diploma program is an honors level and rigorous interdisciplinary course of study, resulting in potentially earning the *International Baccalaureate* Diploma in addition to the state high school diploma. A student enters in the pre-IB levels in 9<sup>th</sup> grade to prepare for the IB levels in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. In addition, to the courses of study, students will complete *internal assessment* components (formal papers and oral responses) within each course as part of the total exam scores. IB requires students to participate in the *Theory of Knowledge* course, and complete a 4,000 word analysis focused *extended essay*.

The Bellaire High School IB program is a very successful diploma only program with 91 percent or more earning the diploma over the past 35 years. Pre-requisite courses are only at the honors level. If accepting an IB transfer to Bellaire High School, the inability or failure to comply with the conditions of the transfer will result in returning to one's zoned school, no other transfer option is available.

### **Requirements for the Bellaire IB Diploma program include the following**

Completion of:

- IB courses, preAP/preIB/HADV prerequisite classes, and graduation requirements
- All components of a diploma only program- courses, exams, papers, CAS, TOK, EE.
- Algebra 1 must be completed prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Extended Essay-completion of a 4,000 word analytical based research topic 11/12th grade
- 6-IB Internal Assessments (approx. 2,500 words) for each examining subject in 11th/12th grade
- Theory of Knowledge class in 11 and 12th grade
- CAS requirements 11/12th grade
- Maintaining a 75% average in all preAP/preIB/IB level classes 9-12th grade
- Maintaining at least a 90% attendance rate 9-12th grade
- Zoned students do not complete the transfer application from the Office of School Choice. See the BHS website for IB to make a zoned application.
- Students requesting a transfer, complete the application on the Office of School Choice site.

### ***Please see the following for further information:***

IBO: <https://www.ibo.org/diploma-guide/>

BHS IB: <https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/25715>

BHS IB Coordinator: Ann Linsley, [akennedy@houstonisd.org](mailto:akennedy@houstonisd.org)