

The International Baccalaureate Program at Pedro Menendez High School

Mission Statement

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.

Why should I work toward an International Baccalaureate Diploma?

While an IB Diploma is recognized world-wide and can gain a student admission into many prestigious international universities, we recognize that most of our students will attend a college or university in the United States, and probably in Florida. Still, there are several immediate advantages of pursuing an IB Diploma.

- Most importantly, the IB Program exposes students to international issues and provides leadership opportunities for them to make a difference in the world.
- Tomorrow's world leaders need training in critical and analytical thinking, which the IB Program provides. IB students look at problem solving and creating innovative solutions to real world situations.
- The IB Diploma is recognized as one of the premiere ways to prepare for a successful college career.

How will I benefit from graduating from the IB Program at Pedro Menendez?

You will be more than prepared for university studies. You will have many opportunities to develop your critical thinking skills, solve real world problems, and take leadership roles in changing the world around you.

What Does the IB Program Look Like at Menendez?

International Baccalaureate students at Menendez High School will take international tests in their junior or seniors years in the following subjects.

- Literature
- Spanish
- History of the Americas and 20th Century History
- Psychology
- Biology or Physics
- Mathematics

Within the curriculum there is an emphasis on the global impact of these disciplines as well as an international awareness of how this knowledge affects the population of the world as a whole.

Additionally, there are three other components, which make the IB Diploma unique.

- Students participate in a minimum of 150 hours of Community, Action, and Service Learning Projects.
- Students take a course, *Theory of Knowledge*, in which they explore different ways of “knowing” and how these differ among the disciplines.
- Students investigate and write a 4,000 word researched extended essay in an area of their particular interest.

Does Everyone in the IB Program receive an IB Diploma?

To receive the IB Diploma, students must complete all the requirements above AND earn a minimum of 24 points on the international tests. Students completing the IB Diploma Program who do not earn the 24 points, still earn a State of Florida Diploma.

What Does an IB Student “Look Like”?

IB Students Are

Inquirers Knowledgeable

Thinkers Communicators

Principled Open-Minded

Caring Risk-Takers

Balanced Reflective

For more information about the International Baccalaureate Program at Pedro Menendez High School, please contact Guidance Counselor Meredith Masiak or Assistant Principal Kathy Sanchez. They can be reached at 904-547-8660 or at masiakm@stjohns.k12.fl.us and sanchekek@stjohns.k12.fl.us respectively.