

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JUNE 20, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Shepardson Watson-Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman, Dean Antipas, Matthew Shulman, Rita Volkmann, Beverly Washington, Jay Weitlauf

MEMBERS ABSENT: Liz Porter

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Laurie LePine

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Shepardson Watson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. BOE REGULAR BUSINESS

MOTION: Ackerman, Antipas: To approve the COW minutes of May 16, 2022.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

III. DISCUSSION RE: BOARD MEMBER REPLACEMENT PROCESS

Mrs. Shepardson-Watson noted that she has received 3 inquiries from individuals wanting to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education. Mrs. Shepardson-Watson asked Board member what process they would like to follow in filling the vacancy on the Board. Mrs. Washington stated that the Democratic Town Committee is not going to make a recommendation to fill the vacancy on the Board. Mrs. Washington suggested advertising on the District webpage, Facebook, and the Groton Times. As a result of Board discussion it was suggested to advertise in mid-August, interview in August and/or September, and have a Board vote at the regular Board meeting in September.

IV. EXPANDING ACCESS TO IB (ATTACHMENT #1)

Ms. Austin and Mr. Keleher gave an overview of the PowerPoint presentation of Expanding Access to IB Courses. The presentation was one of four presented to the Connecticut State Department of Education related to expanding access to higher level courses for students.

V. 2022 WORLD LANGUAGE AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP GRANT (JNROTC/NNCDD – Application status)

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the 2022 World Language and Global Citizenship Grant and the application status after applying for the Department of Defense Activity Grant, called *Nurturing Global Mindedness through World Language Instruction*, this past spring. In order to apply for the grant, the district needed to apply for the Department of Defense JROTC/NNDC program. Our application is presently sitting at the Secretary of Navy's office.

VI. IB/CP/CAREER PATHWAY/GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CAREERS (MILITARY/ROTC) (ATTACHMENT #2)

Ms. Austin noted that this item was previously presented to the Board by Anne Keefe-Forbotnick. She stated that the program encourages students to become active learners and helps them pursue a career pathway, such as nursing and culinary arts, and that any of the career pathways could be linked with courses in IB to become an IBCP program. Ms. Austin stated that we will also be expanding the career pathway program to include government and public administration careers with JROTC or NNDCC (Navy National Defense Cadet Corps). Mr. Keleher discussed the job shadowing portion of the career pathways program, which is already built into the nursing program. Mrs. LePine discussed the teaching career pathway and noted that although this pathway is in its developmental stage, there is student interest. She stated that we are looking into an afterschool club to integrate a teaching pathway. She noted that the CSDE sponsors and supports a Connecticut teaching website, Teach.org, which offers a free survey to assess students' interest in teaching and we will utilize the survey to gauge student interest at FHS next year. She also mentioned that students are already participating in the Teacher Assistance Program at the high school.

VII. SUGGESTED FUTURE TOPICS

- Mr. Shulman asked for an update on the Mentoring program
- Ms. Austin noted the need for discussion of the enrollment data
- Mrs. Washington asked for discussion of the lunch trays used at the high school – are they environmentally friendly; keep it more green

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Antipas: To adjourn at 7:32 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



HOW CAN WE EXPAND ACCESS TO ADVANCED COURSEWORK?

And support ALL students in the process?



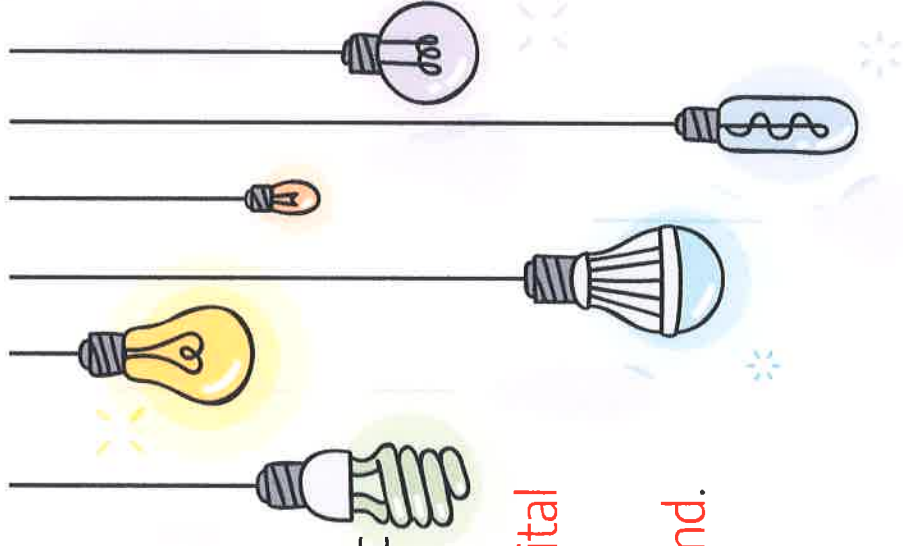
✧ Groton Public Schools: Who are We?



*Groton is a community nestled between the Thames and Mystic Rivers.

*First and Finest Submarine Capital of the World; largest military dependent district in New England.

*Groton 2020 Plan = Excellence, Equity, and Efficiency – came to fruition this school year 2021-2022!



WHO WE SERVE

Ethnicity	# Students
American Indian or Alaska Native	29
Asian	263
Black or African American	293
Hispanic/ Latino of any race	986
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	19
Two or More Races	464
White	2038
Total	4092

Military Connected - 25%

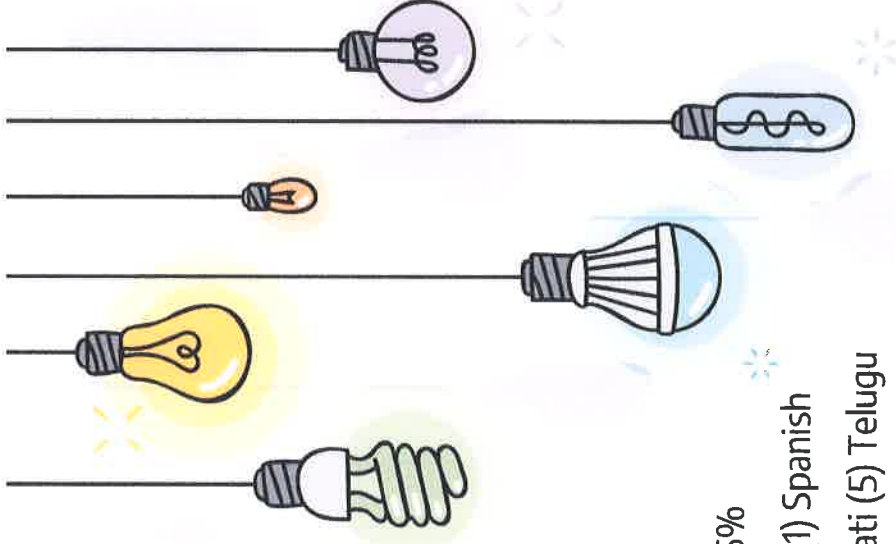
English Language Learners - 4%

Students with disabilities - 19%

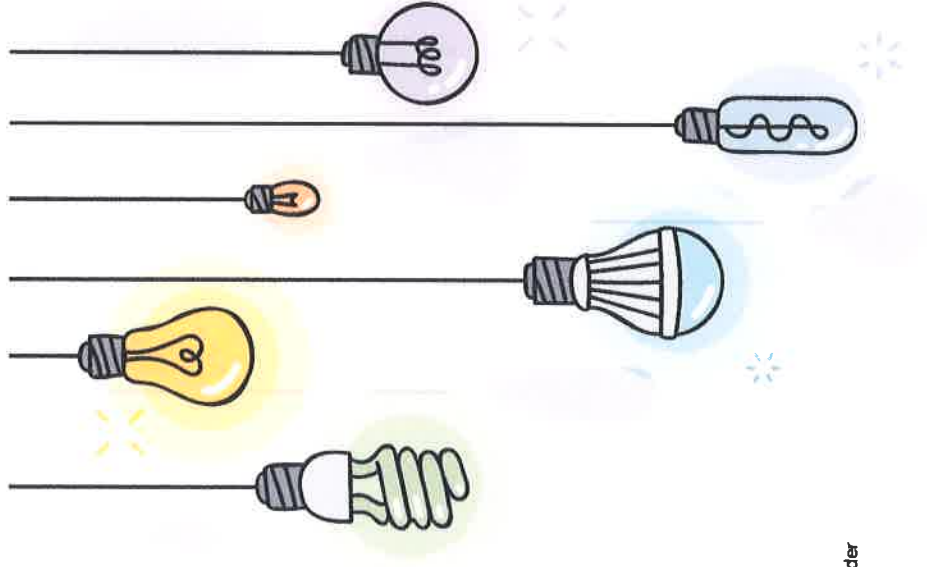
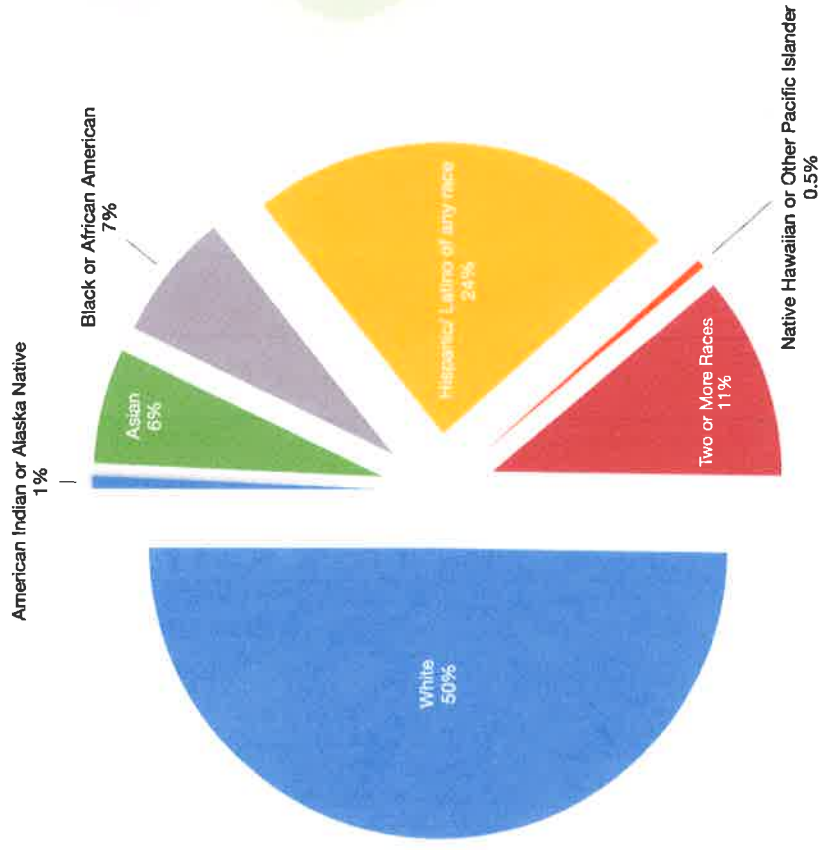
Economically disadvantaged - 46%

32 Different Home Languages - (1) Spanish

(2) Mandarin (3) Arabic (4) Gujarati (5) Telugu

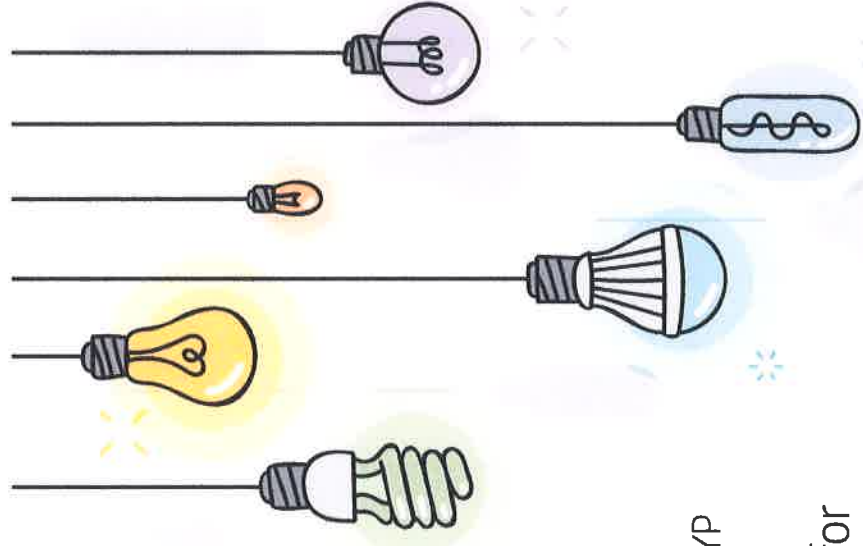


WHO ARE WE?



✧ STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES IN GROTON

- ✧ Diverse community and unique government structure.
- ✧ Improving equity and access in higher-level courses.
- ✧ Lots of opportunities for ALL students:
 - ✧ UCONN ECE,
 - ✧ Three Rivers ECE,
 - ✧ AP
 - ✧ IB courses, IB DP and IB CP Programmes
 - ✧ All students in grades 6-10 immersed in Middle Years Programme IB MYP
- ✧ Misperception that International Baccalaureate is “elitist”.
- ✧ School community support is needed for Equity and Access for students in rigorous and relevant courses.



WHAT STUDENTS SAY



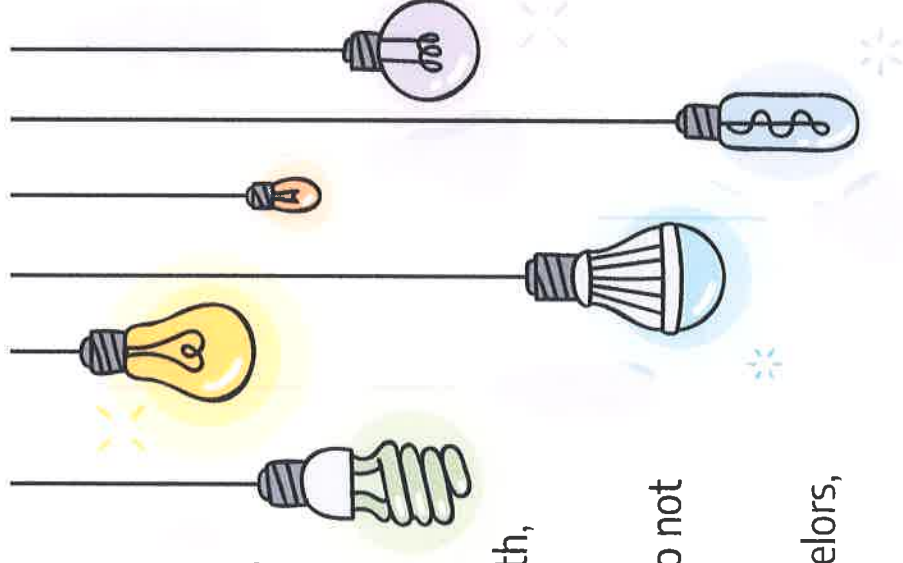
Some students say they were made aware of advanced classes, but chose honors-level classes instead of IB, AP, or ECE.

Many students say they were unaware of the advanced course offerings.

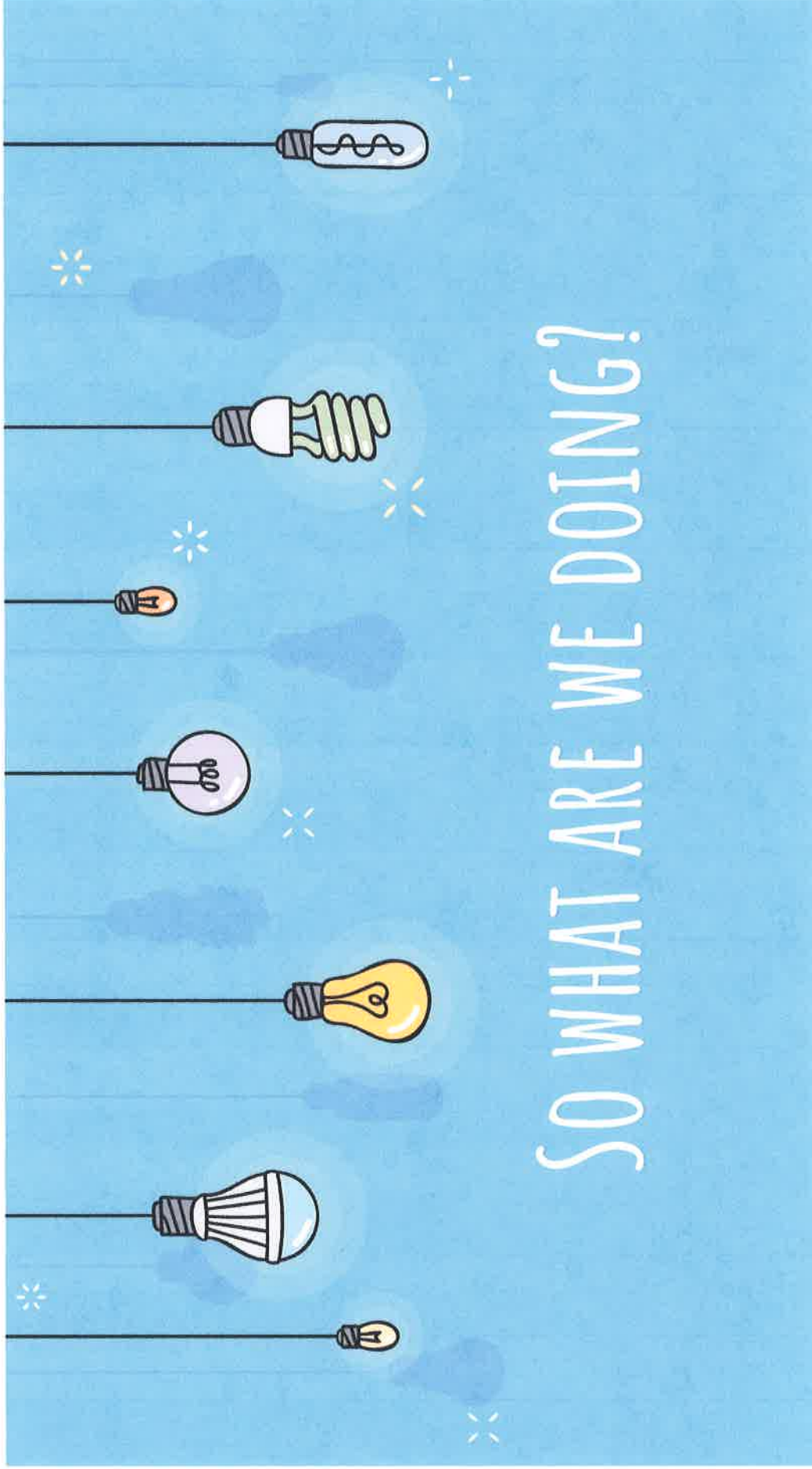
Students wish they had more students who they can relate to, identify with, and who look like them in the advanced classes.

Students of color, who have taken advanced level courses, say that they do not feel academically prepared to take advanced level classes.

Students say that their course selections are influenced by teachers, counselors, friends, and family members.

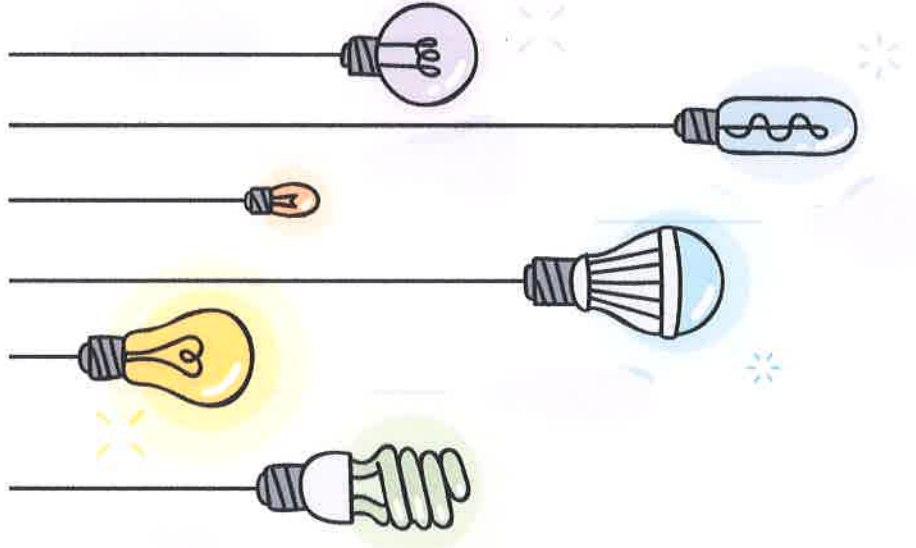


SO WHAT ARE WE DOING?



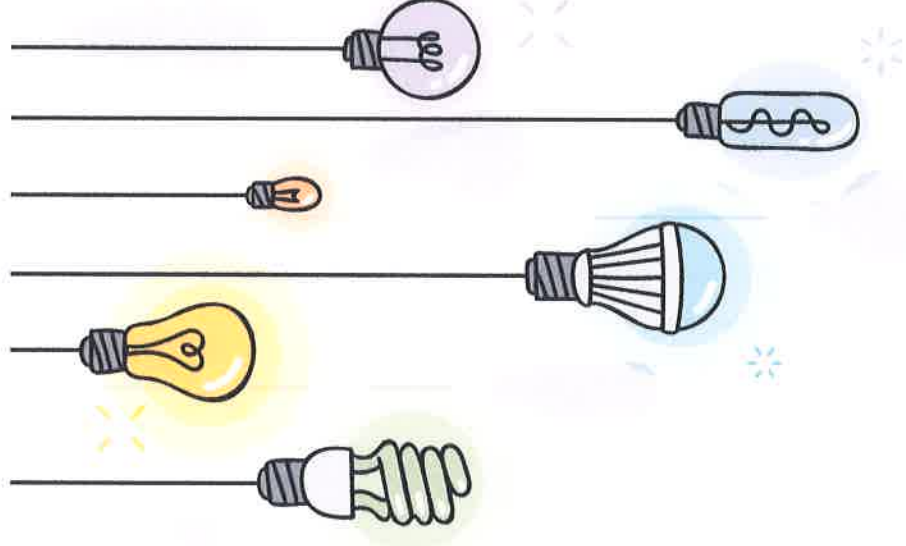
✧ GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' PLAN

- ✧ Groton 2020 Equity and Excellence for ALL!
- ✧ International Baccalaureate secondary campus
- ✧ Authorized CP grades 11-12
- ✧ Authorized MYP for all 6-10
- ✧ Potential PYP
- ✧ Plan to promote advanced course access; see specific IB Access Plan.



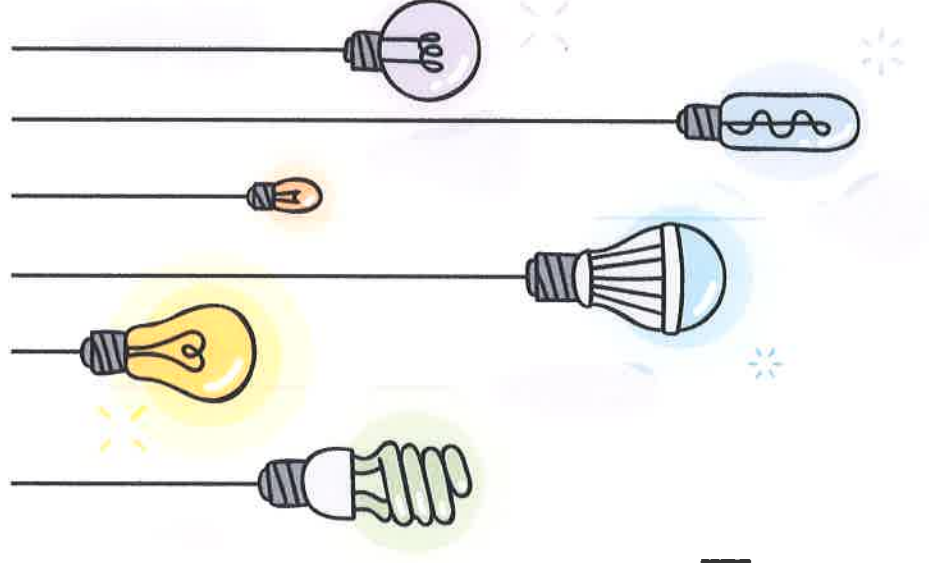
✧ THE PLAN

- ✧ Build an understanding of IB throughout the District and community.
- ✧ Professional learning for faculty.
- ✧ Clear and ongoing communication to students and families.
- ✧ Develop leadership and IB student ambassadors.
- ✧ Fairs, Assemblies, information sessions.
- ✧ Individual meetings with students and parents.
- ✧ Ongoing encouragement for students.
- ✧ MSAP and DoDEA grants support the work.



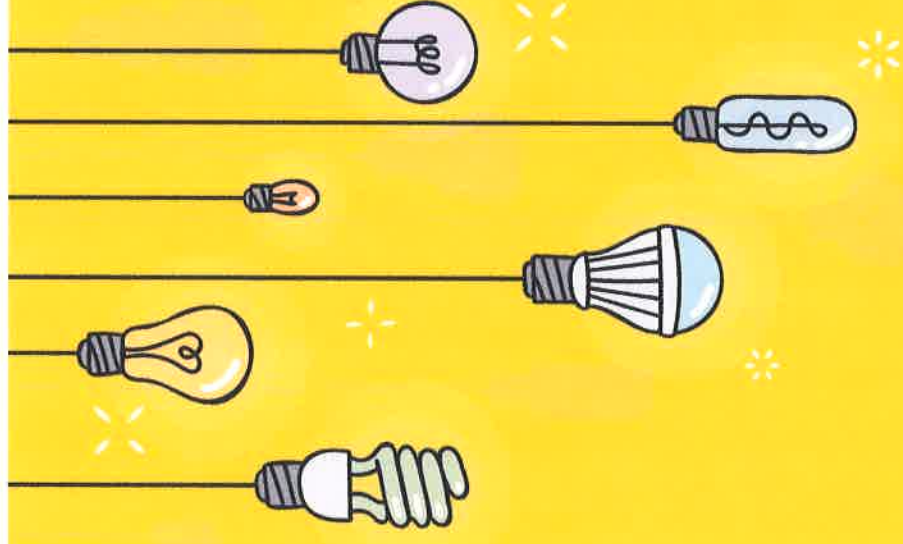
HOW CAN WE ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO CHALLENGE THEMSELVES?

- ✦ Teachers and coordinators leverage relationships with individual students.
- ✦ Algebra access for all.
- ✦ Support students in these advanced classes.
- ✦ Informed counselors encourage students.
- ✦ Ongoing communications with students and parents.

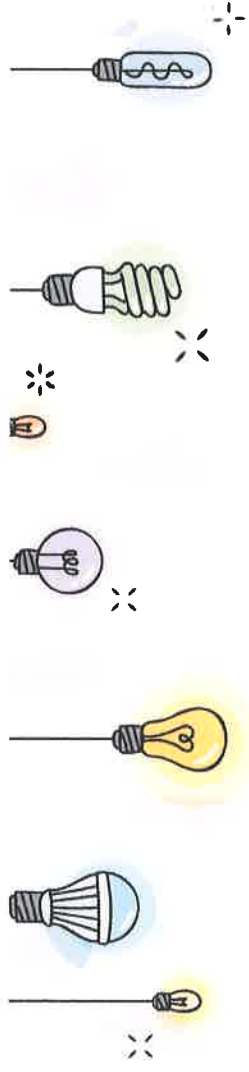


“SO WHY INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE?”

IB programmes enable teachers to develop resilient, self-motivated young people, who have the knowledge, skills, and sense of purpose they need to thrive throughout their lives and contribute to making the world a better place.” (ibo.org)



So why IB?



IB takes a balanced and inquiry-based approach to learning

IB Coursework reflects real-world applications and skills

IB Prepares student to succeed in college and beyond

The IB Learner Profile focuses on the whole student

The Core of the DP cultivates:

- Service Learning
- Critical Thinking
- Research-Writing Skills

The Career-related Programme (CP) is a unique international education programme that:

- prepares students both professionally and academically
- develops students to become global citizens
- fosters attitudes and habits of mind to allow students to become lifelong learners
- reduces the “academic vs practical” divide.

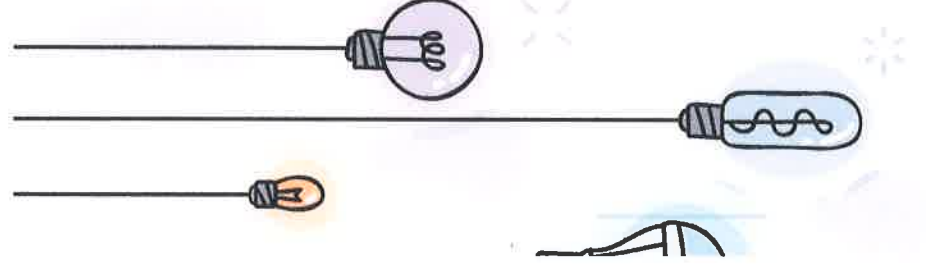
CP graduates are equipped to pursue:

- further education
- higher education
- employment
- apprenticeships.

“The mix of traditionally academic and career-related courses has seen a rapid holistic development of our young people and given them a set of skills to take into the next phase of their lives. At the Academy, we have used the CP to raise aspirations.”

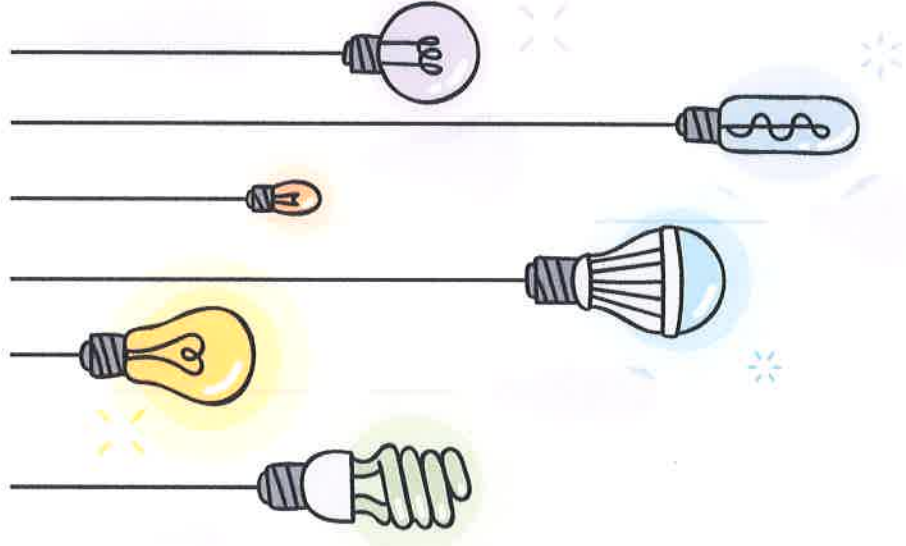
Alan Carr, Head of School
Sannars Kent Academy, UK

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✧ MYP EXPERIENCE

International Baccalaureate MYP is an instructional approach for **ALL** students. The preparation students receive in grades 6-10 opens the pathway for students to better comprehend the IB higher level courses. Consequently students feel more confident selecting the DP or CP pathway.

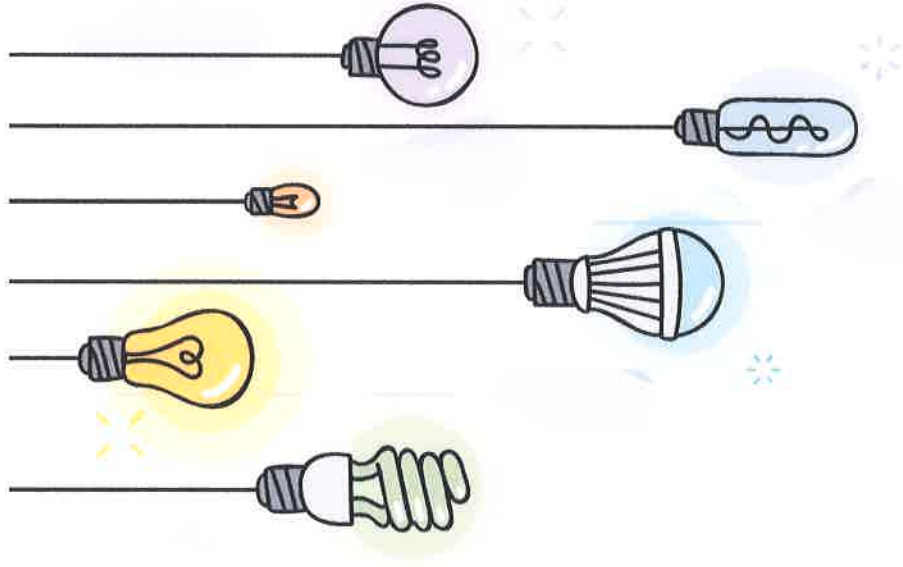


💡 THE POSSIBILITIES OF A FULL-IB DISTRICT

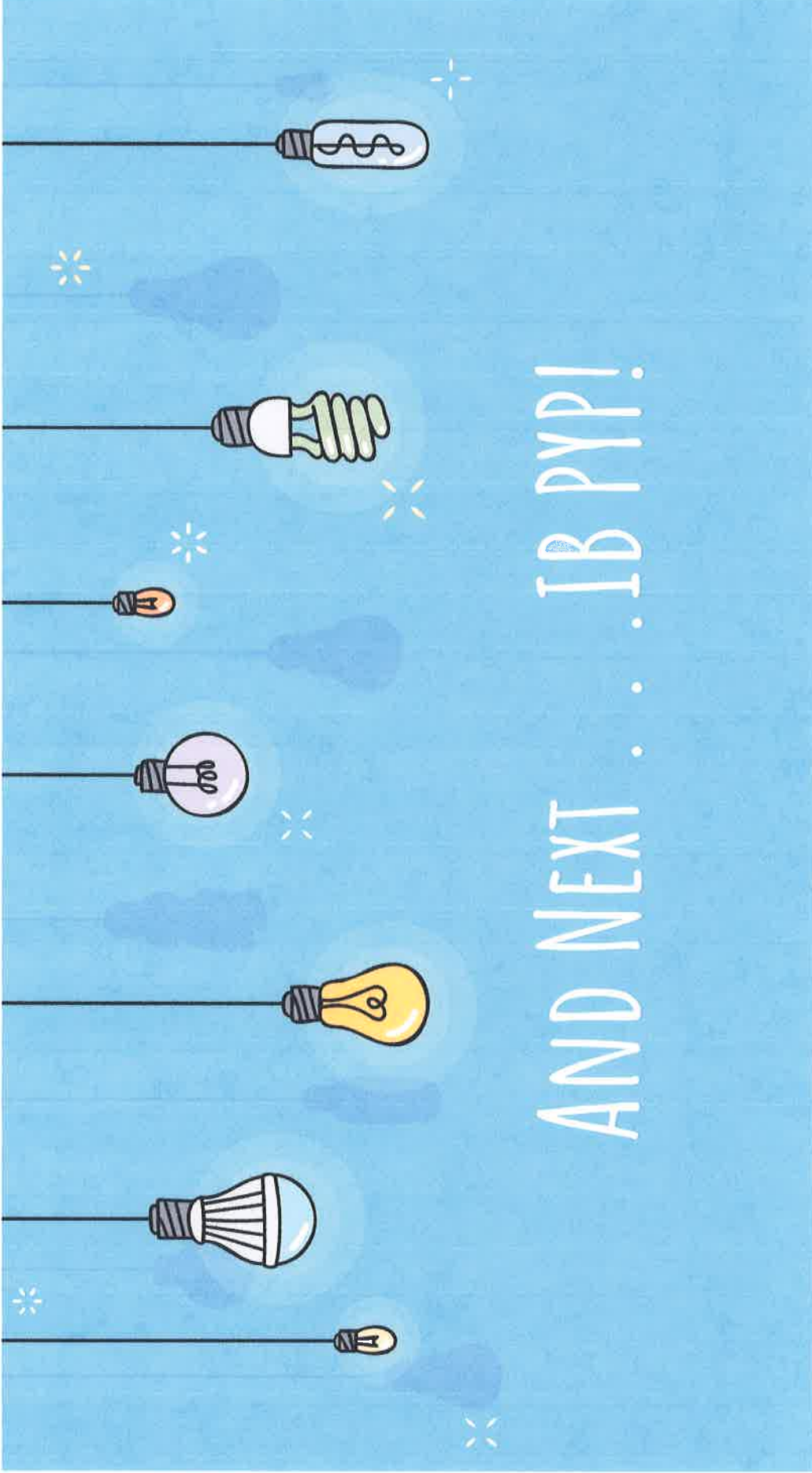
Currently, we have just been authorized to offer the IB Middle Years Program (MYP)

Focus on collaborative planning, engaging instruction, and authentic assessment using the MYP model will better prepare all of our students to take more challenging courses.

Future goal to implement PYP into our elementary schools for all students K-5.



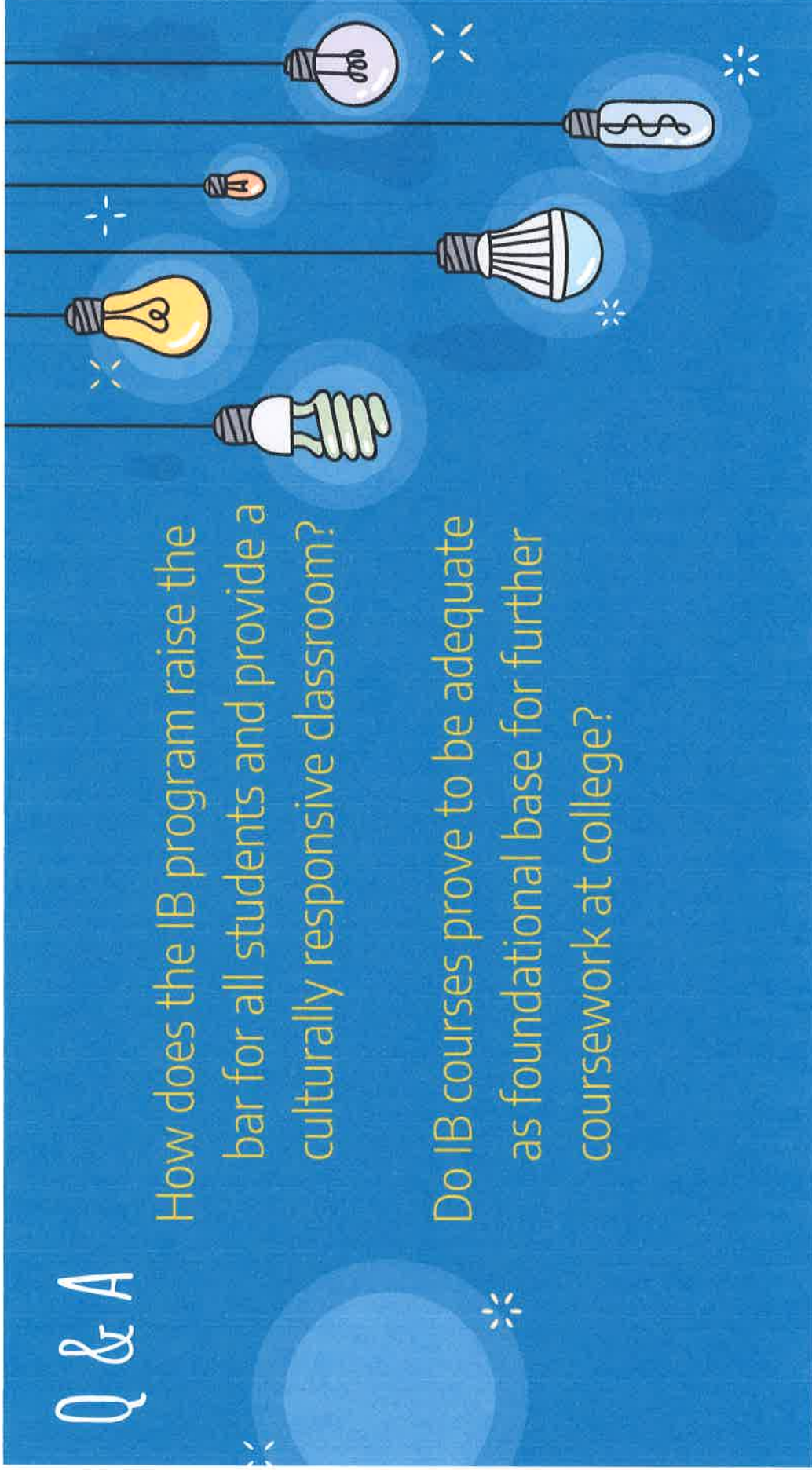
AND NEXT . . . IB PYP!



Q & A

How does the IB program raise the bar for all students and provide a culturally responsive classroom?

Do IB courses prove to be adequate as foundational base for further coursework at college?



❖ ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

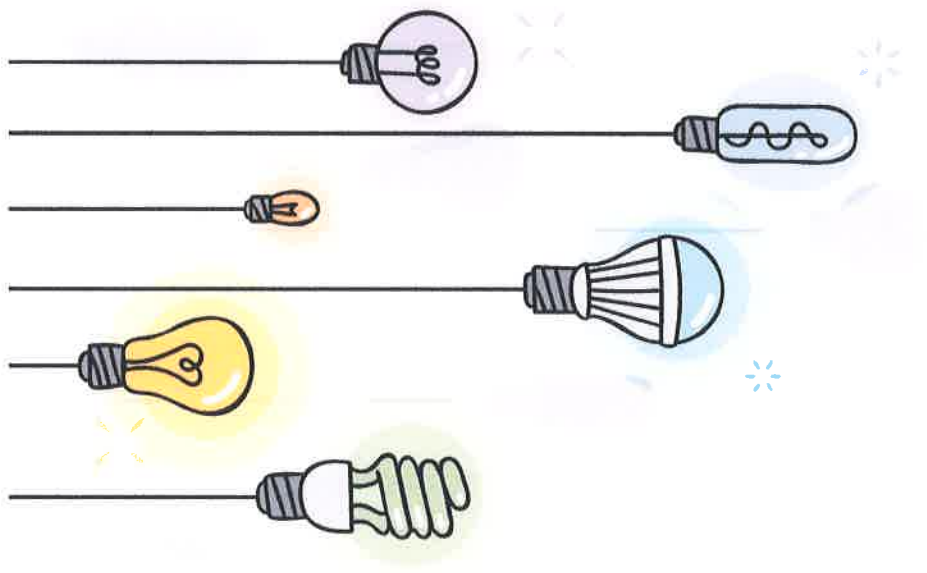
THE MYP

THE DP

THE CP

About IB in Groton

Coming soon – IB Action Plan





What you need to know about the Career-related Programme (CP)



International Baccalaureate
Baccalaureat International
Bachillerato Internacional

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International Baccalaureate® | Baccalaureat International® | Bachillerato Internacional®

IB programmes

Our programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.





International

Career-related

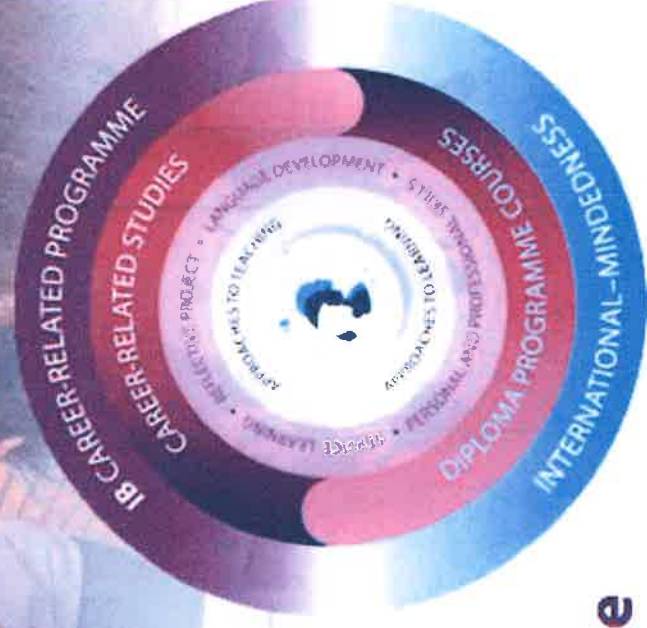
Innovative Language development

Personal and professional skills

Service learning

Academic courses from

Diploma Programme



International Baccalaureate
Secondary Education
Diploma Programme

© International Baccalaureate Organization 2018

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CP graduates are equipped to pursue:

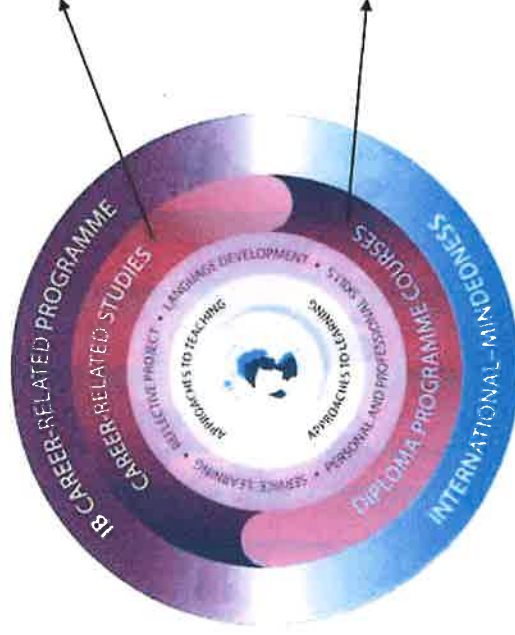
- further education
- higher education
- employment
- apprenticeships.

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Stan Carr, Head of School
Skimmers Kent Academy, UK

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Aligning the CP with a selected career pathway



Example 1: Engineering

Career-related studies

Schools work with career-related-studies providers in engineering, such as PLTW

Types of subjects that may be offered include:

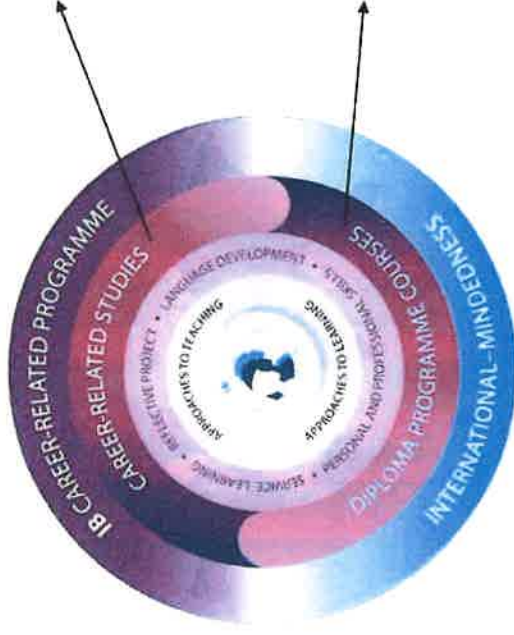
- Introduction to Engineering Design
- Principles of Engineering
- **Possible Future Classes** – Computer Integrated Manufacturing and/or Engineering Design and Development

Students choose from the recommended DP courses that align with their selected career pathway.

- Computer science
- Design technology
- Mathematical studies
- Chemistry

Aligning the CP with a selected career pathway

Example 2: Nursing



Career-related studies

Schools work with career-related studies providers in nursing, such as State of Connecticut. Types of subjects that may be offered include:

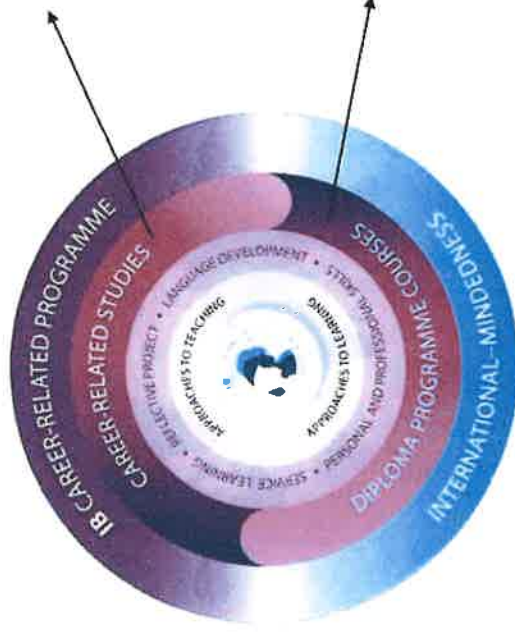
- Diversified Health Occupations
- Honors Nursing

Diploma Programme courses

Students choose from the recommended DP courses that align with their selected career pathway.

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Sports, Exercise and Health Science
- Psychology
- Physics

Aligning the CP with a selected career pathway



Example 3: Culinary

Career-related studies

Schools work with career-related studies providers in culinary, such as ServeSafe. Types of subjects that may be offered include:

- Foods 1
- Falcon Cafe
- Culinary Arts 1

Diploma Programme courses

Students choose from the recommended DP courses that align with their selected career pathway.

- Business Management
- Visual Arts

Future Career Pathways

Arts, A/V Technology & Communications

- Audio-Video Technology & Film
- Graphic Communications
- Graphic Design

Health Science

- Emergency Medical Responder
- Sports Medicine

Information Technology

- Game Design

Government & Public Administration Careers

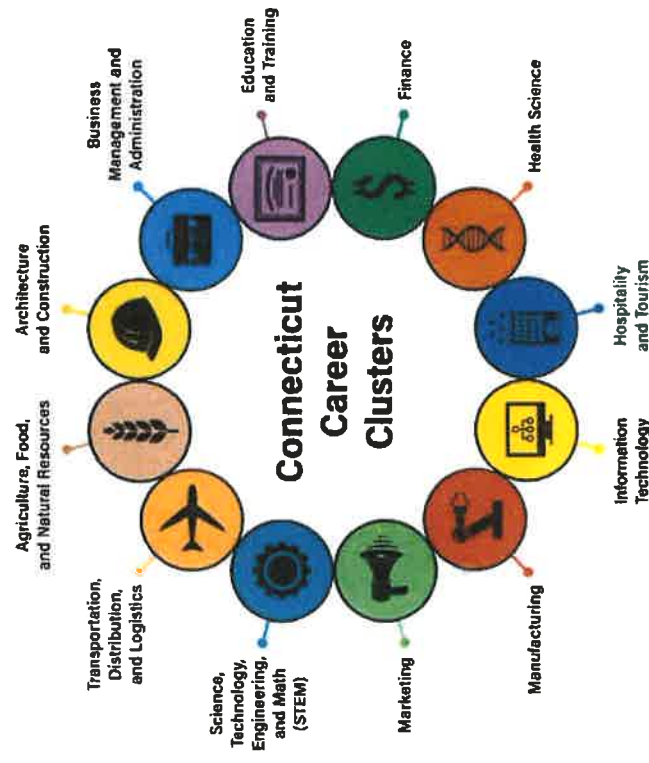
- Military/ROTC

Marketing

- Marketing Communications & Promotions

Human Services

- * Nutrition & Food Science



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION