



*Pride in our past. Faith in our future.*

BE A WARRIOR.

# SFHS Current Status

- 30+ Faculty members
- Dual enrollment courses
- Student Organizations
- Religious courses
- Weekly Mass
- Positive Energy
- ACT graduating class average is the highest that it has been in 5 years-24.4
- 5.6 points higher than the state average
- English and Reading 6.6 and 6.4 points higher than the state average respectively

# Analyze

## How to differentiate SFHS in the market?

- Create an environment which combines traditional instruction with innovation that will inspire creativity and intellectual curiosity.
- Guide each individual student to meet their God-given potential.
- Ensure SFHS students are global thinkers and leaders.
- Emphasize we do not have to teach to a test or read a script.
- Establish SFHS as the premier school that will DEVELOP OUR STUDENTS SPIRITUALLY, HOLISTICALLY, ACADEMICALLY, PHYSICALLY, AND EMOTIONALLY. SHAPE our students.
- Equip our students with confidence to face the world.

# The Exploration Began

- What program would have proven results which we could embrace and implement to elevate SFHS?
- What program would promote interdisciplinary learning and higher order thinking skills?
- What program would set us apart in a market with a shrinking population?
- What program would blend with our Catholic teachings?
- What program would attract motivated students seeking a comprehensive education from Northeast Louisiana-not just Ouachita Parish?
- What program would VALIDATE all the above and yield positive results for the students and the school?

# Virtual and Face to Face Research

- The International Baccalaureate Program kept moving to the forefront as the option to accomplish these goals.
- Sister Carol contacted the Bishop in St. Louis to ensure this was appropriate for a Catholic school.
- Sister Carol provided a list of Catholic schools currently using the International Baccalaureate programs to be investigated.

# The Visit to Waukesha

We visited 6 IB classrooms:

- Theory of Knowledge
- Chemistry
- PreCal
- English IV
- American History & English III  
(taught as combined classes)
- Spanish IV

We met with the principal,  
IB teachers, and the IB coordinator.

Most importantly-WE WERE IMPRESSED and  
confident this is what we should pursue.



# IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programs is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.



# What is the Middle Years Program

- In an MYP classroom, you will notice students are at the center of learning.
- MYP students draw connections between all subject areas, learning is explicitly linked to the world around them, participation in a foreign language is required, and a variety of formal and informal assessments are used to inform teaching and learning.
- MYP learning experiences infuse global points of view wherever possible in order to promote understanding of other cultures, an awareness of the human condition and an understanding of the commonality of the human experience.



# The MYP Curriculum

- The framework comprises eight subject groups, providing a broad and balanced education for early adolescents. Students take the core courses of language and literature, individuals and societies, mathematics, sciences, physical and health education, language acquisition, arts and technology.
- A unique extension of the traditional curriculum is the immersion of four themes – approaches to teaching, approaches to learning, global contexts, and interdisciplinary concepts. Students will complete an independent service learning project directly related to the community.

# Advantages of an IB Education

- IB World Schools (the only schools authorized to offer IB programs) are subject to a strict accreditation process monitored by the IB, ensuring schools provide a high-quality education.
- IB teaching methods and curriculums are research-based and drawn from the best educational practices from systems around the world.
- IB teachers are required to participate in many professional development opportunities to continually promote their awareness of current educational practices and new thinking.

# Is IB considered “Gifted”?

- In most cases, the MYP requires school wide implementation and therefore encompasses all students. All teachers who teach in MYP classrooms are required to participate in collaborative planning and reflection to make their teaching practices consistent and to foster a holistic approach to education. A growing body of evidence suggests a positive relationship between teacher collaboration and student achievement.
- Students who complete the MYP are well-prepared to undertake the IB Diploma Program or Career-Related Program.

# Teacher Professional Development

- All MYP teachers receive professional development in the IB's approaches to teaching and learning from certified IB workshop leaders.
- This is a requirement for IB World Schools implementing the MYP.

# Timeline

- Begin administrative training now-November.
- Begin faculty training in the spring-ASAP.
- Identify current and new faculty willing to embrace this style of teaching-now and ongoing.
- Transition as approval process occurs and when ready--pursue the implementation of the IB Diploma Program.
- Students can begin to take more rigorous courses NOW.

# Why are changes needed in education?

“This is a story about the big public conversation the nation is not having about education... whether an entire generation of kids will fail to make the grade in the global economy because they can’t think their way through abstract problems, work in teams, distinguish good information from bad, or speak a language other than English.”

*How to Build a Student for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, TIME Magazine*



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