

Superintendent Insights

Office of the Superintendent
of Schools

January 2012

Dear Colleague,

Public education has been garnering a great deal of attention at the federal and state levels and in the media. As a result, the federal government and state agencies have approved mandates that must be addressed by school systems, statewide. In Hilton, leaders are attempting to understand the requirements and implications of these mandates. We are also striving to embed these changes into local goals and initiatives currently underway whenever possible. We will be using newsletters, staff meetings and other opportunities to communicate the changes to you in the coming months. It is our goal to make the change process meaningful rather than implement required changes for change sake. It is both an exciting and challenging time to be in education. As someone once said to me, the only constant in this world is change.

International Baccalaureate Programme Update

At their December 6 meeting, the Hilton Board of Education formally endorsed the District applying to offer the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IB-MYP) in our schools. For the past two years we have been studying this program and also conducted an internal feasibility study. We sent teachers, teacher leaders, Board members and administrators to MYP training sessions and made site visits. We believe that the philosophy and ideals of the International Baccalaureate programme strongly aligns with our District's Vision, Mission, Beliefs and Instructional Framework. More importantly, we believe that IB will serve as the impetus that will move the District forward in creating rigorous and relevant learning experiences that will prepare them for the challenges they will face after High School.

The District will formally apply to offer the IB-MYP programme in April, 2012. Following the application submission, we will be taking the necessary steps in the 2012-13 school year to meet IB requirements. It is our goal to offer the programme to students as early as the 2013-14 school year.

Sincerely,

Dave Dimbleby
Superintendent of Schools
www.hilton.k12.ny.us/superintendent.htm

Hilton Central School District

