



World School

A publication of the IB Parents' Association of GWHS, Denver, Colorado  
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George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster

## Challenges, Stress and Parenting Come Front and Center at the May 8<sup>th</sup> IB Parent Association Meeting!

In an effort to provide insight into parenting challenges, this month's IB Parents' Meeting will focus on psychological and stress-related issues for IB students. We will have a presentation and discussion led by Lita Phillips, a Denver therapist whose private practice centers around teens, families and adults. As a former educator for 23 years in the Cherry Creek Schools, she has a unique ability to assist high achieving teens face the multiple challenges they feel and knows how to balance their emotional and academic worlds.

Lita's presentation will help parents understand and deal with their kids, and help our students cope with the many stresses they face.

**Please join us in the Community Room at 7:00 pm for what promises to be an enlightening evening!**

### We Need Your Help!

The IB Parents Association is in need of **creative, interested, and available** parents to help edit and print the **Broadcaster**. The *Broadcaster* is THE way in which the IB Parents Association communicates with the GW IB community, and we want to provide up-to-date, pertinent, and interesting information to our families. This is an exciting time to get involved with the writing and publishing of the *Broadcaster*. If you have a flare for writing, and desire to be creative, and a need to be involved, this could be your opportunity! We are currently goal setting and planning how we will be changing the manner in which we provide all of the fantastic news relating to GW IB to our IB families. ***Please get involved with the Broadcaster!***

### Parent Volunteers Still Needed for the IB Board

Our recruiting for IB Parents' Association Board has been moving along well, and nearly all positions have volunteers. However, we still have some **important** positions to fill. We are looking for a Vice President or Vice Presidents, one or two parents who look forward to becoming an integral part of the management team of the Association, in anticipation of becoming Co- President in 2008-2009. We also are still looking for Co-Chairs to help with Freshmen Orientation and Fall Picnic.

If you are interested in information about any of these positions, please call or email us. Contact information can be found on the back page.

**Andrea Shea and Debi Roads, Co-Presidents**



## From the Board

Can it be May already? Another school year is nearly finished and we are looking forward and back, all at once. Our April meeting had something for everyone. **Suzanne Geimer** and **Amanda Schmidt** shared much information with juniors and their parents regarding IB exams, gathering information about colleges, narrowing down college choices, obtaining and

writing the Common Application, and generally preparing for the senior year. Time certainly is whirling by! Concurrently, as Ms. Geimer and Ms. Schmidt were preparing Juniors of the road ahead, **Ms. Anne Snead**, a financial planner and seasoned mother of three college students, spoke to a group of Freshman and Sophomore parents in the Community Room, sharing much information and experience, providing ideas for smoothing out the transition from high school to college, for both students and parents. She had many great tips, and parents came away with plenty to think about. It was helpful to hear her experiences and quite informative.

Our May Parent meeting, on **Tuesday, May 8 at 7:00 pm** in the **Community Room** will feature **Lita Phillips**, a Denver therapist whose private practice focuses on teens, families, and adults. She'll share her ideas about stress, anxiety and balance in our children's and our lives, and give us ideas about living with the challenges of having a student in the IB Program. Come to this informative meeting, ask questions, learn new ways of *thinking about* and *responding to* the pressures we all face as parents of adolescents.

Last year's Summer Enrichment Program was a great success, providing an opportunity for our new students to make new friends, become oriented to GW and learn the details of the IB program, become introduced to languages B (French and Spanish), social studies, literature, writing and science investigation as it applies to IB. Thank you **Mike Epke, Bill Achbach, Barbara Gale-Martinez, Tom Bancroft, Jan Daly, Liz Ward, Suzi Geimer, Amanda Schmidt** and the **Friends of IB Scholars Foundation** for making this possible.

We would like to thank some of the people whose efforts make the IB Parent Association and the GW IB Program such a success. First, special thanks to **Sarah Fisher, Susie Sigman, and Crystal Santistevan**, our IB *Broadcaster* Editors. The *Broadcaster* really is a critical component that helps to hold the IB Parents Association and the GW IB community together. Many thanks, too, to all the members of the Board of the IB Parents Association and the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation. A successful school program like the IB Program, of course, takes great students, and we certainly have our share. It also takes great parents, and those parents who volunteer their time to be on the Association and foundation Boards show the commitment that so many IB parents have to the education of our children. So, *thanks to all* of you who have planned events, published the IB Directory, raised funds for the IB Program, and supported our students and faculty!

Finally, many thanks to **Suzanne Geimer, Amanda Schmidt**, and our **IB teachers**. We are SO fortunate to have Suzi, Amanda, and our wonderful IB faculty, who are *always* willing to help our kids.

**Andrea Shea and Debi Roads, Board Co-Presidents**

## May Calendar

- 1** Last day of school for juniors
- 1** IB Parents' Association Board meeting 7 p.m.
- 2-23** IB Testing
- 6** Senior Brunch, 11 a.m.
- 7** Freshman Orientation Welcome Reception 6 p.m.
- 8** GWIB Parents' Association Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 18** Graduation Rehearsal at the Colorado Convention Center, 9:30 a.m.
- 23** Graduation at the Colorado Convention Center, 7 p.m.
- 24** Juniors turn in their extended essays to advisors



## A Thank You from the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation from Jamie Kaplan

Again this year, our IB families, in conjunction with the Ebrahimi Family Foundation and the other foundations who met the challenge of the Ebrahimi matching grant, enabled the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation to enjoy another highly successful year of fundraising to benefit the GW IB program. The foundations which participated in the Ebrahimi challenge grant program are as follows:

<b>Ebrahimi Family Foundation</b>	\$15,000
<b>An anonymous donor through the Denver Foundation</b>	\$10,000
<b>The Grace R. and Alan D. Marcus Foundation</b>	\$2,000
<b>Thomas W. Bean Foundation, Inc.</b>	\$2,000
<b>Kohn Family Foundation</b>	\$1,000
<b>Running Deer Foundation</b>	\$250
<b>Total foundation donations</b>	\$30,250

IB families, friends and alumni contributed an additional \$12,920, bringing total donations to the IB Foundation for the year to \$43,170. As a result of these many generous donations, the Foundation was able to approve a wide variety of proposals that will enhance and enrich the educational experience in the IB program at George Washington High School. At the Foundation board meeting held in April 2007, the following proposals were funded by the Foundation:

- 8,500 for renewal of the contract for Dan Franklin, the part-time IB college counselor, to provide group and individual counseling sessions for junior and senior IB students.
- 7,000 for the summer enrichment program to be held in Summer 2007, including a class for the entering 9th Grade IB freshmen, emphasizing study skills, an introduction to IB classes, and skills for the transition to high school, and a class for juniors and seniors, emphasizing skills for IB English.
- 1,300 for expenses for Mr. Bancroft to lead a foreign culture and art trip to Italy with IB students this summer.
- 545 for books and tapes for Ms. Ward's French classes.
- 2,000 for District, State and National History Day registration fees for IB students, and van rental and travel expenses for Ms. Guggenheim and IB students at the national finals of the National History Day competition at the University of Maryland.
- 692 for lab rat dissection kits for Mr. Epke's IB biology classes.
- 500 for Presidential Freedom Scholarships for IB students for excellence in CAS activities.
- 450 for IB Diploma biology study books for Mr. Irwin's biology classes.
- 6,788 for chemistry Calculator-Based Laboratory data collection equipment, analytical balances, chemical sensors, orbital models and test kits for Dr. More's IB chemistry classes.
- 1,000 for restoration of the GW botanical greenhouse.
- 2,284 for expenses for Ms. Whitty and Mr. Achbach as IB faculty sponsors to travel with IB students to the national Model United Nations tournament in Washington, D.C.
- 7,700 for honoraria for IB faculty for advising on IB student extended essays.
- 2,500 for loans for IB exam fees and books for needy IB students.
- 4,700 for a loan for Model UN students for fundraising.

Elections for officers and board members were also held at the April meeting. **Jamie Kaplan** was re-elected as President of the Foundation. **Linda During** was re-elected as Secretary, and **Janice Thomas** was re-elected as Treasurer of the Foundation. Special thanks to both Linda and Janice for their dedication and many hours of service to the Foundation. All of the board members were also re-elected to their positions, except for **Steve Kapnik** and **Alan Gottlieb** who chose to resign their positions. Many thanks to both Steve and Alan for contributing their wisdom and advice to the board over a number of years. If there are any parents who are interested in serving on the Foundation board, please contact Jamie Kaplan at home, 303-759-1176, at the office, 303-539-3159, or by email at [James.Kaplan@publicans.com](mailto:James.Kaplan@publicans.com).

Thanks also to all of the IB Foundation board members for their commitment and dedication to the Foundation. The members' careful and thoughtful contributions to the decisions made by the board, regarding the educational proposals funded by the Foundation, ensure that the Foundation's funds are well-spent. And finally, a thank you to all of the contributors to the IB Foundation this year, who made the Foundation's grants to the IB program possible. The Foundation looks forward to the continued support of the George Washington IB community next year.

**Visit on the web: <http://gwhs.dpsk12.org/ib/>**



## Welcome New IB Students!

There is a new group of readers to this issue of the *Broadcaster* current 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and a few 9<sup>th</sup> graders, who have turned in acceptances to be part of GW's IB Program next year – and we would like to welcome you all! We hope that you and your parents enjoy reading about some of the wonderful opportunities that await you in IB next year, and that you get a sense of what a strong, supportive, nurturing, and close-knit group we are at George. If you have any questions, we encourage you and your parents to contact members of the Parent Board listed on the back page of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you in the halls in the fall! Have a great summer! And, again, welcome to our IB family!

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## IB New Student Summer Enrichment Is Back!

Once again we will be offering the popular new student summer enrichment program to our incoming students. This year's version is condensed and improved, spanning one week and including the Best of '06. Here's the plan:

**WHAT:** An academic and social orientation to GW's IB program, including: meeting new IB friends, "unpacking the IB Hexagon", discovering the secrets of GW, adjusting your study skills for high school, an introduction to reading and writing in IB, global views in social studies, science at the IB standard, group challenges, and the infamous "Never-be-lost-at-GW" Scavenger Hunt.

**WHERE:** George Washington  
**WHEN:** June 11-15, 2007  
9:00 A.M. to 2:45 P.M. —June 11  
9:00 A.M. to Noon— June 12-15

**WHY:** To provide a head start to success in IB and introduce you to your new classmates, teachers, and future friends.

**HOW:** An announcement and registration form will be mailed to all new IB students. There will be a \$50 registration fee (checks made payable to **Friends of IB Scholars Foundation**), with limited scholarships available upon request. You may call **Suzanne Geimer, 720-423-8626** for more information.

## Class of 2007 Senior Brunch

The IB Brunch Committee is looking forward to welcoming this year's Senior Class of 2007 to the annual IB Senior Brunch. It will be held at the D.U. Driscoll Ballroom on Sunday, May 6 from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m. This is a wonderful occasion for the graduates and their families to enjoy each others company and reminisce about their IB careers. We're looking forward to seeing all of you there!

Thank you to the following parents who helped to organize this year's Senior Brunch! Your help was invaluable: Marie Peterson, Rie Kenkel, Helen Fulton, Wayne Leanza, Janet Paces, Harry Watney, Gerald Anderson, and Jenny Kempe-Biermann.

**Carole Ibarra and Julia Barry, Co-Chairs**

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## From the Dates-No-One-Wants-to-Think-About-Yet-Department



**August 1, 2, 3**– GWHS Registration for the 2007-2008 School Year (more detailed information will be mailed to all students in July)

FRESHMEN (accompanied by a parent) August 1  
UPPERCLASSMEN A-L: August 2 • M-Z: August 3  
Students may register after their prescribed time, but not before.

**August 20** – School begins for all GWHS 9<sup>th</sup> graders only  
**August 21** – School begins for all remaining GWHS students

## News You Can Use

### Attention Future SL Philosophy Students!

#### A Word from Ms. Witty:

The following list includes the books you need to purchase for philosophy. You will receive an order form in the mail in May from Mrs. Roads. However, if you go to half.com you can, in some cases, save 75% or more. You can also check with former students who may want to sell their books. See me for a list of students.

By the beginning of the school year (2<sup>nd</sup> day of class) you will need to have Palmer's *Does the Center Hold* and Plato's *The Republic*. You can use any translation of Plato's *Republic* that you want. However, some students feel uncomfortable when the translations are not exact. Also the Penguin translation has useful notes.

You must have Rachels' *The Elements of Moral Philosophy* by the beginning of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Make sure you get the correct editions of Palmer and Rachels.

You must have the translation for Confucius that I have listed below. We will begin Confucius in late March, early April of 2008.

All you need to do is go to: half.com  
Click on texts, type in the ISBN number

Plato *The Republic* (Penguin Classics). Trans. Desmond Lee. 1987. ISBN: 0-140-44914-0

*The Analects of Confucius: A Philosophical Translation*. Trans. Roger T Ames and Henry Rosemont, Jr. 1998. ISBN: 0-345-43407-2

Palmer, Donald. *Does the Center Hold: An Introduction to Western Philosophy* 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. 2002. ISBN: 0-7674-1580-9



Rachels, James. *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. 2007. ISBN: 0-07-312547-4

## Costa Rica Trip Canceled! Other Options Still Available

The trip to the immersion school in Costa Rica has been canceled. If your child is still interested in studying Spanish in Costa Rica with other GWHS students this summer, please call **Jan Sharoff at 303-331-0258**.

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## Freshmen Orientation Welcome Reception

### May 7, 6-8 P.M.

#### To our incoming Freshmen Class and their Parents:

Come meet GWHS's IB faculty, staff, IB Parent Board members, current IB students and their parents at the Freshmen Orientation Welcome Reception.

The evening starts at 6:00 PM in the library for parents and in the foyer for students. The students will get a tour of the school. We will have introductions of staff and the IB Board President and a panel of students to answer questions. Following the tour and introductions, we will move to the Lunchroom for refreshments and a chance for new freshmen and their parents to chat with our IB representatives up close and personal. This is your opportunity to ask those late minute questions that just can't wait until the fall, another chance to look around the school, and the opportunity to meet and talk to the teachers for next year.

#### To our current IB Students and their Parents:

Join us as we greet the new incoming Freshmen Class of 2011 at the Freshmen Orientation Welcome Reception. If you know someone who will be in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade next year, please drop in and say "hello." We are looking for current IB students and parents to answer any questions they may have. Remember volunteering can be part of your CAS requirements. Also, we need a few volunteers to come at 5:30 P.M. for set up or stay a little later to cleanup. If you can help, please call me at 303-331-0258.

**Jan Sharoff, Freshmen Orientation Committee**



## Congratulations to Coca-Cola Scholar, Emily Sigman!

**Emily Sigman** was selected as a member of the 2006-2007 Coca-Cola Scholars Program. Nearly 88,000 applicants competed for scholarships of \$10,000 to \$20,000. Emily, chosen as one of only 250 students nationwide (only four from Colorado), traveled to Atlanta on April 16<sup>th</sup> to be honored at the Georgia World Conference Center. In addition, she attended seminars, visited local landmarks (such as the Georgia Aquarium, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center and the CNN Center) and participated in a community service project.

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## Model UN Team Competes in Washington DC at NAIMUN

Fourteen IB students spent several days in February competing at the North American Invitational Model United Nation (NAIMUN) Conference in Washington DC, hosted by Georgetown University. This is the largest conference in North America. George was represented by **Emily Sigman** (Pakistan), **Clayton Dahlman** (Bosnia), **Marian Gottlieb** (Italy), **Sam Handler** (Bosnia), **Alex Wilson** (Bosnia), **Elias Thomas** (Bosnia), **Mark Sharoff** (Bosnia), **Hugh Haddox** (Bosnia), **Raphaella Lipinsky** (Bosnia), **Kiri Stromberg** (Bosnia), **Eric Finch** (Bosnia), **Brent Gaisford** (Bosnia), **Ben Morrow** (Bosnia), and **Nick Fries** (Bosnia), and accompanied by **Mr. Achbach** and **Ms. Danley**.

The students competed for 3 days, while also enjoying socializing with nearly 3000 delegates and exploring the city. Congratulations to **Emily Sigman**, who won Best Delegation (1<sup>st</sup> Place) for her debating skills in the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

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## Girls' Golf

Thanks to the enthusiasm and support of last year's golfers the golf team expanded to 22 players this year. Twenty of the 22 are IB students. Of those 14 are freshmen – all IB students. Perhaps the best story this year is Paloma Jimenez – a freshman – who is the #2 player on our team. Paloma is a product of the First Tee program and gives us a solid player to build around for the future.

## College Acceptances Continue to Roll in . . .

CC El Pomar Scholarship Awarded to GW Senior IB Senior **Andrew Shum** has been accepted into Northwestern University, Colorado College, and Colorado School of Mines. Andrew is one of the two recipients to receive a 4-year full-ride **El Pomar Scholarship** awarded from Colorado College this year, so he'll be attending Colorado College in the fall. Great work, Andrew!

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## Congratulations to These National Merit Finalists!

Aaron Bernhardt, Anna Bessesen, Pierre Biscaye, Joseph Carver, Tiffany Chan, Rebecca Clark, Valerie Clark, Clayton Dahlman, Samuel Handler, Caitlin Lewis, Raphaella Lipinsky-Degette.

### Commended Students:

Anna Coddington, James Dyer, Eric Finch, Marian Gottlieb, Adrian Leanza, Nicholas Maston, David Moke, Jesse Morse, Gabe Stein, Kirsten Stromberg, Claire Ulrickson.

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## Speech and Debate Competitions in April

Ten GW Speech and Debate students competed in the NFL National Qualifying Congress, which took place at the Denver City and County building on April 13 and 14: Ryan Stroud, Nate Neligh, Granger Atkeson, Cody Troyer, Dontea Reynolds, Andrew Flynn, Becca Barach, Chiamaka Isuguzo, Thomas Gardiner, Nathan Boin. Granger, Cody, Dontea, and Andrew competed in the finals. Cody and Granger are both alternates to the NFL National Tournament. Ryan Stroud received an outstanding speaker nomination. Congratulations to all!





## Two GW Teams Head To National Tournament!

GW Speech and Debate will send not one, but two Cross Examination debate teams to the NFL National Tournament on June 17, 2007. Congratulations to the teams of **Jordan Bernhardt and Gabe Stein**, who were undefeated at the NFL District qualifying meet on April 20 and 21, and to **Aaron Bernhardt and Zafar Moosajee**, who will make their first trip to the National tournament. Three GW competitors reached the final round in extemporaneous speaking: Joanna **Foote**, **Conrad Quade**, and **Aerick Francis**. Public Forum debaters **Granger Atkeson and Cody Troyer**, and **Terrence Caldwell and Lawson Williams**, went to finals. **Dante Reynolds** completed five rounds in Lincoln-Douglas debate, and the novice Cross Examination debate team of **Chelsea Proctor and Jamie Tran** placed third.

In all, 30 GW speech and debate competed at the final Colorado tournament of the season. Congratulations to **Max Wood, Anya Epstein, Dominique Williams, Jourdan Gosha, Leticia Campos, Cariann Luna, Mark Sharoff, Angela Bae, Daniel Tuchler, Gabe Rusk, Harper Hill, Erika Savage, Gabe Neslin, Ryan Jones, Sean Manton, and Alex McClary**.

Speech and Debate will bid a fond farewell to six IB seniors at the end of the year banquet on May 11. Coach **Maryrose Kohan** will be back next year with a terrific team that has earned a reputation for excellence.

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## From Next Year's Board

The IB Parents' Association Board will hold its *last* meeting of the year on **Tuesday, May 1 at 7:00 PM**, in room 128 and would like all new and current IB parents to attend. We welcome new faces, fresh ideas, and committed and enthusiastic parents to support our IB teachers, staff, students, and families. If you would like information about the role of the IB Parents' Association at GW, contact us. Thank you!

**Andrea Shea and Debi Roads, Co-Presidents**

## Suzanne Geimer Needs Your Help!

IB exams are about to begin for juniors and seniors, and it is truly an exciting time for all IB families. All exams will be given at Aurora Community College on the Lowry Campus. There are **many** exams, and each one requires a proctor. Suzanne Geimer still needs parent volunteers to serve as IB exam proctors. Dates still needing volunteers are May 3, May 4, May 7, May 10, May 11, May 14 (she needs **three people in the afternoon**), May 15, May 18, and May 23. **Please** contact **Ms. Geimer** at **720-423-8626** or e-mail **Suzanne\_Geimer@dpsk12.org** if you can donate some time. Also, please note that Ms. Geimer is difficult to reach during exam time, so be persistent and patient!

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## News from the Parent Volunteer Group

**Thursday, April 19**, the Parent Volunteer Office hosted two Appreciation events for parent volunteers. The first was from 7–8 am and featured fruit, pastries, coffee and juice. The second was from 6–7 pm and featured fruit, pastries, water and hot and cold tea. Both events had several volunteers attending and they enjoyed meeting each other and learning about upcoming volunteer opportunities. Many thanks to **Sarah Brunner** for organizing the events and to **Deb Roads** and **Debra Finegold** for helping greet attendees and answer their questions.

The Parent Volunteer Office has now been open for a little over three months and is staffed by Evelyn Male, Debra Finegold, Andrea Shea, Deb Roads, Amy Wright, Rita Gibson and Sarah Brunner. Thus far we have helped launch groups of library volunteers, landscape gardeners and bus pass distributors. We are working on launching a tutoring program as well and will be creating many other volunteer opportunities for parents, grandparents and community members to help the students, teachers and staff at GW. Stop by the office—it's right next door to the GW main office—and say hi!

**The Parent Volunteer Group**

**Visit on the web: <http://gwhs.dpsk12.org/ib/>**



## SAMS Club Raises More than \$11,000 in Past 5 Months!

The **Students Against Multiple Sclerosis (SAMS) Club** was started at GW in November, with a goal of raising \$20,000 for “Team John,” in the 2007 MS walk in May. The club boasts over 60 members who meet monthly to brainstorm and organize fundraising events, and offer a place to ask questions about anything MS related, including but not limited to, living with MS, the causes of MS, possibilities for curing MS, and of course, MS organizations such as the National MS Society and the Multiple Sclerosis Association of America.

The club has hosted several successful events, including the “GW Flea Market”, which was featured on FOX 31 News. So far, the club has raised over \$11,000 toward their goal.

Fundraising all-stars are those students who have donated extra time and resources to SAMS. They include IB students **Emily Sigman** (founder), **Clayton Dahlman**, **Megan Padilla**, **Morgan Padilla**, **Denene Martinez**, **Lissa Brandl**, **Sam Handler**, **Elias Thomas**, **Alex Wilson**, **Amy Turner**, **Lauren Schumacher**, **Hugh Haddox**, **Pierre Biscaye**, **Siena Easley**, **Anna Bessesen**, **Marian Gotleib**, **Katya Thronweber**, **Jackie Phillips**, **Heather McCaffrey**, **Claire Ulrickson**, **Victoria Kovacs**, **Reina Doyle**, **Christine Stewart**, **Valerie Clark**, **Cassandra Hurst**, **Amelia Powell**, **Momo Yoshimura** and **Lauren Gross**.

They need your help now more than ever to achieve their goal. You can always make a donation. Checks should be made out to National MS Society, and can be mailed to Emily at 773 South Oneida Way Denver, CO 80224. You can also join the students on May 5<sup>th</sup> for the MS Walk in City Park. Go to [www.fightmscolorado.org](http://www.fightmscolorado.org) and register under “Team John.” Make sure you register for the **Denver** walk. The team leader should be “Emily Sigman.” You will then receive your walker materials in the mail.

Kudos to this group of students for their community spirit, their enthusiasm, and their commitment to helping fight a disease that affects so many Coloradans!

## Textbook order form for the 2007-2008 school year

The IB book order form will be handed out in your student’s English classes the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>. All juniors will receive it via their email. This is a voluntary program. Please take the time to review the order form and send it back by the **July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline**. If you do not wish to participate in this program, use the form with the accurate ISBN numbers, to purchase your books for next year. If you are interested in saving some money and purchasing used books, come to the used book sale on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Would you like to get some of your money back for all the books you have purchased? There will be a used book sale on **May 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to sell any of your used text books, please place a 3 x 5 card with your name, phone number, address and asking price of the book in it and drop it off in the IB office by May 24<sup>th</sup>. I will be sending suggested sale prices to your students the second week in May. Any questions email **Deb Roads** at [dardener@aol.com](mailto:dardener@aol.com).

### May Vision and Hearing Screening!



GWHS’s annual hearing and vision screenings will take place on **Monday, May 1 through Wednesday, May 3**. If a student is absent they can get screened on the re-check date, **Thursday, May 10**. The screening is mandated by Colorado State and Federal Law for all 9<sup>th</sup> graders, students receiving special services and students with a known problem. If you would like to add a student to the screening list please contact Shannon Ashley at 720-423-8635. Please make sure all students are wearing their glasses for the screening.



## The Wrong Side of the Law

The Wrong Side of the Law, a melodrama written by **Dave Brandl**, the father of **Lissa** and **Alie Brandl**, opened April 19 and ran through April 21. IB students in the cast were **Chava Bobb, Lissa Brandl, Meghan Connor, Arielle Finegold, Kevin Fulton, Skyler Gallun, Emilie Josephs, Erik Morrison, Jerrod Popham, and Alejandra Venancio**. The show was student-directed by **Emily Sigman** and **Amelia Powell** was stage manager. IB students in the crew were **Christine Anderson, Alie Brandl, Lissa Brandl, Caroline Brigenberg, Jared Downing, Jordan Estes, Skyler Gallun, Teleri Gee, Lauren Gross, Leigh Ann Howard, Emilie Josephs, Amie Kashon, Emily Robin Monks, Ben Morrow, Amelia Powell, Elle Powell, Sofia Prado-Irwin, Michael Skeen, Nate Skeen, Monica Smith, Taylor Webster, Maddie Wolberg, and Mei Chen Yu**. (“If anyone should be on this list and isn’t, I apologize and will give you chocolate,” says Arielle.)

The play is set in Alpine Junction, Colorado in 1908. Sheriff Flint Buckshot is away at a sheriffs’ convention, leaving Shania, his daughter and deputy, in charge. When Saddleback Bertha and Sleazebag Barney come into town, they see opportunity and begin their attempts to make Barney sheriff, take over the town, and steal all the valuables of the town bank and mine. Shania, Wrandall Wright, and his mother, Widow Wright, must work with Sheriff Flint to convince the town that Shania and Flint are the right people for the job. And in the end, will Wrandall finally realize that Shania is sweet on him? Ask the nearest drammie to find out...

The opening night performance was delightful! The melodrama was hilarious and encouraged audience participation complete with cue signs—applauding the “good guys,” booing the “bad guys,” and saying “Awww” whenever the cute young couple or adorable old couple kissed or hugged. The set design was excellent and lent a real old-west quality to the performance. The actors were superb, each playing his or her part to its fullest. We were convinced that Bertha was a scheming crook through-and-through, that Barney wasn’t the brightest of the bunch, that Sheriff Flint was completely flakey and out-of-it upon his return to Alpine Junction and that Widow Wright really was a bent old woman—and boy did she have spunk! The play was well written and the actors brought it to life and engaged the audience. Everyone had a wonderful time, but the audience did have a challenge at the end...we didn’t know whether to cheer the villains or boo them!

**Arielle Finegold (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
& Debra Finegold**

## Thanks From the Teacher Appreciation Committee

A May appreciation brunch is being planned for all teachers and staff at GW on their last day of school, Wednesday, May 30. If you can help by bringing food (muffins, bagels, fruit, etc.), setting up or cleaning up, please let **Rita Gibson** know at [rgibson57@earthlink.net](mailto:rgibson57@earthlink.net). We’ll need lots of helpers!

Parents **Debra and Len Finegold** had a wonderful lunch catered for all the IB teachers in late April. Our teachers are fantastic and we’re sure this made them feel appreciated. Thanks, Debra and Len.

Thanks to all the parents who helped the Teacher Appreciation Committee this year give the teachers something special each month. We couldn’t have done it without all of your help!

**Julie Lays**

## Summer Writing Program: Literary Analysis and Preparation for IB Exam

Mrs. Melanie Bryant will be offering a one-week program designed to help incoming seniors and juniors further develop and build their *literary analysis* skills in IB. There will be two sessions from which to choose: **June 11-15** or **July 30-August 3**, with both sessions meeting from **9:00 A.M. - Noon**. The cost will be \$50.00, (checks made out to **Friends of IB Scholars Foundation**) and there will be limited financial need scholarships available. Sophomore and Junior students should have received a registration form already – please fill out the form and send (or give, with payment) to:

**Suzanne Geimer  
George Washington H. S.  
655 South Monaco Parkway  
Denver, CO 80224**



Questions? Call Suzanne Geimer, 720-423-8626.

Visit on the web: <http://gwhs.dpsk12.org/ib/>



## Attention Soon-to-Be-Seniors! A College Counselor's Advice for the Summer Ahead ...

NOTE: If you want to take the SAT on June 2nd, it's not too late to register! Late registration runs through May 9<sup>th</sup>!

Go to [Collegeboard.com](http://Collegeboard.com) for details on registering for the SAT!

As the current school year winds down it is important for current Juniors and soon-to-be-Seniors to continue their college exploration and also take care of several other important tasks. First, most will be taking SAT or ACT exams. It would be important to be prepared and know the format of these exams. To do this, check your PSAT results, log on to the [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com), [act.org](http://act.org), or [number2.com](http://number2.com) and practice a bit. Do remember, most of the math will be algebra or geometry that you had a couple of years ago! Do get a good night's rest before these tests. Remember, the ACT has no penalty for wrong answers so do not leave anything blank. For the SAT, educated guessing is OK, but if you are unable to eliminate any answers, leaving that item blank is a good idea. Also if you are considering schools that strongly recommend or require the SAT IIS, know which tests they wish you to take.

Next. Now is the time to ask for letters of recommendation. Many schools will ask for one or two teacher letters of recommendation, and if one of your teachers is also a coach or sponsor for an additional activity, that is a bonus. Over the summer you should be completing a resume or vita. Ms. Schmidt has a template that could be helpful. Those of you that met with me this spring know that part of this resume is your activity list which you will need for admission and scholarship applications this fall!

You should also complete the Common Application ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)) this summer. This will give you a head start on the application process. I also think you should begin focusing on the possible personal statements, essay topics, etc. Selective schools will look for good writing, plus, they hope to learn something about you that they cannot glean from the rest of your application. Remember to show, not tell, in your essay. Bookstores have good little books with

20 to 50 excellent, successful college essays. Stop in, sit and read a few for good examples of potential ideas.

Touring colleges is also something that many of you can do when traveling this summer and on breaks next year. Before visiting, research the school online. Do contact the Admissions Office about your pending time line and schedule an official visit. Avoid major events or holidays if possible. Each school offers different options: at many you can speak to professors in areas of interest, talk and interview with admissions representatives, eat in the cafeteria, stay overnight, etc. So, inquire what is possible at each institution and ask to take a guided tour. Take notes during or just after your visit, including the name of the admissions rep plus contact information. If offered, attending a class is always a good idea. Make notes about residence halls, computer labs, library facilities, student center, etc. Are facilities up to date or in need of repair or replacement? Do pick up a copy of the school newspaper and observe the campus flyers and banners. What are the issues and topics on this campus? Ask yourself if you can see yourself at this school!

Some common questions to ask while on campus, or with follow-up contact, could include how easy it is to switch majors. Will my IB or AP results give me credit or advanced placement? What percentage of students graduate in four years? Are classes taught by full professors? How accessible are these instructors? What kind of career planning services are available? What companies recruit at this school or what percentage of students get into grad programs (med, law, etc.)? What meal options are there? What health facilities and services does this college offer?

Some not so obvious questions might include what are the opportunities for employment or volunteering are on or near campus? After a college campus tour, do plan to ask a couple of non-admission-trained students about what they like and don't like about their college. And consider visiting any building not on the official tour.

Social considerations! Not all schools provide excellent student life activities. Some that are, or appear to be, isolated actually go overboard in bringing in speakers, bands, etc., and have terrific programming for their students. So do your homework – what is this campus like on



weekends? Are there concerts and plays often? What is in the region that students can participate in and attend? Ask and explore the social scene – it is one of the most important parts of your college experience!

Financial considerations can also be very important. Students should be able to apply to any school regardless of cost up front, and families should have a discussion about what is reasonable in terms of final expenses. Comparing offers is always important, but parents may have to rule out some colleges as being too pricey once the final offers are made. So applying to colleges that compete with each other is a good idea.

Targeting colleges where your profile – GPA, test scores, etc. – often leads to offers of merit money and sometimes better financial aid packaging, can be a good strategy. Do shoot for dream schools, but do have one or two foundation schools on your list too. Having at least one Colorado school or a Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) choice might be a good idea. Families can explore potential Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) amounts now, by using the EFC estimators and calculators at the [finaid.com](http://finaid.com) or [act.org](http://act.org) web sites. Also, remember colleges in the South and Midwest are anywhere from \$8,000 to \$12,000 per year cheaper than schools on either coast!

A major goal for each IB Senior for this August should be to have a fairly well-defined list of colleges they might apply to. Not the exact list, but close. Schools on the list should have strong areas of academic programming in areas of study in which students are interested. Given that students often don't know what they'll major in, schools with many quality areas of study make perfect sense.

Several college fairs have already been scheduled for this Fall. Be sure to mark your calendars for **Colleges that Change Lives, Wed. Sept. 12, 7-9 p.m. at the Colorado Convention Center**, the Out-of-State College Fair which this fall will be at Kennedy High School not TJ, and Cherry Creek College Fair and Workshop.

Also there will be many college reps visiting George Washington next Fall. Many other colleges will be hosting hotel receptions in Denver, and if you've expressed interest in that school, they likely will invite you. Make sure Ms. Geimer, Ms. Schmidt, and Mr. Franklin know what schools you are considering so that when those schools schedule a visit we can make

you aware of the opportunity to meet with these reps and send reminder notices. Also, if we know your area of possible academic study, we can apprise you of visiting schools that have strong programs in those majors. Or, if monetary support is a factor, we can inform you of schools that historically offer substantial financial aid packages. Make sure Mr. Ruben Chavez has your e-mail information as he regularly sends out scholarship and college information throughout the school year.

Students, enjoy your last few weeks of school and your summer break. And continue to gather information about colleges – it's your future, so take charge!

**Dan Franklin, IB College Counselor/Consultant**

## Important Dates and Reminders from College Counselor Dan Franklin

1. Complete applications for college admissions - Watch for admissions deadlines!
2. If you could be a recruited athlete, do NCAA Clearinghouse at: [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net/ncaa/NCAA/common/index.html](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net/ncaa/NCAA/common/index.html)
3. Complete applications for scholarships that you meet criteria of - watch deadlines!
4. Colleges That Change Lives - Info & Fair - Sept. 12 @ 7 PM - Colorado Convention Center
5. Meet college reps who visit your High School - most out-of-state colleges visit during October
6. October 11, 2007 - Out of State Fair @ JF Kennedy HS - 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.
7. Saturday, October 13, 2007 – College Workshop @ Cherry Creek H.S.: 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. 230+ schools!!
8. In-State College Fair @ GW TBA
9. College Entrance Exams ACT, SAT I, SAT II - take or retake as needed. Each has a late registration deadline that cost additional fees – only regular deadlines listed below:  
**American College Test (ACT)** Oct. 27, 2007, Dec. 8, 2007 - Registration deadlines TBA  
**College Entrance Examination Board Tests (CEEB)** SAT I & II , Oct. 6, 2007 Nov. 3, 2007 Dec. 1, 2007 - Registration deadlines TBA

