



Background

The Vancouver School Board (VSB) needs to make a decision about the future of the Middle Years Programme (MYP), which is an International Baccalaureate (IB) program for grades 6 to 10 students. Based on a recent evaluation report from IB World, the program is not in compliance with IB World standards. The report identified several areas where significant investments in resources, staff training and program development are required to bring the program into compliance with IB standards. This includes an immediate investment of up to \$286,000 and ongoing annual funding of at least \$246,000 in each of the next three years.

About IB & MYP

MYP is part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The IB program offers a globally recognized educational framework divided into three programs: Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP). VSB's PYP and DP are in compliance with IB World program requirements and the District is not seeking the Board's direction regarding these programs. Vancouver School Board (VSB) offers International Baccalaureate (IB) programs in the six schools shown below.



Primary Years Programme

SOUTHLANDS ELEMENTARY
(K-7 School Program)



Middle Years Programme

ELSIE ROY AND ROBERTS ELEMENTARY
(Grade 6-7 School Program)
KING GEORGE SECONDARY
(Grade 8-10 School Program)



Diploma Programme

BRITANNIA AND CHURCHILL SECONDARY
(Grade 11-12 District Choice Program)

Programs are independent. Students do not have to complete PYP before MYP or complete MYP to apply to DP.

MYP in VSB operates like a school-based program, not a District choice program. All three MYP schools are full and do not accept cross boundary applications. Data shows that MYP students consistently choose to remain at their catchment school, King George, rather than pursue the IB Diploma Programme (DP) at Churchill or Britannia. All grade 8-10 students attending King George are automatically enrolled in MYP, regardless of previous participation in the program including students coming from:

- Elsie Roy and Lord Roberts (MYP in grades 6 and 7)
- ƛx^wwəq^wəθət Crosstown, Roberts Annex and future elementary school in Coal Harbour (no MYP)

History and Context

MYP introduced to King George family of Schools in the early 2000s. At that time, these schools were facing declining enrolment.

MYP was seen as a program that could attract and retain students to these schools.

During this time, there was also an oversupply of teachers, and many were eager to distinguish themselves and improve their employment prospects by choosing to undertake the additional training required to become an IB-certified teacher.

With BC's redesigned curriculum, there is now significant overlap between the IB and BC curriculum today, reducing the distinctiveness that IB once offered.

Next Steps

Given the curriculum similarities with the BC curriculum and the significant investment required to maintain MYP, the VSB has to make a decision on the future of MYP by November 25, 2024, at the public Board meeting. Feedback during this engagement will help to inform their decision.

Option 1: Maintain MYP - To maintain MYP, the Board will need to approve an immediate investment of up to \$286,040 for annual staff training, policy updates and regular policy reviews, collaboration time and recruitment efforts.

Option 2: Discontinue MYP - Given the substantial overlap between the BC curriculum and the MYP, discontinuing MYP will not significantly impact student learning outcomes.

At this time, no decision has been made by the Board.