DP Forum
June 15, 2017
Tradewinds Island Grand

Facilitated by Joe Williams, Chair.

Transcripts. IB students are ranked with traditional students. Someone questioned why they ranked all together. Some schools don’t rank kids at all. Many schools use the weighted GPA to rank. Some use unweighted GPA. Some have several vals and sals. Many different weighting scales.

A good number of students at one school want to take 4 HLs. What have been your results with this? Because the 16-point thing is gone for purposes of the diploma, there is no disincentive to take 4. Most suggested to counsel, but allow.

Best practice for ensuring cleared calculators. Some people collected them and cleared them and then brought them to the exams.

It was noted that there are big changes to math curricula with first testing in May 2021. Suggested that June 2018 meeting be a review of math changes. Here is info from IB about it:
http://storage.pardot.com/136871/48967/DP_FAQ_Maths_ENG.pdf

How do you keep kids from quitting after sophomore year. Have kids go in to classes and have conversations with kids one-on-one. Have kids from IB classes to recruit for specific classes and get them interested. Have an IB social club so they get to know each other. Talk about Bright Futures so parents understand the money part. A day where sophomores explore the parts of IB. Classes, EE, CAS. You know when periods of high stress are coming, preempt it. Have sophomores work night of Senior Celebration and Pinning Ceremony. Have alumni come back and speak. Have CAS and EE showcase. Each senior presents CAS and EE and one piece of advice. Have students visit classes. CAS Awards night is a suggestion. Joe combines the pinning and the CAS ceremony in April.

How do people organize EE, ToK and CAS? Some schools have a coordinator for CAS and EE and they get a grade in ToK for reflections in CAS and deadlines in EE. One school is going to have ToK and Research at the same time, two different teachers. The Research teacher is going to do the EEs. Rickards teaches research skills for all juniors first semester. Then ToK second semester. For CAS, they have 4 advisors and they split the kids up. They pay the CAS coordinator. One school gives CAS coordinator another period off. A private school compensates the EE advisor.

College Relations Survey. 43 responses from students. Here is a link to the survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-X9CQ3FCP/
How many schools offer Chinese? Just a few.

Is anyone using Managebac schoolwide. G Star is toying with the idea of using it for lesson and unit planning. Managebac imported the FL Standards in to their Managebac, so the teachers can use it to plan. If you can get the rubics loaded, that would also (presumably) help.

Self Study—everyone got dinged on Assessment Policy. Share assessment policies, please.


How do you not talk about hours in CAS. Focus on service hours every week. Talk about the outcomes. Can talk about hours in terms of Bright Futures.