

3rd March, 2023

Dear West Bay Family

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) was adopted by the West Vancouver Board of Education to provide an opportunity for our students to develop internationally recognized skills which assist them throughout their academic careers. Through the PYP, children have the opportunity to be challenged academically and develop higher-level questioning and critical thinking skills. International-mindedness and internalizing the traits of the IB Learner Profile are also integral to the Programme.

Since 2007, West Bay Elementary remains one of the few public schools offering the PYP within the province. It has proven highly successful, and as I am sure you are aware, enrollment spaces at West Bay Elementary are highly sought after.

The International Baccalaureate Programme (PYP) was developed by the West Vancouver School District outside of the funding that the Ministry of Education provides us to deliver Kindergarten to Grade 12 education programs. In order to provide the supplemental staff resources and training that the IB Programme requires, a financial contribution is assessed to all parents who choose to enroll their children.

Part of your IB fees help cover specialized teacher training and any associated travel costs, IB World School membership fees (in USD) and some specialist teacher salaries. Specialist teachers at West Bay include Music, Physical Literacy teachers and French instruction from Kindergarten to Grade Seven. The opportunities that can be provided to the learners with these specialists are unique to West Bay. In addition to some of our specialist teachers' salaries, our IB Coordinator's salary is also funded through IB fees. The funding received through IB fees ensures that West Bay achieves its goal of providing choice and enriched educational opportunities for your children.

The annual fee of \$500.00 per student is due for the 2023-24 school year. If, preferred, this amount may be paid on School Cash Online in up to 5 instalments if you sign up by the end March 2023. Please click here to access School Cash Online. If you do not know your PIN or are new to West Bay, Mrs. Barrie in the office will email PIN numbers as soon as she receives them from the district.

Thank you for your support of an outstanding academic program.

Yours truly,

Michelle LaBounty, Principal

West Bay Elementary

