

Welcome to the IB Parent Foundation.

The IBPF is a parent group that supports the teachers and students in Choctaw's International Baccalaureate program. Think of it as a PTO for our IB Students. This is an exciting and challenging time for us and for our students. The IBPF provides a way for parents to stay informed about what is going on in the program and provide useful support to the students.

As a group, and with the little money that we have, the IBPF strives to do meaningful things and provide items that give the students and teachers some extra encouragement, recognition and enthusiasm as they labor through the rigorous IB curriculum. The only fundraising we do is through the collection of membership dues.

With our **IB Pizza Lunches** and **Teacher Recognition**, we try to "give some love" to these wonderful teachers and students who work so hard. The running joke is that students stay in the program just because of the pizza lunches. The teachers are also very appreciative of the periodic gifts and goodies that we give them. We also coordinate **class get-togethers** to foster camaraderie and teamwork among the students. In the past, we've hosted game nights, ice cream socials, and bowling nights. New ideas are always needed to make these events successful.

Every year, the IBPF designates funds to a "wish list" of items that the IB teachers request to boost their classroom teaching efforts. This list frequently includes the foreign-language magazines that the Spanish and French classes use as supplemental materials. In the past, we've also purchased previous-years' IB exams to use as practice in preparation for the IB exams. In most cases, the teachers would either pay for these items out of their pockets, or go without if they weren't paid for by the IBPF.

The IBPF works with the teachers to organize the **Junior Class Field Trip to New Orleans** in February. We also contribute some funds to the trip to help relieve the burden on the students.

The IBPF does several things for the seniors to honor their commitment and encourage them as they complete the IB program. We organize the **Pinning Ceremony, Extended Essay Breakfast, Art Show, End-of-year Dinner, and Diploma Ceremony** to recognize the significant steps in their path toward accomplishing their IB Diploma.

Parents, your students have achieved this level of academic success due, in part, to your support. Please continue that support through the high school years by participating in the IBPF. We meet monthly. When you come to our meetings and volunteer to serve on a committee we can continue the support that our students need and their teachers appreciate tremendously. There are plenty of small tasks to spread around so that no one is overburdened.

Please attend the "**Coffee with the Coordinator**" events during the first month of school to learn more and get involved. We hold our IBPF meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in room 1B23.

Study the list below and consider what you might like to do to make your contribution to the Foundation.

Committees:

Pizza Lunches (all classes)	Junior Field Trip (Junior & Sophomore parents)
Teacher Appreciation (all classes)	Art Show (Senior & Junior parents)
Membership (all classes)	Senior Events (Senior & Junior parents)
T-Shirts (all classes)	Class Socials (all classes)

I look forward to working with you and continuing to support the best and ONLY International Baccalaureate program in the three-county area.

Respectfully,
Kathi Heapy
IB Parent Foundation
President 2011-2012