

IB/Middle Years Programme  
Kellogg School  
September 2005

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new and exciting school year! We are fortunate to be an authorized International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme school. Every sixth, seventh, and eighth grade student is included in this dynamic and we hope challenging program. We are one of five elementary schools in our neighborhood cluster to offer this program.

The Middle Years Programme focuses on a world language, English, mathematics, social studies (humanities), science, technology, the arts, and physical education. It is guided by three major themes:

- Holistic view of knowledge
- Intercultural awareness
- Communication

The Middle Years Programme is a five year program that begins in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, bridges the elementary school and the high school, and is completed at the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. There are five Areas of Interaction within the curriculum model. These are integrated into the required subjects and indirectly assessed through the students' personal project. They are:

- Approaches to Learning**- study skills and the skills of being a lifelong learner
- Community and Service**-social awareness with understanding for others
- Environment**- world issues that impact local, regional, and international balance
- Homo Faber**-man's creative response to needs in society using diverse solutions
- Health and Social Education**-interpersonal relationships and physical and mental well-being

Your child will be included in the zero hour physical education program, Socratic seminars, service and community opportunities, technology design days, and many more exciting and worthwhile experiences. As a result, we need your support and cooperation. Attached are explanations of several of these activities. Please read and discuss them with your child. Please sign and return all forms that are included. I am available to meet with you should you have any questions, 535-2590.

Sincerely,

Mrs. J. Houtsma, MYP Coordinator