



# BONITA VISTA

International Baccalaureate

## Newsletter

Your Inside Scoop on the IB Community

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Bonita Vista High School

751 Otay Lakes Road

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### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY VICTORIA ANNE BIRD

Another year, another six or seven teachers, another backpack, another resolution against procrastination, yet as IB students, the beginning of a new school year heralds much more than the purchase of new pink erasers and the discovery of a few unfamiliar room numbers on our schedules.

A new school year brings the promise of more essays, more science labs, and above all, new discoveries and a better understanding of the world around us. For the senior IB Diploma Candidates, this is our last year of high school, and we all face it—as well as the looming college application process—with different attitudes. Whether you're one of those already infected with the epidemical "senior-itis" or you're ready to give this last year everything you've got, whether you look forward to the challenge of college and the opportunity to pursue your passion or dread the idea of a disagreeable roommate and classes filled with hundreds of people, we all have to get through this year.

It will undoubtedly be challenging for us all. There will be arduous extended essays, innumerable CAS projects and countless hours spent studying for exams, but we must all take heart in the fact that we will all be doing the same things. It certainly will not be easy, but if we expect to live up to the mission of the International Baccalaureate Program, if we are to "create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect," we must first better ourselves.



### SPOTLIGHT: MRS. FUNK

BY EDWARD MALCOLM

With a new year comes new classes and new teachers. This year, there is a "new" 12<sup>th</sup> grade AP/IB English teacher, Mrs. Bonnie Funk. Some students may remember Mrs. Funk from their 10<sup>th</sup> grade English class, but she has now taken a new challenge. When first approached with the idea, Mrs. Funk was completely against it, but after speaking with some of her colleagues she had a change of heart. Currently Mrs. Funk is quite pleased with the course because she is getting to see how her "previous 10<sup>th</sup> grade students have matured". When asked about what makes her stand out from other 12<sup>th</sup> grade IB teachers, all Mrs. Funk had to say was "I'm little." For all those who have not had Mrs. Funk as a teacher, something that can be expected is a very sarcastic but serious and dedicated teacher, who does not allow laziness. The IB club would like to welcome Mrs. Funk to the world of a senior IB student!

### 2011 IB Diploma Candidates

- |                      |                    |                 |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Vivian Adame         | Kyosuke Goto       | Kevin Ong       |
| Zev Bimstein         | Eric Guan          | Daniel Quintana |
| Victoria Anne Bird   | Charles Hartsfield | Yvette Quintero |
| Stefania Castillo    | Gabriel Huerta     | Javier Ramirez  |
| Mayte Chiroque       | Eric Kang          | Daniel Razo     |
| Timothy Collins      | Maria Kapetanos    | Jessica Ruiz    |
| Michael Crawford     | Marissa Kashkett   | Rocio Salas     |
| Renae Lopez Cruz     | Abraham Levine     | Alex Salomon    |
| Mariaelena Del Rio   | Meghan Lew         | Adam Sefchovich |
| Rachel Estrella      | Edward Malcolm     | Suzanne Smith   |
| Nicolas Cesar Franco | Colleen McDermott  | Shogo Suzuki    |
| Brianna Frederickson | Kristine McGrath   | Celina Tabuena  |
| Adam Glick           | Gerard Mendoza     | John Wolf       |
| Manuela Gonzalez     | Eli Mizrachi       | Alex Yang       |
| Ricardo Gorinstein   | Niema Moshiri      |                 |

# IB CLUB OFFICER PROFILES

## Victoria Anne Bird— President

Among the many IB candidates this year, Tori Bird certainly soars to great heights. Becoming the new president of the IB club, and a continued member in ASB, Varsity Lacrosse, Tennis and Academic League, Tori brings leadership and school spirit to the 2011 IB club. Her dream is to attend Yale or Brown, but she would be happy to be accepted into any UC. As high school comes to an end, she states “I’m going to treasure whatever I can remember about high School.” Also a huge participant in extra curricular activities, Bird manages to squeeze in academics and procrastinates as little as possible in order to get the most hours of sleep as possible. A few words of advice to fellow Candidates, “Don’t just suffer through IB. Experience it. There is so much more to this program than homework and grades.”

*By Mariaelena Del Rio*

## Gerard Mendoza— Vice President

Gerard Mendoza is a relaxed but highly motivated individual, one who strives to make the best out of the insanely rigorous IB program. In fact, he’s looking forward to it! Our vice president says that, “The passionate teachers and engaging subject material will make senior year a great learning experience!” An active member of clubs such as Samahan and Link Crew, Mendoza wants to finish off his final year at Bonita Vista High with a bang. When he goes to college, he intends to major in pre-medical studies, continuing his rigorous curriculum from high school.

*By Colleen McDermott*

## Colleen McDermott— Treasurer

Colleen McDermott (self described as quirky, intelligent and sarcastic) is a persevering IB student who is always prepared to move forward into new experiences and new challenges. Aside from the International



(Top row, left to right) Gerard Mendoza, Edward Malcolm, Victoria Anne Bird, Alex Salomon (Bottom row, left to right) Colleen McDermott, Mariaelena Del Rio, and Renae Lopez Cruz



undoubtedly be key to the success of this year’s IB club.

*By Gerard Mendoza*

## Edward Malcolm— Secretary

This year’s IB secretary, Edward Malcolm, is one of the most interesting individuals one could possibly meet in the halls of Bonita Vista High School. He keeps himself busy by being the vice president of Link Crew, a congress member of Taskforce, secretary for UNICEF of MUN, and manager of the women’s tennis and lacrosse teams. Despite all this, he still manages to make room for all of the International Baccalaureate’s

## Mariaelena Del Rio— Community Service Liaison

Elena, most of us call her or perhaps Mariaelena if you’re gifted with a talent for pronunciation. She originally entered into the IB program primarily due to parental pressures but now says she thinks it has taught her things “that just AP classes wouldn’t have done alone.” A love of chemistry has attracted this year’s IB Community Service Liaison towards the medical field, but a love of animals has her divided between human and veterinary medicine. We can all rest assured that this future doctor—of whatever species—will serve as an apt officer and a dynamic leader of the IB Club this year.

*By Victoria Anne Bird*

## Renae Lopez Cruz— Historian

Ambitious, open-minded, and cooperative are the three words many fellow IB candidates would use to describe Renae Cruz. Not only is she the historian for the IB club, but she also puts Bonita Vista on the map with her extraordinary science fair projects and contributions to our school’s yearbook. When asked what she wanted to do later in life she responded, “I want to be a researcher traveling from country to country so I can interact with people from different cultures.” We can expect a bright future from Cruz as she will continue to wow us while maintaining her down to earth personality.

*By Alex Salomon*

Alex Salomon is one of the most out-going students on campus. He is easy to approach and appears to always have an upbeat attitude. His positive character makes him a great selection for the position of Public Relations officer this year. Besides maintaining a standard of academic excellence, he is the president of Link Crew, captain of the dive team, a member of ASB, is on a leadership team for Junior Theater, and is on the Youth Action Council for the city of Chula Vista. A schedule such as this would drive other students insane, but for Salomon, it’s just another day. “Keep calm, carry on” are words that he tries to live by and it is clear that it has led him to success. In the future, he hopes to study anthropology, journalism, or dance.

*By Renae Lopez Cruz*