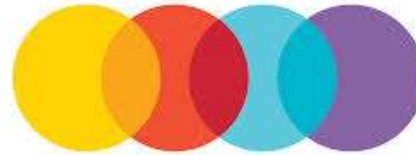




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IB CONTINUUM
CONTINUUM DE L'IB
CONTINUO DEL IB

The IB continuum: Challenges and opportunities



Jim McConnell
Head of School
Stratford Hall
Vancouver BC



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A little background

- DP in 1968
- MYP in 1994
- PYP in 1997

“The DP was established as IB’s charter program in 1968, while the PYP and MYP were added to form the Three Programmes’ continuum in the mid-1990s.” Hanover Research, 2010.

This was not the case



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Stratford Hall: our context

- Created in 1999, opened in 2000 with intent to do all 3 programmes.
- Authorized for PYP in 2003
- Authorized for DP in 2005
- Authorized for MYP in 2009
- 500 students k-12
- Every student is a full IB student



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Challenges

- School organization – fragmentation
- Transitions between programs that do not link
- Multiple evaluation visits
- Professional development – program coordinators
- Early on: different core elements



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Opportunities

- Unified school culture built around core elements
 - Learner Profile
 - Approaches to Learning
 - Approaches to Teaching
 - Command terms and assessment types
 - One program, not three
- Continuum activities
 - Cross grade buddies
 - Community service
- Common approaches to planning and assessment



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Action at Stratford Hall

- Three Continuum Coordinators:
 - Action
 - Core elements
 - Professional growth
- Organization
 - Junior School/Senior School with intentional program overlap
- Staff Development
 - 2 days devoted to Continuum ideas
- Buddies
- Culminating events: Exhibition/PP/EE
- Community service
- Direct links to other local continuum schools



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The Network of IB Continuum Schools

- 10 Canadian schools
- www.nibcs.org
- What next?