



MIAMIBEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **202-2012**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Kathie G. Brooks, Interim City Manager 

DATE: July 27, 2012

SUBJECT Inaugural International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Class of 2012

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to update the Mayor and Commissioner on the status of the Miami Beach Senior High School inaugural International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma class of 2012.

Miami Beach Senior High School's inaugural IB class of 2012 outpaced global peers with 82.1% of the IB seniors receiving their IB Diploma, compared to a Global average of 78.1% and a Miami-Dade County Public School 2011 average of 65%. These students completed a rigorous two-year academic program and passed examinations in six major academic subjects. They also completed a 4,000 word Extended Essay on a topic of their choosing and performed Creativity, Action, Service Projects that reinforced the well rounded nature of an International Baccalaureate. Many of these students will receive up to one (1) year of college credits for receiving the IB Diploma.

There are currently five (5) public schools, including Miami Beach Senior High, in Miami-Dade County (MDC) that offer the IB Diploma. All public schools in MDC offering the IB Diploma, except Miami Beach Senior High, are magnet schools. A magnet school requires students throughout MDC to submit an application for admission and meet specific program eligibility requirements. Students are selected randomly for the magnet school program. As a resident of the City of Miami Beach, all youth residents have access to the IB Diploma Program at Miami Beach Senior High and do not participate in Miami Dade County Public Schools' random selection process. The chart below provides information for past years on the percent of eligible students receiving the IB Diploma. The 2012 data available for all schools will be made available in November 2012.

School	% of eligible students receiving IB Diploma		
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Coral Gables Senior High	55%	36%	
Coral Reef Senior High	87%	85%	
Ferguson Senior High	71%	75%	
North Miami Senior High	59%	46%	
Miami Beach Senior High	n/a	n/a	82%
Total IB Schools	73%	65%	

Dr. Rosann Sidener, Principal of Miami Beach Senior High, will represent the State in the 2013 National Principal of the Year competition. When Dr. Sidener arrived at Miami Beach Senior High in 2007, the school had received a "D" grade as a part of the Florida Accountability System (FCAT) and received an "A" in 2011. According to Dr. Sidener, the partnership with the City of Miami Beach was important in the funding and implementation of changes at Miami Beach Senior High.

As a result of the City's Education Compact established in January 2008, the recent 2012 Community Satisfaction Survey indicated that 91% of residents who have children in public schools are very satisfied or satisfied with Miami Beach public schools compared to 53% of residents with children in public schools in 2005. In addition, the percentage of residents with school age children in public schools has increased from 11% in 2005 to 24% in 2012. The City of Miami Beach has made a significant impact throughout the entire county as the Compact between the City and the School Board is a model of how a City can strengthen the relationship between schools and community.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

KGB/LDR