

January 2010

1/4	Classes Resume		
1/12 - 15	Exam Week		
1/12	Information Night for Class of 2014	– 7:00 p.m.	Cafeteria
1/13	Information Night for Class of 2014	– 7:00 p.m.	Cafeteria
1/14	Information Night for Class of 2014	– 7:00 p.m.	Cafeteria
1/18	Martin Luther King Day - No School		
1/27	PLAN Test for 9 th Grade Students		
1/29	Principal's Parents Advisory Committee	– 9:30 a.m.	
2/5	Application Deadline for Class of 2014 school year 2010-2011		

A Wonderful Conclusion to 2009!

We are delighted to report that the International Academy of Macomb has received authorization as an IB Baccalaureate Diploma Programme for fall 2010. The formal notification arrived from Geneva, Switzerland in the form of a letter and a certificate from Jeffrey Beard, the Director General of IB. Thus, we are now an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that the IAM believes is important for our students.

The last step to the authorization process occurred in September when a team of IB representatives visited our school, analyzed curriculum and facilities and met with teachers, students and parents. Congratulations to all members of our wonderful school community. As noted in the certificate of 7 December 2009, *The International Academy of Macomb is authorized to offer the Diploma Programme of the International Baccalaureate and to present candidates for examination.*

Celebrating the Arts

In December, we witnessed the progress of our Performing Arts Program. What a difference a year makes! Our first Winter Concert, actually held at the IAM, was magnificent and showcased our Concert Band and guitarists. In light of our field trip to the Detroit Opera Theatre to see *The Phantom of the Opera*, listening to our band perform music from the *Phantom* was delightful. In addition, our vocal music students, who performed before a full house in the Chippewa Valley High School Auditorium, were superb. Their beautifully performed songs put everyone *in the mood* for the holiday season. We are proud of our students and their teachers, Mr. Kosi and Mr. Wattleworth, and we look forward to the continual development of an outstanding Fine and Performing Arts Program.

Teamwork with an International Musical Flavor

On Thursday, Dec. 17, students met in their forums where their teachers assigned them the task of creating a wall mural with a New Year's message to the world. Ninth and tenth graders working in groups had to be creative, insightful and collaborative in their efforts. They had to compose a three stanza poem and depict their message in an artistic form that represented each member of their group. They also had to incorporate International-mindedness and aspects of the IB Learner in their endeavors. Students acquire an appreciation of the challenges of working constructively in collaborative situations. The competitive spirit was readily apparent and the results were impressive.

The murals grace the hallway of the IAM, and we invite parents to stop by school to view them. We concluded our day listening to the beautiful sounds of our vocal music students under the direction of Mr. Wattleworth and enjoying the cookies of the season.

First Semester Exams

It is difficult to believe that we are approaching the end of the first semester. Students should be reviewing and preparing for their final exams, scheduled for Jan. 12 through Jan. 15.

Planning for the PLAN

On Thursday, Jan. 27, our 9th graders will take the PLAN test. This pre-ACT test is a predictor of success on the ACT, measuring academic progress in the areas of English, Math, Reading and Science. It provides information about academic strengths and areas where improvement is needed. A 72-item inventory that identifies various types of work tasks is also helpful in noting careers that match student interest. This test taking opportunity will help students prepare for the PSAT in 10th grade and ACT in 11th grade.

A New Year's Wish

The IAM staff extends warm wishes to our students and their families for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2010!