



IB CONFERENCE
OF THE AMERICAS 2013
NEW ORLEANS 18th - 21st JULY



International Baccalaureate®
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional

Extending access to an IB education: The IB Open World Schools pilot project

Denise Perrault

Paul Gallagher

July 2013

...motivated by a Mission

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.





Open World Schools pilot

extending access to an IB education

The Open World Schools pilot project from the International Baccalaureate (IB) is exploring how an authentic IB Diploma Programme (DP) experience can be extended to students who would otherwise be unable to access an IB education.

By digitally linking with an IB World School, students have the opportunity to undertake a two-year DP course online that meets the challenging academic standards and rigorous assessment for which the IB is renowned. Students collaborate worldwide with their peers while developing essential skills and expanding their global perspectives in a secure, teacher-facilitated environment.

What is the Open World Schools pilot?

- Extends access to students who cannot attend IB World Schools to benefit from an IB educational experience
- Enable students, increasingly socialized in the digital world, to develop essential skills that will equip them for life after school
- In September 2012 the first non-IB students were enrolled in DP courses online at one of the four IB open world schools

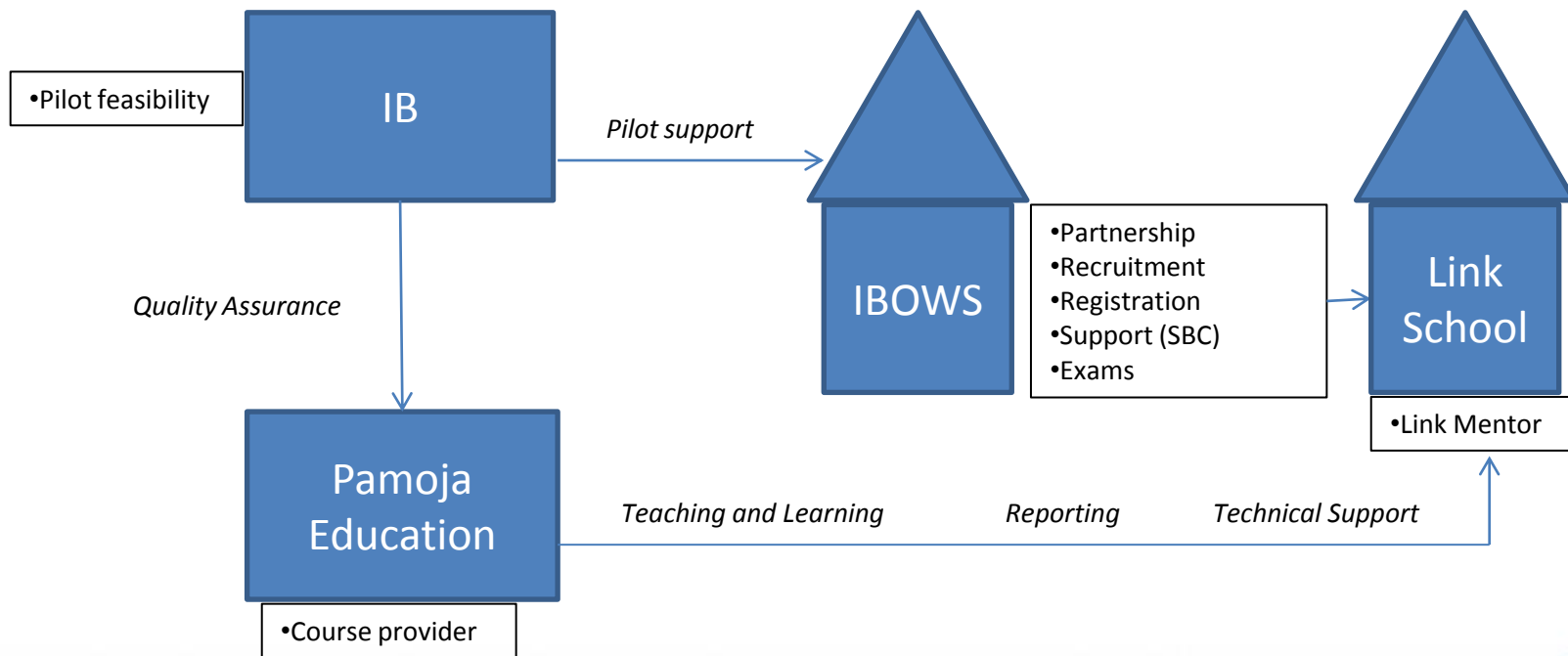
Who can enrol in the Open World Schools pilot?

- Students not attending an IB authorised school may enrol in an online course through the pilot and join global cohorts with IB students
- Students at non-IB schools who want to take a single IB course
- High-achieving students seeking a rigorous course for their high school transcript or college application

Why a 'pilot'?

- To learn from the successes and challenges faced by schools
- To gather detailed qualitative information regarding the variables for implementation
- To understand the differences between individual IBOWS and Link Schools to support the development of multi-models as 'best fits'

The Link School Model



IB CONFERENCE
OF THE AMERICAS 2013
NEW ORLEANS 18th - 21st JULY

IB Open World Schools

Presently 4 worldwide:

- **Adrian High School**, Michigan USA
- **International School of Berne**, Berne Switzerland
- **Riverview High School**, Florida USA
- **Yokohama International School**, Yokohama Japan

One school's journey



International Baccalaureate
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional



IB CONFERENCE
OF THE AMERICAS 2013
NEW ORLEANS 18th - 21st JULY

Riverview: Research & Development

Part of access & equity promotion

Non-Negotiable for 'link' with Riverview = Affiliation

Forms of affiliation: Year 1

1. Riverview IB teacher mentoring;
2. Regular visits from IB DPC;
3. Visit/Collaboration with IB DP students;
4. Visit to IB core class at Riverview

'Findings' from Riverview Experience, Year 1

1. Global connection is significant
2. Positive effect on self-esteem due to standards is evident
3. Pamoja course is highest quality
4. Orientation to IB is necessary
5. Time and space are imperative
6. 'Personnel' time is a consideration
7. Funding questions are always hovering overhead

Plans for Year 2 of Pilot

- a) Successful completion of Year 2 studies and exams;
- b) New 'Year 1' Cohort;
- c) Additional link school;
- d) Further definition of affiliation

Case Study: June 2013

Adrian/Hudson

Riverview/Booker

The IBOWS



Adrian High School

Riverview High School

	Type of School	%free/reduced lunch	Total students	Total students DP	DP % of grades 11/12	Total certificate students	Total online students
Adrian	Open	34%	900	36	8%	70	14
Riverview	Selective	15%	2700	233	24%	Few	0

The Link Schools



Booker High School			Hudson High School		
	Type of School	%free/reduced lunch	Total students	% minority	Total online students
Hudson (Adrian)	Open	53%	350	8%	2
Booker (Riverview)	Open with magnet	33%	1000	60%	10

Motivation for IBOWS - Adrian

- Access to an IB education for non-IB students
 - Any student can benefit from participating in a course that is more rigorous and required deeper thinking than other high school courses
 - Every student taking at least 1 IB course
 - Students interacting with students throughout the world

Motivation for IBOWS – Riverview

- Access
- “authentic” IB experience
- Opportunity to get a more diverse body of students involved in IB
- Integrate IB DP students with different types of students

Motivation for Link Schools

- Expanded opportunity for rigorous coursework
- Development of global thinking skills and global interactions
- Increase graduation rate and reduce drop-out rate by changing the culture
- Attract new students
- Meet parental demands for challenge

Partnerships

- Two of many potential models for IBOWS
- Different ways of interacting
- Subject-based help from IBOWS
 - CAS, TOK participation
 - Face-to-face support from IB teachers

Two emerging models

- IB DP course
 - Provide access to IB online course
 - ‘Some IB better than no IB’
- IB DP course with additional elements
 - Provide access to IB online course
 - ‘authentic’ IB experience

Link logistics

- Both Link Mentors guidance counselors
- All students with assigned school time for online course
- Regular monitoring by Link Mentor
- Single student versus many
- Financial model – special funding versus district funding

Considerations

- All Link students struggling with same issues –
 - Time management
 - Course rigour
 - Online environment
- IB = “rigorous”, “difficult”, “international”

IB DP course with additional elements

- Question 1: Is this model sustainable/scalable (financially/personnel)?
- Question 2: Do elements beyond the online course experience have to be conducted face-to-face?
- Question 3: What elements should be included?

Structural considerations

Characteristics	Variations	Where found
IB school leadership	Specially designated	Adrian
	DPC + SBC	Riverview
	DPC as SBC	Possible in the future
Link mentor personnel	Guidance counselor	Hudson and Booker
	Other personnel	Possible in the future
Link mentor characteristics	New to IB	Hudson and Booker
	Prior IB experience	Possible in the future
Number of students	Lone student	Hudson
	Cohort of students	Booker

Questions of structure

- Question 1: Who should lead the IBOWS initiative at the IB school?
- Question 2: Who should lead the IBOWS initiative at the link school?
- Question 3: How much support does the link mentor need?
- Question 4: How many student should there be at each link school?

Closing thoughts

- What is an authentic IB experience? How could we make the Learner Profile more explicit?
 - Within courses, as individual modules
 - TOK (blended, modules)
 - CAS (course or exchange)
- When does an IB DP course become just a ‘course’?

Thank You

To view the video presentation go to:

<https://vimeo.com/user10708324/review/69945346/11e596fc3c>