

IB PARENT CONNECTION



Iceberg Photo credit to Paul Nicklen

4 Components of Culture:

1. Symbols
2. Language
3. Values
4. Norms

Thinking About Our Icebergs

During our professional development in September, Laredo teachers were challenged to think about our middle school selves. We discussed things that were very apparent to teachers and peers, and things about our personal culture that were deeply rooted and did not show as easily or come from a formalized learning environment. This can be compared to an iceberg, with the apparent things on the surface, and much more below. Our conversations fostered a discussion about our students' icebergs, and the importance of creating a space in our classes that value the components of our students' culture that is below the iceberg. As you think about this in your own life and your

students' life, please help foster discussions with your students about the parts of your own cultures that are unique and why. As an IB school, we look for ways to incorporate multiple perspectives into our learning, and value the diversity that our student body brings to the building each day! This is both part of our character development and global mindedness.

Use the junk in your lives
to build bridges
instead of walls.

JEANNE MAYO

Halloween Candy Drive!

As part of our partnership with the Denver USO, we will be hosting a Halloween Candy Drive during the last week of October and first week of November. Feel free to donate any unwanted, uneaten, unwrapped candy. These donations are then used in care packages, at the USO centers, and handed out in flight lines. Watch for more information as the month progresses.

We focus on three things:

1. Character Development

2. Global Mindedness

3. Opportunities for High Levels of Learning for All Students

MYP at Laredo is for ALL students, and revolves around teachers and staff providing opportunities for our kids to grow in their character and be exposed to higher order thinking practices.

Learner Profile Days

Each month, we will be celebrating one of the IB Learner Profile Traits. Students and staff are encouraged to come to school dressed as a super hero that exemplifies that trait, or wearing a shirt with that super hero on it. **Our next two LP Days are October 5th, where we will celebrate being knowledgeable, and November 2nd, where we will celebrate being caring.**

Approaches to Learning

As part of the IB Program, teachers help students develop character by focusing on the Approaches to Learning. These are developmentally appropriate skills that help students break down their learning of “how to be a student,” assess their own skills, and be successful in their classes and life.

Research Skills in the era of the internet can be a difficult road for students to navigate. How can we help students demonstrate media literacy? Talk with your kids about the sources they are utilizing for research, where they found them, and how they know the information is credible. Some talking points include:

1. Compare and contrast and draw connections among media resources.
2. Understand the impact of media representations and modes of presentation.



Our IB Coordinator at Laredo is Mrs. Leah Bernie. Feel free to email her at lbernie@cherrycreekschools.org with questions.