**New Town High School**

**International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme**

**Admissions Policy**

This Admissions Policy reflects New Town High School’s staff agreed upon philosophy with respect to providing all students access to challenging and rigorous curriculums that include a global perspective. In keeping with the mission of the school and requirements of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IB), a language policy has been agreed upon by the teaching faculty to inform teaching and learning in the classroom, to guide curriculum, and to involve families in our goal to educate children in an internationally-minded environment.

**I. Vision and Mission**

The mission of New Town High School is to prepare students for success as knowledgeable and global citizens, future leaders, and life-long learners. We commit to a rigorous 21st century learning environment that is safe and supportive. We exist to help our students grow into resilient, empathetic, and inquisitive individuals who think both critically and creatively and possess the courage and conviction to take action. This will ensure that all students develop their individual potential based on the standards as outlined in Blueprint 2.0*.*

Today we learn; Tomorrow we lead.

**II. Open Enrollment Philosophy**

At New Town High School, we believe that students who wish to challenge themselves both academically and personally should be afforded the opportunity without hurdles. The IB MYP, Diploma and Career-related Programmes at New Town High School is an open-enrollment program. All students entering 9th or 10th grade are part of the school’s Middle Years Programme. Students may enroll in the full IB DP/CP or they may take individual IB courses in areas of interest and ability.

When a tenth-grade student expresses interest in the full program by filling out the IB DP/CP interest packet, a personal meeting with the IB DP/CP coordinator is scheduled. At this meeting, the student’s academic and career goals are discussed. A review of the student’s transcript, standardized scores, and teacher recommendations is undertaken. If any concerns regarding the appropriateness of participating in the full program are expressed by the student, parents, or coordinator, the issues are discussed and possible interventions and strategies developed, or alternate plans explored.

Students who do not wish to participate in the full IB DP/CP can take one or more subjects in their junior and senior years. It is highly recommended that students speak with their current subject area teacher to determine whether an IB subject is an appropriate choice.

Students not zoned to attend New Town can apply to the school’s International Studies Magnet program through BCPS’s Magnet Office. All students who reside within the attendance zones of the schools will gain automatic admission into the magnet programs. BCPS students who reside outside of the attendance zone will be eligible to apply and will be selected using a random lottery process.

Academic criteria will not be a factor in the admission process for students who reside within the attendance zone OR in the random lottery process for applicants who reside outside of the attendance zone.

Any decisions regarding the participation in the IB DP/CP must be approved by each student’s parent or guardian as signified by his or her signing of the student’s course request form completed the preceding year of enrollment.