Dear Parent/Guardian,

This school year, our sophomore class will make history. The class of 2022 will be the first NTHS class to complete the Middle Years Programme Personal Project. We introduced this project to students in June before the summer vacation. The Personal Project can also be called a “passion” project because it provides students an opportunity to explore their interests and create learning that is relevant to their lives. All sophomores are expected to complete their Personal Project by the end of the third quarter of the 2019-2020 school year. While most of the work must be completed outside of school, students will be provided opportunities to work on the project during specific classes in a structured format.

Personal Project Details:
The Personal Project is an individual project completed in the student’s sophomore year. It consists of three main components:

- **a product/outcome** (what students actually do or create; for example, a student may write a book, build a surf board, choreograph and perform a dance, or learn to play an instrument)
- **a process journal** (students will document and record the project’s development and reflect on the learning experience)
- **a written or oral explanation of the product and process** (students will document what they have done for the project, describe their original and final goal, and reflect on the process of the work)

More information about the Personal Project can be found on the following website: [https://nthsinternationalstudiesmagnet.weebly.com](https://nthsinternationalstudiesmagnet.weebly.com) (click on the Personal Project link) Twitter: @KHarrisSimms

Through this project, students will meet the following outcomes:

- Demonstrate the personal abilities and skills required to produce and present an extended piece of work
- Engage in personal inquiry, action and reflection on specific topics and issues; and
- Reflect on learning and share knowledge, views, and opinions with others

New Town High School is in the candidate phase to offer the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP). The MYP encourages student-centered lessons, a focus on concept-based learning and inquiry, and strategies to teach students to apply their thinking in diverse circumstances in the classroom and the world. The Personal Project is the culminating project for students in the Middle Years Programme.

I can't wait to assist your child in completing their Personal Project. Please email me if you have any questions or concerns, **kharrisimms@bcps.org**. Parent information sessions on project requirements will be held in September and October.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Simms

Kimberley Simms
Middle Years Programme Coordinator