



IB INTELLECT



MAYOR BUTTIGIEG TALKS ON AFGHANISTAN

Over 70 students from three classes taught by Mr. Cline, Mr. Amato, and Dr. Mika were treated to a visit by South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg who came to Adams High School on October 28 to talk about his experiences in Afghanistan. The



Mayor's visit complemented studies undertaken through the Children's Culture Connection online curricula that was sponsored by JAHS and the South Bend Rotary Club, and taught in the IB Social and Cultural Anthropology course. The class had learned about an Internally Displaced Persons camp west of Kabul, and the timing of the Mayor's visit was simply appropriate. Hearing from the Mayor about the current events brought another voice to our much-needed



understanding of the world. The mayor asked what our students knew about the country and the people, and received responses that simply noted that *"people are people everywhere"*, and the concerns of life common to American students are shared by Afghani students as well.

JOHN ADAMS HS DIGITAL VISUALIZATION THEATER FIELD TRIP

On October 27, the IB Physics and Honors Astronomy Classes embarked on a field trip to experience the Digital Visualization Theater at the University of Notre Dame. At the time of the trip both classes were studying the effects of forces in our solar system. The Digital Visualization Theater (DVT) is essentially a digital astronomy theater, which immerses the students in high-resolution, high-fidelity images projected on a 50-foot-diameter dome. Boasting Sony SRX-S110 projectors, one of the most advanced projections systems available, a JBL 9,000-watt 5.1 Dolby surround sound system, and ten computers for the real-time rendering of 3D objects, the state-of-the-art, 136-seat hexagonal theater enveloped the John Adams students in an awesome 360-degree visual experience. For over an hour they were hurtled through outer space to the edge of the foreseeable universe. Starting with the surface of the earth they were treated to real-time images of the day and night skies around South Bend. Going off the surface of the Earth, they were treated to actual images of millions of galaxies and billions of stars that

make up our 13.7 year-old Universe. *"It was truly an awesome eye-opening experience... given what we saw, I feel really insignificant now!"* remarked one of the students.

Students at the University of Notre Dame. Photo: Dan Walsh



JOHN ADAMS AND GOSHEN HIGH SCHOOL IB PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP COLLABORATIVE IDEAS



DAN WALSH VOTED TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2014-15

According to Jim Seitz, Principal of John Adams, Mr. Walsh is the 2014-2015 Adams High School Teacher of the Year.

This award is voted on by the teachers in the building.

Mr. Walsh is now a candidate for the 2014-2015 Corporation teacher of the year. The Corporation Teacher of the Year will be announced on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 4:00. The Ceremony this year is actually at John Adams High School in the Auditorium.

Congratulations to Mr. Walsh. We are cheering you on to win the South Bend Community School Corp Teacher of the Year this coming April.

Last year Dan led the Science Olympiad Team to the State competition in Bloomington, Indiana. Thank you Dan for keeping up the great Eagle tradition of science excellence (Source: Joe Crimmins & Parent Group updates).

Two meetings have taken place this fall between Dr. Mika and representatives of the IB Program at Goshen High School. In September, Dr. Mika visited with IB Coordinator Therese Collins and IB History teacher Matthew Nichols to start a dialogue between the two schools. In October, Collins and Nichols were able to visit at Adams, where time was also spent in meeting with Mr. Seitz and Mr. Cline. Both schools are looking forward to developing some interactive Skype lecture options for the upcoming Junior TOK classes in Spring 2015. Other ideas such as collaborative CAS projects will also be considered as our two schools become better known to each other.

VISITING THE AMISH

On October 1, the senior Social & Cultural Anthropology class had an opportunity to visit the Amish community in Shipshewana. For many students, this was the second time that they were able to meet with visitors that came to Adams last spring, and the reconnection was good. We were able to visit an Amish farm, experience how to work in the field with a corn bundler loader, and we spent some quality time talking and meeting the family inside their home. This was followed by a visit to Northside Amish school, where we played basketball and volleyball against the children. We were also challenged to an arithmetic contest – all of which we lost! For us this is a good lesson in humility, and for the Amish it was a good lesson in self-worth and confidence. We also had an opportunity to visit at the Dutch Creek Farm and Animal Park, which was a delight for all. Plans are underway to bring a group of Amish once again to Adams next Spring. An article on this visit appeared in the SB Tribune written by Katie Marquardt published on October 26.



Student comments provide a good impression on the experience, as noted here: *"Having first-hand experience of their modesty, kindness, and hospitality makes the Amish more of a relatable culture to me."* - Alex Reifenberg. *"This was one of the best field trips that I have been on in my educational career... teenagers can more easily relate with people than with books or powerpoint slides."* - Joseph Yeh. *"I like the fact that they work hard and they complain little."* - Elana Vanett. *"... it was very exciting to finally be able to experience the culture we had been studying and learning about for the last two years."* - Dominique Saviano. *"It was extremely beneficial to see this world from a first-person perspective, because it allowed for greater personal understanding of the culture we are striving to comprehend."* - Kate Hayner-Slaterry



Students ride on wagon and get ready to help with the corn bundler.

IB STUDENT TO DEMONSTRATE HIS COMPUTER PROGRAM AT THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE CONVENTION IN SAN JOSE, CA

Adam Staszewski was recently named a finalist in the Indiana Science Talent Search. The competition originated at Indiana University Medical Center and is an effort to encourage more high school students to enter the fields of medicine, mathematics, engineering and other allied health fields.



Adam Staszewski explains his latest computer program to Mr. Seitz and Dr. Mika

library of images was created and labeled of the pollen grains and classified accordingly within the computer's memory. The program further makes suggestions related to anti-allergy medications and possible side effects of the treatment.

Dr. Mika responded after viewing the program, "Our science students are performing at levels that I could never have imagined when I was in high school. I think it is simply amazing that our science program has become this successful. It speaks volumes for the John Adams staff to guide the abilities of students like Adam who excel in science research. And when I asked Adam about how he had arrived at this level, he responded that he never thought that he'd be doing anything like this when he came to JAHS. It's just a fantastic opportunity."

At an early age of eight Adam began writing code and has continued taking college courses in programming. He has remarkable skill in computer programming and applying it to benefit mankind. He has just completed a second program that recognizes a variety of abnormal blood-borne diseases common in third world countries. For his Pollen Program Adam was awarded a full four-year college scholarship in computer programming at Drexel University.

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON VISITS ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL

According to the Guidance Office, the November 21 visit by Kings College London representative Teresa Smiley was the first of its kind for the school. Over seventy Junior and Senior IB students filled the front of the auditorium to hear from Ms. Smiley who actively promoted and responded to numerous questions dealing with opportunities available to our IB students who may be interested in studying abroad.

There are many advantages in studying in the United Kingdom (as well as in Canada) and one of them is the fact that the undergraduate degree takes only three years to complete, rather than the four years that is the norm in American schools. Tuition is surprisingly low in comparison to many American schools as well. For anyone interested in checking out the opportunities in the UK, the application deadline for King's College is January 15, 2015 so there is still time to consider and apply for entrance to this prestigious institution. For more information, please check out <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/index.aspx>

Adam's computer investigation focused on "Identifying Pollen Cells Using Computer Analysis: An Aid for Allergists, Immunologists and Other Health Care Specialists." The project was to create a computer program that would analyze digital images of different types of pollen cells and quickly identify them using computer analysis software. A digital



Peri Stangas at Loyola University.

LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates. This month we share the success of Peri Stangas (IB Diploma 2012) who is a Junior at Loyola University in Chicago.

Loyola is going great! ! I am loving Chicago and all the opportunities it offers me. Next semester I have the amazing opportunity to study abroad in Rome, so I am really looking forward to that. I am on track to graduate next year with a Bachelor's of Science in Biology. I am hoping to go to graduate school and go into the public health sector, either in disease control or bio statistics, I haven't decided yet. The IB program really helped me get to where I am at today. Although I only got a few credits from Loyola, the IB program helped me with succeeding in my college courses through time management, determination, and hard work. While my other classmates were struggling with the amount of work our professors expected from us, I was used to it. I am able to do well in all of my classes as well as being on the executive board for many clubs that I am a part of. I was also just inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu, an honor society at Loyola. Only the top 4% of Loyola are inducted in this society, it was quite an honor to be chosen. I believe I would have had a tougher time getting to where I am at today if I had not completed the IB diploma courses. (Source: Communication from Peri Stangas to Dr. Mika, October 28, 2014).



FORMER 2006 ADAMS GRADUATE GETTING MARRIED

We are happy to hear from Mrs. Raymer, who reports some fantastic news that relates to one of our Adams graduates: *"My daughter is getting married in South Korea over Christmas break. This picture (on left) is her in the traditional Korean hanbok which she wears for part of the service. After that, she will wear a white dress for the South Korean Western wedding. I will also wear the hanbok."* (Source: e-mail from Mrs. Raymer, Nov.14). Mrs. Raymer will travel to South Korea for the wedding over the Christmas Break, and we wish her a wonderful trip and best wishes to Kate as she is married. Many blessings from Adams High School!

MAGNET FRESHMEN VISIT INDIANA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

A total of 86 students along with three teachers and three parents visited the Indiana International Festival on November 21. This was our fourth time that the Magnet Freshmen have been offered an opportunity to attend the state's largest pan-ethnic festival. With over 50 ethnic groups promoting their culture, food, and information, there was something for everyone! The four-hour visit went quickly, and the kids were able to catch some great entertainment on the main stage before returning home. Many thanks to our teachers Mrs. and Ms. Twietmeyer, and chaperons Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Benham, and Mrs. Crisovan.



Two troubadours – Chris Vreugdenhil and Bernal Cortes



Everyone poses in front of one of our buses.



Philippine Culture Dance Company.

THANK YOU

"Thank you all for facilitating this visit; our guests from Germany had a great time at John Adams, and said that they learned a lot about differences in our educational systems, from math and science curriculums to school lunches!" -Rachel Friend Bradley (sent to 17 teachers for the October 13 visit by three German students who spent the day at Adams in many of our Magnet, IB, and non-magnet classes).

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE IB INTELLECT

Stories from students and teachers are encouraged. Please submit materials to Dr. Mika. The deadline for the next issue will be Monday, February 9, 2015. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list for Adams IB Magnet families, please send your e-mail address to Dr. Mika at mroinila@sbcsc.k12.in.us.



The IB Intellect is a Newsletter of the John Adams High School
International Baccalaureate Program
808 S. Twyckenham Drive
South Bend, IN 46615
Principal: Mr. James Seitz
IB Coordinator: Dr. Mika Roinila



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

