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## Upper St. Clair School District Mission Statement

*Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promote happiness and success.*



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## IBO Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



You can visit the  
**International  
Baccalaureate**

website at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

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## UPPER ST. CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM



*A USC Elementary  
Program  
Located in  
Streams Elementary  
School*

[www.uscsc.k12.pa.us](http://www.uscsc.k12.pa.us)

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## What are the key characteristics of PYP?

- ❖ The instruction is inquiry-based.
- ❖ The academic program is rigorous, yet designed for all students.
- ❖ A strong emphasis is placed on the ideals of international-mindedness and responsible citizenship.
- ❖ Units of study are organized under six transdisciplinary themes:
  1. Who We Are
  2. Where We Are in Place and Time
  3. How We Express Ourselves
  4. How the World Works
  5. How We Organize Ourselves
  6. How We Share the Planet
- ❖ The core curriculum parallels the USCS D adopted curriculum.
- ❖ The program nurtures internationally-minded young people who are:

**Inquirers**

**Thinkers**

**Communicators**

**Courageous**

**Knowledgeable**

**Principled**

**Caring**

**Open-minded**

**Balanced**

**Reflective**

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## What is different about the Primary Years Program?

1. **Inquiry Teaching Method** – Attempts to improve questioning techniques, curiosity, independent work habits, cooperation, control over material covered, and interest in classroom units of study.
2. **Learner Profile** – Focuses on academic attributes in an attempt to build lifelong learners who are always seeking new knowledge to better themselves and others, and to foster students who do more than is expected.
3. **International-mindedness** – Broadens the students' understanding of the world around them and helps them develop an appreciation for other points of view.
4. **Action**– Reaches out into the school, community and world to make a difference - one child and one deed at a time.



**Learn more at our district website.  
From the home page, click on  
Academics, then International  
Baccalaureate, then Primary Years  
Program.**

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## How and where is the USC-PYP being offered?

- ❖ The PYP is an international curriculum framework designed for children from the ages of 3 to 12 years.
  - ❖ The USC Primary Years Program opened for students in Grades 1, 2, and 3 in September, 1998 at Streams Elementary School and expanded to include Grade 4 in September, 1999 and Kindergarten in 2013. A Certificate of Authorization was received from IBO in 2003. Program evaluation visits were conducted in 2008 and 2015.
  - ❖ When appropriate, the classes work as a multi-age team to meet individual needs and to provide opportunities to learn with children of different ages. This enhances the sense of IB identity and family.
  - ❖ Students from all three elementary schools can enroll in the PYP, with priority given to students residing in the Streams area.
  - ❖ Transportation to the PYP magnet program at Streams is provided by the school district.
  - ❖ If there are more applicants than available positions, a waiting list is maintained.
  - ❖ Additionally, both the Middle Years Program and an internationally recognized Diploma Program for secondary school students are offered in the Upper St. Clair School District.
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