



## Blessed Theodore Guerin High School

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## **GUERIN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ACCEPTED INTO INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME**

***High School will offer IB Diploma classes to students beginning in the 2006-07 school year***

May 16, 2006 — Guerin Catholic High School was informed today by the International Baccalaureate Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, that it has been accepted to participate in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme. Guerin Catholic High School students who wish to obtain an IB Diploma will begin their IB curriculum during the fall of the 2006-07 school year.

“What a wonderful opportunity for our high school,” said Principal Keith Marsh. “A lot of hard work went into this application, from our faculty, students, parents, curriculum committee, and administration. We are totally committed to our Catholic faith above all else and we our goal was to create a high school that would challenge all of our students academically. The IB Diploma Programme is the final piece that will complete our school and satisfy our mission. Almost 50 percent from our Class of 2008 will be participating in our IB Diploma Programme.”

“This is truly an outstanding accomplishment. I suspect that this may be an unparalleled accomplishment for a new high school in existence for only 18 months to have satisfied the rigorous criteria and inspection to achieve IB certification and approval,” said Board Member Christopher J. Braun, Esq., Plews Shadley Racher & Braun.

The IB Diploma Programme is a comprehensive and challenging pre-university course that demands the best from both motivated students and teachers. This sophisticated two-year curriculum covers a wide range of academic subjects and has stood the test of time for over half a million students in 119 countries since 1968. IB Diploma Programme graduates are welcomed by the world’s leading universities.

“We are very excited to be approved for participation in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme,” said Martin Kirkwood, Director of Guidance and Diploma Programme Coordinator. “This will help us continue to challenge our junior and senior students academically in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum. We are confident that students who participate in these classes will not only be well prepared for their college experience, but it will also help in their admission and placement at college. As one college admission representative recently commented, the IB Diploma Programme is the single most valuable curriculum of which they are aware.”

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The IB Diploma Programme is about more than the subjects that students study. At its heart are the three core requirements that are integral to the curriculum and make the IB Diploma Programme unique. The three core requirements are Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay and Creative, Action, Service where students can gain real-life experience beyond the classroom.



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“We have worked hard to ensure that our IB program reflects both the academic and human values of IB and the values of our Catholic faith,” said Fr. Dale Ehrman, Director of Campus Ministry at Guerin Catholic High School. “Our IB students will learn through serious study and real-life experience how both faith and reason lead to truth. Their IB experience will provide them grounding, not just for college, but for the serious life questions that college students face.”

The IB Diploma Programme is widely recognized for its high academic standards. Assessment is varied and takes place over two years, with final examinations in each subject. Students’ work is assessed by an international board of examiners, who are themselves rigorously trained and monitored by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO).

Subjects are scored on a 1-7 scale with a further three points available for theory of knowledge and the extended essay. Students who display good levels of performance across all six subjects and achieve a minimum of 24 points (out of a possible 45) are awarded the diploma. All others receive a certificate for each of the subjects completed.

For more information on the International Baccalaureate Programme, please contact the organization’s website at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org).

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### **About Blessed Theodore Guerin High School**

*Blessed Theodore Guerin High School is a Roman Catholic, co-educational college-preparatory school serving students from diverse academic economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Dedicated to the message of Jesus Christ, we are called to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and involvement in the ongoing life of the Church through The Word, Prayer, Service, and Sacraments. For more information, please visit [www.guerincatholic.org](http://www.guerincatholic.org).*