

April 29, 2021

**RE: May 2021 Exams Cancelled**

Dear IB Community:

First, I would like to thank our IB students for their hard work and dedication these past two years. Completing an IB education is a challenge on its own; completing it during a worldwide pandemic is impressive.

I would also like to thank our parents and teachers for their support during uncertain and unsettling circumstances; you have been anchors for these young people and have helped guide them as they learned how to deal with an unprecedented situation.

With the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in our school, we have several students who are not physically able to write their May exams. The IB policy for students in this position is a deferral of credit until November, when they can write any missed assessments. Additionally, it is likely that more students will be affected as the virus and its variants continue to spread rapidly in our community.

The IB has made special arrangements for schools during the pandemic to award grades to students without having to write the May exams. The “non-exam route” – used by the IB last year – awards students marks based on their Internal Assessments and a teacher-submitted Predicted Grade. These items have already been submitted and no further IB assessments are required. Students will simply attend their current classes until the end of the quarter to complete the remaining provincial curricular outcomes.

By choosing the non-exam route, we are ensuring that every IB student at Bellerose will receive credit for their hard work and a final IB grade in July. Given the number of disruptions to our regular school year, I hope it is comforting knowing that IB students will earn a mark based on their work to date.

I hope this announcement relieves some stress for our grade 12 IB students and their families. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,

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