Dear Peoria Public Schools Parent or Guardian:

You may be interested in having your child apply for entrance into the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme at Richwoods High School for the 2021-22 school year. Entry into the IB at Richwoods is open to students who are currently in 8th, 9th, or 10th grade. Students residing anywhere within the Peoria Public Schools attendance boundaries are eligible for admittance.

The IB Diploma Programme is a rigorous course of study taken by juniors and seniors in six subject areas. It is designed as an academically challenging and balanced program of education with final examinations that prepare students for success in college and life beyond. The Diploma Programme is taught over two years and has gained recognition and respect from leading universities in the United States and across the globe. IB Diploma students can earn a large number of academic credits before entering college, and IB Diploma graduates have been consistently found to be far better prepared for the challenges of college than graduates of any other advanced high school curriculum.

Students entering as freshmen or sophomores are classified as “pre-IB Diploma” students and must take a challenging set of enriched-level preparatory courses. Students entering as juniors will enter directly into the Diploma Programme.

In order to be eligible, students must have maintained at least a B average over the past school year, and have demonstrated a high level of aptitude on standardized NWEA MAP, or other reading and math assessments. Most importantly, they need also to be motivated students who genuinely enjoy learning. If a student is admitted but fails to maintain at least a 3.0 (B) unweighted grade point average for the year, or later wishes to voluntarily drop from the Diploma Programme, and that student resides outside of the Richwoods attendance boundaries, they will return to enrollment at their home school at the end of the school year.

There will be an IB Diploma Programme informational meeting for all interested parents and students at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 8th, 2020. The meeting will be held virtually. Information on accessing the meeting will be communicated soon.

Applications are currently available online at http://www.psd150.org/Page/3088. Applications are due by 4:00 pm on Friday, November 13th, 2020.

If you have any further questions regarding the IB Diploma Programme or about the application process, please contact Richwoods IB Coordinator Travis Bowlby at travis.bowlby@psd150.org.