



Middle Years Programme of the International Baccalaureate

Yorktown Middle School



A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS IN A GREAT COMMUNITY

What is the Middle Years Programme?

- Founded by the International Baccalaureate Organization in 1994
- Worldwide, there are 924 schools offering a Middle Years Programme (MYP)
- Locally, Newport News and Hampton offer the whole-school MYP

Goal of the MYP

- To prepare students for a globalized, interconnected, 21st-century world by:
 - Encouraging a positive attitude toward learning
 - Providing opportunities for students to form real life connections to what they are learning in class
 - Fostering international-mindedness
 - Promoting reflective, critical thinking in all students, regardless of ability level.

The Structure of the MYP

- Local and state standards provide the core curriculum in an MYP school
- Students in an MYP school take the same classes as students in other schools
- MYP teachers plan together to design learning opportunities which are thematic, interdisciplinary, and internationally minded

Curriculum Alignment

YCSD Course	MYP Description
English	Language A
Social Studies	Humanities
Science	Sciences
Mathematics	Mathematics
Technology	Technology
World Language (French or Spanish)	Language B
Physical education	Physical education
Art	Arts

What might this look like in a school?

- Experiment distinguishing a pure substance from a mixture; analysis of water

Science

- Critiquing work of an artist who uses water as his/her inspiration

Art

- Essay arguing for the right to drinkable water for all global citizens

English


Physical
Education

- Discussion about the importance of proper hydration during exercise


PS.2b: The student will investigate and understand the basic nature of matter. Key concepts include elements, compounds, mixtures, acids, bases, and salts.

YMS MYP Timeline

2005-6: Decision made to bring the MYP to YMS to offer greater choice to middle school students



2007-8: MYP teachers began professional development and planning for MYP



2008-9: MYP began with a limited number of students in grade 6

2009-10

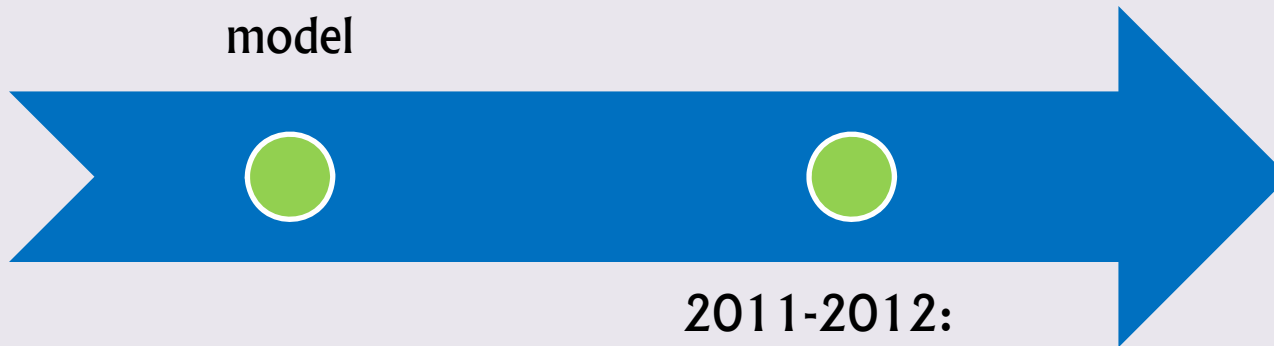
- Grade 7 added to MYP; YMS authorized as an IB World School with the requirement to move toward a whole-school model

The authorization for YMS to operate as an IB World School included this stipulation:

“The school must devise a plan for allowing access to the MYP for all students at the school; the MYP is a programme for all students. The IB currently allows schools to start implementation in this manner but schools should develop a plan to move toward whole school implementation of the MYP at the earliest convenience.”

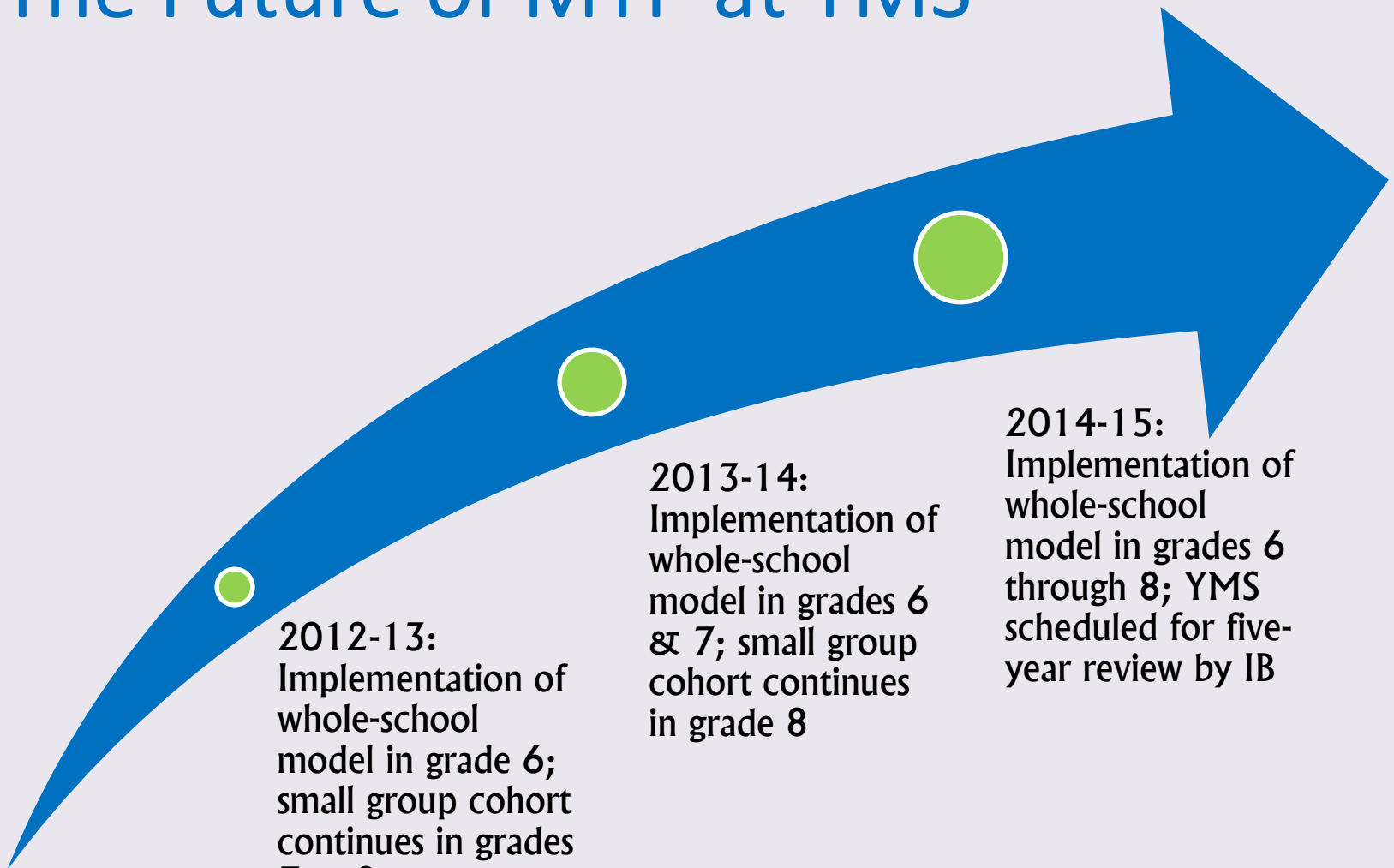
Moving Toward Whole-School

2010-11: MYP in place
in grades 6 – 8;
discussions began about
move to whole-school
model



2011-2012:
Professional
development and
planning for move to
whole-school MYP
beginning with
grade 6

The Future of MYP at YMS



2012-13:
Implementation of
whole-school
model in grade 6;
small group cohort
continues in grades
7 & 8

2013-14:
Implementation of
whole-school
model in grades 6
& 7; small group
cohort continues
in grade 8

2014-15:
Implementation of
whole-school
model in grades 6
through 8; YMS
scheduled for five-
year review by IB

What Changes YMS Students Can Expect

- **All** YMS students will have access to the MYP. Unlike the IB Diploma Programme, the MYP is an inclusive program which serves the diverse learning needs of **all** students.
- There will be *no* changes to school schedule or academic workload.
- What students *will* see is greater exposure to internationally minded, thematic teaching and an introduction to world language.