

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NJ**  
**PUBLIC BOARD MEETING**  
**May 18, 2015**  
**FOR ACTION**

**RESOLUTION            3291**

**SUBJECT:                International Baccalaureate (IB) Program**

WHEREAS, the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education acknowledges and accepts the value of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program concepts, including rigorous teaching and learning, a global perspective and the interdepartmental method of instruction;

WHEREAS, in 2012 the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education approved the proposal to implement the IB Middle Years Program (MYP) at the district's middle schools over a three-year period;

WHEREAS, the timing of the implementation of the IB MYP at the middle schools coincided with the adoption of several state mandates, including the Common Core standards, PARCC testing, and ACHIEVENJ and TEACH NJ requirements;

WHEREAS, the implementation of the IB MYP has been difficult and less than successful for many of the middle school faculty, particularly in light of the adoption of the above-referenced additional programs and standards;

WHEREAS, there is no substantial prospect that the circumstances that have hindered the implementation of the IB MYP are likely to change;

And

WHEREAS, it is the sentiment of the Board of Education and the Administration that the district should not continue to spend resources on the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program, given the above circumstances;

WE THEREFORE HEREBY RESOLVE:

That the IB MYP should be discontinued at the end of the 2014/2015 academic year; and

That the district Administration and the middle school faculty will continue to work on strategies for middle school instruction, that will maintain rigorous teaching and learning, a global perspective, interdisciplinary studies, and a collaborative teaching approach.