

# International Baccalaureate Association of Japan (IBAJ)

A presentation to

第三回国際バカロレアを活用したグローバル人材育成を考える有識者会議

@文部科学省

April 17, 2017

Shaney Crawford  
Principal, Tsukuba International School

# Tsukuba International School [\(http://tis.ac.jp/\)](http://tis.ac.jp/)

## PYP

Candidate: 2008

Authorized: 2011

## MYP

Candidate: 2010

Authorized: 2014

## DP

Candidate: 2015

Authorized: ????  
(verification visit last week)

### School Profile

Head: Shaney Crawford

Location: Tsukuba, Ibaraki (approx. pop. 200,000)

Grades: Pre-Kindergarten (age 3) to Grade 12

Enrollment: 195 students

Faculty and Staff: 40 members

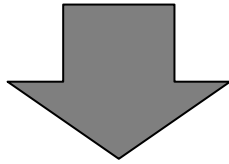


A compassionate learning community  
centered in nature,  
celebrating diversity, equality, and opportunity.

# Establishment of IBAJ

## Precursors

- East Asia Association of IB School Heads (EAAIBSH)
- Japan Association of IB School Heads (JAIBSH)



## International Baccalaureate Association of Japan

(IBAJ)

formally established in April 2014

(establishment requested by IB)

# IB World Schools and Candidate Schools in Japan

In Japan:

## **44 IB World Schools**

- 23 Intl Schools
- 1 International Preschool
- 20 Article 1 Schools

## **31 Candidate Schools**

- 10 Intl Schools
- 4 Intl Preschools
- 16 Article 1 Schools
- 1 Article 1 Preschool

(as of April 17, 2017)

# Other IB Associations Around the World

(ACBIE) Agrupación de Centros de BI en España  
(ACBIRP) Asociación de Colegios del BI del Rio de la Plata  
(ACHBI) Asociación Chilena Del BI  
(ASCBIP) Asociación de Colegios IB Perú  
(ASECCBI) Asociación Ecuatoriana de Colegios de BI  
(ASOBITICO) Asociación de Colegios del BI de Costa Rica  
(COMUBIVE) Asociación de Colegios Del Mundo BI de Venezuela  
(AUCBI) Asociación Uruguaya de Colegios de BI  
New Mexico Association of IB World Schools  
(TAISI) The Association of International Schools of India  
(FLIBS) Florida League of IB Schools  
(GIBS) Guild of IB Schools of the Northeast  
(IBGA) IB Schools of Georgia - IBGA  
(IBPAK) Association of IB World Schools in Pakistan  
(MNIB) Minnesota Association of IB World Schools  
(NIBA) Northwest IB Association  
(SÉBIQ) Société des écoles du monde du BI du Québec et de la francophonie  
(TIBS) Texas IB Schools  
A.A.C.B.I. (Asociación Andina de Colegios de BI)

(ABIBS) Alberta Association of IB World Schools  
(AZIBS) Arizona Association of IB Schools  
Asociacion Mexicana (IBAMEX)  
Association of German International Schools  
Atlantic Canadian Association of IB World Schools  
British Columbia Association of IB World Schools  
(CAWS) California Association of IB World Schools  
Hawai'i Association of IB World Schools  
Hoosier IB World Schools Association  
IB Association of World Schools for South Korea Resource Centre Society  
IB Schools Australasia  
IB Schools and Colleges Association  
IB Schools of Alabama  
(IBSO) IB Schools of Ontario  
(IBSOM) IB schools of Michigan  
(etc.)

**49 IB Associations in total**

<http://www.ibo.org/contact-the-ib/associations-of-ib-schools/>

# Objectives and Activities (from the IBAJ Articles of Association)

Article 3: The purpose of the IB Association of Japan is to support the IB Organization (hereinafter IBO) and the general improvement of IB schools in Japan, by providing **a network of professional support, information and service.**

Article 4: To fulfill the purpose stated in the previous article, the Association shall pursue the following objectives:

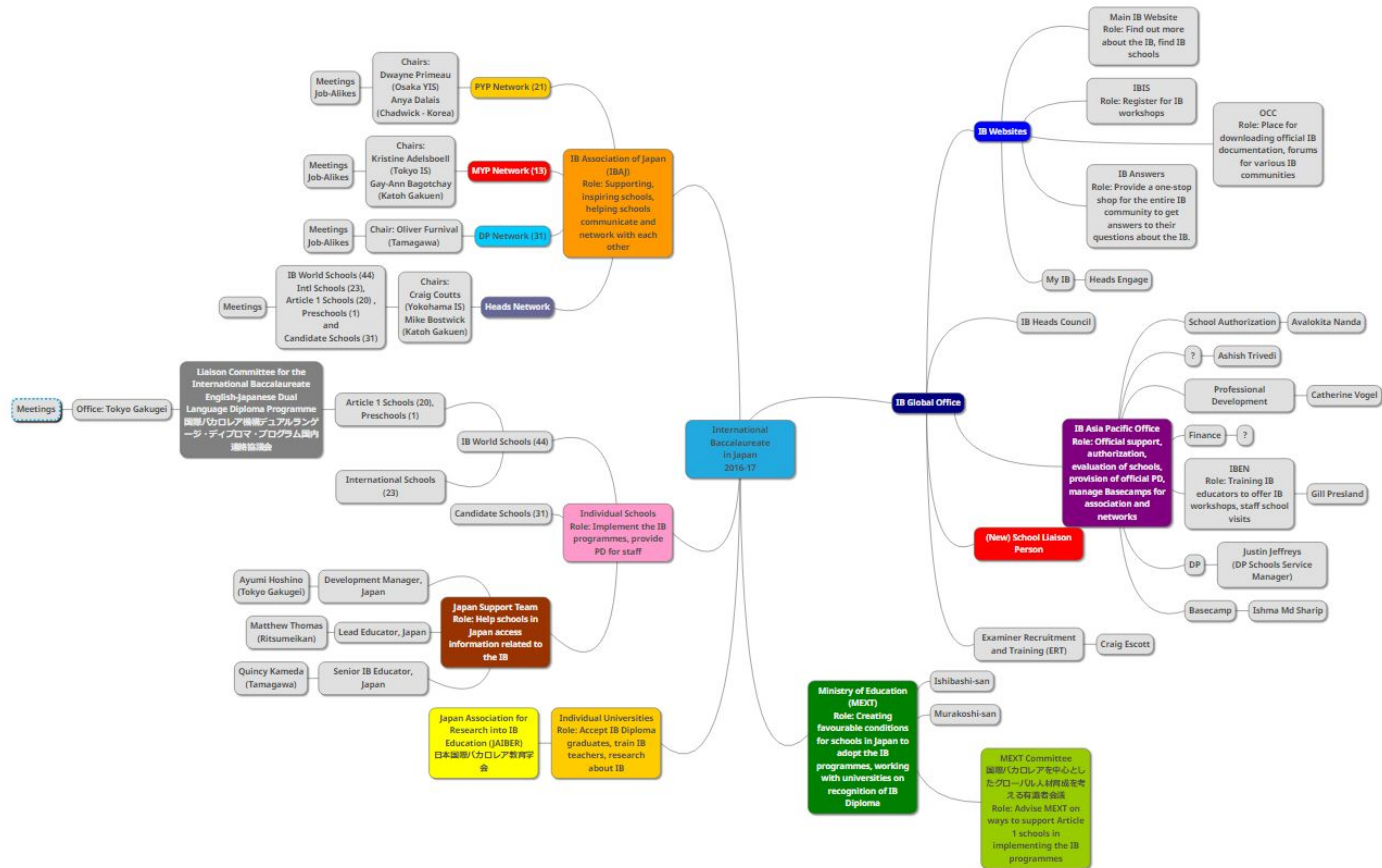
- To support the goals and objectives of the IBO in Japan.
- To **provide support** for International Baccalaureate schools, newly authorized schools and candidate schools in Japan.
- To facilitate centralized **communication and consultation** among International Baccalaureate schools in Japan.
- To **liaise and petition** on behalf of Association member schools with the **Ministries of Education, government agencies and educational organizations** in Japan.
- To assist and promote the **recognition of the International Baccalaureate Diploma** to universities in Japan.
- To support the **professional development** of IB school leaders and practitioners in Japan.

# Nature of the IBAJ

## Keyword: COLLABORATION

- the only official IB organization in Japan with a legally binding agreement with the IB
- independent of the IB (representing the IB schools, not the IB)
- cooperative of IB schools acting in support of each other
- 2 chairs from two school paradigms, by design:
  - one from international school (Craig Coutts, Yokohama IS)
  - one from Article 1 school (Mike Bostwick, Katoh Gakuen)
- 2 official meetings per year (Fall, Spring)
- mailing list of heads (Basecamp)
- young organization, still working out relationships with:
  - IBAP, Coordinator Networks (PYP, MYP, DP), newly authorized Article 1 Schools, MEXT
- Not trying to grab power from any other organization

# “Mindmap” of IB Presence in Japan



See attachment#2



# 2016-17 IBAJ Survey on Needs of IB World Schools and Candidate Schools in Japan

- 35 responses in total, but some overlap (heads and coordinators responding)
- all private schools
- 23 international schools, 10 Article 1 schools, 2 preschools
- 25 authorized schools, 10 candidate schools

Survey: <https://goo.gl/forms/QKpfmFnFEITog6Sh1>

# Results: Greatest Needs of Member Schools in Relation to IBAJ

## What should IBAJ focus on? What do you need help with?

Arranging for cost-effective professional development (workshops, job-alikes, etc.)	4.51
Making connections with people at IB World Schools in Japan	4.38
Giving heads of schools and coordinators a chance to meet regularly (e.g. once or twice a year)	4.31
Fostering collaboration amongst colleagues in a particular programme	3.66
Making plans to visit IB schools to see the IB in practice	3.62
Finding relevant resources that can be used to support student learning in the IB programmes	3.57
Understanding where to get help when I need it	3.53

*The survey did not include “**acting as an advocate for ALL IB schools in Japan**”, but this is already a part of our “Objectives and Activities”, and will therefore remain a priority.*

# IB in Japan

## Challenges for IBAJ

- Communication with all IB Stakeholders in Japan (see mindmap)
  - difficult for IBAJ to keep “in the loop” with so many different groups and voices
- Communication amongst schools
  - language barrier between many long-established schools and new (Japanese) schools
  - many heads of Japanese schools do not speak English → enhanced role of Coordinators
- Different Paradigms
  - many Japanese schools implement the IB programmes as a very small part of a much larger school
- Figuring out how to best support the PYP, MYP, and DP Networks
  - want to promote action in these groups and not “step on toes”
- Rationalizing approach to professional development provision in Japan to serve all schools effectively
  - communicating our needs effectively to the IBAP office
- Wondering how to work within new structure of IB support (restructuring of departments, IB liaison person assigned to each school)

# IB in Japan

## Challenges for all IB Schools

- Where to turn for answers?
  - hard to get clear answers to questions
    - e.g., how to interpret Standards and Practices in a particular setting
    - e.g., what a particular standard might look like at a small school
- Professional development
  - arranging for cost-effective PD to meet needs of teachers and schools in a timely way
  - the current system for checking needs (emails to coordinators through Basecamp) is not very efficient or effective
- Recognition of IB Diploma at Japanese Universities

# IB in Japan

## Challenges for Article 1 Schools

- Curriculum and assessment
  - hard to implement the MEXT curriculum and the IB programmes together at the same time
    - IB Programmes are designed to be all-encompassing, no room for extra options
  - hard to rationalize curriculum alignment/equivalencies between MEXT and IB
    - what is the MEXT equivalent of DP Math Studies, or DP Math SL, or TOK?
  - IB assessment procedures don't match with system for reporting grades to universities
- Recruiting and licensing foreign teachers
  - inconsistent application of rules across prefectures
  - some prefectures are asking foreign teachers to be interviewed in Japanese and commit to a long-term contract (e.g. 6 years)
  - some prefectures have “quotas” that restrict the number of foreign teachers per school (e.g. maximum of 10 foreign teachers per school when 13 are needed) → This is not new, but has been the case for more than a decade.

# IB in Japan

## Challenges for Article 1 Schools

- Language
  - needing translations of documents into Japanese (some work has been done in this area, but more needed)
- Commitment to IB programmes, philosophy
  - hard to get full understanding and support of IB programmes at individual schools when the IB programmes are only a small part of a larger school under a different paradigm
    - heads of Article 1 IB schools may not be as invested or committed to the programmes as they are only one part of the larger school environment
    - coordinators sometimes have to take on some of the roles that heads would usually be expected to undertake → extra burden on coordinators

# What would IBAJ like to ask of MEXT?

- **Continue work in gaining recognition of IB Diploma at Japanese universities**  
(no other organization can do this work as effectively, so this is key)
- Continue work in developing flexibility in school curriculum standards (at elementary, junior high, and high school levels) so that schools can implement IB unhindered
  - The IB programmes were created specifically to avoid the problem of having to have multiple programmes in a single school. Asking students to satisfy the requirements of two separate programmes is not a reasonable expectation.
- Continue work in advocating to prefectures to simplify procedures for hiring and licensing foreign teachers
  - Recruiting foreign teachers is extremely difficult because of the lengthy approval process.
- Consider developing stronger relationship with IBAJ (**as the official IB-related organization in Japan**) in order to facilitate communication with IB and schools

# Progress of IB in Japan

## IB in Japan 1.0 → The Past

- many international schools adopt the programmes
- first generation Article 1 schools: Katoh Gakuen, Tamagawa, Tokyo Gakugei
- PYP, MYP, DP Networks established

## IB in Japan 2.0 → The Present

- many Japanese schools decide to adopt the programmes
- IBAJ established, working on building up team strengths in Japan

## IB in Japan 3.0 → The Future that we are aiming for

- all IB schools working together with one voice to improve student learning through supporting our schools' implementations of the IB programmes

**Let's not become “Galapagos schools”.**

(one island of international schools and another island of Article 1 schools)



# Final Words

We need to be models of the mission of the IBO and work together to **“help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.”**

Let's not let our differences (e.g. language, paradigms) be a barrier to our understanding of and respect for each other.

Help us help you.

# International Baccalaureate Association of Japan (IBAJ)



2016-17 List of IB World Schools in Japan  
(As of April 17, 2017)

IB World Schools		Type of School	PYP	MYP	DP	CP	Continuum
1	AICJ Junior & Senior High School	Article 1	x	x	2009	x	x
2	Aoba-Japan International School	Intl	2015	2016	2015	x	continuum
3	Canadian Academy	Intl	2011	2011	1980	x	continuum
4	Canadian International School	Intl	2009	x	x	x	x
5	Deutsche Schule / European School Kobe	Intl	2006	x	x	x	x
6	Doshisha International School, Kyoto	Intl	2014	x	2012	x	x
7	Eisugakkan School	Article 1	x	x	2012	x	x
8	Fukuoka International School	Intl	2014	x	2007	x	x
9	Gunma Kokusai Academy	Article 1	x	x	2011	x	x
10	Hiroshima International School	Intl	2005	x	2005	x	x
11	Horizon Japan International School	Intl	x	x	2013	x	x
12	Hosei University Girls' High School	Article 1	x	x	2017	x	x
13	India International School Japan	Intl	x	x	2013	x	x
14	International School of Asia, Karuizawa	Article 1	x	x	2015	x	x
15	Jingumae International Exchange School	Intl	2015	x	x	x	x
16	Kansai International Academy	Intl	2015	x	x	x	x
17	K International School, Tokyo	Intl	2002	2003	2004	x	continuum
18	Katoh Gakuen Gyoshu Junior and Senior High School	Article 1	x	2000	2002	x	x
19	Kyoto International School	Intl	2006	x	x	x	x
20	Linden Hall High School	Article 1	x	x	2013	x	x
21	Meikei Gakuen	Article 1	x	x	2016	x	x
22	Mizuho School	Intl Preschool	2016	x	x	x	x
23	Nagoya International Junior and Senior High School	Article 1	x	x	2014	x	x
24	Nagoya International School	Intl	2012	x	2008	x	x
25	Okinawa International School	Intl	2011	2016	x	x	x
26	Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin	Intl	2004	2004	1990	x	continuum
27	Osaka YMCA International School	Intl	2012	x	x	x	x
28	Ritsumeikan Uji Junior and Senior High School	Article 1	x	x	2009	x	x
29	Saint Maur International School	Intl	x	x	1984	x	x
30	Sapporo Kaisei Secondary School	Article 1	x	2017	x	x	x
31	Seisen International School	Intl	2007	x	1986	x	x
32	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School	Article 1	x	x	2015	x	x
33	Senior High School at Sakado, University of Tsukuba	Article 1	x	x	2017	x	x

## 2016-17 List of IB World Schools in Japan

(As of April 17, 2017)

34	Shogaku Junior and Senior High School (Okinawa)	Article 1	x	x	2015	x	x
35	Shohei Junior and Senior High School	Article 1	x	2017	x	x	x
36	St. Mary's International School	Intl	x	x	1979	x	x
37	Sunnyside International Kindergarten	Article 1	2016	x	x	x	x
38	Tamagawa Academy	Article 1	x	2009	2010	x	x
39	Tokyo Gakugei University International Secondary School	Article 1	x	2010	2015	x	x
40	Tokyo International School	Intl	2005	2007	x	x	x
41	Tokyo Metropolitan Kokusai High School	Article 1	x	x	2015	x	x
42	Tsukuba International School	Intl	2011	2014	x	x	x
43	Yamanashi Gakuin High School	Article 1	x	x	2017	x	x
44	Yokohama International School	Intl	2001	2014	1984	x	continuum
<b>IB World Schools</b>		Type of School	<b>PYP</b>	<b>MYP</b>	<b>DP</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>Continuum</b>
	International	23	21	13	31	0	5
	Article 1	20					
	International Preschool	1					

Candidate Schools		Type of School	PYP	MYP	DP	CP	Continuum
	International	10	15	5	13	0	
	International Preschool	4					
	Article 1	16					
	Article 1 Preschool	1					

