

High Life

Grimsley High School

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OUT OF THE BLUE

Come one, come all, and see the bearded ladies. Well, actually they weren't ladies at all! Rather, Dr. Richard Smith, who teaches AP English and Head Athletic Trainer, Coach Joe Franks, changed their gender for a day. And with it not being switch day, many people were wondering why. Actually, the two made a bet (no money) that Grimsley could not raise the \$250 dollars that was the goal for the Thanksgiving families. Not only did the students surpass the goal (\$720), they also got to see two of the most beloved teachers, ahem, a la the *Crying Game*.



Madame Smith lectures to her class.



Mrs. Franks keeps order in her class.

Opinions differ on IB program

By Sarah Pendergraft
and Anna West
Reporters

Why are teachers being whisked away to such places as Greenville, S.C., and Albuquerque, N.M., for "training?" What exactly is going on?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Program is a rigorous two-year curriculum coming to Grimsley. It allows high school students to compete on an international level academically. The program began in 1962 in Geneva, Switzerland for children of foreign diplomats who needed a standardized curriculum as they moved from country to country.

To be admitted into the program, students must have completed required courses by the eleventh grade. They include Algebra 2, English 10, and three years of language.

In order to obtain an IB diploma, students must take exams in six different subjects. Three separate courses are taken for two years at a Primary level, with a more intense exam, and three are taken at a Subsidiary level, with a less in-depth examination. Students must also take a course on the Theory of Knowledge, compose an Extended Essay, and participate in 225 hours of community service.

Grimsley will spend a projected \$371,680 for the first two years of the program. This will pay for resources, IB fees, and administrative costs like teacher training.

Grimsley will offer three of four IB math courses, three IB science courses, IB English, IB American history, and IB French and Spanish. The offered electives will include Greek, Latin, music, art, and computer studies.

For the first few at least, these classes will be joined with the corresponding AP courses. When students complete their AP/IB course, they may take either the AP or IB exam for college credit. These classes will be taught by the current AP teachers. To fit the IB schedule, some two hour AP courses may be changed to one hour classes extending over two years.

During the month of January, Mr. Penland and Dr. Kee will visit all freshman and sophomore honor classes to answer questions.

Only a few juniors will be able to use IB resources: those now taking Greek 2 in the morning with Dr. Frost, or those who wish to take a year-long IB course. No juniors will be able to graduate with an IB Diploma.

Sophomores who have finished or are now taking Algebra 2 and French or Spanish 3 will have the opportunity to work towards the complete IB Diploma. Those who have not met these requirements may take

individual IB courses.

The freshmen now taking Geometry or higher and French or Spanish 2 will be eligible for the IB Program when they are juniors. They also have the option of taking individual classes. If Grimsley is accepted for the Program by Geneva facilitators, as is predicted, the program will be in full swing next year.

"It will take students out of after-school programs. There will be more stress around campus, and much disappointment displayed by students who are not accepted," said Danny Benjamin, a sophomore.

Mr. Penland supports the program. "The IB Program is the most prestigious, rigorous program available; it's the only internationally recognized academic program in the world. We can become not only one of the top school systems in North Carolina, but also in the nation and world."

Dr. Chris Frost said, "I like the program's academic rigor and challenge; the sense (and fact) that by participating in it, we are not just resting on our laurels."

Mr. Jeff Allen said, "It will allocate scarce resources to a very small portion of the student body."

More information can be obtained in the Guidance office.

State money put cops on every campus

By Rachel Green
Reporter

On Friday November 4 the tension crackled in the air as students, faculty, and members of the community listened attentively to the governor's announcement.

"I am here to present a check in the amount of \$841,181 to Guilford County," said Governor Jim Hunt. Hunt came to Grimsley to present the check which will back one of the plethora of state programs designed to decrease the violence in our schools.

The program will provide all high schools in Guilford County with a school resource officer, like Grimsley's own Officer Steve Roberts.

"We will make an effort to have school resource officers in the schools by Janu-

ary," said Sheriff Walter "Sticky" Burch. After this program is in full swing, there will be three times as many officers in Guilford County than there are now.

"I want to thank the Governor, Guilford County, the Sheriff, and the County Commissioners who voted to put a total of 1.2 billion dollars to put school resource officers in our schools," said Chairman of the County Commissioners Wally Harrelson.

"We are lucky that our Governor can help. The County Commission voted to match 1/4 of the governor's check. We feel this is one way to make sure schools are safe for our children," said Commissioner Margaret Artuckle.

"I'm thrilled and happy for all principals who get school resource officers. I'm also proud of SAVE, the student body, the com-

munity, and the parents. We can truly say we have taken something very sad and turned it into something better," said Principal Thomas Penland.

"I think the program is wonderful, now that you all have an officer for two years, the students and I need to work together. I give you all 200%, now you all need to give me 200%," said Officer Steve Roberts.

"I am very pleased that the governor and other people in state leadership positions are taking a real interest in what is going on in our schools. They are realizing that the student desire is real. I appreciate their monetary assistance and it will get us started," said Student Body President, Malika Roman.

Some other Whirlies have very different ideas about the new program.

"This is a public school, not a military institute. That money should have been spent on education," said Sam Thompson, a sophomore.

"I think the police officers may be helpful, but I don't want to feel like I go to school in a prison," said Meredith Rhoades, a freshman.

Good or bad, the state and local government is recognizing the need for change in our schools.

"This school has responded in a wonderful way to the shooting, they (the officers) will do all they can we must put our arms around this school and these students to make them safe," said Governor Hunt.

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