



For Immediate Release

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Uplift Education’s North Hills Preparatory joins prestigious list of schools offering K-12 International Baccalaureate Programmes

Only 20 schools in North and South America accredited to offer all three IB Programmes

DALLAS (September 22) – The International Baccalaureate Organization has officially authorized the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) at North Hills Preparatory in Irving, Texas. The oldest of seven campuses operated by Uplift Education, North Hills Prep has offered the Diploma Programme (DP) since July 2003 and the Primary Years Programme (PYP) since July 2007. Only 20 schools in the IB Americas region offer all three programmes. *US News & World Report* recently named North Hills Prep among the top IB programmes in the nation.

The IB programmes offer a continuum of education through a broad-based international curriculum and rigorous assessment, designed to encourage students to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners. In all three programmes, students study languages, humanities, sciences, mathematics and the arts.

“The full authorization of North Hills’ IB program is an important achievement for our school that would not have been possible without the dedication of our parents, staff members and IB coordinators,” said Shawn Stover, senior director of North Hills Prep. “It’s important to note that this doesn’t signify a change in the caliber of curriculum offered at North Hills, but rather acts as another validation of the college-preparatory education that students have always received from Uplift schools.”

North Hills Prep has offered the full MYP curriculum and professional development for more than a year as part of its candidacy process. By offering the full spectrum of programmes, students will be provided a continuum of preparation for the prestigious IB Diploma, which often results in considerable college credits for students. North Hills Prep students have historically been extremely successful in achieving the IB Diploma, with 97% of candidates acquiring the IB diploma, compared to 79% worldwide and 67% across Texas.

The complete certification of North Hills Prep’s K-12 IB programming highlights Uplift Education’s philosophy that all students benefit from a rigorous, college-preparatory

North Hills Prep, International Baccalaureate - 2

curriculum – beginning in their earliest years. As part of their framework, all Uplift schools integrate fundamentals of the IB philosophy and curriculum while working toward full K-12 IB authorization like North Hills Prep.

With the exception of its two newest schools, which just opened in August, Uplift's four other campuses have each begun the process of working toward IB authorization for one or more programmes.

Pending IB Applications at Uplift Campuses

- Hampton Prep: Middle Years Programme
- Peak Prep: Middle Years Programme
- Summit International Prep: Middle Years Programme
- Williams Prep: Primary Years Programme and Middle Years Programme

<<Photo attached: (Left to Right) Charles Ryder, AP & IB Diploma Coordinator; Dawn Burkholder, Primary Years Programme Coordinator; Shehnaz Wadhwan, Middle Years Programme Coordinator; and Shawn Stover, North Hills Prep Senior Director>

About Uplift Education:

Uplift Education is dedicated to operating schools that provide a quality education by raising and continually maintaining high expectations for students and staff. Our schools provide a rigorous, multi-disciplinary curriculum, with an emphasis on college preparation. It is Uplift's goal to dramatically increase the number of students from all backgrounds who are provided a high quality public education – 100% of seniors graduate and are accepted to college. Uplift Education is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Uplift educates 4,600 students on seven campuses: Hampton Preparatory (South Dallas), Heights Preparatory (West Dallas), Laureate Preparatory (Downtown Dallas), North Hills Preparatory (Irving), Peak Preparatory (East Dallas), Summit International Preparatory (Arlington) and Williams Preparatory (Northwest Dallas). Under the 2010 accountability ratings, 97% of Uplift's students attend a school that has received one of Texas' two highest ratings, with 88% attending top-rated Exemplary schools and 9% attending schools rated as Recognized. For more information, visit <http://www.uplifteducation.org>.