**Dear Parents**:

**Congratulations** on your son’s or daughter’s academic success this year. If you are receiving this letter, your son or daughter has achieved the A or A/B honor roll in middle school: Based on this success, he or she may be eligible and interested in applying to Lecanto High School’s Pre-IB Program for 9th and 10th graders. The purpose of Lecanto’s Pre-IB program is to prepare students for IB (International Baccalaureate) their 11th and 12th grade year.

**What exactly is Lecanto High School’s Pre-IB Program?** The Pre-IB program at Lecanto High School is a rigorous sequence of honors classes during the 9th and 10th grade years. It is designed to prepare students for acceptance into IB their junior year of high school.

**What is IB then?** IB stands for International Baccalaureate. Originally designed for students of diplomatic families in the 1960s, IB has grown into one of the premier curriculums offered to 11th and 12th graders anywhere in the world. Rapidly expanding, IB is currently offered in over 2000 high schools. In Florida, IB students can earn college credit (some start college as sophomores), and IB students often earn the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, which pays for 75 to 100% of their tuition at a Florida public university.

**Is this program for my child?** With all the challenges that students face in an ever-changing world, PIBS and IB offers students a challenging, college-prep curriculum that puts students in Citrus County on an even playing field with students across the world. Typically, IB students are in demand at colleges and universities around the nation. An IB student stands a much better chance of graduating college and earning an advanced degree than a student who earns a regular high school diploma.

**What requirements must students meet to enroll in this program?** While we would like every student to be an IB student, some basic requirements exist to ensure that a student has the potential to succeed in this program. Students will be accepted primarily on their academic grades in 8th grade, their application essay, and their 7th grade FCAT scores in math and reading.

**How does a student apply?** Applications are available at all four middle schools and at Lecanto High School. An application form is included with this letter for your convenience. If you want more information about IB before applying, an informational meeting about Lecanto’s PIBS and IB program will be held at Curtis Peterson Auditorium at Lecanto High School on Wednesday, November 28th, 2013, at 6:30 PM. While I encourage anyone interested to attend, you do not need to attend the meeting in order to apply for PIBS.

**What is the timeline for applying?** All applications for Citrus County students are due at Lecanto High School no later than January 12, 2013.

We certainly **want** students to be able to pursue an educational experience that will open untold doors in their future. If you have questions about the application process, please email our IB Coordinator, Mr. Darrick Buettner, at buettnerd@citrus.k12.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeff Davis

Principal, Lecanto High School