

**Great River School, a Montessori learning environment,
prepares students for their unique roles
as responsible and engaged citizens of the world.
Located in St. Paul, Great River School is authorized
as an International Baccalaureate World School
offering 11th and 12th graders the opportunity
to pursue an IB Diploma.**



Great River School mission and vision statements:

MISSION

Great River School, an urban Montessori learning environment, prepares students for their unique roles as responsible and engaged citizens of the world.

VISION

Great River School is a place where college bound students are excited and inspired to learn. Great River School encourages students to ask complex questions, seek new and difficult challenges and be an effective communicator across disciplines. Great River School combines academic and social experiences in a culture of civility and trust through peaceful practices. Great River School is a place where students feel safe to express and challenge themselves as they develop ethical integrity and civic competence. Every student at Great River School is a valued member of the community. The exceptional Great River staff teaches teamwork through cross-country travel, experiential learning, drama, the arts, and micro-economic ventures while helping students set individual academic goals.



International Baccalaureate mission statement:

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect ... These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

GRS is full of exceptional adolescents!

What goals do we have for guiding our Montessori IB adolescents' development?

Great River School has developed a set of outcomes for GRS students.

**These outcomes incorporate many of the joint goals
of Montessori and the International Baccalaureate program.**

Compare our GRS Montessori and IB outcomes on the flip side of this sheet.

GRS Montessori/IB Outcomes

GRS staff developed these goals to help guide our assistance of GRS students' discovery of their place in the world. We expect GRS students to grow in all realms of these three areas.

Intellect:

Experienced and effective communicator across disciplines in a variety of situations

Critical analysis of well-researched information across a variety of media

Participate in a community of inquiry and contemplation that fosters a sense of wonder and reverence

Learning the interdependence of the social and natural world through the study of ecology, humanity and history

Be able to independently construct a purposeful day of work, while being self-aware and reflective of their learning style

Developed mathematical and reasoning mind

Citizenship: Building Community

Builds community through peaceful relationships with self, family, society, and world

Learn the ways of society, both local and global, including occupations, micro-economics and entrepreneurial opportunities

Develop a code of honor, civic competence and servitude with the goal of peace formation

Character: Building One's Self

Develop ethical integrity based on experience, knowledge and reflection

Express one's humanity through creative means in working towards the development of the whole person, willing to take risks

Develop a personal identity, including leadership skills with a vision and purpose of one's role in society

Enthusiasm and energy for adventure learning and maintaining physical well being

IB Outcomes

The aim of the IB program is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

Caring They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Risk-takers They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Balanced They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.