



**Vital Question:** Q&A with Jeff Beard, Director General of the International Baccalaureate Organization

### Key Points

Assessment ? Quality Assurance

Change → 2013 re-build IBIs to allow electronic marking

Electronic script → regional centre

Marked script → regional centre

Electronic script → examiner

Electronic grade → IB

- Monitor results in real time
- Monitor (QA) of examiner in real time
- Examiners moderated real time by principal examiner
- Examiner stopped in real time if marking is off base from principal examiner
- Principal examiners moderated by a chief examiner/senior examiner

### Communications

Where can heads access and find answers to the basic question?

Jeff Beard → Create a virtual space for heads

- Heads council (Sally Holloway)
- Regional conferences and B' out for heads groups
- 12 different departments
- Creation of schools communication department

### Communication → fee structure

Q) Why DP fees still so high now PYP/MYP self-funding?

Jeff Beard → Original model complex & not cost effective

- Now restructuring to address this
- Many parts of the program/organization not breaking even

Q) How to make sure ALL HEADS receive comms?

### Cost Effectiveness

- New E-marking
- Re-structuring PD
- Programmes now breaking even

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Growth at all costs?

Growth and mission alignment



The mission implies growth

IB board retreat to review strategic plan

Jeff Beard → IB responds to demands

→ IB does not market

Q) Restructure strategically to accommodate growth? Yes

Board → Engaged in this discussion

→ How to manage/planned growth?

### **Authorization**

Visiting teams/authorization visits

Sometimes rude/acrimonious

IB → Training and PD for teams and quality assurance protocols rolled out and standards uniform

Jeff Beard → Recognized that rudeness must stop.

→ “Talking down as the teacher”

Structure of programme itself

= core business inefficient/complex, incoherent

= 3 different programmes

Q) How to review whole programme?

= root cause of all other issues

Jeff Beard → Strategic board review

→ Will be asking this question

Programmes were not designed to be coherent

Work done to align all three

Effective articulation etc.

### **Issue**

IB DP recognized worldwide

Programmes need to be better aligned

Strategic decision to restructure on table for discussion at boards

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- Assessment (process & moderation)
  - Programme structure Q) effectiveness? Q) alignment?
  - Evaluation process
  - Professional development



- Timing of exams prevent 240 hours for HL

NEED: to review the whole structure

Jeff Beard → Teams will be trained and moderated Q.A.

- PD will be re-structured to enhance service and moderate and ensure quality
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Responsiveness? Implementation of mission?

Structure not effective?

Value=Community of schools/learners

Jeff Beard → Back to core (assessment/PD/responsiveness to schools)

- Restructure to allow us to be locally/regionally responsive

Inequality between regions in: 1) training costs  
2) standards of authorization

Restructuring in place to address this

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Costs to provide workshops

- Prohibitive for the providers
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How was AISH letter received?

- Reflection that IB not as good at responding/communications/explaining
- 9 Heads on the IB board and Sally (HAS) involved in strategic planning this summer. HSA not sure how many int'l heads.

### **The Relocation to Hague**

Autonomous (remote) curriculum & assessment centre

Autonomous regions

Expensive and inefficient to have these separate

Move to Hague by 2013

### **Loss of Voice of International School from the IB**

International schools have sense of ownership/responsibility/foundation of IB

How to engage going forward?

- IB board revised in the recent past to become self-perpetuating
- In line with board source/chat
- Board is better for it



Continue to test new concepts with international schools-trial new programmes

Group international schools who want to try new programmes

Other programmes/systems are good

Q) What is being used to inform changes?

Curriculum review cycle is bottom up.

Q) Can we take the compulsory out of PD training for PYP/MYP?

Under review/roll out more in school workshops

Q) Intent is it to force a revenue stream???????

Input driven NOT output driven

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Q) Impossible mission and a large juggernaut

Q) Develop alternates?

Jeff Beard → IB reactive and not so good at pro-active

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Q) Research and Development

How can we impact this?

IB has a research division that spans each division (a research position in each)