

2005-2006 PROFILE

MISSION STATEMENT

Lincoln Community School strives to be a model American international school offering a broad and challenging educational program to students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Lincoln Community School is committed to inspiring students to achieve the highest standards of intellectual and personal development through a stimulating and comprehensive program. Within a caring, respectful, multicultural environment, the school is committed to instilling in each student a desire to learn, to take appropriate risks, and to accept challenges. The school community is committed to developing students who are resilient and adaptable, equipped with the knowledge, skills, and disposition to continue their education and become personally fulfilled, interdependent, socially responsible adults.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

LCS is located in Accra, the capital of Ghana, which is a democratic state and one of the few peaceful countries in West Africa. Founded in 1968, LCS is a private, not for profit, college preparatory, international school that offers an American high school diploma and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma and certificates. English is the language of instruction, and classes are offered from pre-school (age three) through grade twelve. LCS graduated its first senior class in May, 1998.

Currently 537 students from 46 countries attend LCS. We serve an expatriate population associated with the various embassies, foreign service agencies, international aid agencies, United Nations organizations, religious organizations and international businesses located in Ghana. We also serve a large number of students whose parents are Ghanaian nationals. Twenty per cent of our students are American, 14% are Ghanaian, and 66% are from other countries, including 8% from the Netherlands, 7% from Korea, 4% from South Africa and 4% from Great Britain. We strive for a maximum student-to-teacher ratio of 20/1 in all classes. Nine per cent of our students require specialized support for English acquisition.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Our teaching methodology is both positive and proactive. Our guiding principle and school motto, "Rising to a Higher Standard," reflects our belief that all students can achieve beyond their original expectations through challenge, hard work, and faculty support.

FACULTY

There are 64 teachers, one superintendent and two principals at LCS. This total of 67 educators represents 15 nationalities. Thirty – nine have earned a master's degree and one has a doctorate. Carefully selected for employment at LCS based on their professional proficiency, all faculty members are highly trained and motivated.

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE

- The LCS school year begins mid-August, ends mid-June and consists of 38 weeks divided into two semesters /four quarters.
- In the Senior School (grades 6 – 12) students take seven courses each semester. Each course meets four times (hours) weekly on a rotating schedule. Most are two semester courses.
- Graduation occurs the end of May or early June.

ACCREDITATION/ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

- Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools in the United States.
- Authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) to offer the IB Diploma Program and the Middle Years Program (MYP.)
- Memberships: The Council of International Schools (CIS), the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA), the West Africa International Schools Activities League (WAISAL), and the European Council of International Schools (ECIS).

CURRICULUM

Demanding, challenging and engaging, the LCS curriculum emphasizes inquiry and problem solving. It is delivered through the lens of an international and multicultural perspective. The pre-school through grade five children follow the IB Primary Years Program (PYP), which builds upon each child's individual strengths, developing a deep understanding of important concepts and acquiring and practicing essential skills. The grade six through ten students follow the IB Middle Years Program (MYP), which provides a framework of academic challenges and life skills for students. Intellectual awareness is central to the MYP, which accentuates the interrelationship among the subjects.

In grades eleven and twelve, students follow the IB Diploma Program course of study, some pursuing the diploma and others certificates. As students gain depth and breadth of knowledge in their subject areas, they confront rigor and challenge that provide them with the background and preparation for university study. Assessment for the IB Program uses internationally developed and graded oral and written examination papers. Beyond the six subjects, diploma students take a Theory of Knowledge course, write an extended essay of 4,000 words, and participate in the Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) program. The class of 2006 is the third at LCS to be eligible to earn the IB Diploma.

COURSES – Grades 9 - 12 (*indicates semester course)

Generally, IB courses are offered in grades eleven and twelve in a 1-2 sequence. Some IB 1 courses are offered as electives.

English –

MYP English 9 & 10
EAL – grades 9 & 10
IB English A1
IB English B

Math –

MYP Math 9 & 10 (both integrated courses)
IB Math Studies
IB Standard Level Math
IB Higher Level Math

Science –

MYP Science 9 & 10 (both integrated courses)
IB Biology
IB Chemistry
IB Physics

Humanities –

World History (grade 9)
U.S. History (grade 10)
IB History
IB International Relations
IB Geography
IB Psychology
IB Theory of Knowledge
IB Business Management

Foreign Language –

French 1-5 (grades 9 & 10)
IB French Ab Initio
IB French B
IB French A 1
IB Spanish Ab Initio

Fine Arts –

MYP 9 Arts Rotation
High School Music*
High School Visual Arts
IB Visual Arts
IB Theater
High School Drama*

Technology –

MYP Technology 9 & 10
Yearbook

Physical Education – MYP PE 9 and 10

GRADING SYSTEM for Grades 11 - 12

A = 100 - 90%	LCS' passing grade of 50%
B = 89 - 80%	and resulting grade ranges have
C = 79 - 65 %	been established according to
D = 64 - 50%	international grading standards
F = Below 50 %	and the rigor of the IB curriculum.

GRADE PERCENTAGE AVERAGES AND RANK

LCS does not rank its students. For the Class of 2006, we will calculate a cumulative grade percentage average based on semester percentage grades and based only on courses taken at LCS. **Starting this year, we will no longer weight IB course grades.** (Graduates of 2006 still have percentage averages that include weighted IB course grades from previous years.)

GRADING SYSTEM for Grades 6 – 10

The LCS Senior School is phasing in the IB grading system of 1 – 7 on report cards and transcripts. Last year we started with grades 6, 7 and 8, and this year, we are adding grades 9 and 10. The correlation between the numbers and letter grades is as follows:

7 – A+	5 – B	3 – D
6 – A	4 – C	2 & 1 – F

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

At the conclusion of each semester, one credit is awarded for each course completed with a passing grade. To graduate from LCS, a student must earn 48 credits, 42 of which must be in specific disciplines:

English	- 8 credits	Mathematics	- 8 credits
Foreign		Physical	
Language	- 6 credits	Education	- 2 credits
Humanities	- 8 credits	Technology	- 2 credits
Science	- 6 credits	The Arts	- 2 credits

ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

LCS recognizes that student involvement beyond the classroom is vital for full emotional, intellectual, physical, and social development. Therefore, extra-curricular activities are an integral part of the educational process here. The emphasis throughout the spectrum of activities is on competence, character, leadership, and citizenship. In addition to these qualities, our varsity athletic program promotes sportsmanship and fitness skills. Our activities program offers a wide variety of options, ranging from academia, Model United Nations, theater, dance, chess, swimming and music to numerous team sports. Students are given opportunities to compete internationally and/or locally in several activities, thus fostering an intercultural exchange of ideas and experiences.

Additionally, LCS believes that a quality education nurtures responsible citizenship. Therefore, students are required to give back to the community in service and time at all grade levels. Students wishing to earn a LCS diploma must complete a total of 95 CAS hours during grades nine and ten, then 150 hours during eleven and twelve.

TESTING DATA – CLASS OF 2005

SAT I # Students	Composite	Verbal	Math
35	1009	497	511

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

The class of 2005 was the second at LCS to sit for the IB examinations and attempt to earn the IB Diploma or IB certificates. Fourteen of our graduates earned the diploma. The average grade for those 14 students was 29.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

Applicants of 2005

United States of America: Agnes Scott College; Butler University; Carnegie Mellon University; Clark Atlanta University; Colorado College; Columbia Union College*; Duke University; Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University*; Emerson College; Florida Institute of Technology*; Franklin Pierce College; Georgetown University; Hope College; Houghton College*; Indiana University; Ithaca College; Johns Hopkins University; Keystone College; LaRoche College; LaSalle University; Liberty University; Lynn University; Mary Washington College; Marymount University; Messiah College; Miami University, Ohio*; Michigan Technological University; Northeastern University; Northwestern University; Ohio Wesleyan University*; Purdue University*; Salisbury University; Skidmore College; St. Lawrence University*; SUNY, Plattsburg; Taylor University; Towson University*; Union College; University of Bridgeport; University of California, San Diego; University of Florida*; University of Richmond; University of South Florida; University of Vermont*; Utah State University; Virginia Commonwealth University; Wartburg College*; Washington University in St. Louis; Webster University.

Canada: Brock University; Carleton University; Concordia University; McGill University; McMaster University; University of British Columbia*; University of Ottawa; University of Toronto; University of Waterloo; Trinity Western University; Wilfred Laurier University; York University*

Great Britain: Cardiff University; Imperial College; Richmond, The American International University in London*; Sussex University

India: Mount Carmel College; National Institute of Technology

The Netherlands: Hanze Higher School; National Aviation School

Switzerland: IHTTI School of Hotel Management; International University of Geneva

Nicaragua: Universidad Americana, Nicaragua

Lebanon: Notre Dame University

Ghana: Ashesi University

* Indicates scholarship offered

POST GRADUATION PLANS

Of the 39 graduates in the class of 2005, 79% (31) are currently pursuing further education, with 39% (12) of these studying at American institutions and 61% (19) studying in Canada (5), Ghana (2), the Netherlands (2), Switzerland (3), India (2), Nicaragua (1), South Africa (1); Lebanon (1) and the UK (2). The 21% (8) not attending higher education are either in the process of applying for admission to a university or college (5) or are undecided (3).