Mission and Vision

The mission of the William W. Bodine High School for International Affairs is to provide urban public school students with a comprehensive educational experience that expands students’ interests to include global issues and prepares them for a lifetime of achievement and participation in the local, national and global communities. To meet this goal, Bodine dedicates itself to these objectives:

- To offer a rigorous and comprehensive college preparatory program for all students.
- To enable students to exceed the School District of Philadelphia requirements through the achievement of 24+ school based credits, higher level diplomas or individual certificates from the International Baccalaureate Organization and the College Board’s Advanced Placement program.
- To provide a coherent International Studies Program that encourages worldwide travel through the organizational support of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and other internationally recognized organizations.
- To provide these opportunities in a nurturing and harmonious atmosphere that is characterized by individual integrity and mutual respect within a small yet diverse student population.
- To promote global awareness through intensive study of foreign languages, history, literature, visual arts, mathematics, science, economics, international politics and information technology.
- To infuse internationalism into the School District Core Curriculum courses across all disciplines.
- To complement the academic program with leadership opportunities for students, fostering the development of individual talents, academic achievement and civic responsibility.
- To provide an academic program which recognizes the value of disciplined ethical thinking, awareness of cultural differences and respect for a variety of worldviews.

Diversity: As a magnet school established to foster interracial and cultural understanding, Bodine attracts academically motivated students from all parts of the city and from all types of feeder schools, public, parochial, charter and home-schools. The student population is diverse: 50% African American, 9% Caucasian, 12% Asian, 21% Latino and 6% Other. This diversity is a great source of strength for the school, as the students are bound together by their common desire for a unique high school experience that transcends racial and ethnic boundaries. English is the language spoken in the majority of students’ households, yet approximately 25% of students are bilingual or tri-lingual, speaking more than 23 languages and dialects.

College Attendance: In the class of 2018, 98% of the graduates went on to post-secondary institutions, 78% went to four-year programs and 20% to two-year programs. About 2% entered the Armed Forces. Recent Bodine graduates have been accepted at a wide variety of public and private institutions, including the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel, Bryn Mawr, Arcadia, University of the Sciences, Temple, LaSalle, Penn State, Lincoln, Harcum College, Chestnut Hill College, and Widener.


Achievement Report for 2017 (Proficient & Advanced)
PA Keystone Scores: Literature-78%, Algebra 1-54%, Biology-56%

IB Diploma Candidates’ Pass Rate (Exams/Essays): 73%
Overall IB Test Pass Rate: 60%
College Preparatory Curriculum

Requirements: Bodine High School requires a four-year sequence in a single foreign language in addition to city and state requirements for English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education, African American History and the Arts. Additionally, each student is required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of service to the school and the larger community.

World Languages: French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Mandarin Chinese

Instrumental & Choral Music: Weekly on-site lessons are available for strings instruments and band instruments. Lunch period classes by Rock To The Future features two choral groups.

Electives: Fine Arts, Ceramics, Crafts, Graphic Arts, Cultural Arts, Personal Finance, Film & Literature, Songwriting

Advanced Placement: Calculus AB, Environmental Science and Physics and a variety of online AP offerings. Bodine students also participate in Dual Enrollment Programs at the Community College of Philadelphia.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme: Bodine joined the International Baccalaureate Organization in April 2005. The course offerings for students in the Diploma Programme include: English, Biology, History of the Americas, Math Studies and SL, French or Spanish, Business and Management, Visual Arts, along with Theory of Knowledge, the Extended Essay and Creativity Action, and Service. Students are rostered for IB courses in their junior year and may enroll for the IB full diploma program.

Academic Advantage: Bodine’s seven-period roster enables students to earn six credits per year (for a total of 24 credits) and take elective classes in grades 10-12. Bodine is expanding course offerings to become an all IB high school. All students are prepared to enter IB courses by their junior year, through which they are able to earn a distinctive supplemental diploma and qualify for college credits.

Technology: Bodine offers a dual-platform environment, with one PC lab and a Mac Lab. We are a BYOD and Google Apps for Education School with 14 computer stations in the library, mini labs in several classrooms, ChromeBook/laptop carts, and Ethernet/wireless access throughout the building. Most classrooms feature interactive Promethean/Smart Boards. Elective classes provide instruction in basic and intermediate applications. Advanced technology courses are also available as electives to upperclassmen.

Gifted Support: Approximately 18% of the school population is eligible for Gifted Support Services. Gifted students receive individual mentoring and begin to develop their pre-college portfolios in the 9th grade. They also benefit from honors and accelerated courses, after school enrichment, group and individual academic counseling, college visitation, career exploration, and summer program advising.

Extracurricular Activities: Bodine offers a wide variety of full-year and seasonal clubs including Debate, Quiz Bowl, Hispanic, Asian and Muslim Student Associations, Youth Volunteer Corps, Garden Club, National Honor Society, Gay Straight Alliance, Villanova Initiative for Engaging Women, Upward Bound, University Collaborative Programs, Sponsor-A-Scholar and College Connections through Philadelphia Futures, and Independence Seaport Museum programs. Cultural assemblies offer students the opportunity to cultivate creativity and leadership as they write, produce and perform programs for the entire school community.

Athletics: PIAA interscholastic teams include: Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball, and Tennis teams for boys and girls; Co-ed Cross Country, Golf, Track and Field, and Cheerleading; Badminton and Softball for girls, and Baseball for boys. Football and boys’ Volleyball are available through a partnership with Mastbaum High School.

World Affairs Council of Philadelphia: The World Affairs Council affiliation supplements the academic program through the part-time liaison who works closely with faculty to arrange for informational and cultural assemblies, guest speakers for classroom discussions, student-produced programs, hosting opportunities with international exchange students, study abroad programs and service projects. Through the continued support of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, Bodine students serve as student delegates and leaders at the Council’s annual high-school simulation programs (International Student Summit and Global Economic Forum) and are frequent guests at the Council’s speaker event series, which feature some of the world’s most influential leaders and experts.


Home and School Association & School Advisory Council: The Bodine Home and School Association and School Advisory Council promote a partnership between parents, teachers, administrators, and community members, and supports the school’s climate of aspiration and collaboration.

Application: Bodine High School admits students for the ninth grade through the special admissions process. All students apply online using the District’s web-based application process.

Admissions Criteria: Applicants require advanced PSSA scores or standardized test scores above the 80th percentile. A’s and B’s in all major subjects, excellent behavior, attendance, and punctuality records. Two letters of recommendation from current school staff are also required.