



# The Academy of International Studies at Independence High School

January 1, 2017

Dear Future AIS Students, Parents, and Guardians,

We are excited that you are interested in pursuing global studies through the Academy of International Studies at Independence High School. We live in an ever-increasingly interdependent world that presents new opportunities and challenges for tomorrow's leaders. The need for international cooperation and understanding is essential for young people in the 21st century.

Since its opening in 1967, Independence High School has always provided its students with a program to explore the world. The AIS Program was founded in 2004 with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in partnership with the Asia Society to continue this rich tradition in order to provide students with a rigorous and challenging curriculum to heighten students' awareness of international issues and other cultures to prepare them for their post-secondary plans. We believe that completing your high school education through the AIS Program of Study that you will have access to the world through the study of cultural, historical, political, ethical and economic factors which continue to shape our world. This is done through specific courses and requirements that foster civic engagement and social responsibility to promote learning and scholarship while serving at the local, state and international levels by being an informed global citizen.

AIS is a program that operates within Independence High School so our students are able to participate in athletics, CTE, visual and performing art courses and well as extra-curricular activities all while being a part of the AIS family. Within AIS we have several areas that our students can be involved. We are not a magnet school, and therefore your "home" school must be that of Independence High School. If your home school is that of Independence High School, then you simply need to complete the AIS Application that asks for some personal and demographic information as well as you to provide a brief statement about your interest in international studies and/or your world view.

The deadline for early decision is February 24, 2017. The deadline for final applications is March 24, 2017. You may submit your application electronically via email to Ms. Willett or you can submit a hard copy of the application to Ms. Willett at Independence High School. You will be notified via the email address you provide no later than the third week in May of your acceptance status. You may also be interested in attending our Patriots on Parade on February 16, 2017 in Independence's Mall area to check us out and talk with us in person.

Again, thank you for interest in the Academy of International Studies. We look forward to having you as a part of our community.

Sincerely,

Ms. Katie Willett  
Director

The Academy of International Studies at Independence HS

1967 Patriot Dr. ♦ Charlotte, North Carolina 28227 ♦ 980.343.6900 ♦ [katie.willett@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:katie.willett@cms.k12.nc.us)