

LA PAZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE



ACCREDITATIONS, AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Ministry of Public Education
of Costa Rica (MEP)

International Baccalaureate
Organization (IBO)

Association of Private Education
Centers in Costa Rica (ACEP)

National Association for College
Admission Counseling (NACAC)

COGNIA CANDIDATE

IBO CODE: 049377
SAT TEST CENTER: 89431
CEEBS: 834000



INTERNATIONAL
ACAC

BridgeU



Guanacaste, Costa Rica



(506) 2654-6087



www.lapazschool.org

ABOUT US

Our mission is to cultivate informed, mindful citizens of the world.



**855 students from
26 countries**



**Campus Cabo Velas 491
Campus Tempisque 364**

La Paz Community School is a PreK-12, dual immersion, non-profit school with two campuses, Cabo Velas and Tempisque, in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. La Paz students are multilingual global citizens who think compassionately, creatively and analytically and thus can thoughtfully address diverse challenges. At La Paz, students approach their learning experience through the authentic discovery of their **SELF, FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND WORLD.**

PEACE PRACTICES



Develop the **self** into a peaceful, lifelong learner by enhancing physical and mental well-being through critical thinking and stretching comfortable boundaries.



Cultivate peace between **family** and community by spreading and sharing love and compassion.



Create peace within the **community** by preserving the environment and respecting the delicate balance between local and foreign cultures.



Spread peace throughout the **world** by communicating thoughts and ideas effectively, and actively listening to all perspectives.

General Director
Abel McClellenn
mrabel@lapazschool.org

High School Principals
Liz Reinemo (Cabo Velas campus)
lreneimo@lapazschool.org
Ryan DeAustin (Tempisque campus)
rdeaustin@lapazschool.org

IBDP Coordinator
Idanelys Beltrán
ibcoordinator@lapazschool.org

College Counselor
María José Carazo
mcarazo@lapazschool.org
collegecounselor@lapazschool.org

Grading Scale

IB Scale	% Scale	A-F Scale
7	100	A+
6	97	A+
6	95	A
5	93	A
5	91	A-
4	89	B+
4	85	B
4	81	B-
3	79	C+
3	75	C
3	71	C-
2	69	D+
2	65	D
2	61	D-
1	<60	F

IBDP Statistics

2022-2026

Average highest score: **35.4**

Average score: **28.4**

*The majority of students qualify for the bilingual diploma within the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).

THE STORY OF A PARADIGM SHIFTING SCHOOL

Founded in 2007, La Paz Community School addresses fundamental socioeconomic and cultural challenges prevalent in the Guanacaste economy. La Paz students are equipped to engage with issues of global importance at a local level through an informed, mindful, and compassionate approach that celebrates the region's rich cultural heritage. Through projects that engage both the school and the wider community, our students work collaboratively, creatively, and courageously to help make the world a better place for all.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

A diverse array of extracurricular activities is offered to enrich the academic experience and support the holistic development of students. Participation in extracurricular clubs and activities significantly enhances students' social, emotional, and physical well-being, while teaching essential life skills such as sportsmanship, teamwork, and open-mindedness. **For high-performance artists and athletes, our AACP program provides personalized support** that helps them achieve excellence while balancing their academic and extracurricular commitments.

IBDP COURSES

GROUP 1:

- Spanish Language and Literature
- English Language and Literature

GROUP 2:

- English B

GROUP 3:

- Global Politics
- Philosophy
- Business Management

GROUP 4:

- Biology
- Physics

GROUP 5:

- Math: Analysis and Approaches

GROUP 6:

- Visual Arts
- Drama

CORE ELEMENTS:

- Theory of Knowledge
- Extended Essay
- CAS: Creativity, Activity, Service

CO-CURRICULAR:

- Social Studies
- Civic Education

COLLEGE COUNSELING AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

College preparation at La Paz combines personalized and group guidance with practical experiences such as college fairs, campus visits, and university excursions. Students have access to tools like BridgeU and receive training in key skills for university life.

La Paz has graduated 14 generations of students with the Costa Rican National Diploma, including the 12th IB generation in May of 2026. Our alumni have been admitted to the following universities:

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Costa Rica

- Tecnológico de Costa Rica
- Universidad de Costa Rica
- Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica
- Earth University
- Universidad de Iberoamérica (UNIBE)
- Universidad Escuela Libre de Derecho
- Universidad Latina de Costa Rica
- Universidad Veritas
- Universidad de Ciencias Médicas (UCIMED)
- Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnología (ULACIT)
- LEAD University

Colombia

- Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá

EUROPE

Spain

- CEU San Pablo, Madrid
- IE Business School, Madrid
- IED Istituto Europeo di Design, Madrid
- Universidad Europea de Madrid
- MIUC University, Madrid
- CEU, Abat Oliba, Barcelona
- ESADE Business School, Barcelona
- Institute of Arts Barcelona
- TBS Barcelona
- Universidad de La Salle URL, Barcelona
- CEU Cardenal Herrera, Valencia

France

- ESCP Business School, Paris
- Sorbonne Université, Paris

Italy

- IED Istituto Europeo di Design, Milan
- Nuova Accademia delle Belle Arti - NABA, Milan

Other European countries

- Franklin University, Switzerland
- Manchester Metropolitan University, England
- Maastricht University, The Netherlands

NORTH AMERICA

United States

- Azusa Pacific University
- Brandeis University
- Belmont University
- Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo
- Colorado Northwestern Community College
- Columbia University, Teachers College
- Emory University
- George Washington University
- Gonzaga University
- Lewis and Clark
- Loyola University
- Marymount Manhattan College
- Michigan State
- Northern Kentucky University
- Northwestern University
- Oxford College at Emory
- Point Loma Nazarene University
- Siena University
- Syracuse University
- UNC - Chapel Hill
- University of Alabama
- University of California-Berkeley
- University of Colorado
- University of Miami
- University of Oregon
- University of the Ozarks
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Denver
- University of Rochester
- University of North Carolina Asheville
- University of Vermont
- University of Tampa
- University of Wisconsin-Madison

Canada

- Concordia University
- University of Montreal
- University of Toronto
- Western University

Mexico

- Universidad Anáhuac Cancún
- TEC de Monterrey, Guadalajara

