SCVi earns nod for upper grades

Education: Charter school garners 2nd award from international nonprofit

By Tammy Marashlian
Signal Senior Education Writer
tmarashlian@thesignal.com
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Santa Clarita Valley International Charter School has been named an International Baccalaureate candidacy school for grades 11-12, the school announced Wednesday.

The charter school had already been given the distinction for grades six through 10, and it is the only Santa Clarita Valley school with the honor.

The title was given by the International Baccalaureate, a worldwide nonprofit educational foundation that provides standards for how students can make the connections between academic subjects and everyday life.

Schools must apply and be accepted before they can offer the program, which varies by grade level.

This fall, the school will serve about 700 students in grades K-10. The school plans to add grades in the next two years to become a K-12 program with a Middle and Diploma I.B. program.

Launched in 2008, the school is in Castaic but open to students from all over the Santa Clarita Valley.

SCV International will spend the next two years refining its curriculum and training teachers how to implement the I.B.'s framework into the classroom.

The school is also launching an effort to have students be more involved in the community and gain experience in the merits of service learning.