Matt Wilt is a native of Sumter, South Carolina. From his birth (June 12, 1986) until beginning college in 2004, he resided in his hometown. A graduate of Sumter High School, he was part of the inaugural IB class (2004) and received his IB Diploma along with thirteen others. After high school graduation, he went on to the University of South Carolina where he earned both his BA in history (2008) and his M. Ed (2009).

Before joining the faculty at Sumter High School, he gained valuable experience through various “odd jobs,” working as a short order cook at Brickstreet Café, landscaping, working as a salesman for Hollister, and tutoring athletes at USC. Since coming to Sumter High in 2009, he has taught US History, world history, world geography, government, economics and sociology. He is in his sixth year teaching the senior portion of IB History, and is also teaching TOK (go knowledge!) and IB Theatre (go thespians!).

Mr. Wilt is a bit of an adventurer. In the summer of 2004, he went on a month-long backpacking excursion through Spain from Burgos to Santiago de Compostela with Chris Moody (also of the IB class of 2004). Besides his trip to Spain, he has visited New York City and has traveled as far west as central Louisiana. In addition to travel, Mr. Wilt enjoys sports, especially USC football and baseball. He also likes acting at the Sumter Little Theater or attending live theater performances. In his spare time, he is involved in politics and physical fitness, and he also enjoys spending as much time as possible with his wife, Hillary, and young one year old son Hayden, whose favorite show is *Jeopardy*.

He feels that his number one job as a teacher is to give relevance to whatever is being studied, to show real-world implications for what has happened in the past and its significance today. Whenever possible, he infuses creativity into his lessons, hoping to bring his subject to life for his students. In his opinion, IB is of great importance for two reasons. One, it is an excellent preparatory curriculum for university. The level at which IB students are taught and the expectations placed on them are equivalent to the university setting; thus they will be more than prepared to excel once they move on to future educational endeavors. Secondly, the global scope of the program expands the horizons of all of our students, as they are able to think beyond the United States. Living in an ever-shrinking world, it is imperative that we realize we are now a global society. IB does an excellent job of pushing this notion.