



Newsletter



May 5th, 2010



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Board Elections Next Tuesday Night

From the Director



Dear AISB Community,

Next Tuesday night at 7pm is AISB's Annual General Association Meeting and Board Elections. This is the time that AISB's Association elects new School Board members for those whose terms have expired and those that will be leaving us at the end of this school year. Just like many countries go through the process of electing leaders, the AISB Association will do the same next Tuesday night.

At the same time, the AISB Annual General Association meeting is also an occasion to find out about the general state of the school and its future plans. The current Board Chair, Omar Saibou, will share the results of the annual parent survey within the Board report. The Board Treasurer, Steve Lutterbeck, will update the members on the school's current financial status. The Facilities Chair, Magnus Bucht, will give us the latest on the school construction project, a major undertaking that is now more than 40% complete. There will also be the annual Director's report and a quick view of the upcoming re-accreditation work to be completed in the next 18 months.

The evening finishes with a question/answer period and the announcement of the election results. A reception/social time is also planned for the evening so that you can visit with other Association members and school administration as the votes are tallied.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, May 11 at 7pm participating in AISB's democratic process.

Sincerely,

David G. Henry,
Director

General Association Meeting and School Board Elections

Tuesday, May 11

Multi Purpose Room, 7pm



Recent Board News

The AISB Board of Trustees met at 7pm, Thursday, April 22, 2009. The board examined the progress and change orders on the new school construction project, discussed the overall positive parent survey results, planned for the upcoming board training/retreat, discussed three re-accreditation protocol options, reviewed the annual board self-evaluation and approved the final revision of the 2009-10. Below are additional items covered in the meeting:

2010-11 Budget and 2010-11 School Fees Approved

The board unanimously approved the 3rd draft of the 2010-11 school budget, which includes line items for repayment of the new school construction loans. The tuition fees for 2010-11 were also unanimously approved. The slight increase in the tuition fees for the Kindergarten through 12th grade programs represents an approximate 2% tuition increase. Next year's tuition increase is less than last year's. There was no increase in the Pre-Kindergarten tuition fee structure.

OPIC Loan Agreement Executed

The Finance Committee reported that the long term loan agreement for the new school construction with Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) has been approved and executed. Once the disbursement is processed AISB will pay back its Ecobank Bridge loans on its way to completing the construction project.

AISB School Board Elections and General Association Meeting – May 11

The board planned for the upcoming General Association Meeting and Board Elections. In addition to the elections there will be a review of the progress on the new school project, discussion of the board report and parent survey, Treasurer's report and an update on new school construction.

For the upcoming board elections, there are two American positions and two non-American positions open on the AISB School Board for the 2010-11 school year. Absentee and proxy voting instructions will go home this week.

Pizza Parties for Classes with Highest Parent Attendance at Board Elections

The class (Elementary & Secondary) with the highest percentage of parent association members present on Tuesday night for the General Association Meeting and Board Elections will receive a classroom pizza party!! All parents and association encouraged to attend the meeting next Tuesday night.

Upcoming Events

May 3-14	Advanced Placement Testing
May 3-17	MAP Testing (Grades 3-9)
May 10	Jazz Concert at AISB, MPR, 10am
May 11	General Association Meeting and Board Elections, 7pm, MPR
May 24	Africa Day Celebration
May 25	Africa Day Holiday – No School
June 4	Oliver! Musical Production by G3-4, Evening
June 9	Graduation, 6pm
June 11	Last Day of School



AISB High School Student Council Update by George Zeller

Despite the heat (of the sun and of upcoming exams), AISB Student Council has had a productive couple of months. First of all, the Student Council would like to thank Katherine Provost for her efforts in raising funds for the Sibi School. Katherine, enrolled at AISB from 2007-2009, headed up a 24 hour fast fundraiser at the Renaissance School in Lanciano, Italy. The fast raised 400,000F CFA!

Secondly, the Student Council finished producing AISB's first Student Council Constitution. The Constitution is awaiting approval from the administration. Finally, the Student Council conducted a bake sale after the AISB Theater production. The money raised will be used for end of the year activities.

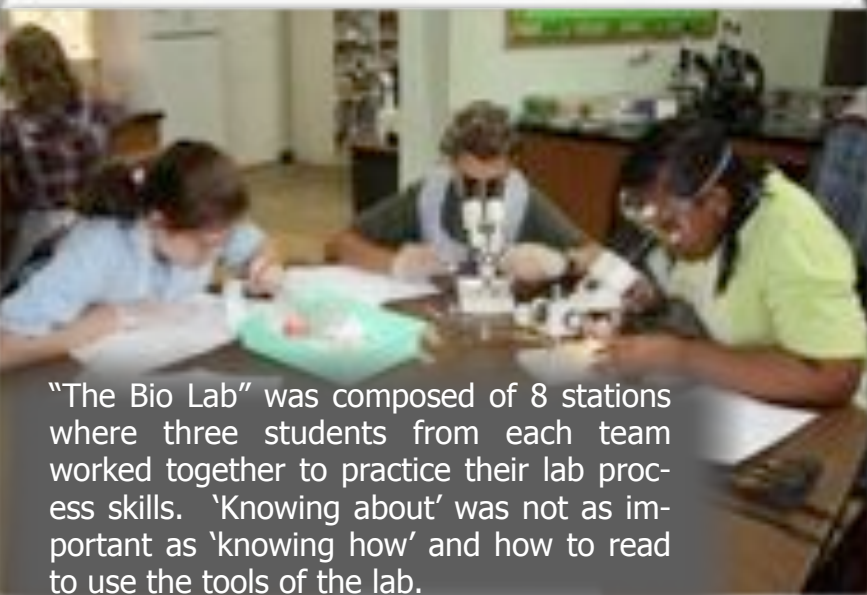
AISB's Science Olympiad, by Leota Haynes



From the AISB Beliefs Statement:
At AISB we believe in encouraging resourcefulness, creativity and self-expression.



This past week the 7th and 8th grade classes participated in the Science Olympiad. Although Science Olympiad has been a widely accepted challenge among schools in the US, this is a first for AISB. Five events made up the Olympiad. "Compute This" required two students from each team to search the NASA website to locate information concerning the Ozone layer. They were to chart and graph the data and then answer three questions analyzing the graph and two general questions concerning the Ozone layer.



"The Bio Lab" was composed of 8 stations where three students from each team worked together to practice their lab process skills. 'Knowing about' was not as important as 'knowing how' and how to read to use the tools of the lab.



In "The Forensic Competition" three students from each team used deductive reasoning and science lab skills to solve a crime. Evidence including 8 white powders had to be identified to narrow the 17 suspects down to two.



"The Knowledge Bowl" was one of the more exciting and challenging aspects of the competition. Earthquakes and Tsunamis made up the knowledge and the whole team competed. ORTM loaned AISB their light and buzzer system and at the end of seven rounds a winning team was declared.

ACCREDITATION CORNER, by Randy Neen **Secondary School Principal and Accreditation Internal Coordinator**

AISB Accreditation is upon us...

AISB is beginning our Middle States Accreditation Self-Study, which takes approximately 18 months to complete. The purpose of this is to improve the quality of the education offered here at ISB through a rigorous process of self-examination followed by an objective external appraisal by a team of peers.



What is the Middle Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)?

MSA was established in 1887 and is a non-governmental, nonprofit, peer-administered organization. MSA provides leadership in school improvement for its member schools in six states in the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, the subcontinent of Asia, and Africa.

What is Accreditation and why is it important?

Accreditation rests on the dual concepts of self-regulation and quality improvement. A given field such as education uses its experts to define standards of acceptable operation and performance for the institutions and organizations within it. Thus, accreditation refers to a standard setting and review process.

What else does Accreditation do?

Accreditation encourages and facilitates school improvement.

- Accreditation provides a means for public accountability.
- Accreditation fosters stakeholder involvement and commitment.
- Accreditation builds positive public relations.

Volunteers Needed!!!

Participation from AISB stakeholders (students, parents, teachers, administration, Board members, and the community) is essential for any accreditation to succeed. Therefore, we need you! If you are interested in participating in the Accreditation process as a committee member, please contact either Mr. Neen or Mr. Henry by email, phone, or in person. If you have any questions about the process, we would be happy to meet with you to discuss ways in which you can take part.

Further Accreditation information on Mr. Neen's Blog:

Information about the protocol, the process, stakeholder involvement, and up-to-date reports will be presented as a separate page on Mr. Neen's blog on the AISB website.

More to come....stay tuned!

