

MEETING MINUTES
ISB BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION
MPB 3
Tuesday, 14 October 2014

Present: Mr. Nimit Damrongrat
Ms. Joy Davy
Mr. Marc de Vries
Mr. William Harvey
Mr. John Heinecke
Mr. Janewit Kraprayoon
Ms. Kristina Kvien

Absent: Mr. Ira Blumenthal
Dr. Sumiter Singh Broca
Mr. Gurdist Chansrichawla
Dr. Prathip Chiaravanond
Mr. Brent Gros
Mr. Eric Ma
Mr. Vorapol Sokatiyanurak
Mr. Kevin Sypolt

Administration: Dr. Andy Davies, Head of School
Mr. Graeme Scott, Deputy Head of School for Learning
Dr. Ugo Costessi, Deputy Head of School/Chief Financial Officer

I. OPENING

Mr. de Vries opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. There was no quorum, so all decisions were moved to the Executive Session, at which time a quorum was reached.

II. APPROVAL MINUTES

Approval of Minutes from the 16 September 2014 meeting was moved to the Executive session, at which time they were approved 8-0. It was requested that for future Minutes, names of Board members are omitted from deliberations, as customary in the past.

III. STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Swikriti Dasgupta and Kimberly Remijan provided an update of the Student Council activities. The Student Council has reorganized the Class Councils. The Treasurer of each Class Council has been replaced by a representative and the Treasury function for all grades has been centralized by the Treasurer in the Student Council Cabinet. Furthermore, the Student Council has installed 3 Committees, namely "Food Waste", "Bathrooms" and "Lounge". Games Night was the first SCC led activity and the event raised around THB 180,000 that will help eleven ISB Clubs.

IV. STUDENT PROTECTION POLICY

The Administration has been working on improving the school's safety and security measures. Part of this program has been to compare the Child Protection processes against best practices. This has led to a Child Protection Action Plan which consists of the following steps:

1. Screening of staff, visitors, contractors, coaches and tutors
2. Education of faculty, staff, students and parents
3. Evaluating the physical environment e.g. erecting barriers, enforcement of ID cards and review of entrance/exit procedures
4. Updating the Child Protection Handbook's policies, procedures, child abuse protocol and resources.

A revised Student Protection Policy has been drafted in line with efforts of other IASAS schools. It is guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and allows the school to act in compliance with the Thai Child Protection Act (2003). Specifically the revised Policy stipulates that background checks must be conducted for all ISB staff, and ISB will remain accredited in Child Protection by a reputable agency. Approval of the Revised Student Protection Policy was moved to the Executive Session where it passed with 8 votes in favor and 0 votes against.

V. LATE STARTS

Sleep plays an active role in memory retention and health related issues such as expulsion of toxins from the brain and body. This occurs during the REM stages, of which in a normal 9 hour sleeping pattern, there are five. Teens need 9.5 hours of sleep per night. 25% of teens get less than 6.5 hours of sleep per night. Therefore they suffer huge sleep debts, and because they are cutting the number of REM stages, this is affecting not only academic performance, but also their health.

As puberty begins, sleep and waking times change until 19.5 years in women, and 21 years in men. This change involves a shift of about 2 hours, making it difficult for teenagers to go to bed early and get up early. For a teenager a 6AM wake-up call is equivalent to a 4AM start for adults. This is due to hormonal changes. Sleeping patterns are not helped by access to technology, a more relaxed attitude to bedtimes by parents and a general disregard for the importance of sleep.

Research clearly shows that academic performance has significantly improved at schools that have moved to later starts. A study of 9,000 students in 8 public high schools in three states demonstrated that High Schools starting at 8:30 AM or later allow for more than 60% of students to get at least 8 hours of sleep, thereby reducing depression, and decreasing the risk of making bad choices, as well as improving academic performance outcomes in all subjects and national achievement tests. Similar outcomes are found in studies in Newcastle (UK) and Rhode Island. Significantly, there are no studies that indicate a later start reduces health and academic performance.

There are no studies of late starts in Asia-Pacific or other areas closer to the equator, and ISB has been invited to participate in Russel Foster's (a leading authority on sleep at the Circadian Neuroscience Institute) research study.

ISB will continue to look into the possibility of Late Starts for High School and will evaluate the practicality of it.

VI. COMMITTEES

Kevin Sypolt is appointed Chair of the Business Committee, and Jack Kraprayoon is appointed Chair of the SILC Committee

VII. FINAL BUDGET

The Final Budget 2014/2015 was presented. Highlights of the budget include a consolidated surplus of THB 79 Million and a Reserve (Equity excluding donations) of THB 1,142 Million. The opening enrollment of 1946 is the highest for the last 25 years. There are several grades with waiting lists or close to having waiting lists. The number of new students for the second semester has been reduced from 85 to 60, and expected withdrawals reduced from 65 to 41 students, making the highest anticipated enrollment in the month of March 2015 of 1970 students. Subsequently the total income of THB 1,682 Million in the Final Budget is nearly THB 29 Million higher than the preliminary budget. An additional net result of THB 5 Million for transportation is expected to contribute to this increase. Due to higher enrollment, staff expenses are expected to increase by THB 19 Million compared to the preliminary budget. Material and supplies and General expenses have also increased so that total expenditures are expected to increase to THB 1,602 Million, or nearly THB 25 Million higher than the preliminary budget.

VIII. CALENDAR

The Calendar for the school year 2015/2016 was presented to the Board. Approval of the Calendar was moved to the Executive session, at which time it was approved 8-0

IX. ANY OTHER BUSINESS


There was no other business.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 19:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 18 November 2014.

Verified as approved by the Board
at its meeting November 18, 2014



Marc de Vries
Chairperson, ISB BOT