

MEETING MINUTES
ISB BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION
MPB 3
Tuesday, 19 March 2013

- Present: Dr. Sumiter Singh Broca
Mr. Gurdist Chansrichawla
Dr. Ana Coghlan
Ms. Joy Davy
Mr. Brent Gros
Mr. John Heinecke (7:22)
Mr. Eric Ma
Mr. Michael Mussi
Mr. Kevin Sypolt
- Absent: Mr. Ira Blumenthal
Dr. Prathip Chiaravanond
Ms. Courtney Chubb
Mr. Marc de Vries
Mr. Janewit Kraprayoon
Mr. Pravitt Sukhum
- 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
Mr. Tom Burgess, Middle School Principal
Mr. Phil Rogers, Dean of Academics
Khun Walairat, Executive Secretary
- Guests: Mr. Paul Sanders, Intl. Baccalaureate Organization, Global Head
Ms. Darcy Eid, PTA President
Ms. Kim de Keijzer, PTA 2nd VP, IFF Chair
Ms. Amber Barnett, Student Council President
Ms. Yeon-Jin Ahn, Student Council Cabinet Secretary
Ms. Benya Kraus, Junior Class President

I. OPENING

Mr. Ma opened the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 19 February 2013 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

II. INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANIZATION (IBO)

Mr. Sanders, Global Head of the IBO, said that he was pleased with the continual increase in institutions worldwide that have formally recognized the IB program and released public recognition policy statements. Over the last year, the number has risen 6.4% to 1,953 institutions. He said most of these are in the U.S., over 750, due to the sheer number of tertiary institutions in the U.S. He also said that he was impressed with the number of different universities to which ISB students have been accepted and have decided to attend.

Mr. Sanders described two IB World Student Conferences that the IBO held for the first time last summer: one in Segovia, Spain, in early July, and the second in Vancouver, Canada, in late July. IBO was so pleased with the outcomes that they have decided to hold four conferences in the summer of 2013. He said that the IBO will offer a scholarship to an ISB student, one of 11 students worldwide, to attend one of the conferences this summer.

The IBO is developing an IB student registry, which will allow students to enter information into a unified database accessible to universities, thus improving the two-way communication between IB student applicants and universities. It will also allow IB schools worldwide with a central database from which to share their profiles with parents and university admissions officers. The IBO is increasingly looking to international school educators in the field to be ambassadors of the IB program.

Increasingly, universities are looking for courses identified as IB, including increases in the number of U.S. state universities that are recognizing the IB program. IB diploma courses are credited in the UK, and individual courses are regularly credited in the U.S. IB students worldwide receive more university admission offers compared to A-level students. IBO does not see itself as a competitor with AP, and universities are reluctant to publicly compare the two with each other.

III. PTA UPDATE

Ms. Eid and Ms. De Keijzer updated the BOT on PTA activities. The International Family Fair was an even larger than expected success this year. The fair profited by nearly 740,000 Baht, which will be available to fund school related activities and grant proposals received by the PTA. For the first time this year, student clubs ran games, and they will keep all proceeds from the games for club activities. IFF stayed away from commercial vendors this year.

IFF: stay away from commercial vendors for fundraising, more focus on fun fair feeling

In looking toward next year's IFF, the PTA will try for larger teacher participation, consider how better to count visitors, and initiate a new ISB Service Bank.

This BOT meeting was Ms. Eid's final meeting, as she and her family will be departing Thailand soon. Mr. Davies thanked her for her generous service to the school and community, and Mr. Ma presented a plaque on behalf of the BOT.

IV. STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Ms. Ahn described the student council's efforts to look into International Schools' Assessment (ISA) results, including meeting with English department teachers to discuss results of the writing portion of the test. The student council concluded that the test results do not represent a long-term trend and that the 2012 results were anomalous. ISB is concerned with measuring the learning growth of students and the ISA does not measure growth. Mr. Scott commented that he has been disaggregating some of the

ISA data, focusing on students who have been at ISB between the 7th and 10th grades, in order to measure growth between these years.

The student council has designed a survey for students about fine arts programs, receiving input from the arts department. So far the student council has received over 100 responses; they are in the process of compiling the data and will present findings the next time student council provides an update.

Ms. Kraus introduced Panther Productions to the BOT, a student-initiated film production program. Panther Productions has produced four broadcasts so far, keeping each to within 5 minutes, knowing that student attention is brief. Panther Production has also produced a number of brief interviews; links to these products have been sent out in newsletters. The plan is to increase the frequency of broadcasts, eventually building to three weekly.

V. TEACHERS ORGANIZATION UPDATE

No representative was available from the Teacher Organization.

VI. MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE

Mr. Burgess provided an update to the BOT on Middle School changes and initiatives. Standards-based assessment has been implemented fully across all MS grades. Currently, 88% of students are evaluated as “consistently” or “frequently” exhibiting target behaviors on their HAL grades. As for the content grades, 13% are “excelling” and 60% are “meeting” the content standards. The MS goal is to have 100% of students at least “meeting” the content standards, meaning that there is “consistent understanding and proficiency on the key skills”, which is a high bar.

Implementation of standards-based assessment is on a continuous improvement cycle through ongoing faculty meetings and parent and student feedback about the assessment families have received about their students. Continuing goals are to: develop a “growth mindset” in students, improve clarity on criteria for learning goals, strive for consistent evaluation within subjects and across teachers, identify student needs as they arise. Enhancements to the assessment program include better PowerSchool reporting and adjustments to HAL grade evaluation. The MS learned a valuable lesson from the HS experience last year in that clear and frequent communication to families about changes in assessment is critical.

The matter was raised about a lingering concern from the Thai community about students who move from MS at ISB to boarding school in the U.S. The concern is that the receiving schools have difficulty evaluating narrative standards-based assessment and they will not take the extra time needed to understand the student evaluation.

Mr. Davies said that ISB has regular contact with the boarding schools, and he is happy to reach out to them by phone and other means on behalf of individual students as needed. He said that the feedback he has received from schools is that the schools are comfortable looking at many forms of student evaluation. In a recent discussion with a Phillips Andover representative, the rep said that they just need to understand what the reports mean, and they can adjust their acceptance criteria to data provided. Mr. Davies offered to talk with any concerned parents individually and to follow up carefully with private schools with the assistance of Dr. Prathip and Khun Somsook.

Mr. Burgess then introduced the MS leadership's thoughts on changes to the daily schedule beginning next year under the concept "build the schedule around the mission of the school." Currently the schedule lacks flexibility and is not balanced. There are limited elective choices and limited times for teacher common planning (to develop common rubrics, collaborative analysis, and managing HW loads).

The new schedule will have learning focused goals, including creativity, design, innovation, and metacognition. There will be two blocks daily of 85 minutes each for core courses math, science, and humanities. There will be two 65-minute blocks for other classes, such as phys ed, language, and electives (up to two). Finally, there will be a 45-minute block daily for enrichment, challenge, EAP/LS, projects, field trips, assemblies, etc.

All new ES and MS students at ISB will take a Wellness and Thai language class their first semester at ISB, which will take one of the two 65-minute blocks.

Communication between the MS and parents about this new schedule will be critical. The BOT recommended that the MS leadership be proactive and stay ahead on getting information out to parents, look for multiple ways to communicate the information, and be creative in getting the word out. Also, it will be important to communicate clearly that the 45-minute block will be wisely used and students will be engaged during this instructional time.

VII. SILC COMMITTEE UPDATES

Mr. Davies provided an update on the initiative to bring scholarship students to ISB from families that are disadvantaged. ISB has partnered with the organization Dek Hua Laem (Kids with Sharp Minds) to identify two grade 10 students who will come to study at ISB and be housed with volunteer families from the community. Mr. Davies continues to look for organizations that may provide contributions for this type of scholarship.

VIII. COT UPDATE

The announcement about BOT elections has gone out; nominations opened March 21 and will remain open until Friday, April 12.

The May 31 BOT retreat will likely be devoted to PSA 2550 issues, as ISB's governance structure may need to be adjusted, and BOT by-laws might need to be modified.

Jim Ambrose is available August 23 and 24, the days tentatively scheduled for the August BOT retreat.

IX. PSA 2550

Discussion on PSA 2550 was deferred to the BOT Executive Session.

X. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

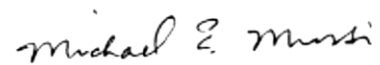
None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9 April 2013.

Verified as approved by the Board
at its meeting of April 9, 2013

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael E. Mussi".

Michael Mussi
Secretary, ISB BOT