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Issue 10

Mission Statement

The Banjul American Embassy School is an international community providing a high quality, accredited American-Style education for students. In partnership with our community, we empower students to become enthusiastic, creative, lifelong learners who value integrity, cultural diversity and global responsibility.

Special Thanks: To all the parents who donated candy for the trick or treating!

Special Thanks: To the student council and all the middle school for the excellent job they did. It was an excellent learning experience in organization for all of them. Special thanks to Mrs. Morrill for working with them.

Positive Postcard: To all the teachers and students for the great door decorating and turning our campus into a Halloween Extravaganza!!

New Board:

- Amy Walla Board Chair
- Laly Diab Vice Chair
- Owen "Jimmy" Clarke Secretary
- Haytham Hassan Treasurer
- Sandra Almalfi PTO Rep
- Marc Shaw Member at Large
- Mary Vizzer Member at Large (appointed)

Please welcome both new and returning members. Some of the members may be reaching out to you and asking you to serve on committees.

SEARCH Committee: The SEARCH Committee for the new BAES Director consists of:

- Marc Shaw-Board Member
- Laly Diab-Board Member
- Leah John- Business Manager
- Wendy Morrill-Teacher
- Amal Alfa-Teacher
- Rupert Leighton-Parent
- James Pimundu-Parent
- Estelle Nziki- Student Council

If you have any questions or concerns or simply wish to give input please contact one of these people.

The closing date for the search will be November 5th and the committee will begin going through all the resumes etc. They will narrow that list down to the number of candidates they wish to do initial interviews with and will then hold skype interviews.

MAP: Map Testing is this week and next. Students usually drop in their testing scores from the spring of the previous year to the fall. Also for many of our students this is a new experience. If you would like to learn more about the MAP tests please go to:

https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2014/07/ParentToolkit_0.pdf

Accreditation Update: I am pleased to inform you that our objectives with targets have been sent to Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges. We have sent five objectives: three student objectives and two operational objectives. We continue our work on the self-study - the current focus is curriculum. Additionally the Child Protection Team is meeting every Friday. Once we have the manual

in place we will be holding a parent meeting. Everyone is working hard to ensure we send off the self-study the end of February.

Last After School: The last Monday after school is November 9th and the last Thursday after school is November 19th. Pick-up is at 3:15 when after school has ended. The next after school activities will begin a few weeks after the holiday break.

Hot Lunch: There still seems to be some confusion about hot lunch. At the end of November(20th) we will put in the BAES BUZZ the form and menu. We will also send hard copies home to those parents who regularly get hot lunch. If you would like your child to get a hard copy please let Madline know. BAES is working hard to provide a balanced and healthy hot lunch. Day after day I see students with pizza and hamburgers they are bringing from home or having delivered. We are only serving hamburger or pizza once a month, and then students have a salad and a fruit . The price of D100 for a small portion and D200 for a large portion is very reasonable. We are working hard to check what students like and what they do not like but we cannot only have pizza and hamburgers. Although Gida's Garden cannot cater to individual likes and dislikes, we do have a vegetarian and lactose free option. Compared with other hot lunch programs I have seen this is a very reasonable and healthy program. If I had time to eat lunch I would certainly be eating what our students are served. Gida's Garden welcomes any feedback you have on the program.

The Holiday Bazaar is COMING: The holiday bazaar on the 5th of December from 10:00-2:00. We need all BAES parents on board to help. There will be a PTO meeting at Seashells at 5:30 on Tuesday November 10th. The PTO has arranged for appetizers and you can purchase whatever you would like to drink. The holiday bazaar is the one big event the school will do this year so we need all hands on deck. Please come to the meeting on Tuesday and let the PTO know how you will be willing to help.

Pick-up after school: Everyone is doing a much better job in the morning about parking and making sure students are safe. The afternoon pick up is still a problem. You simply cannot line up and have students walk out to the cars. This is an accident waiting to happen. We need to be sure all students are safe. Please do not line up in the road. You need to park the car and come in and pick up your child. Thanks for your cooperation and help to keep your child and all BAES students safe.

Have a great weekend!!



Important Dates

November 9 th	Last Monday after school
November 19 th	Last Thursday after school
November 20	Grade 2/3 Assembly
November 21 st	"Best Practices in Education" Conference
November 26 th	Report Cards are sent home electronically.
November 26 th	PD Day Noon Dismissal
November 27th/28th/29th	Long Weekend (Thanksgiving)
December 3 rd	Parent Teacher Conference
December 4 th	Board Meeting
December 5th	Holiday Bazaar
December 10 th	Holiday Program 6:00
December 18 th	½ day Holiday Begins
	School ends at 12:00
January 11th	School resumes at 8:00