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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.

We thank the visiting team for their time, commitment and hard work. We are pleased to announce that the team has recommended to Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges that BAES be reaccredited. If approved in December BAES will remain the only school fully accredited by an international recognized association.

Great Pre-K Assembly: The little bumblebees were awesome, no tears or fears just great fun!

Math/Science: Special thanks to Mr. Jain, Ms. Amal, BAES faculty and students for their amazing Math/Science projects. Special Thanks to all the Parents who attended this event. Thanks everyone!!

THE VISIT: Thanks to all the parents, board members, teachers, staff and community members who attended the reception for the visiting team, also the parent meeting and the final report meeting. This was a very busy week for the entire BAES staff, students and for you BAES parents. The report from the visiting team was presented on Thursday; however it will not be until early December when we will receive the word from Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges.

MAP: We have extended the MAP testing window just a little bit to try and accommodate all testing in the morning. MAP testing will begin May 13th-24th.

Bianca Brandt-Rousseau will arrive the evening of May 4th and will be in school to cover for Ms. Jen Durgin, kindergarten teacher, on Thursday morning. Bianca is a seasoned international teacher, who has taught five year olds through 16 year olds. Please join me in welcoming Bianca to the BAES community.

AGM: We encourage all parents to attend the May AGM on May 31st at 6:00 in the library.

The reason we are holding a May meeting is that we have so many people leave over the summer and it is very, very difficult for a new Director coming in to:

- 1. Hold an AGM in October**
- 2. Not have a full Board until November and not be able to have Board training until November, December.**
- 3. A May AGM allows the new families to settle in to BAES for nine months before we ask them to consider running for the Board.**

I hope that all BAES parents will attend this meeting. The annual report will be handed out in hard copy at that time.

Currently we have two parents running for three places. The BAES Board and I encourage anyone who would like to see the school continue to move forward to please consider running for the Board.

Current Candidates

Edith Nziki-Nkamla



I am from Brussels, Belgium where I earned my BA in Journalism from EFAP and my MBA from HEC Brussels. I have enjoyed a career at the EU, both in Brussels and here at the Gambian delegation office where I am currently the Head of Administration. My husband, Georges, who is the Head of Finance at the EU delegation here, and I are the parents of four children, all of whom are currently attending BAES. I am a hands-on Mom who considers her children's education the top priority. I have been active in PTO type organizations in Brussels, here at the French School when my children attended there, and now at BAES both while I was an at-home parent and now that I am back working full-time. I feel privileged to be a part of the BAES community, which I feel is a warm, caring, and academically challenging environment for all children. I would like to serve the BAES community as a member of the School Board. I hope you will support me in my desire to serve, and to continue to ensure that BAES is an environment where every child learns and grows, and where students, teachers, staff, and administration are all reaching their highest potential!

Joan Vivestomas

I served before in the board for three years as a chair, finance person and back-bencher. I have two daughters in the school, one of them since 2009, one of the two students who has been attending the school for the longest period of time.

I would like to come back to the board because I think that this is a challenging time for the school, with a new director, half of the faculty new and not many students. I think that I can bring some skills to the board due to my current work heading one of the biggest operations in the country. I am also willing to learn from others, in the past I always found very enriching and interesting working with other parents.

Tuition Policy: The issue of late tuition payments was raised at the last Board meeting and I was asked to convey to all parents the policy. Dear Parents, the current tuition policy states: 3.342 Late tuition payments must be approved by the School Director. Unless late tuition payment arrangements have been approved by the School Director, a student whose tuition payment is in arrears by 5(five) calendar days past the due date is subject to a 5%late payment fee. Any student whose tuition payment is in arrears by 30 calendar days past the due date is subject to removal from class. The responsibility for tuition liability rests with the parent even if the parent is involved in a tuition payment plan with his or her employer or sponsoring organization. The school Director may consider deferred payments in extreme and/or unusual cases. Records will not be released unless tuition fees and no outstanding fees exist.

Student-Led Conferences: Please remember to save the date June 15th for your child's student led conference. Student will share with you their growth and progress for this school year. Parents who were here last year know what an exciting time this is for their children. They are so proud to have their parents' undivided attention. Parents new to the process of student-led conferences this is one of the most important days in your child's school year. There will be a lot more about these conferences in the coming weeks.

Clarification on Criteria for Student of the Month: The students chosen for student of the month are chosen by input from all teachers who have the students in their class. Students are awarded Students of the Month based on specific criteria designed by the faculty. Students may receive the award based on academic excellence, athletic performance, or the arts. Most important students must show outstanding initiative, leadership, commitment, and school spirit. These are the students who go above and beyond. This award is not designed to award effort. Teachers reward effort in a variety of different ways in the classroom.

❖ What's happening at BAES next?

❖ May 3rd , 2016 - PD noon dismissal

Have a great weekend!

Sharon



Lots Happening at BAES- Please put these dates on your calendar. Please note that a few days such as 'Writing Prompts' and 'MAP Testing' dates have changed since the original was made.

Important Dates

May	What is Happening at BAES?
May 3 rd	PD noon dismissal
May 9 -12 th	Writing Prompts
May 13-24 th	MAP Testing
May 16 th —20 th	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 20 th	PE Assembly
May 25 th -29 th	Long Weekend May 25 th is Africa Liberation Day
June	What is Happening at BAES?
June 8 th	Moving Up Day Grade 5
June 9 th	Moving Up Project Presentations Grade 5
June 15 th	Student-Led Conference Students come only when they have their conference with their parents/guardians
June 17 th	Board meeting 2:00pm
June 21 st	Field Day
June 22 nd	Graduation and Leaving Ceremony. School Finishes for the year directly after the ceremony
June 22nd	After Graduation and Leaving Ceremony Summer Holidays begin.