



June 3, 2016

Volume 9

Issue 36

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.

Thanks: I would like to say thanks the Teachers, Parents and Board members who attended the AGM on Tuesday.

Survey Monkey: PLEASE Take the survey regarding school uniforms no later than June 10th. Go to:<http://baes.gm/> and click on the monkey on the right hand side.

School Picnic: Don't forget there is a school picnic on June 17th at 12:30 at Labato Beach. Bring your own lunch and drinks and the fun and games will start about 1:00.

Moving Up Day: The grade five students follow the steps of the grade six students on Wednesday June 8th when they check out what it is like to be a middle school student.

“ Moving Up Projects” and Community Service Presentations:

Last year “Moving Up Projects” became a reality at BAES. Fifth grade students use the skills that they have learned throughout their primary education to complete a project that has three specific components:

1. They must do research and complete a paper
2. That must make a presentation
3. There must be an “action” piece where the students actually take action to help solve a problem.

These projects will occur June 9th at 6:00pm. They will be followed by the Middle School Community Service presentations. Everyone is invited.

Mark your calendars for the evening of June 9th. Fifth graders will present their Moving Up Projects and the middle school classes will present the results of their service learning projects. Come out and support BAES students who have worked hard to embody the BAES mission of being caring, compassionate, and globally minded contributors to society!

Are Student-Led Conferences June 15th On Your Calendar?

Critical Thinking external tests:

Next week on Monday and Tuesday students in grades 3-9 will take a test on critical thinking skills. The purpose of this external test is to provide the school with baseline data so that we can begin to measure how we are doing in the area of teaching critical thinking

Computer Safety: There have recently been a couple of safety issues concerning the internet. These have happened at homes not school, and it reminded me that it has been awhile since I have reminded parents that this is a far different world today that in was 20,40, 60 years ago. Children are exposed to so much more and even with the very best firewalls in place things happen. It is not reasonable to say well..... I will not allow my child on a computer until they are 20, students of all ages are doing research for school. Here is a great site with some good advice that I suggest that every BAES parent to check out:

<http://www.safekids.com/kids-rules-for-online-safety/>

- Every week check your children's browser history
- Ask your child to share with you what they are working on.
- Make sure the monitor is turned so that so can glance at it whenever, just to take a peek.
- Keep lines of communication open
- Let your child's teacher know if your child has happened to see or watch something that is beyond his/her age level or inappropriate, as you child may discuss at school with his/her friends.
- Talk with your children about what games they are playing on the internet when visiting friends or what programs they are watching.

PTO: The PTO will be holding its last meeting of the year on Wednesday, June 8th at 5:30 p.m. at Ocean Bay. We will gather at the gazebo to wrap up this year, select a new group of volunteers to lead for next year, and finalize our expenditures with the money we've earned. Please don't miss this meeting. We really hope to see some new faces, and build a new team to ensure we move forward into the next school year successfully.

Reasons to Get Involved in your PTO

We Make a Difference

Our mission is to create the kind of school community where teachers and administrators can do their best work and so can our children. We provide support to teachers where and when needed. We aim to provide resources they need. We try to build the kind of supportive, caring atmosphere that makes school fun.

We Have Fun

We accomplish a lot and it's true, not everything we do is always easy, but it's not like we have enormous responsibilities either. We don't take ourselves too seriously; we try to enjoy ourselves as we plan events for our community to enjoy.

The Children Benefit

When you get connected to the school, your child/children do better. Research shows children whose parents are involved get better grades, do better on tests, and have fewer discipline problems at school. Plus, you are setting an example of leadership to your young ones.

Meet Others

We all have a common bond. We care about creating the best possible education experience for our children. We are neighbors and peers who share many of the same experiences, but come from a variety of backgrounds. Many friendships have developed as a result of volunteering that may never have before.

There is A Lot To Be Done

These days, schools are asked to do more with less. With a school of our size and an ever changing budget, our help is needed more than ever to fill the gaps.

The Work is Very Rewarding

It's seeing the sparkle in a child's eye, it's seeing the smile that shows we're making school a little more fun, it's making your child feel more comfortable in a learning environment. The rewards, whether big or small, are working toward the future of your child's educational experience.

We can match jobs to your interests and abilities

We encourage creative ideas, we know we need a team with diverse skills and are happy to accept any time you are willing and able to give and find a way to utilize your skills.

❖ What's happening at BAES next?

- ❖ June 6-7 Grades 3-9 Critical Thinking Tests
- ❖ June 8th Moving Up Day Grade 5
- ❖ June 9th 6:00pm Moving Up projects
Middle School Community Service

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

June	What is Happening at BAES?
June 6-7 th	Grades 3-9 Critical Thinking Tests
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 5:00pm
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.