

AUS Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Oct. 16th, 2019

11:30 a.m.

*Professional Development Room Grey 7
2nd Floor*

Attendees:

Mijbil alAyoub (MA)
Jennifer Beckwith, PHD (JB)
Michael Wininger (MW)
Brenda Clements (BC)
Taryn Pereira (TP)
Kelly Buffurine (KB)
Reem AlMazidi (RA)
Tammy Ali (TA)
Huda AShammari (HA)
Wuda AlShammari (WA)
Teeb AlBader (TA)
Tarina Speidel (TS)
Nicole Arnulphy (NA)
Rachel Eckelson (RE)
Candice Warzecha (CW)
David Delamatta (DD)
Rytrice Pickett (RP)
Katalin Brogdon (KB)

Apologies:

Amani Abulhasan
Lama AlBabtain
Nawaf Arhama
Rajesh Puri

Welcome to Members of the SAB and Introductions. Members introduced themselves and their role in the school and on the SAB

Adoption of SAB End of Year Report SY 18/19

https://www.aus.edu.kw/uploaded/SAB_2018-2019_END_OF_YEAR_REPORT_final_draft.pdf

JB - END OF YEAR REPORT - No objections – Adopted.

Curriculum Updates (Visiting Consultants)

- Brick Math: Dr. Shirley Disseler- High Point University
- Technology Integration: Dr. Heidi Summey- High Point University
- Science: Dr. Craig Gabler – FOSS

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jkkUz8HHpavuh9xi7ovXWQArSnyxsSu0qYAggGCKhRY/edit#slide=id.p2>

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15rxYA2OTESwfn0vKOy-7Nxxhql9c8xfc/edit#slide=id.p1>

JB

- Curriculum updates - Introduced consultants
- Introduced Partnership with High Point University
- Introduced Science Partnership Foss - Dr Gabler
- This year's AUS curriculum development focus Math and technology
- SAB will work on strategic planning

Dr. Disseler - introduced herself

- She wrote Brick Math and will be bringing it to AUS and is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) specialist
- High point and AUS partnership
 1. Professional development - BRICK MATH, Math manipulatives, makerspace/robotics, technology
 2. Gifted Endorsement
 3. global student teaching initiative - 3 student/pre-service teachers coming to AUS in Jan

Dr. Summey - Special Ed and Edu Tec specialist

- She has been surveying/observing and doing a **needs assessment** on where to go with technology for instructional technology

JB -

- looking at 2-3 year partnership, excited about student teaching opportunity

Dr. Gabler - Science consultant

- A quality science program brings **Access and Opportunity** to the students
- Brings teachers resources, training and ability to provide Access and opportunity
- Enacting a plan that was developed since 2017 - by the end of this year - fully implemented in **FOSS** - Full Options Science System program Includes formative and summative assessment

SAB Overview

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13O0Wb_0MXure3ci3Sqfkh998h7aoRIBf

JB-

- Shared Info about Parent University
- shared info about the Video Production Lab and explaining student film making
- SAB overview is available on the website
- Voting Members: Corporate Representatives (Kipco and Schlumberger), US embassy Rep, Student Council Reps, ES/MS/HS Parent Reps., ES/MS/HS Teacher Reps. , PTSO Rep.
- Non-voting Members: School Administrators
- SAB Dos and Don'ts
- Strategic plan - getting consultancy from Dr. Amy A. Holcombe from High Point University who is coming to AUS in January to work with AUS Administration and SAB on the School Strategic Planning

Voting on Vacant Board Position (Secretary)

JB asked for a SAB secretary volunteer NA - volunteered/nominated secretary

Associate Director Report

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ACMMld9HdkqODl01mhwWIENfZr0lItYBqBVVjMV AwdU/edit#slide=id.g63cc5f989c_0_4

MW - REPORT:

Safety: Traffic - Drop off/Pick up - this year's traffic is "tragic" - however each day we are looking to be more efficient - busses must be out by 2:50 or they get stuck in traffic can delay them by 30 mins

TS - Asked what is the plan for dirt lots next door

JB - They are Brown areas - they are supposed to be "green" and cannot be built on - the one behind is owned and can be built on

MW

- Finance - yearly audit by Ernst & Young - process started 1 week ago
- Housing - 125 properties 293 occupants.
- 58 units repaired/repainted.
- Noor property refreshed - happened at completion of 5 year
- Raju is in charge of this
- SY 20-21 **Equip my school** used them before for resources and will use them next year
- IAN - informal admin network - opportunity of Admin all over KW to come once a month at AUS, they are the governing body that looks after PEAK

- PEAK will be on Feb 8th
- New Athletic director Introduction School teams/REAL/Tournaments/games overview
- NESAs (Near East South Asia) - Leadership conference Thailand - October 24-27 2019
- Video production Lab - new addition to the school teaching spaces

ES/MS/HS Reports

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uMCf0IZZT9IFC19V04g9ITjHXT4btAk0qxtRbvk6kt0/edit>

TP

- Battle of the books - 30 titles - end of the year they battles on their comprehension of the texts - 5th grade only 2018-19

This year - summer titles -

Grade 3-5 - 6 titles per grade - created own teams and battled today (October 15)

Next week they will be presented with 20 titles and at the end of the year they will “battle” again

- REAL Clubs - new sports teams for G3-G5
 - 26 clubs
 - 268 students
 - 48 teachers
- Next semester - will break up REAL into sports and academic days
- School teams.
 - practice 2 days a week
 - Cost to participant is 25KD for kit/uniform
 - Currently 3 Grade 3-5 teams:
 - 18 basketball
 - 15 soccer
 - 13 swimming
- Falloween - parent volunteers for decorating Pods - coordinate with grade levels
- Annual bullying prevention week coming up Oct 27-31
- Global Impact: theme our planet our impact our responsibility

KB

- Student council - elections Oct 30 - posted on middle school website
- PSAT payment today 2nd Dec test
- Google School - providing teachers google training - goal 100% of teachers certified
- Falloween - committee well underway

- PTCs upcoming
- U14 volleyball tryouts upcoming

BC

- Made adjustments to the way to calculate GPA - weight of GPA for students taking honors courses ... based on research from schools in Kuwait and USA
- All but 5 are taking AP exams for every class
- Policy change in attendance - most absences are not excused - adjusted make up policy - students have risen to expectations - previous 70-80 now 95% weekly attendance.

JB - Ministry visited last week - informed us the ministry have a truancy officer - and they will contact parents - we will be using this service.

TA - suggested there is an amount of days before we require to report truancy

JB - explained we have become stricter about "excused" absences

TS - asked how does Ramadan affect attendance?

TP - Ramadan does not have a major impact on absences

BC - explained Ramadan is S.A.T. practice time and college admission so it is unlikely Children will be absent at this time

PTSO Report

MA

- Last week was the first board meeting
- 31 October Falloween - Carry on with last year's activities - but with the vision to improve upon them
- Thanked predecessor Cathy for a great job last year
- Have money to work with already from last year
- Chosen the same vendor
- Add more activities for Falloween
- Make sure we have a more activities - so less activities and no bottlenecks
- Through activities faster - increase the people offering stuff – eg more face painters
- Met with **MW** for venues
- Met new food vendors - and look at charging per Square Meter
- Theme for the haunted house is Stranger Things
- Pricing tickets differently for students and others and charging more for tickets on the night. Continue with "coffee talks"
- Wants to Partnership with Arts and Culinary Arts
- Wants to do an art exhibition and sell art to raise funds

BC - asked - Falloween: how many volunteers? Please reach out to the principals

Student Report for Next Meeting

WM, TA

- Middle school - Run Kuwait - competition between grades for biggest turn out and have invited High School to do this too -

JB - wants student counselors to be involved in seatbelt safety and vaping
Instill the importance of buckling up with little to big ones

Upcoming Meetings:

- *Next proposed meeting is Wed. Nov. 20th, 3:30 p.m.*
- *Vote on proposed meeting dates for this school year:*
 - *Wed. Nov. 20th, 3:30 p.m.*
 - *Wed. Jan. 29th, 11:30 a.m. (Strategic Planning with Consultant)*
 - *Wed. Mar. 18th, 3:30 p.m.*
 - *Wed. May 6th, 11:30 a.m. (Ramadan)- End of Year Report*

Things to Consider:

Important Dates to Remember:

Oct 17	Teachers In-Service Day/ No Classes
Oct 23-28	NESA Conference Trip
Oct 31	Falloween
Nov 2	SAT
Nov 5	Early dismissal at 11:00/Teacher Work Day
Nov 6 & 7	Parent Conferences / No Classes