

AASCA Principal's Conference

Roatan, Honduras

April 12-13, 2008

Attendance:

Costa Rica

American International School of Costa Rica

Country Day School

Lincoln School

Marian Baker School

Absent

Harry Grzelewski

Absent

Absent

El Salvador

American School of El Salvador

International School of San Salvador

Panamerican School

Colegio Maya-El Salvador

Ramon Morales

Absent

Eric Quijano

Absent

Guatemala

American School of Guatemala

Colegio Americana del Sur

Colegio Decroly

Colegio Maya-Guatemala

Colegio Interamericano

Fabio Corvaglia

Deborah Revolvorio

Martha Monzon

Maribel Maldonado

Jim Berwell

Honduras

American School of Tegucigalpa

Escuela International Sampedrana

Mazapan School

Discovery School

Maria Motz

Tom Litecky

Donna Dixon

Absent

Nicaragua

American Nicaraguan School

Lincoln International Academy

Joseph Azmeh

Absent

Panama

International School of Panama

Balboa Academy

Crossroads Christian Academy

Dennis Dunn

Rita Sosa

Absent

AGENDA

2008 AASCA Principals' Conference

Welcome

Ice Breaker Activity

What is AASCA?

AASCA Website Review

Review of Athletic Directors' Meeting Minutes

Reports on AASCA Events

Issues for Discussion

Recommendations

AASCA Calendar of Events (08-09)

Pledge Calendar for 2009-2010

AASCA Community Service Award Entries

Election of Officers for 08-09

Review and Approval of Conference Minutes

Professional Development Activities

What is AASCA?

- Description of AASCA from AASCA website circulated and discussed
- Copy of AASCA by-laws circulated and discussed
- Clear understanding of specific criterion and/or a specific process to apply for AASCA membership lacking amongst Principal group

Review of AASCA website

- A thorough review of the AASCA website was conducted-All agree that Colegio Maya-Guatemala has done a great job developing and maintaining the site
- AASCA website lacks detailed information for schools interested in membership-AASCA webmaster will work to improve this deficiency
- Schools participating in AASCA events can improve in their efforts to submit (in a timely fashion) relevant information (bulletins, photos, etc) to the AASCA webmaster
- Member schools hosting professional development opportunities are encouraged to post information on the AASCA website
- AASCA Community Service Award recipients to be included on AASCA website
- Member schools encouraged to place an AASCA link on their school's homepage

Review of Athletic Directors' Meeting Minutes

- A thorough review of the minutes from the 2007 AASCA Athletic Directors' meeting was conducted-All agree that through the combined efforts of the ADs, Principals, and Directors, much has been accomplished to improve athletic competition between AASCA schools
- Upon final approval of the Directors, the following documents will be available on the AASCA website: Athletic Mission, Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, Coaches' Code of Conduct, Parent Code of Conduct, Tournament Evaluation Form, Protest Form, Tournament Checklist, Variation from Event Protocol Form, and Pre-Game Protocol Statement
- All agree that it will always be essential to clearly and regularly communicate expectations to spectators, parents, and students and have in place, procedures for dealing with individuals violating AASCA rules

Reports on 07-08 AASCA Events

- Leadership Conference (Escuela Americana-El Salvador)
 - Eleven schools participated: EAS-El Salvador, Lincoln-Nicaragua, Lincoln-Costa Rica, Maya-Guatemala, Maya-El Salvador, International School-El Salvador, ASG-Guatemala, Interamericano-Guatemala, Colegio Americano del Sur-Guatemala, Decroly-Guatemala, Panamericana-El Salvador
 - Three schools were forced to cancel due to weather conditions: Mazapan-Honduras, AST-Honduras, EIS-Honduras
 - Approximately 100 students participated
 - No issues of concern discussed

- Small School Volleyball (Country Day School-Costa Rica)
 - Six schools participated: CDS-Costa Rica, ISP-Panama, Maya-Guatemala, AIS-Costa Rica, Marian Baker-Costa Rica, Balboa-Panama
 - 107 students participated
 - 11 teams total (6 girls/5 boys)
 - Two courts utilized
 - No issues of concern discussed

- Invitational Basketball (American School of Tegucigalpa-Honduras)
 - All eight large schools participated
 - 170 students participated
 - 15 teams total (8 boys/7 girls)
 - 4 courts utilized
 - Issue of concern discussed: Naming of an all-star team in addition to awarding MVP trophies

- Knowledge Bowl (Lincoln School-Costa Rica)
 - Twelve schools participated: Maya-Guatemala, EIS-Honduras, Interamericano-Guatemala, ANS-Nicaragua, ISP-Panama, AST-Honduras, EAS-El Salvador, CDS-Costa Rica, Lincoln-Costa Rica, Panamericana-El Salvador, Lincoln-Nicaragua, Maya-El Salvador, International School-El Salvador
 - 115 students participated
 - 23 teams competed (12 varsity/11 junior varsity)
 - Four match sites utilized (cafetorium, video conference room, library, 1 classroom)
 - Issue of concern discussed: coping with a very large turnout in terms of facilities, judging, & recycling of questions

- Drama Festival (American School of Guatemala)
 - Seven schools participated: CAG-Guatemala, Maya-Guatemala, CDS-Costa Rica, Interamericano-Guatemala, EAS-El Salvador, ANS-Nicaragua, Marian Baker-Costa Rica
 - 72 students participated
 - Facilities used: Auditorium, 2 HS classrooms, MS Drama room, HS Art room, Multipurpose room, Elementary * MS Music rooms
 - Issue of concern discussed: consistency in the judging of events & standards-based awards (as opposed to 1st, 2nd, 3rd place)

- Large School Soccer (American Nicaraguan School)
 - All eight large schools participated
 - 283 students participated
 - 15 teams total (8 boys/7 girls)
 - 35 matches played (20 boys/15 girls)
 - 3 fields required
 - No issues of concern discussed

- **Small School Soccer (Escuela Panamericana-El Salvador)**
 - Ten (10) schools participated: Panamericana-El; Salvador, Maya-Guatemala, Maya-El Salvador, CDS-Costa Rica, ISP-Panama, Mazapan-Honduras, AIS-Costa Rica, Marian Baker-Costa Rica, Colegio Americano del Sur-Guatemala, Balboa-Panama
 - 308 students participated
 - Nineteen (19) teams total (10 boys/9 girls)
 - 3 fields required
 - Issue of concern discussed: controversial officiating issue involving host team which led to protest being filed and upheld

- **Middle School Choir (American School of Guatemala)**
 - Ten (10) schools participated: ASG-Guatemala, Decroly-Guatemala, Maya-Guatemala, Interamericano-Guatemala, International School-El Salvador, Mazapan-Honduras, EIS-Honduras, Country Day-Costa Rica, Marian Baker-Costa Rica, Balboa-Panama
 - 100 students participated
 - Facilities utilized: auditorium and cafeteria
 - Issue of concern discussed: traveling with MS-aged children

- **Large School Volleyball (Escuela Americana-El Salvador)**
 - Statistics to be given during Directors' Conference
 - Issue of concern discussed: holding volleyball tournament at the end of each school year makes Senior participation more difficult

AASCA (proposed) Calendar of Events (2008-2009)

- Student Leadership Conference - September 4-7 - Colegio Americano del Sur-Guatemala

- Tri-Association Conference - October 14-17 - Lincoln School-Costa Rica and Country Day School-Costa Rica

- Small School Basketball - October 8-12 or Oct 23-27 - Marian Baker or International School of Panama

- Large School Basketball – October 8-12 (tentative) – Escuela Internacional Sampedrana -Honduras

- Knowledge Bowl - November 6-9 (extra day may be needed based on participation) - Colegio Decroly-Guatemala

- Music Festival - January 29- Feb 1 - Escuela Internacional Sampedrana-Honduras

- Soccer Invitational Tournament - February 18-22 - Colegio Americano de Guatemala

- Small School Volleyball - March 25-29 - Mazapan School-Honduras
- Large School Volleyball – March 25-29 - American School of Tegucigalpa-Honduras
- Principal’s Conference - April 17-20 - American Nicaraguan School

Pledge Calendar (2009-2010)

- AD Conference - Mazapan School-Honduras
- Leadership Conference - Balboa Academy-Panama
- Tri-Association Conference - TBA
- Small School Basketball - Colegio Maya-Guatemala
- Large School Basketball - American Nicaraguan School
- Knowledge Bowl - American School of Tegucigalpa-Honduras
- Drama Festival - Escuela Internacional Sampedrana-Honduras
- Small School Soccer - International School of Panama
- Large School Soccer - American School of El Salvador
- Principal’s Conference - Panamerican School-El Salvador
- Invitational Volleyball - Colegio Interamericano-Guatemala
- Middle School Choir - Country Day School-Costa Rica

AASCA Community Service Award Entries

- School Wide Category – MS Chacocente Project - American Nicaraguan School
- Class Project Category - The Turtle Project - Colegio Maya-Guatemala

Election of Officers for 2008-2009

- President – Joseph Azmeh – American Nicaraguan School
- Vice-President – Maria Motz – American School Tegucigalpa – Honduras

Professional Development Sessions

- Assessment for Learning – Joseph Azmeh – American Nicaraguan School
- Improving Discipline – Fabio Corvaglia – American School of Guatemala
- Differentiated Instruction – Ramon Morales – American School-El Salvador
- Unique Learning Styles - Tom Litecky - Escuela Internacional Sampedrana

Issues for Discussion

- Designation of small and large schools
- Expectations for AASCA member schools
- AASCA's commitment to Professional Development
- AASCA Principals' Officers-Terms and Responsibilities
- Improving the AASCA website
- Changing the focus of the opening ceremonies for AASCA sporting events
- Increasing travel costs and its impact on AASCA participation
- Last minute cancellations of participating schools to AASCA events
- Developing an AASCA flag and anthem

Recommendations

1. Given the fact that there are far more small schools than large schools in AASCA (14 small verses 8 large), and that small schools are facing increasing difficulties in hosting events with a large number of participants, it is recommended that a new standard/definition be considered to classify small and large schools that would continue to be based on 7-12 enrollment. The new standard should be set so as to achieve a greater balance in the number of small and large schools. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
2. Given that AASCA membership has recently increased and is likely to continue increasing, membership expectations need to be revised. AASCA certainly wants to be inclusive, however to make our organization more functional we recommend establishing specific guidelines regarding expectations for initial and continued membership such as: 1) student participation in events, 2) participation in Director and Principal conferences, 3) hosting or co-hosting of AASCA events, 4) participation in Athletic Director meetings. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
3. Given that the Athletic Directors meet every two years it is recommended that the host school be responsible for facilitating a professional development component, which in part focuses on ensuring the AASCA philosophy is central to AASCA events. This supports and continues the efforts made by the Directors last year in this area. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
4. To achieve a greater continuity of leadership and to allow for a greater emphasis on professional development, it is recommended that the President of the AASCA Principals' group serve for a term of two consecutive years. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
5. Due to the large number of students participating in Knowledge Bowl there may need to be an adjustment in the number of days allocated to the event from 2 days currently to 3 days (equal to time dedicated to AASCA sporting events). This additional day would allow for better organization and a higher quality event. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
6. Due to the fact that currently, documents developed by the AASCA Athletic Directors and posted on the AASCA website are in Spanish, it is recommended that a stipend for the

translation of these documents be approved. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)

7. For the benefit of all participants, it is recommended that the school hosting the Athletic Directors' meeting provide an interpreter so that both English and Spanish speakers can actively participate and contribute. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
8. In an effort to reinforce the notion that AASCA participants are representing their *schools* (as opposed to their countries), it is recommended that schools hosting AASCA events maintain a set of AASCA country flags (6 countries). School delegations would then be able to enter the opening ceremony with their school flags. Country flags could already be on display on stage. In addition, it is recommended that during competition, national flags not be exhibited. Each delegation would be responsible for discouraging the display of national flags. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
9. It is recommend that any AASCA mission statement developed during the upcoming strategic planning session include reference to the community service commitment of AASCA schools. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)
10. Given that the costs associated with traveling to AASCA events is on the rise, and that this may deter schools from participating in AASCA events, it is recommended that AASCA work to negotiate a special deal with one of the major carriers so that travel costs can be maintained at a reasonable level. (*Motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*)