

AASCA Principal's Conference

Managua, Nicaragua

April 18-19 2009

Attendance:

Costa Rica

American International School of Costa Rica

Country Day School

Lincoln School

Marian Baker School

Absent

Harry Grzelewski

Charlie Benavage

Randall Zuniga

El Salvador

American School of El Salvador

International School of San Salvador

Panamerican School

Colegio Maya-El Salvador

Ramon Morales

Absent

Claudia Pardo

Jaime Comandari

Guatemala

American School of Guatemala

Colegio Americana del Sur

Colegio Decroly

Colegio Maya-Guatemala

Colegio Interamericano

Fabio Corvaglia

Deborah Revolvorio

Uriel Zavala

Absent

Jim Burwell

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

St. Augustine Prep

Joseph Azmeh

Tim Gardina

Roberto Porta

Jose Oyanguren

Panama

International School of Panama

Balboa Academy

Crossroads Christian Academy

Dan McKee

Rita Sosa

Absent

AGENDA

2009 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 (09-10)

Pledge Calendar for 2010-2011

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

- Members should send updated information to AASCA webmaster
- Webmaster should ensure that the links changed are done at all levels
- 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 or remove the link
- Member schools encouraged to place an AASCA link on their school's homepage

Reports on 08/09 AASCA Events

- Leadership Conference (CAS del Sur Debbie Revolorio)
- Small School Basketball (ISP Dan McKee)
- Invitational Basketball (EIS Tom Litecky)
- Knowledge Bowl (Decroly Uriel Zavala)
- Music Festival (EIS Tom Litecky)
- Soccer Invitational (American School of Guatemala-Fabio Corvaglia)
- Small School Volleyball (Mazapan-Donna Dixon)
- Large School Volleyball (American School of Teguciagalpa-Maria Motz)

AASCA (proposed) Calendar of Events (2009-2010)

Calendar (2009-2010)

- AD Conference - Mazapan School-Honduras - September 17-20
- Leadership Conference - Lincoln Costa Rica - September 24-27
- Tri-Association Conference – TBA
- Small School Basketball - Marian Baker Costa Rica - October 7-11
- Large School Basketball - American Nicaraguan School - October 7-11
- Knowledge Bowl - American School of Tegucigalpa-Honduras – November 11-15
- Drama Festival - Escuela Internacional Sampedrana-Honduras
2/3-2/7 (participation questionable)
- Large School Soccer - American School of El Salvador February 24-28
- Small School Soccer - International School of Panama ISP/Balboa March 10-14
- Middle School Choir - Country Day School-Costa Rica – March 17-21
- Invitational Volleyball - Colegio Interamericano-Guatemala - April 14-18
- Principal's Conference – Escuela Panamericana School-El Salvador April 23-26

Pledge Calendar (2010-2011)

- AD Conference - None
- Leadership Conference – Balboa-Panama
(Mazapan-Honduras 2011-12)
- Tri-Association Conference – TBA
- Invitational School Basketball – American School Tegucigalpa
- *(Large School Basketball CAG 2011-12)*
- Knowledge Bowl – EAS
(Lincoln Nicaragua 2011-12)
- Music Festival – Interamericano Guatemala
- Small School Soccer – Maya-Guatemala
- Large School Soccer – EIS Honduras
(AST 2011-12)
- Principal's Conference – CAS del Sur Guatemala
- Large Volleyball – CAG
- Small Volleyball – Country Day Costa Rica

AASCA Community Service Award Entries

- School Wide Category – Community Service Project: Colegio Sagrada Familia – Lincoln International School, Managua, Nicaragua
- Class Project Category – no submissions

Election of Officers for 2009-2010

- President – Maria Motz, AST
- Vice-President – Tom Litecky, EIS
- Secretary – Claudia Pardo, Escuela Panamericana, El Salvador

Issues for Discussion

- Twitter social networking and podcasting
- Developing paperless school
- Bullying, discipline and sexting
- Discovery Educators Network
- Go Green recycling initiative

Professional Development Sessions:

- Harry Grzelewski presented examples of podcast produced by his middle students that are incorporated into classroom projects. These podcast are also used as attachments to emails sent to parents that remind parents of upcoming school activities; TweetDeck was presented as a useful tool for administrators to use as a resources for information about administrative; K12, Keystone High School, Brigham Young University were discussed as some possible AP online course resources.
- Tom Litecky discussed how his school has begun to use online textbooks that are available. The initial cost is the same but cost savings in shipping, storage, and upkeep of books is evident. The problem has been more with the parents than the students. Another issue is difficulty in reading screen but Tom showed us his Sony ebook that demonstrated that the words can be read easily; Online surveys like Zoomerang and Survey Monkey are a good tools for administrators; Elective registration is done online with web based site (link to come).
- Maria Motz introduced Discovery Educator Network that provides education resources at a cost; great resource for teachers on many subjects and can be incorporated into daily lessons; searches can be made on a variety of topics with many potential resources made available; streaming video allows teachers to find videos made.
- Debbie Revolorio asked about how to keep the GoGreen initiative at her school active. It begins and goes well for a time and then dies out. Suggestions included; a school recycling program; teachers committed to keep it active; program has to be coordinated with the entire staff; a big problem has been getting local companies to pick up the recycled plastic bottles and paper products.

- Ramon Morales presented a PowerPoint on Discipline in Schooling; came about after certain incidences began to happen; one example given was a girl who sent inappropriate pictures of herself to her boyfriend that eventually were sent around; this type of action is giving rise to new uses/abuses of technology called “sexting;” parents are pressuring schools to handle the problem no matter where it happens; clear lines deliniating what is acceptable or not is falling on the schools; now current approach is a more authoriative response which is messy; problem exist in MS/HS but mature elementary students are experiencing some of these issues; topic of bullying was talked about and the OLWEUS program CD that trains on bullying prevention in schools was mentioned as very good;

Recommendations

1. The theme of small/large school division was revisited many times throughout the discussion of ASSCA events. A three division systems; small, medium and large, would create additional conflicts that would not improve the current system. Since there is already a small pool of schools in each division that actually participate in each event, and considering that some schools never host, adding another division would reduce the actual participants even more. Our recommendation is to maintain the current system in 2009-2010; keeping with two divisions; small and large, as currently divided. Then in 2010-2011, schools with 300 and above 6-12 enrollment, will become large school participants. **(Motion to keep current system and then make the change the following years moved, seconded and passed 15 for and 2 opposed)**
2. Aligned with AASCA Core Values # 6 submitted by the Directors and 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 to send back to directors moved, seconded and passed unanimously)***
3. The Directors passed unanimously the recommendation that the school that hosts the biannual AD meeting will facilitate a professional development component to support and continue to develop recent efforts in this area. It was motioned that the Athletic Directors should outline the professional development component for their own meeting. After a discussion of how all-stars are chosen it was motioned that the Athletic Directors define the format for picking all-stars. ***(Motions were moved, seconded and passed unanimously)***
4. The matter of JV inclusion was reviewed and it was motioned to be allowed to continue and an extra day will be given to Knowledge Bowl. The Principals also motioned that 11th and 12th graders should not be allowed to be in JV, but 7-12 graders can be on the varsity team. ***(Motions were moved, seconded and passed unanimously)***

5. Following a discussion of the music festival it was recommended that music directors will communicate to define guidelines for music festival and defining categories for participation. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
6. A pilot invitational Technology event for AASCA schools will take place 2009-2010. A summary of the event follows: **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
7. A pilot Cross Country invitational event will take place for AASCA schools in San Salvador. A summary of the event follows: **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
8. All communications submitted for ASSCA website and sent to other schools should be in English and Spanish. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
9. Mission, vision, core values and goals submitted by Directors should be posted on the AASCA website. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
10. Recommendation was made to include behavior contracts for parents, students, coaches and chaperones on the AASCA website home page sidebar. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
11. It was moved that at every Principal's meeting a technology person make factual and textual corrections to the AASCA website at the time they are being discussed. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
12. Tom Litecky volunteered to edit English grammar on the AASCA website. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
13. A recommendation was made that the criteria for the Community Service Award be included for the second project on the AASCA website. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
14. A motion was made to give the Outstanding Community Service for the school wide category award to Lincoln International School, Managua. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**
15. Maria Motz was voted as new President of AASCA Principal group. **(unanimously approved.)**
16. A motion was made for Tom Litecky to become Vice-President and Claudia Pardo as Secretary. **(Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.)**

17. Recommendation was made that Discovery Education Network be considered on a regional basis and discussed by Directors at the next meeting. (**Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.**)