



AASCA Principals' Conference Minutes

Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala

2011

AASCA Principals' Conference Minutes



2011

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Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala

April 9-10 2011

Attendance

Costa Rica

American International School of Costa Rica

Country Day School

Lincoln School

Marian Baker School

Absent

Christopher Brown

Timothy Beard

Randall Zuñiga

El Salvador

American School of El Salvador

International School of San Salvador

Panamerican School

Colegio Maya-El Salvador

Rich Sinclair

Absent

Claudia Pardo

Jaime Comandari

Guatemala

American School of Guatemala

Colegio Americano del Sur

Colegio Decroly

Colegio Maya-Guatemala

Colegio Interamericano

Ted Langlais

Joshua Hunnewell &

Claudia Alvarez

Uriel Zavala

Maribel Suarez

Jeff Trudeau

Honduras

American School of Tegucigalpa

Escuela Internacional Sampedrana

Mazapan School

Discovery School

Freedom School

Maria Motz

Tom Litecky

Donna Dixon

Absent

Absent

Nicaragua

American Nicaraguan School

Lincoln International Academy

St. Augustine Prep

Tim Gardina

Henningston Hammond

Absent

Panama

International School of Panama

Balboa Academy

Dan McKee

Absent

Welcome and Ice Breaker Activity

Introductory remarks by Maria. Presentation of each participant: Maria, Joshua, Tom, Ted, Donna, Maribel, Uriel, Tim, Chris, Randall, Henningston, Tim, Dan, Rich, Claudia, Jeff, Jaime, and Claudia. This was important for the five new administrators—Rich, Henningston, Tim, Jeff, Chris and Joshua.

Review of General Directors' Meeting Minutes

Review of the General Directors' minutes from Miami meeting (April 2010). Special attention was paid to the following issues:

- Review the drama guidelines and give your recommendations or approval.
- Recommend a design for an AASCA flag (CAG and Colegio Americano del Sur, Guatemala had look at this a few years ago).
- Evaluate the current division of large and small schools, did it work?
 - Small school has 7-12 enrollment less than 370 and
 - Large school has 7-12 enrollment of 370 or more

1. Review the drama guidelines and give your recommendations or approval.

We reviewed the drama guidelines.

Tim G. remarked that his drama teacher suggested that the maximum number of actors be increased from 12 to 15, an additional scene be added, a musical component, etc.

Donna suggested that the host school propose the parameters of the choir and drama festival (if they deviate from the guidelines and rules already outlined by adding an additional scene). Must be proposed by August 31st.

Several principals suggested the possibility of eliminating “The Francisco Saybe Award” to emphasize the fact that the Drama Festival is not a competition. Ted L. wrote an introductory statement for the drama and choir festivals that underscores that the festivals are designed to celebrate the arts and the non-competitive nature of the events.

2. Recommend a design for an AASCA flag (CAG and Colegio Americano del Sur, Guatemala had look at this a few years ago).

Maribel S. discussed the possibility of creating a flag and an AASCA anthem.

To design a new AASCA logo to be used on the AASCA flag, the principals student-based contest to design The AASCA flag should encompasses the vision, mission, and spirit of the association and the delegations from each AASCA school will send their proposal to the AASCA

Leadership Conference in Copan, Honduras (American School of Tegucigalpa). The students at the conference will decide the best three designs. The designs will then be sent to the Tri-Conference at which time the General Directors will determine the winner.

3. Evaluate the current division of large and small schools, did it work?

- **Small school has 7-12 enrollment less than 300**
- **Large school has 7-12 enrollment of 300 or more**

Division has worked well with 300. Lincoln International Academy (Nicaragua), Balboa Academy (Panama), and International School of Panama all became large schools. The cut-off point is 300 (as established by the general directors last year) in grades 7-12. Country Day School is the only school near the cut-off point.

The principals agreed that the wording should be changing on enrollment to determine large and small school division to say that the Sept. 1 enrollment figures will be used to establish division placement for the following—not current—school year. *Unanimously passed.*

Reports on AASCA Events

Event: Leadership Conference
School: Balboa Academy, Panama
Date: September 23-26
Report: Erinn McGee

Schools Attending the Conference:

1. Colegio Mazapan, Honduras
2. Colegio Maya, Guatemala
3. Colegio Americano Guatemala
4. Escuela Internacional Sampedrana, Honduras
5. American School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras
6. Colegio Americano Sur, Guatemala
7. Colegio Maya, El Salvador

8. Colegio Internacional, San Salvador
9. Lincoln International Academy, Nicaragua
10. Colegio Decroly Americano, Guatemala
11. International School of Panama
12. Balboa Academy, Panama

We really enjoyed our experience in Costa Rica 2009, so when planning our conference we tried very hard to find a site where we could get muddy and still have conversations about leadership. With the exception of our Ice Breaker on campus, all activities took place at La Granja, a camp on the shores of Lake Gatun about an hour outside of Panama City. Lodging and food for each student was \$199. Transportation was paid for from the AASCA school fees. (See separate AASCA Leadership Financial Report for more information.)

All activities were planned by our Student Council members and for the most part, facilitated by our students. The theme we decided upon for the conference was to “Aspire to Inspire” and it was our hope that all students would leave the conference with ideas they could implement at their own schools. The conference was a mix of student led Leadership exercises and La Granja led canopy, ropes, obstacle course, and Viking boat activities. Discussions were led by students and each student delegation had a chance to share the activities they do in their schools during the school year.

There were no major injuries and we were miraculously spared the mud and downpours of Panama’s Atlantic side—a good time was had by all and we received much positive feedback from the experience. We look forward to attending AST’s conference next year in Copan!

Event: Basketball Invitational

School: American School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Date: October 20-24

Report: María Motz

Comments:

Remarks from principals were largely positive. The tournament was very well organized.

Event: Knowledge Bowl

School: Americano School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Date: November 10-14

Report: María Motz

Comments:

María M. noted that it very difficult to plan for and organize. Biggest pitfull was having the middle school watch the event at the onset because it interfered with the rest of the schedule. That said, there were no major issues.

More than one principal remarked that in the past, there were competitions for virtually every team until the end. However, this has not happened in recent years.

Some suggestions:

- a) One suggestion was separating junior varsity and varsity.
- b) Have the coaches act as readers to expedite the process and allow for teams to compete until the end of the competition.

Event: Music Festival

School: Colegio Interamericano, Guatemala

Date: January 27-30

Report: Jeff Trudeau

Jeff mentioned that budget was an issue because several delegations sent upwards of 25 students and the inscription fee is \$400. He was handcuffed by the financial constraints.

All principals remarked (including Jeff) that holding the conference in Antigua was an a rousing success.

Suggestions: Look into The limit should be determined by the host school but should be no less than 15 and no more than 25.

Event: Large School Soccer

School: Escuela Internacional Sampedrana, Honduras

Date: February 16-20

Report: Tom Litecky

Tournament went well by and large. Students at Sampedrana were asked not to attend a game because they were too rowdy. Security did not seem to be an issue. The distance between the fields was an issue at times.

Comments:

Ted L. liked the venues and police presence was good.

Dan M. commended the event, although he wanted clarification as to why the inauguration ceremony was on Wednesday night.

Rich S. thought the event went well, but thought that the incident in the final game was unnerving.

Suggestion: If parents get out of hand, the team will be eliminated.

Event: Small School Soccer

School: Mazapan School, Honduras

Date: February 16-20

Report: Donna Dixon; Brian O'Meara, Mazapan School AD

Fields: Mazapan School and local university (UTH)

Number of teams: 12 (6 boys, 5 girls and 1 local girls team)

Schools Represented and their Team Groups:

Boys	Girls
Country Day (Costa Rica)	Country Day (Costa Rica)
Panamericana (El Salvador)	Panamericana (El Salvador)
Colegio Americano de Sur (Guatemala)	Colegio Americano de Sur (Guatemala)
Colegio Maya (Guatemala)	Colegio Maya (Guatemala)
Mazapan (Honduras)	Mazapan (Honduras)
International School (El Salvador)	

The Top Finishing Teams in each category:

Boys:

2nd Place: Country Day 1st Place: Mazapan Sportsmanship: Colegio Maya

Girls:

2nd Place: Mazapan 1st Place: Country Day Sportsmanship: Panamericana

Summary:

At Mazapan we felt we ran a smooth tournament. We take pride in our hospitality skills here in La Ceiba and felt that we did a great job in answering questions, keeping open lines of communication and trying to accommodate all of our visitors.

We received great feedback about our Ice Breaker, Coaches Meeting, food service, overall management, final awards dinner and our transportation. The transportation was said to be a highlight as AD's enjoyed the fact they could simply coordinate with their main driver for pick up and drop off times and/or call him from the cell phones that were given to each AD to use during the tournament. I also liked the fact there was no official protests made, and so we avoided any unfortunate situation regarding interpretation of the rules.

We had a few concerns as is normal for every tournament. Before the tournament there was a request from Colegio Maya to change the schedule, as they had two early morning games on back to back days. Mazapan first explained how the scheduling was made in consideration of two hours rest between games, and having each school's boys and girls teams play at different times. With the help of Panamericana, Mazapan and Country Day we were able to appease Colegio Maya's request. There were some complaints of how Mazapan scheduled their games in the morning to take advantage of the cooler temperatures, but in all fairness, Mazapan was trying to adjust the schedule based on another school's request. In hindsight, the schedule should remain as is once officially sent out.

Other concerns that were brought to the attention of Mazapan School's Athletic Director on the first day and immediately resolved:

- Parent Behavior
- Lack of Yellow Cards in Women's games
- Not every game is finishing with Salutations
- Lazy Nurses
- Extra Game Time
- Transportation
- MAYA vs. INTER game
- Referees

After the first day there were minimal issues brought forth before the Mazapan Athletic Director. This is a point that Mazapan is very proud of.

Noteworthy Points regarding Small Schools' Soccer 2011

- Injuries – 12 student athletes had to be taken to the hospital due to the hard play in the games
- Santa Theresa Bilingual School, a non-AASCA school in La Ceiba, was invited to play the fifth place game in the girls' bracket to allow more games for the visiting schools.
- Budget - This was the first time in an AASCA tournament we charged for transportation cost in addition to the inscription fee, as ISP brought up the point of

it's difficulty keeping on budget last year. Charging the transportation fee definitely leveled the budget.

Overall, we felt that this was a very successful tournament. The games were intense, the spirit of competitiveness with cooperation was in the air and thankfully no major incidents. This was a big undertaking to host but we are very happy that each school made the tough trek to reach La Ceiba, and we hope that everyone went away with a great experience. At Mazapan, we are always willing to step up and help out the AASCA organization and feel committed to the values that AASCA and our relationships with each of its members represent.

Comments:

Issues: It rained a week before the tournament and one game was called because of darkness.

Maribel S. apologized for the behavior of her athletic director.

More than one principal commended the transportation and security.

Negative comments: There were some issues with unruly parents, nurses were not the best, scheduling conflicts.

Event: Cross-Country Invitational

School: Lincoln School

Date: March 17-20

Report: Tim Beard; Frans Scholl, Lincoln School AD

The AASCA Cross Country Invitational was a great success. With the participation of 4 countries and 6 schools the event was well organized with lots of interaction, friendship and a great level of competition. All delegations were picked up at the airport or respective schools and transferred to Chachagua in the northern region of Costa Rica, where the event took place. Some students stayed at the Chachagua Camp Site where the event took place, while others at the Chachagua Rainforest Hotel. (We could not fit them all in the Camp Site)

All the activities (Ice breaking event , Coaches Meeting, Hot Springs Tour, Closing Ceremony, Awarding, etc.) and all races went smooth with no problems.

One female student from Panama got cut in her ankle due to a glass table that fell. Nobody knows how the table fell, however the girls was taken immediately to a Medical Center and was treated professionally. Costs were covered by the host school and were later

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reimbursed by the Athletic Director of the I.S.P.

Comments:

Event was a excellent. There was a tremendous amount of support and proved to be a terrific bonding experience. Divided into a team race, individual race, and a muddy obstacle-like race. Offers an opportunity for “non-athletes” to participate in an AASCA event. Students came back raving about the event.

Suggestion: Guidelines should be included for the Invitational Cross-Country event for future years.

Event: Large School Volleyball

School: Colegio Americano de Guatemala

Date: March 30-April 3

Report: Ted Langlais

Eight schools with a total of fifteen teams participated in the event:

1. The American Nicaraguan School
2. The American School of El Salvador
3. The American School of Guatemala
4. The American School of Tegucigalpa
5. The Balboa Academy (Girls Team only)
6. The Colegio Decroly Americano
7. The Colegio Interamericano de Guatemala
8. The EscuelaInternacionalSampedrana

180 students and 30 coaches participated. 36 games were played.

NOTES:

- The tournament was free of major disciplinary incidents. Students attending the event behaved in exemplary fashion. Congratulations to all students, coaches, and administrators.
- The response to the event was overwhelmingly positive. We received many kind words from the participants.
- Thanks goes out to Colegio Interamericano de Guatemala for all the help with hosting this event.
- There were problems with one of the hotels. These problems were fixed before the start of the event.
- Some games were played on outdoor courts. This caused some concern from coaches and athletic directors prior to the tournament, but no comments were made during the tournament itself.
- Some complaints were made about the quality of the officiating, especially on the last day of the tournament. These had mainly to do with the consistency of the arbitrators calls.

- There was one complaint of inappropriate student spectator conduct. This was reportedly due to inadequate teacher supervision and was fixed quickly. There were no other such incidents reported.
- Although students attending the event conducted themselves within the AASCA guidelines, on the last day of the event some parents from several different schools did become “overly involved”. Some cheering for Nationalities rather than schools occurred and, during the final, parents of both teams attempted to “coach” their children from the sidelines.

The final standings were:

Boys

1. Escuela Internacional Sampedrana
2. American School of Tegucigalpa
3. American Nicaraguan School
4. Colegio Interamericano de Guatemala
5. American School of Guatemala
6. American School of El Salvador
7. Colegio Decroly Americano de Guatemala

Girls

1. Escuela Internacional Sampedrana
2. American School of Tegucigalpa
3. Colegio Interamericano de Guatemala
4. Colegio Decroly Americano de Guatemala
5. American School of El Salvador
6. American School of Guatemala
7. American Nicaraguan School
8. Balboa Academy

Comments:

Free from major disciplinary incidents. There was an issue with the roofed courts. Scheduling error with one of the hotels.

Observation: Feed students first before awards ceremony.

Negative comments: Quality, especially consistency, of the officiating was a concern. Complaint about offensive remarks from fans.

Event: Smal School Volleyball

School: Colegio Maya of El Salvador and Colegio Internacional de San Salvador

Date: March 30-April 3

Report: Jaime Comandari

In October 2009 at the Principals' Conference of San Salvador, Colegio Maya of El Salvador decided to host its first AASCA event. By accepting this challenge Colegio Maya embraced the spirit of AASCA, and even though the school had no volleyball teams nor an official court at the time, we worked in teams to organize a successful sporting event. A few months later, in 2011, our friends from Colegio Internacional of San Salvador joined the initiative and both schools worked harmoniously in order to put together a remarkable tournament.

The volleyball tournament took place in the two official courts of the gymnasium of the Salvadoran National Federation. The technical setup was of the quality of an international competition. The referees were also from the National Association and their performance was impeccable. The game schedule was intense, allowing for simultaneous ongoing games. One court was assigned to male players and the other one for female players.

The three days of games away from our facilities were trouble-free, with very few injuries, and most importantly, it all took place in a safe environment. The safety in San Salvador was an issue highlighted by some parents from schools in Costa Rica. This call helped us realize the need to improve the security in the surrounding area of the gymnasium; therefore, armed guards were hired at extra cost for external surveillance of the gymnasium.

On the first night Colegio Maya hosted the icebreakers, the technical meeting and a delicious welcome dinner. For the last day of the tournament, Colegio Internacional graciously hosted the awards ceremony and the farewell dinner with dancing music. It was a night that was enjoyed by all participants. As we know the overarching goal of AASCA events is that they be safe and fun, we were pleased to see that on the last night of the event, we almost had to kick the students out the door at 10PM because they were enjoying the camaraderie so much.

Issues for Discussion

1. Transportation at AASCA events
2. Policies regarding social networks.
3. Administrative software used in our schools. Pros and cons, in-house vs. hosted, etc.
4. Policies for electronic devices (on-campus).
5. How do you address bullying?
6. How do schools use their data and what standardized test they are giving? What standards are you using and how does it align with your assessment?
7. Honor Codes.

1. Transportation at AASCA events

Transportation at AASCA events is being handled differently this year. Ted mentioned that it doesn't matter how it is handled, but we need to establish a certain way to handle transportation. We need to recommend a certain way to handle transportation. Maria noted that transportation at her events before was no problem because they had school buses. However, now it is an issue because they no longer have buses. Their solution was to contract a transportation company(ies) to provide the service. Donna mentioned that Mazapan contracted a company and that she believes that it is important to help the other schools coming to the events. Dan remarked that the transportation issue arose because at ISP's soccer event, they spent \$6000

a) Transportation: Host school needs to provide transportation options for the attendees. Makes all arrangements. Provides costs and specifies what the service provides. The host school must be responsible for paying the company. The attendees must pay the host school when they arrive who then pays the company. Payment options should be provided a month in advance This arrangement applies only to schools who would like the service.

Jaime Comandari seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

In preparation for the event, host school must ask if the attendees need transportation and then a quote of the price and what the service includes. Service will be 24/7 but with additional costs. Arrangements must be made in advance. Host school may have pay the deposit.

b) \$400 fee needs to be reevaluated. Fee needs to be based upon the number of students attending. Sports events should have a higher inscription fee because there are more participants.

2. Policies regarding social networks.

Social networks: Schools have the right to intervene in this respect if it jeopardizes the well-being and safety of a student or the school.

Maribel mentioned that she had a child in 6th grade who had a case of cyber-bullying. She had to make a petition at facebook which turned out to be a tedious process.

Maria recalled a couple of examples of cyber-bullying at her school, with individual webpages, not on social networks.

Character Counts – webinar

How do you protect yourself on the Internet? You must learn how not to become a victim. We need to educate the students. Example: Tell juniors and seniors that colleges will be looking at facebook accounts; technology teacher needs to inform the students about the ramifications of posting, e-mailing, etc. Cybercitizenship needs to be fostered.

Jaime C.: Teachers may not have students as contacts at his school.

3. Administrative software used in our schools. Pros and cons, in-house vs. hosted, etc.

Administrative software examples mentioned:

- a. PowerSchool – includes info about grades, schedule, attendance, discipline
- b. Moodle
- c. Canvas – blackboard
- d. PowerTeacher – Tom L. opined that it is the most user friendly.

Observations:

- a. The process of implementing the software is a slow one. María Motz commented that the software AST uses was not opened up to parents for a year.
- b. It is difficult to decimate information to the teachers through the technical representatives.

Conveying technical information to teachers is difficult at times.

- c. Ted L. is establishing specifications for computers for the students to buy in order to go 1 to 1. Spoke about the possibility of a database of companies/carriers to use for e-books.
- d. Host vs. Server: Host – website could crash; Server – everything is backed up.

4. Policies for electronic devices (on campus).

Examples mentioned:

- a. Parents need to sign a letter of proper usage regarding cellular phones.
- b. First offense cellular phone is taken for a month and the parents are notified, second offense cellular phone is taken until the end of the quarter, third offense the cellular phone is taken until the end of the year.
- c. Cellular phone is taken until a meeting with the parents.
- d. For many schools, electronic apparatuses are permitted for educational purposes only.

5. How do you address bullying?

Some methods mentioned:

- a. Workshops: Workshops and preventative instruction needs to begin at an early age.
- b. Friendship Week – at all levels
- c. Maribel S. – Colegio Maya (Guatemala) uses “Let’s Get Real” video for every incoming 6th grade class.
- d. Character Counts Program – you can tailor it
- e. Randall Z. – Habits of the Mind-it’s about interreflection (training through ISM)
- f. Maria M. – Values Program (moved to Character Education)
- g. Chris B. – Restorative Circles – used to deal with fights, bullying, etc. Training involved – each student gives his side of the story.
- h. *The Leader in Me*

6. How do schools use their data and what standardized test they are giving? What standards are you using and how does it align with your assessment?

Standardized tests, including their analysis and evaluation, were discussed.

Comments:

Several options were detailed:

- a) Plato Math – math and reading
- b) Plato Reading
- c) DRA – elementary
- d) 6 + 1
- e) Iowa
- f) PSAT – 10th graders
- g) Aprenda

Ted L. remarked that data analysis and evaluation is important. Make sure people have a basic understanding of statistics.

Tom L. discussed the importance of 3 levels of standardized testing analysis and evaluation:

- a) Tier 1 – Classroom
- b) Tier 2 – School-wide
- c) Tier 3 – Global/international

Tim Beard: Uses Arrow standards in elementary and California standards in high school but has found that MAPS is curriculum appropriate.

MAPS:

There was wide consensus that MAPS is a viable option because data is specific and immediate. Moreover, it transfers to curriculum. The one downside is that it is quite expensive.

Maribel: Worked with national standards for MAPS.

Obstacle: Interpreting the data and explaining to your teachers how to apply the data can be an issue. Training is a necessity.

7. Honor Codes.

Academic integrity was discussed. An overarching theme that resonated was that in most cases, we are trying to prepare our students to go to colleges in the United States and the punishment for the majority of universities there is immediate expulsion. Thus, it is crucial that punishment be swift and fair, but also severe.

Comments and Suggestions:

Sanctions – Tom’s school has sanctions for students and students cannot run for an elected position (or it is stripped).

Maria – Very punitive. If you copy, cheat, etc., you...

Bell work: Select a few problems from the homework.

Tom: Perhaps we need to change the way we assess. Instruction is also important. Poor instruction and unclear directions are the root of the problem. Assessment must be authentic.

Turnitin.com is used by many schools because it establishes a database. Peer-editing can be done.

Copying/cheating: most schools have ISS or OSS.

Make it a learning experience. It's better that we caught your son/daughter and not in the future when he/she gets expelled from his/her university.

Sign an honor code before every test.

Standards

If a student fails a class, the student will be given a make-up exam and will be placed on probation.

Maribel S. remarked that at Colegio Maya, student are put on probation for a semester—no AASCA events, must do a bi-weekly check-in with teacher, mandatory study hall after school from 3 to 4 pm, etc. Students MUST do the work regardless of whether or not it is a zero.

Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING TRANSPORTATION AT EVENTS:

- The host school arranges for transportation and relays information for cost to participating school and attending schools pay for cost. *Passed unanimously.*
- Transportation information will be sent at least 30 days in advance. This agreement applies solely to schools that opt for transportation. *Unanimously passed.*

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FESTIVALS:

- If the host school wants to add one more activity to the drama or music festivals (an extra scene for example), they may do so if they notify all schools by August 31.

- Increase the number of participants to a maximum of 15 for the drama festival.
Unanimously passed.
- Host school may determine the number of student participants from 15 to 25 for the music festival. Therefore, the number of participants may change from year to year.
Unanimously passed.
- Eliminate the practice of awarding the best quality performance award for THE SCHOOL that wins the most awards during the drama festival (in order to avoid a competitive emphasis). *Unanimously passed.*
- Add the following introductory non-competition statement to the guidelines for all festivals: *“The AASCA Drama, Middle School Choir and Music Festivals are designed to celebrate individual fine arts talents and to provide a venue where students can express their individual and collective acting and musical skills in a collaborative environment. These events are non-competitive.”Unanimously passed.*

RECOMMENDATION ON THE DESIGN OF A NEW AASCA FLAG:

- Have a student contest within each AASCA school to design an official AASCA flag that symbolizes the vision, mission and spirit of the organization. One design from each school will be sent to the leadership conference in September. Student delegates will select three finalists to be sent to the directors to determine the new design at the Tri-Association Conference. *Unanimously passed.*
- Manner of recognition to the winning school or student to be determined by the directors. *Unanimously passed.*

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING THE DIVISION OF LARGE AND SMALL SCHOOLS:

- Change wording on enrollment to determine large and small school division to say that the Sept. 1 enrollment figures will be used to establish division placement for the following—not current—school year. *Unanimously passed.*

RECOMMENDATION FOR THE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE:

- The athletic directors should re-examine the guidelines that determine the Sportsmanship Award at AASCA athletic events.
Unanimously passed.

RECOMMENDATION FOR PRINCIPALS' CONFERENCE:

- Renew the practice of providing financial support to have a professional development expert from outside the association during the conference.* *Unanimously passed.*

- In order to afford time for professional development , extend the AASCA Principals' Conference to include one extra day. *Unanimously passed.*

**Suggested proposals for professional development: Use of data to drive instruction, cyber-citizenship and how to incorporate technology in student centered instruction, core standards, effective and achievable models for teacher evaluation and supervision.*

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AASCA WEBPAGE:

- Reconsider the following (edited and revised) proposal from last year's Principal's Conference meeting: The AASCA webpage is critical to communication among its members, and it is essential that the information is organized in a way that allows for easy access. In order to comply with this premise we recommend the following:
 - Undertake a complete revision of the webpage to include:
 - Accurate and up-to-date information
 - Greater clarity in format
 - Index menu items to provide easy access and clarity
 - Correct spelling and grammar
 - All guidelines and documents posted in English and in Spanish when necessary (Manual de AASCA deportes for example)

Unanimously passed.

RECOMMENDATION FOR AASCA MEMBERSHIP:

- Planning and hosting events requires tremendous amounts of organization, effort, and money on the part of the host school. To optimize their success, all AASCA schools are expected to regularly attend the annual Principal's Conference, where events are discussed, pledged for, and evaluated. Therefore, it must be reevaluated what constitutes active membership and responsibilities beyond paying dues, and define consequences for non-supporting members. *Unanimously passed.*

AASCA Calendar of Events for 2011-12

The following calendar of events was set for 2011-2012.

- Athletic Directors' Conference – Colegio Maya, Guatemala (Sept. 8-11)
- Leadership Conference – American School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras (Sept. 22-25)
- Tri-Association Conference – TBA

- Large School Basketball – EAS, El Salvador (Oct. 12-16)
- Small School Basketball – Escuela Panamericana, El Salvador (Oct. 19-23)
- Knowledge Bowl – Escuela Internacional Sampedrano, Honduras (Nov. 16-20)
- Drama Festival – Country Day School, Costa Rica (Feb. 15-19)
- Middle School Choir – Marian Baker School, Costa Rica (Mar. 7-11)
- Invitational Soccer – Lincoln School, Costa Rica (Feb. 29-Mar. 4)
- Cross-Country Invitational – Colegio Americano de Guatemala, Guat. (Mar. 15-18)
- Principal’s Conference – Balboa Academy, Panama (Apr. 12-16)
- Large Volleyball – Colegio Decroly Americano, Guatemala (Apr. 18-22)
- Small Volleyball – Mazapan School, Honduras (Mar. 21-25)

Hosting Pledges for 2012-13

The following hosting pledges were made for the 2012-2013 calendar year.

- Athletic Directors’ Conference - None
- Leadership Conference – Lincoln International Academy, Nicaragua
- Tri-Association Conference – TBA
- Large School School Basketball – Colegio Americano de Guatemala, Guatemala
- Small School Basketball – MarianBaker School, Costa Rica
- Knowledge Bowl – International School of Panama, Panama
- Music Festival – EAS, El Salvador
- Small School Soccer – Country Day School, Costa Rica
- Large School Soccer – American School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- *Invitational Cross-Country* – Colegio Maya San Salvador, El Salvador
- Invitational Volleyball – American Nicaraguan School, Nicaragua
- Principal’s Conference – Mazapan School, Honduras

AASCA Community Service Award Entry

We need to stress at the AASCA level that community service component is important. Principals are committed to re-emphasizing its significance.

1. 2011 Entry: Donna Dixon, Mazapan School, Honduras

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NHS at Mazapan has started an initiative to bring education to under-resourced, impoverished communities. One of the most important is furnishing Character Counts scholarships to the students.

NHS and Character Counts united to have a fundraiser, the Character Counts Barbeque, to raise money for the scholarships.

Because the project does not fulfill the 2-year project requirement, we suggested to Donna that she bring the project back next year for reconsideration.

Officers for 2011-2013

The officers for the 2011-2012 and the 2012-2013 calendar years can be found below. The new president and vice-president will begin their two-year terms in August, 2011. The secretary will be the principal of the school hosting the Principals' Conference.

- President: Tom Litecky, EIS
- Vice-President: Jaime Comandari, Colegio Maya-El Salvador
- Secretary: Erinn McGee, Balboa Academy (2012)
- Secretary: Donna Dixon, Mazapan School (2013)

Review and Approval of Conference Minutes