



AASCA General Directors' Meeting Minutes

Marriott Dadeland Miami, Florida

May 4 - 6, 2017



AASCA

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF CENTRAL AMERICA

AASCA will be a model association that develops democratic leadership for today and tomorrow.

Participants:

Robert Rinaldo	Lincoln School	CRC
Elizabeth Head	Panamerican School	CRC
Gloria Doll	Marian Baker School	CRC
Katheleen Wilmeth	Colegio Americano del Sur	GUA
Jaime Comandari	Decroly Americano	GUA
José Antonio Peyré	The Village School	GUA
Evan Hunt	Colegio Interamericano	GUA
Douglas Atkins	American School of Guatemala	GUA
Michael Jhohnston	Colegio Maya	GUA
Courtney Cullin	Mazapan School	HON
Karen Chavez	Happy Days Freedom	HON
Liliana Jenkins	American School Tegucigalpa	HON
Ron Vair	Escuela Intl. Sampedrana	HON
Jeff Keller	American Nicaraguan School	NIC
Rajiv Bhat	International School of Panama	PAN
Erinn Magee	Balboa Academy	PAN
Jorgelina Giammattei	Colegio Intl. San Salvador	SAL
Mike Smith	Escuela Americana	SAL

Welcome and Introductions. Ron V. opened the meeting welcoming everyone. He asked all directors to introduce themselves and share some of the highlights of the year.

Approval of GD meeting minutes from May 2016. Minutes were approved.

- a. Review and revision of AASCA mission, vision and beliefs. Ron V. noted that since last revised, eleven heads have come into the Association. Jeff K. mentions that the mission, vision, core values and goals are well written. The question is, are we advancing those goals? *Mission statement.* Question on whether provides or promotes what we do, and to what extent. Is what we say necessarily what we do? Are we fulfilling our goals and living up to our core values? It is discussed if AASCA is meeting the needs of our schools/students, and if we have opportunities through Tri, AASSA, GIN, MUN, etc. Also it was mentioned that over the past several years we have, as an Association, focused more on academic and cultural activities, rather than just athletics. Also, it was made clear that AASCA is Tri and that it is our responsibility, as individual members, to support Tri PD. Tony P. redirected the discussion to suggest the need for a new strategic plan. He also raised the question: Should the organization provide support as a body that represents schools and education on an international level? (a political presence). Ron V. led a review of each of the stated goals and from the suggestion of Mike S. we discussed if we have met the objectives and we gave examples of each. I.E. more participation in GIN. Everything that we



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do, including the wealth of professional development opportunities should be included in a calendar and announced in advance, so as to include it in budget and planning. There is importance in “branding” AASCA. If we don’t as an Association, people will do it for us. We are more than just athletics. Athletics is important and will continue to be, but we need to communicate our effectiveness and opportunities in other areas. Final: as an Association, we feel that the vision, mission and goals accurately reflect what we do. We will make minor adjustments to verbs used in the mission, from *provides* opportunities to *promotes* opportunities.

- b. High School Principals and Directors Meetings. Review policy, revise if needed attendance at Directors and Principals meetings. We agree that we have to add consequences to schools that do not participate in the two above mentioned meetings. Penalty for not attending at least one of the two scheduled meetings each year.

Consistent annual attendance is an expectation at the scheduled AASCA AD, Principals and Directors meetings. The following provisions govern attendance policy:

Directors: General Directors are required to attend the scheduled annual meeting at least once every two years.

AD’s and Principals: A school AD or school Principal must attend the scheduled annual meeting every year.

Consequences: failure to comply with the attendance policy will result in suspension from all AASCA student events and activities for the following school year.

Regarding substitutions in annual meetings: It is also expected that the people that fulfill those roles of AD, HS Principal and General Director, within each school are those that participate in the corresponding annual meeting.

- c. Tri-Association. Ron V. promoted the upcoming October 2017 Tri-Association Conference. The speakers and presenters are world class and registration is expected to fill fast. On the topic of Professional Development, schools were asked to mention PD being hosted at their individual schools that could be shared and added to the calendar. Schools were asked to share their ideas and initiatives with Sonia K., Tri-Association, and then apply for aid. This has to be placed on the AASCA calendar. Schools then shared success stories of PD that was presented during the past year. Michael J. mentioned common sense media as a suggestion for possible PD. It looks at the social emotional growth of students with the pressures of social media. Ron V. proposed that a group meet tomorrow morning to look at PD options for next school year: Mike J., Courtney C., Evan H., and Ron V., 8 a.m., Friday
- d. AASCA Flag. Schools were issued AASCA flags five years ago. The flag incorporates the AASCA logo. Proposal: the logo had an error. The logo will be corrected.



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- e. Small schools' participation. Proposal to unify all AASCA events (5 in favor, 1 against). **Approved.**
Proposal 2. Unify all AASCA events with the cup and plate system in place for sports contingent upon development of mercy rules. **Approved**
Proposal 3. Unified AASCA in all events beginning 2017-2018 school year. **Approved**
- f. Inappropriate student/parent behavior and language and unsatisfactory coaching behavior. Summary 2016-2017 year. There was an improvement in this area. Reports suggest we moved in the right direction. There were no complaints to AASCA administration this year. Gloria D. brought up the issue of coaches expressing inappropriate/abusive comments to players on their own team. Directors should be aware of the treatment of players by coaches.

Friday, May 5 – 8 a.m.

Small group meeting discussed potential workshops pertaining to student well-being. Will talk to Sonia K. to potentially do a pre-conference or stand at the 2018-2019 Tri Conference. Topics: mindfulness, well-being, growing up digitally, common sense media. Good resource: Digital Citizenship Workshops presented by Mike J. Digital media fast – set a period of time, record what they did. Elizabeth H. suggested that Mike J. leads a workshop and that we stream to those interested in participating. Mike J. will contact Common Sense Media and discuss steps to run a workshop

Principals' Meeting Minutes Review. Elizabeth H. led the review. Principals recommended \$2,000 for AD and \$2,000 for PD. Ron V. explained that Principals were lacking information. He suggested revisiting numbers and recommended raising PD to \$3,000 and the host school at their discretion can charge up to an extra \$100 per school. Approved unanimously.

Tennis. We will schedule tennis for next year and consider the following: to look at the format from a Davis Cup Model to a singles competition. Also to look at a payment structure.

Fees payment. Each school pays the fess by transfer. The paying school must assume the transfer fees.

AASCA Science and Engineering Fair. CAG will host the fair for the upcoming year and begin the INTEL ISEF affiliation process. Proposals to open up the fair to more participants with the possibility of tracks for the event; one based on the INTEL criteria and another track with the requirements determined by AASCA. There will be collaboration between CAG and ISP to develop rules in order to increase participation. Protect the initial intentions of the fair while investigating options for another track of participation.

AASCA MUN. include AASCA MUN in the calendar, although not an official event.

From Principals Meeting. Agreed to 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 9 e (as schedule allows), 9f (unified), 9g recommend, 9h stay with status quo (agreed), 9i agreed (should be placed in manual. Add birthdate to the form - agreed), 9j keep Granadera (if it is a legal requirement to play your anthem at a ceremony, allowed to play), 9k agreed, 9l, 10 agreed, 11 agreed, 12 agreed as proposed. Yet all instructions should be in both English and Spanish, 13 agreed, 14. See Minutes.



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Presentation. Teachers Latin-America – Mark Webber. Four year personal approach. Looking to be the provider for the Central American region. Trying to build grassroots network. Many of the Latin American teachers come from Houston, Texas region and from Canada. Two hiring fairs: Houston, TX, Mexico, Mx.

Middle School Sports Festival. AD proposed a tribe system. Middle school sportsmanship festival. Directors agreed.

Saturday, May 6

Goodbyes and thank you to three outgoing directors: Rajiv Bhat, Douglas Atkins and Michael Smith.

Del Campo International School New Application. Jay K. spoke of the positive new school leadership. The criteria for admission to AASCA was reviewed. Proposal – Del Campo becomes candidate school for two years 2017-2019 period contingent upon a school visit. Approved

Proprietary Schools Admittance. Discussion on the possible impact on AASCA if the school ownership should change.

Treasurer report. 1.5 % increase in fees for the upcoming school year. See attached report.

GIN and Regional Conferences. Mike J. spoke of the power, philosophy and vision of GIN and regional conferences. March 7-11, is the second GIN conference, hosted by PanAm, Costa Rica.

Calendar 2017-2018. Calendar topics of each school that are not official AASCA events or activities have to be sent to Ronald V. by June 1, 2017 or will not be included on the official AASCA calendar.

Election AASCA Directors. According to the bylaws it has to take place every two years.

Liliana Jenkins (AST) President

Adolfo González Vice President

Ron Vair Treasurer

Adolfo González Secretary

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