



Education Committee Report October 24th, 2020

Agenda

- Introduction of new member
- Goals for the year
- Enrollment and residential update
- Staffing Update
- IB results Update

New Committee Member

Belinda Nicholson- UWC-USA Class of 1988

Belinda is a special education teacher, has been a Middle School principal, Dean of students and currently the Director of Student Support Services at the American School in London. She is very excited to join our committee and help support the academic, residential and experiential teams at the college.

Staffing Update

- Increased complexity and time required in managing Covid related issues has staff/faculty stretched thin.
- Short of two Science teachers, currently searching for replacements.
- In need of a permanent substitute that can support remote learners. Alexis' current thinking is that the school needs a long-term substitute who enjoys online instruction and who can be an on-call general substitute in the event that a teacher falls ill.
- Teacher morale described as “generally good” but there is much greater stress on teachers; every teacher recently received a \$200 bonus.
- Professional development and team building resources would be very helpful for preventing the escalation of anxiety and to support employees.
- The pandemic is an opportunity for us to shift how we define student success; Belinda has some resources she will share with Naomi.

Goals for the Year

1. Continue to support the academic and residential/experiential leaders with advice, resources, and needs analysis, to ensure the school continues to operate as smoothly as possible during the Coronavirus pandemic.
2. Support the education team in the analysis and communication of staffing needs.
3. Continue the effort to collect and analyze data related to IB results in order to deepen the board's understanding of student academic achievement and the staff's understanding of areas where additional support or professional development is required.
4. Streamline the committee's reporting process- clear cycle.
5. Continue to clarify indicators of program success in Student Life and measurement/assessment methods

Enrollment and Residential Update

- **First Years-** 93 on campus, 18 remote (1 currently in quarantine, 2 struggling significantly due to internet issues)
- **Second Years-** 107 on campus, 7 remote
- **Remote learners** are checked in with frequently by Alexis and John Carpenter, they report feeling very supported by their teachers
- **Enrollment** was greater than expected so physical space is a problem. As a result many first years did not get the class choices they had requested.
- **Goal** is to end distance learning in January if possible; however, as of now, still committed to serving distance learners
- **Dorms** will be open over Winter Break and students encouraged to stay in the US
- **Experiential education** sessions have been reduced, schedule modified to have more residential activities on weekends and study time built into the day.

IB Results

The college's average IB score is up by 1 point to 34

- Only 4 students did not receive the IB diploma and of these, 2 were disqualified after they did not submit required work.
- Other two retaking: one now, one in May 2021

