

CAIS/CESI NEWSLETTER

ISSUE ONE

2009/2010

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter from the new CAIS/CESI team. It promises to be a busy and productive year as we continue building the foundation for our new organization. I will do my utmost to keep you informed and as always, welcome your participation and input. We will continue to keep you posted but in the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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Academic Best Practices

An exciting new project from CAIS/CESI, *Academic Gems: The Casebook*, will be launched in the new year. This will be a useful tool for all members in your ongoing efforts to make your schools even better. It is a compendium and analysis of effective practices from the CESI standards and offers a real-world casebook of how the standards can be applied to the greatest effect. Spearheaded over a year ago by Jackie Copp, formerly of Balmoral Hall, and Barb Smith, formerly from Sterling Hall, who have done an outstanding job of analyzing data from the past three years encompassing 29 schools, we have the beginning of what will become a series of casebooks based on CESI standards.

We would like to expand the purview of this resource by conducting an online survey of all member schools. I do hope you'll participate by going to "[CAIS/CESI Academic Program Survey](#)."

It's a simple survey that will add valuable data to the book and give us an opportunity to hear from more schools. If you choose to participate, please do so by December 4, 2009.

Accreditation Update

Integrating Accreditation, I.B. and the B.C. Ministry - I am in Vancouver the week of November 15-19 to complete the Meadowridge Review. During that time, Hugh Burke has generously invited all of the BC Heads to observe the Training Workshop and then meet afterwards with him for a debrief. Peter Sturup, Chair of the CAIS/CESI Standards Council, will be there to learn more about the BC Ministry process as well as the IB process.

Meetings will take place with Heads from BC to examine the standards and procedures to avoid duplication with the current CESI standards and procedures. Marta Rogers, Senior Head of School Services with IB, will also join the team from Argentina. Marta works from a global perspective, as part of the School Services team, to review and design processes related to the authorization and evaluation of the IB programmes. Jim McConnell will host a dinner for Heads of full IB schools.

Risk Management

The Bishop Strachan School hosted the National Task Force on Risk Management (International Travel). This group, co-chaired by BSS Head, Deryn Lavell and me, has been working for the past six months to develop a new

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standard to address this issue. We will be sharing the result of this research with you in the spring. Thanks to Louise Melville from St. Clement's for taking the lead on writing the standard and to the following people for all of their time: Ross Cloutier (Thompson Rivers University), Eileen Daunt (Bayview Glen School), Patti MacNicol (Upper Canada College), Rob McGuinness (Appleby College), Scott McLarty (Strathcona-Tweedsmuir), Craig Parkinson (Upper Canada College), Neil Piller (St George's) Andrew Shirkoff (Collingwood), Courtenay Shrimpton (St Andrew's), Paul Smith (formerly Hargraft-Scofield), Sarah Wiley (formerly Shawnigan Lake School).

The Role of e-Learning

Lower Canada College and Selwyn House hosted a conference called, Rethink Refresh IT, and I met with a group to engage in a process of drafting a standard for eLearning.

Thanks to Vince Jansen (LCC) and Brenda Rilling (Selwyn) for their leadership on this initiative, and to the panelists who joined a conversation with Alan November on "Developing student aptitudes that go beyond technology": Mary Anne Ballantyne (BSS), Karen Gazith (McGill University), Lesley Monette (CIS eLearning), Jason Rogers (Rundle College), Chris Shannon (LCC).

Anyone interested in joining a National Task Force to develop this standard is asked to contact me at execdir@cesi.edu.

New Name

Sharon Gregg has been working with her team to help us arrive at consensus on the new name for our organization. I think we can all agree that we may never all agree on such things; however, we are hoping for a commitment to support a decision even if it's not the perfect solution for you. There are as many opinions about this hot topic as there are members, and I have to trust the expertise of the professionals we've hired to deliver a powerful brand strategy that will help our new organization as it launches and long into the future. Sharon will be circulating options for your input after an initial review by the Board on December 4. We plan to have a decision made and begin producing necessary materials by the spring.

Boarding Enrollment Initiative

As you may know, David Hadden (formerly Lakefield College School) chaired a meeting with all Heads and Chairs of boarding schools on Saturday, October 24. At that time, the 30 boarding schools endorsed a two-year pilot project to appoint a Director of eMarketing and Research. All costs will be born by the boarding schools. This initiative responds to the need expressed by our member boarding schools to have much needed support in this key area of their operations. CAIS/CESI can and should play a significant role in expanding our domestic and international presence as a first choice for boarding families. This project will provide the research required to develop the optimum boarding strategy.

Fees

A task force led by Will Mitchell, has been working hard to examine potential fee structures and come up with a plan that will work for everyone. It's a complicated task, and the team is leaving no stone unturned in its efforts to examine

the best possible formula. Many thanks to this group for their time and expertise: Stephen Johnson (SJR), Beth McKay (SAC), David Taylor (KPMG, retired), Ian Robinson (Sterling Hall School), Jim McConnell (Stratford Hall), Jane Ridout (Holy Trinity, retired), Nancy Birt (Strathcona-Tweedsmuir), Paul Duckett (Country Day) and Will Mitchell (CAIS/CESI). Stay tuned for more on this as the team continues its work.

High Tech High

On Wednesday, February 24, the day before the NAIS conference begins in San Francisco, we have arranged for a full-day visit at High Tech High in San Diego, including an hour interview with the Head of School on school change, for a team of ten Heads of School. Please call for more details and to reserve your spot today if you are able to join me.

Strategic Planning

A priority for this year is to complete a thorough strategic planning process and listen to your views on what a valuable national organization should be. The process will begin in January, and we are exploring ways technology can be used to gather information and hold discussions on the future priorities. Contact me anytime with your ideas.

Save the date

The Leadership Institute will be hosted by Branksome Hall on February 20, 2010.

The Student Leadership conference will be hosted by Strathcona-Tweedsmuir on April 14-17, 2010.

The Best Practices conference will be hosted by Crescent School on April 30-May 1, 2010. The theme will be *21st Century Learning: Show me how*. We are looking for the top 30 examples of academic practice that best exemplifies 21st century learning. If you have something to contribute, please contact me.

Heads and Chairs conference will be hosted by St Michaels University School on October 21-24, 2010.

