

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of the June 11, 2009 BASAC/IAC Meeting

- 1) Members attending - Two parent representatives, two faculty representatives, the Principal and Vice Principal, the BAS School Counselor, the USAG Brussels Command Sergeant Major, the School Liaison Officer, the BAS Booster Club President, one faculty member at large, two parents, and the incoming BASAC/IAC parent and faculty representatives.
- 2) The Chairman called the meeting to order at 17:30h.
  - a. New Gym Floor. The Chairman thanked USAG Brussels for funding the renovation of the school gym floor. That project is now complete.
  - b. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Homework. Discussion centered on preparation to monitor homework levels for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in the coming school year. Several parents expressed concerns that previous problems of exceeding homework level guidelines could be repeated next year without active monitoring by teachers and parents. A suggestion was made to incorporate the School Counselor's expertise since he had previously used an informal survey to monitor student's homework level.
    - i. The Principal will send an e-mail encouraging parents to contact teachers directly when appropriate, and will designate the School Counselor as the school's point of contact to develop a holistic picture of 6<sup>th</sup> grade homework level if required. **[OPEN]**
  - c. Cheerleading. Several parents expressed an interest in providing an opportunity for students to participate in school-sponsored cheerleading next year. The largest challenge would be funding for a sponsor and cheerleading uniforms. The cost of purchasing cheerleading uniforms was discussed, as the school administration stated that they no longer had the cheerleading uniforms that were used 6 years ago. A question was raised whether DoDDS would allow the Booster Club to pay for the uniforms, if DoDDS could not, and the administration indicated that this could be a possibility. As cheerleading could potentially take athletes away from the 4 fall sports, it was suggested to look at starting cheerleading in the Winter where there would be far less impact on other sports and would allow the cheerleaders to compete in the D0DDS-E cheerleading competition in February.. The key to moving forward is determining how many students would be interested in participating.
    - i. School staff will determine interest among students at the beginning of next school year (Fall 09) in forming a cheerleading squad for the Winter 09-10 sport season. **[OPEN]**
    - ii. If students express sufficient interest in participation (5 minimum) the school administration will explore funding for a sponsor and cheerleading uniforms. **[OPEN]**
- 3) Principal's Report –

- a. End of School Year. The Principal reviewed the successful completion of the school year.
- b. Construction Update. Construction of the new gym and arts buildings, though delayed somewhat, is still on track for meeting the 420 day construction deadline. Additionally, construction on the school roofs would start this summer.

4) Garrison Commander's Report – The Garrison CSM reported on the following:

- i. USAG Youth Center. This project is scheduled to begin in Nov 09. Discussion centered again this month on the community-wide impact this construction will have, both to USAG summertime sports programs and BAS Fall and Spring sports, caused by the loss of the baseball fields. No suitable alternative has been found.
- ii. Snack Shack. The current “snack shack” will continue to be available through the Fall 09 sports season. USAG Brussels plans to replace the current facility by the Spring '10 season. Discussion between USAG Brussels, BAS officials and BASAC/IAC representatives is needed to finalize the new facility location and capabilities. **[OPEN]**

4) School Liaison Officer's (SLO) Report –

- a. Community Liaison. The SLO addressed recent community concerns about local schooling options. She reviewed the results of a recent community “focus group” meeting with the Isles District Superintendent sponsored by USAG Brussels. She reported progress in addressing specific parental concerns.
- b. Summer Hire Program. Every summer hire applicant (32 total) has been successfully placed in the program. The SLO outlined the structured schedule of activities that should greatly improve this year's summer hire experience for all participants.

5) Old Business

- a. Model UN. The Principal reviewed the DoDDS Europe explanation for canceling future participation in the Hague International Model UN (THIMUN).
  - i. Chairman agreed to write a letter to Isle District Superintendent supporting DoDDS participation in THIMUN. **[OPEN]**
  - ii. USAG Brussels Commander will raise the issue up the chain of command since one of the DoDDS Europe justifications for their decision was a “significant security/force protection concern”. **[OPEN]**

6) New Business

- a. SAT Testing. Parents provided details of problems experienced at recent SAT testing held at the International School of Brussels (ISB). Parking was inadequate, causing

backups in traffic and forcing some students to run to the testing center. Testing began 45 minutes late.

- i. The School Counselor will contact ISB to provide feedback [**OPEN**]
  - ii. The School Counselor will explore the possibility of offering BAS as a future SAT testing site. [**OPEN**]
  - b. National Honor Society (NHS) Selection. Questions were raised about new procedures implemented this year for student selection to NHS.
    - i. The School Counselor will look into the details of this year's procedures and report to BASAC in the coming school year. [**OPEN**]
- 7) CLOSING REMARKS - The meeting adjourned at 18:30h. The next meeting will be in September at the beginning of the new school year.

Secretary