



Spring 2018

## Tri-Association Highlights Spring 2018

As this year comes to a close I want to thank you for your ongoing support of Association activities and wish you a relaxing and safe summer break. In this edition you will find news from around the region and information about a new data protection law (GDPR), which went into effect in the EU countries May 25, 2018. While we still do not know the extent to which this will affect us, it is certain to have implications in the case of student records.

Our Annual Educators' Conference taking place in the Dominican Republic is coming up on September 26-29, 2019. In this edition you will find updates on the conference and the links to online registration and program information. In my recent visit to Carol Morgan, host school for this year, I was inspired by the enthusiasm and efficiency with which the school has taken on the responsibility of hosting our annual event. My deepest appreciation to Rhonda Norris, outgoing Head, and Nicolaas Mostert who is stepping into the position, for taking on the challenge in this transition year.

Congratulations to all the award winners featured in this edition for your leadership and service on behalf of others.

Warm regards,  
**Sonia Keller**



## At a glance

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## School- Based PD

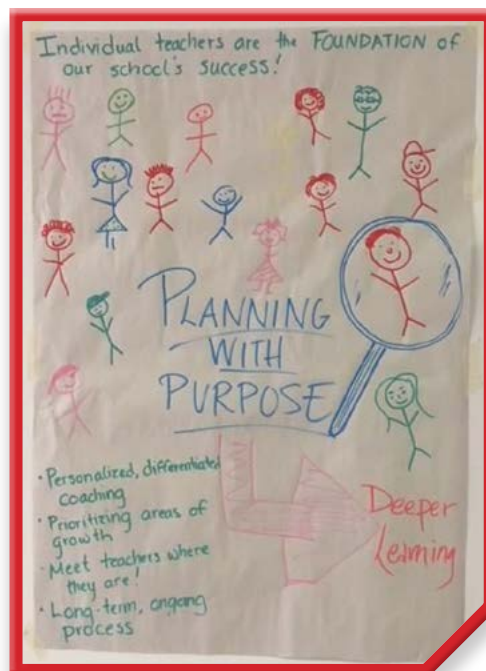
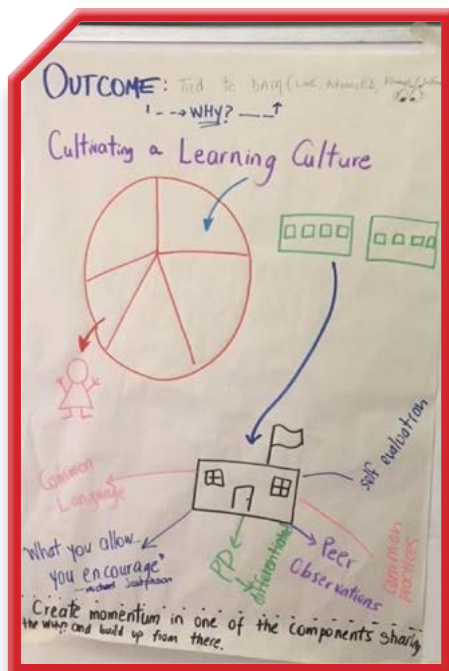
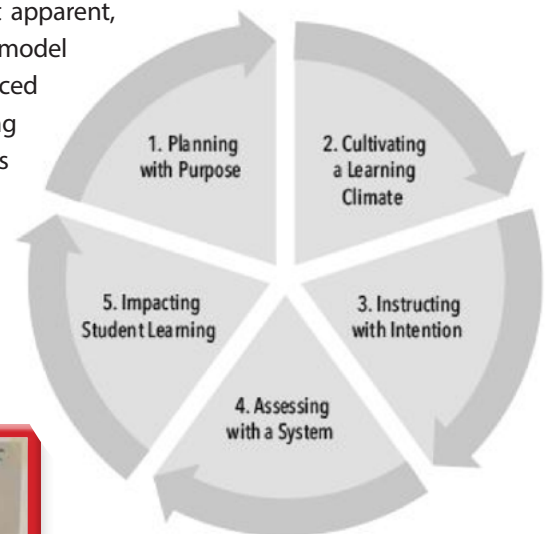
Our support of regional professional learning conferences taking place in your schools continues to grow. This year we supported seven different professional learning events throughout the region that were well attended by staff from other member schools and we will continue with this important initiative as we move forward into 2018-19. Included in this edition are articles covering two of those events. We extend our appreciation to all the schools that hosted and to the Columbus School and American School Foundation/ Mexico City for sharing their experiences through this Newsletter.

### Getting FIT

How FIT are your teaching practices? In April, 37 educators from the region examined this question by attending a two-day workshop, hosted at The Columbus School, with Dr. Douglas Fisher and Aida Allen facilitating their learning. The FIT model focuses on a framework for intentional teaching and has 5 different components:

To complement their learning from the workshop, each participant received a copy of the Book *Intentional and Targeted Teaching: A Framework for Teacher Growth and Leadership*. The book includes a rubric for teachers and administrators to use formatively, as a self-assessment or with peers and coaches. The rubric assessments ranges are: not yet apparent, developing, teaching and leading. Dr. Fisher indicated that he currently uses this model with his staff for both self-assessment and evaluation. Teams from each school practiced using the rubric indicators with a teacher from their school and then role played having conversations with the teacher around the indicators. Additionally, the participants viewed videos of teachers teaching and used the rubric to norm their evaluation.

The two-day conference left participants feeling inspired and ready to use a tool to inform teaching practices, coaching conversations and evaluation. Thank you to the Tri-Association for supporting this event for our educators and to Dr. Fisher and Aida Allen for providing us with this professional learning opportunity.



These are some products of how we will use our learning.



## The Art of Coaching Teams

Last school year ASF hosted the Art of Coaching Workshop which inspired ASF to follow up this year with the Art of Coaching Teams. Both workshops were supported by funding from the Tri-Association. This April, the workshop, which focused on effective team development, was attended by 70 educators from several schools in Mexico, Guatemala and Cuba. Led by Noelle Apostol Colin, it was a practical guide to the challenging task of leading a team. Ms. Colin covered team protocols, from creating purposeful agendas focused on student learning to developing healthy communication, and managing conflict resolution.

Using Elena Aguilar's transformational coaching model, participants had an opportunity to explore and reflect on their own leadership skills. The suggestions for building trust and specific tools to develop the teams' emotional intelligence were invaluable.

Unfortunately many schools do not often have the time to focus on the important work of team development. This workshop allowed the educators involved to intentionally develop skills and practice them using different simulation exercises. Participants learned about creating community agreements, decision-making, as well as many other key practices. The experience was a great opportunity to share strategies and solutions to common issues with educators from different schools in different parts of the world. Participants learned important steps to help them move their teams forward towards accomplishing learning goals when they return to their schools.



Educators walked away excited to test the concrete tools to lead and participate in more effective teams. The plan is for these educators to share these tools and strategies in their own teams and model purposeful and emotionally intelligent meetings. Using these tools and strategies will lead to the improvement of collaboration at each school represented in the workshop. It was clear that the skills and strategies learned will lead to more effective and resilient teams.



From left to right:  
ASF coaches and Art of Coaching Teams' trainer, Karen Schellenberg, Laura Fairbank, Maria Mandolini, Noelle, Apostol Colin (trainer), Mary Cornwell, Joe DeLuca, and Carolina Baez

## Inclusive Education

The push towards more inclusive schools continues to spread as our program finishes its third year since its inception in 2014. Cohorts IV and V started in the Fall of 2017 at the American School Foundation in Mexico City and the American School Foundation of Monterrey. Cohort VI will begin in September 2018 in San José, Costa Rica and will offer a Digital Badge through ASCD and graduate credit through San Diego State University. This last program will be co-hosted by Country Day and Lincoln School. Jack Young, Country Day Elementary Principal and a graduate from the first cohort, played a pivotal role in bringing the program to Costa Rica. Thank you Jack for helping

us create this opportunity! The programs are now co-funded through A/OS grants and participating schools, a partnership that is working well. We are indebted to Lee Ann Jung for her advocacy and resourcefulness, which have resulted in program growth and continued improvement.



*Eagles from the American School Foundation Monterrey*



*Teachers from American School Foundation Mexico City*

## Good-bye to Paul Williams: Friend, Mentor & Colleague

After working at the American School Foundation of Mexico City for over thirty-one years as a teacher, HS Principal and Executive Director, Paul Williams will be retiring at the end of this academic year. Paul served as ASOMEX Director and Tri-Association Board President during his tenure. While in this role, he hosted the Annual Conference in 2013 with a record attendance of over 900 participants. Congratulations to Paul as he begins this new chapter in his life. We are most appreciative for his involvement and support of Association activities.

Read the full article here:

<http://www.tri-association.org/paulwilliams>



*Paul with a teacher and group of students*



# Community Service Award

The recipient of this year's Community Service Award is the American School Foundation of Mexico City for their project "Tianguis", which provides students in Grade Six the opportunity to work with one of the indigenous cultures in Mexico: the Mazahua. The award will be presented to ASF at the Annual Educators' Conference in Santo Domingo.





# TIECARE Global Leadership Award

*The recipient of this year's Global Leadership Award sponsored by TIECARE, is the American School Foundation of Torreon for their project "Sumando Niñas", which empowers and supports girls in underprivileged areas to seek educational opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.*

Once upon a time, not so long ago, not too far away in a blowy, hot, dull town named Torreón. Here were girls in every corner of the city who had been taught that they weren't smart or capable enough to do as much as their brothers...



**CAT Students and Sumando Niñas Participants.**



## Emma Gutierrez Scholarship Award

This past year the ASOMEX Directors created the Emma Gutierrez Scholarship Award to honor the memory of their colleague Emma Gutierrez, who served as the General Director of the American School of Tampico. Emma was a strong believer in the power of continuous improvement and professional development in our schools and worked relentlessly to improve education in our region. Besides ASOMEX, Emma was very active in other professional organizations such as AdvancED, AISH and AAIE. The award supports host country national women who are in educational leadership roles in a Tri-Association School and want to continue their professional learning through a summer program or degree-bearing program. The award will be funded annually by the Association of American Schools in Mexico (ASOMEX).

The first recipient of this award is María de Lourdes García Martínez, or "Lula", as she is affectionately called by her students and colleagues at AST. Lula teaches MS Science at the American School of Tampico where her leadership and influence have transcended the walls of her classroom into the wider Tampico community. Congratulations to Lula and to ATS for this well deserved recognition!

Read the full article here: <https://www.tri-association.org/egaward2018>



## Annual Educators' Conference 2018

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual Educators' Conference in Santo Domingo at the end of September. As many of you know the dates for the conference were changed to adjust to the school calendars that have a break the first week in October, as part of a government mandate. It is my hope that this new date will make it easier for some of you to participate in the conference. We will evaluate this change based on this year in order to make a long- term decision.

The entire conference program is now online. All the links that you need to register are found below. I strongly suggest you ask your school participants to look over the program options carefully in order to plan for a more valuable conference experience. Be reminded you will be able to get the reduced room rate at the Intercontinental through September 1, 2018. To date about 50% of the room block reserved for the conference has been booked.

The Hotel Embajador will also give us rooms at a preferential rate. The reservation link for each hotel is found in the quick links on the left side of the conference page.



Link to the Annual Educator's Conference page:  
<https://www.tri-association.org/triconference>

Link to the school registration form:  
<http://www.tri-association.org/schoolregistration>



**Need  
to  
Know**

GDPR - GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS – GDPR went into effect for all countries in the EU as of May 25, 2018. While the implications for schools in our part of the world are not clear, it is important that you become acquainted with this new law as it will certainly affect the transfer of student records. CEESA (Central & Eastern European Schools Association) has been at the forefront of the effort to support schools through a grant from A/OS. I will provide you with more information as it becomes available, but in the meantime below are two documents you can use to evaluate your school's readiness in this important area.

**Cybersecurity**

<http://www.tri-association.org/newsletterncsc>

**Data Protection**

<http://www.tri-association.org/newslettergdpr>

**Have a wonderful summer!**

## Information Page

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[skeller@tri-association.org](mailto:skeller@tri-association.org)

► **Association Information**

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Executive Director  
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Florence, SC 29501

**Home Office Contact Numbers**

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► **From the Executive Director**

Please send me articles featuring the important work and events taking place in your school!

**Newsletter Submission Deadlines**

- Fall 2018:  
August 30, 2018
- Winter 2018:  
December 1, 2018
- Spring 2019:  
April 1, 2018



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The Association of American Schools of Central America, Colombia, Caribbean & Mexico expresses its gratitude to the following institutions and companies for their sponsorship of the different events and speakers for the 2017 conference:

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The Association of American Schools of Central America, Colombia, Caribbean & Mexico expresses its gratitude to the companies and organizations that are part of our membership.

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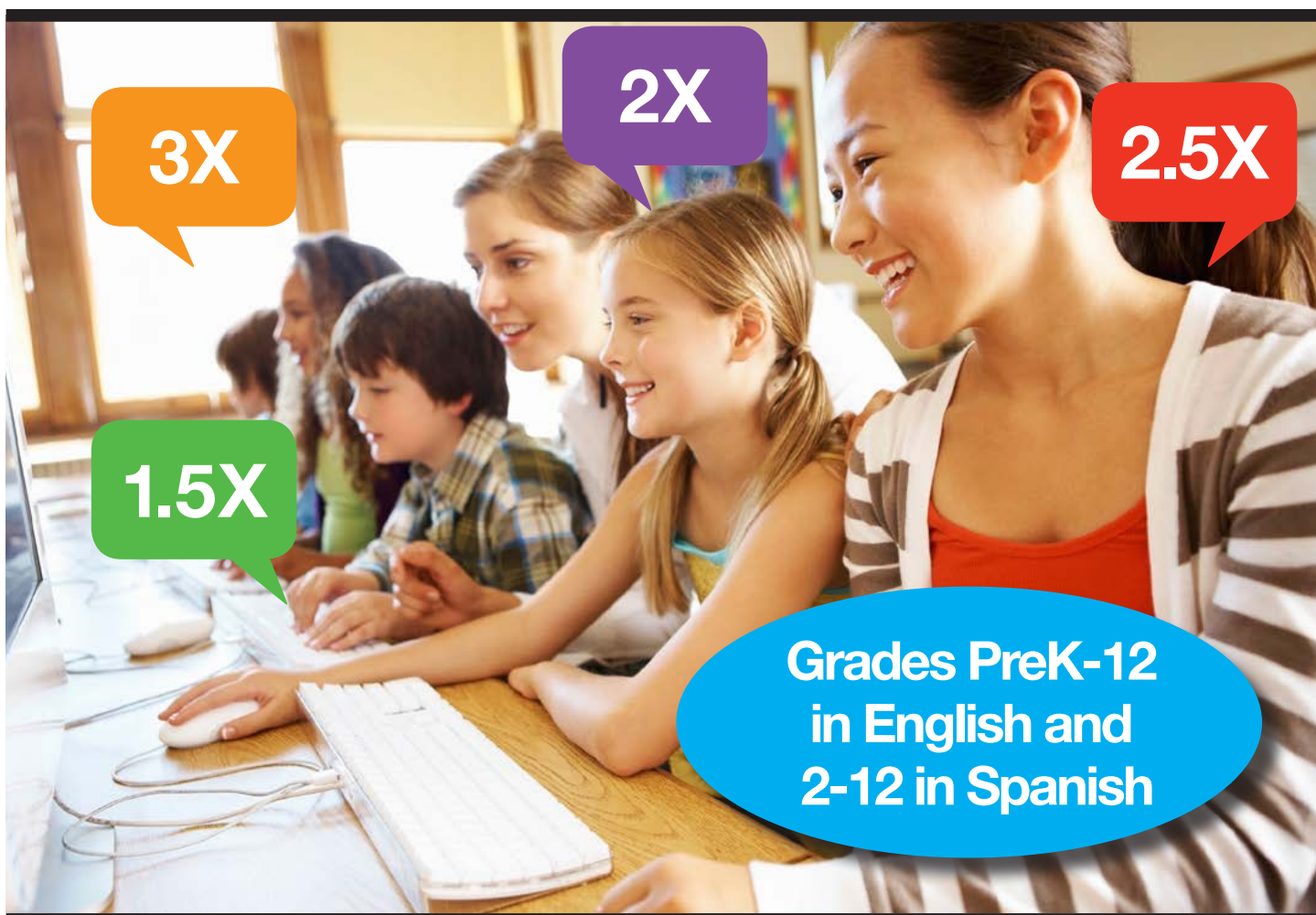
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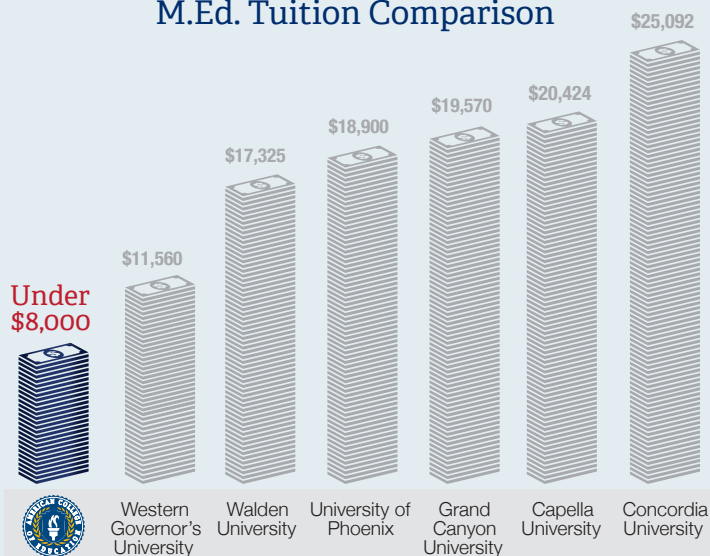
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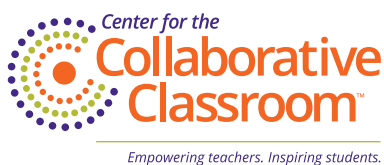
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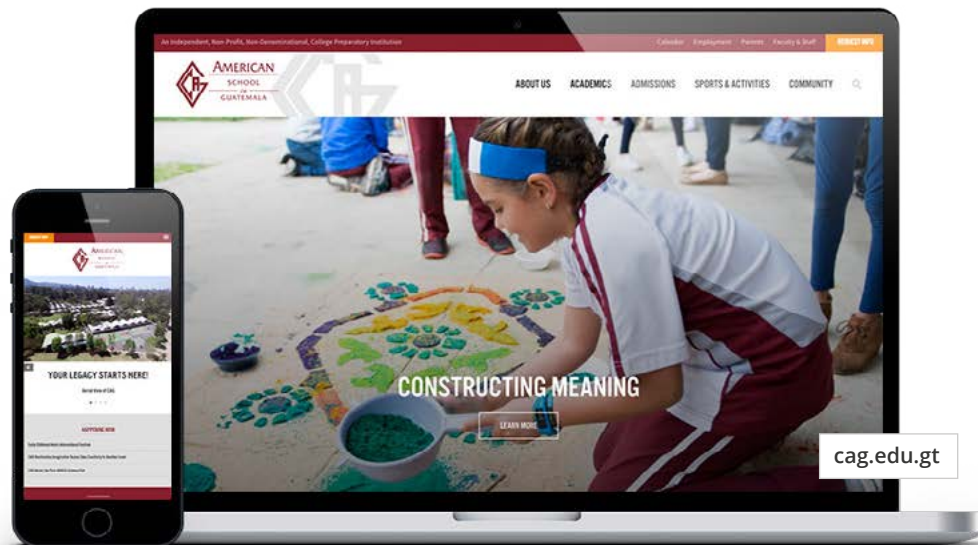
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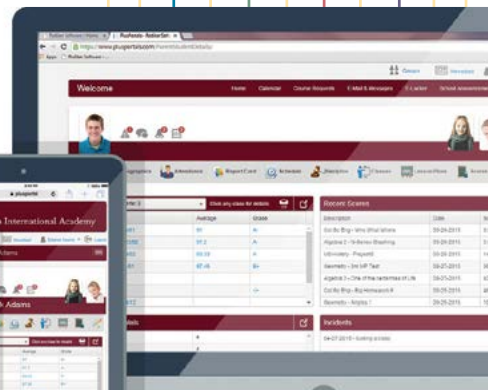
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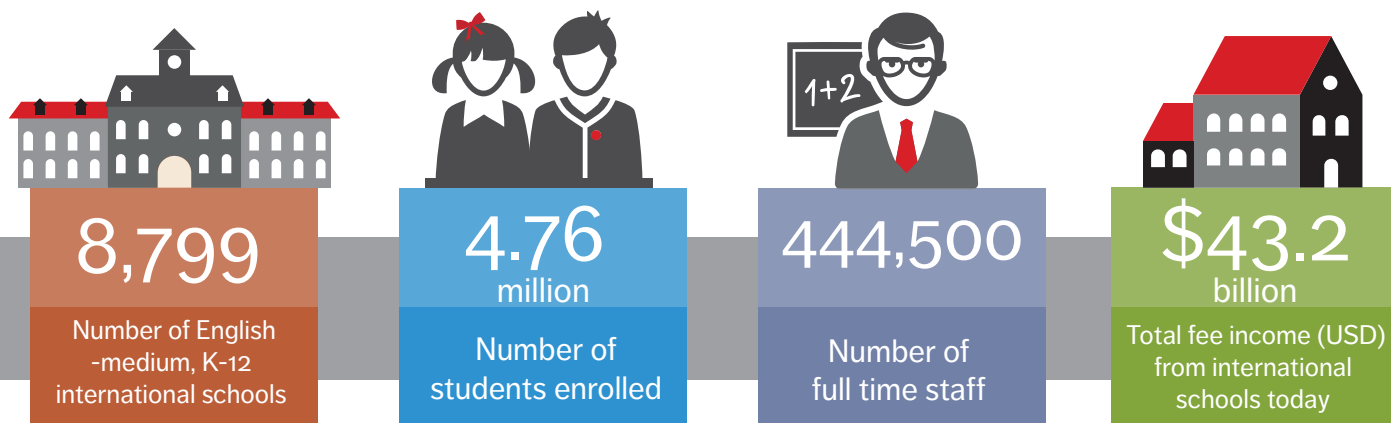
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## Big facts from the international schools market

What does the market look like today?



What are the leading countries for schools right now?



China – 620 schools  
UAE – 596 schools  
Pakistan – 506 schools  
India – 482 schools



And what about for student enrolment?



UAE – 602,800 schools  
Saudi Arabia – 288,370 schools  
China – 256,413 schools  
India – 252,051 schools

How about the market in Latin America?

Latin America's top 5 countries for English-medium K-12 international schools		
Country	International schools	Student enrolment
Mexico	214	93,000
Brazil	198	48,000
Argentina	164	84,000
Colombia	75	46,000
Peru	68	43,000

Latest data from ISC Research from 1st May 2017

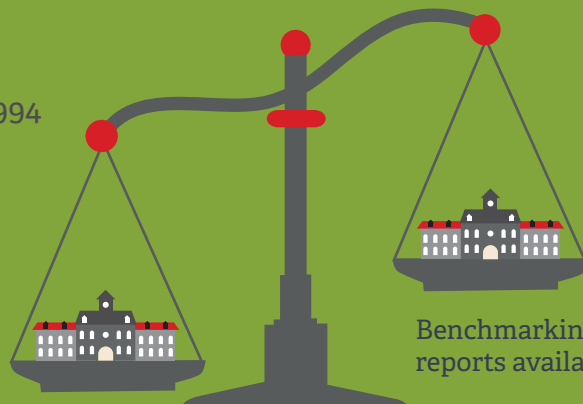


All the latest data and intelligence on the international schools market in Latin America is available in the new Market Intelligence Report for Latin America from ISC Research

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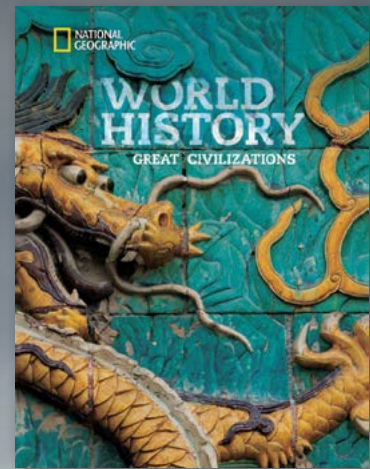
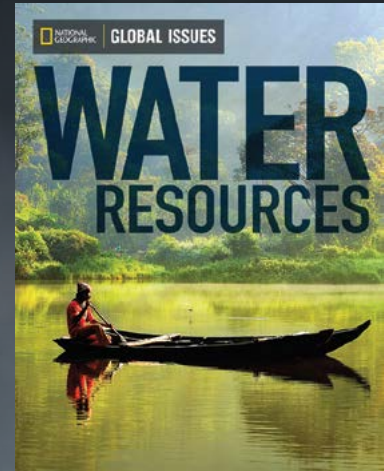
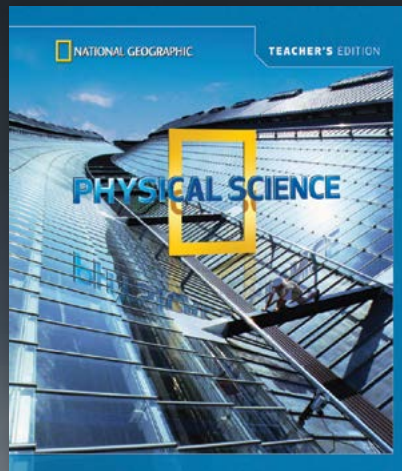
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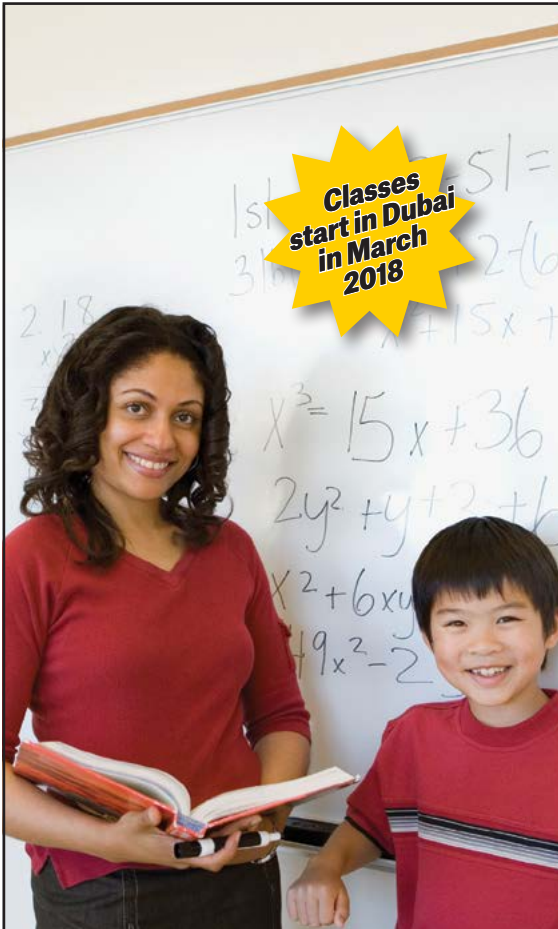
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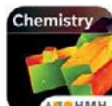
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