

AL NOOR-ABA NEWS

2nd May 2019

Message from the Election Committee

ELECTIONS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 18/19 and 19/20 BOARD

Please bring either your school ID or your Omani Residence Card.

If you were not able to attend the 'Meet the Candidates' presentations, click on the a [video link here](#).

To vote, you will check in with your eldest child's first name, your ID will be checked against your name and then you will receive a ballot. Private booths will be available for you to fill out your ballot and then you will place the ballot in the sealed box.

Do not forget, you can also vote via [proxy](#) through your spouse if you are not available to vote in person. However, you must fill out the proxy form and bring your spouses ID or copy of the ID.

Voting will continue until May 8th at 2.30pm.

The schedule for voting is as follows:

Thursday, 2nd May, 7:00 - 8:00 am and 1:30-2:45 pm
Sunday, 5th May, 7:00 - 8:00 am and 1:30-2:45 pm
Monday, 6th May, 7:00 - 8:00 am and 1:30-2:45 pm
Tuesday, 7th May, 7:00 - 8:00 am and 1:30-2:45 pm
Wednesday, 8th May, 7:00 - 8:00 am am and 1:30-2:30 pm

On Wednesday May 8th, 2019 at 2.30pm, a Ministry of Education representative will be present to open the sealed ballot box and the Election Committee will begin counting the votes in the presence of the Ministry representative. Once the Ministry representative confirms the count, the Election Committee will first inform the candidates followed by an email sent to the community.

The ABA Association is the name given to the entire parent body of ABA. All parents or legal guardians of students at ABA are automatically part of the ABA Association and are eligible to vote.

Election Committee 2019

Upcoming Dates

03 May	Flea Market MPH 3.00 - 5.00 pm
05 - 09 May	Grade 5 Exhibition Upper Foyer
06 May	Ramadan Begins (Tentative)
21 May	Board Meeting Elementary Library 5.00 pm



Building our
community
together!

Vote Today!

- Admin Building

Message from the Superintendent

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Board held the 18.19 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the Performing Arts Center yesterday evening following a presentation by the Election Committee, speeches by the Board candidates and a short session for the start of the voting period.

Parents heard reports from the various Board Committees and from me as well as a short presentation by our auditors, PwC. Mukhtar Hasan spoke about the new MS/HS campus project. This led into the Finance Committee report that was of particular interest to many. After a very short overview of the current year's numbers, representatives of PwC spoke about the work on the school's 17.18 audit, now approved by the Board. PwC fielded a good number of questions from parents about process and outcome. A presentation on Discounted Cash Flow (DCF), the model used with the auditors to assess the value of our project, was then given by Mukhtar Hasan; this was helpful to many. Following this Neel Bharwadji shared information on the feasibility study undertaken by the consultant branch of PwC as well as calculations to show the viability of the project. Lamyia Al Kiyumi, our Board Chair, elaborated on the benefits of the new MS/HS campus, outlining the opportunities for learning and for supporting healthy social and emotional growth. I added that the Elementary School would also benefit with potential new use of space to enhance the learning environment of our students. This was positively received and generated a good discussion about the outlook. To close the evening, Jinane Helou covered the Policy and Planning Committee (PPC) report on the updated policies and by laws passed while I closed the evening with an overview of the academic year through the lens of the School Development Plan.

I left with a feeling that there was general agreement that this had been a good meeting with important points raised and discussed. I'd like to thank everyone who attended for their support and input. I believe that the Board has a good sense of what is needed in order to get agreement for further development.

Simon Taylor - Superintendent

Message from the Elementary School

Ramadan

This year, Ramadan is due to start on or around 6th May, and will continue until the Eid break in early June. In preparation, the school has developed various guidelines for teachers and students, to ensure that we demonstrate appropriate respect at this important time. Teachers will be sharing arrangements with students in due course.

If your child might fast for some or all of Ramadan, we ask you to contact your child's teacher with the following information.

Name of student

Is he/she fasting?

Is he/she able to drink water?

Is he/she able to eat a food/snack if feeling ill or too hungry?

Is he/she able to participate in PE class?

Is he/she able to participate in Swimming?

We will do our best to support your family's expectations for your child throughout this important month.

Children's Writing Competition

Congratulations to Mackenzie Barker in 4S who won the "Best School entry" in this year's Children's Writing competition. Read her piece here:

[My favourite place in Oman.](#)



Class placements for next school year

In the coming weeks, our teachers will be working towards creating balanced class lists for the next school year. Teachers use a system to ensure that gender, language needs, student support needs, academic ability and personalities are as balanced as possible within each class. We also try to consider students' perspectives about relationships with their peers. All the children will have an opportunity to reflect on relationships that help them learn, and teachers will use this information to create classes that take account of friendships.

If you have a concern or request about your child's placement for next year, please note the following:

- Requests for specific teachers cannot be honoured
- Requests to avoid a child being placed with a particular homeroom teacher may, under special circumstances, be considered
- Requests to pair specific children cannot be honoured

If possible, requests to separate children who are known to disrupt each other's learning will be considered. Any requests or concerns that fall into these categories can be made by emailing me directly on scook@abaoman.org by Thursday 30th May.

Sam Cook - Elementary Principal

Message from the Extra Curricular Program

U12 and U13 Boys and Girls Basketball tournament



Strength in numbers. With 126 players in the Middle School Basketball our future basketball program is in good hands. All our teams have trained and played well all season working on their game understanding and isolated skills. The results of the recent tournaments on Monday and Tuesday afternoon truly reflect their season and performances. The Grade 6 boys were tenacious with their rebounds and screens but were unfortunate to lose in their last pool game in the last 10 seconds. The Grade 6 girls played superbly coming second in a well fought final.

On Tuesday it was time for the Grade 7s to shine. The boys maintained their composure throughout the whole tournament as one of the highlight teams. Their patience and courage came through winning a game in overtime against PSO to make the final. The boys came second. ABA hosted the Grade 7 girls tournament and the girls did not waste the home court advantage. They won all their games convincingly and dominated the final with a 19-5 victory.

Some valuable lessons will be taken from these tournament experiences preparing the teams for next year.

MESAC Preseason Volleyball

Below is an extract of an email sent to students regarding volleyball:

Volleyball MESAC preseason training starts in May. These sessions are not mandatory as you are coming into your exam period. Your study and exams are the priority at this time. If you are organised and able to manage your time effectively, below is a list of timings and who can attend the sessions.

Saturday May 4th: 4:00 - 6:00pm (open gym for ABA students only)
Wednesday May 8th: 3:00 - 5:00pm. (Gr 7 - 11 only)
Saturday May 11th: 4:00 - 6:00pm (open gym for ABA students only)
Saturday May 25th: 4:00 - 6:00pm (open gym for ABA students only)
Wednesday May 29th: 3:00 - 5:00pm. (Gr 7 - 11 only)

June schedule to be set at a later date. Remember these sessions are NOT compulsory to attend.

Middle School Badminton

Recreational Badminton for the Middle School starts in the MPH on Monday May 6th from 2:30 - 3:30pm. Students interested in participating in this recreational activity need to go directly to the MPH on Monday May 6th to meet their supervisors.

Paul Brace - Athletics Director

Message from the PTA

The PTA room will not be available from 7.40 AM - 10AM on the 6th of May.

Check the ABA PTA website for updates on all upcoming information.

FLEA MARKET

Flea Market is on 3rd May 2019. This is the last flea market before the summer break! Please contact Evelyn on ptasrep@abaoman.org for your table registration.



Building our community together!

RAMADAN FOOD DRIVE

The Ramadan food drive is back again from 12th until the 30th of May in Admin. We look forward to your generous donations during this month.

Donate non-perishable food items or food boxes that can also be purchased from hypermarkets throughout Muscat. All food will be delivered to either Dar AlAata or Eshraquat Amal Charities here in Oman for immediate delivery to registered families in need.

ABA FLEA MARKET & BAKE SALE

Friday, 3 May 2019
3:00 - 5:00 pm



Table Registration is Open

RO. 7/- Per Table & RO. 3/- Per Clothes Rail

Book & Pay for your table at the
Accounts Office

For further details, contact Evelyn - 95231828



Ramadan Food Drive

Donate nonperishable food items
or the 9 riyal food boxes available at
hypermarkets.

Drop off your donations in Admin
May 12 to 30th

SUMMERTIME EID MARKET

This is the perfect chance for your kids to shop for your families for Eid as well as for all those summer holiday presents you take when visiting abroad. We have sourced wonderful gift items all priced at 1 & 2 Rials only. This will give the children a chance to purchase a wide array of amazing gifts for their loved ones.

Save the date for 20th May 2019 for this first ever Summertime Eid market at school!

OMANI CULINARY EXPERIENCE- IFTAR

May 23rd from 5.30pm to 8pm. Bring your friends and family and come join us in an abaya, dishdasha, jalabiya, comfy pants, in an air conditioned tent, on the floor and with clean hands. This is your chance to experience Omani cuisine the Omani way! Tickets will be sold at Samaiya's desk at Reception starting May 9th - 16th. No tickets at the door.

Ticket prices:

KG - G5: 5 omr.

Middle School - Adults: 7 omr

We can't wait to feed you!

Your PTA - Building our community together!

Message from the Booster Club



Booster boosting the community!

The Booster Club had a busy return from the spring break with hoodie distributions, the last Ice Frenzy fundraisers for the year, a pop-up shop, and the much-anticipated Coaches Appreciation Lunch.

Lots of smiles from the kids at the Ice Frenzy where over 580 ice creams were sold in just over 2 hours! The kids (and many of our teachers) love a cool ice cream on a hot spring day. Lots of smiles too from our coaches and directors attending their special coach's appreciation lunch hosted in the PTA Room. A wonderful selection of hearty and delicious items donated by our ABA community fed our hungry coaching staff. A

HUGE thank you to the community for the scrumptious food and your continued support!

Thank you to the Booster Club committee for their continued time, dedication, and commitment to supporting our kids and our community! Thanks to the PTA for the use of the PTA Room to host the coaches lunch.

Our End of Season POP-UP shop (and last for the year) will be in late May. More details to follow closer to the date. Keep your eye out for dates in the ABA newsletter.

Yours in community spirit – VIPERS Booster Club

