



TRI-ASSOCIATION

Fall 2020

Dear Tri-Association Colleagues,

The 2020-21 is well under way! While we continue to hear the underlying concerns regarding our inability to experience schools "in person", we are also hearing many voices that speak to the notion that our "re-imagined" learning scenarios are actually bearing fruit and opening new paths to teaching and learning. The future is still uncertain, yet our capacity to adapt and create bids us to pick the ripest fruit from this orchard created by the pandemic. Learning, good pedagogy, and community building are still very much alive across our virtual platforms.

I hope you pause to give yourself credit for this amazing journey and how far you have traveled in the last six months. Your courage, collaboration, and resilience inspire me every day and in doing so, commit me to do my best to provide you with the resources that support your work with students.

Regardless of the obstacles that may lie ahead, we have a strong and vibrant community of educators in the Tri-Association and more than ever, we are here for each other.

Always feel free to reach out to us regarding your needs, ideas, and feedback. Our REO, Robin Heslip, the Tri- Association Board of Directors, and I feel it is a unique opportunity and privilege to work with you and the members of your staff.

*Sincerely,
Sonia Keller,
Executive Director*

FALL 2020

At a glance

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- Tri- Association Virtual Professional Learning Offerings
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- Like Giants

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- The World in a Small Town. An International Community
By Victoria Hammond

ONLINE COURSES

NEED TO KNOW

NAIS, EBSCO, NAESP Membership Services

I want to make sure schools are receiving the benefits from these three companies. These are paid for when you pay the Tri-Association dues. Here is a summary of the services offered by each of these three organizations. Let me know if you have any questions.

<http://www.tri-association.org/fall2020naisnaespebsco>

Full description of EBSCO package for Librarians

<http://www.tri-association.org/fall2020ebscopackage>

Tri- Association Virtual Professional Learning Offerings

In response to the needs imposed by the pandemic, we pivoted quickly on our strategic goal of developing online professional learning options for schools. Since March, we have offered multiple courses, webinars, and two or three-part series on a variety of topics. With Robin Heslip's support, I am using A/OS funding to offset the cost of our PD offerings so that these are coming to you free of cost in most cases. I am planning the PD program for second semester and will be asking for specific input through a survey coming out in October. At the end of this issue you will see the Online Program for the Fall. Several of these options are still open and the ones which indicate by **Invitation Only** are customized to meet the specific needs of participating schools so are not open to all.

December Virtual Business Meeting for Tri-Association Directors

This year our December Business Meeting will be held virtually. In keeping with our annual date, the meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. EST**. A zoom invite will be sent to you in November. Please save the date!

Seesaw Bulk Purchase Agreement

If you purchase Seesaw licenses through the Tri-Association you will receive a 10% discount. You can contact me if your school is interested.

Child Protection Policies & Procedures

Please note the following information communicated earlier regarding Child Protection requites for all schools that are part of the Tri-Association Regular and Invitational Membership:

- At our August meeting the Tri-Association Board voted to make Child Protection policies and protocols a requirement for all schools that are part of our Regular and Invitational Membership. This means that every School that is currently part of the Tri-Association will need to have Child Protection Policies and Procedures that are clearly outlined and communicated to all stakeholders.
- In addition to policies and procedures each member school will need to have a School Response Team that is certified by ICMEC in Level I & II Child Protection Training.
- In order to support your schools with these requirements the Tri-Association will be offering Child Protection Training in Level I and II on a continuous basis. This year the training will be held virtually, thus creating an opportunity for many more school teams to join. Under the **Fall Online Learning flyer** you will see the information and registration link for our first cohort in Level I Training which will take place **October 19-22, 2020**.
- Level II Training will take place for schools that have completed Level I; the specific dates will be announced later this month.
- For academic 2020-21 all training in Child Protection will be covered by the Tri-Association A/OS Grant with no cost to the schools.

VOICES & IMAGES THAT INSPIRE

“Like Giants”

September 11, 2020

Staff message written by Kathryn Meyers, Director of Teaching and Learning at the American Nicaraguan School

Dear Team,

Today is a big day. It is the start of a long weekend with the promise of much needed rest and a break from our digital windows to learning. It is September 11th, which rings of difficult days of the past, already 19 years ago, a tragic day in US history (the image below is from a print that commemorates the aftermath of 9/11). It is the end of four full weeks of robust learning in the 2020-21 school year.

We were given an opportunity this year to redefine what it means to be a school. While we are only 4 weeks in, I hope you have taken small moments to marvel at: the new ways you have fostered relationships with students,



StoryPeople, Brian Andreas

VOICES & IMAGES THAT INSPIRE

the ways you have listened to their ideas and pushed them to consider new perspectives and possibilities, the platforms you have given them to showcase their unique, budding talents. We are just 4 weeks in; this year has so much more potential still to it.

Let those other kinds of moments (the power outages, the unopened Nearpods) roll off you like water off a duck's back. Keep making connections, keep believing in the best version of yourselves and your students. It is when you open these windows of learning that you are defining what it means to be a school: the group of caring individuals invested in each other's growth and learning, despite the challenges we are facing.

It is truly an honor to team with each of you in this co-construction of who we are as a school community. On a daily basis, I am humbled by the tremendous opportunities you are creating for students, the logistical problems you are solving, the empathy you are displaying for the myriad challenges our students are facing. Please, take a moment to reflect on the ways you have grown in these 4 weeks and the ways our Community has evolved. There is much still ahead of us, but on this day and over this weekend, don't forget to notice how far we have already come!



We are back!



We're Back! (video)



Dance Your Heart Out! (video)

REGIONAL NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Colegio Decroly Entrepreneur Program

In order to enrich the content delivered in our High School elective course called Application Development for Entrepreneurs, we have special guests visit on Fridays to share their knowledge and expertise with our juniors and seniors interested in becoming entrepreneurs. We thank our two guests Karen Cancinos and Phillip Wilson for their time and dedication.

<https://youtu.be/RAE4Jv6IB8g>

ACCAS NGSS Conference November 3-6, 2020

This event was organized by John Flick (Colegio Nueva Granada) and Britta McCarthy (Columbus School) with the participation of NGSS Teachers and the sponsorship of the Tri-Association. This conference is only for ACCAS Schools, however I encourage this kind of site-based professional learning as it meets the needs of schools involved.

The model can be replicated across the region for other schools interested in NGSS.

Guest Speaker: Paul Anderson



Registration:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSebjQfuj35bD1WkOOyCEuXyeCBPQd09XIfGAJtK0-GGKvspmw/viewform?usp=sf_link

A Warm Welcome to New / Returning Heads of School

AASCA

Audrey Menard / International School of Panama
Gina Llarach / Escuela Internacional Sampedrana
Daniel Allen / Lincoln School, Costa Rica
Jeff Keller (Interim) / American Nicaraguan School

ACCAS

Jorge Ruiz / International School of Sosua
Matt Shannon / Colegio Karl C. Parrish
Marcela Diaz / Asociación Colegio Granadino
Owen Davis / Santiago Christian School

ASOMEX

John Hickey / Colegio Americano de Torreon
Claudia Sicilia Zardain (Interim) / Westhill Institute

REGIONAL NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Resource Kit

Is Learning on Zoom the Same as Learning in Person? Not to Your Brain.

<https://www.edsurge.com/news/2020-09-15-is-learning-on-zoom-the-same-as-in-person-not-to-your-brain>

Sample Hybrid Learning Plans

Note: If you want to see the entire cross section of LD and Hybrid plans that have been developed in schools are the world I encourage you too visit the AAIE ToolBox. Below are two from our region.

American School Foundation of Monterrey HYBRID LEARNING HUB:

<https://www.asfm.edu.mx/academics/hybrid>

American Nicaraguan School TIGER REUNIFICATION PLAN:

<https://anyflip.com/oeeq/yfog/>

WELLNESS: Restoring your Spirit, Body & Mind with Fran Prolman

The first series for teacher leaders was very well received. Below are the links to the manuals that Fran developed for these sessions. The activities can be used individually or with groups and the three articles at the end are excellent.

***Top Leadership Teams can still register for the sessions October 22 & 29.**

<http://www.tri-association.org/files/wellnessdayone>

<http://www.tri-association.org/files/wellnessdaytwo>

NGSS: Teaching Science Remotely with Paul Andersen.

Check out Paul's new website below. You can access his latest work and upcoming workshops. These are quite reasonably priced.

The Learning Spot **<https://www.mylearningspot.org/home>**

8 Leadership Lessons with Indeed CEO, Chris Hyams:

What the CEO of the #1 job search site in the world has learned in the 10 years at the company (as told to Jason Nazar, Entrepreneur Leadership Network).

<https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/355458>

AERO Math Resource Binder:

<http://www.projectaero.org>

Voice Lessons from Jennifer Abrams

Get Up On the Dance Floor Or Maybe Not:

<https://jenniferabrams.com/get-up-on-the-dance-floor-or-maybe-not/>

REGIONAL NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

EMPATHY TO IMPACT

The Tri-Association, Inspire Citizens & Chapters International Invite You To Join The Conversation:

- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- SOCIAL JUSTICE
- COLLECTIVE WELL-BEING
- SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL-ETHICAL INTELLIGENCE

* Scholarships for **Empathy to Impact** interactive webinars below available for Tri-Association regular member schools.

For webinar information contact Steve Sostak **steve@inspirecitizens.org**

For scholarship information contact **skeller@tri-assocation.org**

Meet Steve Sostak through this podcast:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/episode-77-steve-sostak/id1396013834?i=1000468588884>

The promotional graphic features a circular logo for "INSPIRE CITIZENS" in the upper right. The main title "Empathy to Impact" is prominently displayed in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the subtitle "Civic literacies, informed action, applied learning, critical thinking" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. The dates "31ST OCTOBER // 7TH, 14TH, 21ST NOVEMBER" are at the top left. A yellow banner across the middle says "4 WEEK X 2 HOUR INTERACTIVE ONLINE WORKSHOPS". Below this, the times "8AM PDT / 11AM EST / 4PM LON / 5PM ZUR / 7PM DUBAI" are listed. Two video thumbnails are shown: one of Steve Sostak speaking into a microphone labeled "CARE", and one of Kavita Tanna labeled "ABLE". At the bottom, the website "INSPIRECITIZENS.ORG" is displayed next to the "CHAPTERS INTERNATIONAL" logo.

REGIONAL NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Reimagining School Together with ISS CHALLENGES:

What practices should carry forward from online learning?

<http://www.tri-association.org/fall2020isschallenges>



STUDENT VOICES

The World in a Small Town

An International Community

By Victoria Hammond



I have been a student at the International School of Sosua my entire life, and have always heard how lucky I am to be part of such a diverse community. I overlooked what that meant for most of my childhood since it had just been what I was used to; people from all around the world always surrounded me. I took their diversity for granted, and as I got older, I realized how unique our community is.

There are nine different nationalities in a class of seven people, with most people having dual citizenship. This kind of variety allows for diverse perspectives within the classroom, with everyone providing experience from their own personal background. I eventually learned to relish all of these cultures and dialects.

This is what made International Day my favourite part of the school year. Every country represented in our school sets up a table and shares their culture with the community. Music of all forms drifts through the salted breeze, trailed by the smell of home-cooked meals. The air vibrates with activity as everyone excitedly shares their heritage, serving up food with a side of conversation.

Each table is vividly coloured with small trinkets and decorations strewn about their surfaces; covered with small statues and bright flags. Some parents dress in traditional attire; the Spanish moms in flamenco dresses and German dads sporting their best lederhosen. Others wear their country's flag or paint their faces with its colours. On that one day, you can travel the world without ever leaving campus. While our community is small, it has so much to offer. The International School of Sosua truly becomes a mosaic of culture with the colours of every nation shining through it.

While International Day may not be taking place this year our community isn't any less connected. On the contrary, we have never been more united. Throughout this pandemic, we have all realized that we are all going through the same struggles, and with the school's online accommodations those struggles have become a little bit easier. Whether our peers are a couple of thousand miles away or just next door, we will always remain a community.



SEPTEMBER / ONLINE COURSES



No hay mejor momento para ser un(a) educador(a)

Tracey Tokuhama-
Espinosa, Ph.D.



Wellness: Restoring your Spirit, Body, and Mind

Dr. Fran Prolman



Governance: Leading Together

Rick Detwiler



Consortium with Heidi Hayes Jacobs & Allison Zmuda

(*by invitation only)



Formative Assessment with Erma Anderson

(*by invitation only)



The Distance Learning Playbook Webinar

Douglas Fisher, Ph.D.

OCTOBER / ONLINE COURSES



Wellness: Restoring your Spirit, Body, and Mind

Dr. Fran Prolman



Consortium with Heidi Hayes Jacobs & Allison Zmuda

(*by invitation only)



Formative Assessment with Erma Anderson

(*by invitation only)



Child Protection Training for School Response Teams with Laurie Tasharski, Katia Dantas & Dr. Jordan Greenbaum.

CONFERENCE PATRONS

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 our annual conference:

- Office of Overseas School, U.S. State Department
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- Follett
- International School Services
- NAESP
- Search Associates
- TieCare International

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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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Dr. Robin Heslip

Home Office Contact Numbers

1 (843) 799 5754 (Vonage)

Executive Director

Sonia Keller

From the Executive Director

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

Layout / Design

ZTR / Monterrey, Mexico

Send all inquiries and suggestions to the Executive Director at
Sonia Keller
skeller@tri-association.org

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

- Winter 2020:
November 1, 2020
- Spring / Summer 2021:
March 1, 2021

Association Information

Mailing Address

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A New Approach to Learning Outside of the Traditional Classroom

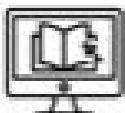


The unprecedented events of recent months have put teaching and learning in the spotlight. How can schools ensure learning continuity through a variety of different distance, hybrid and blended learning approaches?

Many have developed plans that are flexible and will allow them to transition between 100% face-to-face teaching, 100% remote learning, hybrid learning, rotating schedules of face-to-face and remote learning, and sporadic short-term closures (with shifts to remote learning).

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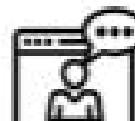
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FREE Samples for Conference Attendees!



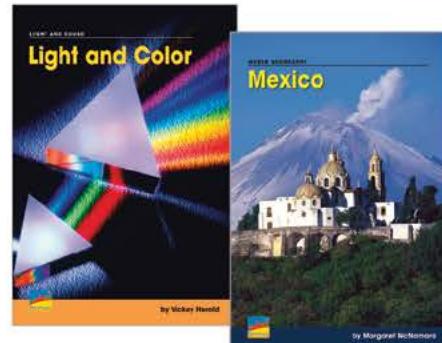
Grades K–6

English and Spanish Reading, Language Arts



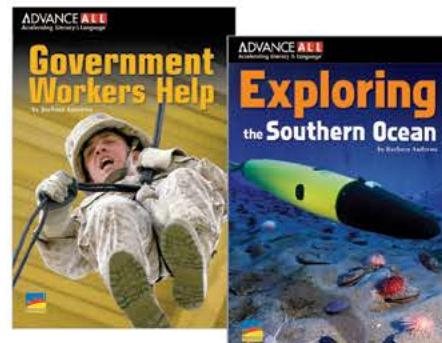
Grades 3–8+

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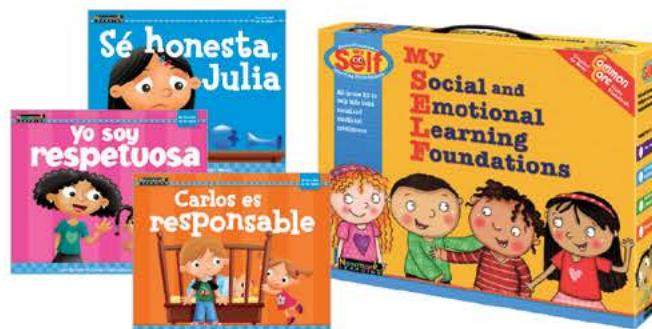
Grades 2–6+

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Grades PreK–1

Social Emotional Learning Foundations



International School Representative: Stephanie Seemann • 305-775-3532 • sseemann@benchmarkeducation.com



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Dr. David Willows, Director of Advancement, The International School of Brussels

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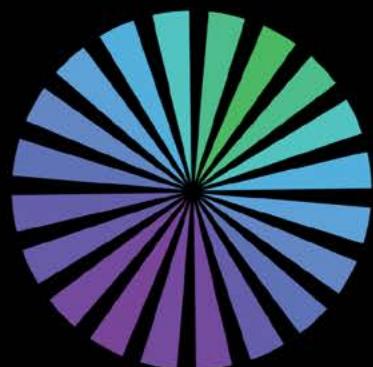
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2019-20 Changes to AP: A Path to Success for All Students



AP® students do college-level work in high school. And if they score a 3 or higher on the exam, they can earn college credit. To help them make the most of this opportunity, we're supporting their teachers with a suite of online tools and introducing new policies for the 2019-20 school year.

More Students Succeed When They Register in the Fall

More than half of schools that offer AP ask students to commit to taking the exam in the fall, boosting their chance of earning a score that translates to college credit. We've seen the benefits firsthand.

New Resources

Students will get personalized feedback through new digital tools that provide daily support for every AP classroom. Their teachers will be able to track their performance throughout the year using an online bank of real AP practice questions and monthly personal progress checks.

Your Student's To-Do List

Here is what students need to do to prepare for the 2019-20 AP school year.

THIS SPRING

- Students sign up for AP classes at school.

BEFORE THE SCHOOL YEAR

- Students visit apstudent.collegeboard.org to learn more about AP courses and exams.
- Students without a College Board account should create one and set their password. They'll need their username and password when their AP classes start in the fall.
- Students who already have an account should make sure they know their username and password.

FALL 2019

- **First week of class:** Teachers will give students a join code for each of their AP classes. Students use their College Board username and password and join code to enroll in their class section.
- **October/November:** Schools submit exam orders.

SPRING 2020

- **March:** Schools submit any changes to their exam order and order exams for students in spring courses.
- **May:** Students take AP Exams.

SUMMER 2020

- **July:** AP Exam scores are released.

Questions? Contact your AP coordinator or AP services for students, or email us at apexams@info.collegeboard.org



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This course is taught off campus to high school students within the US and globally in Asia, Africa, Europe, The Middle East and Latin America.

Take Away

- Learn the process to take your venture idea from ideation to launch. The course has the same framework as the Columbia MBA course “Launch your startup”.
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