



TRI-ASSOCIATION

Winter Highlights

Warm greetings! The first two months of 2021 have been a very productive time in the Tri-Association. I have enjoyed seeing so many educators join our online learning opportunities and look forward to continuing to support your work throughout this semester. I encourage you to visit our website frequently for information about upcoming events and as we get closer to the end of this academic cycle we will turn our focus to our Annual Educators' Conference which will be held virtually this year.

The **Save/Date Flyer for our October 1 - 2, 2021** is already out and is also included in this edition. The theme for this year speaks to our new **CONSTANTS** as we move beyond the pandemic to embrace and re-shape our new teaching and learning scenarios based on lessons learned and a heightened sense of awareness of what is essential for our students.

Our goal is to plan a learning event that will energize you for the work that lies ahead in your post-pandemic school year and to provide opportunities to extend the learning beyond the conference experience. Big idea strands include post-pandemic leadership lenses, wellness, social-emotional learning and sustainability. Networking opportunities and community building will also be featured.

We hope the DL format and the accessible registration price point will enable schools to send large groups of teachers. We are excited at this unique opportunity and encourage you to mark Friday, October 1, 2021 as one of your PD days for next year.

We are close to the one -year milestone of having closed our school doors to give way to online teaching and learning. This gives us the opportunity to pause, reflect, and celebrate the incredible effort, resilience and unconditional commitment shown by educators around the world. In Tri-Association schools you have ramped up your professional learning in order to adjust to the demands placed upon you. The manner in which you are keeping student learning dynamic and relevant while taking care of your school communities is truly remarkable.

WINTER 2021

At a glance

THAT WHICH INSPIRES AND HOLDS US

- Video shared by *Vivian Caldera*, Literacy Coach at the American Nicaraguan School
- Hope is a Discipline by *Jianan Shi*, Executive Director, Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education

NEED TO KNOW

REGIONAL NEWS

- Welcome To Our Membership
- Congratulations to Colegio Interamericano in Guatemala
- The American School Of Puerto Vallarta Celebrated The Holiday Spirit With A Drive Through Parade
- Unmasked

WE ARE PROUD

- Living Through 2020: Highs and Lows by *Maria Alejandra Woo Delgadillo*

WORTH A READ!

- Getting Off The Hamster Wheel: Building Organizational Resilience And Instructional Sustainability For Long-Haul Hybrid by *Dr. Eric Habegger*, Director Colegio Nueva Granada
- Strategies For Transforming Education To Foster Purpose by *Jennifer D. Klein*, Founder & CEO Principled Learning Strategies
- Expanding Circles Of Community: Classroom Partners For An Increasingly Connected World by *Jennifer D. Klein*, Founder & CEO Principled Learning Strategies

STUDENT VOICES

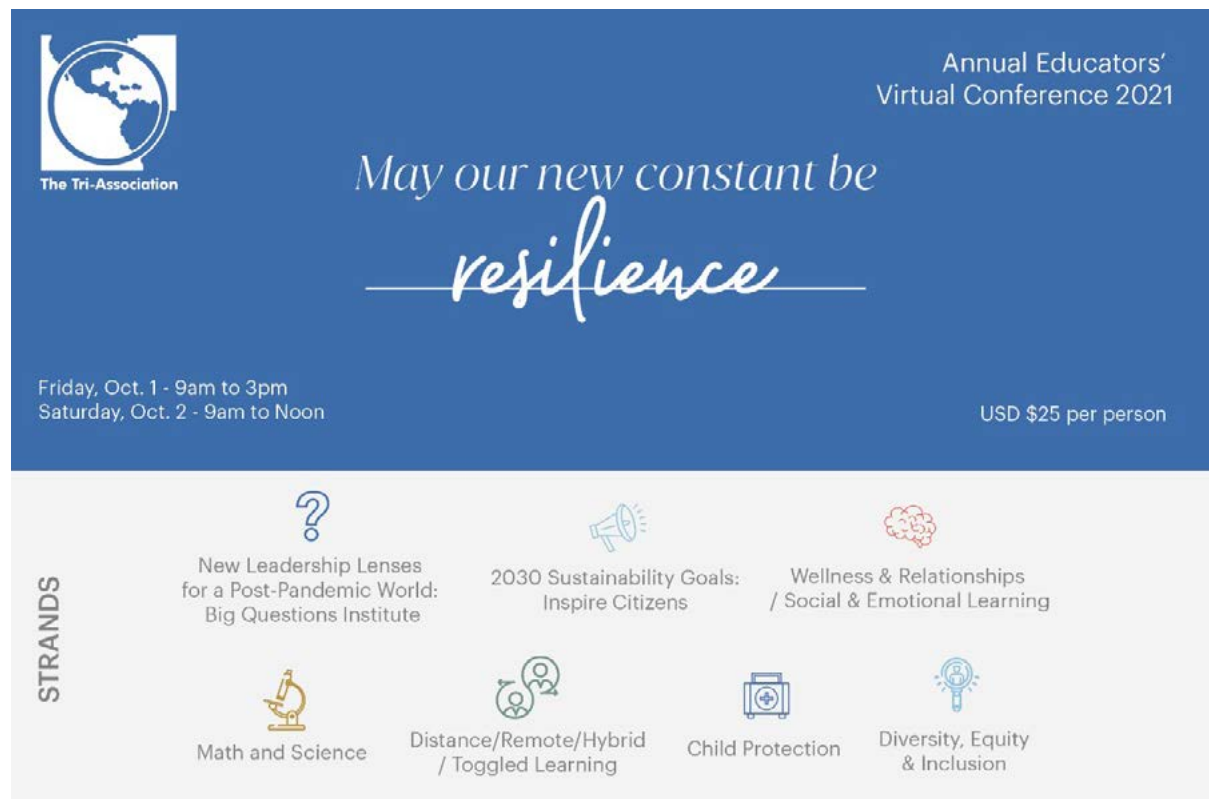
- Podcast by *Abigail Tabanga*

TEACHER VOICES

- Who Killed the Teacher?: Creating Forensic Scientists at Decroly Americano
- It's All In The Packaging by *Graciela Livas*, Learning in Motion Specialist and Ballet Director at the American School Foundation of Monterrey

Your example fills me with hope and inspiration. Below are two pieces that lifted me recently and if they resonate, I hope you will pass them forward!

Warmly,
Sonia Keller,
Executive Director



THAT WHICH INSPIRES AND HOLDS US

The following video was shared by **Vivian Caldera**, Literacy Coach at the American Nicaraguan School.

(One Voice Children's Choir covering "Good Job" by Alicia Keys: A Tribute to Covid-19 Heroes)

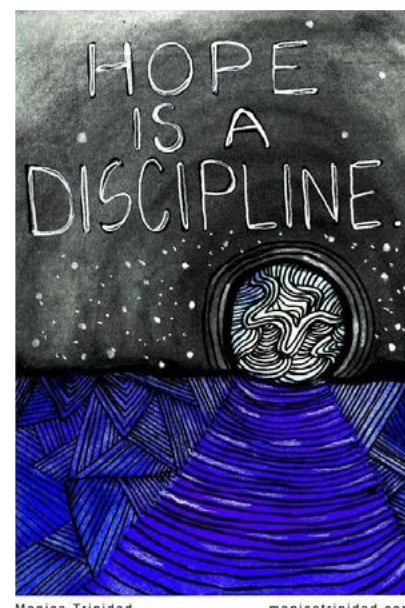
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkDNp4ATCso&feature=youtu.be>

Hope is a Discipline / Community Building and Resources during COVID-19
by **Jianan Shi**, Executive Director, Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education

"During these challenging moments, I often return to the wisdom of Mariame Kaba, a prison abolitionist and freedom fighter. She believes that "hope is a discipline". Hope is something that can be practiced as a habit. If we believe that we are leaders of our own transformation and change, we practice that every day to build the future that works for all of us".

Article:

https://www.ilraiseyourhand.org/hope_is_a_discipline_covid19



Monica Trinidad

monicatrinidad.com

Image by Monica Trinidad

NEED TO KNOW

- The ASOMEX Leadership group is putting a hold on applications for the Emma Gutierrez de Salazar Leadership Award for this academic year. The application process will resume once it is possible for the recipient to be involved in a professional development course in person.
- Applications for the 2021 Global Leadership Award and Community Service Awards will be in your inboxes soon. In this time of crisis, we want to honor those who have led by example and whose service to others has been a source of comfort and inspiration.
- Seesaw Licenses: Be reminded that if you are planning on continuing to use Seesaw you need to renew your licenses through the Tri-Association in order to receive the 10% discount. The renewal date is August 1, 2021.
- Zoom license renewal will take place at the end of June 2021. We will once again be able to cover most of the cost of these licenses for interested regular member schools. We are waiting for the zoom contract and will share the exact terms and breakdown of costs with you once we have the information.
- For our summer 2021 newsletter we would love to share your stories, inspiration and lessons during this year. Please submit your entries by April 1, 2021.
- Our Thursday LATAM Conversations are well attended and continue to provide important information and support to school leaders. I hope you will join our partners at AAIE for their Global Leadership Conversation this April. Check out the SAVE / DATE below.



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AAIE Global Leadership Conversation - April 12 -17, 2021

**OUR SHARED GLOBAL ONLINE LEADERSHIP
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Mark Your Calendars and Check Back Here ... More Details Coming Soon!

Welcome To Our Membership

A warm welcome to Colegio Hebreo Union who just joined the ACCAS / Tri-Association family of schools.

SCHOOL PROFILE

Colegio Hebreo Union is a private school in Barranquilla, Colombia founded by the Jewish Community with the purpose of keeping the values and religious principles of the Jewish tradition. The School believes in the importance of respecting other people's principles and ideas and focuses on personalizing education within an entrepreneurial culture.

Four years ago, Colegio Hebreo Union started to implement a process for continuous improvement through COGNIA and became accredited in 2019. It also has ISO 9001 Certification from Bureau Veritas, which emphasizes the school's commitment to developing better learning opportunities for its students.



REGIONAL NEWS

Congratulations to Colegio Interamericano in Guatemala

Congratulations to Colegio Interamericano in Guatemala on the inauguration of their state-of-the-art technology and innovation INTER-HUB!

THE VISION OF OUR FOUNDERS

Expanding our footprint

1970's



For over 40 years, Colegio Interamericano has been growing our student population in Guatemala city. As such, there was the need to expand learning spaces. Six years ago, *Fundación Educativa Guatemala*, a not for profit foundation created with the objective to contribute to the development of the country through education, came together to lay out the plans known as Project Journey, aptly named to evidence the growth and future plans of Colegio Interamericano.



Today, as we welcome the completion of this Journey, we have to wonder if the Founders had a special gift to foresee the future. There is no better time, than this disruptive time in history, to receive the additional space: social distancing is at the forefront of our minds.



From 9 acres of property and buildings, Interamericano now covers 15.5 acres, and includes 63,308m² of beautiful terraced land divided into five distinct areas: Early Childhood Education, Elementary School, Middle School, High School and Administration. Our campus now encompasses 121 classrooms, eight state of the art science laboratories, two maker spaces, an art wing and purpose built music rooms, five computer labs, a two-story library, an amphitheater and two cafeterias. Among the sport and recreation areas, the school now has a large synthetic soccer field surrounded by built-in stadium seating, two covered basketball and volleyball courts, Early Childhood and Elementary playgrounds and multiple student's common areas. Key to the design of our new building is the numerous outdoor collaborative spaces. We are excited to enjoy the flexible, dynamic learning spaces to support our evolving programs and pedagogy.



The landscape for our students is continuously evolving and to be 'Future Ready' our new building encourages creative, intentional approaches to learning. Each of our divisions will benefit from this project as it allows all to expand their footprint. We know our students, faculty and staff will further strengthen our sense of community with these spaces. Collaboration, team building and fostering relationships are key components to our INTER experience, and our new buildings will ensure these goals are supported. Engaging our parent community is key and we now have the venue to host a variety of parent events. We are excited to have our parents, in all divisions, join us for catalytic conversations, student performances, social events and opportunities to further our relationships in our amazing new spaces.



2020

While our students are not on campus yet, they can see the roof of our stellar INTER - HUB in the Guatemalan horizon. We are eager to return to campus and benefit from the spacious vision of our founders.



REGIONAL NEWS

The American School Of Puerto Vallarta Celebrated The Holiday Spirit With A Drive-Through Parade



UNMASKED

Description & Participation Criteria for ACCAS Schools

<http://www.tri-association.org/n/winter2021unmasked>



UNMASKED

1ST VIRTUAL ACCAS FINE ARTS FESTIVAL



María Alejandra Woo: Margaret Sanders Scholarship Award Recipient from Lincoln International Academy in Managua, Nicaragua

Living Through 2020: Highs and Lows

By: Maria Alejandra Woo Delgadillo

Being selected as a recipient and winner of the 2021 Margaret Sanders Scholarship is a great privilege and honor for me. This recognition demonstrates a long-lasting commitment to the welfare of our community through a balance of scholarship and service. More than just grades and ranks, the award signifies persistence and motivation for creating a positive impact while wrecking the walls of limitation for achieving equal opportunities. Amongst a very talented and brilliant pool of nominees from all around the globe who have made an impact in their surroundings, it is of immense contentment to take part as one of the winners of the scholarship. Being able to represent my school, country, and the Tri-Association is a great honor, one which I will take with me throughout the rest of my life.

As I step out of my school into the post-secondary world, I aspire to continue reflecting on the values which the Margaret Sanders Scholarship stands for. Once I complete my high school studies, my goal is to continue higher studies at college in the United States to prepare myself intellectually while being able to grow as a person, aspiring to positively impact a greater community. I strive to contribute to the social and economic development of my country, Nicaragua, by being an active and compassionate person that will put into practice the knowledge acquired, the experiences lived, and all those innovative strategies. Even though I am immensely proud of coming from such a beautiful country like Nicaragua, it saddens me to see the low living conditions the larger part of the population faces. I believe it is of great importance to grant opportunities for those who have been denied, creating a change that I am committed to taking part in.

Even though I cannot state with certainty where I will be in the next few years, I am confident that during this time, I will prepare myself and take on every opportunity given to become, to a greater extent, part of the much-needed change that my country and the world deserves. I aspire to continue my platform, "**PickNic**," which promotes local entrepreneurs without a cost and



WE ARE PROUD

helps new ones grow through social media, looking for new ways to help the national economy and support those living in financial and social uncertainty.

Nowadays, more than ever, we realize that nothing is set in stone. Living in such extraordinary times such as this one, we have all changed in one way or another as the concept of “normality” has been forced to adjust to the circumstances. Notwithstanding, despite the challenges and obstacles that this pandemic brought, there is one thing that became evident, and that is the importance of gratitude and union. We now appreciate life more, even the little things and moments that may have seemed insignificant at first are the ones that we remember the most today. Maybe our plans changed drastically, maybe things did not turn out the way we wanted, however, these unique experiences have shaped us for becoming the leaders of the future. We are now more compassionate, more tolerant, more humane, and more united than ever, creating history by working together for a more equitable world.



Getting Off The Hamster Wheel: Building Organizational Resilience And Instructional Sustainability For Long-Haul Hybrid

by **Dr. Eric Habegger**, Director Colegio Nueva Granada

* Article written for AAIE and featured in the Briefing

Playing whack-a-mole on a hamster wheel at warp speed — it's the closest way to describe my experience as an international school head this past year as well as those of my colleagues worldwide. In many ways, we have returned to where we originally started as overwhelmed first-year teachers operating only one or two days ahead in our daily lesson planning... Trying to figure it out for the first time in real time with never enough time. Yet let's face the brutal reality that we've been under far greater real-world duress now than then with lives in our communities held in the balance. And it's no game; it's high stakes. So, as we enter our second pandemic school year after giving 110% for 24/7/365 in service to the greater good, I believe that we must begin to grasp these facts and transition away from the notion of the head of school and our respective institutions as preternatural and indefatigable forces of nature. Why? For the simple reason that IT'S NOT SUSTAINABLE.

[Read full article here.](#)

<http://www.tri-association.org/n/winter2021gettingoffhamsterwheel>

Strategies For Transforming Education To Foster Purpose

by **Jennifer D. Klein**, Founder & CEO Principled Learning Strategies

An important conversation with Jennifer Klein about purpose-based classroom experiences as a means to intrinsic and authentic engagement.

<https://www.principledlearning.org/post/strategies-for-transforming-education-to-foster-purpose>

Expanding Circles Of Community: Classroom Partners For An Increasingly Connected World

by **Jennifer D. Klein**, Founder & CEO Principled Learning Strategies

The move to online learning environments has erased the boundaries of our communities leading the way to a more flexible equitable, and global mindset which encourages students to learn globally and act locally.

<https://www.principledlearning.org/post/expanding-circles-of-community>

STUDENT VOICES

Podcast by Abigail Tabanga

Shared with Doug Fisher's permission from one of his sessions on Assessment.

https://www.dropbox.com/s/pu3d1214l8kj47v/Public_Speech.mp4?dl=0x

TEACHER VOICES

Who Killed the Teacher?: Creating Forensic Scientists at Decroly Americano

"Like most math teachers, David Perez, an Integrated Math III teacher at Colegio Decory Americano in Guatemala was finding it hard to engage his students around complex math concepts.

That was until CoVid-19. David used student interest in this kind of data to create a project around an entirely different set of data: Crime Investigation. His students would need a multitude of data and use complex math formulas to solve a heinous crime at the very school he taught at: 'Who Killed the Teacher?'



Learn more about the project below:

<https://transformscool.com/2021/01/31/pbl-covid-case-study-10-who-killed-the-teacher/>

It's All In The Packaging

By **Graciela Livas**, Learning in Motion Specialist and Ballet Director at the American School Foundation of Monterrey / Doctoral Student at Bridges Graduate School of Cognitive Diversity in Education

In our interconnected global community and economy, marketing has taught us that packaging is everything. The desired and even needed product, packaged in the wrong way, will plummet in the markets. Customers will be pushed away from it rather than towards it without giving it a fair chance. Conversely, the right package inspires wonder and awe. It attracts and excites customers. We actively live by this concept day in and day out: marketing and packaging impacts our products, services, activities, and basically our way of life. Does our school system acknowledge and embrace this notion? Have we taken the time, as educators, to evaluate what our packaging is communicating to our students? Have we been vigilant to seek understanding of the individuality of our students and how this packaging might need to be tailored based on their uniqueness? Or is the phrase "packaging is everything" exempt from our classrooms?

Read full article:

<http://www.tri-association.org/n/winter2021allinthepackaging>

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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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Executive Director

Sonia Keller

Layout / Design

ZTR / Monterrey, Mexico

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

Association Information

Mailing Address

Ms. Sonia Keller
Executive Director
2637 Ascot Drive
Florence, SC 29501

From the Executive Director

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

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

- Spring / Summer 2021:
April 1, 2021

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A New Approach to Learning Outside of the Traditional Classroom

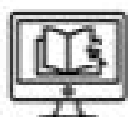


The unprecedented events of recent months have put teaching and learning in the spotlight. How can schools ensure learning continuity through a variety of different distance, hybrid and blended learning approaches?

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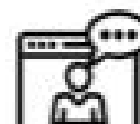
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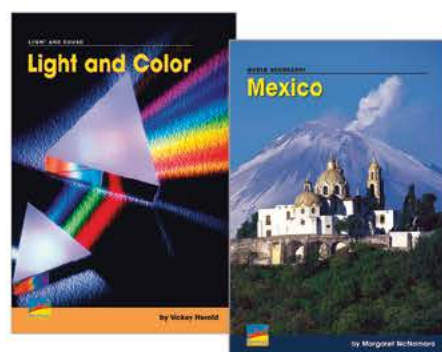
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2019-20 Changes to AP: A Path to Success for All Students



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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Global Entrepreneurship & Leadership Innovation Pre-College Courses

Why?

Are you full of great business ideas? Do you see the possibility of doing things differently or creating a service or product? If so, with this course, you will learn the process to becoming the next great entrepreneur and take your idea from ideation to launch.

What?

Global Entrepreneurship & Leadership Innovation Pre-College Course is a pre-college one week intensive, college level course exposing high school students to the theory and practice of entrepreneurship and innovation. Students are guided through the new venture creation process applied to their own original ideas by Columbia Business School Faculty.

Where?

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”.
- Critical thinking, planning, setting timelines and targets, implementation of “out of the box” ideas.
- Public speaking, leadership, develop an entrepreneurial mind, team building, collaboration and connecting the dots.
- Research driven project viability prepares you for college level work.
- All students receive a certificate of completion.
- A letter of recommendation is given to the students based on their individual performance. The student may request the professor to send the LOR directly on the Common Application or one University of their choice.



Dr. Jack McGourty
Founder & Director
Venture for all CBS, NY



Curriculum

Module 1 : Opportunity

Module 2 : Strategy

Module 3 : Innovation

Module 4 : Leadership

Module 5 : Execution



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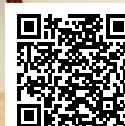
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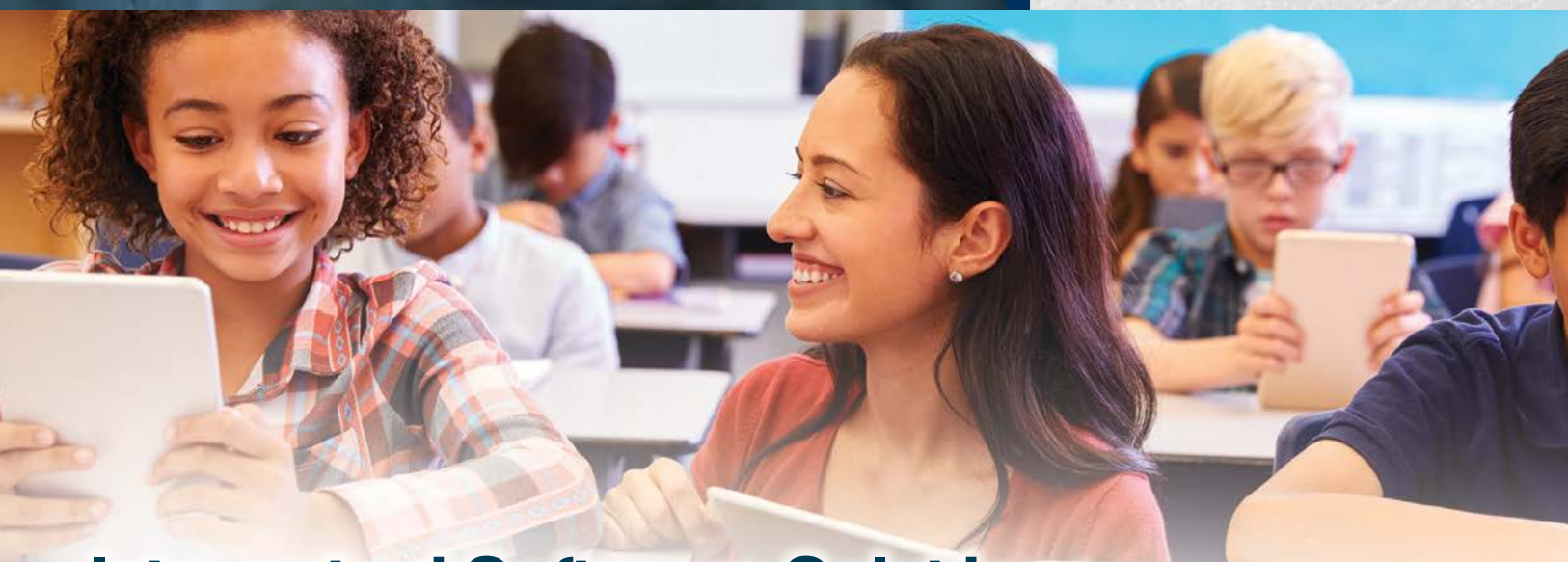
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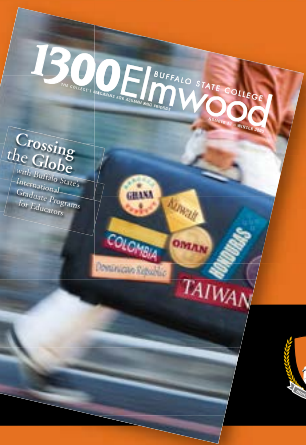
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