

5 February 2021

School Newsletter



Important Dates

February

12 Professional Development for QSI Staff - No School

15 Distance Learning Day (Lessons at home)

17 SO Nominations

26 End of Quintile 3

March

1-5 Literacy Week (tentative)

2 Director Chat (Teams) & PSG Meeting - Online at 7 PM ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

Director's Letter

Dear QSI Families,

We are wrapping up our 4th full week of distance learning. I am visiting digital classrooms and seeing a lot of amazing work from the students. The students are engaged and focused on the lessons created by the teachers. No matter the age, the students are being flexible and adapting to the digital lessons. In addition, I see students relying on components of our Success Orientations. I see younger students practicing Kindness & Politeness by taking turns talking with the teacher and older students practicing their Group Interaction skills by working in breakout rooms via Teams (breakout rooms are additional Teams meeting places so students can work on a group project without the interruption of other students). With the students' hard work and the teachers' creative lessons, the 4th week of distance learning was successful.

Connected to this success, I would like to highlight the parent support during the past 4 weeks. When visiting the digital lessons, I notice the parent support. From making sure technology is operational to

picking up supplies at school, the extra time and energy you put in to support distance learning does not go unnoticed. We appreciate the support you are providing during distance learning. Thank you.

This past week we had our first evening Director Chat and PSG meeting via Microsoft Teams. The Director Chat focused on MAP testing and how the results are used to adjust future lessons and address individual needs for the students. A key reminder about MAP test results is that the individual score is not what is important; we should be looking at the student's growth over time. Another reminder of the MAP test is that it is an adaptive test. This means that the test will adjust the test questions based on your child's performance. I did have a few parents express that they thought a few of the test questions were hard for their child. If this situation occurred, it meant that the adaptive test wanted to try a few higher level questions. The test does not score in "percentages correct"; the test scores on skill level. There is never a penalty for a wrong answer.

During the PSG component of the meeting, a concern was shared about the mental well-being of the students during distance learning. This is a concern that all school communities are discussing and address during the time of COVID. To address this concern, our distance learning schedule has items built into to address this. From Secondary/MS advisory time to late afternoon social games, various "check-in" components are built into the distance learning schedule. As time moves on with distance learning, the above components will be adjusted or changed based on the students needs. For example, the elementary teachers are currently working on a Success Orientation activity for the younger students (more information on the activity will be sent out later). Keeping the students mentally healthy is always included in the school's plans.

Looking towards next week, it looks like on Feb 10th the German government will be meeting to evaluate if the lockdown should be extended. With the number of COVID cases fluctuating and the growing concern of a mutated strain of COVID, it is difficult to predict their final decision for the lockdown. I will share with you possible scenarios the school is preparing for:

- All students are able to return to campus -OR-
- Younger aged students are allowed to attend on campus and older remain in distance learning -OR-
- The lock down is extended longer -OR-

Again, I share these possibilities so the community knows the school is prepared for any decision made on Feb 10th. As I have mentioned before, I will update the community with any new information as soon as I receive specific details from the NRW department of education.

If you have any questions about the above information, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Garner

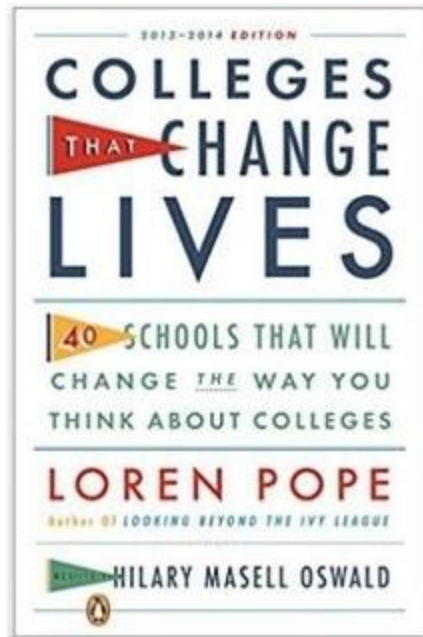
Survey from QSI HQ

Below is a link to a parent survey from QSI HQ. The survey is connected to the Middle States Association (MSA) accreditation process. Having your input on the process is important. If you could, please complete the survey (it is an 11 questions survey).

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=7TdOg7-2-EKAYdkkVDvENykmCVxrsTFAjhwHegqpfX5UNEpTUjBUUktVOVRIUzFDNFUzVUZNR1pUMy4u>

For those new to QSI, MSA is the independent organization that accredits our school. Part of the accreditation process involves the completion of a survey from the community stakeholders. The input from the families is an important component of the process. Thank you for supporting the school by taking the survey.

Suggested Reading: Colleges that Change Lives



INDEPENDENT ENDEAVOR



TRUSTWORTHINESS



CONCERN FOR OTHERS



RESPONSIBILITY



GROUP INTERACTION



KINDNESS & POLITENESS



AESTHETIC APPRECIATION



Parent Support Group (PSG) Contact

The QSI Parent Support Group is available on WhatsApp and Facebook.

WhatsApp: Contact Mrs. Lawes at lauralawes@outlook.com to be added to the WhatsApp group.

Facebook: You can find the PSG Facebook page at the link - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1626025644281325>

Absence Reporting Form

If your child will be absent, please complete the absence form. [Click here for the form.](#)

- we all have the right to be safe
- we can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.

Focus areas

The 2 themes are explored through 4 focus areas:

- the right to be safe
- relationships
- recognizing and reporting abuse
- protective strategies.

Playground Reminder

Please remember that the school playground is not accessible while school is in session between 8:00 AM and 3:45 PM.

QSI Safety Reminders Via Success Orientations



SHOW CONCERN FOR OTHERS



**WEAR A
MASK**



BE RESPONSIBLE



**WASH YOUR
HANDS**

Community Announcements

If you know of any upcoming family friendly activities or events that maybe of interest to our QSI families, please share them and they can be added to this section. NOTE: Any event shared is not connected to QSI.

QSI School Operations During COVID-19:2020-2021

[Click here to access the COVID-19 Operations PDF file.](#)

[Click here for 2020-2021 Parent/Student Informed Consent Letter – Covid19.](#)

You can sign and e-mail to brian-garner@munster.qsi.org. You will be able to sign at school as you drop your child off at the entrance.

Scheduled Appointment on Campus

If you have a scheduled appointment for an "in the building meeting" with Dr. Garner or Ms. Siejen, please make sure to complete the electronic visitor form on our entrance door.

The visitor form is a QR code that can be scanned by your phone. The QR code takes you to an electronic form so you can input your information. If you are new to using a QR code, [click here for a tutorial on scanning a QR code](#). I will also place a link to the form in this QR article. [Click here to access the form without the QR code](#).

Thank you for supporting our contact tracing system.

School Calendar

School Calendar 2020-2021

First Term

First Day	27 August (Thursday)
Last Day:	18 December (Friday)
Holidays:	19 – 26 October (Monday - Monday) Autumn Break 26 – 27 November (Thursday - Friday) Staff Professional Development 21 December – 08 January (3 Week) Winter Break
Quintile 1:	27 August – 15 October
Quintile 2:	16 October – 16 December
Quintile 3:	17 December – 26 February

Number of school days: 74

Second Term

First Day:	11 January (Monday)
Last Day:	26 March (Friday)
Holidays:	12 February (Friday) Staff Professional Development 15 February (Monday) Rosenmontag (online learning day)
Quintile 4:	01 March – 27 April

Number of school days: 54

Third Term

First Day:	29 March (Monday)
Last Day:	24 June (Thursday)
Holidays:	02 – 09 April (Friday – Friday) Spring Break 13 – 14 May (Thursday – Friday) Ascension 24 – 25 May (Monday – Tuesday) Whit Monday 03 – 04 June (Thursday - Friday) Corpus Christi
Quintile 5:	28 April – 24 June

Number of school days: 52

Total Number of School Days: 180
The school week is Monday through Friday.

Stay in Contact

Thank you for selecting QSI International School of Münster and trusting us with your child's education. If you have a question on the curriculum being taught, the curriculum can be viewed at <http://curriculum.qsi.org/>. Should you have a question or concern regarding the content or selected assessments, please reach out to the teacher or the school Director. If you need to contact me, my contact information is below.

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E-mail: brian-garner@qsi.org



1 - Dr. Brian Garner - Director

We proudly subscribe to the following educational services



