

BACK TO SCHOOL



United Nations International School



FALL 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear UNIS Community,

As is always the case at the beginning of each year, it is energizing to see our campuses buzzing with enthusiasm. As we conclude our first month of school the enthusiasm continues. Our halls and classrooms are filled with students and we have also been able to welcome back parents, alumni, and members of the greater UNIS community after nearly a year and a half of only virtual interactions. Our athletic programs are thriving as are our many extracurricular activities, and field trips.

Last year taught us many things including that we must remain vigilant with our testing protocols to keep the community safe. But it also taught us that we can incorporate distant learning in ways we might have only dreamed of prior to the pandemic.

Our greatest priority today is to provide all UNIS students with the opportunity to learn in person. We have administered nearly 3600 tests since the beginning of the school year with only two positive results. It is a testament that our protocols are working and that there is no spread of the virus on the UNIS campus.

In this edition of our magazine you will find a welcome letter from the Chair of our Board of Trustees, information on the Board, a bit of an insight into each division, and many smiling faces! I hope you enjoy it and look forward to seeing many of you throughout the school year on the UNIS campus!

Best,

Dan





MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dear members of the UNIS community,

On behalf of the whole Board of Trustees, I would like to welcome you back to UNIS for the new school year. More than ever before, this year will require adjustments and new protocols to get used to, but we are all excited to know that the halls of UNIS are again filled with voices, movement, conversation and learning.

I am very pleased to introduce our new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for UNIS, Ms. Lisa Buttenheim. Currently serving as Assistant Secretary-General for Support Operations in the UN Secretariat, Ms. Buttenheim has a career spanning over 35 years in the UN, having served at both Headquarters and in the field. She is deeply committed to the ideals and principles of the UN, and I am confident she will be an asset to UNIS and the Board.

We are also delighted to welcome four new trustees to the Board: Mauricio Barberi, Bruno Lazard, Etienne Locoh and Roser Salavert. I encourage you to read more about their background on the UNIS website, under "Governance" [unis.org/about-unis/governance].

As is customary, the Board "kicked off" the school year with a Retreat, a time for joint reflection and re-commitment. We were reminded of the purpose and role of the Board: to look at the longer-term goals and ensure that the School stays true to its mission for future generations. In this vein, we continue to examine the long-term financial sustainability of UNIS, with a view to keeping tuition manageable, particularly for UN families. An overall review of the financial picture is also being done in the context of preparing for the Capital Plan, which, as I mentioned in my June message, has huge strategic importance for UNIS to excel in future years.

I congratulate all members of the UNIS community – faculty, staff, students, parents, and of course the Administration – for the flexibility, perseverance, and commitment you have shown in what has been extraordinarily challenging times. With the reopening now successfully behind us, I wish you a rewarding and joyful school year ahead!

Sincerely,

Catherine Pollard
Chair, UNIS Board of Trustees

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the fulfillment of the mission of UNIS and for policies relating to the conduct and management of the affairs of the School. Members of the Board are appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Board is composed of eighteen Trustees. The School also recognizes members of the UNIS Community, the United Nations and the Member States and Observers of the United Nations as Honorary Trustees of UNIS.

Catherine Pollard,
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Lisa Bутtenheim,
Special Representative of
the Secretary-General for UNIS

Ambassador Dr. Mohamed Al-Hassan,
Trustee

Agnes Bamuwamye,
Co-Chair of the Health & Safety
Committee

Mauricio Barberi,
Trustee

Maaïke de Langen,
Trustee

Pierre Alexandre de Looz,
Chair of the Buildings, Grounds &
Security Committee

Lena Dissin,
Secretary of the Board

Felipe Dorregaray,
Vice-Chair

Caryn Groce,
Vice-Chair

Fernando Gutierrez Eddy,
Chair of Advancement Committee

Bruno Lazard,
Trustee

Alla Liberman,
Treasurer and Chair of
Finance & Audit Committee

Etienne Locoh,
Trustee

Stephen Margetts,
Chair of Strategic Planning Committee

Roberto Pagan,
Trustee

Roser Salavert,
Chair of Academic Policy Committee

Udai Tambar,
Vice-Chair and Co-Chair of the
Health & Safety Committee

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

We are happy to welcome five new members to the Board of Trustees. As mentioned by Ms. Pollard in her welcome message, the Board has "kicked off" for the 2021-2022 school year.



Lisa Buttenheim



Etienne Locoh



Mauricio Barberi



Roser Salavert



Bruno Lazard

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The First Day of School is always one of our favorites of the year. All of UNIS buzzes with excitement. Please enjoy these First Day moments from both campuses.



MANHATTAN



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

QUEENS



COVID PROTOCOLS



Mask Policy

All individuals must wear a mask at all times while on campus, regardless of vaccination status.

Masks may be removed while eating and drinking, and distancing occurs.



Learning Model

If you have opted-in for remote learning for your student, there is a commitment to stay through the end of the marking period.

Students may not go back and forth between remote and in-person learning, with the exception of students who are in quarantine due to contact tracing.

On Nov. 1st, Jan. 24th, and April 11th, students may return to in-person learning.



Vaccinations

All UNIS faculty and staff are vaccinated.

Any adults who enter campus must be vaccinated.

Eligible students (ages 12+) are recommended to get vaccinated, however at this time we have not mandated the vaccine for our student population. This is subject to change.



COVID Testing

UNIS continues to pool test our faculty, staff, and student populations.

A portion of the community will be tested weekly.

Schedules and more information are sent from our Director of Security, Ernest Lentini (elentini@unis.org) or our Director of Nursing, Marissa Rivera (mriviera@unis.org).

If we identify a positive case, contact tracing will occur and individuals may have to quarantine.

Per NY State Guidelines a close contact in schools is now defined for students as being less than 3 feet from a person who tested positive, who was also not masked.

This rule does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting as they should continue to socially distance 6 feet apart from students whenever possible.

COVID PROTOCOLS CONTINUED

For more UNIS protocols,
please visit:
unis.org/covid-protocols



UNIS Domestic Travel Requirements

Quarantine periods for domestic travelers entering the state are no longer required. However, if you are symptomatic you must follow the CDC recommendations seen below:

- Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
 - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
 - If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

UNIS International Travel Requirements

For the **fully Vaccinated**:

- No quarantine necessary if asymptomatic
- Must get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

For Unvaccinated:

- Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
 - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
 - If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

NEW FACULTY & STAFF!



Amer Abu-Houran
Tutorial House, Mathematics



Giovanna DiPolo
Teaching Assistant



Ana Belen Ares de Francisco
Modern Language Department,
Spanish



Nathan Estep
Junior School, Permanent Substitute



Michael Arnon
Middle School, Permanent
Substitute



Amy Flindt
Tutorial House, Science



Paulina Bemporad
Junior School, Homeroom



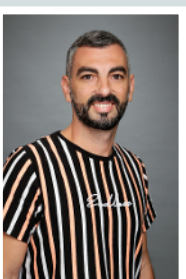
Ljubinka Kampanellaris
Junior School, Permanent Substitute



Shardae Bonaparte
College Office, Administrative
Assistant



Daniel Longoria
Economics & Humanities

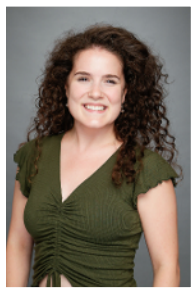


Enrique Carrion Campos
Modern Language Department,
Spanish



Laura Ann Longoria
Tutorial House, Mathematics

NEW FACULTY & STAFF!



Madeline McBroom
Queens, Musical/Theater



Jaya Ramchandani
Tutorial House, Science



Sinead Murray
Middle School Math, Science &
Advisory



Megan Roberts
Middle School Learning Specialist



Junko Nishimoto
Modern Language Department,
Japanese



Megha Sharma
Middle School, Mathematics &
Advisory



Barbara Peabody
School Nurse



James Whyte
Queens, Physical Education &
Health



Heather Phan
Middle School, Science

Amilcar Barnett, Physical Education

Simon Bell , Tutorial House, IB Theatre & English

Daniel Falcone, Queens, Middle School, Humanities

Nehad Soliman, Junior School, French

Justine Szarek, Queens, French & Spanish

THE RETURN OF A WEEK WITHOUT WALLS

Last week, our Tutorial House was able to successfully complete their Week without Walls. Despite some unexpected weather, our students were engaged and enjoyed time outside the classroom.

T1s went to Camp Mariah where they enjoyed games, challenges, and bonding activities.

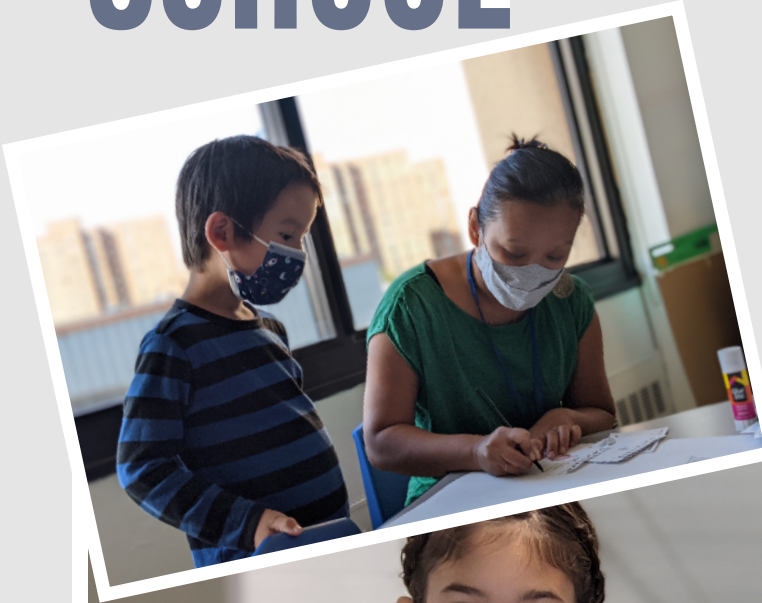
T2s canoed across the Delaware River Gap, spending time with one another on the water while improving their canoeing skills.

T3s and T4 stayed on campus for a series of IB Bonding activities. T4s shared their wisdom and experience with T3s, and both grades followed a series of mini workshops. Afterwards, T4s headed to Club Getaway for more bonding and various challenge activities.



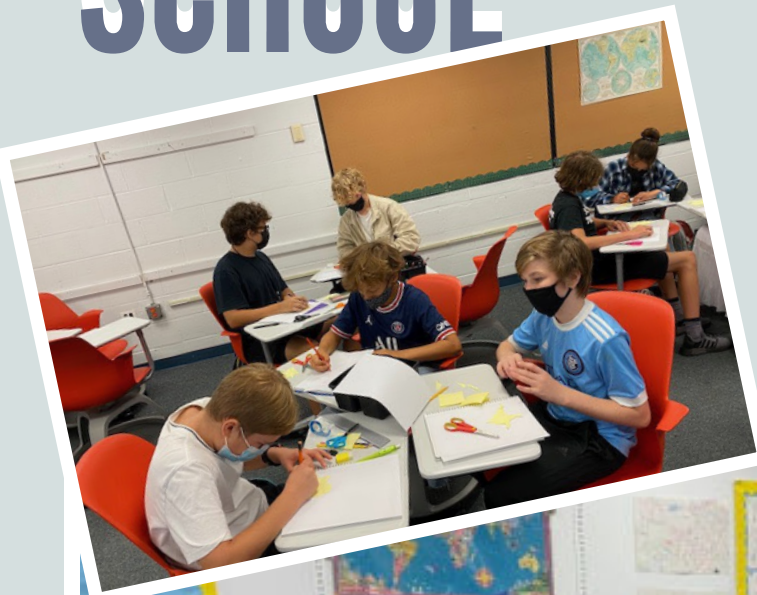
A LOOK INTO THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Our youngest learners are excited to be back in school and are already back in the swing of things! During their first assembly of the year, our newest students were introduced to the IB Learner Profiles, while returning students were reacquainted with the profiles. Each week, the Junior School reflects on one Learner Profile.



A LOOK INTO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School is bustling with excitement. Students have participated in Climate Week NYC, learned about how books unite us during Banned Books week, and are currently celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. Students are enjoying STEM challenges, creating artwork, and moving during their PE classes.



A LOOK INTO THE QUEENS CAMPUS

During our second week of school, the Queens Campus exhibited their flexibility and resiliency once more as the campus was affected by the heavy storm a few weeks ago. That has not slowed our students down. All are hard at work, and have even created a new Student Council and have begun working together with faculty.



A LOOK INTO THE TUTORIAL HOUSE

As always, our Tutorial House students have jumped right back into their academics and extracurriculars. Students and advisors are finding safe and creative ways to enjoy experiences outside the classroom, including a T2 Trip to The Public's Shakespeare in the Park for "Black Theatre Night." We love to see our students creating, thinking, and leading throughout and outside of campus.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 22

UN Day Celebration at UNIS

Sunday, October 24

UN Day

Monday, October 25

UN Day Observed - UNIS Closed

Tuesday, October 26- Friday, October, 29

October Break, No Classes

November 10 - 12

Parent- Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 24 - Friday November 26

Thanksgiving Break - UNIS Closed

NEED TO CONTACT A PRINCIPAL?

Junior School: Pascal Vallet

pvallet@unis.org | (212) 584-3061

Middle School: Elaine Kelly

ekelly@unis.org | (212) 584-3014

Tutorial House: Antoine Delaitre

adelaitre@unis.org | (212) 584-3148

Queens: Barbara Kennedy

bkenney@unis.org | (212) 584-3106



UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



UNIS MAGAZINE, FALL 2021

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