Director’s Message

Dear Panamericano Parents,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you as we commence our 47th school year. We look forward to greeting all of our students, both old and new, when classes commence on Tuesday, August 17th.

We made great progress on our construction project over the summer months. The administrative building was demolished and offices have been temporarily relocated to our new preschool classrooms. Construction of Phase II has started and we hope to have it complete before Semana Santa. Please note that our old front entrance is no longer in service. The new entrance (for children and parents arriving by foot, no cars or taxis please) is being finished and will be ready before the end of August.

Throughout 2010-11, we will continue to pursue our shared vision of developing socially responsible, adaptable, life-long learners and leaders capable of passionately pursuing their dreams. The 2010-2015 Strategic Plan will continue to guide our continuous improvement efforts. Feedback from our June survey to parents reinforced the need for coordinated efforts to target improvements in the areas of Transportation, Food Services, and Sports. Furthermore, our teaching faculty will continue to work on strengthening Language Arts, Mathematics, Values, and Critical Thinking via our School Improvement Plans.

Colegio Panamericano’s faculty and staff are the true heart and soul of our school. They are the ones who breathe life into our facilities and motivate our students to reach their highest potential. Teachers returned during the first week of August, and have been working diligently on continued professional development activities. Your children will soon experience the positive outcome of these efforts that will result in a very motivating and exciting year of learning.

Steven Desroches
CP Director
NUEVOS DOCENTES Y PERSONAL ADMINISTRATIVO 2010-2011

Damos la bienvenida a los nuevos docentes y personal administrativo que nos acompañarán en el periodo escolar 2010-2011.

Pre-School

Angela Ayala
Preschool English Language Arts PS

Juan Pablo Carreño
P.E Teacher K2-3°

Elementary

Courtney Ives
2B Homeroom Teacher

Alba Clemencia Morales
2A Classroom Assistant

Carol Juliana Hurtado
1B Classroom Assistant

Marissa Hutter
2A Homeroom Teacher

Christina Richardson
4B Homeroom Teacher

Shirley Suárez
Lower Elementary Spanish
Sonia Milena Romero  
Upper Elementary Spanish  

Jovany Saavedra  
P.E. Elementary Teacher  
4º-5º  

Student Services:  

Mónica Zafra Lizarralde  
Elementary and HS Support Teacher  

Lucy Garnica Mayorga  
Preschool Counselor  

Clara Mora Sierra  
MS/HS Counselor  

Mariela Rojas  
Preschool Support Teacher  

Elicenia Bermúdez  
Preschool Support Teacher
MS/HS:

Raúl García  
Physics 11°/12°

Cheryl Steenson  
English Language Arts 11°/12°

Jack Larkin  
Math 7°/8°

Carlos Leal  
Math 9° & Biology 10°

Michelle Drake  
English Language Arts 9°/10°

Administrative:

Diego Andrés Muñoz  
Aux. de Tecnologia

Junior Barrera  
Aux. de Mantenimiento

Gustavo Alberto Martínez  
Aux. de Mantenimiento

Edgar Espitia  
Athletic Director
Bienvenida a los Directores Atléticos SACS

El pasado martes contamos con la visita de los Directores Atléticos de los colegios SACS de Colombia y Ecuador quienes han venido con el objetivo principal de revisar la sede de los próximos Juegos Binacionales de Middle School a realizarse en nuestro colegio en marzo de 2011. El evento constará con aproximadamente la participación de 900 atletas.
El jueves 12 de agosto se llevó a cabo la inducción para los nuevos estudiantes de 1° a 12° y sus familias. Se realizaron diferentes actividades para lograr un mejor desenvolvimiento y adaptación a nuestra comunidad.

Bienvenidos a su nueva familia panamericana.

Departamento de Consejería
During the 2009-10 school year, Colegio Panamericano successfully established our first ever Pre-School, Elementary, and Middle/High School Parent Councils. Parents were elected from each classroom, two per grade level, during the August Open Houses.

In total, we worked with 32 parents throughout the year by meeting with each of the three councils each trimester. Some of the important initiatives that resulted from their work were the creation of a Communication Flowchart; a Community Feedback Survey; the idea of creating an Alumni Association; integration activities for families at each grade level; representation on our Evaluation & Promotion Committee and Discipline Committee; ideas and suggestions for improving student well-being; welcoming our new teachers and staff on their first day; analysis of standardized test results (ICFES & MAP); and providing us with feedback on our changes to Evaluation and Promotion. Their time, energy, and dedication truly help make our school a better experience for our children.

The Parent Council works with the director, principal, and counselor to build effective partnerships between home and school. The Parent Council can advise the director and principal on policy issues and incidents that may require a review of school policy, e.g. Bullying, Safety, Homework, Enrollment, Behaviour problems etc. The Parent Council is not a forum for complaint against either an individual teacher or parent - channels of communications should be followed for addressing those issues. The Parent Council can work with Counselors to invite speakers to address parents on issues, which are relevant to student well being. The following are the official functions of our Council:

- Provide feedback on parent initiatives
- Support improvement of channels of communication at school
- Promote sense of belonging & community awareness among parents
- Serve on Discipline Committee
- Serve on Evaluation & Promotion Committee
- Suggest policy
- Suggest programs

New elections will be held during the Pre-School Open House on August 19th, the Elementary Open House on August 24th, and the Middle/High School Open House on August 31st. I encourage all parents to participate by either representing your classroom or by voting for a candidate. Together we can make a difference.

Steven Desroches
CP Director
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Esperamos retroalimentación del servicio de restaurante y cafetería por parte de todas las familias al correo: food@panamericano.edu.co