

Letter to the ASA Community from Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Dr. Habegger, ASA Staff, Students, Parents, Search Committee, and School Board,

It is a great honor to have been selected as your Director General beginning in July 2010. Thank you. Ann and I are pleased and excited to be joining the ASA family. When we came to ASA roughly two weeks ago, we were immediately impressed by the level of professionalism and excellence that was in evidence as we visited classrooms and met with staff, parents and students.

Clearly ASA is an excellent world-class school where the school community has a deep affection for and dedication to its students; and, a school that is dedicated to continuous improvement. Whether speaking with administrators, operations staff, teachers or students it was obvious to me that there is a positive momentum in moving to the next level of excellence. On reflecting about the visit to ASA and the conversations I had with so many of you, I am convinced that you are giving practical meaning to the school's mission and vision of *Developing, Respecting and Excelling*. I congratulate Dr. Habegger and you.

As with all child-centered excellent schools, there is always an effort to continue to grow and improve in ways that prepare for the future while honoring and celebrating the accomplishments of the past. You have my full commitment that I will support you and lead in ways that will continue to move ASA forward. You have every reason to be proud of your accomplishments. I am proud to be your designated Director General.

Ann and I wish you well in the months ahead. Dr. Habegger has graciously offered to assist me in making a smooth transition to ASA. I thank him for that.

With my and Ann's best regards.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rob Beck

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An opportunity to say, "Thank you"

At the end of the year, ASA holds a Staff Holiday party for all of its personnel. This year, the event will be held on Friday, December 4th. One of the highlights of the evening is a special raffle. Our goal is to have something for everyone. There are 160 employees at ASA: teachers, aides, coaches, secretaries, cleaning staff, maintenance and security staff members who work daily at ASA to provide education and services that make the difference of our students. Donations for our raffle would be most appreciated.

Please contact Silvana in the Director's Office if you wish to donate an item for the raffle. It will be most appreciated. Thank you.

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid application form for the second semester 2009-2010 school year is available in the Director General's Office. Applications must be returned by Monday, December 14th with the requested information and documentation attached. Applicants must:

- Be in Grade 6 or above
- Have a grade average of B or above (GPA 3.0 or more)
- Have a good social behavior and no serious infraction of school rules
- Demonstrate financial aid need.

ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED IS CONFIDENTIAL

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Paraguayan Studies Department

As an effort to reach an agreement on standardized tests for Spanish and Paraguayan History in High School (10th to 12th grades) a meeting with Directors General of Asunción high schools took place. Should the project be carried out, we would obtain data-results oriented to make informed decisions (in curriculum, instruction, and evaluation), and performance comparison. Directors of Goethe, Saint Anne's, Internacional, Santa Teresa de Jesús, and Cristo Rey participated in these meetings.

Through these meetings we shared and worked on ideas to strengthen academic initiatives and projects. Following these meetings, we scheduled a work session to advance a shared agenda in which a standardized evaluation will be one of the points to agree.

With these actions, linked to our institutional relationship with directors and representatives from MEC, and also directors of Universidad Nacional and Universidad Católica, we aim at improving our relationships as well as collecting data for the development of pedagogical actions that enhance our academic work. This process brings reciprocal benefits.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, or you want to share information or suggestions to strengthen this action line, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr. Rodrigo Colmán

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Sports

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We would like to thank all of our elementary parents for supporting last Saturday's soccer game with Colegio Cristo Rey. We scheduled this event very carefully and confirmed the participation and schedule with the organizers from Colegio Cristo Rey on many different occasions. Unfortunately, very few students from Colegio Cristo Rey came to play last Saturday, and many of our ASA students had to play games against their classmates. Due to the difficulties we experienced last weekend, our game against Colegio Cristo Rey for this Saturday, November 21, 2009 to take place at Colegio Cristo Rey has been canceled. Thank you for understanding and support of our after-school sports program.

BIG 8 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

These are the results of ASA games so far, en the Big 8 Tournament:

Monday November 16th

Girls Soccer: ASA 4 x 0 EARJ

Boys Soccer: ASA 3 x1 EARJ

Girls Basketball: ASA 48 x 44 EARJ

Boys Basketball: ASA 43 x 39 EARJ

Tuesday November 17th

Girls Soccer: ASA 2 (3) x 2 (1) EAC

Boys Soccer: ASA 2 x 1 EAC

November Early Dismissal

Please be advised that this Friday, November 20th students are dismissed at 12:00 noon due to the Professional Day for faculty and staff. Please, remember to pick up your children on time. There will be no extra-curricular activities

Thanksgiving Break

Please, remember that Thursday and Friday, November 26th and 27th is Thanksgiving Break. Classes will resume on Monday, November 30th.

Elementary

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TALENT SHOW: Please do not miss our Elementary Talent Show which will be held this Friday, November 20th at 7:00 p.m. on the elementary covered court. Our students will delight us with their singing, dancing, and other talents. See you on Friday night!

HEAD LICE: The warm summer months are nearly here, and we usually have more cases of head lice in the elementary school. Please be sure to check your children each day at home, and if your child is infested with head lice, please begin treatment immediately. It is also very important to inform the school so we can check other students in the grade. The symptoms for lice manifestation are: a tickling feeling of something moving in the hair, itching, irritability and difficulty sleeping.

LOST JACKET: If you have seen a light blue suit jacket (size 12), please return it to Ms. Mirian Gimenez in the elementary office. The jacket was left on the bleachers near the outdoor volleyball courts the day before Halloween.

HALF-DAY THIS FRIDAY: This Friday, November, 20th is a half day. Dismissal is at 12:00 p.m.

FREE DRESS DAY: This Friday, November 20th is a free dress day. Elementary students are free to come to school out of dress code.

MAP TEST RESULTS: If you did not attend last Tuesday's MAP Test Parent meeting, please see Ms. Ingrid Tonsmann in the Elementary Guidance Office to receive a copy of your child's MAP test results.

ASA CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS: The following students were selected by their classmates as excellent examples of Taking care of Yourself, Taking Care of Others, and Taking Care of ASA:

Second Grade: Anna Zuccolillo, Isabelle Minosso, Valeria Plaza, and Alejandro Lizarralde

Third Grade: Natalia Lee, Ezequiel Giménez, Marcelo Gómez, and Macarena Martínez

Fourth Grade: Yamina Chen, Macarena Pick, Ma. Emilia Escudero, and Arturo Daniel

Fifth Grade: Mariano Brugada, Ricardo Carrizosa, Maria Castorino, and Alessandra Casabianca.

Middle School

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SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS WANTED: REQUEST II After last week's appeal for potential substitutes, we had one brave soul volunteer. I would like to take one more run at adding to our sub list, so here goes:

From time to time, we find ourselves in need of a substitute teacher for our little slice of heaven in the ASA Middle School. If you like children this age, have the patience of job, and can find humor in most anything, you probably have the makings of a great middle school substitute teacher. If you find yourself the least bit interested in this possibility, come on in and let's talk about adding you to our substitute list!

LATEST MAP RESULTS: On Tuesday morning, we had a parent meeting to report the latest school-wide MAP results and gave out individual student reports to parents. We still have a significant number of student reports still waiting to be picked up by parents. If you would like that information, please stop by the middle school office to get it.

CHOSEN ONES FOR SELECTED CHARACTER TRAITS

RESPECT: Grade 7: Carolina Muñoz, Joaquin Brugada, Martin Oveido, Luis Ma. Aveiro, Miguel Dominguez **Grade 8:** Sebastián Corina and Carlos Ayala

TOLERANCE: Grade 7: Luis Ma. Aveiro

PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION: Please bear in mind that as we approach the Christmas break, there will be a fair amount of information coming your way, both within this newsletter, various emails and the Middle School Matters online newsletter. Please stop by and see Mirtha in the middle school office if your contact information is not current.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Nov 18	Coffee with the Principal
Nov 20	Students released at noon; ½ Day Staff Development
Nov 26-27	Thanksgiving Holiday, No School

Bob Imholt

High School

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BIG 8 TOURNAMENT RESULTS: Please make sure you look at the results of the BIG 8 Tournament in Brazil and see pictures of the Gators in action! You can take a look at them if you click on the NR icon in the home page of the ASA website. Go Gators!!

COMMUNITY SERVICE THIS WEEK: The High School will have Community Service Day THIS Friday, November 20th. Remember, that Friday, November 20th is also early dismissal. Please pick up your children by 12:00 noon. All students are expected to participate.

LOST AND FOUND: Please come in and check out the lost and found for any missing items that your child may have lost. At this time of year we traditionally donate any unclaimed and non-labeled items. Please note that any items not claimed by December 16th will be donated. Thank you.

HIGH SCHOOL CONCERTS: Every Choir, Band and Strings student from HS will be participating in the Annual Spring Concerts. The concert will be held in the MPR on the following dates: Wednesday, Dec. 2nd (Strings and Guitar groups) and Thursday, Dec. 3rd (Band and Choir groups). Both concerts will take place from 7:00 p.m to 8:30 p.m. Students should be at the school wearing their Gala uniform for the previa at 6.30 p.m. in order to tune their musical instruments. We would like to remind you as well that this concert is an important component in the evaluation of the students. It represents the 20% of the student's final grade in music. Our students have been getting ready to share their work with their parents and family. Please show your support by attending the concert. Thanks.

Dr. Steven Nilhas