



## DIRECTOR GENERAL

### Making a Difference in Promoting "ASA Spirit" in the Future

As we complete this first semester and get ready to enter the holiday season, we should take a few moments to look back and celebrate the many accomplishments of our students and school to this point. The "ASA Spirit" has been alive and well this year starting with the memorable PTA banner – Together We Can Make a Difference – that has served as our major theme this year starting from the back-to-school picnic. We have seen this spirit in our students as they have reached all-time school highs in performance on standardized tests. We have seen it in the big increase in number of students participating in our after-school sports program and our first-time-ever Rancho three-peat! We have seen it in our service-learning projects including the recent "Un techo para mi Pais" community building event. From our students to our teachers to our parents to our Board members, everyone has demonstrated this amazing "ASA Spirit" of making our school a better place each day.

In an effort to highlight the many major accomplishments achieved by our school and community every quarter, the school will be initiating the ASA SPIRIT magazine in March 2010. Each issue will contain articles highlighting student activities at every school level, our activities and sports program, major objectives achieved by our Board of Directors, academic achievements, alumni news, service-learning projects, and many other areas where we can proudly celebrate our efforts to make a difference in working and learning together.

We are pleased to announce that Agencia Andrada will be publishing our ASA Spirit Magazine. In order to provide more pages in the magazine to highlight our students and program, we will be providing advertising space within the pages of the publication. If any school family or company is interested in supporting ASA Spirit by advertising in the March edition, please contact Mr. Luigi Andrada at 229-028 or [luigi@agenciaandrada.com.py](mailto:luigi@agenciaandrada.com.py) to reserve your advertising space.

In closing, thank you for your support of student learning this year and for all the ways that your "ASA Spirit" has helped improve our school. Best wishes to our entire ASA community this holiday season.

*Dr. Eric Habegger*

## ELEMENTARY

☎ 603-518 / 600-479 Ext. 117  
[elemsec@asa.edu.py](mailto:elemsec@asa.edu.py)

**WATER DAY:** Our Water Day was a great success, and we would like to thank Mr. Kensinger, our elementary teachers, and the PTA for a great event.

**LOST AND FOUND:** We have a large number of items in our lost and found locker. Please be sure to come and check the lost and found if you are missing any of your child's items. Items that are not claimed will be donated.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS:** We would like to wish all of our ASA families a happy and safe Holiday Season. We had a wonderful semester full of fun and learning. In addition, we would like to thank our room mothers and the PTA for their tremendous support throughout the first semester.

Please come back rested and ready to go for the second semester. Classes will begin again on Monday, February 15, 2010.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Mighty Middle School Parents,

As we approach the end of the first semester and near the beginning of our long summer break, I wanted to thank you for a great first term. We are seeing tremendous growth in our middle school students academically, socially, and emotionally. Our partnership with you makes achieving that progress easier. Enjoy the break, as we will continue to challenge them when they return in February. Merry Christmas, everyone!

**Report Cards:** Semester 1 Report Cards can be obtained in the middle school office from 8 am – 2 pm on Friday, December 18. You may also view those grades online through RenWeb that day.

**Semester 1 Academic Awards Ceremony:** As we did last year, an informal student only assembly will be held at a Town Hall meeting early second semester to recognize those earning Honor Roll in Quarters 1 and 2. A much more formal ceremony involving the greater community will be conducted at the end of the school year.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

*Bob Imholt*

## PARAGUAYAN STUDIES PROGRAM

We have shared with you during the past two semesters information regarding strengths, weaknesses, action plan and concrete actions taken to satisfy the continuous improvement plan of the Paraguayan Program.

The plan for this school year, as a summary and reminder, is the following:

1. Curriculum revision regarding MEC's last adjustments.
2. Survey that measures the average of satisfaction and compiling of suggestions for 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. In addition, we will look at former students' opinions regarding the program including the class of 2008 and 2009. Note: the survey for 2009 promotion alumni will take place on the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.
3. Advanced placement for ASA alumni in Universidad Católica admission courses.
4. External evaluation according to the admission procedures to Spanish Language and Paraguayan history. This evaluation is for students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. It is related to Universidad Nacional de Asunción access evaluations.
5. Parents, Students and Community Handbooks revision.
6. Curricular and staff reorganization in Middle and High School Guarani subject.
7. Professional Development and Evaluation process.
8. Visit from directors and technicians from MEC to review our curriculum, instructional and evaluation at ASA.

As you noticed in previous editions of this bulletin, there were many steps taken to creating and implementing this plan. In the case of those which are still pending we will continue putting effort in the next semester to finalize them. In the case of those steps that are longer term, we will be working them over a period of several years.

We wish to thank you for your support in this process. You helped us with your information, your questions and suggestions. You are truly our educational partners in our shared mission of providing a quality education to all ASA students. I would like to as you, when possible, to express your gratitude to the teachers of your sons and daughters for their hard work and dedication this semester. We count on your support as you know that you can count us to work hard to continue to improve.

We wish you happy holidays before we meet again next semester.

*Rodrigo Colmán*

## HIGH SCHOOL

**Have a happy, restful and safe vacation!!** This semester, as our program continued to grow stronger, our students' academic accomplishments were also greater. Progress does not come easy, and I want to thank parents, teachers and students for the hard work and support. I wish you happy holidays and best wishes for 2010! Dr. Nilhas.

**Honor Roll Assembly:** this year we will hold an assembly to recognize students earning Honor Roll in Quarters 1 and 2 at the beginning of the second semester, in February. We feel that the environment at the beginning of the semester is more appropriate to recognize our students' accomplishments and encourage others to strive for excellence. During the first week of School in February, we will notify about the date and place to students and parents of those students who will be honored for their achievement. We hope this notification will allow and encourage parents to attend the assembly to honor student achievement.

**Quarter 2 Report Cards:** Report Cards will be available to be picked up by parents as of December 18, 2009.

*Dr. Steven Nilhas*

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## SPORTS

**PARENTS:** The vaccination cards that were required for Rancho are kept in the Athletics Department, please come and pick them up.

**UNIFORMS:** The Soccer and Basket uniforms request has been sent to Saltarin Rojo. They will done by next semester.

**INTERCOLEGIAL ASA 2010:** With great enthusiasm, we are preparing for the Intercolegial ASA 2010 that will take place on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

28th and March 5th—7th. Many schools have already confirmed their participation.

**LOST AND FOUND:** We would like to inform you that lost-and-found objects in the PE office are jackets, tee-shirts, and sweatshirts. These items were found in the courts left behind by students. Please stop by to claim items now because they will be donated after the end of the semester.

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## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2010-2011

Attached to this bulletin you will find our 2010-2011 school calendar approved by the Board of Directors. We hope you find this helpful to schedule holidays for our next school year.

## OFFICE SUMMER SCHEDULE

School Offices will be closed from Wednesday, December 22nd, 2009 at noon through Monday, January 22nd, 2010. School offices will resume their activities on Tuesday, January 26th, 2010.

*Office summer time is from 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.*



# ASA - The American School of Asunción

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2010

JULY						
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## 2010-2011

### FIRST SEMESTER

- Jul. 15 New Teachers Arrive
- Jul. 26 Returning Teachers Report to Work
- Jul. 30 New Student - Parent Orientation
- Aug. 02 School Begins - First Day of School
- Aug. 15 Fundación de Asunción - Holiday
- Sept. 3 September Break - No Classes
- Sept. 29 Boquerón Holiday
- Sept. 30-Oct.1 Spring Break
- Nov. 25 & 26 Thanksgiving Break - No Classes
- Dec. 8 Caacupé - Holiday
- Dec. 16 Last Day of Semester 1

### SECOND SEMESTER

- Feb. 9 Teacher In-service Begins
- Feb. 11 New Student - Parent Orientation
- Feb. 14 School Resumes
- March 1 Heroes Day - Holiday
- April 18-22 Semana Santa - Easter Break
- May 1 Labor Day - Holiday
- May 15 Paraguayan Independence Day
- May 27 May Break
- June 12 Paz del Chaco - Holiday
- June 24 Last Day of School



2011

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