

In April 2011, *Nibras International School* was visited by members of the **New Association of Schools and Colleges** which provides **accreditation** to schools around the world. This visit was the first step in securing accreditation for Nibras. During the 2011-2012 academic year, the school will focus on the recommendations outlined below in anticipation of a formal evaluation-visit by NEASC during the 2012-2013 school year.



Founded in 1885

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES, INC.
COMMISSION ON AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS ABROAD

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Chief Executive Officer**

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August 17, 2011

John Black
Nibras International School
P.O. Box 54084
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Green Community
Dubai
United Arab Emirates

Consideration of the Preliminary Report - Nibras International School

Dear John:

The Commission on American and International Schools Abroad (CAISA) at its June 29, 2011 meeting, considered the Preliminary Report submitted by Diane Ullman and Evelyn LaFontaine subsequent to their visit to the campus on April 17-20, 2011 and voted to recommend to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges' (NEASC) Board of Trustees that it award Candidacy for Accreditation status in NEASC to Nibras International School subject to special considerations. The NEASC Board of Trustees will consider CAISA's recommendation at its September 22, 2011 meeting and we will share the decision with you shortly thereafter.

The purpose of the Preliminary Visit in April was to ascertain whether current programs would allow the administration and staff to undertake a thorough Self-Study and host a visiting team to evaluate the school for initial accreditation. We believe such is the case if certain conditions are met before the Self-Study commences.

CAISA was impressed with the School and wishes to commend:

- The School leadership for its commitment to the School's success and the improvement necessary for its achieving accreditation, for its collaborative

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and constructive work on behalf of the program and the students, and for the reciprocal respectful relationships among the administration, faculty, students, and parents

- The Leadership Team for creating a teacher/student ratio, which enable faculty to have opportunities for interaction and to know their students.
- The parents and the students for their gratitude and respective roles in supporting the School in the best interests of the education it is providing.

CAISA recommends attention be given to the following recommendations in the near future:

1. The Leadership Team up-date the School's Philosophy & Objectives, document and communicate it clearly and repeatedly throughout the school community, and ensure that the Philosophy & Objectives intentionally inform the programs, policies, procedures, and expectations of all members of the school community.
2. The Leadership Team develop and document a plan for the short term and the longer term, encompassing program needs (academic and non-academic), student life (enrollment, expectations, assessments, and services), faculty and staff job descriptions (expectations, assessments, professional development, retention), facilities and equipment, and a financial plan and projected annual budget shaped by the Managing Director and Principal together to ensure that the School's necessary resources are in place.
3. That companion policy manuals be written for each school constituency (Managing Board, administration, faculty, staff, students, and parents) to clarify roles and responsibilities in relation to respective policies and procedures.
4. The Management and Leadership Teams, along with the proposed Steering Committee, attend a full-day workshop on the accreditation process prior to the start of a Self-Study.

In agreement with the Visitors, NEASC is recommending the following schedule for the next stages of accreditation process:


1. September 2011 to September 2012 - Complete the four recommendations above.
2. September 2012 - Submit a Special Report to NEASC which reports the progress on the four recommendations, including evidence where possible. We will send you the format for the Special Report.
3. October, 2012 - Host a Special Visitor from NEASC who will review the Special Report and conduct a Self-Study workshop for the School as recommended in No. 4 above.
4. October 2012 to March 2014 - Conduct the Self-Study and submit the Self-Study Report to NEASC.
5. May 2014 - Host a Visiting Team.

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CAISA congratulates you and the School for your significant efforts, which have led to CAISA's positive recommendation. We look forward to working with you as you strive to enhance the quality of education for your students through meeting high standards and benefiting from peer review. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. W. Woodward, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

B. W. "Pete" Woodward, Jr.
Director, CAISA

BWW/pt