

## Message from the Superintendent

Dear AISL Community,

Here we are in May and, of course, the pace never seems to slow down. There are so many things happening all at the same time that I thought I would share a little bit about each:

First the school held an Association Member General meeting last Tuesday to recommend changes to the AISL Articles of Association and By-laws. The Articles and By-laws had not been reviewed and/or amended since they were written in 1964. This was a huge effort on behalf of the Board to take this on. The Amendments to the Articles and By-laws were presented and were approved. Amending the By-laws was part of a bigger 10-year strategic plan as it relates to the re- accreditation of the school, which will take place in October.

Secondly, The HS campus will open in August. I know there may be a few doubters out there, but I am certain that the school will open as scheduled. We still have a lot of work to do between now and the opening, but it will happen!

I will host one more tour of the HS on May 28th. I encourage as many parents and community members to come along. It will be the last official visit until the school opens in August. The buses will leave AISL at 11:00am and will return at 1:30pm. It is worth the trip! The school is beautiful and will be the shining star of Africa.

Board Elections are being held next Thursday, May 12th at 6:00pm in the Gymnasium. There are four excellent candidates that want to serve the greater AISL community. Mr. Chris Arvind, Mrs. Ekaba Davies, Mr. Joseph Lunsford, and Mr. Robert Onyejekwe have put their names forth to serve. I hope you will be part of the selection. Remember the doors will close at 6:00pm, so to be eligible to vote you have to be there on time. Refreshments/ snacks will be served.

Saturday, May 14th was scheduled to be Ed Fair. We have postponed the event for this year so that we, as a staff, can finalize our Accreditation work that needs to be submitted during the summer. The school staff and faculty will be here, but it is not a student day. All the scheduled Saturday activities will go on as planned, except for activities in the gym where the faculty and I will be working on the final accreditation report.

Our High School senior class is currently engaged in IB exams and will be completely finished on May 24th. Graduation ceremonies are being held at the Civic Center on May 27th. Congrats to our seniors...they are a very impressive group that will be remembered fondly for their contributions to the school and we wish them the best in the next chapter of their lives.

Our 8th grade Washington DC trip departs today and returns next Thursday. I know the students are all pretty excited to visit.

The Music Program will be offering Concerts on the following dates:

Grades 5 & 6 Band Concert in the school gym on Wednesday, May 18th

Grades 7-12 Band Concert is being held at the Muson Center on Sunday, May 22nd at 6:00pm

Have a great weekend!

Thomas Shearer

## Saturday Soccer Commissioner: Job Well Done & Best Wishes

We'd like to thank Stuart McGeoch for his service over the past few years as the Commissioner of Saturday Soccer. Although, an unglamorous job at times, he spent much time and pride in making sure that all 400+ youth participating in Saturday Soccer could have an enjoyable experience. We often don't appreciate people enough for the time & effort they dedicate to making AISL a better place, so as you see him, extend a thank you. The school will miss Stuart and we wish he & his family the best as they move from Nigeria. Know you'll be remembered fondly and someone will have big shoes to fill.

With that bit of thanks, we also need to address the vacancy of the Soccer Commissioner position. The Saturday program has been a cornerstone of our schools relationship with the community over the years. Last year we had over 400 participants and want to keep those opportunities available for our students at AISL. The program and its benefits have been phenomenal for our students and we hope future years will only be better. We are looking for someone who is organized, caring, and ready to take Saturday Soccer to even higher levels. This has been a Community Program run primarily by parents and in partnership with AISL. Those interested in the vacancy please forward a letter of interest to Mike Mitchell at [mmitchell@aislagos.com](mailto:mmitchell@aislagos.com) and he will be in contact with you shortly.

## PE Showcase

On April 29th from 12:45 to 2:00pm, the Physical Education Department hosted a showcase that presented not only the curriculum of the AISL PE Department, but also how standards and practices fit into that curriculum. Parents, students and staff were able to see connections and the progression of students from grade to grade as they move from Pre-K to High School. The participants were our very own AISL students and the program opened with the Pre-K doing some galloping and finished with our High School students doing an Aerobic workout (Tai Bo style). We'd like to thank all of the students who helped by demonstrating and the parents who attended. It was a fun & educational afternoon. Special thanks to Anne Idowu, Bereofori George, Mike Mitchell, Alfred Ohimain, & Dominic Okosun for the time & effort they put into the showcase.



# Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

Its summer 2010 & a (crazy) idea formed in the heads of 3 students & 3 fathers from AISL:

“They would attempt to climb the 5,895 meters high Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania Easter 2011”, giving us a year to prepare mentally & physically, while also getting all the necessary clothing & equipment.

The decision was very quickly made. The 3 fathers barely knew each other (except as audience from Saturday sports), but that was not an obstacle, since we all knew what we wanted to do together.

Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa, the highest freestanding mountain in the world & the only mountain in the world, which can be climbed to a height of nearly 6 km (5,895 meters) without the use of “technical climbing techniques” or use of oxygen. 6,000 meters is the limit for what humans can climb without the use of oxygen, such making it an extremely interesting adventure. 13 years children can climb, but they are on the limit of what is recommended.

The great teamwork started immediately – Somebody could get this, another knew about that & a third had experience with something else. The teamwork built up & got more intense after the New Year’s holiday.



Not only did we need a lot of things, but travel arrangements had to be made, training had to start & we had to make sure that Kilimanjaro was ready for us...!!

We had to choose a route up the mountain. We settled for “Rongai”, mainly because it’s located on the Northwest side of the mountain, screening it a bit from the April monsoon season coming in from the ocean towards the East. Monsoon or not, April & Easter was the only time available for the 6 of us, so we had to equip ourselves with sufficient clothing, so we could be ready for the rain.

An old Danish saying: “There’s no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing”...!!

Climbing a mountain is already a fantastic experience, but doing it as a family is unbelievable...!!

The trip started in Lagos, went on to Moshi, Tanzania & finally a 4 hours bus ride to the start of “Rongai”

“Rongai” is normally a 6 days route, but we extended it to 7 days, in order to prepare our bodies as best we could for the heights. Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) can be a very serious condition, caused by the human body refusal to accept heights, mainly due to low concentration of oxygen. Some people adapt quicker, others slower, some not at all. When a human gets over 2,400 meters, changes start to take place. It can be difficult to breathe, sleep, eat etc. Some get headache, diarrhea, throw up or just feel nausea & most have difficulties sleeping well.

Our team consisted of the 6 of us plus 20 “helpers” (such as 3 guides, cook, waiter, toilet porter, tent porter, plus numerous porters). It’s a huge team & every single one is needed for the success. Each carries approx. 35 kilos on his back and head up to the next camp.

Upon our arrival to a new camp each afternoon the tents are already up, warm popcorn ready etc. & it’s only for us to make a hot cup drink, relax a bit & get ready for the daily 3 hours acclimatization climb, usually 300 meters higher than camp & down again, before having dinner & head to our sleeping bags around 7-8pm. Sleeping 10-11 hours each day is normal at heights.

*(continued next page)*

## Announcements

Showers don't exist, so all cleaning takes place outdoors daily with about 0.5 liters of water. Water is a precious resource, being carried by porters from the nearest stream or pond to the camp each day. Each person decides whether to start the 0.5 liters cleaning cycle from the feet up or from the face down (tough choice..!!). Wet wipes becomes an important part of personal hygiene & the hairless are blessed for a while.

The first 5 days consist of long wonderful walks in various different vegetation zones, such as Tropical Jungle, Mooreland, Alpine Desert & finally Ice Cap.

Packing is a small science & everything needs to be packed in zip locks and plastic. Its rainy season & nothing can be left for luck alone. Additionally, each couple carries a huge arsenal of various medicines, just in case...

The ultimate climb is scheduled for the night between the 5th & the 6th day. We get a few hours rest, before we're woken up at 11pm for the night's adventure. Ahead of us is 1,200 meters of VERY steep ascent for 6 hours, all the way to the crater rim, & then 2 hours SLOW zombie like walk, until our ultimate goal, Uhuru Peak, with its 5,895 meters.

As we ascent, breathing is increasingly difficult; "gu" (high powered slimy substance with lots of caffeine) becomes an utterly disgusting lifesaver, while we're careful the tube to camelbags doesn't freeze in the minus 10 degrees Celsius. Slowly we go up...."There's ONLY one way up - Just do it"..!!

At 5,200 meter we, much unfortunately, have to say goodbye to Keara, who was seriously affected by AMS (Acute Mountain Sickness). She was temporarily unconscious, had pain in her chest & it just wouldn't have been responsible to let her continue up. She was taken down to camp & slowly felt better, but couldn't make it to Uhuru Peak....this time..!! She surely would have made it, if not for AMS, which nobody can train or control on their own.

The remaining group reached 5,895 meters at 07.45am; it was very emotional, but also very brief. Our guides rushed us to finish our photos & start the decent, since long stays at that height can be dangerous for the human body.

After over 2,000 meters decent, the same day, we finally reached our next camp, got some food & slept the best we had done for a long time.



The next & final day was a brisk 7 hours "walk in the park" down to Marangu Gate & we could finally close an amazing chapter in our lives.

After having enjoyed "Welcome Cucumber Soup", "Morning Porridge" and several other delicious things for 7 days, we could finally celebrate with a combination of pizza, Indian cuisine & a couple of Kilimanjaro beers/cokes.

An old Polish saying: "Pain is temporary; Glory is forever"..!! We certainly all got a taste of that..!!

Keara & Hano Conradie  
Addison & Justin Smith  
Oliver & Jakob Bejer

## GRADE 5 PARENTS

Is your child returning to AISL? Are you starting to think about next year? Are you asking yourself questions such as:

- How can I support my child's transition from Elementary to Middle School?
- How are the schools (Elementary & Middle) different and what can I expect?
- What subjects will my child be able to select?
- What will the schedule look like?

If these are some of your concerns then come along to the student and parent meeting that will be held in the gym from 1pm - 2pm Monday, May 9th to have your questions answered. All returning students as well as those who are undecided will be expected to attend this meeting and parents are invited to be a part of the information sessions.

At this meeting, students will watch a video from the 6th grade class, learn about the 6th grade trip to Switzerland, talk about how 6th grade is different from 5th grade, and learn about the other events we have in place to help the students transition to the next level.

I look forward to seeing you there...

Ms. Kelly Metcalf  
Middle School Counselor

On Friday, May 20th at 12:30 the elementary school is going to have a transition ceremony for the 5th graders going into middle school. The elementary school would like to invite all the parents of 5th graders witness their kids make this transition. This will not be a graduation, no diplomas will be handed out and the ceremony will short and sweet. There will be lots of opportunities for photographs and poignant reflections though!

Right before the transition ceremony we will have the student of the month assembly (starting at 12:00 sharp), so if you want to have a ruckus good time recognizing our outstanding students for the month of May, and then stick around for the ceremony right after, we would love to have you.

We look forward to an eventful and exciting end of the year with all of you!

Andrew Neff  
Elementary School Counselor

Dear Parents,

Library book checkout will cease as of Monday, May 9, 2011. All library books will need to be returned by the end of the week on Friday, May 13, 2011. This will enable the AISL library staff to start their annual inventory of all books. However, if a student needs a book to complete an assignment, accommodations will be made.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that student will still have access to all online databases such as EBSCO for research and TUMBLEBOOKS for reading.

Also, we will have a new way for students to access eBooks, FollettShelf. Students are presently learning how to use it in the library. FollettShelf provides books to be read on your computer. Or, if you own an iPad, some type of android phone, or color Nook, your student will be able to read eBooks from the Shelf.

More information will be sent to you in a notice containing passwords and web addresses to access EBSCO, TUMBLEBOOKS, and FollettShelf.

Mrs. Riley  
AISL Librarian

### The School Store Will Be

### CLOSED

Tuesday May 10  
Wednesday May 11  
Thursday May 12

**Middle School Finals Schedule  
May-June 2011**

**Thursday: May 26, 2011**

Time	Period/Final
7:30 - 8:35	D
8:40 - 9:45	E
9:55 - 11:00	F
11:05 - 12:10	G
12:10 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:25	Study Session A
1:25 - 1:30	Break
1:30 - 3:00	Final Exam A

**Book Return:** If you have a book for your **A** period class you need to bring it during the study session so it can be returned to the library.

**Friday; May 27, 2011**

Time	Thursday 5/26
7:30 - 8:35	Study Session B
8:35 - 8:50	Break
8:50 - 10:20	Final Exam B
10:20 - 11:20	Lunch
11:20 - 12:25	Study Session C
12:25 - 12:40	Break
12:40 - 2:10	Final Exam C

**Book Return:** If you have a book for your **B** or **C** period class you need to bring it during the study session so it can be returned to the library.

**Monday; May 30, 2011**

Time	Thursday 5/26
7:30 - 8:35	Study Session D
8:35 - 8:50	Break
8:50 - 10:20	Final Exam D
10:20 - 11:20	Lunch
11:20 - 12:25	Study Session E
12:25 - 12:40	Break
12:40 - 2:10	Final Exam E

**Book Return:** If you have a book for your **D** or **E** period class you need to bring it during the study session so it can be returned to the library.

**Tuesday; May 31, 2011**

Time	Thursday 5/26
7:30 - 8:35	Study Session F
8:35 - 8:50	Break
8:50 - 10:20	Final Exam F
10:20 - 11:20	Lunch
11:20 - 12:25	Study Session G
12:25 - 12:40	Break
12:40 - 2:10	Final Exam G

**Book Return:** If you have a book for your **F** or **G** period class you need to bring it during the study session so it can be returned to the library. **ALL BOOKS SHOULD BE TURNED INTO THE LIBRARY.** Any book (s) you haven't turned in will have to be paid for in order to receive your yearbook.

### Wednesday; June 1, 2011

Time	Period/Activity
7:30 - 7:45	Scholars
7:45 - 9:45	8th Grade Transition 5th - 6th Grade Transition 7th Grade High School Tour
9:45 - 10:45	Scholars - Locker clean out and Check-out
10:45 - 11:20	Lunch
11:20 - 11:40	A
11:45 - 12:05	B
12:10 - 12:30	C
12:30 -12:45	Intramural groups
12:45 - 1:50	Intramural All-stars
1:55 - 2:10	Awards Awards

**Morning Activities:** Details will be given out during the F period final exam. Eight graders will be meeting with 9<sup>th</sup> graders and their teachers to discuss what to expect for the up coming year. Seventh grade students will be touring the high school and sixth grade students will be part of a 5<sup>th</sup> grade transition.

**Check-out:** During your scholar period you will be given a checkout form. You will need to get all of the spaces signed during the scholar's time and return it to your scholar teacher if it is completed. If it is not completed you need to take care of whatever is outstanding. No yearbook will be handed to you unless we have received the form.

**Lockers/Locks:** You must have your locker cleaned out and checked by your scholar teacher. You must return the lock you were assigned in working order with the combination written on it. If you don't return the lock you will be charged and it must be paid for before you can pick up your yearbook.

**Lockers/Locks:** You must have your

**Intramurals** - come ready to cheer and play. Wear your team shirts. Points will be given to teams who have all of their members in their team shirts.

### Thursday; June 2, 2011

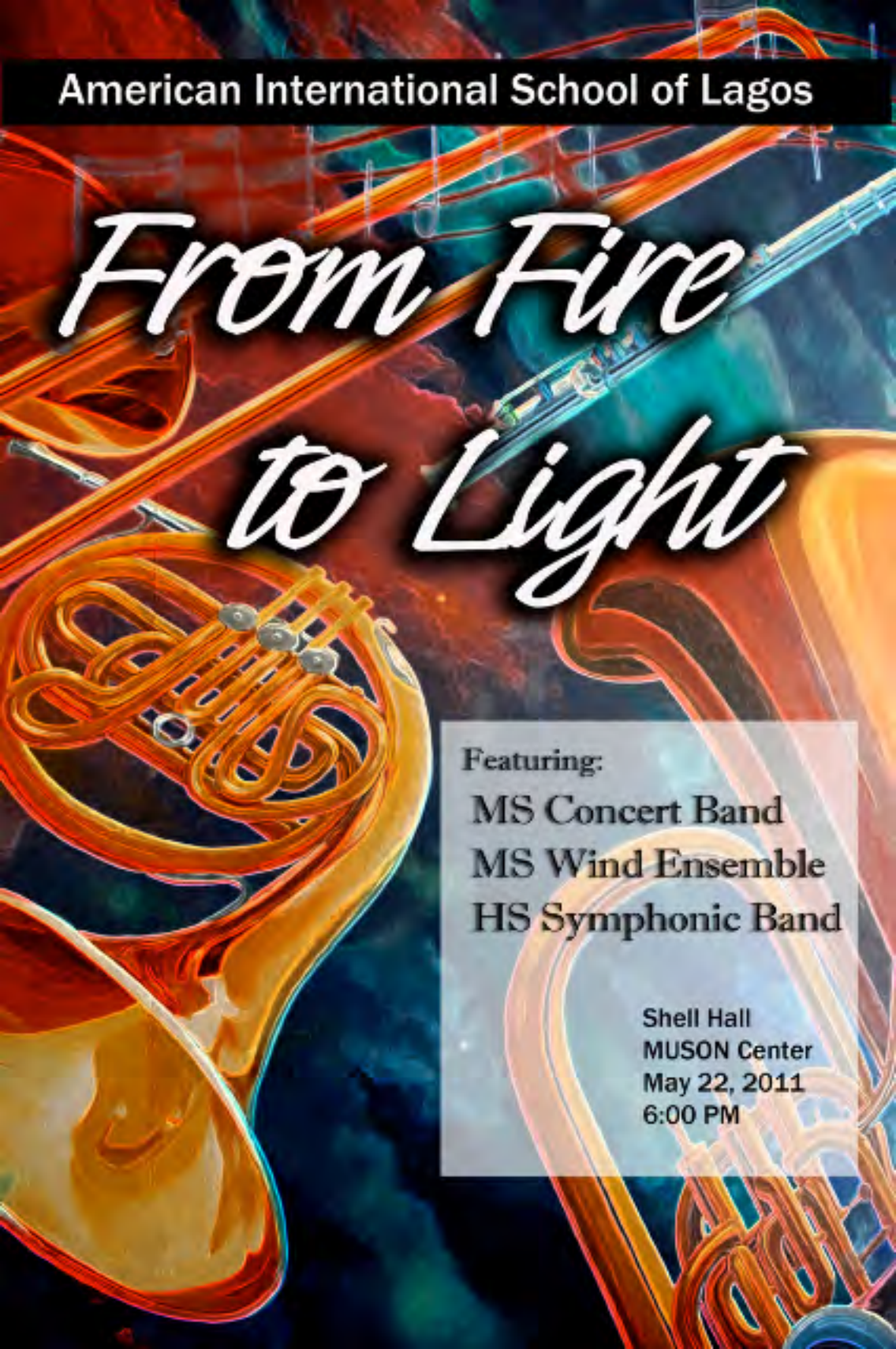
Times	Period/Activity
7:30 - 7:35	Scholars
7:35 - 8:20	Year in Review Video
8:25 - 8:40	D
8:45 - 9:00	E
9:05 - 9:20	F
9:25 - 9:40	G
9:45 - 10:15	Boat Races
10:15 - 11:00	Yearbook Dispersal and Signing

**Video** – All middle school students will report to the gym and sit with their grade level to watch the movie.

**Boat Races** - We will meet at the pool and you will show off your science class's boat.

**Yearbook Dispersal** – If your form was turned in on Wednesday complete you will receive your yearbook from the table. If not you need to make sure your form is complete and turn it in at the table. You will then be allowed to sign yearbooks in the annex courtyard.

**Yearbook Dispersal** – If your form was turned in on Wednesday complete



American International School of Lagos

# *From Fire to Light*

Featuring:

MS Concert Band

MS Wind Ensemble

HS Symphonic Band

Shell Hall  
MUSON Center  
May 22, 2011  
6:00 PM



## TUITION FEES FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

May 6, 2011

Dear Parents,

The Board of Directors and school administration reached consensus on working assumptions for guiding the development of the 2011-2012 school year operating budget and setting the student fees. The budget was presented during the study session at the March/April board meetings. To maintain a balanced budget, the Board of Directors has approved the following fee structure for 2011-2012 school year.

Pre-K	\$12,600
Elementary (Grade K-5)	\$15,015
Middle School (Grade 6-8)	\$19,446
High School (Grade 9-12)	\$22,302
Capital Improvement Fee	\$ 2,000
ELL/SSS	\$ 4,800

### **Incoming and New Student Fees (Non-Refundable)**

Application Fee	\$ 500
Registration Fee	\$10,000

Based on the information submitted on the Survey of Intent returned to us earlier, we will be preparing invoices and sending them home with your youngest child on Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Invoices will be sent electronically to the companies that sponsor more than one family in the school.

### **Payment Due Dates:**

Students whose tuition and all other related fees are paid for by their parents' employer/company **June 1, 2011**

Students whose tuition and all other related fees are paid by the parents (Private Pay Students): The first term tuition, registration fees (for new students) and capital improvement fee is due on **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011**. The subsequent terms are due no later than **14 days before** the start of the next term(s).

Parents electing this payment option must sign and return a per term payment agreement, which can be obtained at the Business Office. Failure to make payment or arrangement for payment as to Policy will result with students being removed from the enrollment list for 2011-2012.

Please don't hesitate to ask for further clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas P. Shearer', is written over a light-colored background.

Thomas P. Shearer  
Superintendent

### **American International School of Lagos**

Behind 1004 Federal Estates, Victoria Island - - P.O. Box 2803 - - Lagos, Nigeria  
Telephone: (234-1) 261-7793, 262-1544, 262-0775, 262-3829, 461-0985, 461-0987  
Fax: (234-1) 261-7794, 461-0986

<http://www.aislagos.com>

## **School Board Election Candidate Announcement**

The School Board Nominating Committee is pleased to announce this year's candidates for the two (2) open seats on the School Board. The four (4) candidates are:

- Mr. Joseph Lunsford
- Mrs. Ekaba Davies
- Mr. Robert Onyejekwe
- Mr. Kris Arvind

The letters of interest submitted by the candidates are attached for your consideration. We encourage you to read the letters carefully to acquaint yourself with each of the candidates.

Please remember that the **Annual Association Meeting for the School Board Election will be held on Thursday, May 12th in the AISL Gymnasium**. All parents with a student(s) enrolled in school at the time of the meeting are considered Association members and are, therefore, eligible to vote. You must be present to vote. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. | Registration for Voting (you must register before 7:00 p.m. to be eligible to vote)  |
| 7:00 p.m.        | Introduction of Nominating Committee   |
|                  | Introduction of Candidates   |
|                  | Speeches by Candidates   |
|                  | Questions/Answer Session (questions can be submitted by Association members present) |
|                  | Vote   |

Please mark your calendars now to plan to attend the Election.

April 5, 2011

Mr. Tom Shearer  
Superintendent  
American International School of Lagos (AISL)  
Lagos, Nigeria



Dear Mr. Shearer:

The purpose of this letter is to formally submit my name as a candidate for the AISL school board. My family has always been strong advocates of sound educational programs and we are committed to ensuring and facilitating programs that help people obtain a quality education. We feel a school board plays a vital role in achieving that vision of a quality education. It does this by endeavoring:

- To provide emphasis on basic skills in a structured learning environment.
- To encourage creativity, spontaneity, questioning and analytical processes with flexibility to enable each student to reach his / her potential.
- To instill positive mental attitudes toward educational and emotional development.
- To encourage a mutual understanding between parents and the school in the education of the child.
- To establish and follow a sound fiscal policy.

We currently have three children, (Fatima, Theresa, and Joanna) who attend AISL and as such I am willing to continue to devote my time and energy to this important work. My prior experience on the current board and work experience will help me to be an effective and productive member of the board.

My work experience combines leadership and teaching competencies as a successful military leader with my corporate experience as a strategic planner, information systems coordinator, operations manager, and maintenance advisor. While in the military I successfully led approximately 500 people instilling a sense of pride in accomplishment, taught many students at the United States Military Academy, and managed assets worth millions of dollars (US). While working for my current company I have been able to develop innovative programs to streamline costs while simultaneously implementing operational efficiencies and improving maintenance operations. Much of what I have been able to accomplish was because of teamwork. My teams have done it; I actually have done very little. If you can establish trust, develop your people, focus on your people, be innovative, have a vision, understand and listen to them they will do wonders for you.

My children's education is most important to me and at some points in our careers we need to get personally involved in their education and not depend upon 'the system' and others to do things we as parents need to do. Lest we not forget... the system is us...

I have participated in various volunteer activities: Board of Directors - AISL, Samuel Enumah Afri-cancer Center, United States Military Academy - Minority Outreach Program, Board of Directors of Omar Jamal Community Foundation, Founding Member of Camp H.U.G. (Hope, Understanding, and Giving), United Way Project Blueprint, Consultant for CROSSROADS (Community Partnership for Youth Program), Neighborhood Centers, INC and Junior Achievement.

If you need additional information, please contact me at 0802-292-2777 or 262-1640 ext. 22593.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Lunsford'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Joseph Lunsford

April 6, 2011

Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors  
American International School of Lagos



### **LETTER OF INTEREST – EKABA DAVIES**

The purpose of this letter is to formally submit my name as a candidate for the AISL School Board. I have been a member of the AISL school Board for 6 years and it has been a deeply humbling experience. In the years that I have been on the Board, we have embarked on an incredibly ambitious, strategic journey to raise the bar in terms of the quality of education we offer at AISL. This journey has led to the development of a new state of the art high school facility; we introduced and attained IB accreditation for the high school significantly increasing the opportunities for higher education available to our students. We have expanded our hiring policies to allow the school to hire beyond the traditional bases of Tacoma, Washington and Klien, Houston to include International schools that we benchmark ourselves against. This has allowed the school to attract an increased number of talented, experienced teachers to the school. We graduated our first High School class in 2010. It has been an honor and a privilege to be a part of a truly inspiring and dedicated team but there is still so much to do. I am looking forward to continuing to work with the Board to ensure that the delivery of the vision stays true to its initial objectives.

I Have a Masters Degree in Architecture from Tulane University in New Orleans Louisiana. I have over 20 years of experience in the building industry. I am currently employed as the Regional Head of Projects for Africa for Standard Chartered Bank. I am responsible for the design, supervision and implementation of the Banks, building project in Africa. I am Married to Alan Davies and we have two children Ben, who is 13 and in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and Sophie who is 11 and in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade.

I believe that my background and work experience will continue to make me an effective and productive Board member.

Thank you for giving me your consideration as a School Board candidate.

Sincerely,

  
Ekaba Davies



Robert Onyejekwe  
22, MacDonald Road,  
Ikoyi, Lagos,  
Nigeria.  
+234 7034174859

April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011

To the Board of Directors  
American International School of Lagos (AISL)

### **INTENT TO RUN FOR ELECTION TO THE AISL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Please accept this as a formal notification that I am officially submitting my name to run for election to the Board of Directors for the American International School of Lagos (AISL) for this year 2011.

My background is in Petroleum Engineering and I hold an MBA from Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University, Netherlands. With over sixteen (16) years of experience in the Oil & Gas industry, mostly with Schlumberger, I have held positions in operations, business development, human resources, training development and recruiting (to build expertise, attracting & retaining talent).

Currently, I am the Operations Manager for Drilling & Measurement, Schlumberger, leading a diverse group of people with different nationalities based out of Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea focused in providing oil & gas drilling solutions in the Sub Sahara Africa region.

I have served as fund-raising chairman for the Society of Petroleum Engineers. I am a volunteer in the Schlumberger Excellence in Educational Development (SEED) program and played an active role in the "laboratory-in-a-truck" program in Angola where over 200 primary school got science laboratory hands-on training from Schlumberger Engineers in Angola. I participate regularly as a

volunteer for the Junior Achievement Program where young secondary students get to “shadow” me for a day i.e. they spend a day with me to study & observe how a business is run.

Also I strive to be involved with my children’s extracurricular activities. I have served as coach or assistant coach in the Houston FFPS League as well as the AISL co-ed soccer league.

The majority of my sixteen (16) professional career years has been spent outside Nigeria and has taken my wife and I through three continents where we have been involved in and embraced the culture and community of each one. During this time, we started our beautiful family. I have a daughter in the third grade and a son in the first grade at AIS. My children have always attended international schools, however this is their first experience living in Nigeria (my home country) and yet still being a part of a diverse environment. AISL provided a soft landing and a wonderful welcoming community for my family. AISL allows my children to maintain an approach to life that is universal, expands their minds to think beyond borders and complements their upbringing which is to strive to be the best that you can while bringing out the best in others. This is the strength of the international schools model and AISL is fore-front.

In a nutshell, high academic expectations, international exposure are key attractions I have for the AISL. The diversity focus means getting away from one’s comfort zone, sharing, compassion, inquisitiveness, where every person is appreciated for his or her unique capabilities, where all feel valued and where people are not asked to give up their identities but contribute their talents, thoughts and creativity. My daughter phrases it best: ***“It is OK to be different”***.

The enthusiasm & love for school that my children exhibit daily: day in & day out, unflinching, this is my key motivation to be part of this success story. I am excited about the new campus. I would like to see the ***“work hard, play hard”*** culture that already exists in AISL upheld and given a chance to flourish. Top-class facilities & amenities available for the top-notch teaching faculty while instilling global citizenship & values.

My personal upbringing instilled a sense of responsibility and service to the community early on in my youth and my professional exposure has been focused on delivering quality service, these are the strengths and skill sets I plan to leverage on in serving the AISL community as a board member. If elected, I am fully aware and understand the importance of my full participation as a productive and effective member.

Yours Sincerely,  
**Robert Onyejekwe**  
+234 7034174859



Kris is currently serving as a Vice-Consul at the U.S. Consulate-General in Lagos.

Prior to joining the U.S. Foreign Service, Kris had over fourteen years experience in Management Consulting at CGN & Associates, Inc. with an emphasis in the manufacturing, automotive, and financial services industries. He worked with large Fortune 50 organizations in areas as diverse as organizational vision building, change management, complexity reduction, business simulation & value analysis, portfolio/project management, and process improvement. Most recently, Kris headed the CGN's Asia-Pacific division and was instrumental in setting up consulting practices in India, China, and the ASEAN.

Among his other interests, Kris has served on the board of the Kickapoo Council Girl Scouts in Illinois, extensively volunteered as an EMT and CPR/First-Aid instructor with the American Red Cross, and run a non-profit entity with his wife that aided victims of the 2004 Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina.

Kris is a graduate of the Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management and has advanced degrees in Management & Technical Communication from Michigan Tech University & Queensland University of Technology, Australia.

Kris is eager to serve on the Board of the American International School in Lagos and utilize his organizational and program management skills to tackle some of the challenges that face the school in the coming years. Primarily, Kris would like to focus & expand AISL's community outreach, effectively increase interaction and feedback from our parental community, and work towards securing our funding base by reaching out to our extensive alumni network.

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