



news from the trunk
Thursday, April 5, 2018



PLEASE NOTE: KAS closes for the 'Easter Break' on Thursday April 5, 2:50pm. School reopens on Monday April 9.



THANK YOU KAS PTA FOR THE WONDERFUL BINGO NIGHT!

PLEASE NOTE: The annual General Meeting and Board Elections of the KAS parents for the school year 2018 - 2019 will take place on May 13, 2018 at 6:30 PM at KAS. At that time, you will be able to vote for four open board seats. If you wish to run for the board, please see the Superintendent's Message inside for requirements and details.

Superintendent's Message

KAS Annual General Meeting – May 13, 2018

The KAS School Board will hold its May, 2018 Annual General Meeting on Sunday, May 13th beginning at 6:30 PM. The Board Treasurer will present a financial status report and the Superintendent will update the community on SPACIT – the KAS 5 year Strategic Plan. There will be a ballot to elect 4 members to the KAS Board starting in the 2018-19 school year. The members are elected for 2 year terms. If you would like to serve on the KAS Board please review the criteria for being a candidate for the Board.

Candidate Criteria for Parents Who Want to Serve on the KAS School Board

1. Candidates should request from the Superintendent a declaration form that needs to be signed and delivered to the Superintendent no later than 4 PM on Sunday, April 29th.
2. Attach an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae (CV).
3. One paragraph why you want to be on the Board.
4. Must be in good financial standing – all fees must be paid by May 1st.
5. Must Submit up-to-date CV.

All documents should be sent to the Superintendent before April 29 – you can bring them to the Superintendent's office or submit by email.
salexander@krtams.org

Communication with the KAS Community

It is important to the KAS staff that we communicate with you as much as possible to keep you informed. We do this various ways: Email, Phone Text, KAS website, Engrade (grades 6-12) and Edmodo (Elementary/Early Childhood). To be informed and up-to-date with school issues it is imperative you check these communication places daily. Also, if you have changed your email address or phone number, please make sure you stop by the office and let Maab or Nahla know this so we can have your address and phone number current. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Steve Alexander

KAS Superintendent

Parent-Teacher Conferences

The school year is rapidly coming to a close and we all just wrapped up our last session of parent-teacher conferences for the year. It is a good time to reflect on the importance of these meetings. They have a huge significance for both the teachers as well as the families involved. One of the reasons has to do with perception. Parents and teachers often see different aspects of their students' personalities and abilities. By working together, both parents and teachers can help paint a complete picture of the student. It is well known that students that have parents that are involved and communicate regularly with teachers often do better in school. Conferences are the perfect chance for parents and teachers to voice their concerns about students. It is also a chance to celebrate accomplishments and discuss achievements made during the year. There is a saying in English that says that it takes a village to raise a child. In other words it takes all of us working together to help our students become the best, most globally minded and well-prepared world citizens they can.

Alissandra Butzbach
Grade 3 Teacher

Saying of the Week

If people are **Not Worth Their Salt** they regarded as not very good at their jobs and not worth the wages. During the days of the Roman Empire salt was an expensive commodity and soldiers were actually paid partly in salt, which they carried in leather pouches. This payment was known as 'salarium', from the Latin word 'sal', meaning salt. The modern word for wages, 'salary', also originates from this source.

Minette van der Bijl

High School English Department

A MESSAGE FROM KAS PTA.

We would like to thank all our KAS community members who took the time out of their busy lives to attend the PTA Family Bingo Night. Your valuable participation in this event proves that charitable hearts always make charitable donations. The PTA Family Bingo Night would not have been possible without the joint efforts of our community as a whole. A lot of time and energy went into planning and executing this event. All the hard work has paid off and we are glad to report that it was truly a great success. The proceeds from the Family Bingo Night will go towards helping a school in need. The school's name and the PTA's plan of action will be announced in an upcoming Enews article.

for the coming years, so stay tuned. We greatly appreciate all the support we received throughout the years and we hope that our parent teacher association continues to thrive and evolve. The PTA strives to strengthen the school /home ties through all the fundraising events we host in order to give back to our community.

Once again we thank all the families, staff and students for their generous contributions to the KAS PTA.

If you have any questions/suggestions please send them to me at nsalih@krtams.org.

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

The Family Bingo Night was our last PTA event for the 2017-2018 academic year. Fear not we are planning bigger and better events

Nada Salih
KAS PTA School Representative



KASMUN IX

From March 21st to March 23rd, KAS high school students participated in the 9th annual KASMUN conference. Our fourth and final MUN conference of the year was expertly led by Secretary General Omnia Alzein and Deputy Secretary General Talha Kayani. Addressing the themes of Humanitarianism and International Security, students addressed issues as diverse and the conflict in Yemen to combating drug cartels in Latin America. This conference highlighted the growth and expansion of the MUN program at KAS as for the first time KASMUN expanded to a multiday conference with other delegates from other local schools. Well done to the delegates and chairs who made this conference a success!

Owen McMullen
MUN Director



KASMUN IX
HUMANITARIANISM AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY



KASMUN IX
Humanitarianism and International Security

Thank you, KAS!

I cannot express what a pleasure it has been to work at Khartoum American School these 4 years. I have worked at many schools in my 20 years as a teacher but KAS has been a truly unique school in which to work – the best place for me to bring my teaching career to a close. Why? The KAS administration and my KAS colleagues not only allowed me to be creative, innovative and passionate, they encouraged and supported me when I wanted to introduce and strove to develop new programs and events. No other school in which I have worked has the admin and staff been so open, supportive and truly student centered. This attitude reflects how strongly the KAS mission statement lives within the community. While most schools have a mission statement. Not every school can say that their mission is reflected in every part of its community. This a true and unique strength of Khartoum American School.

In my years as a teacher I have come to believe unequivocally that what a student receives from any teacher is not a curriculum- but who the teacher is and how the teacher feels about the subject matter they are teaching, life and his/her students. I truly believe that students flourish when their teachers flourish. Teachers who are encouraged and supported to be creative, innovative and passionate by their administration and community cannot help but inspire their students. KAS did this by giving me the opportunity to attend excellent professional development courses as well as creating the space for me to develop:

- a completely new type of Science Fair- a fair focused on solving real world problems of all kinds,
- cross- disciplinary extended and service learning trips to Port Sudan and Uganda for the 8th and 9th grade classes,
- a budding permaculture community via classes for MS and HS students,
- a new type of science portfolio;

co- create

- a values and Hear the Herd program for MS students,
- the annual Skills and Knowledge Bowl,
- bring in an educator to speak about his international work for the earth and indigenous people and another to work with our students and students in the US to co -write a theatrical piece on the displacement of the Batwa people of Uganda.

The result of the support and encouragement I received as a teacher was/ is an enhancement of the 4C's for the students. The science curriculum is richer, the students have been challenged to think more critically and globally. Students understand more about how character is developed; they understand more that they have a choice about who they are and how their choices shape who they become. They understand what it means to be a community member in their classes, at KAS and the larger Khartoum and Sudanese communities. Students have practical experiences and are challenged to act as Global citizens.

Thank you, KAS – dear students, my patient and appreciative colleagues, administration and Board – for teaching me so much. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow.

PS. The Fair of the Sciences is coming April 25 and 26.

Juliane Rothan-Centers
Middle & High School Science Teacher

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Since last year there has been a process that began developing a definition of Global Citizenship and how we demonstrate it in our school. This process included gathering information from faculty, students, parents, and support staff. A survey was sent out to truly attain everyone's idea and opinion on what they believe Global Citizenship means to them. One of the questions for example was "what values, character, virtues, and traits should global citizens have? Based on all the information that was gathered, an in-depth definition was generated earlier this year.



"The Khartoum American School maintains Global Citizenship to be the responsibility of all of its members. Every person will develop an awareness of themselves and an understanding of their own impact on both their community and the broader global reach. As Global Citizens, KAS expects and accepts that all people are different with unique experiences, customs, and values. We are interconnected and strive to better understand global issues. KAS embraces difference and takes a stand against social injustice. We at KAS know we are the caretakers of the earth and are committed to taking action and persevering in our service to others. We embrace the unknown with a sense of humor and an adventurous heart knowing that through our dedication as global citizens, we will make a positive global impact for future generations to advocate for others who cannot advocate for themselves."



Last week middle school students were divided into mixed grade groups to go over the above definition. They were asked to thoroughly read and understand what it means and how to implement their role as global citizens. During advisory/exploratory period they worked on posters in their groups to show what it is they currently do in their everyday life and what they can further do to improve their role as global citizens. It was an overall success because when the posters were completed the students were able to reflect on their own and their peers' ideas and thoughts. They were able to praise, as well as give constructive criticism when necessary. It's certainly an achievement knowing our students are conscious, informative, acting global citizens!

Nafisa Bushra
Student Support Services