



Gecko NEWS

Friday, August 19, 2011



Soaring to New Heights!

What's new at AISC this year?

- ★ New restructured high school program which includes both Nebraska online course delivery and in-house teacher led classes.
- ★ New in-house high school accredited programs and courses : Physical Education & Service Learning.
- ★ New library with 7000+ books.
- ★ 15 new computers and furniture in our improved computer lab.
- ★ Increased ESL support and services for students whose first language is not English.
- ★ A 'greener' soccer play field.

.....and the list goes on and on and on. Please come see for yourselves at our Open House, September 10th, 10:30AM to 1PM



*Sitting on the edge of the green, green grass of AISC.
Seanne, Yulianna, and Chris won't be playing on
the newly seeded field until October, giving the field
enough time to settle and the grass to take hold.
Unfortunate, but it will be worth the wait!*



Soaring to New Heights

At the start of this new school year, it is time to celebrate and welcome our new AISC faculty members. Choosing the right teachers to engage and enrich our students is one of our most important administrative undertakings. Throughout the hiring process, we strive to find the best of the best with the expectation that each new recruit will add value and share something special with our community. At the same time, we seek qualified individuals who hold similar belief systems about the power of learning and are ready to embrace AISC's Mission. As the adage goes, "it takes a village to raise a child" and it is those special, student-centered people that we seek to hire – educators who will "learn with us!"

Parents, friends of AISC, we present our new recruits, who will undoubtedly help us this year to soar to new heights.

What's happening?

Tuesday, August 30th

Eid al-Fitr Festival

Saturday, September 10th

Open House

Monday, September 19th

Teacher Professional Day

No School

Friday, October 21st

Last Day of Quarter 1

October 24-28

**School closes
for Fall Break**

Thursday, November 3rd

Distribution of report cards

Friday, November 4th

**Parent-Teacher conferences
begin**

Thursday, November 10th

**Tabaski Holiday
No School**

November 14-18

International Week

Friday, November 25th

**American Thanksgiving
No School**

Thursday, December 15th

Christmas Concert

Mr. David Landes

Humanities, Middle School and High School

Mr. David Landes is very happy to be part of the AISC international community. He has just recently arrived in Conakry, accompanied by his wife and son. They are very eager to learn more about this fascinating part of the world. For the past two years, Mr. and Mrs. Landes have been living in Turkmenistan, in Central Asia, where Mr. Landes enjoyed teaching at Ashgabat International School. The Landes family is originally from Virginia, where Mr. Landes worked for 12 years as an educator and headed the music program at the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia. Mr. Landes holds a Bachelor of Arts degree as well as a Bachelor of Music Education.



Miss Heather Bush

English, High School / Art, Grades 4-8 / ESL

Miss Heather Irene Bush hails from Portage, Indiana, a suburb of Northwest Indiana/Chicago land area... also near the hometown of Michael Jackson in Gary, Indiana. After graduating from high school, she attended Indiana University, Bloomington and obtained her BA in English. During that time she also studied at the University of Kent at Canterbury in England. After college, Miss Bush joined the Peace Corps and taught ESL for 3 years in Nepal and Moldova. She speaks Nepali and Romanian fluently. From Peace Corps, Miss Bush returned to the U.S. to obtain her Masters degree from Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City, where she taught ESL/Social Studies and English for the past four years in an inner-city public school for new immigrants, Bronx International High School. There, she met students from all over the world, including many from Guinea, and became interested in teaching abroad again. This is what brought her here to Conakry.



Mr. Patrick Landes

Teacher's assistant, Grades 1-5

Patrick Landes come from the United States and has recently graduated from TASIS, The American School in Switzerland. Patrick has chosen to spend a year in Guinea before proceeding with his college education next fall in the United States.



After School Activity Program - Quarter I, 2011

The **After School Activity Program** for the first quarter of the 2011-2012 school year will commence Tuesday of next week. The program hopes to provide students with fun and educational activities that supplement their regular school program.

The activities run from 3PM to 4PM, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The program is completely voluntary but students who sign up for an activity are expected to attend each session.

To the right is a list of activities that will be offered this quarter with a brief description. Students wishing to participate in the program must return the activity selection coupon at the bottom of this page to Mrs. Walters in the main office as soon as possible. This coupon must be signed by a parent/guardian.

Tuesday

Ping Pong (*Mr. Pratt*) – A chance to sharpen your skills at table tennis.

Homework Club (*Mrs. Pratt*) – A space for students to catch up on their homework before they even get home and have support from a teacher as needed.

Water Fun! (*Mr. Bab*) – An early opening of our school swimming pool...come enjoy a cool dip at the end of a hot day.

Wednesday

Water Fun! (*Dr. Lemoine*) – A second opportunity to enjoy our school pool at the end of a hot Wednesday.

Homework Club (*Mrs. Camara*) – Get that homework completed at school before the weekend!

Yoga (*Miss Heather*) – A new addition to our after school activities program. Grades 5 & up.

Thursday

Water Fun! (*Mr. Bab*) – Organized fun in the pool.. last chance this week to take a dip in our school pool.



The After School Activity Program Participation Coupon

(To be submitted to Ms. Walters at the office by Monday, 3PM)

Name of student: _____ Grade: _____

I would like to participate in the following activities:

Tuesday

- Water Fun*
- Homework Club*
- Ping Pong*

Wednesday

- Water Fun*
- Homework Club*
- Yoga*

Thursday

- Water Fun*



Signature of parent/guardian

**A reminder that supervision of children ends at 4:00 PM.
It is therefore imperative that they get picked up at that time.**