



12th October 2018, Gothenburg

Letter from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

The days are getting shorter and a little darker so it's time to find warm and waterproof winter clothing and make sure our children are ready for the colder, wetter weather! After a busy start to the academic year it's a good time to provide some updates on developments in the school.

Facilities

Recent improvements to the outside playground at Guldheden Campus are completed and being fully utilised by students, while renovations in the PE Halls are continuing with anticipated completion after the week 44 break. At Götaberg Campus, the schoolyard will also be improved with plans for an outdoor gym, obstacle course, interactive ball games and new seating areas.

Work on the ventilation at Guldheden is continuing, and while it is causing some disruption, the works are resulting in a much better environment for our students. The "D" wing of the building has already re-opened and the next focus will be the "A" wing. The works not only improve the air quality, but also acoustics and lighting.

A pre-study is being prepared, with a project leader appointed, to investigate the possibilities of an extension to the Götaberg Campus building, and an extra building at Guldheden Campus. The intention is to be able to accommodate new classrooms for our growing school, as well as providing additional facilities for gatherings and exhibitions. At both campuses, an interior designer is looking at ways to improve our existing buildings, including our toilet facilities.

A tender process for food catering at Guldheden Bamba will be undertaken in the coming weeks. The criteria will be based on quality, variety of food suitable for our student body, nutrition and cost. The preferred supplier will be in place for the Spring term. We are also looking at ways to improve the current food offering at Götaberg campus and supplier arrangements in the future.

Admissions

The admissions period for the National section opened on the 1st of October and will remain open until the 1st of December. This application period is for the 2019-2020 academic year. For further information see: www.isgr.se/admissions

The international section has rolling admissions according to its international criteria and this academic year we have so far had 128 new PYP students and 38 new MYP students. The majority of students started in August, but also we have been welcoming new students arriving throughout September and October. Our student numbers in the International section are now at 409 students in PYP and 306 students in MYP.

Student Leave of Absence

A reminder to all parents about our Leave of Absence policy for students, which is in accordance with Swedish law. The school has permission to grant leave to a student for a maximum of 10 days per school year for special circumstances approved by the teacher and principal. Family holidays, travel, visits to relatives and friends, etc. are not valid reasons for leave and should be planned during the designated school holiday periods. If a student is absent without approval then they may be automatically withdrawn from ISGR.

School Fees & Student Withdrawals

A reminder that the deadline for the final School Fee installment for the Autumn Term is 30th of November. For students not continuing at ISGR in the Spring Term, a formal Withdrawal Form must be submitted by 31st of October. Families who Withdraw students after this date will need to pay the Late Withdrawal / Initial Enrollment Fee, for the equivalent of two months enrollment.

Withdrawal Forms are available on the ISGR website under Documents>Forms and must be filled in, signed and submitted to: admissions@isgr.se Please refer to the School Fee Payment Plan for further information.

Board Meeting Summary

Attached below you will find a summary of the minutes from the last Board meeting, held in September. Board meetings are held approximately three times per term. Board meetings and presentations at Board meetings are conducted in English and Swedish, as representatives have different native languages.

Kind regards,

Birgitta Sandström Barac

Head of School

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Board Meeting September 2018:

Here is a summary of the agenda points discussed at the last ISGR board meeting.

Monthly report: Birgitta Sandström Barac presented the monthly report from August 2018.

Number of students: ISGR student numbers were presented. (Please read admissions section of this letter).

Quality Assurance: The Principals for PYP, MYP, LGRP, LGRM and IHGR presented the following:

- Student results for the 2017-2018 academic year
- Student well-being. Areas that work well and areas to be improved. This is based on the student survey results.
- Professional development focus areas
- School goals

CIS Update: The Leadership team are currently working with the submission of the First Report on Progress and Planning (FRPP) which will be submitted on the 1st of February 2019. The purpose is to detail the school's actions and plans addressing the 'Significant Recommendations' from the Visiting Team Report, due two years after the Team Visit.

Study visit for Board members: Board members are encouraged to attend study visits together with Vanessa Molina Gabinus, Secretary of the Board. Pia Sundh (MP) will be visiting Guldheden Campus on the 25th of September. A date for Götaberg campus is to be confirmed.

GDPR: The Board approved Peter Bilek as ISGR's Data Protection Officer.

Premises & Playgrounds: A proposal for the Götaberg playground renovation was put forth. Discussions also took place regarding an extension at Götaberg and a new building at Guldheden. Ongoing renovations were also discussed.

LGRP Principal: The Board were informed that Ingegerd Löfroth-Hildèn is currently on sick leave and Kristina Stenvall is stand-in Principal.

Company expectations: The Volvo AB Board member informed about meetings they have had with ISGR parents working at the company. He would like to bring forth information at the next Board meeting to be considered when working with the school's strategic planning.

Cases reported to Skolinspektionen: Nothing to report.

The next Board meeting is on Tuesday, 16th of October.

