



Hay Al Sharooq International School – Owned and operated by Oman LNG

PO BOX 888 - PC 411 - Sur - Sultanate of Oman - Tel: +968 25562472 - Fax: +968 25562591 – Website: www.hasis.edu.om

HASIS Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting (HASIS Parents' Consultation Meeting)

Tuesday 6 March, 2018

Attendance: Management team, PTA, parents from the school and members of the community.

Meeting location: HAS Sports Hall

Meeting start time: 7:38pm

Item 1

Welcoming Speech by Mr. Mohammed Al Mukhaini (PTA Chairman) and Mr. Rashid (HASIS Management in Charge)

Emergency notice

Welcome to the assembly on this day to discuss the future of the school. To discuss what the school will be offering. The information will be given in both English and Arabic. We want to discuss as parents what kind of improvement we can expect in the future and the current stage of the school. After my welcome, we will pass the microphone onto Mr. Rashid to update you on the latest news about the school. The structure of today's meeting is that we will start with a brief introduction from Mr. Rashid on any updates. We will then hear from Mr. Mostafa the progress that the school have made over the years. We will introduce the Al Najah company and listen to their presentation. We will ask some general questions and give time for parents to ask individual questions after the presentations.

Mr. Rashid welcomed and thanked the parents and teachers for attending the meeting today. We will tell you more about the future of the new school and information about the teachers the school and everything that will be offered to the students of HASIS. This is the opportunity to listen and discuss all the questions and concerns that parents and the community have. We had a chance to have questions from the school community as well as the WhatsApp group that described their concerns and ask questions. The BOT are joining us to look at the best interest of the school. We are working closely with the well-known educational group Al Najah. They have their own schools and are well known and respected in the education community. We are glad to have them join our group. We are all working together with the PTA, Al Najah and the board of directors.

Introducing the team

Mr. Satish: He oversees the projects and provides the best facilities. He is doing the size the color and everything that everything is done to perfection.

Mr. Kishore: He is working closely with Mr. Rashid and providing his experience and here in Oman. He has the experience of making a school here.

Mr. Ken: Head of Education of all the 48 schools. Educational Specialist. Teaching, curriculum and whole educational approach.

Mr. Lee: HASIS project school manager. He will handle the things in the school. We will use his expertise to transit from one school to the other. He has extensive experience in doing this challenging task. We need his expertise to make sure we offer the best transition for our students.

Item 2

How it all started Mr Mostafa and Mr David

A quick summary of how it all started. One small central building, 2002, started with 50 students, small private school, Primary School and 18 staff members. As the numbers started to increase, we received our first portacabin.

- Attendance rate of 98%
- 97% of our students getting scholarships
- High MOE inspection marks, average 95%
- CIS accredited
- Cambridge authorized examination center
- 667 students



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 107 staff members • International School • SAT examination center • 54 Grade 12 students graduation from the school • 15 different nationalities among our staff • After school activities and learning support system • 60% of our alumni students attending engineering colleges • Active students council, yearly donations to charities • Students willing awards in national literacy competitions <p>End of School presentation</p>
<p>Item 3 Al Najah Presentation</p>	<p>Where we are heading I am going to start with an apology because I cannot translate my own presentation. Recognize that having experience with different kinds of situation and understand the anxiety that goes with this transition. This meeting is about giving reassurance and confirm that there the future of the school is in professional hands. We will not satisfy everyone’s concerns but will do our best to settle some of your concerns.</p> <p>Horizon School in Dubai – Al Najah education have different kinds of educational facilities. Schools, Other institutions (learning centres) and nurseries. Our experience here in Oman can be considered a great advantage as we understand the system and expectations here. We have a team here in Oman and a larger team in Dubai that provides all other aspects of opening a school (curriculum, ICT, system implementation etc.) Al Najah prides themselves on their reputation and they are committed to do everything in their power to ensure that the opening of this school is successful. Our work will include every aspect that has been described and discussed. Tonight is about reassuring you about the new school and what you will be offered in the new school.</p> <p>There are several questions that have been posed by the school and parent community. We have grouped them and hope to answer the majority of your questions.</p> <p>Lee Moors: He will be here for the next 6-8 months as our Project Manager with expertise for transition of HASIS to the site and time and prepared staffed and equipped for the first lessons. I am looking forward to working with you. I feel enthusiastic and appreciate the welcome I have received so far. He is here to discuss concerns and support the new school. His responsibility will be to prepare and set up everything for the new school and make sure that everything is ready for the teachers, students and parents. This is a transition that includes with whole community. To ensure this open and clear communication is required. He will be stationed at the construction site, he will also set up at school to get to know the school, the parents and the students. (Based at the construction site and the current school full time to develop relationships with parents, staff and children and an understanding of the current school context). He will be the main contact for communication for parents and stakeholders with opportunity for meetings and information updates. He might not be able to answer all the questions and concerns but he will respond to all the emails.</p> <p>Please write to: (It will be on the HASIS website)</p> <p>Mr. Ken: Golden opportunity to take things further. Reinventing the process that is already in place. Presenting the design of the schools. Physical things that can enhance learning is light. The second</p>



thing is the temperature. We will have a state of the art building with great light, controlled temperatures, resources and facilities. All the facilities that will be there and all will be state of the art. This is a great opportunity to have a beacon not only for Oman but for the region.

**Item 4
Questions**

School operation and timings

Calendar and Ramadan – Not going to change this year approved by the ministry
School Day (Shorter/longer/different) – We will discuss this with the team
Assemblies and exams – Bind by the ministry and will continue for now (parent interrupted and was asked to wait till the end of the assembly)
Books and resources – We will revise the current practice
Security (Cameras and guards) – state of the art and safety is a high priority

Communication Mr. Rashid the questions that he asked about the school. He was shocked at the response because he was able to communicate about results and general information. He arranged to see the best systems to implement but it is only as good as people are at using it.

Phone system – New system and more lines, more ability to leave messages this was one of
Managing information systems – there will be a system to communicate with the school directly
Clinic – there will be a more comprehensive clinic in the new building

Classrooms and teaching

English language learning – will be looked at
KG Programme – will be revised and discussed
Homework and study support – We will look up the policies and procedures and revise and reset it if necessary.
Behavior for learning
Professional development and teachers training – they will plan and provide professional development initiatives to improve best practice
Accountability school bags and books
Educational visit and policy

Learning Support/student services These services will seriously be looked at to improve and to provide the best opportunities for students to learn. This includes looking at finding the right teachers

Inclusion team accelerated learning
Additional support within the school day
Student assessment policy

**Item 5
Question & Answer session + ground rules presented by Mr. Mohammed**

Ground Rules
Specific questions
One question and wait for the answer and if you need to comment and you can ask individual questions

Lutfi: What is going to change in the curriculum?
We have already started to discuss this, but we are looking what can be changed and improve
He is concerned about the curriculum because he saw a huge change and he is concerned....
We will look at improvement and see what can be implemented.



Marina: How long have you been working with the HASIS team,

We have worked remotely. This is the point where everything is ramping on.

This is an international school looks like and wonder why their questions are not answered. There was a transition plan and there was plans for a two-stream school and we were under an understanding that things will be different? We are concerned how you are going to cover this? Mr. Rashid reminded that we were always going to have one stream. It will be one international stream. Mr. Ken is advising that you will be updated as we go forward

Lionel: There is history, what is the status right now? Is the preparation on task? Is everything ready? We do not want to be 'blindsided' again. All the activities, what is the timeframe?

We have a plan and we will share with you the key milestones, we will summarize and share as appropriate. We will not share all of the plan with you?

What is going to be next year's action plan? What is the changes? We want to know? What is the specifics? New school on track, yes. Will it be ready, yes. Are we arranging the construction, resources and recruitment, yes. Have we finalized the school structures, yes. Are we going to share everything with you, no. Are we going to communicate effectively with you, YES.

Mr. Rashid mentioned that there is a structure in place. We have BOT, we are working with the management team. We have the PTA, we have the experts. We working together and we ask for your trust. Please work with us and focus on the beginning the school. Parents and children are HAPPY!

Mr. Mohammed we are working together.

Mr. Mubarak: This change, some people get the message that there was something wrong and now we should fix it. This is a good school and good teachers. We are not worried about the replacement but we hope to have a new start. Who is the PTA in this meeting? We need someone else form the parents to step in. Are you going to teach them different? It is international, how are you going to teach them differently? I would love to see my kids there. What are really the change? We lost the teachers. After the first few weeks they will moan. We want to know what we can do to help.

There are things that will not change. IGCSE will not change. GED will not change. We need to look at improvement. No radical change. The school is on a journey, there is always room for improvement.

Mother: She has more than 20 years of experience in education and with the ministry of education and competition and in international competition and our students are not participating. Our students are ready and she doesn't know why they are not participating. Award system and house system. Communication , her daughter fell and the school clinic is not really equipped. So she feels that this needs to improve. Every time we get a phone call and parents have to fetch their child, which is something she does not believe in.

Awards will be revise and we are not responsible for how the clinic works at the current school however we will have state of the art facilities in the future.

Mother: We joined in October and we just want to know if my commitment will be valuable next year? Not sure why it didn't happen, but we will value your input in the future. The school was very busy.

Second question is about the curriculum? What will it look like and will things be communicated with us.

Dad: My child is Gr.10 and in his IGCSE? Yes we do. We have a person that runs it so far. For the Gr.11&12 for our international students, what are you going to offer. No IB or American Diploma. Or A levels. Future is not certain, but we don't know what we will be offering.

Dad: He is concerned about faculty . What about our students in Gr.10 – 12. How are they going to be prepared for the challenges. What are you planning to do?

We are in a difficult position of what to do. We cannot keep the teachers....our recruitment program, we would love to find a lead of teachers that is experienced in Oman, but we are aware that this



might not happen. We are hoping to find the experience and suitable candidates for the new school
Mr. Rashid: This is a long issue. This is as a result of MIS. Whether we have new teachers or old teachers this is not the issue, we just want to ensure that we have good teachers. If there were a solution, we would have done it. We want to make sure that we choose teachers that is good for us and we control the best interest of the school.

Speech from BOT - You are representing our whole community and your children are the core of this process. We are changing and the reality is that there will be adjustments and we will have to be realistic about our expectations. We have to consider that we do not know everything about education and we have to work together. Today was a positive opportunity to communicate and put ideas into concrete action. We can guarantee that we will answer all the question. We will hold Al Najah responsible an liable. We will look at individual issues and deal with them as they arise. We need to work with the management team. Let's work together and set up a time to work with the PTA and set up a time. Let's support and help them. We are glad to hear about all the issues and we will work through them and reach something good for everyone.

Mr. Rashid closes the session by thanking the team and the parents for their attendance. We are proud of the achievements of the school but we want to improve. This is what we want to do. The teachers and school team continued to work and support the school. Please to support and appreciate the understand the situation.

Mr. Mostafa took some time to thank the parents for their support and for their consideration of the situation.

Mr. Rashid also reminded parents that what we are saying in front of our children will influence their interactions in school. Mr. Rashid would like to announce that we will be organize a visit to the new school and customize it to see where your child will be. You will share your experiences and provide feedback. We have been preparing for this. We need your feedback to succeed for the new school. To clarify your expectations.

Blue – Questions

Black – the responses

Green – Information shared by Mr. Rashid

Red – Speech made by Mr. Hamed