



#### Parent Seminar – Update

On Thursday November 23, our parent seminar will be highlighted by a presentation by from Mr. Doug Dworak, our Middle School / High School Counselor and Ms. Nicole Stacey, our Student Support Services Coordinator and Elementary Counselor. Their presentation will be focused on the various counseling services they provide for KAS students. The presentation will be in the Library following the Elementary Assembly and will start at 8:15.

On Thursday December 14, Ms. Susan Boutros and Mr. Steve Alexander will make a presentation and hold a discussion about the KAS Mission Statement, Vision of the school, and the importance of developing our students as Global Citizens. These guiding statements for our school have recently been reviewed and updated so that we use them to improve our school. The presentation will be in the Library following the Elementary Assembly and will start at 8:15.

#### KAS Board of Governors Meeting and Board Training

The next KAS Board meeting will take place on Friday, November 17 at 9:00 am in the Conference room. On Saturday, November 18 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm the Board will welcome Dr. Gail Schoppert to lead the Board and School Administration through a day of training that will focus on roles, duties and responsibilities. Dr. Schoppert is an expert on International School Board training and has worked in many international schools both as a School Director and Board Trainer.

#### Emergency Student and Staff Practice

Recently the KAS student body and staff successfully completed a fire drill. Everyone evacuated quickly and orderly to the collection site. On Wednesday, November 8, staff and students also successfully completed a Lockdown drill. A lockdown drill is important for us to practice in the case of unwanted intruders entering our campus. It is important for us to practice these drills to make sure everyone is safe during emergencies.

KAS Superintendent

When do we develop our sense of morality? How much guidance do we need along the way to develop a moral code? In the Radiolab podcast, "Kiddie Morality," I was surprised by how people remember specific incidences from their childhood which permanently shaped their moral compass, most of these incidences occurring with little to no adult guidance, lectures or urging.

The podcast suggested that children benefit from a little more guidance, and that the key is to keep from being overly lenient or controlling, but rather to aim for a balanced level of parental involvement. The following statement from the podcast resonated with me: "The hapllowi9l.066 Tw crhe hg49 Tw podcas

For secondary school counselors, it is November (not April) that can sometimes feel like the cruelest month. Early Action and Early Decision applications are being sent to selective universities in the US, seniors are beginning to stress about their final SAT sitting in December, the PSAT has come and gone for 10th and 11th graders, but without any results yet to show them their progress. It seems that we are often working harder than ever but still somehow not gaining ground.

I am very happy to report to our KAS community that this November has been much less painful for our students than many of their counterparts around the world! Our 12th graders are well on their way to finishing their Early Action/Early Decision applications before deadline and the senior class as a whole is well positioned to submit their applications by our own internal deadline of December 1st, well in advance of most January 1st deadlines, in order to allow them ample time to prepare for their exams, enjoy the winter holiday, and avoid the agony of a last minute submission only to find that the internet cut out!

Beyond the normal university counseling items, the high school counseling program has co-opted our Hear the Herd program this fall to better integrate academic and career counseling in to grades 9-11. They have been meeting by grade level every week with their advisors and the counselor to begin working on some time management strategies, career surveys, character and values reflections, as well as other assignments that will help them navigate who they are and what direction best suits them as they progress as young people.

For now, if you see a 12th grader that is perhaps looking a little more exasperated than normal, remind them that November isn't forever and they will soon reap the fruits of their labor!

Yours,

School Counselor

