



September 30, 2009

Dear Parents:

We have gotten off to a good start with the new school year. I trust it has been a good start for your children as well. Thanks to the support of Endicott College, we had three recognized external speakers that provided an important part of our Teachers' in-service sessions last August. Recognized Montessori specialists Marsha and Phillip Snow came from New Zealand to share workshops with all of our teachers. They focused on holistic learning and ecology. Dr. Sarah Quay, Dean of Education at Endicott, came to provide a special workshop for our Upper School teachers sharing the results of surveys they have conducted on what High School students need to succeed in College and tying it to the skills needed for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools. These helped set the tone to start off classes on a positive note.

The changes in our team of directors seems to be working well. Dr. Max Tudor has left a very positive impression in his new role as Campus Headmaster in Tlalpan. Among other key initiatives, he is pushing to greatly expand our after school sports and arts activities to better serve our students. Laura Ascencio has successfully assumed the position of Lomas Campus Headmaster, Nancy Peterson that of Cuajimalpa Campus Middle School Principal and Lourdes Illescas that of Director of Curriculum and Professional Development. The initial results of all three are very encouraging in these key areas of the Schools. In addition, Susan McGrath started as our new Elementary English Coordinator and seems to be working well in her new job and adjusting to Mexico.

Last September 24-25 the Schools hosted the bi-annual ASOMEX Librarians Conference. 38 librarians from eight different schools and 13 principals and coordinators from Peterson attended the conference hosted at our Tlalpan Campus. We brought in two key resources to conduct this conference. With the support of the Educational Foundation of the Americas, Inc, we were able to bring down Barbara Jansen who is the head librarian of St. Andrew's Episcopal School which is an ISAS school that has Michael Dell's children attending and offers exemplary use of technology and libraries. With the support of Follett, a library software company, Beau Cain from the American School in Monterrey shared with us the success story of what they have accomplished at his school. Finally, Benjamin Medina from the Benjamin Franklin library in Mexico City shared with us an interesting presentation as well. This congress was important in developing a common vision among our librarians and principals as to the key role that our libraries need to play in our schools.

These steps are all important in helping Peterson to become the best bilingual school in Mexico.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Peterson  
Director General