

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS GROUP Saudi Arabia

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Superintendent

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*(ISG is a not-for-profit Educational System
for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.)*

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“Committed to Educational Excellence”

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Dear ISG Community,

Good morning and Ramadan Kareem. We would like to welcome back all of our students, parents, and staff following summer break. To our new students and staff, we are delighted that you have joined us!

ISG District begins each school year with a community-wide discussion to focus our efforts. This year's theme, "We've got your back," is taken from the inspirational movie *The Blind Side* and serves as a reminder of the potential within every student, the strength of working as a team, and the importance of our partnership with parents and the community.

At ISG, our success is illustrated by the continued growth of our diverse student body – now over 3,200 strong. In response to this growth, ISG looks forward to continued progress on numerous planning initiatives and facility investments across the District, including the future inauguration of a new Yanbu International School campus, new classrooms in Jubail and ground breaking for a new ISG Dammam campus.

As a community of learners, and to ensure our continued success, we will strive over the course of the year to evaluate what makes us good and how we can improve. Setting the framework for decision-making are the new Mission, Belief Statements and Graduate Profiles developed for the District and by representatives from each of our schools. (Please consult the ISG website at www.isgdh.org for more information.) May these documents, which reflect our collective vision guide our daily efforts in meeting the needs of our students.

At ISG, our curriculum is assessed on a rotating schedule by subject to offer the most up-to-date programs and ensure alignment across grade levels. This year, ISG staff will assess our science and physical education curriculum with an eye towards integration of the International Baccalaureate programme in August of 2011. Our internal evaluation, as part of the Accreditation for Growth (AFG) process, culminates this year in the formal assessment of five of our schools by visiting representatives of the Middle States Associate of Colleges and Schools to complete our re-accreditation process. Staff and students are also preparing for Virtual School scheduled October 10 -12 to provide a test run of on-line systems and increase student and staff skills in the event of an emergency school closure.

Another exciting and rewarding year awaits ISG as we welcome our students and staff back to the classroom. We embrace the significance of Ramadan for our families and look forward to the celebration of the upcoming Eid holiday. Welcome back and enjoy this special time!

Respectfully,

Norma Hudson
ISG Superintendent

Bill Stapp
ISG Deputy Superintendent