

**Message to Parents
Coronavirus
Update March 28 2020
Message Four**

The following is the fourth update concerning precautions being taken by the school concerning the coronavirus. Our goal is to provide clear communication to our parents and students. If you have any questions concerning this information please connect with your Stage Vice-Principal.

Modification of the School Day

Schools and on campus activities are still suspended by the Ministry of Education till further notice.

Academic Program

Arabic Studies

- On April 2, the ministry will announce the details of the projects from grade 1-11. The projects will include the content starting from Semester 2 up till March 15. All students are responsible to complete these projects under the supervision of their teachers. These projects will be submitted on line. Any copied or plagiarized project according to the ministry instructions will lead to failing the student and having a makeup test by the end of summer before the new academic year.
- Please note, Grade 12 students will be required to write a final exam in June 2020.

All other Subjects –

- Google Classroom - On-line learning will continue until which time students are allowed to return to school. Students will receive regular scheduling of assigned material; assignment due dates will be clearly noted.
- Zoom – The Zoom cloud meeting platform will be introduced to teachers, parents and students beginning the week of March 29th, 2020. This is an interactive tool to allow teachers and students to complete 'live' lessons as well as question and answer periods. It will also allow teachers to provide demonstration lessons through the week. Some teachers will be using Zoom through the week of March 29th, 2020. DAIS has set April 5th for full implementation across all classrooms.
- Applying to University –Under normal conditions the GPA would represent 40 % of admission mark and the SAT would represent the remaining 60%. For all grade 12 students and in order to facilitate their universities admissions, the GPA will be weighted as 100%. Those who are done with the SAT will have the chance to be given both calculations and receive the highest without the need of an admission test by the university. As for those who did not get or finish their SAT, the calculation will be based on GPA as 100% and they have to write an admission test. As for those who have the similar case and want to join any practical college (Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, etc.) they need to prove that the prerequisite subjects are covered and shown in the transcript.
- University Entrance Exams – It should also be noted that all Egyptian Universities will be introducing entrance exams to assist in screening students for the 2020-2021 academic year. To prepare for these exams, it becomes highly important that all of our students seriously engage in the on-line lessons that are offered by DAIS.

Costs for Maintaining School Operations and School Fees

Although the physical building has been closed to students and staff. Some parents have inquired why fees are not being cancelled or reduced. The work of teaching and learning continues. Costs related to maintaining services is a reality that still exists. The following are examples of the costs that are ongoing regardless of the restricted access to DAIS physical plant.

On-line Support Services – DAIS supports the teaching / learning process with a number of on-line programs. Each has subscription costs that are paid either annually or on a monthly bases. Examples of these on-line services include:

- Membership with Cogna – This is our accreditation agency that provides and monitors the standards the school is expected to meet to ensure our academic program and the physical / social environment meets the expectations to grant an American Diploma. The agency provides support service such as in-service and online tools to assist and document our journey of continuous improvement.
- MAP Testing – This testing is used to provide a standardized measure to ensure school academic standards are meeting international mean standards of achievement. This testing is also used to provide valuable information concerning the school accreditation process.
- IXL – This is an online skills program that is used for regular review. This program is used both inside the classroom and at home.
- Infobase – On-line Library – this program gives staff and students electronic library access from early elementary to grade 12. The program is used to support the school’s literacy program and provide a wealth of research support.
- HMH – On-Line – Science and Math support for early years and elementary.

Service Costs

- Cleaning of the inside of the building – To ensuring the building is clean and ready for students regular maintenance of the building is still taking place. In addition, the building is receiving deep cleaning as a preventive measure during this time of concern over the coronavirus.
- Outside gardens – The outside of the building continues to be maintained.
- Security – The school is kept secure ensuring all contents and records are secure at all hours during the day.
- WiFi – Although the building is closed to small groups, teachers still have access if they require support to maintain the teaching and learning process.
- Busing Contract – Although the busing is not being used, the school has an obligation to continue paying for the contract signed at the beginning of the year. This ensures all bus drives continue to receive their salaries during this time of challenge.
- **Special Note – Busing Credit for Parents** –Parents who had students using a bus during the 2019-2020 will receive a credit towards next academic years 2020-2021 busing costs.

Employee Costs

- It should be noted that not one of DAIS employees will be laid of work or be dismissed from their duties due to this current situation. During this time, our teachers are providing on-line services and our administrative staff continue to provide both financial, human resource, maintenance and security support.
- As with most educational organizations employee costs represent high percentage of our school expenses.

Elementary Annual Show

As previously mentioned, is canceled for this academic year.