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### Highlight of the Issue

#### SABIS® Launches Computer-Based Examinations (CBE)

The launch of the SABIS® Computer-Based Examinations (CBE) took place on Saturday, April 24, 2004 at *the International School of Choueifat - Choueifat, Lebanon* in its state-of-the-art exam hall featuring 165 computers. The opening ceremony brought together government officials, representatives from academic bodies, parents, and students.

The SABIS® CBE allows students to take their exams on computers. Exams are immediately corrected and students are given a chance to re-take the incorrectly answered questions. Exams and retakes are done in the same

session with the section of the chapter of the book related to the incorrect question given to the students on their computer screens for review. Students who obtain high scores are then given challenging questions to push them to reach their full potential. The program allows for the efficient implementation of the SABIS® Educational System, a system which hinders the formation of learning gaps through frequent assessment and follow-up. Obvious benefits include instant marking and on-the-spot correction of mistakes and unanswered questions; thus,



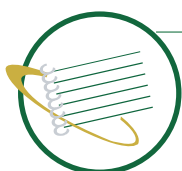
<http://www.sabis.net>

Now available online

For more information on, or employment within the SABIS® School Network, access our websites:

<http://www.sabis.net>, <http://www.sabiscareers.com>

**Disclaimer:** As SABIS® is a global organization operating in several countries, English usage in the SABIS® newsletter may vary depending on the style used (U.S./ U.K.) in the region represented.



giving students the chance to review and learn from their mistakes immediately after the exams have been taken.

SABIS® CBE is another technology introduced to the SABIS® School Network. Look out for new computerized testing halls at *ISC-Abu Dhabi, UAE*, and *SICSMA, USA* very soon!

## SABIS® Regional Event *Regional Tournament*



Over the weekend of Friday, April 16 and Saturday, April 17, 2004, *ISC-Cairo* and *ISC-City of 6 October* co-hosted the SABIS® Regional Sports Tournament. The tournament brought together SABIS® member schools from Qatar, Syria, Oman, Jordan, and Lebanon, as well as selected schools and clubs from the Cairo area.

It was an action-packed, record-breaking two days full of personal and team achievement, excitement, triumph, and *fun!* Students from all over the Middle East came together to compete in swimming, sprinting, basketball, and football.



The climax of the two-day event was the boys' basketball final, pitting *ISC-Koura* against *the Heliopolis Club of Cairo*. It was a thrilling, breathtaking match that showcased the sheer talent of the competitors in a contest of speed and skill. The match was the culmination of a sporting event that will long remain in memories as one which forged new links of friendship and competition among students.

Plans for next year's tournament are already underway and include more participating countries and an even wider range of activities.

## Greensboro Education Management LLC (GEM) *Ends Management of Guilford Charter School*



GEM ended its management and operation of *Guilford Charter School, NC* effective at the end of the 2003-2004 school year. Employing the SABIS® college-preparatory education model since it opened in 2001, *GCS* served 247 students in grades K-8. Despite operational challenges caused by fiscal deficits, the school built a record of outstanding student achievement which exceeded expectations.

*"We are pleased that we have been able to work in partnership with the Board of Directors to serve the students and families of Greensboro",* said Udo Schulz, SABIS® VP. *"We are proud of our academic success, which the state has acknowledged in its renewal of the school's charter for a second five-year term...Unfortunately, despite these academic successes, the lack of state funding*

for facilities has led to severe fiscal strain on the budget...Under these conditions, GEM is unable to guarantee continued academic success," added Schulz. He continued, "We are committed to working closely with the Board to assure that there is a smooth transition of management at this school."

## Somerville, MA

### SABIS® Preschool



The SABIS® Pre-school will soon open its doors to children from 2.9 to 5 years of age in Somerville, MA. The Pre-school, housed in a nurturing, purpose-built facility, will help children reach their potential with emphasis on social, emotional, and cognitive development.

SABIS® Pre-school students will engage in a variety of activities throughout the day. The school will also provide daycare and kindergarten activities with developmentally appropriate lesson plans based on the SABIS® curriculum.



For more information, please visit [www.sabispreschool.net](http://www.sabispreschool.net)

## SLO News

### The Arts are Alive and Flourishing at ICSS



Students at *the International Charter School of Schenectady (ICSS), NY* enjoy a well-balanced education including not only academics but also a flourishing art education program with a focus on art, music, and dance.

Under the leadership of art teacher Philip Shaw, the 2003-2004 art education program at *ICSS* has focused on understanding art, both in its creation and in its history. Beginning in kindergarten, students are exposed to art and art history from a variety of cultural sources which serve as backdrops for each of their projects.

Before attempting their own creations, *ICSS* students study styles and theories as exemplified in the work of professional artists. Beginning in second grade, alongside the creation of their artwork, students express their thoughts about art through writing. Writing about art not only increases the students' awareness of art and its role in the world, but also reinforces the material they have learned in class.

An opportunity for students to earn public recognition for their art came when both third grade classes created centerpieces for *the annual New York State English Council Conference* in October 2003. Completing the statement: "Students and teachers can learn together by ..." and then illustrating that thought on cylindrical construction-paper sculptures, students' ideas ranged from reading together to playing sports to talking and writing together. At the conference banquet, the president of *NYSEC* honored the students' work by having attendees read the statements aloud to the rest of the group. *ICSS* students were complimented on the quality of their thinking and art expression.

Music is another subject that colors students' lives at *ICSS*. Taught by Mrs. Adrienne Bridges, students learn the elements of music through singing, listening, theory games, musical composition, creative movement, and playing instruments. Concerts are performed each year for an audience of

parents, as well as for school assemblies throughout the year.

Dance is a third component of the arts program at *ICSS*. *ICSS* has made dance available to students through the physical education program. Each class has an annual five-week rotation when students can take dance as one of their two gym classes. Taught by a professional dance instructor, students do creative movement or learn hip-hop, depending on their age. This is a good introduction to an artistic "sport" that surprises students with its physical demands.

*ICSS* brings these valuable opportunities to explore the world of art and personal expression to young people and encourages experimentation with arts as a way to enrich lives. In addition to benefiting from the excellent academic program provided by the SABIS® curriculum, children at *the International Charter School of Schenectady, NY* enjoy enriching experiences in art, music, and dance that round out their school day and develop their special areas of personal interest.

For more information, please access [www.icss-sabis.net](http://www.icss-sabis.net)

## Student Testimonial

ISF Student, 2004

// When I look at university and see all the students trying to find a place to fit in, I am glad that I was involved in the SABIS® Student Life Organization™. It taught me that if I cannot find something that interests me, I can just create my own opportunity." //

## "OLIVER TWIST" Performed by Students from The International School of Choueifat - Amman

On the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of May, *the International School of Choueifat - Amman* presented performances of the musical 'Oliver'. Both performances featured a cast of ninety students playing to a 'full house' of parents and visitors in the purpose-built school theatre.



The play is an adaptation of the novel 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens. It was an instant success in London in the 1960's and has since been performed all over the world and has always been a great favorite among school productions.

Many weeks of hard work went into the rehearsals and with such a young cast, most of whom were in Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5, the standard of performance was quite remarkable. Razan Kawar, from the

*ISC-Amman's* Music Department, directed the show and members of the Art Department designed and decorated the set. This was very much a team effort with other teachers and administrators contributing to different aspects of the show. All of this dedication and commitment was more than justified by the final results.

Congratulations to everyone involved on such an entertaining and wonderful evening!

*ISC – Amman* is a member of the SABIS® School Network, currently comprising twenty-eight schools on four continents. Founded in 1886, SABIS® is recognized for the quality of education it offers and for its outstanding track record.

For more information, please visit [www.iscamman-sabis.net](http://www.iscamman-sabis.net)

## High Scores for Three ISM Students on the AMC 12

Three students from *the International School of Minnesota* earned scores on *the American Mathematics Competition 12 (AMC 12)* that qualified them to take part in *the American Invitational Mathematics Exam (AIME)*. Seniors Eva Cornell and Eric Schoenfeld have qualified three years in a row and Junior Sarah Dar is a first-time qualifier for the next step in the testing process in *the International Math Olympiad*.

According to *the Mathematical Association of America*, "*The American Mathematics Competition (AMC) is dedicated to the goal of strengthening the mathematical capabilities of our nation's youth.*" The three *ISM* students took the *AMC 12* which is a 25-question, 75-minute multiple choice examination containing problems which can be understood and solved with pre-calculus concepts and the use of a calculator. The test covers a wide range of knowledge and ability; therefore, there is a corresponding wide range of scores. As such, the *AMC 12* is used to identify those few students with truly exceptional mathematics talent -- students like Eva, Eric, and Sarah. The *AMC* provides an indication of how students stand relative to other students in the country and around the world. The first in a series of examinations (followed in the United States by *the American Invitational Examination and the USA Mathematical Olympiad*) top scores on the *AMC 12* qualify students for participation in *the International Mathematical Olympiad*. *ISM* has had one participant -- Chris Arnesen -- in *the International Math Olympiad*, the most prestigious and difficult secondary mathematics examination in the world. With the talent and aptitude of these three students, we may be looking at more participants for the *ISM* history book.

Janet Mahr, SABIS® AQC, has had the privilege to oversee the students taking the *AIME* which is comprised of fifteen questions and must be completed -- without calculators -- in 3 hours. "*It was great to feel their energy and their excitement!*" Mrs. Mahr stated. Congratulations to Eva, Eric, and Sarah...and good luck!

For more information, please visit [www.ism-sabis.net](http://www.ism-sabis.net)

## Parent Testimonial

Parents of an ISC-Amman Student, 2004

// We would like to express our deepest gratitude and thanks to all administrative and academic staff members of ISC-Amman for the daily follow-up, supervision, and care that you provide to your students, be it from an academic or non-academic viewpoint. This greatly influences all children, benefits them, and develops their personalities and characters in a positive and healthy manner. //

## Feature School

### *The International School of Choueifat - Doha*



*The International School of Choueifat – Doha* opened its doors in 1999 with a mere 337 students. Today, its K-12 student population has grown to ca. 600 students. Awaiting the completion of the new purpose-built campus in the West Bay Area of Doha, the school has been based in a temporary building near the city airport.

Nearing completion, the new 45,000 SQM campus will be ready in the summer of 2004. The new campus will offer innovative educational facilities. These facilities will include modern classroom buildings equipped with computer and science laboratories, a library, a semi-Olympic swimming pool, multi-purpose sports surfaces including a grass football pitch, a gymnasium, extensive playgrounds, and a cafeteria. Additionally, the KG department will be equipped with a large play area, a car track, and its own indoor swimming pool.

*ISC-Doha* is a member of the SABIS® School Network which currently comprises twenty-eight schools spanning four continents, educating ca. 25,000 students.

## Academics

The educational program serves both Qatari and multi-national communities. The school's curriculum is derived from the Choueifat / SABIS® Educational System and prepares students for both American and British external examinations while readying students for admission to the most prestigious universities in the world. All courses are appropriate to the students' developmental stages and a well-rounded education is offered; however, emphasis is placed on academic achievement from the early years. Students study English, Arabic, and French at the level as determined by their academic attainment. Student learning is continuously monitored ensuring that gaps are promptly identified and effective follow-up is implemented.

When the school first opened, students were introduced to the SABIS® methods of teaching and most students had to be brought up to the SABIS® standards as well. To achieve this with the least disruption to the progress of the students, special classes were introduced for each level and concentration was placed on Math and English until students achieved the accepted level and were mainstreamed. For the 2003-2004 academic year, only ONE special class was introduced for three students who made the transition to the SABIS® Educational System.

The 2003-2004 academic year saw the school's second graduating class. Proud graduates, administrators, and guests participated in commencement exercises as well as the traditional tree-planting ceremony.

## The SABIS® Student Life Organization™

A student-run administration, the SABIS® SLO™ offers students real-life experiences in responsibility, management, and organization in preparation for the challenges they will encounter throughout life.

The SABIS® SLO™ is very active at *ISC-Doha* with students 'fired up' to become 'power prefects'. Others are involved in keeping the school clean and safe. Peer tutoring is also very active and has fostered a spirit of teamwork.

The SABIS® SLO™ provides students with the opportunity to help each other academically and develop life skills, empowering them to make a difference in their respective society.



Recently, the students arranged field trips for every section in the school. An example is the ninth grade trip to the desert and the KG trip to the zoo. Additionally throughout the year, a number of concerts and fun days were arranged. The highlight was the cultural day that took place at the end of April 2004. Classrooms were decorated to represent the nationalities attending *ISC-Doha*. Areas between each classroom were transformed when the students put on an impromptu exhibition of their national dances.

*ISC-Doha* students shared their enthusiasm, national pride, and rich heritage with all who participated in the cultural day.

## Sports

*ISC-Doha* teams competed against the local schools in various sports. In January, they hosted a very successful football tournament and were very proud of the senior team who won their section. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004, several grade three gymnasts travelled to Dubai where they participated in the Inter-School Tournament. A number of *ISC-Doha* girls were in possession of medals on their trip home.

*ISC-Doha* offers extra-curricular activities, providing students with the opportunity to be involved in pursuits not normally available in the school's program. Some of these extra-curricular activities include gymnastics, tae-kwon-do, ballet, tennis, swimming, and classical guitar.

For more information on the school, please access [www.iscdoha-sabis.net](http://www.iscdoha-sabis.net)

## Alumnus Spotlight

### Hemery Phifer, IAF Class 2004



Hemery Phifer knows the definition of hard work and modeled this in everything he encountered as a student at *the International Academy of Flint, Michigan*.

Hemery, who has lived in the Flint area all of his life, last attended *Flint Central High School*, but says he was distracted there. His grades slipped and he was unable to concentrate. "My main focus was not my grades," Hemery said. "I wanted to go somewhere else and change completely." Hemery made the transition to *the International Academy of Flint* in 2000, halfway through his junior year. He was eager to join *IAF* because of its superior reputation, its college-preparatory courses, and his desire to attend college.

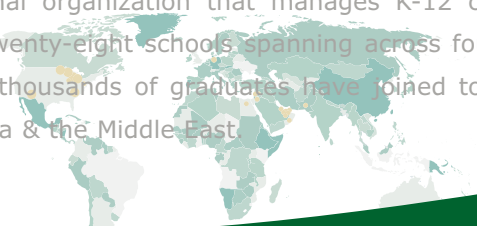
Hemery came to *IAF* looking for a new beginning and he established a standard that is second to none! He has been a model student both in and out of the classroom and has thrived in various leadership capacities within the SABIS® Student Life Organization™, particularly focusing on the areas of discipline and student management. He has further displayed endless dedication and determination throughout his involvement in academics, choir, basketball, track, and after-school tutoring/mentoring for students in the lower school. In addition to his involvement in the school, he has also been active outside *IAF*. He is a volunteer for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, active in his church, and holds a black belt in karate, which required endless hours of training and competitions. Hemery's balance and motivation is an inspiration to many.

Hemery has always been determined, though faced with the many challenges that young people confront. He is a leader and has a genuine concern for others. "I am just dedicated," Hemery insists. "This is where it all begins."

After graduating from *the International Academy of Flint*, Hemery is planning on attending *Kettering University in Flint, MI* to specialize in Engineering. "Hemery has truly just begun. He has an incredible future ahead of him", stated *IAF* Director.



SABIS® is an educational organization that manages K-12 co-educational schools worldwide. Today, the network comprises twenty-eight schools spanning across four continents. Since the first school was founded in 1886, thousands of graduates have joined top universities in North America, Europe, Australia & the Middle East.



## MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE SABIS® SCHOOL NETWORK

The International School of Choueifat - **Choueifat, Lebanon** | The International School of Choueifat - **Sharjah, UAE** | The International School of Choueifat - **Abu Dhabi, UAE** | The International School of Choueifat - **Al Ain, UAE** | The International School of Minnesota - **Minneapolis, USA** | The International School of Choueifat - **Ras Al Khaimah, UAE** | The International School of Choueifat - **Lahore, Pakistan** | The International School of Choueifat - **Dubai, UAE** | The International School of Choueifat - **Umm Al Quwain, UAE** | The SABIS® International Charter School - **Springfield, Massachusetts, USA** | ISF Internationale Schule Frankfurt - **Rhein-Main, Germany** | The International School of Choueifat - **Cairo, Egypt** | The International School of Choueifat - **Koura, Lebanon** | The International School of Choueifat - **Amman, Jordan** | The International Academy of Flint - **Michigan, USA** | King Abdul Aziz International School - **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (Associate Member)** | The International School of Choueifat - **Doha, Qatar** | The International School of Choueifat - **Damascus, Syria** | The SABIS® International School - **South Phoenix, Arizona, USA** | Modern Education School - **Muscat, Oman** | Ruwais Private School - **Ruwais, Abu Dhabi, UAE** | The International Charter School of Schenectady - **New York, USA** | Milestone SABIS® Academy of New Orleans - **New Orleans, Louisiana, USA** | Internationale Schule am Rhein - **Neuss, Germany** | The International School of Choueifat - **Dreamland - City of 6 October Branch, Egypt** | International College Preparatory Academy - **Ohio, USA** | The SABIS® Pre-School - **Somerville, Massachusetts, USA**