

Sample Areas for Growth

Areas for Growth

Section A: Organization for Student Learning

- The school promotes collaboration amongst educators, however there is scope for more collaboration. As the school grows and teachers have fewer courses to prep for there is a greater possibility for collaboration between teachers of different disciplines.
- The school needs to continue to place emphasis on implementation of ESLR's and the IB learner profile.
- The school is moving toward the greater use of technology both in the classroom and at home to provide students with more interesting and differentiated means of learning. This process needs to continue, but it is held back at times by the quality of the local Internet infrastructure.
- Critical learner needs expository/research writing and creativity and critical thinking needs to be emphasized in all grade levels starting from K through out IB.
- The school wide plan needs to emphasize writing, which leads to potential mastery of a core skill and prepares students for the extended essays in the IB.
- The school needs to continue to develop a system whereby all documents are stored in a systematic manner.

Section B1: Curriculum

- Assessment and reporting are not yet fully-aligned with standards, but this is a school-wide area for action.
- ESLR student achievement data is new in elementary and not yet documented in MS or HS and thus not conclusive.
- As the school continues its conversion to standards-based reporting, student work will continue to be evaluated more directly for evidence of having learned the standards.

Section B2: Instruction

- ** students do not always self-assess their progress toward reaching the standards.
- ** students do not demonstrate overall strength in skills of creativity outside the areas of the arts.
- More time and opportunities for teachers to collaborate is needed. This would improve cross-curricular planning and allow teachers to share best-practice strategies.
- ** should consider allowing students in the elementary and high school access to a learning support teacher as this is currently only available in the middle school. This could be used both for students who need extra support and for students who need extra enrichment.
- Teachers would benefit by integrating technology more systematically into their classes.

Section B3: Assessment

- A unified, structured approach and purpose is needed for elementary school portfolios, and in

the middle school where some uniform structures have been put into place, improvement in managing the development of student portfolios is needed to continue progress.

- Strategies, resources, and professional development are needed to assess and measure student progress of ESLRs.
- Common assessments are needed along with time for collaborative teams to analyze student assessments/work in order to apply grading consistently.
- The secondary school should continue its progress in implementing standards-based grading and reporting.
- Professional development is needed to help teachers with how to determine grades within a standards-based grading system.
- Students need to improve in the demonstration of creativity. To that end, more assessment opportunities need to be given to students to demonstrate creativity, and therefore, professional development and assessment rubrics geared to creativity are needed.
- Effort should continue in the area of writing and research. Students should, at each grade level, be assigned to write a research paper of a certain number of words that gradually increases so students are prepared for the requirements of the EE.
- There currently is no communication to secondary school parents on student achievement of the ESLRs.

Section C: Support for Student Personal and Academic Growth

- The counseling program, especially at the middle and high school levels, should be increasingly proactive when working with students. Work needs to be done around educating the ** community about what counselors do. Grounding services within a model that also is responsive to the school communities needs might help.
- More time needs to be spent around college and career counseling at the secondary level and increased exposure to careers at the elementary level.
- Increased frequency of getting direct student feedback regarding support services is advisable.
- Improvements are needed around coordinating a system of academic, social/emotional and career supports, especially at the secondary level.
- Though there are opportunities for students in elementary to be involved in after school activities, a greater variety is needed.
- The school does not regularly evaluate the level of student involvement in co-curricular activities or in support services.
- The school can improve its communication with parents (i.e., provide updated information on the web site, make class web pages easily accessible, and determine other ways to better communicate with parents).

Section D: Resource Management

- While ** is making continued efforts to develop policies for both local and international expatriate teachers, ** should revise the benefit package for the local expatriate teachers to adjust it to the current housing situation in Yangon if possible.
- An area for improvement regarding ** policies and procedures is that currently other than the library's inventory barcoding system there currently isn't a working system in place for an inventory of major instructional materials.
- ** is in need of updating its facilities to meet the standards of a world-class international school.
- ** is in need of improving its facility safety standards (i.e., electrical hazards, mold, rodent infestation, chemicals in the environment).
- ** does not have a formal documented process for regular examination of curriculum.

WASC training

Currently, the school feels a need based model allows for more flexibility and provides greater ability to target curriculum needs as they occur. Creating a documented process, that cycles the courses, may be an area for the school to address in the future in order to link allocation of resources with program needs more systemically.