



THE AMERICAN BILINGUAL SCHOOL

25th November, 2009

Dear ABS parents,

ACCREDITATION WITH AdvancED and MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION (MSA)

We are delighted to officially announce that The American Bilingual School has been accepted as a candidate for both AdvancED/NCA CASI and MSA accreditation.

What accreditation means to you as a parent is the assurance that ABS is focused on raising student achievement, providing a safe and enriching learning environment, and maintaining an efficient and effective school. An accredited school adheres to high quality standards and successful professional standards. Schools that are accredited by NCA CASI and MSA are held accountable for improving student learning on a continual basis. The school credits that students earn at an NCA CASI and MSA accredited school are recognized by schools, colleges, and universities globally meaning that students can continue their educational goals in the United States or around the world.

Accreditation is a method of quality assurance that was developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools. Today, it is used to demonstrate educational quality and is used by education providers of all types.

In order to earn accreditation schools must:

1. **Meet the AdvancEd and MSA standards:** The standards require that schools have a clear vision and purpose; have effective and responsive leadership; have a rigorous curriculum taught through sound, research-based methods; collect, report, and use performance results; provide adequate resources and support for its educational programs; value and communicate with stakeholders; and have a commitments to continuously improve.
2. **Engage in a continuous process of improvement:** Accredited schools are committed to being better today than they were yesterday. The schools identify a shared vision, maintain a school-wide profile of the current reality, establish plans and assess the implementation of interventions.
3. **Demonstrate quality assurance through internal and external review.** Reviewers examine evidence to determine if schools are meeting the standards and achieving goals for improving student learning and school effectiveness.
4. **As parents you can assist with accreditation efforts by:**
 - a. Reinforcing the skills your school is teaching your children.
 - b. Participating in opportunities to provide feedback to your school, i.e. parent surveys, focus groups, and parent meetings.



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Reaching this goal of Candidacy has been reached in a record time of only 3 years in the school's operation. This has been reached by outstanding efforts on the part of Educators, Administrators and all support staff and we are very proud of everyone who has contributed to make this happen.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you, the parents, for your continued support and confidence in the quality of education provided by ABS.

Sincerely,

ABS Management and Staff

