Annual Review 2014-2015 - A year of records

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MESSAGE FROM
THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

In my six years as the Director of The American School of Barcelona, I have seen the school change in so many positive ways, this improvement is thanks to our community of students, educators and parents. In our pursuit of academic excellence, we have made great strides as an international school in five major areas:

Academic Achievement – In 2009, our first group of 20 IB students scored a respectable 31 point average (out of 45) on the IB exams. In 2015, 40 students took the IB exams and scored an impressive 35 point average, placing ASB in the top 20 percent of IB schools worldwide. Our standardized test scores in Elementary and Middle School also demonstrated significant improvement over the past six years. Scores in reading, writing, and math for the majority of our Elementary and Middle School classes were classified as “significantly above” like schools in 2015.

Academic Program – We have significantly expanded our IB program over the past six years, offering more courses and options to students. We have revised our English and math curriculum and instruction methodology to meet rigorous standards. Other international schools are now visiting ASB to learn from our methods and our educators are thriving in a collaborative environment.

Extra-Curricular Programs and Community Service – In 2009, we had a fair number of in house after school programs, but few that truly connected our students with the local or international community. Fast forward six years and you will find a plethora of examples of our students leading and participating in meaningful service projects and enrichment programs. ASB students can be found collaborating with IESE Business School, the public schools and local social service providers, St. Joan de Deu Hospital, Nestlé, and the local senior center, to name a few. ASB athletes compete in sports tournaments across Europe as part of our membership in the European Sports Conference. ASB thespians and orators can now hone their skills through their participation in the New European Speech, Debate and Acting Association. In addition, our students and staff created and continue to lead the annual Barcelona Model United Nations program with over 400 international participants.

Community Demographics – Over the past six years, we have truly evolved into an international school. In 2009, we had 650 students, with only 40 percent coming from outside of Spain. At the start of the 2015-2016 school year, we have grown to approximately 850 students with nearly 65 percent of the families being international.

Facility and Technology – One of the most visible changes at ASB over the past six years has been in our facilities. In 2009, the main building had not been painted in 20 years and our main sports facility was a dirt pitch. Today, we have a refurbished main building with a new library, science labs, wi-fi cabling, and air-conditioning. Early Childhood and Elementary students are learning in a brand new building, while our physical education classes and sports teams practice on a large artificial green field and indoor gym.

We are extremely proud of these accomplishments and our community. Despite these achievements, we know that there is more work to be done. Therefore we want our students to reach their maximum potential. We will continue to improve the educational experience for our students so that they can thrive in a changing global.

Best Regards,

Mark Pingitore
Director
2014-2015 was a year of records but also a year of transformation for The American School of Barcelona. The school year began with a record 789 students enrolled and the opening of the new campus, a state of the art Elementary-ECC building, new library, and a renovated main building. We even had the U.S. Ambassador to Spain officiating at our inauguration party.

2014-2015 was also a year of real progress in our academic program with an increase in our teaching staff, more diverse educational course options, and the expansion of our teacher professional development program. The positive energy enveloped the campus and seeped into the classrooms. The students immersed themselves in their studies and our academic achievement rose significantly on external international assessments in Elementary, Middle, and High School. The mix of quality educators, rigorous academic programs, a diverse international study body, and rich extracurriculars have brought ASB to the forefront of Barcelona and beyond.

During this period of growth and financial stability, the ASB Board of Trustees and Leadership Team have refined ASB’s ambitious vision and long term strategic plan to prepare the way for the next five years of development.

Our aim is to become the most desirable English-based international school in Europe for students, teachers, and parents. The plan foresees an intense focus on teacher development, curriculum, and teaching facilities.

Highlights from The 5 Year Strategic Plan for Excellence in Education

**Vision:**

ASB is an English language based private international school that seeks to continuously improve through innovation. It seeks to create global citizens who are independent and critical thinkers with the self-confidence to maximise their potential. ASB seeks to become recognised as the most desirable English based international school in Europe for students, teachers and parents.

Our goal is for ASB to become a Center of Excellence in Europe. In this endeavor, we launched an international teacher recruitment and retention bonus plan to provide global educators more incentive to come and stay at ASB. We also increased funding for professional development, coaching, and lab-site programs. For next school year we have created six new staff positions to improve student-teacher ratios and provide additional student support.

We will continue to build on recent curriculum improvements to maximize children’s learning and development experiences. We will now expand the adoption of the readers-writers workshop program into Middle School, strengthen our English Language Learning and Spanish Language Learning programs, as well as continue the implementation of our standards based grading, assessment, and feedback system. Next year, we will revise and bolster certain curriculum areas such as science. We will also advance technology integration within core academic subjects.

With the inauguration of the Elementary-ECC building in September 2014, the Board then set out to finalize a plan and get the necessary permits for the construction of a new Middle School building on campus. This building will house 16 new classrooms, as well as a full sized multi-purpose center, serving as both gymnasium and auditorium, enabling us to remove the existing temporary building classrooms. Construction is expected to start in the second half of 2016.

We have seen a tremendous positive change within ASB in the past few years and the next few show the same promise.
Board Structure and Responsibilities

ASB is governed by a Foundation, which is driven by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees (“Board”) is responsible for the overall strategic governance of the School, including appointing, supervising, and working cooperatively with the Director. The Board’s primary objectives are to continuously build on the relationship with the school Director and administration and to plan strategically for the future development of the school. To ensure compliance, the Board is also responsible for developing and establishing policies, upholding standards for accreditation, ensuring financial stability, as well as maintaining an effective model of school governance.

Board Structure

The ASB Board of Trustees is a hybrid structure, composed of:

- **5 Parent-Trustees**
- **2 External (Non-Parent) Trustees**
- **Current ASB Director (Ex-officio, Non-Voting Member)**

**ASB’s 2014-2015 Board of Trustee Members:**

President - Nigel Griffiths  
Vice-President - Sarah Stuart  
Secretary - Xavi Colomina  
Treasurer - Juan José Terraza  
Marketing - Andrew Thompson  
External Appointed - Ramon Aspa  
External Appointed - Pelegri Viader  
ASB Director - Mark Pingitore  

If you have any suggestions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us at Board@asbarcelona.com.

Best Regards,

Nigel Griffiths  
President of Board of Trustees
Seeking outstanding educators each year, The American School of Barcelona recruits the best teachers from the United States, Spain and around the world to provide a world class international education. Our faculty are excellent professionals who seek to encourage critical thinking, develop students’ maximum potential and promote international and local engagement.

ASB has a total of 152 members, 126 of which are educators. All faculty members are highly qualified; 75% hold a Master’s degree or higher. Faculty is diverse, mainly coming from the United States, Canada and the UK.

The achievements of ASB students have not gone unnoticed by the international and local communities. Student enrollment significantly increased in 2014 and our student body is growing more diverse each year, with over 60% of students coming from outside of Spain.
University Acceptance and Matriculation

Graduates from the Classes of 2014 and 2015 have been accepted to the following universities. (Highlighted universities indicate matriculation.)

United States
Bennington College
Bentley University
Boston University
California College of the Arts San Francisco
Clark University
Columbia College Chicago
Cornell University
DePaul University
Drexel University
Emerson College
Eugene Lang College, The New School for Liberal Arts
Fordham University
Indiana University at Bloomington
Loyola University Chicago
Marymount Manhattan College
New York Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Pace University
Seattle University
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Temple University
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of North Texas
University of Rochester
University of San Francisco
University of Texas San Antonio
University of Washington
Wheaton College
Williams College
UK
Aberystwyth University
Birmingham City University
Brunel University
Cardiff University
City University London
Durham University
Hull International Business School
Imperial College London
Kent University
King's College, University of London
Kingston University
Lancaster University
London Metropolitan University
London School of Economics
Loughborough University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary, University of London
Ravensbourne College of Design and Communications
Regent's University London
Richmond, The American International University in London
The Robert Gordon University
Royal Holloway, University of London
School of Oriental and African Studies
University College London
University for the Creative Arts
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Greenwich
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of Manchester
University of Newcastle
University of Nottingham
University of Portsmouth
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of St. Andrews
University of Stirling
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of the Arts London
University of Warwick
University of West England
University of Westminster
University of York
Canada
Concordia University
McGill University
Simon Fraser University
University of British Columbia
University of Toronto
Spain
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- Eina
Universitat de Barcelona
Universitat Internacional de Catalunya
Universidad de Navarra
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Universitat Ramon Llull
Blanquerna
ESADE
Institut Quimic de Sarrià
LaSalle
Other Countries
American University of Paris
American University of Rome
Franklin University Switzerland
Istituto Europeo di Design, Milan
Istituto Marangoni
Marist College, Florence, Italy
Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University
University of Amsterdam
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Universitat de Barcelona
Universität Internacional de Catalunya
Universidad de Navarra
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Universitat Ramon Llull
Blanquerna
ESADE
Institut Quimic de Sarrià
LaSalle
American University of Paris
American University of Rome
Franklin University Switzerland
Istituto Europeo di Design, Milan
Istituto Marangoni
Marist College, Florence, Italy
Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University
University of Amsterdam
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Our seventh IB graduating class set a new record for the school, achieving an average score of 35 points, placing ASB in the top 20 percent of IB schools worldwide. Our results included one student who received a perfect score of 45, five students scoring within the top 5 percent of all IB students worldwide, and a 100% pass rate for the 40 IB students in our class of 2015. In addition to this being ASB’s highest overall score, it was also the largest group of students who have been in the program at one time. ASB is excited about our continued progress. Most importantly, these scores will greatly assist our students in being accepted to their preferred universities. We want to congratulate our students, educators, parents, and community who have worked together to achieve these strong academic results. These scores are a great finale to a fantastic 2014-2015 school year.

Aside from the IB Diploma, ASB students can also pursue the Spanish Bachillerato. Students who wish to enroll in Spanish universities take the Selectividad Exam in early June.

### 2015 International Baccalaureate Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Nº of students in IB program</th>
<th>% of ASB students that passed</th>
<th>Avg. ASB IB score</th>
<th>ASB High Score (out of 45)</th>
<th>World average</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
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### 2015 Selectividad Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Nº of students in Bachillerato program</th>
<th>% of ASB students that passed</th>
<th>Avg. ASB Selectividad score</th>
<th>ASB High Score (out of 10)</th>
<th>Average in Catalunya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>7.15</td>
<td>8.25</td>
<td>6.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>7.81</td>
<td>9.56</td>
<td>6.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>6.81</td>
<td>8.75</td>
<td>6.70</td>
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The Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) are standardized tests designed to measure growth in student learning. Students in grades 3 through 8 are tested in math and reading in both the Fall and Spring and the tests help teachers plan instructional programs.

The International Schools’ Assessment (ISA) is designed specifically for students in international schools around the globe and it tests mathematical literacy, reading and writing. ASB students in grades 3 through 9 take the tests every winter. The results allow us to compare ourselves against other international schools.
In the summer of 2013 we began one of the largest facilities projects in ASB’s history. By September 2014, we welcomed students to a brand new Early Childhood Center and Elementary building, a new library, a new Middle School science laboratory, and a renovated reception area. Central air conditioning was also installed in all classes on campus.

On October 2, we welcomed the United States Ambassador, James Costos, and Tanya Anderson, the US Consul General, to the opening ceremony of our new facilities. Families, teachers, students and alumni also attended this celebratory event.
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

New Early Childhood Center

This year marked a new beginning for ECC as we finally moved into our own dedicated space. The new building has provided us with a physical environment which ensures a safe and suitable surrounding offering a diverse range of experiences that promote children’s learning and development. All 7 classrooms are spacious and inviting making learning visible in the many stations purposely built around the room. Our learning centers have also been extended outdoors, creating new opportunities for children to discover.

Parent Partnership

ECC believes that when there’s a strong connection between families and school, student achievement increases. This is why we encourage all families to participate in class through our Hand in Hand program by sharing a special talent, hobby, or simply reading with the children. We are proud to say that in 2014-2015, 75% of our ECC families participated. The most popular activities were: mystery reader, cooking, arts and crafts. Our aim for next school year is to reach 85% of parent participation.

Special Events

Halloween is one of the most beloved traditions in ECC. This year we had close to 30 parent volunteers organize such a fun celebration. Students rotated through various age appropriate stations with the highlight of the event being the Halloween show. ECC students paraded their costumes for the whole school and their families. The Winter Concert, Valentine’s Day, and the Egg Hunt are other exciting events that the children eagerly look forward to each year.

Curriculum Initiatives

With the recent adoption of the Readers Writers Workshop in Kindergarten, our students demonstrated through their many stories what avid readers and writers they are. Kindergarten teachers engaged their students to represent their thoughts and events on paper, usually with drawings, to tell their own stories.

Publishing books was the highlight of the writer’s workshop. Kindergarten students learned how to become editors and feel proud of the books they authored. They shared their knowledge with classmates and family members that were invited to their book celebrations.

ECC educators also continued to focus on language development and thinking skills. Through the use of guided questioning and cueing techniques, teachers guided students to a deeper level of comprehension. Students have demonstrated improved communication skills during both small and large group activities and in the presentation of their projects.

New Early Childhood Center

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Engagement, Creativity, Discovery
ELEMENARY SCHOOL

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

This year we happily settled into our new Elementary building. Our new facilities are filled with modern tools, natural light and more space which creates an inspiring learning environment. Our rooftop terrace where students play has one of the best views in the city! Most importantly, our classrooms are filled with books, resources and hands on materials to allow the kids to explore, collaborate and grow as learners.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

The 2014-2015 school year was an exciting year of learning and growth in the Elementary School. Our focus was on the continued implementation of the Readers Writers Workshop model. This balanced literacy approach builds readers and writers in an authentic and powerful way. We have seen student writing levels skyrocket and children falling in love with reading. Because our students are becoming true readers and writers and enjoying the process, they are able to build their independent skills at a much faster and more developed rate. Teachers promote a love of reading in every child by exposing them to inspiring, interesting and thought-provoking literature from a variety of genres while guiding students to ask and answer deeper level questions about the texts they are reading.

TECHNOLOGY

This year we invested in 40 iPads for a pilot program in grades 1-3. In small groups, students were able to use the technology to learn in a variety of creative and innovative ways. The program was such a success that we will be adding 70 more iPads in the 2015-2016 school year.

INDEPENDENT AND CONFIDENT LIFE LONG LEARNERS
MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEW ADDITIONS

For the first time at ASB, the Middle School was able to spread out between two floors, gaining new classrooms and office space. The new positions of Middle School Secretary, Secondary Guidance Counselor, and Secondary Learning Support Teacher also allowed for a fully functioning support team to help guide our students and families through this school year. We also welcomed one of our veteran teachers, Lindsay McBride, as our Middle School Coordinator.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

This year our Humanities teachers fully implemented the Readers Writers Workshop program and received professional development on student conferencing. Teachers observed each other and provided feedback through our internal teacher visitation program. Our technology team began several integration cycles to dovetail technology curricular goals with Math, Spanish, and Science. We also developed our standards based grading system allowing for more specific and timely feedback to students and families about their achievement.

MS EVENTS

We held our third Middle School STEM Olympiad, in which students designed, built, tested, and evaluated helicopters, robots, cars, catapults, and gliders. We held and won first place in our first Kids Lit Quiz with five other Barcelona area international schools in which students competed in teams with their knowledge of children’s literature. Our student council also coordinated monthly assemblies to celebrate achievements, showcase student work, and focus on character traits.

BOB LOVE

A former NBA Chicago Bulls star who overcame a severe stuttering disability, spoke to our Middle and High School students about perseverance and overcoming disability. Mr. Love currently serves as Goodwill Ambassador, representing the NBA around the world.
8TH GRADE EXPERIENCES:

Our 8th grade students participated in collaborative educational experiences from AlterNatiu Cooperative, the Direcció General de Política Lingüística, and Chroma Teatre. In addition, our 8th grade students traveled to London for a three day international experience, acted as delegates in the Madrid Model United Nations, and competed in soccer tournaments in Valencia.

7TH GRADE EXPERIENCES

Our 7th grade students participated in school trips to Florence, Italy and Tarragona to extend their study of the Renaissance and ancient Rome. The 7th graders also coordinated a school-wide dry food collection which they brought to Banc dels Aliments, volunteered at a local second hand store, and presented about gender bias in sports at the TEDx Barcelona Women conference.

6TH GRADE EXPERIENCES

Our 6th graders not only took field trips to La Fagada d’en Jorda and the Museo de la Historia de Catalunya, but also developed a partnership with San Martí local school to teach English.

ALL IN ALL, THIS YEAR WAS AN EXCITING, FUN-FILLED TIME FOR THE ASB MIDDLE SCHOOL. WE CAN’T WAIT TO SEE WHAT NEXT YEAR BRINGS!
We expanded our counseling staff to include a dedicated 6th through 10th grade counselor who was able to better service the needs of the younger High School students. This allowed our 11th-12th grade counselor to better focus on college and career counseling. We had more universities present to our students at ASB than ever before. We also began a Parent Career talk series for students to meet and discuss different career opportunities with experienced parents.

**EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS**

For the first time, IB students were given the option of meeting the Foreign Language A requirement through online language and literature coursework in the student’s mother tongue. We also created a new Economics course to help prepare students for the Selectividad exams. IB teachers continued, for the second year, to offer after-school office hours to support student needs. Furthermore, we brought in a new IB coordinator with 12 years experience and created a dedicated Extended Essay coordinator position. These improvements are key factors in the high level of success of our IB students this year.

**STANDARDS BASED GRADING**

In our second year of a 3-year implementation plan, we made significant changes to our grading policies to support better feedback to students and more accurate reporting of achievement levels.

**COUNSELING**

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**IMPROVED PHYSICAL SPACES**

The remodeling of the main building increased the number of high school classrooms and workspace. The High School students also took the lead in remodeling the Upper Terrace into a comfortable “chill-out” space. The expanded Art room also allowed our art students to spread out and be more creative.
Student Exploration, Experience and Discovery (SEED) is a program designed for experiential learning, often cross-age, focusing on co-curricular community-based activities. In 2014-2015, the Elementary focus was on the performing arts; in the Middle School, students chose from a wide range of elective courses; and in the High School the focus was on connecting students with our community. Through the SEED program, students develop lifelong interpersonal skills related to leadership, mentoring, respect, service and collaboration.

The Elementary production of the The Lion King set a new standard for the performing arts at ASIB. During SEED time, students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade, in collaboration with the Escola de Música de Esplugues de Llobregat, took part in all aspects of the production, including music, choreography, video art, set design, and ticket sales. It was a huge success! Meanwhile, students in 1st and 2nd grade participated in music and rhythm classes with a focus on the performing arts.
MIDDLE SCHOOL SEED

Middle School students choose from a range of developmentally appropriate activities including: cool crafting, choir, drama, improvisation, robotics, conflict resolution, movie-making, building design, chess, technical drawing, jewelry making, environmental studies and cheerleading.

HIGH SCHOOL SEED

Our High School prides itself not only on our high academic achievement, but also on the ability of our students to make a positive impact on our community through ongoing engagement. In 2014-2015, High School, students had more ways than ever before to make a difference in our society while at the same time discovering their own passions and unique talents. Here is a sampling of the many ways our High School students got involved:

Sharing to Learn: In partnership with the Generalitat Department of Education, 40 ASB students acted as English language assistants in various local primary schools.

Oral History Esplugues: Students partnered with senior citizens at the “Accomodare” Elderly Home, bringing weekly cheer to their lives through conversations about their past.

Bridging through Art: Students led creative workshops at Fundación Proa, a center for adults with Down Syndrome. The program culminated in the creation of a joint mural between ASB and Proa students.

Model United Nations: ASB students organized the second annual BCN MUN conference, which included the participation of nearly 400 students from all over the world who came to debate human rights issues. Students also participated in MUN conferences in Lisbon, Milan, and the Hague.

Mediation: 17 students learned conflict resolution techniques to become ASB Mediators. Their new skills will be put to work in the 2015-2016 school year to assist in solving conflicts in the High School.

Entrepreneurship Program: Students wrote business plans and created their own start-up companies, one of which was a finalist in the Young Entrepreneurs Contest in Barcelona.

Nestlé Collaboration: Students partnered with Nestlé employees to learn about the skills needed and career path in a multinational company. In exchange, students worked to strengthen the English skills of Nestlé employees.

ECC Reading Buddies: 9th graders read to ECC students on a weekly basis, helping them to improve their listening comprehension and build their vocabulary.

HS Terrace Designers: Students tapped into their creative side by providing a sustainable garden, graffiti designs, and customized wood furniture for the HS terrace.
A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is a fundamental part of life at ASB. Through the school’s many local partnerships and long-standing alliances, students learn more about the society in which they live, becoming more caring, empathetic citizens.

Here are some examples from the 2014-2015 school year:

**Barcelona Magic Line** - Nearly 60 ASB students ran a 10K for the Barcelona Magic Line Solidary Race, a philanthropic event to raise money for the social programs of San Joan de Déu Hospital. In total, students raised over 600€.

**Feed the Future** - ASB students partnered with students at IESE business school to organize a social event in April to raise money for Mary’s Meals. Students raised over 7,000€, which will sponsor a school lunch program for an entire year in Malawi.

**BISA Talent Show** - Students showcased their many talents at the BISA Talent Show, raising over 1,000€ that was donated to the local children’s hospital, St. Joan de Deu.

**Annual San Joan de Déu Dinner** - ASB students donated their time to act as waiters at this charitable event that raised over 6,000€ for children’s cancer research.

**Clean, Camp, Climb** - 11th graders, as part of their annual team building trip, cleaned a beach in the Costa Brava, Gola del Ter.

**Ronald McDonald Partnership** - In 2014-2015, ASB students began volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, leading weekly activities for the children who live there.

**Fundraising for Nepal** - Student led fundraising after the 2015 earthquake in Nepal raised over 1,500€.

**Annual Bean Drive** - The Middle School Student Council collected over 1,000 kg of dry food for the local charity, Banc dels Aliments.

**Collserola Clean Up** - All Elementary students, in partnership with Can Coll, spent the day learning about the importance of protecting the environment and helped clean the park.

**Toy Drive** - 5th graders organized a toy drive, collecting over 250 new and gently used toys to donate to local charities.

**English Buddies** - Elementary students helped their peers in local Elementary Schools to improve their English.

NEW EUROPEAN SPEECH, DEBATE, AND ACTING ASSOCIATION

In the Fall, ASB NESDA team members competed in Dusseldorf, Germany. Then, in March, 10 school teams from across Europe descended upon ASB to take part in the NESDA Spring 2015 tournament. Students competed for three days in various English speaking events, including original oratory, impromptu speaking, and debate. Students performed at a very high level, demonstrating research and public speaking skills throughout the tournament. ASB community members, including parents, teachers and administrators all joined in to help prepare, manage and judge the events. Once again, ASB was the center of academic and student excellence in the Mediterranean region.
It was an extremely busy and exciting year in ASB sports!

More than 200 students participated in our sports programs throughout the year, including soccer, basketball, volleyball, swimming, tennis, and flag football.

200 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED

In November our varsity teams competed in the European Sports Conference (ESC) tournaments against other international schools. The girls volleyball team played in Stuttgart, the boys soccer team in Milan and the girls soccer team in Berlin. The teams represented ASB very well, demonstrating school spirit, teamwork, responsibility, and confidence.

2014-2015 was the first year we had a Middle School girls soccer team. Both boys and girls soccer teams took part in a soccer exchange with the American School of Valencia.

Our Elementary flag football team almost tripled in size compared to the previous year and beat the top team in Catalunya!
AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

2014-2015 was another successful year in our after school program, with more opportunities than ever before for students to learn new skills and practice what they love.

Activities were offered for all students from PK3 through 12th grade and students had a range of activities to choose from, including Drama, Dance, Chess, Robotics, Movie Making, French, and much more.

One of the differentiating characteristics of the after school program is that we establish partnerships with institutions and professionals that come to ASB and provide top-quality programs on our premises. In 2014-2015, we had over 130 students participating in non-sports activities.

Some of our partnerships include the following:

- French courses offered by the Institut Français de Barcelone
- Chess club run by Edami Chess School
- Drama club taught by a professional drama teacher from The Tale Teller drama school
- Teddy Tennis run by the Sanchez Casals Tennis Academy
- Taekwondo run by Club Taekwondo Sant Just Desvern
- Robotics and programming, in partnership with Lego League
- Music classes with the Escola Municipal de Música de Esplugues
TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION

AT ASB, WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP PREPARE OUR STUDENTS FOR THE DIGITAL REALITY OF TODAY’S WORLD. OUR GOAL IS TO USE TECHNOLOGY IN ORDER TO ENHANCE AND ENRICH OUR CORE CURRICULUM. USING TECHNOLOGY TOOLS, OUR STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO TAKE MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR EDUCATION, BE MORE CREATIVE LEARNERS, AND PURSUE THEIR OWN PASSIONS.

K5 students experienced technology through interactive whiteboards and began to explore different iPad applications.

Students used Puppet Pals for Spanish and Catalan language learning, became weather forecasters with green screen software, published their writing with Book Creator, created short films with iMovie, practiced computer coding with iPad apps, designed comics for a Reader’s Workshop book, and practiced their storytelling with Adobe Voice. Students also started to learn how to navigate an online environment by receiving and submitting work through apps like Showbie and Google Drive.

Castellano students used web design tools to create tourism websites and brochures; P.E. students created personal portfolios using Google Sites to track and reflect on their progress towards specific athletic goals; Math students received instruction at their own level with video tutorials, while Science students learned Scratch programming to depict mitosis. All Middle School students got to experience robotics during Hour of Code!

World Literature students studied the art of digital storytelling by creating original documentaries; History students curated their own learning with digital portfolios on Google Sites; Economics students created documentaries on development economics; Chemistry students created original films to teach the class and review for exams. Teachers and students used Google Apps to become increasingly paperless, improving communication and reducing their environmental impact.
LIBRARY AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

- 17,595 Books
- 309 Audiobooks
- 530 DVDs
- 7 Online Databases with access to millions of articles and other sources

- Computers - 151
- Laptops - 176
- iPads - 145
- Printers - 14
- Projectors - 75

All classrooms are equipped with projectors, speakers, interactive whiteboards, and wifi.

All ECC and Elementary classrooms are equipped with document cameras.

4:1 Student to iPad ratio in Elementary.

25 laptops per grade in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The school’s commitment to offering the best instruction possible was reflected this year in a 25% increase in money spent on professional development for ASB teachers. This past summer, many ASB Elementary teachers attended professional development sessions in Madrid and New York City to receive training in delivering the cutting edge literacy program, Teachers College Readers and Writers Workshop Project (TCRWP). Secondary teachers received professional development in a multitude of ways, including regional conferences, IB courses and US State Department supported training at various international locations.

In addition to workshops and professional development provided by outside consultants, ASB teachers were involved in professional learning each week. This took a variety of forms throughout the school year, including:

- **Instructional Coaching**: individual and small groups of teachers worked with the Instructional Coach to refine their practice based on area of interest.
- **Subject Area Team meetings**: teams of teachers worked together on creating a plan for standards-based grading, as well as developing their subject area curriculum.
- **"Teachers Teaching Teachers"**: ASB teachers shared their expertise with colleagues on a variety of subjects (using technology to provide feedback, critical thinking skills, use of mentor texts, and more) throughout the year.
- **Professional Development days**: on multiple days throughout the year, teachers came together as a whole staff to learn from one another.

Overall, there was a lot of professional learning that happened with teachers this past year at ASB.

To begin the year, ASB hosted a Google Boot Camp in which all faculty and staff received training in the basics of Google Applications for communication, management and instruction. In addition, follow-up trainings were offered throughout the year.

**Tom Guskey**, an international leader in standards-based grading and reporting, visited this spring to help transition the ASB teaching staff into the world of standards based grading and reporting. In addition to a whole staff workshop, Mr. Guskey and his colleague, Lee Ann Jung, met with teams to address subject-specific questions and concerns.

**Carl Anderson**, a writer and literacy consultant well-known for his work on writing conferences with students in the United States and internationally, spent three days with ASB students and teachers. Mr. Anderson conducted writing conferences in K-8 classrooms with teams of teachers observing, as well as facilitating staff conversations about conferring and the use of mentor texts.

**Julian Coulter**, an iPad consultant, visited ASB earlier this year. He taught lessons to students in 4th and 5th grade using a variety of apps. He also provided professional development for teachers around both student and teacher use of iPads in the classroom.
# Parents Association

The purpose of the Parents Association (PA) is to support the faculty, staff, parents, and most especially our students.

## Social Events and Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| **September** | • New Family Welcome Coffee  
• Seminar: Understanding Adaptation and Challenges  
• Barcelona Women’s Network presentation  
• Parents’ Tapas and Cocktails |
| **October**   | • Halloween Festivities  
• Seminar: Health care system in Spain  
• Boqueria Tour and Cooking Classes |
| **November**  | • Cooking Classes                                                                 |
| **December**  | • Winter Bazaar                                                                 |
| **January**   | • New Family Welcome Coffee  
• Technology Workshop  
• Cooking Classes |
| **February**  | • Wine and Tapas  
• Valentine’s Celebrations  
• Carnival Festivities  
• Seminar: Driving in Spain, Learning and working in Barcelona – Barcelona Activa presentation |
| **March**     | • Gastronomic Tour  
• Calçotada Family Lunch  
• Easter Celebration  
• Ladies Luncheon |
| **April**     | • St. Jordi Celebrations  
• Flea Market  
• Earth Day |
| **May**       | • International Day  
• Mother’s Day  
• Gastronomic Tour  
• Driving classes |
| **June**      | • Year end lunch |

## PA Financial Support for the School and Beyond:

• New Elementary playground equipment  
• Funded the Middle and High School “Wish List”  
• Bought the outdoor stage  
• All the Winter Bazaar funds were donated to 5 charities
A monthly review
2014-2015

August/September

- Orientation Day
- Open Houses in all divisions
- SEED programs presentation
- Welcome coffee for new families
- Bob Love NBA Basketball Boot Camp
- MS teambuilding outing
- 11th grade Clean Camp Climb

October

- Inauguration of new ECC/ES building with US Ambassador to Spain
- Halloween celebrations

November

- BISA University Fair
- Annual Bean Drive kick off
- ECC Sharing Breakfast
- BCN MUN and IMUN events
- ESC Soccer and Volleyball Tournaments
- HS Open Mic Night
- MS Counselor chat on academic success
- NESDA team competition in Dusseldorf

December

- ECC/ES Winter Concert
- Technology in Education - Hour of Code and Robotics Extravaganza
- ES Science Week
- Winter Bazaar
- Sant Joan de Deu Gala
- ES students cleaning Collserola Park
- MS AlterNatiu Workshop
- IB Visual Arts Madrid Trip

January

- Open house for prospective families
- Donations to “Banc de Aliments”
- TVE recorded ES students for a local TV program
• Valentine’s Day celebrations
• Kindergarten celebrates Math! 100th day!
• MS Catalan dubbing workshop
• Spirit Week in MS/HS
• MS Counselor chats about Teens Issues
• Mary’s Meals Art Collaboration Fundraiser
• MS Dance

February
• International Day
• Interact Ceremony in HS
• Closing ceremony “Sharing to learn”
• MS Trips to Florence and London
• MS Student Led Portfolio Conferences
• MS Soccer Tournament in Valencia
• MS Dance
• HS students become official Rotary members
• ESC Tennis Tournament in BCN
• Divisional transition meetings

March
• Mona Contest in ES
• ECC Spring celebration
• BISA Talent Show
• Feed the Future charity event
• ES Talent show
• AAMAC Soccer Tournament-Valencia
• Sant Jordi celebrations
• Barcelona Magic Line charity walkathon

April
• Barcelona Women TEDx - 7th grade
• Lion King SEED Performance
• KS Promotion Ceremony
• English Day at San Martí - 6th grade
• 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony
• 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony
• 12th Grade Graduation
ASB believes in creating strong relationships with its community. For this reason, in 2014, the school launched the ASB Alumni Association with the intention of bringing together alumni, parents and teachers.

Starting in 2015, the ASB Alumni Association will start an annual reunion to help strengthen ties between the alumni community providing opportunities for cooperation and communication.

Our aim is to preserve and carry forward the ASB culture and strengthen connections and networking opportunities between the alumni community.

The ASB English Language Center offers English language classes to non-ASB students of ages 3 to 17. Now in its 28th year, it is composed of three different programs: Monday and Wednesday evenings from October to May, Saturday mornings, also from October to May, and a four week course during the month of July.

Local demand for the ASB English Language Center programs was very strong in 2014-2015, increasing by 11% compared to the previous year. This year we expanded the Summer program hours from a half day to a full day, enabling us to include additional enrichment classes such as drama, music, art, and robotics, all offered in English.

The ASB summer camp in Cardona, Spain is a place for students from PK3 to 5th grade to learn and experiment in the outdoors and form strong bonds with their peers in an English-speaking environment. In the summer of 2015, 40 ASB students participated in this enriching experience.
### Financial Report

**Assets**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In Euros</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 1st, 2013</td>
<td>Sep 1st, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non-current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Property, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>8,464,943</td>
<td>8,735,584</td>
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<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade and other Receivables</td>
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<td>1,975,416</td>
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<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
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<td>1,251,562</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td>3,226,978</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>9,936,211</td>
<td>11,962,562</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reserves</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained Income</td>
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<td>3,958,152</td>
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<td><strong>Non-current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>Long-Term Loans</td>
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<td>1,444,666</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>653,445</td>
<td>1,444,666</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade and Other Payables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income Received in Advance</td>
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<td>Short term loan</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>6,559,744</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity and Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>9,936,211</td>
<td>11,962,562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Starting with the 2014-15 school year, ASB changed its fiscal year to end on June 30th.

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**Summary of Revenue 2014-2015**

- **Tuition Fees**: 6%
- **Other School Fees**: 15%
- **Other Programs Revenues**: 79%

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**Summary of Expenses 2014-2015**

- **Personnel Expenses**: 19%
- **Educational Expenses**: 5%
- **Operational Expenses**: 76%
ASB MEMBERSHIPS

We cooperate throughout the year with different associations and support each other’s projects. ABS wishes to maintain a close relationship with international and local non profit institutions and associations that operate in Barcelona to increase networking and provide support.

The Barcelona International Schools Association (BISA) is a professional organization that strives to improve the quality of education in its member schools through several venues. It promotes the sharing of resources, professional development, and communication and interchange; the organization also attempts to create international understanding in Barcelona and beyond. BISA serves as a liaison between its member schools, local governments, and pertinent local and international education organizations.

The Mediterranean Association of International Schools is a professional organization that strives to improve the quality of education in its Member schools. It promotes the professional development of Faculty, Administrators, and School Board Members, affects communication and interchange, and creates international understanding. MAIS serves as a liaison between its 40 Member Schools, 41 Associate Member organizations as well as other regional, professional, and in-service organizations. Presently, MAIS is composed of schools from 15 different countries.

Barcelona Global is a private, independent and non-profit association, that is set up as a citizen’s platform of ideas and action, made up by people and companies who care about Barcelona and its future. The association’s mission is: to actively contribute to making Barcelona one of the most attractive cities in the world to attract and develop talent and economic activity.

IESE is ranked among the top 3 best business schools in the world. Our Elementary students collaborated with IESE MBA students producing decorated spoons whose proceeds went to Mary’s Meal, an organization that aims to provide children in poverty with at least one meal a day.

Interact is Rotary International’s service club for young people ages 12 to 18. ASB Interact Club is sponsored by Rotary Barcelona ‘92 club, which provides support and guidance. Our 10th Grade Interactor students will develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs and learn the importance of:

- Developing leadership skills and personal integrity
- Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others
- Understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work
- Advancing international understanding and goodwill

The American Society of Barcelona functions as a non-political and non-profit organization and strives to be the focal point for people who are interested in developing and maintaining business and social relationships in an international environment.

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The Barcelona Women’s Network is a non-profit, non-religious, and non-political social and charitable organization offering support and friendship to both local and international women residing in the greater Barcelona area. BWN activities cover a wide array of interests including social, cultural, charity and well-being. These events are scheduled weekly, monthly or at special times of the year.