

Subject: APPOINTMENT OF A NEW SCHOOL DIRECTOR

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Conversation: APPOINTMENT OF A NEW SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Dear AAS Community,

As the Chair of the AAS Board of Directors for the 2010/11 academic year, it is my great pleasure to announce that Jon P Zurfluh has been appointed to succeed Drew Alexander as School Director. Jon is a distinguished educationalist and will take up the post from July 2011. He will be the twenty-sixth director in the sixty year history of the School. Please find below this note an introductory message from Jon.

Jon began teaching in 1983 and has spent much of his recent career in China, serving with distinction in progressively more senior positions as Director of Technology, Deputy Headmaster and Head of School (Director). He is currently on a sabbatical in the state of Washington, USA, where he is completing a PhD in Education. Jon's wife Emily, who is from China, is a kindergarten teacher. They have two children, a son Jaisen and a daughter Erin, who will be joining AAS in 8th and 5th grades respectively.

Jon's appointment followed a rigorous selection process. The School's founding charter stipulates that the director must be a US citizen. I am very grateful to my colleagues on the Search Committee - whose members included Embassy, School and parent representatives - for their dedication and support over the last six months. We interviewed a range of applicants and invited three candidates to visit AAS, eventually identifying two finalists who came to the School during the week of September 6-10.

I am also very grateful to all of you who made time to meet with the candidates and offered your views on their respective qualities for the director position. The feedback received from the faculty, parents and students was a crucial consideration for the Search Committee. Though the Committee felt that both finalists were credible candidates for the position, it concluded that Jon would be best placed to lead AAS in its next phase of growth and development. As the feedback we received illustrated, Jon's personal passion for education and his core commitment to the importance of classroom teaching shone through in all his interview sessions.

I have no doubt Jon will prove a most worthy successor to Drew, who has been an outstanding Director for seven years. Both will work together in the course of this year to ensure a smooth transition.

Meanwhile, I am delighted to be given the opportunity as Board Director to work closely with Drew again for his final year at AAS. Under Drew's able leadership, it promises to be another exciting and productive year for the School and its 1300 students.

With Best Wishes

D. Hugh Evans
Chair of the AAS Board of Directors 2010/11

To the AAS Community,

It is with great pleasure that I send greetings to all as the newly selected Director of the Anglo-American School

of Moscow. I speak for myself, my wife Emily, my son Jaisen (7th grade), and my daughter Erin (4th grade) in expressing our gratitude to the entire community for the warmth of their welcome and the thorough process that was followed in reaching this decision. In every interaction, our growing desire to join AAS was incrementally affirmed through friendly dialog and a genuine desire to support our ultimate transition to Moscow. We feel very fortunate to have been given this opportunity - a gift we will cherish as we dedicate talent and energy to our mutual satisfaction and success.

Like all of you, I believe strongly in maximizing potential and focusing our efforts on the children we both serve and protect. Drawing from my experience during 15 years in the classroom and 12 years as an educational leader in the United States and China, I hope to bring a diverse perspective that can both add value to our collaborative efforts and leverage new and exciting opportunities for the students, staff, and administrators of AAS.

I also offer thanks and praise to your current Director, Drew Alexander. Amongst the many wonderful interactions during our visits, I especially enjoyed our time with him. I have come to know a talented and gracious leader, one who has given a special gift to AAS through his dedication and perseverance. My hope is to follow his example and offer similar during my own tenure.

Transition planning will commence shortly and we look forward to the collaboration that will soon emerge. I will do my best to assure a smooth handover that both maintains and enhances all of the best that AAS has to offer.

Best Wishes,

Jon P. Zurfluh