



WOODFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

P.O. Box R44, Honiara, Solomon Islands

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www.wis.edu.sb woodford@wis.edu.sb

13th September 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of Woodford,

My first few weeks here in Honiara, if rather exhausting, have certainly proved informative and exhilarating. I have talked to many people eager to share their concerns and ideas and have read much of Woodford's past successes and proposed future direction. I have also spent time visiting classrooms and viewing our other property and resources. This week I hope to gain a much better understanding of our current administrative and financial operations including the system software.

It is clear that there are some great things happening here at Woodford but there is also much that needs further development, support and revision. Two weeks of observation is nowhere near long enough to gain a full picture of our needs but I certainly have some key ideas that I would like to share with you all. I present these goals as clearly as possible and stress that these goals are not board policy but my reflections on what needs to happen. I would, therefore, welcome any feedback whether as a member of staff, a parent, a student or just an interested observer in all things Woodford.

Goals for consideration:

- Achieve consensus on a list of practices that students and their parents should expect to see in any class
- Building up our financial strength to ensure sufficient resources to compensate for periodic shocks and thus avoid sudden and unexpected fee rises
- Implement financial and administrative office systems that are fit for purpose in a modern international school
- Provide classrooms and other buildings with a clean and fresh aspect to properly reflect the beauty of our Island environment
- Ensure students throughout the school have access to the modern resources which will prove critical for success on PYP, Cambridge IGCSE and A/L courses



SINF6C

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- Improve academic performance as measured by standardized testing and external examination and to communicate these results to parents in a timely manner
- Allow all employees of Woodford to benefit both professionally and financially from any success the School should achieve in the future
- Develop special education and language support programs to more properly meet the individual needs of all Woodford students
- Build upon the excellent work already begun in supporting our academic programme with a comprehensive and inclusive extra-curricular activities programme
- Ensure a communication system between the board, teachers, parent and students that is mutually respectful, frequent and inclusive to all sections of the school community
- Provide the safe secure environment we all want for our children without compromising the uniqueness of our open campus and community links

I strongly believe that all of these goals are achievable without huge financial sacrifices on the part of either parents or sponsor organisations. Of course they can't be met overnight but given widespread parental support they can come about much quicker than you might think.

Please send responses directly to me at

headofschool@wis.edu.sb

Warm regards to you all,

Anthony Baron



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