



Director's Notes

Exploring the Power of Engagement and Collaboration

Photos: Cedar students engaged in learning, both in and out of the classroom!



Dear Cedar Families,

Learning happens best when students are engaged. To this end, Cedar teachers are masters of their craft, using a combination of knowledge, creativity, and mixed teaching methods to engage students in the classroom. There's another powerful factor, though, with a direct impact on student learning: *parent* engagement.

Many studies have been conducted on the topic and the research is very clear: when families get involved in their children's learning, their children perform better in school. This is why I was so heartened to see such a fabulous turnout at both the primary and the secondary school Meet the Teacher nights, hosted over the past two weeks. All together, more than 70 percent of Cedar students had at least one parent in attendance, which bodes very well for their success. So thank you for viewing your child's enrolment in Cedar as the partnership it is.

On the topic of engagement, Cedar teachers will be engaged in a very important exercise on Monday, September 28. Recall that Monday is a professional development day for teachers, and as such there is no school for students. On this day, the teachers will



engage in valuable collaborative work in anticipation of Cedar's Preparatory Visit by our two accrediting bodies: Council of International Schools and Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The visit will take place in December, and will signify the start of Cedar's re-accreditation cycle, which occurs every 10 years. When accreditation is approached collaboratively, it is an excellent opportunity for both professional growth and school improvement. We look forward to involving all stakeholders in the extended self-study that will follow this initial report.

Finally, as the car park tends to be a busy place during pick up time, I would like to engage all parents in an effort to improve safety and reduce frustration in the car park by following the guidelines below.

On that note, I wish you all a very engaging weekend!

Sincerely,

Scott Crawford, Director

GUIDELINES FOR CAR PARK SAFETY

In order to reduce congestion in the car park, many teachers now park on the new land east of the main campus. We ask that parents please do their part as well. Following the rules below makes the car park safer for our children and reduces frustration among parents. Thank you for your help!

1. Do not stop your vehicle in the crosswalk in front of the gate for any reason.
2. Do not leave your vehicle unattended or sit idle for long periods of time if it is not in a designated parking space. Doing so blocks traffic and creates hazards.
3. Whenever possible, park in a designated parking space.
4. Remember that there is overflow parking on the school's land to the east of the main campus.