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Headline News

SABIS® Teams Up with Clooney Foundation to Educate Refugee Children in Lebanon

SABIS® recently announced that it will be teaming up with [The Clooney Foundation for Justice](#), a humanitarian organization that is taking the lead in an initiative to educate all out-of-school children in Lebanon, including Syrian refugees. [Google.Org](#), [Virgin Unite](#), the [Radcliffe Foundation](#), and the SABIS® Foundation are among the philanthropic partners who, along with the Clooney Foundation, are contributing funding to the project.

The private sector initiative comes amid growing estimates of the number of out-of-school Syrian refugees in Lebanon. It comes in answer to a United Nations High Commission on Refugees call “for governments, donors, humanitarian agencies, and development partners as well as private-sector partners to strengthen their commitment to ensuring that every child receives a quality education.” Of the half-million Syrian refugee children in Lebanon, more than half of them are not enrolled in school, even with a significant increase in refugee enrollment thanks to initiatives undertaken by the Lebanese government.

In response to the call to action, [The Clooney Foundation for Justice](#) will be partnering with SABIS® to roll out a phased plan to open schools starting in September 2017. In the first year of the plan, the schools will enroll between 5,000 and 10,000 refugee children as well as Lebanese children who are not enrolled in school. In subsequent years, additional schools will be added to increase capacity by up to 50,000 students per year.

The schools, which will be located in areas of Lebanon most heavily populated by Syrian refugees, will implement the SABIS® Educational System™. As with all SABIS® Network schools, the schools serving the refugee children will leverage technology to drive and monitor the learning process, using digital resources that are highly interactive and capture valuable data on individual student progress to facilitate learning.

“The SABIS® Network is proud to be a part of this project,” said SABIS® President Carl Bistany. “SABIS® has worked over the past 130 years to build a reputation for excellence in education and to make a difference in the lives of the students in our schools. This project allows us to mobilize our experience and resources to give Syrian refugee children access to education so that they have a solid foundation they can continue to build on wherever they may find themselves in the future.”

To find out how to join the initiative, contact info@cfj.org. To learn more about the project, watch this [video](#).

“We are proud to be partnering with such an experienced and talented team at SABIS® on this important initiative. We think we can do something extraordinary together.”

– Amal Clooney

Cadmus: A New Model in the SABIS® Network

SABIS® has been educating students since 1886 and giving them a high-quality education distinguished by a solid academic foundation and essential life skills. Students in the global network are enrolled in schools that follow one of three operational models – premium private international schools, tuition-free public schools including U.S. public charter schools or public-private partnerships schools, or schools that license the SABIS® Educational System™. In late August 2016, however, SABIS® introduced a new, mid-market, private school model – Cadmus International Schools – designed to give more students access to a SABIS® education.

Cadmus International Schools will give students the full SABIS® educational experience on smaller campuses than in the network’s premium international schools. The typical Cadmus campus will include spacious, state-of-the-art classrooms with interactive whiteboard displays; computer and science labs; a dedicated, computerized testing hall; independent covered and open air Kindergarten play areas; Lower and Upper School playgrounds; cafeteria; a mini soccer field; and an outdoor basketball court, as well as a student drop-off/pick-up area and limited parking.



From left to right: Jassim Al Seddigi, Capital Group Partners Board Member; Mercy Njoroge, Africa Crest Education Holdings; Carl Bistany, SABIS® President; Mostafa Al Shibini, Egyptian Investor; and Walid Al Hindi, CEO of Capital Group Partners

Due to the smaller campus size of Cadmus International Schools, the target is to establish the schools in metropolitan areas that have been previously out of reach. Located close to where

students live, Cadmus schools will maximize the catchment area of the school and reduce the need for students to make long commutes to and from school.

The first Cadmus International School is already in the works. The project was announced in an event held on August 24, 2016, in Cairo, Egypt. SABIS® President Carl Bistany and representatives from Africa Crest Education, Capital Group Partners, and a consortium of local investors met to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that outlines the project and sets the wheels for the Cadmus International School - Al Burouj in motion.

Speaking at the event, Carl Bistany said, “Unfortunately, there is a large number of students from middle-class families who want access to a top-quality education that they can use to secure a better future with more opportunities, but they haven’t been able to meet the high cost of premium international schools. This is why SABIS® has created a new line of schools in Egypt called Cadmus International Schools, which will provide a top-quality education for middle class families in Egypt.”

Roll-out of the Cadmus brand is not limited to Egypt. Plans are also underway to introduce the model in Kurdistan.

To keep up with developments of the Cadmus International School - Al Burouj as well as other Cadmus schools, follow SABIS® on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

2016 External Exam Results Outstanding across the Network

As a network that prepares close to 2,000 students for admission to the world’s most competitive colleges and universities each year, SABIS® understands the importance of strong external exam scores. Although there are a number of admissions criteria that can include grades throughout high school, Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) results, personal essays, or recommendations, a student’s performance on external exams plays a major role in the university admissions process.

Designed to help students prepare for and do well on external exams, the effectiveness of the SABIS® Educational System™ is demonstrated in the external exam results earned throughout the network annually.

In the spring of 2016, over 4,200 students in 26 SABIS® Network schools took external exams including, among others, the British International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and Advanced/Advanced Supplementary Level (A/AS Level) as well as Advanced Placement® (AP®) exams overseen by The College Board in the U.S. The exams, which were taken in 51 different subjects, included a number of different formats – multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay. Some subjects such as foreign languages also included an oral component to assess the scope and degree of students’ fluency.

With scores tallied across the network, 2016 network-wide results revealed another year of outstanding performance.

These results are impressive in their own right; they are even more impressive when considered in the context of global average results and SABIS® Network schools’ non-selective admissions policy. For example, the 89% of students in SABIS® Network schools who earned A*-C on IGCSEs compares globally with 81% worldwide. The 77% of SABIS® students who earned the highest scores of 3, 4, or 5 on AP® exams correlates to 63% who earned the same results on a global scale.

A LEVEL:

Percent of Students Scoring A*-C

SABIS® Average



Global Average



AP®:

Percent of Students Scoring 5, 4, or 3

SABIS® Average



Global Average



IGCSE:

Percent of Students Scoring A*-C

SABIS® Average



Global Average



Equipped with outstanding external exam results as well as a solid academic foundation and essential life skills, 2016 graduates from SABIS® Network schools are ready to showcase their skills at top colleges and universities around the world.

For more information about the SABIS® Educational System™, visit sabis.net.

Latest Developments in the Network

The SABIS® Network, currently entering its 131st year in operation, is committed to helping more and more students achieve their full potential. With a new school opening in the U.A.E. and two new campuses for existing schools, the network has the opportunity to serve a growing number of students.

In the U.A.E., the International School of Choueifat – Ajman (ISC-Ajman) is the newest school to join the global SABIS® Network. It is the twelfth SABIS® Network school in the U.A.E. and the first in Ajman, which is located adjacent to Sharjah and Dubai. The school serves students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 and will open additional grade levels based on demand in each consecutive year until it reaches a full K-12 offering. The school's 70,000 square meter campus currently includes an academic building with a computer lab, cafeteria, and Student Life Office; two indoor play areas; three outdoor play areas; an

Infants' swimming pool, as well as facilities for ballet, gymnastics, and table tennis. Additional buildings and facilities will be added as the school grows.

Expansion in the SABIS® Network extends to the U.S., where in Lowell, Massachusetts, the Collegiate Charter School of Lowell (CCSL) – formerly known as the Lowell Collegiate Charter School – recently moved to a new campus. Since opening its doors in 2013 to students in Kindergarten through Grade 3, CCSL had operated on temporary sites. Over the three years of operation, the school added grades 4, 5, and 6 and needed more space to accommodate the growing number of students. Today, in its new and permanent home, the school enrolls 645 students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 and will be adding an additional grade level each year until it reaches a full K-12 offering.

In celebration of the move to its new location, CCSL held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 25, 2016. The ceremony was attended by the School Director Mr. Frederick Randall IV, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, SABIS® Vice President – U.S. Operations Mr. George Saad, and the President of the CCSL Board of Trustees, Mrs. Kate McCarthy.

"This is a day for celebrating! Collegiate Charter School of Lowell now stands proudly with other successful schools that make up the educational culture of our city," said McCarthy. "CCSL's mission states that we 'will prepare all students for success in college, equip them with the ability and desire for lifelong learning, and strengthen their civic, ethical, and moral values.' There is no doubt CCSL students will achieve these goals. I thank all those who played a part in helping make this day become a reality. It took an entire village to make this happen, and the Board of Trustees and I couldn't be more proud."



Ribbon-cutting ceremony held at the new CCSL campus

In Kurdistan, Iraq, the International School of Choueifat – Suleimaniah (ISC-Suli) also moved to a new campus in order to accommodate a growing number of students. The new ISC-Suli campus is centrally located and offers students modern facilities including indoor and outdoor playgrounds. In the 2016-17 academic year, the school accepted students in Kindergarten through Grade 11 and will be opening Grade 12 in the 2017-18 academic year.

With the opening of new schools, expansion of current campuses, and the introduction of a new, mid-market, private school model along with a number of new and exciting projects in the pipeline, SABIS® is set to give an increasing number of students access to a top-quality education.

If you would like to be the first to know about new SABIS® Network schools that are set to open in Panama, Brazil, Kenya, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Kazakhstan, follow us [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/sabis) or [Twitter](https://twitter.com/sabis).

Academics

SABIS® U.S. Regional Center: Positioning Schools for Success

As an organization that has an active presence in 20 countries on five continents, SABIS® places great importance on delivering a high-quality education to all students. To ensure quality across borders, SABIS® Network schools are supported by four regional centers, including one in the U.S. Although SABIS® Regional Centers around the world provide support in a wide range of areas including finance, marketing, and operations, among others, each Regional Center's main focus is on academics.

The academic team at the U.S. Regional Center is comprised of experienced and committed professionals who are dedicated to empowering students enrolled in SABIS® U.S. public charter schools and helping them achieve their full potential. The U.S. academic team includes program coordinators in all academic subjects. These subject specialists and their teams work with the SABIS® Academic Development Division in Lebanon to update the curriculum and SABIS® teaching materials so that the system is aligned with state and Common Core standards. Program coordinators also monitor academic performance in their subject areas across all schools in the region and liaise with administrators at each school to ensure that students stay on track to achieve their full potential and in their preparation for state examinations and graduation.



Group of U.S. Regional Center staff pose for a photo with Mr. Ghassan Kansou, SABIS® VP - Academic Development, and Mr. George Saad, SABIS® VP - U.S. Operations

The consistent implementation of the SABIS® Educational System™ by teachers and administrators is key to keeping students and schools on track. As such, the academic team at the U.S. Regional Center is actively involved in supporting staff at each school. Regional Academic Quality Controllers (RAQCs) engage in remote and in-person classroom observations to make sure that the SABIS® Educational System™ is implemented correctly in every classroom. RAQCs offer professional guidance to teachers who may be struggling and also work with school directors to identify professional development topics that target areas in need of improvement.

Thanks to a team of dedicated and specialized staff, the U.S. Regional Center provides SABIS® Network schools in the U.S. with the academic support they need to empower their students and position them for future success.



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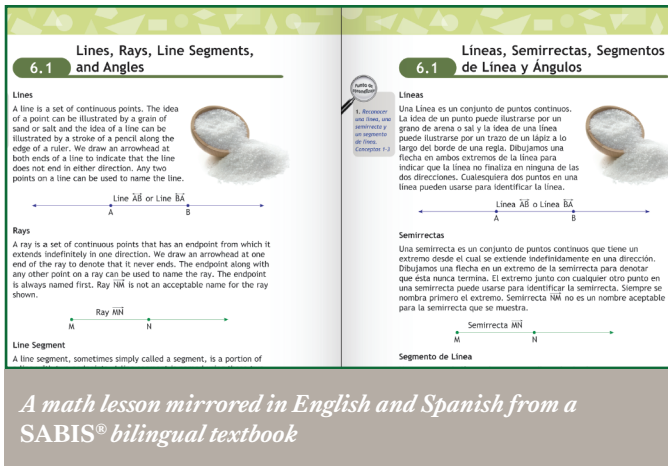
Education for a changing world.®

Member of the SABIS® Network

The Value-Added of the SABIS® Bilingual Book Series

The SABIS® Educational System™ is a comprehensive, K-12 educational program implemented in SABIS® Network schools around the globe. The system includes curriculum, instruction and support materials, and assessments for all subjects at all grade levels. Among the instructional materials at the heart of the system is the SABIS® Book Series, which includes over 2,000 titles.

As the language of instruction in all SABIS® Network schools is English, the majority of titles within the SABIS® Book Series, with the exception of second and third language books, are developed and produced in English. However, in order to meet the needs of students in SABIS® Network schools located in countries where English is not the native language, several titles in the SABIS® Book Series are available in a bilingual format. In total, currently 212 bilingual titles exist for use in mathematics and the sciences. In the bilingual books, every page of the English version faces a translated version on the opposite page in one of six languages (French, Arabic, Spanish, Kurdish, Portuguese, or Russian) in order to help students new to the English language achieve fluency at a faster rate.



The bilingual book series allows students to follow each lesson in both English and their native tongue until they become fluent in English and are able to follow classroom instruction easily.

“We plan on expanding the bilingual series in the future as the network expands,” said Mr. Ghassan Kansou, SABIS® VP – Academic Development. “For example, we recently added bilingual books in Portuguese and Russian in preparation for the opening of schools in Brazil and Kazakhstan.”

The SABIS® bilingual book series is an essential tool that ensures that non-native English-speaking students have the tools they need to succeed. If you would like to know more about the SABIS® Book Series, visit sabis.net.

IT

Engaging in Safe Internet Practices

As a data-driven organization, SABIS® relies on information to monitor student progress and ensure that learning is taking place. In taking steps to ensure the safety and integrity of all the data generated in the network, SABIS® is extremely careful, implementing the latest security and redundancy measures and actively training all employees. As a result of extensive research into Internet use and security, SABIS® IT professionals have become experts in the history of cybercrime and the precautionary steps anyone can take to keep from becoming a victim, and we are pleased to share a bit about the topic.

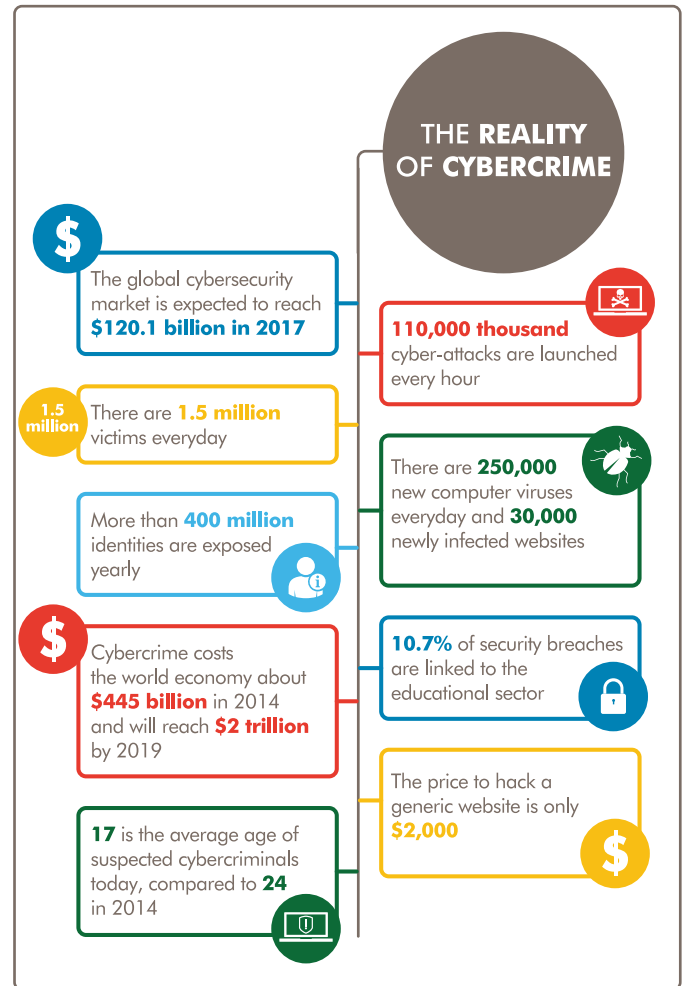
History of Cybercrime

Cybercrime emerged on the scene nearly 50 years ago, when students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Massachusetts, U.S., coined the term “hack” to describe their efforts to improve the speed and performance of the computer hardware and software. During this time, people were “hacking” to learn more about technology and look for ways to help technology work more efficiently.

Hacking took on a less productive bent in the 1980s, when individuals realized that they could use hacking to access highly classified information. The result was the passage of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986, which made hacking a crime in the U.S. And from there things went downhill. By the early 1990s, hackers were no longer after satisfying their curiosity; their motivation was money. Spammers were making millions of dollars by promoting products through spam E-mails and hackers were stealing personal information and selling their services. In 2000, nations began to invest in state-sponsored

hackers for the development of espionage through malware, which is a hostile or intrusive software used to steal valuable information for geo-political or economic reasons.

Today, people are confronted with hackers and the dark side of the Internet on a regular basis – phishing scams, ransomware, social engineering, online identity theft, and password exploitation. Once hackers are able to break into a private E-mail, social media, or any other online accounts, their access to personal data and information is limitless.



How Can You Protect Yourself?

The highest rated risk factor for falling a victim to cybercrime is human error, so in order to protect yourself from hackers, it is of utmost importance to practice safe online activity to ensure your own security as well as that of your families, friends, colleagues, and companies.

The simplest thing you can do to protect yourself is to be smart in choosing your password. For example, an all lowercase, 5-character password can be cracked in 300 microseconds; a 10-character, lowercase password can still be cracked in just 59 minutes; but a 12-character password with a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols can take up to 34 thousand years to crack.

You can also train yourself to recognize phishing E-mails masquerading as legitimate ones. To do so, look carefully at the sender’s E-mail address. It may look like it comes from someone you know, but if you hover on the name of the sender, an unfamiliar E-mail address appears. If this happens, do not open the E-mail. Other telling signs of a phishing E-mail include grammatical errors, an intimidating way of addressing the

recipient, or suspicious attachments. If any of these things are present, even if it looks like it comes from a friend, do not click on it. Instead, E-mail your friend and ask if he/she sent you an E-mail.

HOW SECURE IS YOUR PASSWORD?

An all lowercase **5-character** password can be cracked in **300 microseconds**

A **10-character** lowercase password can be cracked in just **59 minutes**

A **12-character** password with a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols can take up to **34 thousand years** to be cracked

By maintaining secure passwords, being familiar with the telltale signs of phishing scams, and knowing a bit about the history of cybercrime, you can enjoy the Internet safely and without fear. Remember that awareness and a smart password are the keys to keeping safe on the Internet.

SLO®

Student Life Training Camp: Training Students in Leadership and Compassion

The SABIS Student Life Organization® (SLO®) is one of the distinguishing features of a SABIS® education. As a student-led society, SLO® empowers students to become involved in every aspect of life at school and recognizes students who have the desire and potential to take on leadership roles in their school.

The SLO® at every SABIS® Network school is run by a group of student prefects under the supervision of the Student Life Coordinator (SLC). Prefects in up to eight different SLO® departments, depending on the size and age of the school, work throughout the year to set and attain goals. In the spring of each year, based on applications submitted by interested students and a set of selection criteria, each school in the network selects between 1 and 3 students to participate in the annual SABIS® Student Life Training Camp (SLTC). The camp brings together students for a once-in-a-lifetime experience of learning, personal development, and fun.

Previously held in the U.K., Egypt, and the U.S., the 2016 SLTC was held in Athens, Greece, from July 14-23, 2016. Ninety-seven (97) prefects and 30 SLCs from 33 SABIS® Network schools traveled to Europe to participate in the camp, which was organized under the theme "Going Above and Beyond," the

same theme that is driving the SLO® throughout the 2016-17 academic year.

Students participated in different team-building activities during the first few days of the camp in addition to visiting historical monuments in Acropolis and Poros. Students also learned about the importance of pursuing their dreams and making a difference in their communities through different workshops and presentations.



SLTC participants pose for a group photo at the Olympic Stadium in Athens

During the camp, the attendees were involved in community service projects designed not only to give back to the camp's host city, but also to inspire the students. Students were divided into five teams of 12 to 14 prefects each. Two teams visited a local orphanage where they spent the day cheering up the children with games and fun activities. The other teams distributed their efforts among a nursing home, a farm, and a cancer hospital. Wherever they went, the SLTC participants brought smiles to the faces of everyone they met. They sang and danced with the elderly, learned about the manufacturing of environmentally-friendly products, and gained insight into the types of challenges cancer patients face on a daily basis.

"This program helped me improve not only as a student, but as a person as well. The camp showed me the diversity that the world has to offer and helped me embrace it. I also learned how to be more social and accepting of the people around me."

— SLTC Participant

The last day of the camp was filled with emotions as the students said their goodbyes. They expressed both gratitude and excitement to return to their communities and schools and pass on what they had learned during their time in Athens.

"It was literally the best experience of my life. It has been the spark that has fired me up and pushed me to become a true leader and a major symbol of change and improvement," said a participant.

If you would like to read more about the Student Life Training Camp and see more photos taken during the camp, visit sltc.sabis.net.

ISC-Erbil Alumni Intern at SABIS® Network Schools in Kurdistan

Schools in the global SABIS® Network are renowned for helping students build a strong academic foundation which they can expand upon in their pursuit of success. Through involvement in the SABIS Student Life Organization®, students who graduate from SABIS® Network schools are also well on their way to becoming responsible, hardworking individuals who are committed to making a difference in their communities. Combining their knowledge and commitment, alumni of the International School of Choueifat – Erbil (ISC-Erbil) in Kurdistan, Iraq, recently participated in a new summer internship program in the region.

In the summer of 2016, the International School of Choueifat – Erbil (ISC-Erbil) launched a summer internship program for its graduates. The program, which was designed to enhance graduates' resumes, included 16 ISC-Erbil graduates. Eight interns undertook the responsibilities of subject teachers in a summer school session offered to students at Fakhir Mergasori International School (FMIS), a SABIS® Private-Public Partnership (PPP) school in Kurdistan. These eight interns spent their summer helping students in grades 2 to 7 who needed extra support in English and math. The second group of eight interns took on administrative tasks at ISC-Erbil, where they worked closely with the Office Manager and Academic Quality Controllers, as well as helped welcome Kindergarten students in their first few days at school.



ISC-Erbil alumni interns working closely with staff at their alma mater

The internship program was a resounding success based on feedback from both the alumni interns and schools. One of the participants in the program was Mohammed Nahro, ISC-Erbil, Class of 2013, who said, "All my efforts were for the sole aim of giving back what the school had given me. It was a wonderful experience." ISC-Erbil School Director Stephan Kleynhans praised the program and the alumni involved. "The conduct and dedication of the group of alumni interns was extremely positive – exactly what we would expect from a group of young people who graduated from a SABIS® Network school," he said.

The successful internship program will be repeated in the summer of 2017. Interested ISC-Erbil alumni should keep in touch with the school to stay informed about application timelines. If you are a graduate from any SABIS® Network

school and are looking for ways to give back, contact your alma mater or get involved in your school's [SABIS® Alumni Global Association](#) (SAGA) chapter.

Making a Difference

Students Use their Summer Break to Make a Difference

Located in the U.A.E., home to a large number of expatriates, the International School of Choueifat – Abu Dhabi (ISC-Abu Dhabi) educates students from around the world. During the school year, ISC-Abu Dhabi students learn the value of being active members of the school community. They organize initiatives to support their classmates academically and personally and create a positive, caring environment in the school.

Recently, a group of Grade 10 ISC-Abu Dhabi students were challenged to extend their commitment to make a difference over the summer holiday in their home countries. The challenge would forever change their lives and their perspectives and make it a summer to remember.

Naman Chopra and Siddhant Singhvi dedicated their summer in Jodhpur, India, to teaching basic English and math to poor children who do not have the opportunity to attend school. Upon returning to ISC-Abu Dhabi, they were extremely humbled by their experience. "After teaching poor children, we realized how important education is. We saw how enthusiastic these children were to learn new things, and we were deeply touched by the sad stories of how these children could not afford to go to school, so we tried our best to teach them as much as we could!" said the students.



Naman Chopra and Siddhant Singhvi in a makeshift school in their hometown of Jodhpur, India

Mahzarin Katrak had an equally inspiring summer. Mahzarin chose to dedicate two weeks of her summer break working with "Adapt," formerly "The Spastics Society of India," to help teach students aged 5 to 13 with special needs. Upon returning to ISC-Abu Dhabi, Mahzarin shared her impression of her summer experience. "We always complain about the number of exams we have per week, or because your parents got you a Samsung instead of an iPhone. We are never satisfied with what we have, and our wants are unlimited. But there are a considerable number of people whose wants are only to be educated and be treated like everyone else."

SPDI

ISC-Amman Employees First to Benefit from New Workshop

On August 23, 2016, the SABIS® Professional Development Institute (SPDI) team delivered a Strength Deployment Inventory® (SDI®) workshop called “Collaboration through Communication” for the staff and teachers at the International School of Choueifat – Amman (ISC-Amman) in Jordan. Over a period of three days, 96 attendees participated in the workshop that covered managing conflict and improving relationships in the workplace.



ISC-Amman teachers and staff at SPDI Workshop

During the workshop, ISC-Amman teachers and staff participated in a variety of interactive activities derived from real-life scenarios, offering trainees the opportunity to clearly understand triggers of their behavior and methods of dealing with conflict. Participants also discovered their strengths and learned how to use their strengths effectively in the workplace.

ISC-Amman School Director Dr. Lynn Spampinato was very pleased with the workshop. “I think the workshop will have long range, positive outcomes for both our staff and students. I believe that a highly performing school can be attributed not to individual efforts but to the energy generated by a highly functional team implementing the SABIS® system,” she said.

By continually supporting employees in SABIS® Network schools around the globe and offering ongoing professional development, the SABIS® Professional Development Institute plays a central role in developing a strong talent pool and helping individuals reach their full potential.

HR

SABIS® Launches Updated Careers Website for MENA Region

As a successful, growing network, SABIS® strives to attract skilled, qualified, and driven individuals to fill new vacancies as and when they arise. The SABIS® Careers recruitment website is central to this function, and on October 3, 2016, a new and updated version of the website was launched for the MENA Region of the network.

The updated website for the MENA region features a number of improvements that reflect the latest trends in online recruitment. Interactive videos give job-seekers an overview of the organization and an insight into its history and growth. The



Mahzarin Katrak teaching students with special needs in India

Upon returning home to Lebanon for her summer break, Maryanna Diab chose to dedicate her summer to helping the large number of refugees that are currently residing in Lebanon after fleeing from their homes in Syria. Maryanna and her friend travelled four hours by van to and from the Bekaa Valley every day to help an American medical team distribute medicine. They also helped English-speaking medical doctors and dentists by acting as translators for Arabic-speaking patients.



Maryanna Diab helping out Syrian refugees in Bekaa, Lebanon

By encouraging students to get involved and play an active role in shaping their own and others’ experiences, SABIS® Network schools around the world help students understand the impact they can have on others. The stories that you have read are a small sample of the many inspiring activities that take place across the network every single day. If you would like to know more about how students in the SABIS® Network are making a difference, visit slonews.sabis.net.

“If you give a man a fish, you can feed him for a day; teach a man how to fish, and you can feed him for a lifetime. Since we have the best education in the world, share it; we can learn something too.”

– Mahzarin Katrak, Grade 10,
ISC-Abu Dhabi

website is easy to navigate and user-friendly, helping candidates complete and submit job applications with ease. The site also includes testimonials from current SABIS® Network employees who share their perspectives and experiences.

“A clear and efficient user experience was our target in redesigning the SABIS® Careers website for the MENA region,” explained Ralph C. Bistany, SABIS® Regional HR Manager. *“The new site is a one-stop-shop that streamlines the application process.”*



Visit the new [SABIS® Careers](https://careers.sabis.net) website for the MENA region to experience all that it has to offer. You can also share the link with your friends and contacts as there are many new and exciting job opportunities that are posted every day!

Feature School

SABIS® International School – Phoenix



SIS-Phoenix Campus

Celebrating 15 Years of Achievement!

The SABIS® International School in Phoenix, Arizona, opened its doors in 2001 and set out on a mission to provide children in the South Mountain Village area of Phoenix with a top-quality education. From its humble beginnings on a plot of land

that had been reserved as a farmers’ market, this U.S. public charter school has grown over the past 15 years to become a successful school and an important part of the community, two accomplishments that SIS-Phoenix is celebrating throughout the 2016-17 school year.

Achievements

Over the past 15 years, SIS-Phoenix has celebrated many achievements. The school has educated over 2,500 students who have gone on to attend premiere high schools in the South Mountain Village, Tempe, and Central Phoenix areas and later been accepted to and graduated from top universities in the state including Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Arizona. The school successfully earned re-accreditation from Accreditation International and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. It was recently awarded a 20-year charter renewal by the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, and the school consistently earns high grades from the Arizona Department of Education. In fact, SIS-Phoenix has earned an “A” or “B” rating since the Arizona Department of Education started issuing letter grades.

At the center of the schools’ many achievements is the implementation of the SABIS® Educational System™, a comprehensive educational program that is backed by 130 years of success. Through the structured curriculum, SABIS® teaching methodology, continuous testing and monitoring, and cutting-edge IT tools, students build a strong academic foundation that prepares them for success. SIS-Phoenix students and parents are the first to agree.

“High school was easy for me because I went to SIS-Phoenix!”
– Wilbert Flores, SIS-Phoenix Alumnus

“My daughter was struggling academically before transferring to SIS-Phoenix. Now she loves math.”
– SIS-Phoenix Parent

Tight-knit Community

Contributing to the spirit of achievement that permeates the school is a tight-knit sense of community among faculty, staff, and students. Contributing to the sense of community is a committed Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) that is extremely involved in planning events to enhance the SIS-Phoenix experience for everyone.



SIS-Phoenix students participate in laser tag activity as part of the Phoenix Police Department “Wake Up!” program

Over its 15-year history, the school has also built very strong ties with the South Mountain community. As a measure of the strength of this relationship, a local community watch group recently sponsored the school so that it could join the Phoenix Police Department’s “Wake Up!” program, a school-based initiative

targeting junior high students (grades 7-9) at schools in Phoenix. The “Wake Up!” program aims to get students involved in pro-social activities to help teach them to make better decisions in their lives. The program enables police officers to demonstrate a healthy path for children to follow as an alternative to violence. Participation by youth requires a commitment of service to the community, avoidance of violence, and positive achievement.

Another interesting reflection of this tight-knit community is the number and age of new students joining the school. Twelve (12) to 15 percent of the student body is new to the school, and a large number of these students are older students. *“It is very difficult to uproot older students who are already settled into their schools and get them to move to a new school. Our students are spreading the word in the community that SIS-Phoenix is the place to be!”* said Mr. Will Henry, SIS-Phoenix School Director.

Alumni

This strong sense of community at SIS-Phoenix is also reflected in the strong bonds that the school’s alumni maintain with their alma mater long after graduation. There are currently two alumni who are teaching at SIS-Phoenix. After graduating from SIS-Phoenix, finishing high school, and completing a bachelor’s degree, they chose to return to their alma mater to make a difference and share their knowledge and expertise with the new generation.

Ruby Angulo and Alexxa Fernandez returned to the school as teachers. After completing Grade 8 at SIS-Phoenix and graduating from high school, Ruby Angulo went on to pursue a degree in Mexican Cultural Studies at the University of Arizona. She is now back at SIS-Phoenix and teaches Spanish to students in primary grades. Alexxa Fernandez graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in Elementary Education and is back at SIS-Phoenix as a first grade teacher.

“I decided to come back to SABIS® to teach because I wanted to give back to the community in which I grew up. I have always enjoyed Spanish, so when I decided to teach it, I knew that SIS-Phoenix was the right place for me.

– Ruby Angulo, SIS-Phoenix Teacher

“I returned to SIS-Phoenix because of my strong connection to my school. It was, and continues to be, a place I am able to grow and become successful in all aspects of life, especially in my career as a teacher.”

– Alexxa Fernandez, SIS-Phoenix Teacher

Another SIS-Phoenix alumnus who has maintained strong ties with the school is Christian Hernandez, who is from a family of four brothers all of whom attended SIS-Phoenix. After graduating from high school, Christian pursued a degree in Art History at Arizona State University and became an accomplished artist. He chose to share his talents with his alma mater, and today the school proudly displays two murals created by him. A third mural commemorating the school’s 15th anniversary will be completed by the end of the year.



One of two murals created by alumnus Christian Hernandez for SIS-Phoenix

SLO®: Focus on Academics

Students at SIS-Phoenix enjoy an active and engaging student life. Through the SABIS Student Life Organization® (SLO®) at SIS-Phoenix, students have many opportunities to pursue their interests. They also work actively to ensure that all students are on track academically. In fact, one of the main areas of focus for SLO® this year is academics thanks to School Director Mr. Will Henry, who issued a challenge to all students. For each of the two terms of the year, he has challenged the school to earn above 85% on 100 or more SABIS® AMS tests. For each week that a class earns an average of 85% or above, the name of their grade and section is added to a plaque in the school cafeteria.

The SLO® Academics Department is supporting students in meeting the challenge. They have set up a number of after-school study groups for students in grades 4 to 8 and currently have over 80 students involved! SLO® has also set up an extremely successful reading club, which pairs older prefects with younger students in an effort to help the younger students improve their reading and language skills.



An SIS-Phoenix student reading with a younger student

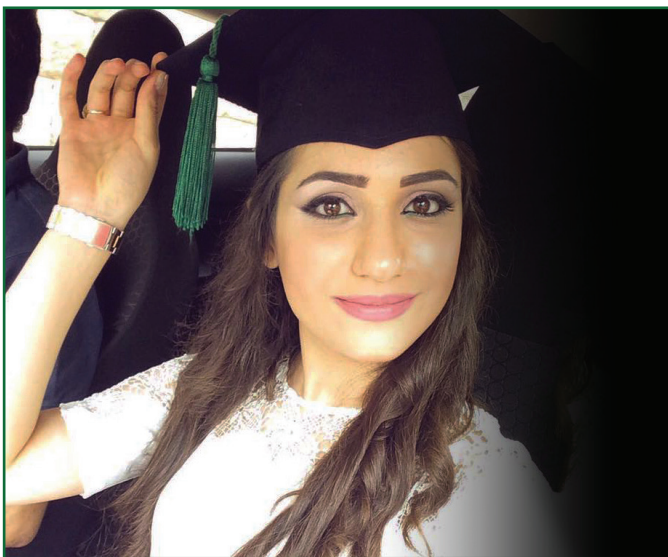
The focus on academics is complemented by the positive and safe environment that prevails at the school. SIS-Phoenix sets high standards for behavior and discipline. The school is committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment in which all students can focus on achieving their full potential. SIS-Phoenix students and parents are asked to sign a contract to show that they understand their responsibility for creating a safe learning environment. Bullying, in any form, is not tolerated and every single member of the school community takes part in preventing bullying.

From humble beginnings, SIS-Phoenix has grown to become a provider of a top-quality education to children in Phoenix, Arizona. Over the course of its 15-year history, the school has become an active member of the community, educating students with a solid academic foundation and a commitment to give back to their alma mater.

SABIS® International School in Phoenix, Arizona, is a proud member of the global SABIS® Network. If you would like to know more about the school, please visit their website at sis.sabis.net. You can also follow them on social media by liking their [Facebook](#) page.

Alumna in the Spotlight

**Rachel Chehayeb, ISC-Choueifat,
Class of 2016**



Rachel Chehayeb

This is the story of a student whose determination to perform well on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) inspired an initiative that helped shape her own future as well as the future of others.

Rachel Chehayeb joined ISC-Choueifat as a 4th grader in 2007 and she graduated from the school in June of 2016. During her time at ISC-Choueifat, Rachel distinguished herself as an ambitious, intelligent, hardworking, and determined student. She developed strong study habits and encouraged her peers to do the same.

In addition to her focus on academics, Rachel was also an active participant in SLO®. She held a number of leadership positions

including Deputy Head Prefect for the Lower School, Activities, and Academic departments. In her senior year, she was selected as Head Prefect and effectively led a large team of students. The many positions she held helped her develop her skills in leadership, communication, strategic planning, and teamwork.

As a junior in high school, Rachel began thinking about university and the application process. She knew that she wanted to attend a top university in the U.S. and would need to take the SAT and do well. She also knew that the math and English curriculum at ISC-Choueifat were geared to provide the necessary foundation for her to take the SAT. Rachel was confident that she would be well-prepared for the test, but she wanted to do more to make sure that she – and others – could get the best possible score. So she got to work.

Rachel took on the management of the “SAT Information Board” at the school and expanded its contents to include the “Word of the Day,” a daily math challenge, and SAT study tips and tactics. She organized and ran SAT study groups during lunch breaks and after school. She organized a mock SAT exam one week before the official test and oversaw the proctoring and correction of the mock exams by prefects. She also gave an SAT presentation to students in grades 9 and 10 to impress upon them the importance of daily SAT study habits.

“The school has undeniably played a major role in my life, from instilling in me a firm grip on mathematics to including SAT prep as part of our English curriculum. My SAT score strengthened my belief that success is the inevitable result of hard work and perseverance.”

– Rachel Chehayeb, ISC-Choueifat,
Class of 2016

As a result of Rachel’s efforts, 35% of ISC-Choueifat students in grades 10 and 11 participated in mock SAT exam sessions. Many others attended the study groups. The additional practice and exposure helped them earn higher scores on the official SAT. Rachel, herself, also benefitted from her initiatives. She scored a perfect 1600 on the SAT I and also earned full marks on three SAT II subjects (physics, math, and chemistry).

With great SAT results, a strong academic record, active community engagement, and determination, Rachel was accepted to Yale University as a freshman and has yet to decide what major she will pursue. We wish Rachel success in university and beyond!

If you are a graduate of a SABIS® Network school and would like to get in touch with old friends and classmates, visit saga.sabis.net and join the SABIS® Alumni Global Association (SAGA) now! SAGA is also on Facebook at facebook.com/SABISalumni.



SABIS® is a global education network that has an active presence in 20 countries on five continents. Schools in the SABIS® Network operate in both the public and private sectors and educate over 70,000 students.

Based on a proven, proprietary system, SABIS® Network schools provide students with a top-quality education that prepares them to meet the challenges of a changing world.

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