

June 14th, 2024

Dear Granadino Community,

As the school year now officially comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on our collective accomplishments and express my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our wonderful community. Serving as your General Director for the first time has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I am filled with pride and joy as I look back on all that we have achieved together.

One of the highlights of this year was the Cognia Accreditation Engagement Review we underwent in April. Recently, we received our final report with ratings for each of the thirty standards, ratings for our seven institutional reports, as well an Overall Index of Education Quality Score (IEQ).

I am thrilled to share that we achieved the highest recorded IEQ score in our School's history since becoming accredited in 2001. We also made significant overall growth since our last visit in 2018, going from a school that was rated below the Cognia network average to a school that is now rated well above the Cognia network average. It is also worth noting that we earned a perfect score on all seven institution analysis reports that we submitted for the review. Finally, as our overall IEQ score was above a 300, we have met Cognia's expectations for accreditation and we will hold official accreditation status for the next 6 years by Cognia.

The final report highlighted several key strengths including:

- *Colegio Granadino has created an environment where all stakeholder groups have leadership opportunities and where students have voice in their learning.*
- *The Mission drives the work of the School.*
- *The Spanish and English language and culture are developed and supported.*
- *The students are well known by teachers, leaders and all the staff at the School.*
- *There are highly qualified personnel at all levels of the School.*
- *The School is working hard to retain high-quality staff and develop leaders.*
- *The next strategic planning process is underway.*
- *21st century skills were observed in classroom lessons and curricular decisions.*
- *Standards-based grading allows stakeholders to monitor student learning progress.*
- *Students have an open door to express ideas, suggestions and initiatives (student voice).*
- *Technology – a good plan is in place to add chromebooks by grade level in Elementary School.*

- *Colegio Granadino collects and uses a lot of data. The School's internal Data Panel is an excellent resource and is used effectively to make decisions.*
- *College and career counseling is strong and the School is developing academic and non-academic skills for future careers.*

The final report also noted three key areas for improvement:

- *Develop and implement a plan for professional learning based on perception, observation, and performance data, including a needs assessment and evaluation of the impact of the training activities.*
- *Implement a Technology Plan to support classroom use of digital devices (computers / chromebooks / tablets) for student learning following review and approval.*
- *Develop and implement a plan to support Action Research among teachers and leaders in all sections of the school.*

Moving forward, we will be working diligently together to address these important areas of improvement and we will be consolidating and solidifying the many strengths highlighted in the final accreditation report.

As we transition into the summer break, I want to extend my wishes for a restful and enjoyable vacation. This is a time for our students to rest, recharge, spend quality time with family and friends, explore their hobbies, read books, discover new places, engage in community service, and pursue everything they are passionate about. Activities like these will provide a nice break from the routine and will also enrich personal growth and well-being.

Finally, I want to commend and congratulate all of our talented and dedicated students who participated in the *Matilda* Musical this week. You showcased your diverse talents as singers, musicians, dancers, and artists, all shining brightly on stage. I also sincerely thank our Musical Team and all the staff involved with this event for their hard work and commitment to making this event a success. I look forward to many more musical and artistic performances with our talented and gifted students on display in the future.

Thank you for an amazing school year and for welcoming me into this incredible community. I am honored to be your Director and I am looking forward to many more successful years together.

Have a fantastic summer break and I look forward to seeing you all back here on campus on August 13, 2024.

Warm regards,



David Esch
General Director at Colegio Granadino