

March 4, 2022: Message from new leadership group

Dear San Juan del Sur Day School Families,

As Julie announced, we would like to share with you the amazing news of the transfer of our school's legal structure, to a new school legal entity and governance structure. We are humbled to have the opportunity to grow the San Juan del Sur Day School into an internationally accredited, Nicaraguan education program rooted in sustainability.

Late last year, as the school struggled through multiple crises it was challenged to implement new secondary school programs, secure long-term leases, and secure development funds; Julie Speier and John Crilly began to explore pathways that would ensure the long-term viability of the school. We came forward with a solution to evolve the school vision and address the long-term needs of the school. We have now on boarded a group of parents at the school, including the Tibbs-Hernandez', Lunin- Vargas', Terry's-Zepeda's who desire that our children attend a mission-driven institution designed to prepare students for an unknown future.

We thank Julie and John for their dedication to developing education in Nicaragua. We feel their continued involvement will help create continuity in the community as a whole and improve the educational experience for our families. Julie Speier will remain with us as Interim Director.

In today's rapidly evolving world, we believe that the status quo is no longer relevant, and it is our obligation to innovate the educational experience. We will do this by working with the community to implement a strategic development plan with the objectives to have measurable school achievement, high quality staff, amazing facilities, education for sustainability, appropriate technology, community/parental engagement, and fiscal responsibility. We will look to incorporate educational programs with Green School initiatives, Mastery Pathways and Nicaraguan culture and values.

We will install a school board to oversee the new school; create sub committees in the appropriate areas; and we will identify a new head of school. We will assure 100% transparency in the way we work and, in the processes, and the decisions we make. In this journey of transition, we have secured support from the institutions of Nicaragua. We have strong support from the owners of the school campus, Finca las Nubes. We have secured a long term lease on the property and a commitment to build the high school, starting immediately. We are grateful for their continued philanthropic advancement of this project and that our community has found the courage and the passion to support this journey.

We expect full participation of the families to support this transition. We are aware of various family's intentions to support the development of art, music and horticulture programs; as well as facilitating fundraising, strategic partnerships and the PTO. We are energized to move the school forward and continue to focus on providing the children of Nicaragua educational

opportunities. This transition will not be overnight, it will take months of planning and years of development, but with the work of our community and commitment, we will have the best possible school. There will be numerous opportunities in the next few months to get involved and support the development of our school.

We are actively working on the vision, goals, strategies, resources and timelines for high school and more specific news will be presented in the coming weeks. There will be numerous opportunities in the next few months to get involved and support the development of new programs. If you would like to be involved, please don't hesitate to contact us at: [sjdsdstransition@gmail.com](mailto:sjdsdstransition@gmail.com).

We look forward to continuing to serve our families and delivering the best educational experience possible. See you soon, Thank you!

San Juan del Sur Day School Transition Group