

The Art of Coaching Teams

Last school year ASF hosted the Art of Coaching Workshop which inspired ASF to follow up this year with the Art of Coaching Teams. Both workshops were supported by funding from the Tri-Association. This April, the workshop, which focused on effective team development, was attended by 70 educators from several schools in Mexico, Guatemala and Cuba. Led by Noelle Apostol Colin, it was a practical guide to the challenging task of leading a team. Ms. Colin covered team protocols, from creating purposeful agendas focused on student learning to developing healthy communication, and managing conflict resolution.

Using Elena Aguilar's transformational coaching model, participants had an opportunity to explore and reflect on their own leadership skills. The suggestions for building trust and specific tools to develop the teams' emotional intelligence were invaluable.

Unfortunately many schools do not often have the time to focus on the important work of team development. This workshop allowed the educators involved to intentionally develop skills and practice them using different simulation exercises. Participants learned about creating community agreements, decision-making, as well as many other key practices. The experience was a great opportunity to share strategies and solutions to common issues with educators from different schools in different parts of the world. Participants learned important steps to help them move their teams forward towards accomplishing learning goals when they return to their schools.



Educators walked away excited to test the concrete tools to lead and participate in more effective teams. The plan is for these educators to share these tools and strategies in their own teams and model purposeful and emotionally intelligent meetings. Using these tools and strategies will lead to the improvement of collaboration at each school represented in the workshop. It was clear that the skills and strategies learned will lead to more effective and resilient teams.



From left to right:
ASF coaches and Art of Coaching Teams' trainer, Karen Schellenberg, Laura Fairbank, Maria Mandolini, Noelle, Apostol Colin (trainer), Mary Cornwell, Joe DeLuca, and Carolina Baez

Inclusive Education

The push towards more inclusive schools continues to spread as our program finishes its third year since its inception in 2014. Cohorts IV and V started in the Fall of 2017 at the American School Foundation in Mexico City and the American School Foundation of Monterrey. Cohort VI will begin in September 2018 in San José, Costa Rica and will offer a Digital Badge through ASCD and graduate credit through San Diego State University. This last program will be co-hosted by Country Day and Lincoln School. Jack Young, Country Day Elementary Principal and a graduate from the first cohort, played a pivotal role in bringing the program to Costa Rica. Thank you Jack for helping

us create this opportunity! The programs are now co-funded through A/OS grants and participating schools, a partnership that is working well. We are indebted to Lee Ann Jung for her advocacy and resourcefulness, which have resulted in program growth and continued improvement.



Eagles from the American School Foundation Monterrey



Teachers from American School Foundation Mexico City

Good-bye to Paul Williams: Friend, Mentor & Colleague

After working at the American School Foundation of Mexico City for over thirty-one years as a teacher, HS Principal and Executive Director, Paul Williams will be retiring at the end of this academic year. Paul served as ASOMEX Director and Tri-Association Board President during his tenure. While in this role, he hosted the Annual Conference in 2013 with a record attendance of over 900 participants. Congratulations to Paul as he begins this new chapter in his life. We are most appreciative for his involvement and support of Association activities.

Read the full article here:

<http://www.tri-association.org/paulwilliams>



Paul with a teacher and group of students