INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LOUISIANA

11 December 2007

HEAD REPORT

For the Month Ending October 31

The month of October proved healthy and beneficial for ISL. The student population appears to have stabilized over the month as the October count has been submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education. With 453 students enrolled and accounted for we are near our goal of 460 students. We have had heavy interest in the school in the upper grades and continue to refer those students to surrounding schools.

Applications for the '08-'09 school year have started pouring in. Open House was held October 13 and there was nearly 100 packets picked up. This showing was accomplished with limited advertising. Other Open Houses will be advertised using available media and using budgeted funds to target the markets the school needs to attract for the coming school year. According to the charter the school must attract 53% free and reduced lunch students.

ISL FEST

November 3 ISL Fest was celebrated by the family, friends and community. The fest went off without incident. It was the best celebration encountered by the school in its history. The Fest grossed more than $30,000 in six hours of operations. The Chair and the many volunteers are commended for their efforts and dedication to make this event a success. The fair will go in the history books. The debriefing for the fair was held where information was shared to note the success and challenges of the Fest. The attempt is to ensure that the future events build upon the current success.

HOLIDAY MARKET PLACE

December 1st is the Holiday Market Place hosted by the school. The market place is not a major fund raiser but it brings attention to the school. Last year's event went well, netting approximately $1,200 in the one day event. During the event, vendors, internal and external, were satisfied with the outcome and promised to return this year while increasing the foot traffic. The goal is to make HMP an annual event.

The HMP includes a Gumbo cook off with notable celebrity judges. Of note, Leah Chase of Dookie Chase Restaurant was on hand. The Christian Bike Riders left toys for those students we felt may be in need.

RESTROOM RENOVATIONS

Andrew Lemmon of Reach Out America made good on funding a portion of the renovation of the 1st floor restrooms. The restrooms were completed at the end of October. There is still more work needed; tile flooring and lavatory vanity. We hope that future renovations will include the restrooms on the 2nd and 3rd floors. In conversation with Mr. Lemmon we are looking to garner his organization's support for other activities about and around the school. We will seek measures to spin the renovation of the custodial cottage into additional classroom.

CUSTODIAL COTTAGE

The Custodial Cottage, house on Euterpe St., has garnered much attention in the past few months. We would like to convert the cottage to additional classroom space to include a music, art and ancillary room. The intent is to make the house convertible to large space meeting area; quite possibly a place to have board meetings as the walls will be collapsible. The renovation of this space would delay the need for modular/mobile classroom space for one year. Renovations are expected to cost around $150,000 to include interior and exterior modifications and taking about 5 months to complete.

Letters have gone out to the Orleans Parish School Board and the Recovery School District to gain permission to renovate the house for additional classroom space. Conversations have been had with a member of the Orleans Parish School Board who will push for the property to be donated to ISL without compensation. The date the property will be on the school board's agenda is not yet set, but we will be notified that we may be available to present our case for the property. Once notified I will forward information to the Board to see who would be in attendance.

HIGH SCHOOL

Since the fall break, I have yet to confirm appointments with any of the High Schools with whom we want to partner. I hope to have confirmed dates and time for all schools by the date of the meeting. I am confident we will be successful in finding a solution for our incumbent class. Future planning for High School is reported by the Chair of the Academic committee.

ACADEMICS

- November 30, 2007 is the first quarter first Parent/Teacher Conference & Progress Report day.

- Melanie, Sean and Karen will attend an IBO workshop Sunday, December 2, 2007, in order to begin to fully explore the possibility of ISL becoming an IBO school.

- Christine Corellou has replaced Michel Moutin as the Middle School French language arts teacher. Christine has 20 years teaching experience including 6 at the Atlanta International School. She is a welcome addition to the ISL community.

- Jerome DeGrave from Guiana has made arrangements for ISL to have 2 student teachers again this year. They will come in January and stay for 3 weeks. ISL will also have an intern from the UNO International Studies program for the Spring semester.

JEFF DAVIS PROPERTY – SOLD

The closing finally happened. The property had been on the market for more than one year and I am pleased to announce that the property is no longer in the school's possession. The property at Jeff Davis has been sold. The proceeds are in the hands of the school and in an interest bearing account. The school's net take on the sale is $547,000. From the proceeds the school expects to receive an additional $18,000 from the listing agent. This gift will be combined with the proceeds as soon as it is received. Past board meetings earmarked the funds for facilities.

DEVELOPMENT

The Annual Fund officially kicked off at ISL Fest. To date, 14% of ISL families have contributed to this year's campaign; raising $7,845 since the fund drive began. Add to that a $2,500 match from Entergy and the Annual Fund total now stands at $10,345 (over 1/3 of the way to our $30,000 goal). Appeal letters went out on Monday, November 19th to those families who have not yet contributed. The Family Annual Fund Committee is meeting regularly; working toward 100% participation from families, faculty and staff.

This month the Consular Generals of Trinidad/Tobago and France toured ISL. During these tours with the individual consulates the future of ISL and the role the consulates can and do play in the school were discussed. The Consular General of Trinidad has pledged specifically to support the library and music programs at the school.

We are meeting weekly with Armand Burtin, a development consultant engaged by LANO as part of the Enterprise Development program. He has asked to meet individually with School Administration, the Board of Trustees and the Board of FTCO to assess our funding capacity; those interviews will be scheduled shortly. Meetings will continue throughout December with the goal of a long range, strategic funding plan to be completed by end of January.

On Monday, December 17th, ISL will be hosting **Clark Murdock**, senior advisor at the **Center for Strategic and International Studies** and author of the book, *Future Making – Getting Your Organization Ready for What's Next*. We are working with Mr. Murdock to lead a workshop/discussion for the Board & Administration on the topic of his book; that evening Mr. Murdock will be the guest of honor at a fundraising cocktail party to benefit ISL. We are asking board members to contribute to the guest list; please forward the names and contact information for guests (potential donors of $1,000+) to pstewart@isl-edu.org by Friday, November 30th at 3pm.

On Friday, November 30 the school building will be evaluated in consideration of ISL's application for the $350,000 Entergy/Nike Solar Schools Grant. ISL is one of five finalists for these competitive funds; four buildings will be chosen to receive solar/electrical upgrades, possible play space improvements and on-going energy costs savings.

Planning continues with the Student Services Department (Counseling, Nursing, Music, Art, PE, Circus and Education Services) to develop programming and budget needs for funding.

ISL will be holding its fifth annual in-store book fair at the Metairie Barnes & Noble from December 16-22. A portion of sales generated by ISL families will be returned to the school. Last year's event raised $4,500.