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NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES, INC.
COMMISSION ON AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS ABROAD

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Dr. Gerhard Chris Mueller
Director
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Consideration of the Five-Year Report - Bonn International School (BIS)

Dear Chris,

The NEASC Commission on American and International School Abroad (CAISA) has reviewed the Five-Year Report submitted by Bonn International School in February 2014, as well as the Report on the Five-Year Visit submitted by Stephen MacDougall (NEAC) and Peter Gittins (CIS) following their visit to the school on March 26-28, 2014. We are pleased to inform you that, upon consideration of these reports, the Commission voted to continue Bonn International School in accredited status until the next visit – the Preparatory Visit which initiates the next full Self-Study cycle – becomes due in early 2018.

CAISA was pleased to note the extensive work BIS has accomplished in addressing the recommendations offered by previous NEASC, CIS, and IB visiting teams. This appears to have contributed to a culture of continuous improvement at BIS that, in turn, has enabled it to adjust well to increasing enrollment, to increasing diversity (both culturally and academically), and to leadership/management changes. The new emphasis on whole-school (rather than “separate schools”) development is also considered an important factor in the Visitors’ conclusion that BIS is now a very different school from that accredited in 2007. BIS’ substantial investment in the professional growth of its faculty and staff is likely to assure that the school will continue to meet its vision, mission, and obligations to students.

During the period leading up to the next Preparatory Visit, BIS will wish to maintain the momentum of improvement noted by the Visitors and address those recommendations still noted as remaining “in progress”. Among these, CAISA encourages BIS to dedicate time, reflection, discussion, and action to the following in particular:

- continue to strengthen a whole-school perspective in the development of policies, curriculum articulation and management, and leadership structure;
- undertake a comprehensive review of the school's Guiding Statements with a view to ensuring that the values and beliefs espoused in these Guiding Statements drive strategic planning and decision-making;
- continue horizontal and vertical curriculum documentation and clearly define learning outcomes;
- analyze student achievement data to inform teaching and learning;
- review and prioritize strategic action plans; define a systematic assessment methodology that includes a process for data collection, analysis, and (where appropriate) measurable success criteria; and
- fully and effectively implement the new appraisal model throughout the school.

We would like congratulate the Bonn International School for its obvious commitment to school improvement and high educational standards. We value your membership in the community of CAISA-accredited schools and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Peter C. Mott
Director

PCM/dmc

cc: Stephen MacDougall, NEASC Team Chair
Dr. Graham Ranger, CIS Director of Accreditation