



Bishop Mackenzie
International Schools

BMIS Board Meeting

25th February 2014 in the Library at 6.30pm

OPEN SESSION

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising from Board Meeting on 28th January 2014
2. Sports at BMIS
3. Board Decisions, Strategic Aims and Priorities
 - a. AGM – need to decide dates and details
 - b. Technology Development
4. Informational Reports
 - a. Director's Report
 - b. Head of Secondary's Report
 - c. Head of Primary's Report
 - d. Business Manager's Report
 - e. Finance Committee Report 24th January 2014
 - f. Policy Committee Report 24th January 2014

Photographs:

Can we please set aside a few minutes to have some photographs taken for the Yearbook?

Director's Report

25th February 2014

Strategic Issues and Board Decisions

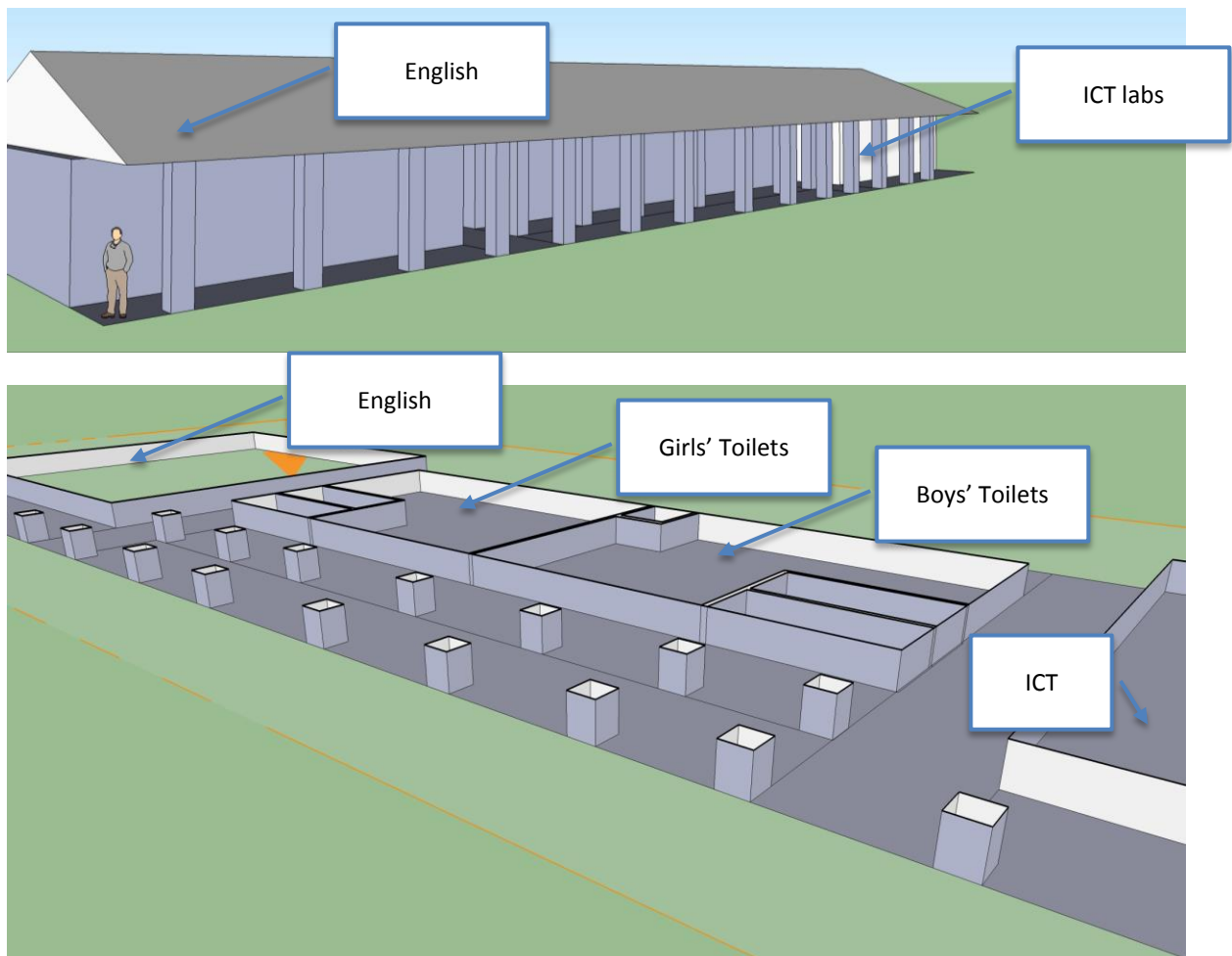
Annual General Meeting

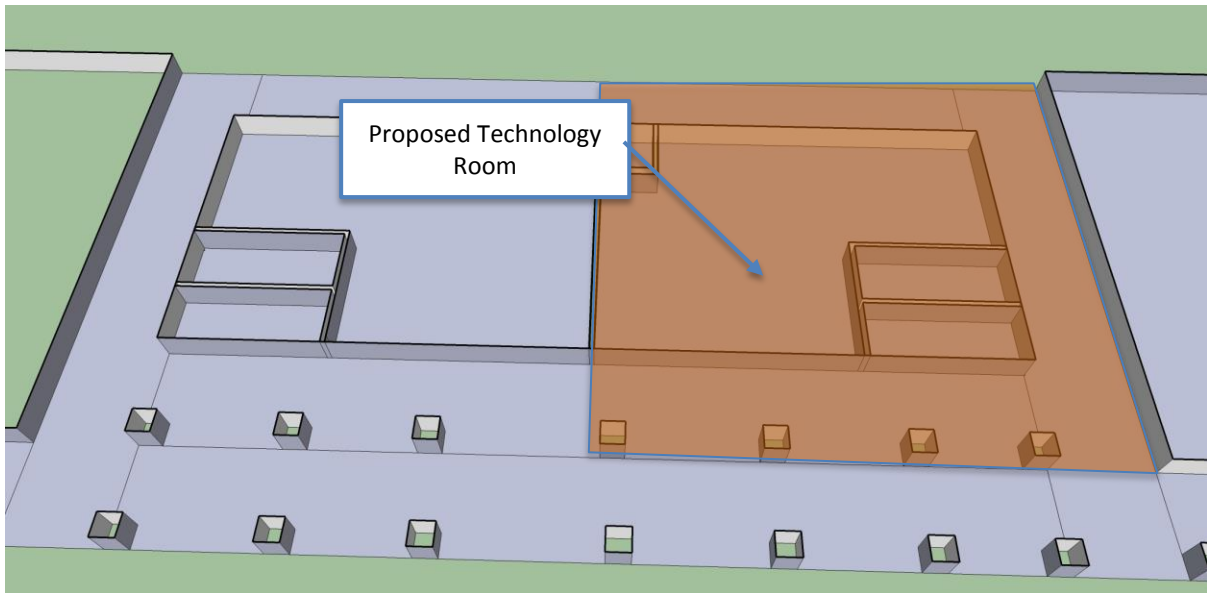
Board members need to agree on a date for the AGM.

Technology Development

Last year the school successfully navigated through the CIS/NEASC accreditation and earlier this year through the MYP authorisation process. One issue, which has been crystalized as a result of these external verification visits, is the technology curriculum in Secondary. The curriculum requirements have broadly been met through the IT provision in the students' timetables. However, we have not provided opportunities for students to physically work with materials and this has been noted as a shortcoming of the school. At the Board level, discussions have touched on the potential opportunities and benefits of offering broader technology opportunities rather than restricting to IT. In a nutshell, the Technology curriculum focuses on the design cycle. Whilst IT systems can be used to satisfy this design cycle, we really do need to extend the provision beyond software solutions and to include physical materials into the students' experience.

In order to develop the Technology curriculum, which can be introduced in yearly phases (in the same way that MYP was introduced throughout the secondary school), we need to make certain provisions. The biggest capital development would be **physical space – a workshop**. It would be unfeasible and unadvisable to attempt to use the current IT labs for any materials use.





Next door to the current ICT labs in Secondary is an underutilized area that contains a set of girls' and boys' toilets, staff toilets and storeroom. Surrounding this block is a 2m wide corridor.

Whilst it is not ideal to be removing toilet facilities from the school, the location of these toilets means they do not get as much traffic as those in other areas. Toilet facilities for staff are available in the staff room and for students in the next block, around 30m away.

By removing one set of toilets and building in the corridor space, a large workshop area can be constructed. Some further analysis of the roofing structure is required before final plans can be submitted to the board, regarding the supporting pillars and walls, but in general terms it would appear feasible and good value.

The remaining toilets *could* be redeveloped to accommodate both boys' and girls' toilets or it could be considered as a second phase of development to, for example, relocate Art or extend the technology provision at a later stage.

Once the analysis of the structural/roofing has been completed and plans drawn up, it may be possible to schedule works over the long "summer" holiday ready for the start of the new academic year.

The other factors involved in developing technology would be resources and personnel. The existing staff are able to deliver the technology curriculum and would work in tandem with the students' IT development as part of the technology cycle.

Resources and equipment will need to be built up over time, as the programme is rolled out year on year, but this would be feasible within the budget.

Informational Report

Library Development

The foundations for the new library wing are well underway. Cast columns are being laid and now that the weather is starting to turn, we should see some significant progress in the coming months.



Primary School Report

Enrolment- Primary School-Number on Roll- February 20th 2014 - **433**

Field Trips and Guest Speakers

Yr 6 – Dedza Pottery, - Unit – “Changing Materials”

Yr 5- Guest speaker-Unit- “Energy”

Yr 4 – Guest speaker-Unit- “The Age of Exploration”

Yr 3 - Chipiku, -Unit-“From Field to Table”

Yr 3 - Farm- Mr. De Borde- Unit- “From Field to Table”

Yr 2 –Guest Speakers- Unit- “Weather”-visitors speaking about extreme weather

Yr 1 –Four Seasons- Unit –“Growing Things”

Reception- Golf Club Nature Walks- Unit – “Animals and Us”

Sporting Events

Primary Inter-School Swimming Gala-On Saturday 8th February BMIS Primary School hosted the Primary Inter-School Swimming Gala. Teams from ABC, Phoenix, Hillview, SAIPS, and BMIS participated. A good day was had by all. The overall winners were Phoenix with BMIS coming second.

Triathlon- Friday 14th February- Years 3 to 6 took part in a House Triathlon Competition. The three activities were running, swimming and cycling. Most children participated in teams but some children competed in the individual section and completed all three activities.

Upper Primary Swimming Gala -Thursday 20th February. The Year 3 to 6 students entertained a large audience with some amazing swimming. The winning House was Elephants with Rhinos coming in a very close second

Student Council

On 13th February the Primary School Student Council organised a dress up day (pink, red, white) and also sold roses and candy-grams. The money raised (over 200,000MK) will go to a local orphanage "Tilinanu"

Assembly

On Friday February 7th a Scottish piper came to our assembly and played the bagpipes, talked about his traditional outfit and introduced two of our older students who performed a Scottish dance. The piper, Mr Philip Barlow was visiting Malawi to play the bagpipes at Burn's Night celebrations.

PYP

Workshop Leader- Christelle Thompson, our PYP coordinator has recently returned from Harare. She was leading a workshop at Harare International School on "The Role of Language in the PYP"

Year 6 Exhibition - Preparations are now underway for the PYP Year 6 exhibition.

A mentor meeting was held on Friday 21st February and a parent, student, mentor meeting took place on Monday 24th February. The exhibition will take place on Wednesday and Thursday the 7th and 8th May 2014.

Secondary School Report
