

SAC International Committee Proposed Goals 2016-2017

The mission and principles of SAC International remain unchanged.

Mission:

Our mission is to support the efforts of the faculty and the school to provide opportunities that expand our student's cultural competency and leadership skills through global engagement.

Principles:

We are guided by the principles of:

- providing meaningful opportunities for engagement
- to the maximum number of students and teachers
- across the curriculum
- cost-effectively and sustainably
- as led by our teachers

Guidance from school leadership is needed to align our efforts with the timelines within the Strategic Plan. Below are suggested goals generated by parent input, teacher survey (2015), and committee consensus:

- Meet with school leadership for goal prioritization
- Build a stronger relationship with VCU, including the Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, the Global Education Office, the School of World Studies and the GLOBE program. Leverage these relationships to develop international and linguistic educational opportunities and experiences for MLWGS students.
- Support international digital classroom engagement with helpful materials, personnel, or curricula for project learning opportunities/clubs/teams for a standing exchange via a platform like Skype where students communicate face-to-face for a free exchange of ideas and culture.
- Shift Speaker's Bureau from a push, to a pull system, filling teacher requests for support as needed.
- Identify and coordinate an international cultural event similar to Shadow Ballads.
- Identify and coordinate opportunities similar to VCU symposium.
- Place all past and current trips on the website.
- Identify a travel agency to work with the school for international travel.
- Continue to work with Jeff Hall in support of the proposed Technology Plan.
- Submit events to Smoke and Scales at least once a month and add class Facebook pages school announcements (as approved) as well as a hallway bulletin board to our distribution methods. (Kristi submits to S&S, student committee member distributes to Facebook, Announcements; student member seeks Fr, Russian and Arabic opportunities; Dawn supplies German and other international opportunities, requests Board and posts flyers, leads Logo design contest)
- Maintain and update the International Opportunities page

- Recruit parent group to take over the logistics of hosting activities for exchanges.
- Form a booster club to support teachers and students who want to travel
- Find incentives for interdisciplinary field trips and international travel
- Tie SAC's work into the Strategic Implementation Process. (All)
- Address revising start of Goal 5, Objective 3 to begin earlier as pertains to international communication opportunities to align with technology integration mission. (All)
- Explore recommending a Global Integrator position in the school akin to the Technology Integrator and the Mindfulness Integrator work. (All)
- Explore the possibility of a facilitation event inviting teachers (students? Leadership to expand on the question "What does it mean to be an 'International Studies' school?" by asking "How can Maggie Walker increase global engagement opportunities for our students?" (Ideas to incorporate international engagement in their instruction and then draft a modest list of needs that supports the interests of students and teachers and international school best-practices. This would be the first step in crafting a long-term international education plan that encompasses the time, technology and training needed to support our teachers' vision.) (All)