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ROGERS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL EARNS HIGH MARKS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANIZATION

(Stamford, Connecticut: February 8, 2010) The International Baccalaureate (IB) released its evaluation of the Rogers International School (RIS) in a document that includes numerous commendations to administrators, staff, students, and parents.

RIS was authorized to implement the Primary Years Programme of the International Baccalaureate after an authorization visitation in October 2005. As an IB World School, RIS is required to undergo an evaluation within the first five years of authorization and then every five years thereafter to ensure the IB's standards and practices are being maintained. The evaluation visitation was conducted by an international IB visiting team on September 17 and 18, 2009.

To prepare for the visit, RIS submitted a report which included: a self-study completed by the staff in which the staff reflected on how the standards and practices of the IB were being implemented at RIS; details about changes to the school since authorization; professional development completed by staff; and documentation that showed how the school has met standards in the areas of philosophy, organization, curriculum, and students.

The visiting team's evaluation commended RIS's administration, staff, students and parents as well as Central Administration on multiple levels:

- The school district for their involvement and vision to designate RIS as an interdistrict school, thereby enabling even more students the opportunity to benefit from the PYP philosophy.
- The school staff for their vision in creating a student centered learning environment for students, which includes the entire school family.
- The school staff for their dedication, commitment and enthusiasm in relation to the philosophy and beliefs of the PYP.
- The parents for their continued interest and support of the PYP at Rogers International School.
- The students for their obvious pride in their school, as well as their active participation and involvement in the program.

- The school for encouraging students to become responsible for their own learning.
- The entire school community for promoting the attributes of the IB learner profile.

The International Baccalaureate was established in 1968 and is a non-profit, international educational foundation registered in Switzerland. The IB mission statement says in part that the IB “aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect....these programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.”

In the Fall of 2009, RIS moved into a new, 105,000 square foot building with a Silver LEED rating in the Cove area of Stamford. The state-funded facility includes a green roof, ice storage for the HVAC system, a rain garden, wind turbine for power development, water saving technologies. RIM is an interdistrict magnet school and draws students from Stamford, Darien, Norwalk, Weston, Ridgefield, Monroe and other Fairfield County communities. At the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year, there were more than 800 students on the waiting list.

RIS currently has 650 students in grades K-6 and will add one grade level per year to become Stamford’s only K-8 school by the 2011-2012. RIS is in the process of becoming an authorized IB Middle Years Program school as well. RIS’s next PYP programme evaluation will take place in the Fall of 2014.

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