



## Academy for International Studies

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Dear UAIS family,

It is my honor to welcome parents and students to the UAIS once again. For some of you this is the first welcome and to others, its amazingly the third. As the 2010-11 school year begins, there is much to be excited about. This is our first year of the full diploma program which means UAIS students will be testing this May on IB exams. We have our first upperclassmen. Juniors will walk the halls of Heritage-UAIS and with that comes all the excitement of that year. MEAP/MME, the ACT, and PSATs for some and SAT /ACT prep for all. The success that lies ahead is greater than that which we have already seen. Though the summer was wrought with difficult decisions and challenges for us, with your great suggestions and the dedication of a district determined to see this program succeed, we have seen those challenges met with resolve.

It has been said that change is the only constant this world knows. In a program that has added new students and new staff yearly; you are certainly more comfortable than most with this concept. Once again, our summer has brought tremendous and positive change to our Academy. Attached to this Email is a letter from Mr. Waak, our new principal. Mr. Waak was appointed to Heritage-UAIS in June and comes to use with a wealth of experience. Mr. Waak comes to us from Utica High School and Eppler before that, giving him the full gaze of the secondary experience. He is committed to the UAIS and its process, and will help lead this school through these next two years. As the Principal of the Heritage site, Mr. Waak will also be taking the role of Head of School. We will see the UAIS and Heritage come together this year and see the mutual benefits of that combination.

For my part, I will remain the Assistant Principal Intern for Heritage-UAIS, assisting Mr. Waak with both schools. Mr. Layson will remain as the Diploma Program Coordinator and things will be as they have been. I am excited to work with Mr. Waak on the Diploma Program and to bring the good work that has started at the UAIS to Heritage Junior High School as I continue as its Assistant Principal. I will continue to be a visible face in the UAIS process, but will focus my attention to the Junior High and the success of those students.



The UAIS is an inspiring place for students to learn. These changes will help the UAIS grow and prosper over these next two years. I have spent the last three weeks with Mr. Waak and am confident that he will continue the important work that has begun at UAIS, and improve upon our beginnings. As our first graduates cross the stage less than two years from now, we will all be proud of that work and of the results sprung from those efforts. I am looking forward to another wonderful year at Heritage-UAIS, and look forward to the good work that is before us. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Waak to our team. I know you'll give him the same support that you've given me these last two years.

Sincerely,



Thomas Lietz  
Asst. Principal, Intern

