Executive Summary

Rajac Language School

Mrs. Shereen A Kassem
Km 30 Cairo-Ismailia Desert Road
Cairo 170
Cairo170
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Introduction

Every school has its own story to tell. The context in which teaching and learning takes place influences the processes and procedures by which the school makes decisions around curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The context also impacts the way a school stays faithful to its vision. Many factors contribute to the overall narrative such as an identification of stakeholders, a description of stakeholder engagement, the trends and issues affecting the school, and the kinds of programs and services that a school implements to support student learning.

The purpose of the Executive Summary (ES) is to provide a school with an opportunity to describe in narrative form the strengths and challenges it encounters. By doing so, the public and members of the school community will have a more complete picture of how the school perceives itself and the process of self-reflection for continuous improvement. This summary is structured for the school to reflect on how it provides teaching and learning on a day to day basis.
Description of the School

Describe the school’s size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

RAJAC American School was founded in 1985 starting with the GCE Certificate. The American division initially opened in 2002-2003 from grade 10 to grade 12. In 2004 the middle and elementary school programs were established from KG to grade 9, as well as GIRLS School from grade 9 to grade 12 in a different campus in Heliopolis. The Girls school was moved to the main campus in 2009-2010 but in a separate building. Current enrollment stands at approximately 420 students.

RAJAC American School is located in Cairo- Ismailia Desert Road, 30 km away from Cairo. There are 3 universities in the area of the school, as well as many Private Schools. 60% of RAJAC graduates attend 4-year private universities and 40% attend 4-year public universities.

RAJAC has been a part of the AFS intercultural programs since 2009-2010. We hosted high school students from all over the world who come and experience our culture and also provide our students with a taste of their own cultures. This unique experience has definitely enriched our students’ educational experiences.
School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

The direction of RAJAC American School provides the best quality educational experience in order to up bring a generation of youth that is mentally, physically, and socially capable of meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing and highly demanding world. A generation that is proud of its cultural heritage and that understands and respects the vast cultural diversity of our global village. RAJAC is devoted to the task of fostering not only mental growth but also physical development, social interaction, aesthetic appreciation and spiritual values. The focus is on providing caring accomplished instructors, a rigorous academic curriculum, and modern facilities. Students work, learn and grow in an atmosphere that blends structure with freedom and academic demands with wholesome activities.

The purpose of RAJAC is "To teach for life not for school". The expectations for our students are high, and student achievement is assessed in a variety of ways. These assessments include the following standardized tests: SAT and KET.

A variety of assessment tools are used in the classroom including traditional tools of tests, quizzes, homework, essays, group "research, debate & science fair" and presentations. Teachers are encouraged to communicate regularly with students and families in support of tracking student progress and understanding. Student goals and achievement are discussed in staff meetings, department and collaborative meetings and informal discussions among teachers. Standardized test score results are reviewed by administrative team members and communicated to teachers for continual improvement of teaching methods and practices. As a consequence we added writing & reading sessions to improve the student's skills.
Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the school’s notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

RAJAC students are provided with a wide range of academic and extra-curricular activities in order to gain experience and life application in service, leadership, spiritual renewal or academic competition. A quality athletic program includes championship teams. The school is proud of its achievements in the science fair in the last years. Highly qualified university professors participate in the yearly event as judges and they highly commend the students' projects. The school also has integrated the debate and research session for the whole school throughout the whole year. The students, after preparing in classes, compete with each other in a major event that highlights the students' work. The school has also great activities for the English department; the speaking exam is conducted from grade 1 up to grade 12. The school has also commenced spelling bee internal competition from grade 4 up to grade 9. Finally, the writing competition which is held internally to encourage and enhance the writing abilities for all grades. The school plans to continue these activities and to involve the math departments in creating and organizing competitions for the students.

Community and parental involvement is fostered through various volunteer and sponsor opportunities. In addition, RAJAC is proud of its strong parent involvement. The various publics are kept informed of school events, programs and volunteer opportunities via the school website, newsletters, SMS, and athletic and academic events.

RAJAC is proud of its rich heritage as an educational leader in the area with a focus on the students' 21st century skills. In addition, the spirit of cooperation and assistance demonstrated by our active parent base is commended. The post-secondary academic achievements and success is a testimony to the quality of our alumni. Finally, RAJAC enjoys the benefit of having wonderful facilities providing a safe and comfortable learning environment for our students, and excellent athletic fields for our student athletes.
Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

Due to the revolution of 25th January 2011, a depressed economic climate affected enrollment and the need to balance the budget while keeping tuition affordable.

The Head of School has been working with members of the school leadership team and school committee to develop proactive steps to move the school ahead in a positive direction. At the center of this effort is targeting methods and processes which allow the school to operate more efficiently and casting vision to design new revenue centers for the school.