



Message from the President

Issue
#33

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23 Update from the OSA President - March 2022

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Dear All,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Today, Lebanon is in a state of havoc due to the deteriorating socio-economic situation, political turmoil, the August 4 Beirut Port explosion, the spread of the COVID 19 pandemic as well as the soaring USD exchange rate vis a vis the LBP.

BHS tuition fees were increased by 40% in the beginning of academic year 2021-2022. Despite this increase, the school was unable to meet its needs. A further increase of 25% was assessed by the school on March 11, 2022, retroactive from the beginning of the academic year. Unfortunately, it seems that even with this further increase, the school will still not be able to meet its needs.

On a global level, the Russian/Ukraine war has added a further burden on the Lebanese people and their daily expenses due to the threat of scarcity of fuel supply and basic food items imported from both countries.

The repercussions of what is happening globally, coupled with the local situation, have made it extremely difficult for people in Lebanon to survive - let alone live comfortably. Moreover, salaries were not increased in proportion to the increase in cost of living.

More people are finding themselves struggling to keep a job, pay rent, pay for food, afford decent medical care and pay their children's school tuition. The teachers and staff of BHS are still struggling to make ends meet, let alone pay the transportation costs to and from the school..

We are also seeing many teachers leave Lebanon due to the unbearable situation here, and this will be a further challenge on the country's educational system.

In 2021, the Old Scholars Association used the funds it had previously raised to support BHS, its students, teachers and staff as follows:

1. Support BHS students and parents via financial aid (benefitting more than 117 students to date).
2. Support all the teachers and staff of BHS by making direct and frequent cash donations to them in **fresh US Dollars.**
3. Support financially challenged Old Scholars via a fund created for this purpose (from the OSA to an Old Scholars Fund).

On behalf of myself, the OSA worldwide membership and the OSA Administrative Committee, we reconfirmed to our beloved school that the OSA will always adhere to its mission to promote, support and protect the welfare of the school and make it thrive.

The school needs you now. The financially challenged students, teachers and staff need your support in these trying times.

As such, the OSA counts on you, the Old Scholars - especially the ones outside Lebanon -and urges you to donate in fresh US Dollars. There is no donation too small or too large.

You can donate either through Bank Med:

Bank: Bankmed, Brummana Branch
Name: OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION BRUMMANA HIGH SCHOOL
A/C: 0240016172000
IBAN: LB79 0022 0000 0000 2400 161720 00
Swift Code: MEDLLBBX

Or donate through the OSA website (<https://www.bhsosa.net/>) for transactions up to 1,500USD. Just click on 'Member's Area' and follow the directions.

If you have any questions or comments on the matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on:

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Nadine Abdel Khalek:
Mobile: + 961 76 070 866
Email: Financialaid@bhsosa.net

Finally, for all the Old Scholars who observe Ramadan (the month of giving), I wish you a Ramadan Kareem. May all your prayers be accepted and may the holy month bring peace and tranquility to us all.

I Serve,
Nazih Khattar '66
President