

# 2010-11 Action Research Application Topics

## **Topic #1: How can boys' engagement and achievement in the study of Foreign Languages be developed and enhanced?**

The research literature suggests that in general boys are less likely than girls to enjoy and find success in Foreign Language study. But we know that boys' schools can give opportunities to capture boys' interest and motivation, and lead them to success and achievement in the study of languages. The topic invites Foreign Language teachers to reflect on and hone practices and approaches. Applications are invited from interested teachers at all grade levels. A beginning point for the Team is the IBSC's [\*Teaching Boys: A Global Study of Effective Practice\*](#).

## **Topic #2: How can we create and deepen meaningful and authentic leadership opportunities for boys in our schools?**

Leadership is a key focus and goal for character education in boys' schools, and in recent years many schools have revamped or are engaged in re-thinking their leadership programmes. "Leadership" is a changing and complex concept. And it can be challenging to measure success and impact on boys' leadership growth and on the school. This Action Research topic invites those associated with leadership programmes at any grade or division level to embark on an evidence-based approach to evaluation and improvement of selected aspects of their programmes. This topic may also be of interest to those involved in boarding or Residential Life programmes.

## **Topic #3: How can school library programmes and initiatives support and enhance boys' enthusiasm for and success in reading?**

School library programmes in boys' schools have a unique potential to transform boys' enthusiasm for and skills in reading. This Action Research topic invites school librarians to evaluate aspects of their existing programmes, to introduce changes or implement new ideas and initiatives, and to assess the success of these changes. It is hoped that this Action Research project will prompt the creation of an ongoing "professional learning community" among library staff working with boys and teachers in boys' schools around the world. Applications are invited from interested library staff at all division levels – elementary, middle, senior/upper.