



The IBSC Action Research Program

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IBSC Mission Statement

"The International Boys' Schools Coalition is dedicated to the education and development of boys world-wide, the professional growth of those who work with them, and the advocacy and the advancement of institutions – primarily schools for boys – that serve them".



Action research in the school environment

“Action research is any systematic inquiry conducted by teacher researchers
...in the teaching/ learning environment
...to gather information about how their particular schools operate,
how they teach, and
how well their students learn.”

Mills, G. (2003). *Action research: A guide for the teacher researcher*. 2nd edn. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education. p.5.



Why action research?

site- specific

participatory

collaborative

emancipatory

reflective

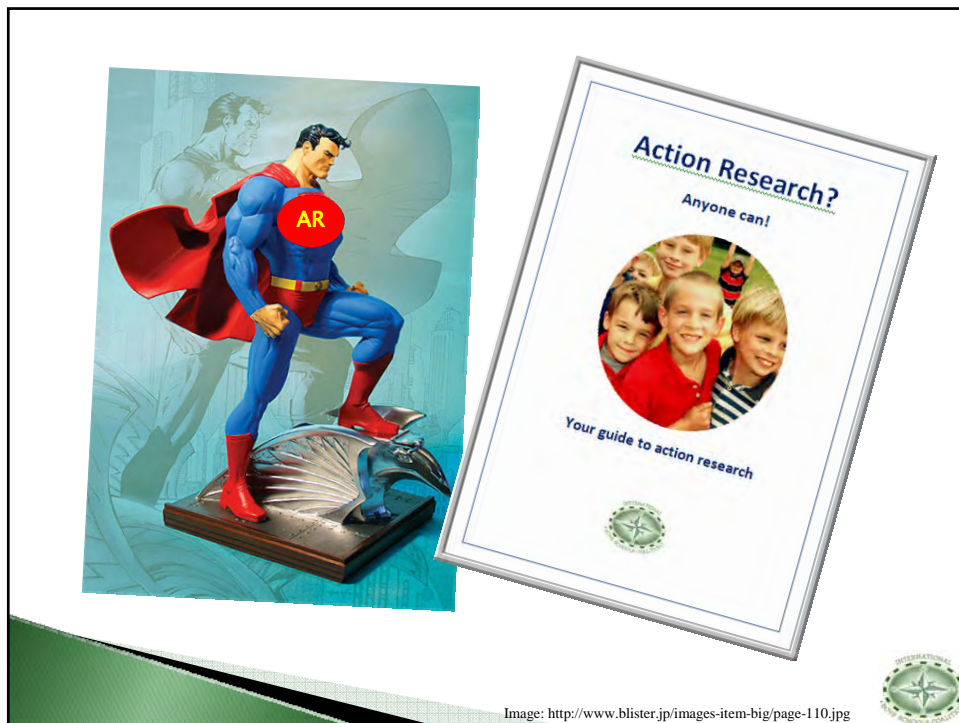
empowering



= good teaching

Image: <http://www.muirfield-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/moodle/course/view.php?id=6>





Going global...

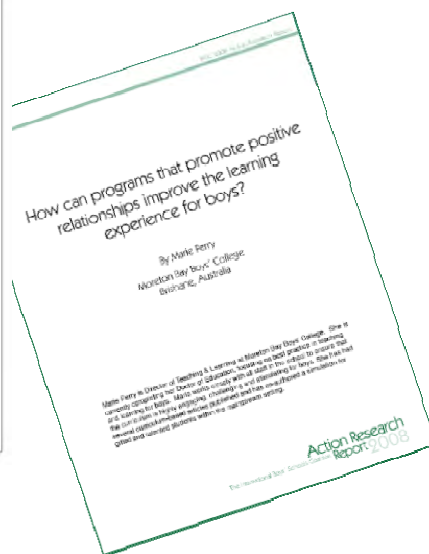
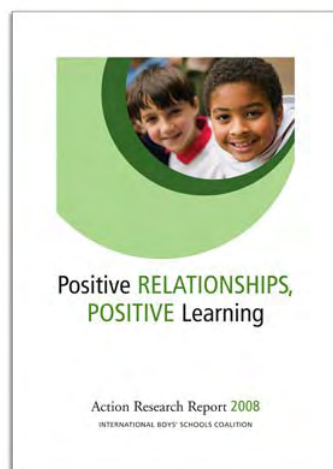


IBSC Action Research Projects

- Does the use of pre-designed graphic organisers in reading instruction increase boys' engagement and level of comprehension? (2005/2006)
- How can graphic novels engage boys in school reading? (2005/2006)
- How can we improve our teaching of boys by identifying and using specific aspects of digital technology to engage boys in learning? (2006/2007)



- How can programs that promote safe, inclusive, and just classroom and school environments improve the learning experience for boys? (2007/ 2008)
- How can literature in the English/ Language Arts curriculum enhance and broaden boys' understandings of masculinity? (2008/ 2009)
- How can we help boys become prolific, powerful and confident writers? (2009/ 2010)





SK Playground Picture

Draw a picture of SK and Form 2 students in the playground.

Tell me about what is happening in your picture.

There are two children, one in a red shirt and one in a blue shirt, standing on a blue mat.

Form 2 Playground Picture

Draw a picture of Form 2 and SK students in the playground.

Tell me about what is happening in your picture.

At noon I play with the sun we had really big snowman it is really fun.

Form 2 Playground Picture

Draw a picture of Form 2 and SK students in the playground.

Tell me about what is happening in your picture.

The SK's are breaking our snow mountain. We worked really hard to make it and they broke it.



The bully's seat



How I felt when I bullied someone



How I felt when I saw someone bullied



How I felt when I was bullied





JOURNEYS INTO MASCULINITY

Action Research Report 2009

INTERNATIONAL BOYS' SCHOOLS COALITION



Action research –making a difference



Image: <http://www.kaushik.net/avinash/2007/11/blog-metrics-six-recommendations-for-measuring-your-success.html>



Boosts & barriers

- Where will I find the time?
 - Professional learning component
 - Class release
- How will I do this?
 - Professional reading, conferences
 - Communities of practice
- Who will help me?
 - Co-researchers
 - Critical friend/s
 - Professional associations (IBSC)
- What will I do with my findings?
 - Disseminate – present, publish



Action researchers...explorers in the cause of understanding



Michael Leunig 1992, The Prayer Tree, Harper Collins, Sydney.



“God be with those who explore in the cause of
understanding;
Whose search takes them from what is familiar and
comfortable
And leads them into danger or terrifying loneliness.
Let us try to understand their sometimes strange or
difficult ways;
Their confronting or unusual language; the uncommon
life of their emotions,
For they have been affected and shaped and changed by
their struggle
at the frontiers of a wild darkness, just as we may be
affected,
shaped and changed by the insights they bring back to
us.
Bless them with strength and peace.”
(Michael Leunig)

Leunig, M. (1992). The Prayer Tree. Sydney: Harper Collins.



2008–2009 Action Research Team

- ▶ Steve Cohen – The Allen–Stevenson School, USA
- ▶ Michael Deschenes – St Sebastian’s School, USA
- ▶ Lesley–Anne Dexter – The Sterling Hall School, Canada
- ▶ Amy Foster – Trinity–Pawling School, USA
- ▶ Linda Gibson–Langford – The King’s School, Australia
- ▶ Bev Harrison – Lindisfarne College, New Zealand
- ▶ Nick Konstantatos – Scotch College, Australia
- ▶ Mike Paluch – St Andrew’s College, Canada
- ▶ Andrew Renard – St Andrew’s College, South Africa
- ▶ Tony Rowan – Anglican Church Grammar School, Australia
- ▶ Kate Taylor – The Sterling Hall School, Canada
- ▶ Edward Trusty Jnr – The Gilman School, USA
- ▶ Jack Williams – City of London School, England