

STUDENT CARE & TRACKING

By: Jet van Heijnsbergen

As you know the inspectors from Holland have advised the Innovations Bureau to work on proper **student care** and **tracking of student achievements**.

The tracking of achievements needs to be done by means of **testing and observation**. The teachers make a yearly **educational report** (EDU-R) that precisely follows the achievements of the children. In this way we can see how children progress from year to year, from Sacred Heart until the end of Comprehensive School.

The tests that we use have to be international and standardized, so we can compare the results of our students with those in the rest of the world.



Student Care means that all of our students are supported in such a way that they can learn in school. Some students need some extra instruction, some need to work with hands-on materials, some need visual aids. For some children it is necessary to make an individual learning plan. They don't always follow the regular program, but work with an **Individualized Educational Plan** (IEP) that caters to their exact needs. Some get help in the **Resource Room** and gifted students receive extra assignments to remain challenged.

The picture shows the teachers working with **Dr. Flora van der Zwan**, who has helped us set up a **Student Care & Tracking System** along the Dutch requirements.



SETTING PRIORITIES

By: Jet van Heijnsbergen

We don't know exactly when, but we do know that the schools on Saba will be funded by the Netherlands.

You see the taxis driving from the airport to the administration building with representatives of the ministries. The level of our education system needs to be up to par and comparable to that in Holland in the near future.

We cannot change or update our system overnight. Therefore we need to set **priorities**. To this end the board presidents and managers of our 3 schools have met with **Dr. Pieter Sloterdijk**, as a follow-up of their course "*Effective School Management*". The inspection report was taken as point of departure.



SHS

Tr. Diane and Ms. Lynne identified the following issues for the SHS:

- Quality control (tracking system)
- Care & Guidance
- Differentiation

SCS

Tr. Elka and Roy Smith set the following priorities:

- Learning results
- Curriculum
- Quality control (tracking system)
- Care & Guidance
- Differentiation

LLDCC

Tr. Margaret & Sheila and Ms. Lynne chose:

- Building
- High/Scope training for the staff and children
- Dutch in daycare

If all schools work on their weaker points, we will soon see an increase of quality. Some weaknesses require training, some require the purchase of school books. And as you can read in the other articles, we have already started to work on our goals.

Congratulations managers and boards of Saba, on your never-ending efforts to bring out the best in our students!

NEW BOOKS PART 1

THE DUTCH DEPARTMENT SMILES!

By: Micheline Hinse

With the project 'Breaking the Language Barrier' Saba made a radical change in 1986 to change the language of instruction **from Dutch into English**. Dutch is now taught as a foreign language.

Throughout the years concerns arose regarding students' prospects. If the students want to further their studies in the Netherlands, or like to have an important position with the Government when they return, the level of Dutch is too limited now. How can we make the Dutch language challenging again? What materials and books do we have to order that cater to our specific situation?

Miss Nadine Granger and **Miss Monique Beek**, both Dutch teachers at the Saba Comprehensive School, visited 2 schools in St. Maarten; St. Dominic High & St. Maarten Academy.

NEW BOOKS PART 2

THE DUTCH DEPARTMENT SMILES!

By: Micheline Hinse

They observed classes to see how they handle the difficulties concerning the level and even got a copy of the book that St Dominic High is using: "Klare Taal". Ms. Nadine & Monique pointed out to the Innovations Bureau that this book will also be perfect for the SCS!

Zo gezegd, zo gedaan!

Publisher Boom from Amsterdam showed many, many other good books that were specially created for foreigners who want to live in the Netherlands.



We ordered almost all the books in different categories like: AAP, Onderweg, Op Stap, Beeldtaal, De Delftse Grammatica, Zeg 't Eens, Zo zijn onze Manieren, Anders nog Iets?, DVDs, CDs, even some funny games like 'Het Groot op Weg Kwartet spel', all fantastic to use in the classrooms and they will definitely let the Dutch Language come to live!

We already can see great improvements that the TPR method established at the SHS.

The **Dutch Committee** will develop a good flow from the SHS to the SCS in helping each other to build up a wonderful Dutch Program that will improve the level for all students in an inspiring way!



The new materials are the first step that helps to innovate the knowledge of that difficult language with its funny sounds!

HIEP HIEP HOERA!



TO ALL PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN THE
LAURA LINZEY DAYCARE CENTER &
SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL &
SABA COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

FOUNDATION BASED & PREPARATORY SECONDARY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



SHS teachers at work, practicing the new educational report

INNOVATIONS BUREAU SABA

416-3809

fbe_saba@yahoo.com

psve_saba@yahoo.com

www.innovationsbureausaba.com

NEWS LETTER 70

FEBRUARY 2009