The Position

For more than 50 years, the American School of Barcelona has created responsible global citizens who will be leaders in a 21st century world. An English language based private international school, ASB is composed of a rich assortment of heritages, cultures, and languages. The school offers unique programs that align with the goals of each student, including an American diploma, a co-validation program that prepares students for Spanish university entrance exams, and the world-renowned International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. Across divisions, school members are united by their passionate desire to improve continuously through innovation. After five decades spent establishing a reputation for both its rigorous academic program and its personal approach, the school is enjoying a period of increased enrollment and exemplary academic achievement.

At this time, ASB seeks a highly qualified instructional leader as High School Principal. The school requires an ambitious leader with expertise in best educational practices. The candidate will be a dynamic educator who has a successful track record of implementing innovative and progressive educational structures, meetings, schedules, and practices. S/he will help move the school forward in its positive direction and toward its bold vision, serving as the instructional leader of Grades 9 through 12 and managing the total operation of the High School. The Principal will provide leadership, inspiration, and supervisory skills for the educational development of students as well as promote parent and community involvement. IB experience is preferred.

The School

The American School of Barcelona strives to develop students who are independent, critical thinkers. The caring environment established at ASB bolsters students’ self-confidence, allowing them the opportunity to maximize their potential. Students are educated for diversity, learning about the differences that make them unique and the similarities that unite them. The school collectively believes that the
quality of student learning is a direct result of the quality of a school’s faculty, and ASB boasts world-class teachers and instructional methods defined by projects, problem-solving, and presentation. Students from over 50 countries worldwide create a colorful community tapestry, and families have myriad opportunities to connect with and learn from one another.

Learning begins in the Early Childhood Center, a stimulating and nurturing environment for young children. Here, students are exposed to many pre-academic, motor, and social activities, and these hands-on experiences allow for crucial skills development. Activities are both open-ended and directed, allowing for engagement, creativity, autonomy, discovery, critical thinking, imagination, and fun.

In elementary and middle school, a professional and collaborative faculty instructs students using a progressive, American standards-based curriculum enhanced by technology. In middle school especially, faculty pay particular attention to supporting the emotional, social, physical, and academic needs of all developing adolescents. The end goal is that upon entering high school, students have solid academic foundations and are kind, open-minded individuals of integrity.

**THE HIGH SCHOOL**

Recent advances in teaching, curriculum, and facilities at ASB have transformed its high school into a dynamic center for learning, characterized by active engagement in projects, presentations, debates, field trips, and community service activities. In grades 9 and 10, students pursue coursework in world literature, history, math, science, Spanish, Catalan, journalism, information technology, physical education, teen wellness, and electives. In grades 11 and 12, the vast majority of our students are
enrolled in the rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP). Upon completion of the IBDP the students also earn an American Diploma. The IB program, with roughly 80 students per grade level, is well-respected by universities worldwide. In fact, the school’s 2017 IB average places it within the top 20% of IB schools worldwide. IB graduates have been accepted into 60 different universities in the last four years. Staff attend IB-specific conferences and workshops in order to integrate the program’s philosophy throughout the entire school.

Technology is an important part of the ASB experience, as teachers assume the responsibility of helping prepare students for the digital reality of today’s world. A one-to-one laptop program has been implemented in the Middle and High Schools, allowing students to take more responsibility for their education, become more creative learners, and pursue their own passions.

A variety of extracurricular programs enhance the academic richness of ASB. Clubs such as Model United Nations, NESDA (New European Speech, Debate, and Acting Association), and the school’s Entrepreneurship Program keep students engaged and learning outside the classroom walls. A comprehensive community service program, which follows a service learning approach, focuses on experiential learning based on the holistic education of the student with compassion and solidarity as key features. High school students are allowed to create their own community service programs, and they have formed important, longstanding institutional alliances with local and international organizations.

SEED (Student Exploration, Experience, and Discovery) programs provide a space for inter-grade experiential learning. SEED activities, which are led by a combination of high school students and community members, feature service learning opportunities or activities that expose students to possible future career options.
Students also have the opportunity to pursue competitive athletic experiences through ASB’s sports program. The school is a member of the European Sports Conference and has varsity teams that compete against other international schools in volleyball, basketball, tennis, and soccer.

**Physical Campus**

ASB’s state-of-the-art facilities enhance the learning that occurs within them. The school completed construction of a brand new Elementary and Early Childhood Center in July 2014. Other recent renovations include improved classrooms, updated science labs, an expanded cafeteria, and a lighted outdoor field. In addition, in October 2014, the school inaugurated a state of the art library/media center where students have access to thousands of books, computers, research materials, and meeting space.

**Barcelona, Spain**

A beautiful seaside city known for its beautiful art, nightlife, world-class soccer team, and distinct identity, Barcelona is the capital of Catalonia. It is one of the world’s foremost centers of tourism, economics, and culture, and one of the world’s major global cities. Located on the northeast coast of the Iberian Peninsula, Barcelona rests on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. Several hills and mountains offer beautiful vistas and lovely retreats; to the southeast, Montjuic overlooks the Barcelona harbor, attracting tourists to its 17th century fortress and the city’s biggest park. The city’s pleasant Mediterranean climate offers mild winters and warm, dry summers.

The city’s Barri Gotic features centuries-old architecture, several of which are World Heritage Sites. More modern but equally prominent in Barcelona are the works of architect Antoni Gaudi, who constructed the Sagrada Familia, Park Guell, and several beautiful, whimsical homes.

The city’s many museums attract visitors, from the National Museum of Art of Catalonia to the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art and the Barcelona City History Museum. Visitors and residents alike flock to the city’s seven beaches, which stretch along 4.5 coastal kilometers. The city is listed first among the top 10 city

**College Placement**

The following is a selection of the colleges and universities to which members of the Class of 2016 matriculated:

Amherst College  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Brown University  
Bucknell University  
Colby College  
Colgate University  
Colorado College  
Connecticut College  
Denison University  
Dickinson College  
Duke University  
Elon University  
Georgetown University  
Ithaca College  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Middlebury College  
Princeton University  
Providence College  
Rollins College  
Skidmore College  
St. Lawrence University  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
The George Washington University  
Trinity College  
Tufts University  
Union College  
Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Spain  
University of Connecticut  
University of Denver  
University of Michigan  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Richmond  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
Vanderbilt University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington and Lee University  
Wellesley College  
Williams College  
Xavier University  
Yale University
beaches in the world by National Geographic and Discovery Channel.

Named the 14th most “livable city” in the world according to Monocle magazine, Barcelona’s economy is strong and its vibe innovative. It was recognized by Fdi Magazine as the Southern European City of the Future for 2014/2015, in praise of its economic potential.

The 10th-most visited city in the world and the third-most visited city in Europe, Barcelona has welcomed eight million tourists annually since 2012. With its eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites, pleasant weather, myriad cultural and historical attractions, delicious cuisine, and miles of beaches, Barcelona is a prime place to visit—and to live.

**Opportunities and Challenges**

Opportunities for the next High School Principal include:
- Playing an important role in a dynamic, active school with a strong sense of purpose and direction
- The support of a fully engaged Director and a strong administrative team that works well together
- A capable faculty that appreciates the school’s commitment to excellence in education and to their own professional growth and development
- An attractive and well-maintained campus, with plans for future expansion
- Supportive parents who are proud of their school
- A strong community spirit
- A school that is not in a bubble, with active programs both locally and internationally
- Living and working in Barcelona
Challenges for the next High School Principal include:
• Taking the time to get to know the community and to make a smooth transition
• Guiding the faculty in adopting new methods and structures that strengthen the educational program
• Being task driven, detailed oriented, highly organized leader in helping to resolve current areas of concern.

QUALIFICATIONS AND QUALITIES OF THE NEXT HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

• A dynamic instructional leader, strong in curriculum and instruction
• Knowledgeable about IB best practices, scheduling, professional development, and standards-based assessment
• Student-centered, caring, and charismatic leader
• A good listener and strong communicator
• An experienced and effective manager
• Flexible, driven, open-minded, and able to think outside the box
• Sensitive to cultural differences
• Excellent people skills
• International and IB experience preferred
• Knowledge of Spanish would be an asset

TO APPLY

Interested and qualified candidates should feel free to call or email the consultant for more information and an exploratory conversation. All inquiries are confidential. Applicants will need to submit electronically in one email and as separate documents (preferably PDFs) the following materials:

• A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position
• A current résumé
• A list of five professional references with name, phone number, and email address of each (references will be contacted only with the candidate’s permission) to:

John Chandler  
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