ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Gerald Selitzer, M.A., General Director (gsel@aspv.edu.mx)
Kathleen Selitzer, M.A., Elementary Principal (kselitzer@aspv.edu.mx)
José Antonio Salgado, M.A., Junior High and High School Principal (asalgado@aspv.edu.mx)
Lisa Langley, M.S., Director of Admissions and College Guidance (llangley@aspv.edu.mx)

DESCRIPTION
The American School of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian, co-educational institution offering a bilingual, bicultural education for students from pre-school through high school. Founded in 1986, the school is dedicated to an American style education, high academic standards, and the caring environment a small school can offer.

Grades:
- Preschool Section: Nursery through 12th
- Primary Section: Nursery through K, Pre-1st through 6th Grade
- Middle/High School Section: 7th through 12th Grade

Enrollment:
- School Total: 337
- Preschool Section: 56
- Primary Section: 158
- Middle/High School: 123
  - Class of 2013: 24

Student Population: 61% Mexican, 24% U.S., 15% Others

THE FACULTY
The faculty of the American School of Puerto Vallarta is a highly skilled and devoted group of teachers who come from various parts of the U.S., Mexico, Canada and elsewhere. Approximately 50 percent of the teachers hold a graduate degree.

ACCREDITATION
The American School of Puerto Vallarta is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS-CASI, now known as AdvancEd), Mexico’s Ministry of Education (SEP) and The National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). Our CEEB code is 870900.

UNIQUE DUAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM
Our elementary school students receive bilingual instruction that meets both Mexican and U.S. standards. They also attend a special pre-first year to develop their dual language proficiency. Our high school students are enrolled in a full dual program, receiving both a U.S. diploma and a Mexican bachillerato (high school) certificate. Thus, the majority of our graduates speak both English and Spanish fluently. These students are taking the 24 Carnegie units required for a U.S. high school diploma taught in English as a minimum, as well as the Mexican program requirements in Spanish Literature, Mexican History, Geography, Law and Civics, all taught in Spanish.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)
Advanced Placement courses (approved by the College Board) to be offered in 2012–2013 include English Literature, English Language, Spanish Literature, Calculus AB & BC, Comparative Government and Politics, Economics (Macro and Micro), 2-D Studio Art, and Psychology. Students are accepted into an AP course based on MAP scores, GPA and teacher recommendation and are limited to a maximum of three AP classes per year. All students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the AP exam.

CLASS SCHEDULING AND GRADING SYSTEM
Almost all junior high and high school classes are year-long, divided into two semesters. Most classes are offered once each day for approximately 45 minutes, resulting in 7 classes per day. A few classes not required for graduation last only one semester and/or may meet less frequently than five days per week. Credits awarded vary with time spent in direct instruction, with daily instruction required for full credit (0.5 Carnegie units per semester). Students are graded on a scale ranging from 0 to 10.0, with a 6.0 required to pass the semester. Grade point averages are weighted in the calculation of averages to reflect hours of instruction (and thus credit earned) in each class.
SPECIAL NEEDS
Although the school offers a formal special education program only in primary grades, every effort is made to provide support and make accommodations so that students with special needs can be successful in the upper grades as well. Any special or remedial classes at the junior high and high school level are identified on the transcript as resource or independent study as the case may be.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT AND TESTING INFORMATION
Over ninety percent of graduating students continue directly on to universities in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Europe. Graduates in the past five years have been accepted to universities including the following:

**UNITED STATES:**
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Bard College at Simon’s Rock
- Berklee School of Music
- Bentley University*
- Boston University*
- Cornell University
- Drake University
- Eckerd College
- Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design
- Endicott College*
- Eugene Lang
- Hampshire College
- Hamilton College
- Lewis and Clark College
- Loyola University*
- Mount Holyoke College
- Merrimack College Exeter
- Occidental College
- Parsons the New School for Design*
- Reed College
- Rochester Institute of Technology*
- Santa Clara University
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Savannah College of Art and Design*
- Suffolk University*
- Trinity University*
- Truman State University *
- University of Miami*
- University of Texas at San Antonio*
- University of Texas at Arlington*
- University of Oklahoma*
- University of California San Diego*
- University of Central Oklahoma
- Wellesley College
- Wesleyan University
- Whitman College*
- **CANADA:**
  - Bishop’s University*
  - Camosun College*
  - Conestoga College
  - Concordia University*
  - Lakehead University*
  - McGill University*
  - University of Alberta
  - University of British Columbia*
  - University of Toronto*
  - University of Victoria*
  - Ryerson University*

**MEXICO:**
- ITAM
- ITESM (TEC de Monterrey, multiple campuses)*
- ITESO*
- Universidad Anáhuac*
- Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara
- Universidad de Guadalajara*
- Universidad Iberoamericana*
- Universidad de las Américas Puebla*
- Universidad La Salle
- Universidad Panamericana*

**EUROPE:**
- Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne*
- Institut Supérieur de Gestion, Paris
- Jacobs University Bremen
- Les Roches School of Hotel Management*

**ISRAEL:**
- Herzliya Interdisciplinary Center*

- Average PAA (College Board SAT in Spanish): Verbal 682  Math 730
- Average TOEFL: graduates consistently score above university entrance requirements

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<th>Average SAT:</th>
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THE SCHOOL PLANT
The school plant consists of five buildings housing 25 classrooms, including two libraries, two science and two computer laboratories, a multi-purpose room, administrative offices, storerooms and workrooms, and a cafeteria. The grounds extend to more than seven acres and include: grass-covered sports fields and track; two multi-purpose, covered, surfaced sports courts, an open air theater, and a preschool play area.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Education at the American School of Puerto Vallarta extends beyond the classroom to ensure that all students are presented with the opportunity to grow in a rich environment of experiences, particularly community service. Programs are diverse, including: Student Council, National Honor Society, service learning, musical theater, and chorus. After school, there are math labs and tutoring sessions, and an extensive extracurricular program which includes tennis, soccer, basketball, baseball, swimming, and guitar, drum and voice lessons. School teams compete within the ASOMEX (American Schools of Mexico) and against local leagues.

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