



# International School Bangkok

## **Information about COVID-19 (Communication 36)**

Dear ISB Community,

Please find below details of two virtual community meeting opportunities, some comments about Zoom, and some reminders.

### **Virtual Board of Trustees Meeting: Tuesday 21st April at 5:00pm**

We will be holding a virtual Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday 21st April at 5:00pm that will be streamed to interested community members. Please find the [agenda linked here](#). At the end of the meeting, to reflect a regular BOT meeting, there will be the opportunity for ISA community members (all our parents) to ask questions through the Q and A function on Zoom. A moderator will review the questions as they come in and we will prioritize the most frequently requested topics. Participants will need to register [here](#) in order to participate.

### **Webinar with ISB Administration: Monday 27th April at 11:00am**

Parents are also invited to our second webinar Q&A with the ISB Administration at 11:00am on Monday 27th April.

This webinar provides an opportunity for parents to hear from ISB's Administration through a Q&A format. You can access from phone, iPad or computer. To join, you will need to register - please click [here](#).

You will be able to type your questions live into the Q&A function and we will do our best to answer as many as possible.



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## Zoom at ISB

The Zoom video meeting platform has been in the headlines recently for a variety of reasons. Valid concerns have been raised about the platform's overall security, as well as its default security settings. In choosing Zoom as ISB's video meeting platform, a lot of thought, discussions, testing and research went into the decision. This included a Data Assessment of Zoom, carried out by a Data Security Company prior to implementation. At this time Zoom was categorized Low Risk - Acceptable to proceed. Additionally, Control Risks, a specialized risk consultant engaged by ISB, also determined this week that, "used properly, Zoom is a low security risk."

The use of Zoom at ISB differs quite a bit from the users who were making the news i.e. targets of "Zoombombing" ("Zoombombing" is when an uninvited person joins a Zoom meeting. This is usually done in an attempt to gain a few cheap laughs at the expense of the participants.). We have already implemented significantly more control and safeguards than those schools/universities affected by Zoombombings. These safeguards include:

- Authenticated users only in Middle School and High School (must have an ISB email)
- Password protected meetings in Elementary School
- Waiting Room Feature: The Waiting Room feature allows the teacher to control when each student joins the meeting.
- Only Allow Teacher to Screen Share: By default, we are set to only allow teacher accounts to share their screens. This is to prevent participants from disrupting the meeting through screen-sharing.
- Mute Students: Teachers can mute/unmute individual participants or all of them at once including on entry to the room.

ISB chose to use the Zoom platform over competitor platforms for one reason: it is the best product for use in education. Other products being discussed in the media and elsewhere consist mainly of business software which is designed for staff meetings at large companies, not for use by teachers in a classroom. Zoom allows teachers total



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control over a session and includes essential features not found on competing platforms.

We take the protection of our community very seriously at ISB. We understand that technology, by its nature, will always have glitches, unexpected results, and people who try to exploit weaknesses for their own benefit. Through vigilance and training we do our best to minimize this. Our Leadership Team will continue to review and monitor the use of Zoom, if during this review we determine that Zoom has an unacceptable level of risk, we will limit the use of Zoom.

## **Reach out to us anytime**

Please know we are all here for you and are happy to hold conversations on an individual basis or virtual group meetings. Our contact details are provided below.

## **Important Reminders**

- Should someone in your household (or someone you have come into close contact with) test positive for COVID-19, please notify the school immediately
- Should your family choose to temporarily leave Thailand, we ask that you complete the survey that is linked in the [Parent Portal](#).
- Please be reminded of the [self-quarantine requirements](#) in place for those who have traveled to countries as specified by the [Ministry of Public Health](#).
- This is a reminder that we have a responsibility to fellow members of our ISB, Nichada and global community to practice [social and physical distancing](#) at this time.

Kind regards,

Andy



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## School Contact Information

Andrew Davies - Head of School - [andrewd@isb.ac.th](mailto:andrewd@isb.ac.th) (0818516277)

Debi Caskey - Deputy Head of School for Learning - [debic@isb.ac.th](mailto:debic@isb.ac.th) (0656589988)

Usa Somboon - Headmistress - [usomboon@isb.ac.th](mailto:usomboon@isb.ac.th) (0819370069)

## Finance:

Marc de Vries (Deputy Head/CFO) - [marcd@isb.ac.th](mailto:marcd@isb.ac.th)

## Divisional Principals:

Justin Alexander (HS Principal) - [justina@isb.ac.th](mailto:justina@isb.ac.th)

Dennis Harter (MS Principal) - [dennish@isb.ac.th](mailto:dennish@isb.ac.th)

Kelly Armitage (ES Principal) - [kellya@isb.ac.th](mailto:kellya@isb.ac.th)

## Counselors and School Psychologists

High School Counselors:

- Kevin Callahan - [kevinc@isb.ac.th](mailto:kevinc@isb.ac.th)
- Kevin Davy - [kevind@isb.ac.th](mailto:kevind@isb.ac.th)
- Jackie Valenzuela - [jackiev@isb.ac.th](mailto:jackiev@isb.ac.th)

High School College Counselors:

- Alex Becker - [alexb@isb.ac.th](mailto:alexb@isb.ac.th)
- Debbie McDowell - [debbiem@isb.ac.th](mailto:debbiem@isb.ac.th)
- Sonya Ohlsson - [sonyao@isb.ac.th](mailto:sonyao@isb.ac.th)
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Middle School Counselors:

- Carmel Kean - [carmelk@isb.ac.th](mailto:carmelk@isb.ac.th)
- Colleen Coady - [colleenc@isb.ac.th](mailto:colleenc@isb.ac.th)



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## Elementary School Counselors:

- Matt Johnson- [matthewj@isb.ac.th](mailto:matthewj@isb.ac.th)
- Kate Kersey - [katek@isb.ac.th](mailto:katek@isb.ac.th)
- Doug Williamson- [douglasw@isb.ac.th](mailto:douglasw@isb.ac.th)

## School Psychologists:

- Matt Johnson (ES) - [matthewj@isb.ac.th](mailto:matthewj@isb.ac.th)
- Ryan Ruhl (MS/HS)- [ryanr@isb.ac.th](mailto:ryanr@isb.ac.th)

## Government Liaison:

Jaruwan Sujjanun - [jaruwans@isb.ac.th](mailto:jaruwans@isb.ac.th)

## Community Activities Office:

Anthony Giles (Director of Arts & Community Activities) - [anthonyg@isb.ac.th](mailto:anthonyg@isb.ac.th)

**Technology Support:** [help@isb.ac.th](mailto:help@isb.ac.th)

## Admissions Office:

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