

# Al-Qalam

الْقَلَمُ

Newsletter

## NEW 2022-2023 School Year

### Welcome Everyone Back To School!

We trust that you had a wonderful summer and are ready to bring in the fall season with much success for this school year. We are blessed that you are part of our outstanding, learning community and take interest in the best education for your children. We welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to supporting excellence in education.

We hope and pray that Allah provides us with another safe, amazing, and productive school year. We look forward to new challenges and achievements by our staff and students. Our office team has been working hard registering new families, ordering needed books and materials and updating student files; along with parent, teacher, and student emails, logins, and passwords. Our teachers have been very creative and dedicated in preparing their classrooms for the students to provide a positive, learning environment. Our masjid support team has put in many hours in remodeling the Preschool, Kindergarten, and Office rooms.

This year, we have an enrollment count of 238 students, not including our daycare children and our Dual Enrollment students with MCC.

We are blessed to have a caring community with common goals. With Allah's guidance, we believe our school can achieve whatever we set our minds to accomplish. So, please keep in mind our mission: "To provide a nurturing environment where students aspire for excellence in education, integrity, and leadership skills to better serve humanity."

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare for this school year. We also would like to thank you in advance for your continued help throughout the year. It remains an honor and privilege to serve you as your principal. You are welcome to stop by my office if you have any concerns. In addition, we always welcome suggestions for continued improvement. In sha'Allah, we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.

Warmest Regards,  
Saba Hamouda, Principal

### IScGKC Accreditation

We are accredited with **COGNIA**, formally AdvancED until June 30, 2024. Our accreditation states that our school has met the criteria for educational quality established by the Cognia Global Commission and is certified by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, the Northwest Accreditation Commission, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.



We also have an Islamic Accreditation with CISNA, Council of Islamic Schools of North America.



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### CONTACTS

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School Website  
[www.iscgkc.org](http://www.iscgkc.org)



**cognia**



### VISION

Striving to be a premier Islamic progressive and scientific learning Institution.

### MISSION

To provide a nurturing environment where students aspire for excellence in education, integrity and leadership skills to better serve humanity.

### GOALS

Dedicated to produce Committed Balanced Muslims, Knowledgeable Scholars, Contributing Citizens and Community Builders.

"O Allah, increase me in knowledge while keeping me humble."





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## Newsletter

### Teachers' Meetings



#### AUGUST/SEPTEMBER TEACHERS' MEETING

- \* **August 19, 2022** - Teachers met to discuss plans for keeping doors locked at all times for safety, plans for safety drills, plans for the upcoming Open House, workshops for teachers, tutoring for students, accreditation, student shout outs, and field trips.
- \* **September 16, 2022** - Teachers met and discussed agenda items: Fire & Lockdown Drills, MAP Testing, dismissal problems, Field Trips, Teacher Committees, and Teacher Workshops.
- \* **September 30, 2022** - Teachers met in their departmental meetings with Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies groups to discuss specific information in each of these areas.

On September 8, 2022, Sr. Saba, Sr. Maryam, and Sr. Diane met with Dr. Merkerson, Hickman Mills District Student Achievement Officer, via Zoom to review our schools Title funds per categories and uses. We have several funds available to use, and we will be making plans for each purpose.

*"A teacher plans the seeds of knowledge, sprinkles them with love, and patiently nurtures their growth to produce tomorrow's dreams."*

Our **Open House** for parents was held on Friday, September 2, 2022. We provided a schedule for parents to visit their children's classrooms while the teachers gave a quick over of the curriculum used and classroom expectations.

The following teachers completed **workshops through NWEA** via Zoom for the month of September. Below are the categories and workshop titles that they completed:

DATE	TEACHER	CATEGORY	NWEA WORKSHOP TITLE
9/14/2022	Farzana Jabeen	Assessment Literacy	Balanced Assessment Systems for Leaders Part1
9/15/2022	Salimah Plenty Najia Tariq	Responsive Teaching & Learning	Responsive Learning Cycles - Nurturing Collaborative Learning Spaces Part1
9/20/2022	Jalila Furqan	Literacy	Responsive Literacy Practices (K-8) Foundations - Guided



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### Welcome New Teachers at IScGKC

#### Sister Fatma Guizani

**Math Teacher (7th-10th Grades)**

Master's Degree in Business Administration  
Former IScGKC Student

#### Sister Amatullah Beamon

**1st GradeB Homeroom Teacher**

Bachelor's Degree in General Education (Science)  
From Preschool through 12th Grade

#### Sister Reagan Kamran

**1st GradeA homeroom Teacher**

Bachelor's Degree in Arts, Music  
Former Kindergarten Assistant

#### Sister Wejdan Al-Shaikh

**Preschool & Elementary Teacher**

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting  
Previous teaching experience at IScGKC

#### Sister Hammah Aktar

**Preschool Teacher**

Associates of Arts from MCC

#### Brother Remah Ahmed

**Boys' P.E. Teacher**

Bachelors of Science in Exercise Science from UCM



We have completed our Fall NWEA MAP tests during the week of September 19-23, 2022.

#### Benefits of MAP Tests:

They provide teachers with accurate, and actionable evidence to help target instruction for each student or groups of students regardless of how far above or below they are from their grade level.

MAP tests are "smart" tests, adapting to your learner's level of learning, meaning they are not too hard or too easy, and give us a more accurate picture of the skills your learners are ready to start developing.

Results will be handed out at Parent/Teachers' Conferences in October.





## William Jewell College Visits IScGKC

Students from William Jewell College visited the Islamic School of Greater Kansas City today with Imam Dr. Abdelhamid Algizawi to learn about Islam.  
September 6, 2022



"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."

## New Gym Floor

Alhamdulillah, it is so great to officially have the new gym floor available to use this year. We all really appreciate the hard work of our masjid staff to make this dream come true.

*P.E. Classes are so enjoyable, and our school events are exceptionally nice. It gives a whole new environment and atmosphere to IScGKC!*



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## Art Club - 4th-6th Graders



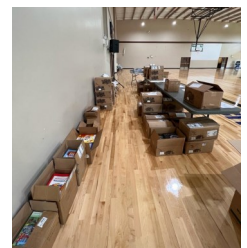
Calling all 4th-6th graders who are interested in joining this year's Art Club with Sister Reagan Kamran as their instructor.

Classes will be on Wednesdays, starting on September 14, 2022, after school. There will be 2 sessions per month, and the cost is \$20 per month.

Both boys and girls are welcome to join.



## BIG TASK Sorting our new Supply of School Books



One Child, One Teacher, One Book,  
One Pen, Can change the world.





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### OUR GOALS

Dedicated in producing Committed Balanced Muslims, Knowledgeable Scholars, and Contributing Citizens and Community Builders.

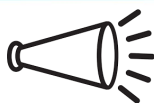
## ELECTION TIME



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*"Leadership is about the ability to change vision into reality."*

# STUDENT COUNCIL



**SERVICE**



**LEAD**



**INSPIRE**



### Week of 9/12/22 - 9/16/22

Our students in 9th and 10th Grade are now running for the following officer positions:

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Community Relations Director

Each student who was running for a position gave a speech to their fellow classmates in grades 6th-10th.

Then, the students were given a chance to vote.  
The votes were counted and the winners are . . .



### Week of 9/19/22 - 9/23/22

### AND THE WINNERS ARE:

PRESIDENT: SUMAYA AHMED / VICE PRESIDENT: RIMAS DALAQ  
TREASURER: AKRAM YUSUF / SECRETARY: BAJHA NUR  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIRECTOR: MULKI AHMED



Student Council's first two events started with "Fancy Friday" for students in 6th-10th grades on September 30, 2022.

Then, on Monday, October 3, 2022, our 8th-10th grade boys will challenge their fathers to a game of basketball.



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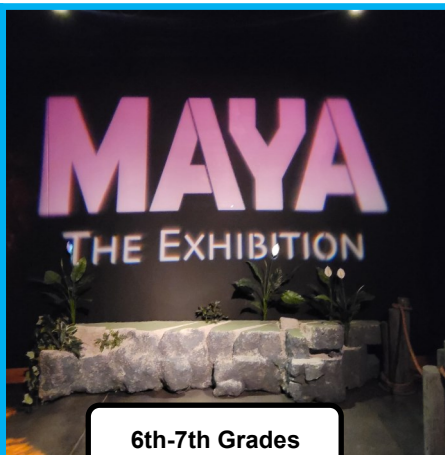


### FIELD TRIP TO UNION STATION

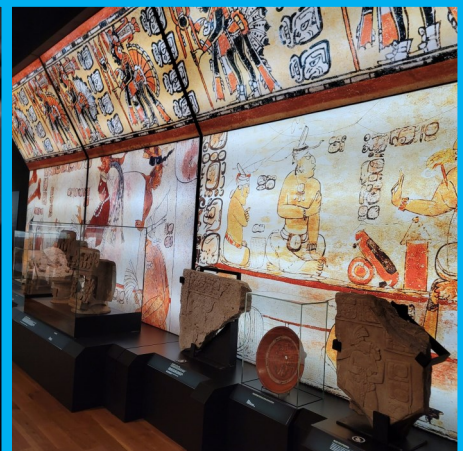
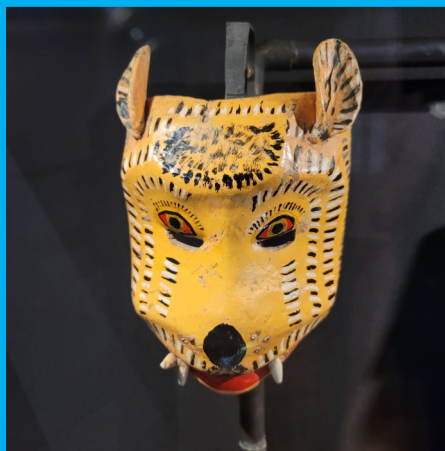
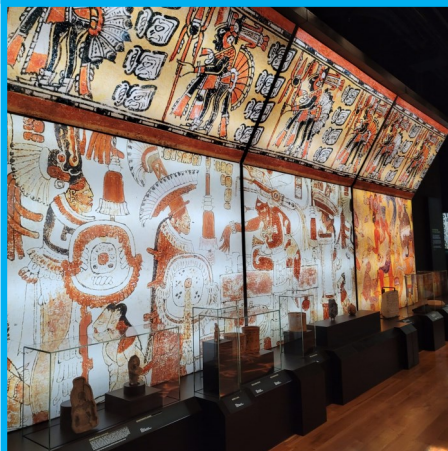
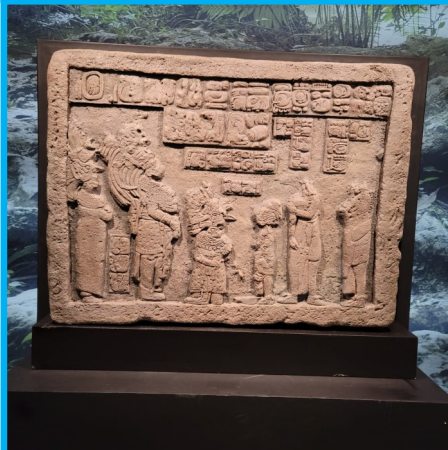
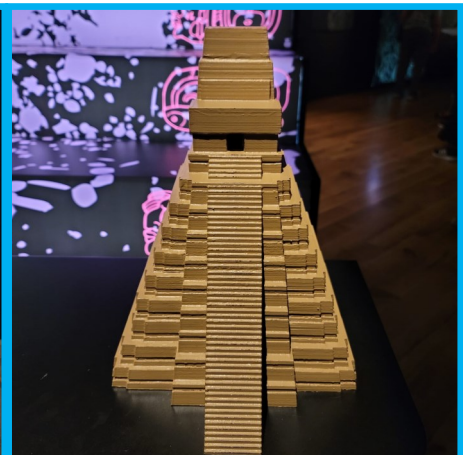
Our 6th and 7th grade students took a field trip to Union Station on September 7, 2022, to see the Maya Exhibition with their Social Studies Teacher, Jaime Banyalmarjeh. These are some of the ancient displays, artifacts, and history that was on site.



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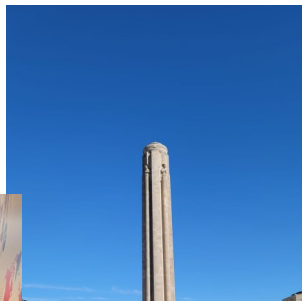
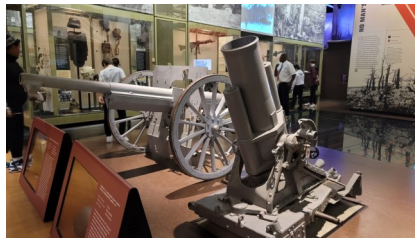
6th-7th Grades





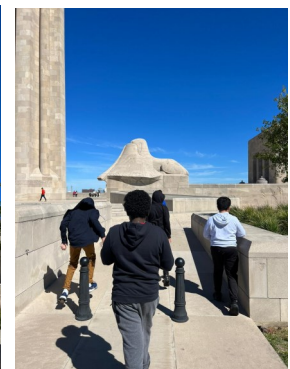
### FIELD TRIP TO WWI MUSEUM

On September 28, 2022, our 8th grade students took a field trip to the WWI Museum to learn about the great war's impact on our global communities as they study American History with their Social Studies Teacher, Jaime Banyalmarjeh. These are some of the world's most comprehensive collections that are on site.



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### 8th Grade



"Always walk through life as if you have something new to learn and you will."



### PK/KG Activities with Parents

Teachers, Nisha Shuaib, Sheereen Madala, Hamnah Aktar, and Wejdan Alshaikh organized "Activities with Parents" on September 23, 2022. Many parents participated in these fun-filled learning activities with their children.



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*"Children learn to smile from their parents."*





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## 1st Grade Activities with Parents

Teachers, Reagan Kamran, and Amatullah Beaman organized "Activities with Parents" on September 30, 2022. Many parents participated in these fun-filled learning activities with their children.



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**Explore! Discover! Imagine!**

**The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers;  
he or she is the one who asks the right questions.**

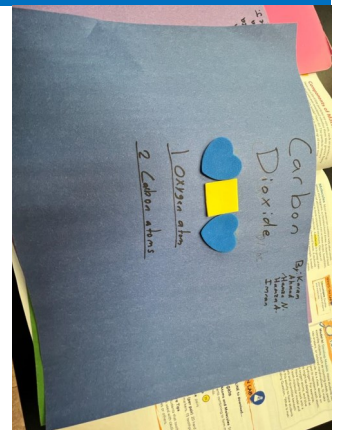
**~ Claude Levi-Strauss ~**



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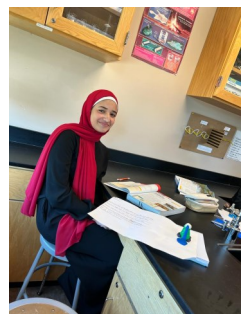
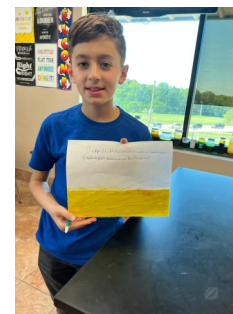
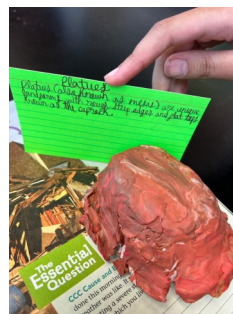
## See our Science Photo Gallery ...



## 7th Graders Experiment with Modeling Compounds



## 8th Graders Experiment with Column Density



## 9th & 10th Graders Learning about Modeling Landforms



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## Newsletter

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

August 12	New Student Orientation
August 15	First Day for Students/Half Day
September 2	Open House (PreK-10th Grades)
September 5	Labor Day (NO SCHOOL)
September 14	Mid-First Quarter (22 Days)
Sept. 19-30	MAP Testing (KG-10th Grades)
September 21	Mid-Quarter Grades Due
September 23	Activities with Parents (PreK-K)
September 30	Activities with Parents (1st Grade)
October 7	Activities with Parents (2nd/3rd Grades)
October 14	End of First Quarter (44 Days)
October 21	First Quarter Grades Due
October 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences (NO SCHOOL for Students)
November 4	Activities with Parents (4th/5th Grades)
November 16	Mid-Second Quarter (22 Days)
November 18	Islamic Studies Fair (6th-10th Grades)
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Break (NO SCHOOL)

### School Announcements

Just a reminder, we will be making the latest school announcements via these methods:

- Orbund Text Messages
- Orbund Announcements
- Voice Messages
- Email Messages
- [www.iscgkc.org](http://www.iscgkc.org) (School Website)



If you need to reach the administration office, please email us as follows:

admin@iscgkc.org - Diane Ghosheh, Technical Coordinator  
schooladmin@iscgkc.org - Maryam Haggins, School Administrator  
shamouda@iscgkc.org - Saba Hamouda, Principal  
fjabeen@iscgkc.org - Farzana Jabeen, Vice Principal

We are working at hard to keep the school running efficiently. If you need to reach us immediately, please leave a voice message. We are promptly answering all voicemails and emails.

When at home, take care of your families and be safe.

Thank you for your cooperation!



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### Online Payments

Online Payments can be made for school fees, lunches, registrations, yearbooks, etc., on our school website:

[www.iscgkc.org](http://www.iscgkc.org)

Just select the Payments and choose your selection from the buttons provided. **Thank you.**

### Reporting Child Sick Days

Please remember to report first thing in the morning if your child is sick and will not be attending school that day.

**Also, please do not send sick children to school.**

Just notify the office so that we can mark it as an excused absence.

Thank you.

***"IF YOU GIVE THANKS, I WILL GIVE YOUR MORE."***

***Quran 14:7***

### 1ST QUARTER Mid Term Ends on September 14, 2022

Our 1st Quarter ended on September 14, 2022, completing 22 days of school. Please make sure your child has all of their homework turned in so that it can be graded before the teachers submit their grades.

***Let's make the best of this year and encourage your child to keep up the good work!***



Hadith on Plague: Avoid the plague but do not spread it either.

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, ***"If you hear of a plague in a land, then do not go into it. If it happens in land where you are, then do not go out of it."***

**SAY YOUR DUA'A AND WASH YOUR HANDS.**