

Kolter Community,

We are thrilled to announce a new initiative rolling out this year! Starting now, Kolter will become a **VIF Passport Global School**. We have spent months researching and doing our due diligence to insure that this program is one that would be a good fit for Kolter. Both Dr. Shetzer and Ms. Dickinson have traveled to the VIF headquarters in North Carolina to speak to members of the VIF team and to observe schools already participating in the program. That research and information was brought back to the school in the spring and discussed with Mr. Anderson, each grade level team, SDMC, various campus committees and others to gain feedback and support. After meeting with these key stakeholders, we are excited about what this program can do to insert global culture into student learning.

What is a Passport Global School?

- A school-wide effort, all members of the Kolter community, making a commitment to project-based inquiry and student-led learning through globally-minded leadership
- Sustained and meaningful global exchanges in material, conversations and mindset in order to foster a more global perspective and authentic, global learning

What does this mean for our <u>TEACHERS</u>?

- Teachers will utilize an integrated system known as Global Gateway offered to all participants K-12 as professional development and curriculum
- The system is accessed through the VIF learning center and offers teachers an opportunity to join colleagues around the world in online professional development to strengthen teaching practices through global integration, technology enrichment and collaborative communities of practice
- Teachers have access to over 1,000 lesson plans and other digital resources that are aligned with national standards

What does this mean for our **<u>STUDENTS</u>**?

- Global exposure through multiple project-based inquiry each year
- Participate in globally-based lessons
- Acquire attitudes, skills and knowledge needed for global competence
- Students will be exposed to all regions of the world following a regional theme by grade level

What Passport Global is <u>NOT</u>?

- A new curriculum for Kolter to follow we will still be following the TEKS and supplementing with global projects and material
- A program that replaces our magnet program this will enhance our current magnet program

Our goal with this program is to enhance our already global campus as a team, in every classroom, every day. Please feel free to utilize the following link: <u>http://www.vifprogram.com/index.php</u> to gain more information and insight or you can contact Ms. Dickinson. We look forward to going global!

Julianne Dickinson Assistant Principal jdickins@houstonisd.org