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## GERMAN PARLIAMENTARY MEMBER VISITS GERMAN SCHOOL WASHIGTON D.C.

On Wednesday, September 18, 2013, the German School Washington D.C. in Potomac, MD welcomed Mr. HaraldLeibrecht, member of the German Bundestag and the German Government Coordinator of Transatlantic Cooperation. Mr. Leibrecht visited the school and spent over two hours talking with students of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, explaining his role in the German Parliament and giving his views on a wide variety of topics.

As a Member of the German Parliament, Mr. Leibrecht has engaged with transatlantic cooperation particularly in the field of inter-societal exchange and educational cooperation. "Our German Schools abroad spawn the leaders of tomorrow. Not only do they provide students with high-quality education but they also prepare them for a successful future in a globalized world. I am particularly happy to be here at the German School Washington D.C. and to personally exchange thoughts with an international student body eager to learn and explore the world," Leibrecht said.

"We are very grateful to Mr. Leibrecht for coming in – it was an interesting session that gave us an insight into the working life of a politician. We discussed how the *Bundestag* works, what his job entails, as well as a range of international and national issues", said juniorPhilipp Lottermoser of North Potomac, MD.

The German School Washington D.C. is the oldest German School in North America. This year approximately 550 students from over 20 different nationalities are enrolled in its Preschool, Kindergarten, Elementary School and Upper School.

"Our graduates do not have to worry about future career opportunities. They can graduate high school with the German Diploma as well as the American providing them easy access to European and U.S. universities," emphasized Waldemar Gries, Head of School. "Our alumni are highly-qualified and multi-lingual experts. These are important and promising qualifications when entering the job market," Gries continued. As of 2016, students will also be able to graduate with the International Baccalaureate.

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