

# Ahead of the Curve: Growth of the Haitian Ministry of Education Curriculum at LCS

by Abbigaëlle S. (LCS Dean of Academics, LCS '18)

Louverture Cleary School is a Catholic boarding school in Haiti dedicated to the education of underprivileged children. Its mission is to instruct and educate students while preparing them to become leaders capable of contributing to the reconstruction of Haiti. It plays an important role in the training of young Haitians, emphasizing educational and moral values, as well as autonomy and a sense of responsibility. This institution contributes to the country's future by training students who can play a key role in the nation's development.

The school has a long history of educational vision and innovation. Ahead of its time, LCS included art, music and sport in its curriculum long before the Haitian Ministry of Education's 2023 requirements for it to do so. *But why?*

The answer lies in the desire to produce well-balanced, well-educated individuals capable of serving their country, Haiti, to the best of their ability.

The early integration of art, music and sport into the curriculum at LCS was an initiative that demonstrated the school's commitment to the holistic development of its students. This innovative approach not only promoted students' physical and mental well-being, but also enhanced their creativity, artistic expression and teamwork skills. By focusing on



Past Head of School Ernst V., who was instrumental in developing the music program at LCS, teaching a music class in 2019; Ernst passed away earlier in 2023.

these areas from an early age, the school has prepared its alumni to become well-rounded citizens, aware of the importance of art, culture and sport in their lives.

In addition, LCS was also ahead of the Ministry of Education's 2017 mandate to include economics across the four-year secondary curriculum in Haiti. Economics had been a capstone course for *Philo* (13th grade) students at LCS since 2012. With the 2017 mandate, LCS simply made additions to its already thriving program. Students began learning economics in *Twazyèm* (10th grade), leading to a culmination in the *Philo* capstone. In addition,

in 2021 LCS began incorporating accounting and finance in the curriculum. These bold decisions reflected the school's concern to prepare its students for the economic challenges of the modern world. By integrating the study of economics, students have acquired essential skills to understand the workings of the Haitian and global economy, as well as to make informed decisions in their professional and personal lives.