

## A Report

### ROUND SQUARE VIRTUAL ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING OF SOUTH ASIA & GULF

4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

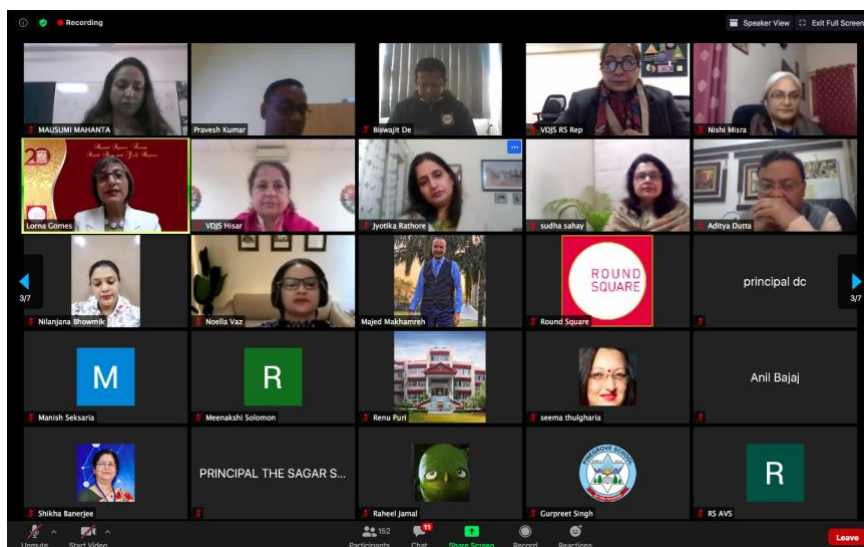
Host School - The Millennium School, Dubai

Theme - Wellness of the School Community

I, Aradhna Malik, RS Representative along with Ma'am Principal, Ms Shalini Mehrotra, Ms Neelam Sharma and Ms Shriya Bhalla attended the Round Square Annual Regional Meeting (virtual) of South Asia and Gulf Region hosted by Millennium school, Dubai on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2021.

All 61 schools of the region as below participated in the Regional Forum 2021 at TMS, Dubai.

- 1 Chittagong Grammar School, Bangladesh
2. Modern School, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi
- 3 Jhamkudevi Senior Secondary School, Punjab
4. Pinegrove School, Solan
5. Trivandrum International School, Kerela
6. Miles Bronson Residential School, Guwahati, Assam
7. The Lyceum School, Karachi (Pakistan)
8. Sai International School, Odisha
9. Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya, Gwalior
10. All Saints' College, Nainital
11. The Sanskaar Valley School, Bhopal
12. Cadet College Hasan Abdal, Pakistan
13. The Emerald Heights International School, Indore
14. Assam Valley School, Assam
15. The Scindia School, Gwalior
16. Step By Step School, Noida
17. Welham Girls' School, Dehradun
18. Bangalore International School, Bangalore
19. Inventure Academy, Bangalore
20. HIM Academy Public School, Himachal Pradesh
21. Vidya Devi Jindal School, Hisar
22. Mody School, Laxmangarh
23. The Millennium School, Dubai
24. King's Academy, Jordan
25. Lawrence School, Sanawar, Solan
26. Chanderbala Modi Academy, Gujrat
27. GEMS Modern Academy, Dubai
28. The British School, New Delhi
29. Sunbeam School Lahartara, Varanasi
30. Vivek High School, Chandigarh
31. Indian High School, Dubai
32. KC Public School, Jammu
33. Rajkumar College, Raipur
34. Welham Boy's School, Dehradun
35. Sarala Birla Academy, Bangalore
36. The Sagar School, Alwar
37. Daly College, Indore
38. Genesis Global School, Noida
39. Sunbeam Suncity (School & Hostel), Varanasi
40. Chittagong Grammar School National Curriculum, Dhaka
41. Birla Public School, Pilani
42. Yadavindra Public School, Patiala
43. Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Kanpur



44. "Shirakatsy Lyceum" International Scientific-Educational Complex, Armenia

45. The Punjab Public School, Nabha

46. Maria's Public School, Guwahati

47. The British Overseas School,  
Karachi

48. The Lawrence School Lovedale,  
Ooty

49. Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls'  
Public School, Udaipur

50. The Shri Ram School, Aravalli,  
Gurugram

51. College De La Salle, Amman

52. The Hyderabad Public School,  
Hyderabad

53. Amman Bacalaureate School,  
Jordan

54. Raha International School, Abu  
Dhabi

55. Mayo College, Ajmer

56. Dhirubhai Ambani International  
School, Mumbai

57. Singapore International School, Mumbai

58. Indian School al Ghubra, Oman

59. Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer

60. The Doon School, Dehradun

61. Pathways World School, Gurugram



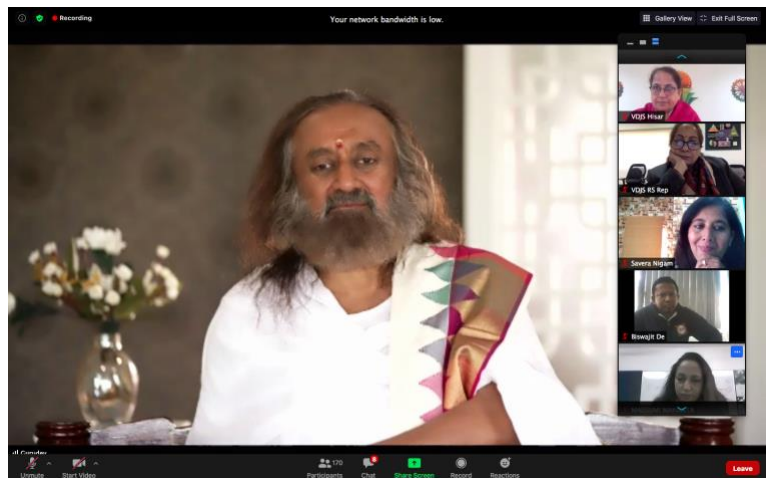
**4<sup>th</sup> Feb** - The Regional Meet got inaugurated with the welcome speech by the Head Girl and the Principal, Ms. Ambika Gulati, of The Millennium School, Dubai. Followed by a musical presentation by the School Choir - We'll Rise Above and the National Anthem of UAE and India.

Michael Guzdar, Director, the host school spoke about the benefits of Round Square IDEALS in the holistic development of children and in building character and resilience in staff and pupils alike. His address culminated with a wonderful presentation on the journey of the host school with the Round Square.

Finally, Samarth Chandana, President, Round Square of the host school shared his experiences of being a part of this prestigious organization.

The Ceremonial opening of ARM was followed by the inspirational talk from **Sri Sri Ravi Shankar**, who is recognized globally as a humanitarian, spiritual leader, and peacemaker. He is the founder of Art of Living and the International Association for Human Values (IAHV) – two of the largest volunteer-run non-profits in the world. Gurudev emphasized on-

1. Yogic breathing (Sudarshan Kriya) for harmonizing the body, mind, and emotions.
2. Judicious use of technology by youth to reduce behaviour problems and proper brain functioning.
3. Multitasking abilities among youth.
4. Schools to bring in the much-required change in their pedagogy to make education relevant for the youth.
5. Fine Arts as a hobby in schools to release stress and anxiety from daily life.



Another session for the day was the address of the newly elected Round Square Regional Trustee, Lt. Gen. Surendra Kulkarni (Director Mayo college, Ajmer) who took charge this year from the erstwhile RS Regional Trustee, Mrs. Papri Ghosh, Principal Indian high School, Al Gubra, Oman. The key takeaways of his address were well described by him by two acronyms:

- RST- Regional, Seasonal, and Traditional, and
- 3Ps' - Personal, Public, and Planet.

His address was followed by a session with Ms. Mia Monzer on 'Wellness practice by Isha Yoga'. She began with the screening of a video of Sadhguru on 'Schooling and Joyful Learning'. Ms. Monzer spoke about the benefits of Yoga in our daily lives. She also demonstrated three best yoga practices - Yoga Namaskar, Nadi Shuddhi, and Isha Kriya.

**DAY 1** concluded with Mr. Zia's (Reps Head of South Asia and Gulf Region) concluding remarks and update on the next day programme.

**5<sup>th</sup> Feb – DAY 2** started with the CEO Round Square, Ms. Rachael who welcomed the new Reps and Heads of South Asia and Gulf region. In her address she-

1. Appreciated the involvement of schools in new initiatives/activities started by Round Square in this unprecedented year and she thanked everyone for their enthusiastic participation in the new ideas which are proving as a tool towards the character development among student community.

2. Mentioned the virtual initiatives that witnessed the maximum participation and were a huge success during this year of pandemic.

- a) ROUND SQUARE IDEAL CHALLENGE
- b) ROUND SQUARE ZOOM POST CARDS
- c) ROUND SQUARE VIRTUAL CONFERENCES.

3. Talked about the future of Round Square and informed that the Round Square would continue with this year's initiatives taken during the Covid as they have been well received by all the regions equally.

The next session was on the Sharing of Best Practices by several RS Schools. Six parallel presentations were organised in two sessions, where the Heads of Schools shared what they followed in their schools for the wellbeing of their staff and students during the Covid.

### **Sharing of Best Practices –Session-I**

1. Shereen Ispahani - "Leading an Agile School".
2. Nooraine Fazal - "The Changemaker Challenge".
3. Yash Saxena - "Wellness Program for Pastoral Care Staff".
4. Biswajeet De & Shahriar Asdar - "Creative collaboration- Migratory Birds & Photography"
5. Adeel Javed & Pankaj Joshi - "Organising a student-led event"
6. Shalini Mehrotra & Padmini Sambasivam - "Strategies for student wellbeing"

### **Sharing of Best Practices –Session-II**

7. Aarti Chowdhary - "Mental and emotional wellbeing in school curriculum"
8. Ambika Gulati - "Making Wellbeing a way of life at School"
9. Sharonee Mullick - "Student wellbeing in Lockdown"
10. Salwa Manaja & Majed Makhamreh - "Coming out of lockdown"
11. Jessica Patnaik & Cotie Howard - "Classroom collaborations"
12. Renu Puri & Sudha Sahay - "Nurturing a resilient teacher community during challenging times"

---We all were divided in two groups of Heads and Reps after the sessions on **Sharing of Best Practices**.

### **Highlights of Reps Meeting-**

1. Changed/modified role of Round Square Representatives by Mrs Rajbir Sandu, Support Director of the Region and Mr. Zia, Reps Head of the Region
2. Mr. Zia gave presentation on 'HOW TO ORGANIZE VIRTUAL RS CONFERENCES.'
3. Ideas were welcomed from all the reps as how to restart virtual RS SERVICE PROJECTS.

The cherry on the cake was the keynote address by Mr. Ranjitsinh Disale, Winner of Global Teacher Award, 2020 followed by a Q & A session with him. He shared his journey with the primary school in a village of Patiawadi, Maharashtra. He believes that the children are the real motivators, and the teachers are the real changemakers who can change the lives of their students with the mixture of chalk and challenges.

The two-day conference was highly informative with many takeaways leaving every mind brimming with ideas and enthusiasm for the year ahead. ARM concluded with the closing remarks by Ms. Ambika Gulati, Principal, The Millennium School, Dubai.

Thanking you,  
Aradhna Malik  
RS Rep