Thai education has generally concentrated on literacy and numerical skills, with little emphasis on new ideas and creativity skills. The Mechai Pattana School, or the Bamboo School, intends to change this situation for ambitious, rural students.

The school strives toward getting its pupils to perform at their full potential by focusing on developing the complete individual. The lessons at the school are focused on enabling students to analyze and create. The Bamboo School is located in Lamplaimat District, Buriram Province - four hours from Bangkok.

The **BAMBOO SCHOOL** also serves as:

- A life-long learning center for the entire community; where everyone is welcome to use the school to improve their agricultural, business, and general vocational and educational skills
- A hub for economic and social advancement; where micro-credit funding is available for families within the school community
- A teacher training facility; where teachers from rural areas can come to improve their teaching skills

- The school term closes during rice planting and harvesting seasons to enable students to participate in rice farming, a major component of Thai culture.
- The school week is from Thursday to Monday (closed on Tuesday and Wednesday) to enable guests to visit and teach at the school during Saturday and Sunday.

- There are no student fees in monetary terms at the school. Rather, the students and parents have to plant 400 trees and pay their fees with 400 hours of community service.
- Grade 10 students will spend one year by the sea in Pattaya. Here they are immersed in a different cultural, economic, and social atmosphere. The campus will be located on the beach at the Birds and Bees Resort.

*The official registered name of the school is the Mechai Pattana School*
Outside the Classroom

- Students are given the responsibility of participating in the teacher selection and evaluation process.
- Students in Grades 8 and 9 are given the responsibility for selecting the incoming Grade 7 students, which promotes leadership at an early age.
- Students operate businesses that have a positive impact within their community, with half of the profits going towards primary student scholarships in government schools.
- Students participate in the purchasing and audit committee, which enables them to learn budgeting, planning, transparency, and negotiation skills.
- Two students are elected to be member of the School Board.

In the Classroom

- Students are encouraged to use the internet as well as library books.
- Students choose projects and activities they would like to explore, and the teachers facilitate the learning process, encouraging self-direction.
- Team-building is encouraged, so students work collaboratively on solving problems or work on projects in small groups.

Donation / School Expansion

Individuals and Corporations* can deduct from their income tax TWICE THE AMOUNT DONATED.

Account Name: Mechai Pattana School,
Bank Name: Kasikorn Bank
Branch: Sukhumvit 33,
Swift Code: TFBSTHKB
Saving Account # 003-2-53058-5

For Credit Card Donations, please visit: www.mechaifoundation.org/mechai_donors.asp

Account Name: Mechai Pattana School,
Bank Name: Bank of Ayudhya
Branch: Sukhumvit 23,
Swift Code: AYUDTHBK
Saving Account # 204-1-21818-4

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*Corporations registered in Thailand