

Nieuwsblad

Ambassador Howard Gutman Visits Ibis

Bredene: the US ambassador Howard Gutman visited the Ibis in Bredene, a school that provides a maritime education to some 100 children who come from difficult home situations.

The ambassador received a tour of the school and visited the dormitories, nets, and map classes. The students of the second level invited the Ambassador by writing a letter and invitation as part of their English lessons. "The nicest letter I ever received," said the ambassador. The highlight of the visit was a talk with the students in their own 'Oval Classroom', during which they asked the ambassador questions about his function, hobbies, the United States, and President Obama. Gutman demonstrated that he is a practiced entertainer who was able to captivate the students. Afterwards he walked into classrooms unannounced for a talk with students who he then motivated.

During his visit plans were repeated to build a building which could house girls. There were extensive security measures during the visit.