

The International School of Macao Parents' Association (TISPA)

General Meeting

Tuesday 3rd February 2015, 1:30pm

TIS - Conference Room

Minutes

Minutes of last meeting, accepted on-line (no errors noted)

Present

Howard Stribbell

Louise Davies

Sarah Luvisutto

Julie Kirkman

Kat Scott

Mary-Anne Jasinski

Laura Clarke

Wayney Hsie

Louise Kewley

Lorna Elliott

Trang Dooley

Monica Gonzales

Apologies

Christie Kelso

Kath Rose

Peta Houghton

David Spreadbury

Andrea Dryburgh

Head of Schools' Report (Howard Stribbell):

See attached

- First floor toilet closures on Monday and Tuesday to fix piping problem. Fully operational again.
- Air Quality: Air quality is being monitored and currently the proposal is to cancel all outdoor recesses, PE classes, sports activities and outdoor field trips when the index hits 200. Research is being done on lowering the cut off to 150 for certain activities and sport events and parent feedback is welcomed. The Hong Kong Education Bureau is used for certain schools in Hong Kong to establish their policy regarding air quality. Louise K. added that Harrow International School in Hong Kong has a detailed page on air quality and school policy on their website which could help form guidelines for a TIS policy.
- Additional Languages: TIS is keen to get feedback on the possibility of offering Portuguese (and possibly French) during the school day as an alternative to Mandarin. The feedback from meeting attendants was unanimous that Mandarin should be the second language taught and remain compulsory.
- Open House is February 14th from 9-11 am. Parent session on Digital Citizenship from 11 am-12pm (Kids are welcome to join the session).
- Phase 2 video was presented
- Food Survey results will be distributed via email.

Principal's Reports

Elementary (Mary-Anne Jasinski):

- Guest author came to visit Grades 4, 5 and 6. Very successful and extremely well received by students. Will look into rebooking again and possibly for Grades SK-6 in the future.
- Student teachers are arriving soon. First one will be in Grade 3. There is also a local student from MAC doing a practicum in Kindergarten. There is an Australian student in High School doing a practicum in PE as well.
- Chinese New Year Celebration is coming up and will be very similar to last year with the performance first and then breaking into groups. Kindy students will be excluded from the performance and will get a personal dragon dance a day prior to the event. Details to be confirmed as far as exact day and time for the Kindy students.

- Trang D. inquired about the Child Injury Protocol currently being in place at TIS, which both Ms Jaskinski and Mr Stribbell confirmed were in place.

Secondary (David Spreadbury):

Absent

Treasurer's Report (Lorna Elliott):

Pop-corn day last Friday: Sold \$3600 MOP

Account Balance: Mop \$129,179.25

Petty Cash: MOP \$52,590.10

TISPA needs an industrial pop-corn machine. Researching options in China and/or Hong Kong. It was suggested from teachers that there be a limit in pop-corn bags being sold per child. (max. 2). Each child should receive a stamp once pop-corn is purchased.

Events Report:

No events since last meeting.

Upcoming events:

- **Chinese New Year** – February 10th, Dress-down day
- **Pop-corn Day** – February 27th
It was noted that Grade 4s have an all-day field trip that day, so other parent volunteers would be needed to run the pop-corn day.
It was requested that a power point would be installed outside the MPR to facilitate the operation of pop-corn day. Mr Stribbell confirmed that this should be possible.
- **Community Day (International)** – March 7th
TISPA BBQ & Drinks, Australian Theme for TISPA on the day. Looking for volunteers.
- **Easter Raffles/TISPA dress down day - March 2015**
Dress-down day 27rd March - students will be asked to bring chocolate or to donate MOP10 toward the purchase of goods for the raffle baskets. Start selling raffle tickets the 23rd of March.
To be discussed further at events committee meeting.
- **2015 TISCO – March 27th** Grade 6 is keen on running this event and will handle Marketing, Signs, Ticket Sales, Decorations, Music. They will do stands and a fundraiser. MPR is booked. A meeting was held with Ms Holmes about the Kindy students. Each grade would participate for about 15 minutes, no charge. No pizza or drink.
Instead of a glow stick or bracelet it was suggested that they just get a stamp.
Will inquire with Seasons Restaurant to see if they would put on a Happy Hour for parents waiting to pick up their children from TISCO.

General Business:

- Quick review of TISPA By Laws
- Purchase of new BBQ – Kylie A. is researching and will follow up at the next general meeting.
- Dress-down days – discussed sticking to one theme, no twins/triplets themes
Feedback is being sought as to whether one theme for all grades could be implemented to make it easier for families that have children in 2 or 3 divisions.
Book Week is in March/April depending on country, which could be tied in to next dress down day.
- School Calendar is being finalized. TISPA requested to change the date of Christmas Wonderland to Thursday, December 3.
- Traffic/Security: It was mentioned that the security guard doesn't stop cars driving down the One Way Street, which is causing traffic and congestions issues.

Next meeting: 3rd of March 2015