

# **TISPA – Oct 6, 2015**

## Head of School Report

### **Secondary Principal Search**

David Spreadbury will be retiring at the end of the 2015-16 academic school year. A comprehensive search has been initiated beginning with the development of a principal profile. Parents wishing to contribute to the profile should contact Howard.

Dave and his wife, Yvonne, began at TIS in 2007 as the Academic Counselor and Student Billing Officer until being promoted to the Secondary Principal and Executive Assistant. The Board and staff at TIS would like to thank Dave and Yvonne for their dedicated service for all of these years.

### **Remembering Dale McGinnis**

On Wednesday, September 23, students and staff filled the secondary library to honour and remember former TIS teacher, Dale McGinnis. Dale worked at TIS from 2004 until his retirement in 2012. Friends and colleagues shared fond memories of Dale's many adventures in Macau and surrounding countries.

### **DSEJ School Inspection**

This year, TIS is undergoing a comprehensive school inspection by DSEJ as part of their regular school inspection program. The inspection is going to require considerable time and support from students, teachers, staff and parents.

- Parent Questionnaires – Oct 12-16 – 80 kinder, 105 elem, 45 middle, 51 highschool,
- Parent Interviews – Oct 29 – 31, 32 kinder, 42 elem, 46 secondary, (60 minutes)
- Student Assignments – 32 kinder, 42 elem, 18 middle, 26 secondary (TBC?)
- Student Questionnaires – Oct 15 or 16, 91 elem, 72 middle, 61 secondary, (30 minutes)
- Student Interviews – Oct 26 & 27, 26 elem, 18 middle, 14 high school (60 minutes)
- Teacher Questionnaires – Oct 12-16, 22 kinder, 32 elem, 38 secondary
- On site inspection and class observations – November 9-13

### **Run of Hope**

All staff, students and parents are encouraged to participate or volunteer at the Run of Hope on Sunday, November 8. Registration forms are available in the office.

### **A Greater Need for Communication and Parental Engagement**

Our annual accountability survey and Alberta accreditation inspection has identified a decreased satisfaction in the level of communication between the school and parents as well as the level of satisfaction parents have in their understanding and influence on their child's education.

We have already launched a new Insight Online website, a greater emphasis on class to home communication (through the blogs, Edmoto, Class Connect and Moodle), offered university application bootcamps and strategic information sessions at Curriculum Night. We are also seeking additional input from TISPA and parents.

### **Student Teachers**

Four student interns from the University of Alberta will be joining TIS on Oct 12. They will be working in Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 6 and in High School Math and Physics. The students will be here until the Christmas break. They begin by observing classes and slowly teaching more often while under the guidance of their mentor teachers. The University of Alberta and TIS have been working together for many years.

## **Upcoming Events**

- University Fair – October 8, 1-4pm (see attached for more information)
- Student Teachers Arrive – October 12
- Walkathon – October 13
- PD Day (no school for students) – October 21
- Outreach to Laos – October 22-Oct 26