

The International School of Macao Parents' Association (TISPA)
General Meeting
Tuesday, 6th December 2016, 1:30pm
TIS – Secondary Library
Agenda

Present

Howard Stribbell	Laura Clarke	Nicole Hammer	Deb Troendle Scott
Rin Y	Diane O'Keeffe	Waynie Hsie	Kat Scott
Sarah Luvisutto	Jacqueline Varga	Nick Chignall	Bec Walker

Apologies: *Louise Kewley, Connie Johnson*

Minutes of last meeting (3rd November)

Distributed on-line. No corrections noted. Accepted as correct.

Welcome

Head of Schools' Report (Howard Stribbell) – See attached

- Playground update: Goal is to have this work completed by the end of the Holiday Break. It was asked if any new playground equipment will be added, however at this stage that is not foreseen. As part of the school development program, the various playground areas will be reassessed and redesigned, taking into consideration the new areas from the North Wing.
- Sneak peek visits will be offered to TISPA parents in the next week. Kat Scott will send out an invitation to the TISPA volunteer list.
- Reviewing security status: After a recent theft incident and with the addition of the North Wing, TIS is reviewing and enhancing security measures, keeping in mind that the school has to be secure but also open. Fencing will be added around the large field and basketball courts areas. TIS is also reviewing a possible ID card system and Mr Stribbell asked for parent feedback on this. It was agreed by all, that extra fencing is needed and the ID card would be an added step towards tighter security and safety at the school. Detailed logistics are being looked into.

For school bags and personal property safety during after school sports fixtures, different options will be reviewed, such as a container system on the field, which is currently being costed out, or gated containers that coaches can lock.

- Tuition and Salary: With the opening of the North Wing, greater staffing cost and building operations costs are anticipated. The board is currently reviewing a tuition increase and potential staff salary adjustments.

It was noted that each year the school fees are increased and asked if this will continue over the next few years. Mr Stribbell explained that the school costs and teacher salaries are increasing and that teachers make up 70% of the costs. The government is making it more difficult to hire beginning teachers and some parents are against having too many beginning teachers as well, which brings the salary costs up. TIS makes it a priority to continue to recruit high quality teachers. Ms Jasinski added that the current international salary packages offered are not very competitive, even resulting in turned down offers from quality teachers.

It was asked how TIS tuition compares to other schools in Macau. Mr Stribbell noted that TIS tuition is 10-30% higher than most other local schools. (MAC is public from G1-6 and free). Comparing to HK schools, TIS tuition is 50% cheaper and a third cheaper than schools in China.

Principal's Reports

Elementary (Mary-Anne Jasinski)

- Helper Tea is tomorrow, December 7th. Approximately 100 helpers have RSVPd, which is more than double than last year. The student teachers have planned and organised this event. It was noted that the RSVP for this event was very difficult as the QR code didn't work and was mostly in Chinese. This will be looked into and resolved for future forms.
- Award assemblies are this week and will include the DSEJ awards. 2 names for each class and subject were identified at the end of last year by the teachers to receive an academic award. This is the first year TIS is participating in this awards program.
- Way to Go lunch is next week.
- Christmas Story Time is next week where Ms Jasinski visits all classes and reads Christmas stories.
- Dress down day is Friday, December 16th and the theme is pyjamas. For Kindergarten, the theme is play clothes or pyjamas.
- Bussing has changed quite a bit recently and required many extra hands and teachers to help this effort, which is now going smoothly. Parents are discouraged from walking through that space altogether, so that children don't follow and run around this dangerous area.
- It was noted that the morning Kiss n' ride drop off is not as smooth and organised as before the opening of the road by the North Wing. The lanes are wider and cars are stopping and unloading at several different locations.
Mr Stribbell asked for feedback on closing the gate by the front roundabout, as this is considered a very dangerous area. Most parents agreed that closing this gate would be best and much safer.

Secondary (absent)

Treasurer's Report (Connie Johnson - absent) (Kat Scott)

Community Day: \$15,460 (half of last year)

Pop-corn: \$3,410

Winter Wonderland: Raffle: \$9,430; Other: \$24,900

Events Report

Events since last meeting:

- **Dress-down day - October 28**
- **Community Day - November 5**
The change in time of the Community Day this time was not favourable for TISPA, as less people seemed to have attended the afternoon session. Ideally, it would be held over the lunch period in order to maximise the BBQ sales and encourage people who are doing sports or other activities onsite and nearby to stay on.

- **Winter Wonderland - December 1**

It was a wonderful and well attended event however a little slower than in previous years. TISPA will try to find ways to attract more people in future events. It was mentioned that local families are less inclined to attend these events than Ex-Pat families and new ways to encourage the whole community to participate will be sought out. The healthy options were very well received, including corn on the cob, fruit cups and two types of veggie burgers.

Upcoming events:

- **North Wing Sneak Peek Visits**

- **Christmas Tree**

This initiative is moving a bit slowly at the moment as the tags on the tree are mostly for older children, which less parents seem to choose. Encouragement was given to pick a tag for an older child this week.

- **TIS Disco** - to be discussed in the new year.

- **Chinese New Year**

Dress-down day and Chinese New Year celebrations fall on the same day so decorative bags will be sourced for pop corn.

- A basketball tournament is being hosted at TIS in January and TISPA was asked to help with the food/snack stalls.

- **Open House Day** - February 18

- **Other upcoming Events**

General Business

A draft of the Calendar was briefly reviewed and will go to the board for approval.

Confirm date for next meeting Next General Meeting date confirmed for Tuesday, January 10th at 1:30 pm.

澳門國際學校家長會 (TISPA)
常務會議
12月6日(週二)下午 1:30
澳門國際學校中學圖書館
會議議程

主席者

Howard Stribbell	Laura Clarke	Nicole Hammer	Deb Troendle Scott
Rin Y	Diane O'Keeffe	Waynie Hsie	Kat Scott
Sarah Luvisutto	Jacqueline Varga	Nick Chignall	Bec Walker

缺席者: Louise Kewley, Connie Johnson

上次會議紀要 (11月3日)

已經於網上發佈。無須更正，確實無誤。

歡迎各位

校長的報告 (Howard Stribbell) – 請參閱附件

- 操場整修情況：期望有關工程可於聖誕假結束前完成。有人問到整修後會否增加新設施，但按目前情況而言無此必要。但作為學校發展的一部份，由於北翼落成增加了活動區域，各個遊樂區將會重新評估及設計。
- 下週將安排家長會成員參觀新教學大樓。Kat Scott 將向名列於家長會的清單中的志願家長發送邀請函。
- 審視安全狀態：基於北翼落成及發生過偷竊事件，學校正審視加強安全措施，需謹記學校需開放，但必須是安全的。環繞草地及籃球場位置會加上圍欄。除此之外，學校正考慮增設身份識別系統，Mr Stribbell 祈獲得家長的反饋。議會者均贊同加設圍欄，並視增設身份識別系統為鞏固學校安全的額外步驟。詳細規劃現正進行中。
有人對進行課後體育活動時書包及個人物品放置的問題提出不同意見，其中包括增設正進行估價的貨櫃組合，或由教練鎖管。
- 學費及薪酬：預期北翼的落成會相對增加人員薪酬及大樓營運開支，校董會正研究提升學費及調整薪酬方案。
有指往後的學費是否仍會每年調升，Mr Stribbell 解釋學校營運費用每年增長，當中老師薪酬已佔其中七成。政府政策增加了聘請無經驗教師的難度，而家長亦反對太多無經驗教師任教，此情況造成薪酬成本上升。本校會優先錄用經驗豐富的教師。Ms Jasinski 謂因學校薪酬未夠吸引應聘有經驗教學人員。
談到本校跟本地其他學校之學費比較，Mr Stribbell 稱本校之學費高於本地學校約一至三成（聖公會中學為入網免費學校）。與香港相比，本校學費則便宜一半，亦僅為內地三分之二價錢。

校長的報告

小學部 (Mary-Anne Jasinski)

- 助理人員茶敘明天 12 月 7 日舉行。大約一百位助理人員回覆出席，人數多於去年一倍。活動由學生及老師組織。

有指由於 QR 碼技術問題，使回覆變得困難。以後會就此問題討論解決方法。

- 頒獎早會本週舉行，屆時會連同澳門基金會的獎項一併派發。有關學術獎項是去年由老師為每班甄選出兩位同學。這次是本校首年參與此獎項計劃。
- 下週會進行「與校長午餐」。
- 「聖誕故事時間」下週展開，Ms Jasinski 會到訪各班閱讀聖誕故事。
- 12月16日週五是便服日，主題為睡衣。幼稚園可選擇穿著睡衣或任何服裝。
- 巴士接送安排稍有更改，在得到額外的人員和老師幫忙下，現時已運作順利。學校不建議家長橫過車道，避免小孩照樣跑入危險區域。
- 有指開放北翼對開車道進行 Kiss n' ride 並不如當初順利。車道變闊後反而驅使車輛胡亂停泊。

Mr Stribbell 諮詢有關閉關迴施處地段開門的意見，指該處是高危地段。許多家長均認為關閉該處開門更安全。

中學部（缺席）

財務報告（Connie Johnson—缺席）（Kat Scott）

同樂日：15,460 元（去年之一半）

爆谷日：3,410 元

冬日仙境：獎券 9,430 元；其他 24,900 元

活動報告

自上次會議後舉辦的活動：

- 便服日—10月28日
- 社區同樂日 **Community Day**—11月5日
更改由下午舉辦的同樂日不似乎不受家長會歡迎，出席人數較往時少。或許理想的時間為午餐時段，可吸引更多在場或附近人士光顧燒烤食品。
- 冬日仙境 **Winter Wonderland**—12月1日
雖然進度較往年慢，但此活動十分成功，出席者眾。家長會未來會想辦法吸引更多人參與。有指活動的受歡迎程度，本地家庭不及外國移居家庭高，將尋求全個群體一同參與的方法。健康類的食品很受歡迎，像是原根粟米、鮮果杯和兩款素菜漢堡等。

即將舉辦的活動：

- 北翼參觀
- 聖誕樹
此自願性活動當前進展緩慢，皆因樹上所標著的孩子年齡較大，而多數家長都不傾向該年齡層的孩子。本週會鼓勵多選年齡大的孩子。

- 的士高一新一年即會討論
- 中國農曆新年
便服日及慶祝中國新年將於同一日舉行，因此屆時出售的爆谷包裝袋會經過設計。
- 本校將於1月舉辦籃球賽，有人提出讓家長會協助提供食物或小食攤位。
- 開放日—2月18日
- 即將舉辦的活動

常務事項

校曆已定下初稿，等候校董會審議通過。

下次會議日期 會議日子定為1月10日，週二下午1:30。