

The International School of Macao Parents' Association (TISPA)

General Meeting

Tuesday, 7th February 2017, 1:30pm

TIS – Conference Room

Agenda

Present

Mary-Anne Jasinski

Laura Clarke

Nicole Hammer

Connie Johnson

Kat Scott

Howard Stribbell

Waynie Hsie

Sarah Luvisutto

Chris Coates

Apologies: *Deb Troendle Scott, Bec Walker, Louise Kewley, Diane O'Keeffe*

Minutes of last meeting (10th January)

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

Welcome

Head of Schools' Report (Howard Stribbell)

- Two students from the exchange program in Alberta are currently at TIS.
- TIS received the verbal DSEJ inspection report, however the report is in Chinese and has to be translated. Alberta will not do their accreditation inspection this year and are choosing to defer it for one year.
- Staffing is almost complete at this early stage. The recent recruitment trips in Canada and overseas have clearly shown that TIS is now considered a Destination School. While TIS is not being sought out like some of the major International Schools with very high salary packages and larger facilities, TIS is still being sought out and interest is very high. The biggest reasons for this are: 1. Emphasis on Professional Development, 2. School Culture, 3. Innovation and Technology. The main drawbacks are salary packages and infrastructure.
It was asked if the new teachers being hired are still mainly Canadian. TIS is trying to diversify and is hiring more non-Canadian teachers. Some new teachers are Canadian, however they have been abroad for many years, which is very valuable. Ms Jasinski also added that TIS is also looking for multi-lingual teachers.
- New security measures are still being implemented. The fence has been installed and the badges are being finalised and will be implemented soon. TIS is trying to have one central entrance/exit to the school. The temporary drop-off at the front road will be closed in a few weeks, as it is unsafe. Everyone is urged to drop off and enter at the Kiss n' Ride Main Entrance of the school. It was asked if the fence installed is temporary or permanent as many students (and parents) are still climbing over it. Mr Stribbell is currently in talks with MUST about other spaces as well and will look into it for a more permanent solution.
- Comprehensive social media guidelines are being development for teachers at the moment. Education on social media will also be incorporated and guidelines will be developed for students and parents as well.
- PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment G9/G10) results have come in and the results were exceptional for Maths, however the Reading and Science results were slightly lower than in the past. This is currently being analysed.

- Ms Scott added that a student had suggested installing a large climbing wall as a separation from the playground to the end of the school property facing the new MUST building. Mr Stribbell agreed that this would be a good idea and will look into feasibility and cost.

Principal's Reports

Elementary (Mary-Anne Jasinski)

- Elementary positions are almost all filled, with only two left to be filled for Kindergarten. New male teachers have been hired in JK and SK.
- Open House is coming up on February 18 and will include a brief overview of the curriculum and guided tours. Unguided tours are also welcome for those who would like to have a quick look around.
- Division 1 Assembly is Wednesday February 15th and Division 2 Assembly is on Thursday the 16th. Way to Go lunch will be held on Thursday, February 23.
- The School Photo retake day is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21.
- Registration papers will be sent home soon and it is imperative that parents complete and return these for next year's academic school year. Many applicants were turned away last year because of spots held for current students.
- Saturday March 4 and 18th will be Group Interview days for Kindergarten. It was mentioned that no more Kindergarten spots will be added next year, even with Phase 2 open.
- Report cards will be sent home on March 17th. Student-led conferences will be March 23 & 24th. Private interviews with teachers can be arranged after those dates.

Secondary (Chris Coates)

- Hiring has been a big focus for the last month. Mr Coates attended the Search Associates fair in Toronto and both Mr. Coates and Mr Stribbell attended the big Search Associates fair in Bangkok - a very competitive environment of top quality and experienced teachers, where TIS is competing against many International Schools all over the world. With TIS being at a critical stage of the IB Program implementation, the goal this recruiting season is to get more teachers with previous IB teaching experience. A few examples of early successful placements include a Social Studies and IB History teacher from Shanghai with 7 years of IB experience and his wife who will be teaching Middle School Social Studies ELA (she is currently teaching IB English and the IB Extended Essay Program) as well as a very seasoned IB Visual Arts teacher and a brilliant IB High Level Maths teacher who will be joining TIS next year from HK. One position is still open, which is the Digital Media position. There will also be a new position added next year: CAS Coordinator (Creativity, Action, Service) who will also lead the Experience Week Program and all service aspects in the community.
- Exams for G10 & G12 went smoothly and were submitted. Awaiting results later this month.
- Report cards will be sent home at the end of the week.
- Counsellors are very busy at this time juggling many changes in courses.
- High School course sign ups are coming up soon so that the timetable can be finalised. The system in High School is changing from a semester system to a hybrid system of selecting 8 courses for the year, however the format will change from 4 courses per semester to 4 courses on a Day 1 and Day 2 basis. This promotes concurrency of learning.

- Currently TIS is a candidate school for the IB Program. The actual authorisation visit is on March 20-22 and the result, and hopefully the seal of approval, will be given in May.
- Secondary school has 4 new student teachers joining TIS from Alberta for nine weeks.

Treasurer's Report (Connie Johnson)

Pop-corn: \$4,640 (\$3177 profit)

TISPA Expense for Appreciation Pizza for Face paint/tattoo helpers during past events: \$654.00

Events Report

Events since last meeting:

- **Dress-down day - January**

Upcoming events:

- **Open House Day - February 18**
The Rugby club has a big festival event on the same day, which should be a positive thing for the Open House event. One of the main objectives of the Open House event is for TIS to showcase as many day to day activities as possible, including Arts, Robotics, Music and Athletics.
- **Dress-down Day - February 24** (Divisional theme)
- **Community Day - March 11** (10am - 2pm)
- **TIS Disco - May 12**
Ms Scott is requesting the use of the new Blackbox Theatre.
- **Community Day - May**
Kat Scott has requested a date change for this event, so that more volunteers are available to help.
- **Other upcoming Events**

General Business

Ms Scott brought up a few issues some parents had brought up:

- There is a concern about the Cooking Club making peanut cookies at school, since TIS has a nut-free policy. Ms Jasinski was not aware of this and will address it.
- Ms Scott also had very positive feedback on this year's Mandarin program, with the curriculum for non-native speakers much more practical and manageable than previously. Ms Jasinski added that there is more correlation between the English and Mandarin teachers during prep time, which is

moving closer to an immersion program.

- The school APP notifications and email notifications don't seem to be synced up. Mr Stribbell will handle this request.

Confirm date for next meeting Next General Meeting date confirmed for Tuesday, March 7th at 1:30 pm. in the Conference Room.

澳門國際學校家長會 (TISPA)
常務會務
2017年2月7日(週二)下午1:30
澳門國際學校會議室
會議議程

出席者

Mary-Anne Jasinski
Kat Scott
Chris Coates

Laura Clarke
Howard Stribbell

Nicole Hammer
Waynie Hsie

Connie Johnson
Sarah Luvisutto

缺席者： Deb Troendle Scott, Bec Walker, Louise Kewley, Diane O’Keeffe

上次會議紀要 (1月10日)

已於網上發佈。無須更正，確實無誤。

歡迎

校長的報告 (Howard Stribbell)

- 兩名來自艾伯塔的交流生已到本校開展學習。
- 學校收到教青局的口頭評鑑報告，然而報告內容僅得中文，需要進行翻譯。艾伯塔今年將不進行認證檢查，並推遲一年。
- 初步的人員招聘幾乎完成。最近到加拿大及其他海外地區展開招聘時，本校已明顯被視為「目的地學校」。雖然本校不像其他著名的國際學校般，提供高薪或擁有廣闊的校園，但亦廣為人所認識且外界對學校的興趣依然很高。當中最大的原因是：1. 強調專業發展。2. 學校文化。3. 創新與技術。而最大的缺點則是薪酬及設施。
被問到新聘請的老師是否仍舊主要來自加拿大，校長回應指本校正努力實現多元化，爭取聘請更多非加拿大老師。他又指部份新聘請之加拿大籍老師其實已在海外工作多年，人生閱歷豐富。Ms Jasinski 補充學校正尋求操多國語言的老師。
- 新保安措施逐步施行。目前已增設圍欄，稍後會增加保安員。本校準備日後限制一個特定通道進入校園。基於安全理由，目前在馬路邊使用的臨時上、落區將於數週後取消，之後須使用 Kiss n’ Ride 的主道進出學校。
有指不少家長和學生仍舊跨過圍欄進入學校，問到圍欄是否屬於臨時安裝時，Mr Stribbell 表示正與科技大學溝通，看是否能再辟空間，以尋求永久的解決方案。
- 針對教師的綜合社會化媒體指南正在發展中。有關指南會同時針對學生及家長，內容包含教育方面。
- PISA 評估成績（針對初中三及高中一的國際學校學生評估計劃）最近出爐，當中包括數學科的成績均有增長，然而閱讀及科學課分數則稍低於過去。
- Ms Scott 謂有學生建議在操場盡頭處（面對科技大學新建築物）位置增設大型攀石牆。Mr Stribbell 同意是個好主意，稱會了解可行性及成本。

校長的報告

小學部 (Mary-Anne Jasinski)

- 下學年幼、小部職位空缺已似乎填滿，僅餘幼稚園兩名空缺。已為 JK 及 SK 聘請了新的男老師。
- 2月18日為學校開放日，其間會有課程簡介及導遊等行程，也歡迎有興趣人士自由參觀。
- 小一至小三早會將於2月15日，週三舉行。小四至小六為2月16日，週四。Way to Go lunch 則定於2月23日，週四。
- 學生照重拍定於2月21日，週二進行。
- 關於明年就讀本校的意願收集通知書及回條稍後會派發回家。去年因為留位給在讀學生，許多報名者均未獲入讀機會。
- 3月4日及18日，兩天週六均為首次入學幼兒之小組面試日。有人提到即使新校舍完工，亦不會因而增加幼稚園學額。
- 3月17日將派發學期成績表。3月23至24日會舉行學生領袖活動「Student-led conferences」。個別家長會談可於活動後安排。

中學部 (Chris Coates)

- 上個月焦點集中在招聘上。Mr Coates 早前出席了位於多倫多舉行的「Search Associates」的介紹，又跟 Mr Stribbell 一同出席了曼谷更大型的講解會。那兒是一個雲集擁有豐富教學經驗的教師的環境，本校要跟來自全球不同地區的國際學校競爭。基於本校處於實施 IB 課程的階段，此招聘會的目的便是爭取更多具相關課程教學經典的教師加入本校。早前便成功招聘來自上海、擁有教授 IB 課程經驗的男老師加入本校任教社會及 IB 歷史課，其目前正教授 IB 英語課程及 IB 拓展論文課程的妻子，亦將加入本校大家庭，出任初中社會科 ELA。另外，尚有兩名來自香港的老師，明年將會負責教授 IB 視覺藝術課及 IB 高階數學課。除了一個數位化媒體的職位空缺之外，尚餘一個主要策略遊學體驗週，兼任校區服務的 CAS 協調員（創意、行動、服務）。
- 高中一至三年級的考試順利完成。月底會有成績出爐。
- 本週末將派發學年成績表。
- 升學輔導員正忙於調整課堂內容的轉變。
- 即將展開高中部的課程註冊程序，屆時時間表亦可因而確定。高中八課選修課系統將由原來的分為上、下學年的結算，變更為全學年制。即由原本上、下學年各修四科，改為全學年共修八科制，每週按各科比例分配上課時數。這有助促進學習。
- 目前本校是 IB 課程的候選學校。3月20至22日屆時會有人員到訪審查，期望5月會獲取好消息。
- 中學部有四名來自艾伯塔的實習老師，到本校進行為期九週的教學實習。

財務報告 (Connie Johnson)

爆谷：4,640 元 (淨利 3177)

家長會為過去幾個活動的義工 (臉部彩繪／紋身) 購買比薩：654 元。

活動報告

自上次會議後舉辦的活動：

- 便服日 – 1 月

即將舉辦的活動：

- 開放日 – 2 月 18 日
橄欖球社同日亦有大型活動，相信對學校開放日有正面影響。因開放日其中一個目的是盡量顯示日常活動，包括藝術、機械技術、音樂以及體育等。
- 便服日 – 2 月 24 日（初中一至三年級）
- 同樂日 – 3 月 11 日（早上 10 時至下午 2 時）
- TIS Disco – 3 月 12 日
Ms Scott 要求使用黑盒劇場
- 社區同樂日 – 5 月
Kat Scott 提出更改日子，以便讓更多志願者參與。
- 即將舉辦的活動

常務事項

Ms Scott 談到幾個家長提出的問題：

- 學校的課後烹飪班教煮花生曲奇，但實際上本校是不提供任何花生類堅果食品的學校。Ms Jasinski 謂她不曉得此事，表示會跟進。
- Ms Scott 對今年的普通話課程表達了非常正面的回饋，表示今年的課程較過去有更充裕的時間讓外籍學生練習。對此，Ms Jasinski 謂今年普通話和英語老師備課時有更多聯繫，使課程進行時更流暢。
- 學校的手機應用程序訊息與電子郵件訊息未能同步。Mr Stribbell 謂會跟進。

下次會議日期 會議日期定為 3 月 7 日（週二）下午 1: 30 分於會議室舉行。