

The International School of Macao Parents' Association (TISPA)
General Meeting
Tuesday, December 11th 2018, 1:30pm
TIS – Conference Room
Agenda

Present

Mark Lockwood	Lorne Schmidt	Nick Chignall	Connie Johnson
Nicole Hammer	Abby Barrett	Laura Clarke	Sarah Luvisutto
Ana Paniagua	Gayle Hansen		

Apologies:

Mary-Anne Jasinski, Dominic Masters,

Minutes of last meeting (November 06th 2018)

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

Welcome

Head of Schools' Report Attached (Mark Lockwood)

Principal's Reports

Elementary:

Principal (Apologies from Ms. Jasinski. Ms. Kiat presented).

- Ms. Jasinski will be recruiting for most of January.
- GD1-6 Holiday / Christmas activities going on at different times. Fun ways teachers run holiday activities for example craft, dance, contests in their classrooms. Fun way to bring all the kids together on their floors and develop communities.
- Wednesday December 19th movie for the last day of school at different times in the Black Box Theatre.
- Friday 14th December is Dress Down Day - Pyjama theme.
- House Teams kids have Dodgeball for the GD 1-6 until February 2019. Have as many kids possible play and build on the House Teams.
- Ms. Bowden and Ms. Kiat will be running Bullying Workshops for parents in the New Year. Focused on what is bullying and what isn't it. Educate what we do and practices here at TIS.
- Artist in Residence is still continuing. G2-3 have raised a lot of money. Friday December 14th G5 are holding a Winter Market. They have written narrative stories about struggle that are their personal struggles in line with *Salva Dut*. They are selling their narratives in the library. Parents have been going into the classrooms and running workshops on how to make things for example soap which they will also be selling. All proceeds will go to Clean Water for South Sudan well.
- The Leadership Team students sold 600 candy canes and all proceeds go towards buying Christmas gifts for the underprivileged children.
- Will be adding G4 to join the Leadership Team after the break and G3 in the Spring.
- Students are enjoying lots of STEM activities in their classrooms.

Kindergarten (Nick Chignall)

- Kindergarten Winterland was very busy. Will look at ways to restructure in a good way as we are having more families each year. It was fantastic, very busy and full.
- Outdoor Classroom Ms. Campbell has formed a committee. The tyres have arrived. Over the Christmas break there will be some construction done in the outdoor classroom. When we get back Ms. Campbell and the committee will be out helping starting to get that prepared for the gardening, mud kitchen to make the space very special for all kids and a chance to engage in natural materials, nature play.
- Barbs Cuppa Chat. Responses are in and will formulate what that this looks like in the New Year. Wonderful time and everyone is so positive.
- Mr. Lockwood acknowledged that is a fantastic thing that we have teachers and leaders who are all about having children at those young ages play and to get out and connect with nature. Get dirty and learn how to resolve issues when outside playing together. Interacting with nature as much as possible. There is research that as the world becomes more technologically advanced we need that healthy balance. Supporting Barbara in spearheading this and we couldn't be happier have her lead this out and put the committee together. It is going to be purposeful in its design and make the most of the dirt that comes out of the renovation of the soccer pitch.

Secondary:**Principal (Lorne Schmidt)**

- Saturday December 15th Secondary Christmas Concert to be held at The Venetian for a 3pm start.
- Sunday December 16th TIS School Band will be going to Guangzhou to visit the CIS school to perform. Also we have a partnership program working with the students on a collaborative piece of music. There will be 64 - 70 students going.
- Course selections for G9-11. A preliminary course selection last week and ending today. This is to get an idea of what students are interested in to help us with our recruitment and staffing. Those course selections are not binding. There will be a second course selection opportunity after the reports go out in February.
- February 20th 2019 Parent Information Sessions. Separate sessions for G9, G10 and G11 on course selection.
- February 2019 Three student teachers coming from the U of A working with secondary teachers.
- February 2019 Reports will be a full report.

TISPA Reports**President (Nicole Hammer)**

- Christmas Wonderland last Thursday went really well. We did have less people than last year with food left over.
- The Christmas Raffle sales went really well. We had great prizes and sold a lot of tickets.
- The Giving Tree we have received lots of presents. The deadline is on Wednesday 12th

December and on Thursday 13th December we will sort out the presents. Monday 17th December Ms. Hammer and two leadership students will deliver the presents.

- Last popcorn day started with bring your own container. About 50% of students brought their containers. We will give it some time as everyone needs to get use to the change.
- Uniform Shop feedback from parents. Uniforms not the right size and not enough stock. Stock has arrived and will be closed for a few days next week to get sorted. Ms. Hammer asked Mr. Lockwood if he had any more information regarding the uniforms?
- Mr. Lockwood advised that the Uniform Shop has a new supplier. The new supplier did not match the sizes appropriately. They are addressing that right now. They will put in an order in the next week to get an earlier arrival.
- Ms. Hammer explained that also in previous years there has not been enough stock. Winter arrives and there are not enough jackets. Then it takes a long time to arrive.
- Mr. Lockwood advised that the stock can take 4 months to arrive. This is why Daniel has put an earlier order in for mid March 2019 arrival for the Summer uniforms.
- Ms. Johnson advised that it has been really bad and is unable to buy shirts for her children. Tried at the beginning of the year and last week. The shirts are either way too big or way too small. With PE now three days a week we need more shirts and there has not been any in stock. As a parent it has been frustrating.
- Ms. Hansen explained that it is frustrating the staff saying we don't have. That it is not ok when we are paying for uniforms. Ms. Hansen saw Daniel this morning. They sent new supplier shirts back to the supplier last week and they have been recut. Some have arrived yesterday and some arriving today.
- Ms. Johnson advised other feedback she has received regarding Uniform Shop staff is if something is too big the staff have been telling parents to take them to a seamstress and get them fixed. We are paying a lot of money for the uniform and shouldn't have to take them and pay for a seamstress to fix.
- Mr. Lockwood advised that he will look into the situation further.
- Ms. Hammer would like to invite Mr. Bing Han (Athletic Director) to the next TISPA Meeting as there have been many questions from parents about the sports teams and the way they have been set up.

Treasurer (Connie Johnson)

Winter Wonderland: \$33,052.00 (\$20,000.00 profit)

Pop-Corn November: \$3,935.00

Pop-Corn November profit was donated to Artist in Residence, Clean Water for South Sudan totalling \$3000.00.

Christmas Raffle will donate to Artist in Residence, Clean Water for South Sudan totalling \$1,200.00.

For October and November TISPA has donated a total of \$8,500.00 to Clean Water for South Sudan.

Events Report**Events since last meeting:**

- School Photos - November 12th to 16th
- Dress Down Day - November 30th
- TISPA Winter Wonderland - December 06th
- Dress Down Day - December 14th
- Christmas Giving Tree - December 17th

Upcoming Events:

- Dress Down Day - Chinese New Year January 25th
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General Business

- Ms. Barrett on behalf of TISPA and everyone who volunteered a very big thank you to Ms. Nicole Hammer for all the hard work in the background organising the Christmas Wonderland, Christmas Giving Tree and the prizes for the Christmas Raffle. Really appreciated by everyone.
- Ms. Johnson also on behalf of TISPA gave a big thank you to the High School students who volunteered for the Christmas Wonderland. They were amazing and such a great help.

Confirm date for next meeting Next General Meeting will be Tuesday January 14th 2019, a 1:30pm to be held in the Conference Room.