

The International School of Macao Parents' Association (TISPA)
General Meeting
Tuesday, February 12th 2019, 1:30pm
TIS – Conference Room
Agenda

Present

Mark Lockwood	Lorne Schmidt	Nick Chignall	Mary-Anne Jasinski
Connie Johnson	Nicole Hammer	Abby Barrett	Laura Clarke
Sarah Luvisutt	Lijuan Ma	Nicole Ozark	

Apologies:

Amanda Kiat, Dominic Masters

Minutes of last meeting (January 25th 2019)

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

Welcome

Head of Schools' Report Attached (Mark Lockwood)

- Please see attached.

Principal's Reports

Elementary:

Principal (Mary-Anne Jasinski)

- Successful this year for recruiting. Filled all of the positions with one elementary position left. Lots of really strong applicants. TIS is becoming more well known in Alberta.
- Report cards. The new curriculum is coming down from Alberta. Those two things are closely linked. The draft curriculum is being published from Kindergarten to G4 which we will start using in September 2019. September 2019 to June 2020 is a year of working through any changes need to be made and giving feedback to Alberta. The final draft will be done at the end of next year.
- Alberta is working on the revision of all the other curriculum's G5 - G12. Next year in December the G5 - G9 draft will come out. Then the following year the higher grades.
- Linked to that is when the curriculum changes then the outcomes change. Then the reporting has to adjust and align with the program. We have revised our report cards in the last few years and are working really well from our perspective. Would parents prefer to continue to have a hard copy paper copy going home report cards or prefer to access it on line instead? We use Gibbon and now have the capacity for those report cards to be available to parents through Gibbon.
- Parents feedback is that this would be a good idea to access the reports through Gibbon.

Kindergarten (Nick Chignall)

- Ms. Campbell Cuppa Chat had a good turn out for the first session. Overall feedback was very positive. Parents were able to build relationships with other parents outside of their core circle. Will look at what the second topic will be based on the survey feedback. Either on Art Education or Social Cultural Issues in school.
- PK interviews are on March 2nd. Over 300 applicants this year.
- Ms. Jasinski advised there are 75 seats available from the applicants that attend on the day. After this date applicants are interviewed and then go onto a wait list.
- Parents can help with this. Every year parents have children already in the school and they presume their PK child is automatically accepted and that is not the case. You need to go through the application process.
- Two student teachers from the USJ doing their practicums. This has been a growing relationship between the local Teachers College in Macau. It is great for us we get to support the local community and learn what we consider good teaching practice. It also gives us potential candidates for PK and JK if they are a very strong candidate. We would still expect a high quality teacher.
- Open House on Saturday February 16th. For perspective parents the are interested in TIS. It is an overview of the school and tour. Teachers will be here giving tours and answering questions. All of the administration team will be here to give a brief presentation and answer any questions that any perspective parents have. Elementary and Kindergarten are at 9am. Secondary is at 10am.

Secondary:**Principal (Lorne Schmidt)**

- Three student teachers arrive from the University of Alberta for their teaching practicum.
- Successful Chinese New Year Celebrations were fantastic.
- Basketball Tournament was a huge success and good for our students to play so well.
- Boys soccer team is going to finals in the Macau League. They won their semi final.
- Reports are going out on Friday February 15th. .
- Course Selections on Wednesday February 20th G9 to G11. Have already done a preliminary course selection to help us know staffing needs.
- IB mock examinations February 18th to 26th. Any student in an IB course will be doing practice. They will sit through the papers we are providing for them. Helps them to start the revision process and understanding where their strengths and weaknesses are. The actual IB exams will be in May and will stretch over three weeks.
- IB students G12 will have their art displays going up. Encourage everyone to go up to display area on the 5th floor and take look at some of the product of our students. It is very impressive.
- Essays completed and sent to the IB for grading. A lot on for IB students in addition to their Alberta course.
- Alberta exams. Math 3 exams in April. A good opportunity for us to trial as the Alberta Ed exams will be on line. Getting our technology set up for that is a big job and getting the students use to using that platform.
- March 01st Professional Development Day. The secondary teachers will have a Skype

Conference with an Alberta Ed expert who was the former Alberta Director of the exams Mr. Tim Coates. Mr. Coates will be speaking to our teachers about the composition of the exams. What the exams are mainly going to be assessing and what will not be assessing. Which will help give our teachers more clarity. Also looking at following on from that how we can scaffold our program from G10 to G12 and G7 to G9 to support the Diploma exams at the end.

TISPA Reports

President (Nicole Hammer)

- Last year parents asked why we do not do a Teacher Appreciation Day? We thought it would be a good idea to start this year. There is an official week in the first week of May. We would like to do something for the teachers.
- There is now going to be a McDonalds on the campus. Ms. Hammer asked the decision process to have a McDonalds on school campus? Especially with a focus to eat healthy.
- Mr. Lockwood advised that TIS is not consulted. This is a decision by MUST. TIS is a closed campus and we educate our children around healthy eating.

Treasurer (Connie Johnson)

Pop-Corn January: \$5,040.00 after expenses \$4,655.00

Events Report

Events since last meeting:

- Dress Down Day - February 22nd
- **Upcoming Events:**
- Community Day - March 09th
- Dress Down Day - March 29th
- **General Business**

Confirm date for next meeting Next General Meeting will be Tuesday March 05th 2019, a t1:30pm to be held in the Conference Room.