



TIS Macao Parents' Association Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 15 @ 9:00 AM

Room: NW3470

Head of School Update

1. Information Items

A. Enrollment and Staffing:

1. Our enrolment is 1382 students as of September 1, 2019.
2. Our target is to have 1410 students by June 30, 2019.
3. We welcomed another wonderful group of 26 new teachers to TIS Macao in August. The feedback from the new teachers on the welcome and the orientation is very positive and we believe they will make great additions to the team.

B. Summer Camp and Summer School

1. Summer School and Summer Camp were a huge success this year with the most number of students ever participating. In Summer Camp, we saw 562 students registered and participate in at least 1 week of activities. For Summer School, we saw 23 students take secondary school classes.

C. 2018-19 Results (posted on our website)

- a. Achievement Tests in grades 6 & 9
 - i. Our students outperformed the provincial average in all subject areas
- b. Diploma Exams in grade 12
 - i. Our students outperformed the provincial average in most subject areas;
 1. Improvement needed in Math, Physics, and Social Studies
- c. IB Diploma Results
 - i. Performed above the world average
 - ii. Planning for continued improvement and to increase enrolment
- d. Parent Satisfaction Survey Results
 - i. Indicates parents are very satisfied with the quality of education their children are receiving at TIS Macao (results will be posted by end of the month).

D. Loss of Government Subventions

- a. The Board will be increasing tuition fees for 2020-21 somewhere between 4 to 9%; this is in line with previous increases.
- b. Students participating on athletic teams will not receive subsidies for travel.
- c. Fundraising efforts are being explored and efficiencies are being found in operations.
- d. The quality of education at TIS Macao will not be impacted.



Elementary Admin Update

- a) This year we have 10 new to TIS teachers in grades PK-6 plus 2 returning teachers who have moved grades. Everyone has been quickly absorbed into their grade teams and all are working together to deliver the rich Alberta Curriculum in all subject areas at all grade levels. We have also added Ms. Hiede Schmidt to our primary admin team, and she is in charge of PK & JK. Mr. Chignal has shifted to working with grades SK-2 and Ms. Kiat maintains grades 3-6. This change was in response to the ever growing number of students we have in grades PK-6.
- b) We have received the summaries for our year end CAT's (Canadian Achievement Tests) from last year for grades 3-6 and our students have scored above the Canadian norm on all 3 tests, Reading, Language and Math. Within the results we are taking a closer look at each section to determine our strongest areas and our areas for growth going forward. We will be completing the same analysis with the provincial test results.
- c) During our recent professional development day we focused primarily on the continued development of our Reader's and Writer's workshop programs in SK-6. Those staff members who attended Summer Institutes led the rest of us, providing our own teacher's workshops. PK & JK staff focused on the new FLIGHT ECE curriculum from Alberta as well as physical literacy, and Teaching Assistants attended sessions on Reggio programs and supporting literacy skill development in a workshop model. Our ELL team participated in an on-line workshop led by an ELL specialist in Alberta.
- d) Experience Week trips this year for grades 4-6 will take place during the same week as the secondary program (March 14-21). We are finalizing the details and will be able to provide you with more information shortly. We will also share some dates with you for parent information sessions as soon as they are determined.
- e) We are excited about the upcoming visit from Inspire Citizens this week to help us prepare for our Activist in Residence visit from Songqiao Yao in November. More information will follow.
- f) All students should wear their house team shirts tomorrow for our first whole school event of the year!

Secondary Admin Update

- a) There are 8 secondary teachers who are new to TIS this year, along with 2 teachers that have joined secondary school from elementary school. Two of the new teachers are half-time teaching and half-time subbing. The new full time teachers all have international teaching experience. We feel fortunate to have been able to have such a diverse and talented group of new teachers joining us this year.



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- b) Student performance on our first group of IB students last year was very good, slightly exceeding world averages. We look forward to growing and strengthening the IB programme.
- c) Teachers have reviewed and analyzed the IB, Grade 12 Alberta Diploma and Grade 9 Provincial Achievement test results and are putting together action plans for continued improvement.
- d) Last week we had a consultant, Tim Coates, former Diploma Examination Manager for Alberta Education, provide professional development to secondary teachers on building reliable and valid assessments. His expertise and advice was highly appreciated by our secondary teaching staff.
- e) Preparations for Experience week are underway. There will be parent meetings for Middle School classes later in October. High School option choices have been garnered from students. Mr. Boyko is in the process of using the student choice data to place students into experience week groupings.
- f) Secondary teachers are working on building curricular connections to our upcoming Activist in Residence visit from Songqiao Yao. We are looking forward to her visit here near the end of November. Two representatives from Inspire Citizens will be here this Thursday to assist our teachers in making authentic curricular connections.
- g) On Wednesday, we will have our House Team kick-off event in the MUST Auditorium. This will be an excellent opportunity for students to connect and build team spirit.
- h) Oct. 25 - Student Council has organized a Halloween event.
- i) We are well into our first season in sports, with many tournaments and events underway and continuing on throughout the season. Our students are performing very well in these inter-school competitions.
- j) Term 1 reports will go out on 15 November, followed by Parent-Teacher conferences on 21-22 November.