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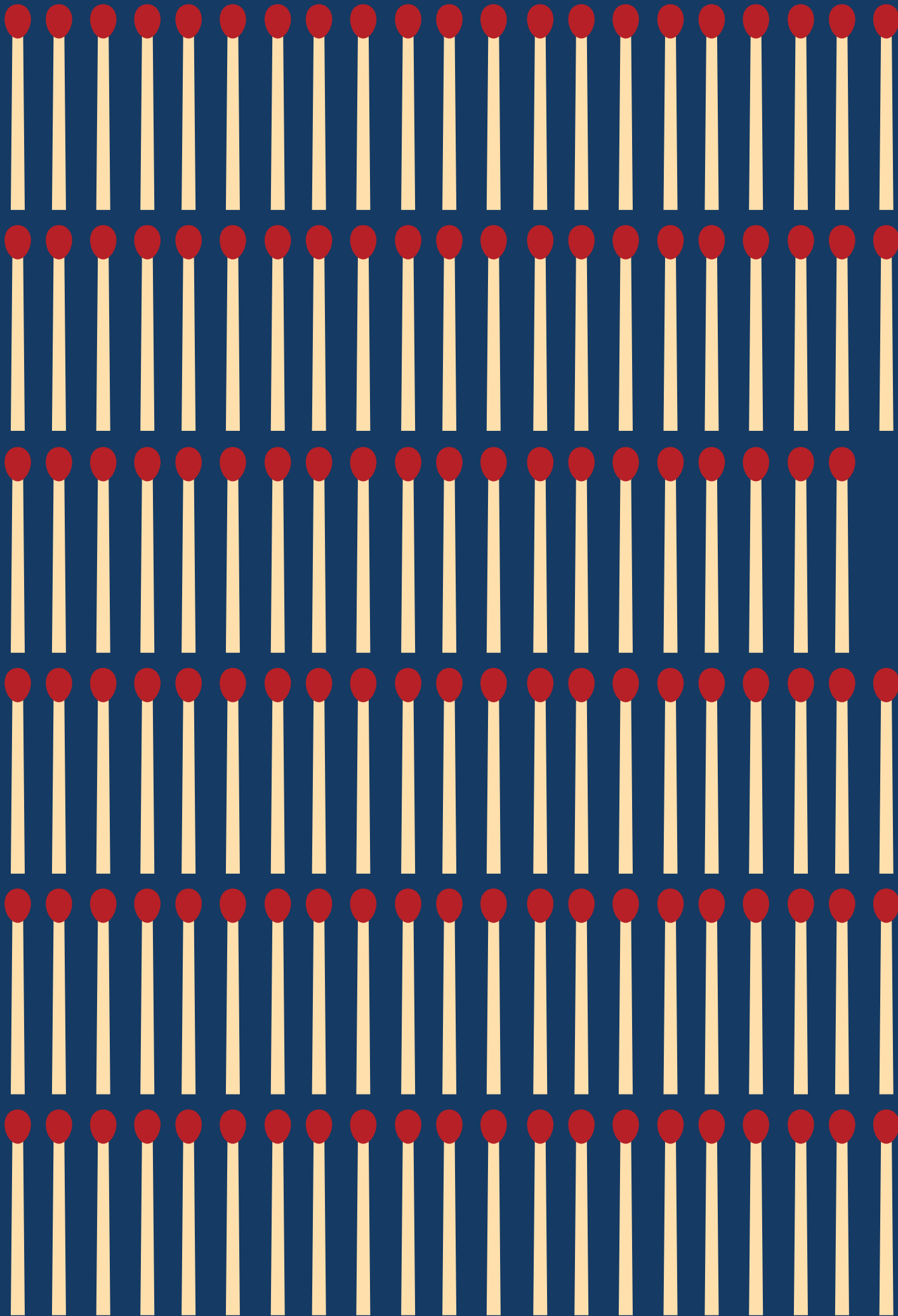


American International School of Guangzhou

# ANNUAL REPORT

2017/18





# CONTENTS

## SECTION 1. OUR RAMNATION

From the Director	06-07
Board of Directors	08-09
School-wide Strategic Plan	10-11
Mission + Vision	12-13

## SECTION 2. OUR CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

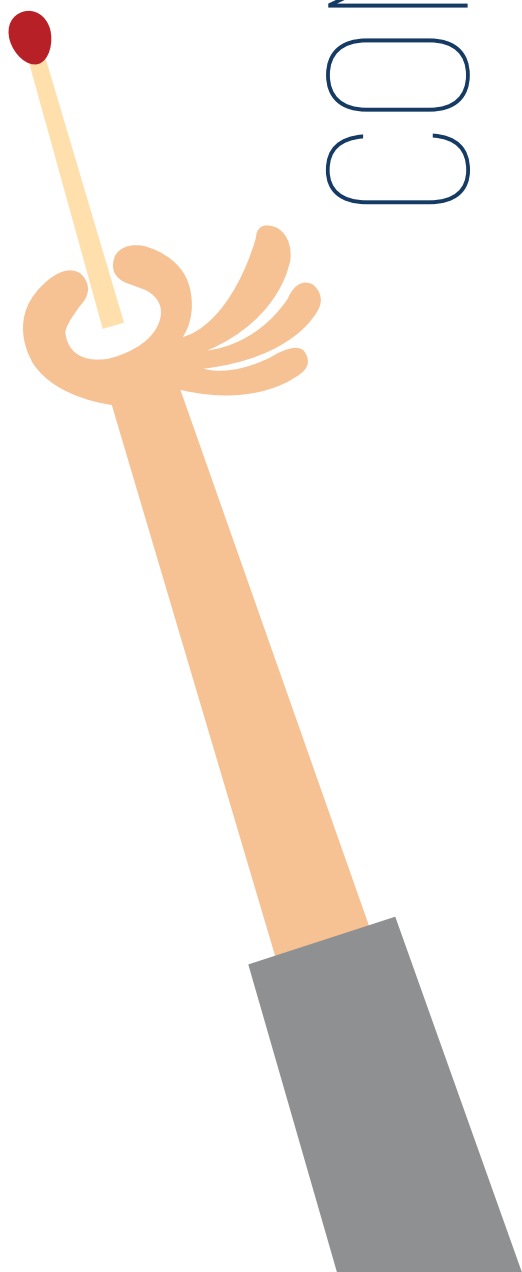
Our Curriculum	16-17
Academic Progress	18-21
Elementary School Review	22-23
Middle School Review	24-25
High School Review	26-27
University Acceptances	28-29
After School Activities	30-33
Technology + Innovation	34-35
Community Services	36-37
Visiting Guests Program	38-39

## SECTION 3. OUR COMMUNITY

Our PTA	42-43
Our Students	44-45
Our Faculty	46-47
Our Alumni	48-49

## SECTION 4. SUPPORT SYSTEMS + RESOURCES

Facilities	52-53
Advancement + Communications	54-55
Finances	56-57





OUR





# tion





I truly view the vibrant and positive AISG school spirit as unique, and one of the school's strongest assets.



DR. BERNADETTE P. CARMODY,  
AISG DIRECTOR



# FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Parents,

It is with great honor that I present the Annual Report for School Year 2017-2018. Thinking back over this past year, there were many significant undertakings and improvements that could have been selected as a highlight. Choosing only a few to feature is difficult!

One of our biggest accomplishments for this past year has been our school-wide involvement in completing the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Accreditation Cycle. The WASC Accreditation Cycle, a six-year process, includes a Self-Study Report which allows learning organizations to reflect on what has been achieved over the past six years, while also setting actionable goals to work towards for the next six years.

Our Self-Study was indeed a tremendous logistical feat in itself, engaging the entire faculty and staff throughout the year to review our school's quality in comparison to the standards set by WASC. Great schools must regularly reflect on their strengths and areas of growth. Being a member of WASC's systematic and formalized accreditation process enables us to consistently look for ways to continue building programs, expanding opportunities for students, and reviewing systems and procedures.

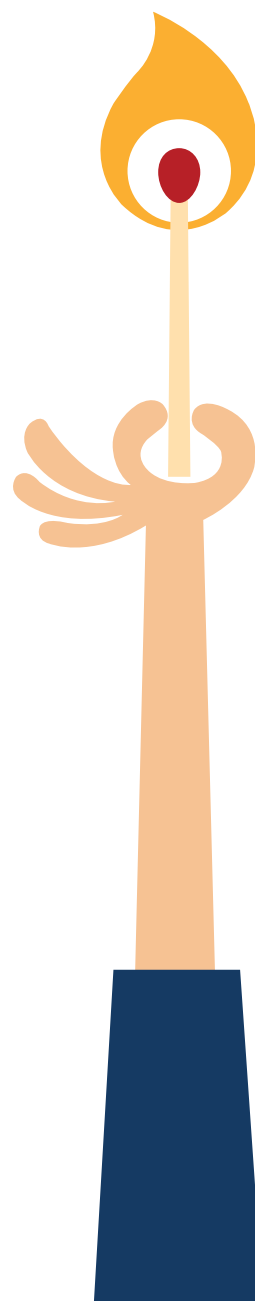
One of our strategic goals over the last six years has been to use data to inform instruction to meet the needs of all learners. In order for students to achieve their best, schools must be able to understand where a child is in their learning journey and be able to use data to support growth and development. In School Year 2017-2018 we implemented a school-wide framework to create a tangible structure to further this goal called Professional Learning Communities (PLC) at Work. AISG is one of only three top-tier international schools in the Southeast Asia region to have adopted the internationally-renowned PLC at Work framework.

Even more exciting, in September 2018, AISG will host the first PLC at Work event in southern China. I am proud that AISG is once again leading the way as the only international school in this region to have implemented this best practice initiative to support learning for all our students.

It is our significant accomplishments across these two areas: ensuring quality in pursuit of continuous improvement and creating structures to ensure all students are learning at high levels, that I am most thrilled to share with you in this annual report. These are just two of many things that solidify AISG's position as the premier international school in southern China.



DR. BERNADETTE P. CARMODY,  
AISG Director

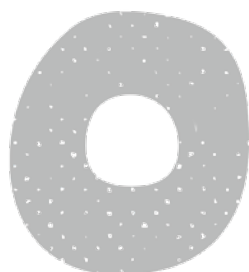








# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the American International School of Guangzhou, welcome to the 2017-18 Annual Report. I am honored to serve as the Board Chair of AISG: the only not-for-profit international school in Guangzhou. The primary role of the board at AISG is strategic – we help to set the strategic direction of the school, ensure the school's long-term financial health, and support the Director of the School. Consistent with this role, and together with the school administration, we established four goals at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year: 1) implement a data dashboard to facilitate board oversight, 2) update board policies and by-laws, 3) formalize the School Director's performance evaluation, and 4) continue progress on significant facility upgrades. During the year, an important fifth goal was added – to identify a new School Director who will join our community effective July 1, 2019.

I am happy to report that significant progress has been made in all five areas. We have a board dashboard in place that sets the foundation for oversight - we will regularly review the dashboard metrics in the coming year. Key board policies and by-laws have been revised, approved, and are available on the school's updated website, [www.aisgz.org](http://www.aisgz.org). A comprehensive Director Evaluation is complete and will be implemented in the 2019-20 school year. Key decisions were also formalized, and project management identified such that facilities master planning will progress in the coming year. Finally, after a comprehensive world-wide search, Mr. Kevin Baker will join AISG as School Director on July 1, 2019.

We are confident that with our renewed sense of purpose and partnership that AISG will continue to make tremendous strides towards our vision of becoming a leader of dynamic, compassionate, and connected learning.

Thank you for your continued commitment to AISG, your candor, and support. We look forward to a great year.

Go Rams!

DR. WINSTON ZHANG  
*AISG Board Chair*

## **BOARD:** (LEFT TO RIGHT)

Dr. Winston Zhang CHAIR  
Jason Sheets VICE-CHAIR  
Rhonda Starghill SECRETARY  
Aaron Finley TREASURER  
Daniel Shaikh MEMBER  
Damia Yang MEMBER  
Jane Wang MEMBER

# AISG SCHOOL-WIDE STRATEGIC Plan 2012-2018

To ensure a comprehensive and coherent approach to strategic planning, AISG derives the strategic areas for growth from our school-wide WASC Accreditation Cycle. Each six-year cycle ends with an in-depth self-study to produce areas of strength and areas for growth. School Year 2017-2018 was the sixth and final year of the AISG School-wide Strategic Plan developed from the last WASC Accreditation Self-Study and Visiting Committee Report during School Year 2011-2012.

Our School-wide Strategic Plan was developed to take advantage of the opportunities for growth and development identified through the self-study process completed six years ago.

Following each heading is a statement of the goal that provided the focus for the six past years. The accomplishments achieved in School Year 2017-2018 are then described.

## STRATEGIC AREA 1

### EXPECTED SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING RESULTS (ESLRs)

**Goal:** Review and revise current ESLRs and integrate as an explicit component of instruction and assessment across curricular and co-curricular programs.

ESLRs have been aligned with the IB Learner Profile traits so that students clearly know the traits and skills that they should develop during their time at AISG. The ESLRs have been integrated into all curricular and co-curricular programs, and students use rubrics to reflect on the development of the ESLR traits and skills. They are regularly used to anchor communication throughout the AISG community.

## STRATEGIC AREA 2

### GUARANTEED AND VIABLE CURRICULUM

**Goal:** Create a coordinated curriculum with standards and benchmarks that are reviewed periodically in a planned, systematic way.

This was the final year of a six-year Curriculum Review Cycle, seeing the first complete review of curriculum in the history of the school. All subjects at all grade levels now have comprehensive standards and benchmarks. Further, a process has been developed that entails the cyclical review, analysis, and revision of the written, taught, and assessed curriculum, and the acquisition of materials to ensure effective implementation and continuous improvement of the curriculum.





### STRATEGIC AREA 3

#### MEETING LEARNING NEEDS

**Goal:** Engage in a systematic collection and analysis of data to determine the appropriate instructional strategies that will meet the diverse learning needs of our students.

Initial implementation of a school-wide framework to create tangible structures for learning, called Professional Learning Communities (PLC) at Work, was launched. PLC at Work allows for continuous improvement of learning results through collective focusing on those learning results for each individual student. The structures allow teams of teachers to determine what students are required to learn, effectively measure learning, and allow students who have already reached mastery to excel and those who are yet to reach mastery to attain it.

### STRATEGIC AREA 4

#### FACILITIES

**Goal:** Ensure quality, sustainable purpose-built facilities that support the curriculum and co-curriculum needs of students admitted to AISG.

A Project Management Consultant was appointed to continue work on developing a master plan to more fully utilize the Science Park Campus with the relocation of Grades 3 to 5. In addition, the master plan seeks to reinvigorate both Science Park and Er Sha Campuses by creating developmentally appropriate, future-oriented learning spaces from Pre-School to Grade 12. Upgrades have been made on both campuses with additional opportunities for innovation identified on both campuses.

### STRATEGIC AREA 5

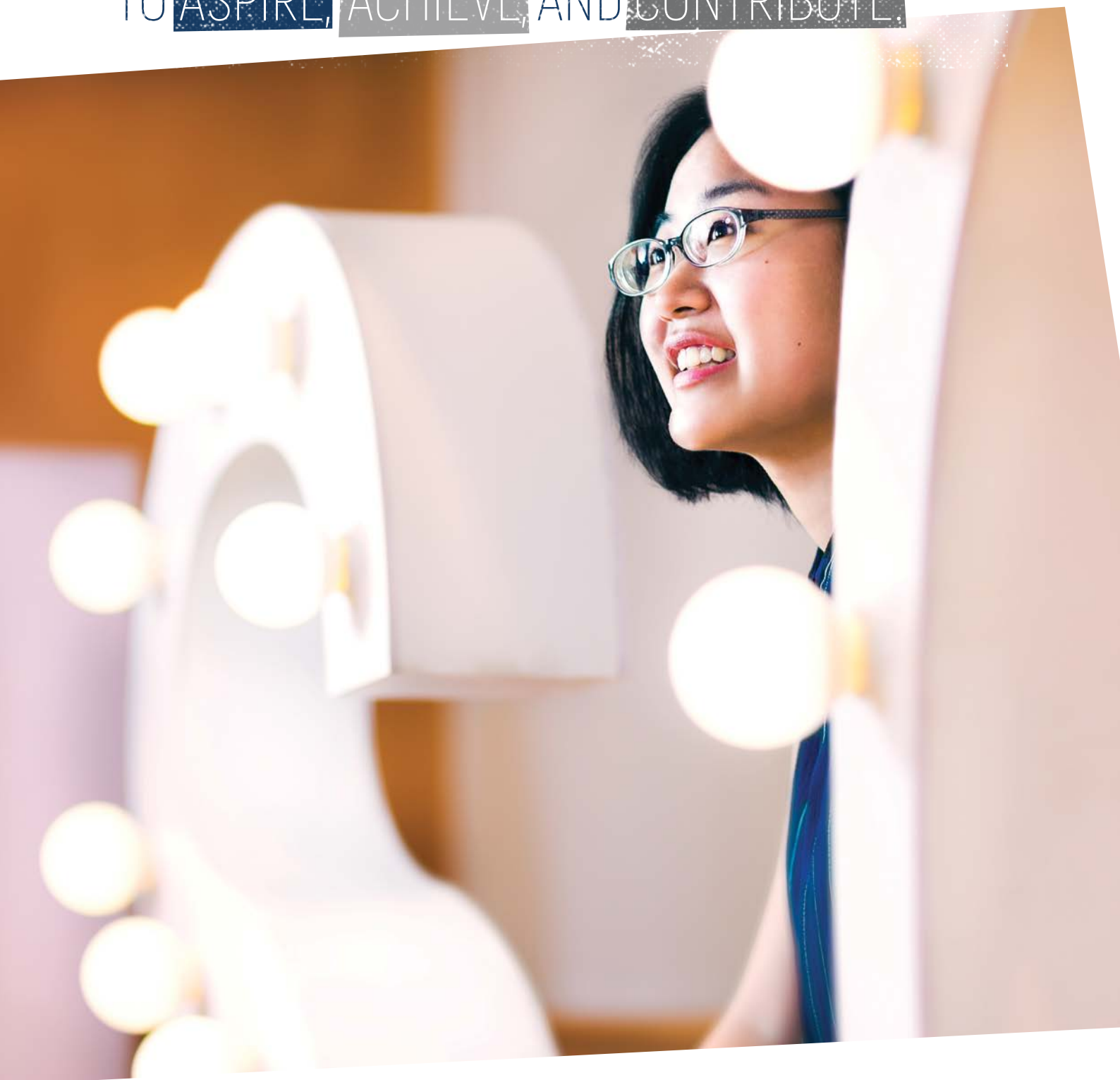
#### COMPLIANCE

**Goal:** The Board of Directors and the AISG Leadership Team need to continue efforts to establish a systematic review of all the school's operations (especially the management of the legal licenses) to ensure compliance with the Chinese laws and regulations.

Work continued to establish structures of ownership as a result of our efforts toward legal re-organization.

## OUR MISSION: [Why Do We Exist?]

TO NURTURE FUTURE-READY INDIVIDUALS  
TO ASPIRE, ACHIEVE, AND CONTRIBUTE



School Year 2017-2018 marked the first full year of learning guided by our renewed mission and vision statements. Understanding our purpose, 'to nurture future-ready individuals to aspire, achieve, and contribute,' and knowing that we need to become 'a leader of dynamic, compassionate, and connected learning,' in order to bring the mission to life provides our community with a compelling common purpose around which to build a shared identity.

Peter Drucker (1992), one of the leading researchers in organizational development, states simply that the first question that any organization must consider if it hopes to improve results is the question of purpose. Knowing why AISG exists, what we are working towards together, what we wish to accomplish and what our core business is, is critical. Research has consistently shown that there is a strong relationship between clarity of purpose and effective schools.

## OUR VISION: [What must our school become?]

A LEADER OF DYNAMIC, COMPASSIONATE,  
AND CONNECTED LEARNING.

## WHAT DOES OUR VISION REQUIRE?

As a leading international school, AISG's bold and transformative projects will inspire both local and global communities.

DYNAMIC	COMPASSIONATE	CONNECTED
<b>DYNAMIC LEARNING</b> is designed and delivered by innovative educators who embrace change and share best practice instructional strategies. Technology and its responsible use is deeply embedded into learning.	<b>COMPASSIONATE LEARNING</b> starts with an inclusive organization that fosters an appreciation of common humanity and a commitment to care for others.	<b>CONNECTED LEARNING</b> places relationships at the heart of the school, in pursuit of strong relationships within local, national, and global communities.
<b>DYNAMIC LEARNING</b> provides creative and differentiated learning opportunities to ensure all learners achieve personal excellence.	<b>COMPASSIONATE LEARNING</b> balances challenge and rigor with encouragement and support. Empathy, resilience, and growth mindset are continuously nurtured.	<b>CONNECTED LEARNING</b> demands strong collaboration and communication within and across multiple partnerships and communities.
<b>DYNAMIC LEARNING</b> promotes inquiry, allowing for student choice and flexibility in the pursuit of their passions and interests, extending beyond the classroom to authentic, real-world challenges and opportunities.	<b>COMPASSIONATE LEARNING</b> cultivates strong character, social and emotional wellness, and personal happiness.	<b>CONNECTED LEARNING</b> inspires a unified, positive, and vibrant school spirit.



## OUR CELEBRATION OF

# LEARN



ing







I am proud of the fact that AISG is one of only two schools in all of Asia, and the only school in China, to have a full K-12 implementation of the PLC at Work framework. By leveraging the PLC model, we will achieve our shared mission to nurture future-ready individuals to aspire, achieve, and contribute.



DR. BERNADETTE P. CARMODY,  
AISG DIRECTOR







# OUR CURRICULUM

The American International School of Guangzhou provides the International Baccalaureate Primary Years and Diploma Programmes as well as a standards-based curriculum. Both AERO and Common Core are used throughout all divisions to tailor a program most relevant to our unique context and learners.

This year saw an introduction of the internationally renowned PLC at Work framework. AISG is one of only two schools in all of Asia, and the only school in China, to have a full K-12 implementation of the PLC at Work framework. Our focus for School Year 2017-18 was strengthening our understanding and implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) across all divisions. We worked with educational icon, Dr. Tim Kanold, to help our faculty come to a collective understanding of what PLC at Work means for AISG, and how PLCs can improve student learning.

2017-18 was also seen as a year of reflection. The school underwent two in-depth self-studies: one for re-accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and the other for the evaluation of the international Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP). By conducting these self-studies, all members of the AISG community were able to give their input on areas of strength and areas for growth and improvement. Data was collected and analyzed from a variety of sources, including the community survey, student assessment results, and operational and educational policies. AISG facilities, resources, and governance were also explored. All of this data was then used to inform our WASC goals and strategic plan.

A large, stylized red double quote icon.

Our parents have a balanced perspective of what they want for their children. They want academic achievement, they want social and emotional development, and they want creativity.

A large, stylized red double quote icon.

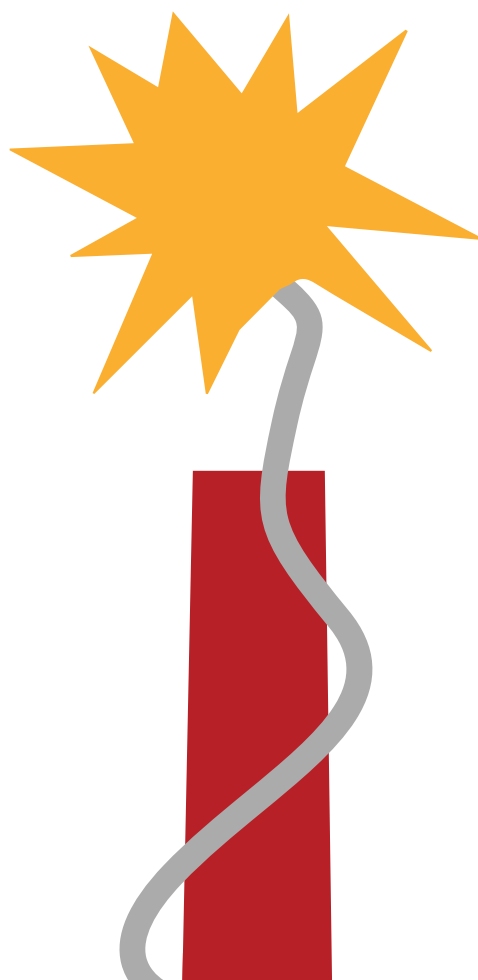
DUNCAN FITZGERALD,  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



# ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Measures of Academic Progress, or MAP Tests, in math, language usage, and reading were administered twice throughout the year for students in Grades 3 through 10.

MAP Tests are adaptive assessments, meaning that the level of questions adjust to best assess students' abilities. Results are reported in a manner which allows AISG to compare scores from the US, international, and EARCOS schools. Our Fall 2017 MAP results indicate that AISG students are performing well above US and international school norms. AISG scores were higher than, or in close proximity to, EARCOS norms in all subjects, most notably in mathematics.

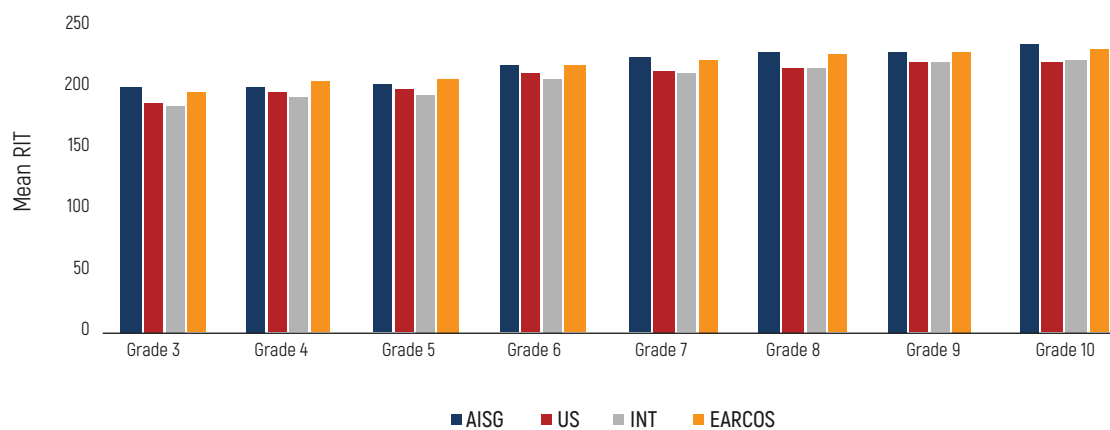






# ACADEMIC PROGRESS

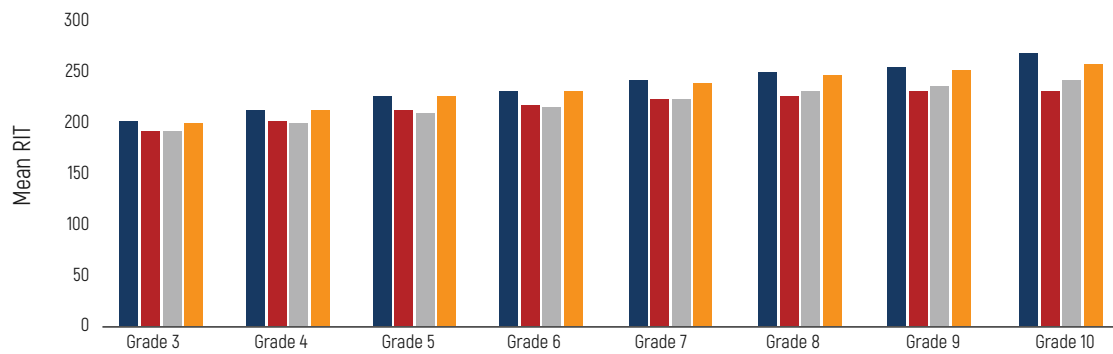
MAP COMPARISON DATA - Fall 2017 - READING



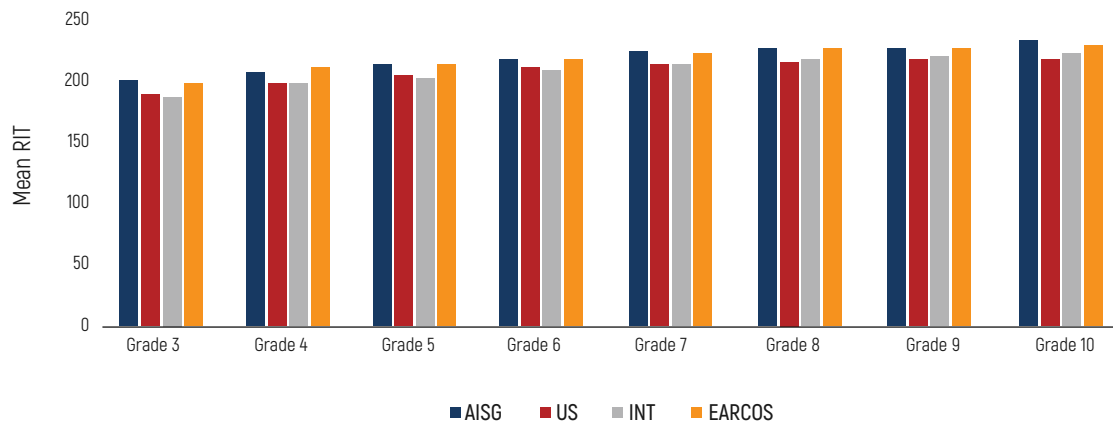
\*RIT is an achievement scale used for measuring growth over time



### MAP COMPARISON DATA - Fall 2017 - MATH



### MAP COMPARISON DATA - Fall 2017 - LANGUAGE USAGE





# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REVIEW





Our Elementary School provides a dynamic learning environment where students are encouraged to experience new things while building the foundational skills necessary for academic success. With a true maker philosophy, our Elementary students experience a curriculum that encourages the creation of new things and the solving of real-world problems. Students are empowered to set goals, reflect on their learning, and take action. Creativity is developed as students are provoked to think deeper and share their learning in a variety of ways.

## Elementary HIGHLIGHTS

### 1. CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

In 2017-18, our Elementary School honored a number of significant Chinese traditions. We marked the Mid-Autumn Festival with mooncakes and lanterns and enjoyed our largest ever Chinese New Year celebration. Students also took field trips to the Chen Family Temple, the diaolou of Kaiping, and Whampoa Village to learn about traditional Chinese culture.

### 2. MAP TESTING

Elementary MAP testing showed that our Elementary School students' average proficiency levels in all three subjects of reading, math, and language usage is well above US and international norms.

### 3. GRADE 5 PYP EXHIBITION

Our 5th Grade students spent weeks of hard work exploring and researching local and global issues. After analyzing their findings, students chose some of the most creative and interesting methods (including virtual reality and other hands-on experiences) to share their learning with our community at their very successful PYP exhibition.

### 4. SOCIAL + EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Elementary School counselors implemented *Second Step*, a social-emotional learning program, across all grades. They advocated for students' health and emotional development and encouraged a balanced and positive attitude toward academic achievement through fun and engaging classroom visits.

### 5. FUN IN THE LIBRARY

Our Elementary students and their families were encouraged to grow their home libraries with the help of book swaps, Scholastic book orders, and the Annual Obido Book Fair. Saturday at the Library continued to be a very popular weekend event as members of our school community came to listen, read aloud, and cozy up with a good book.



The more students connect to their studies,  
the more they will remember and learn.



TATZ LOPUKHIN,  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

# MIDDLE SCHOOL REVIEW

The 2017-18 school year was a fantastic year for our Middle School, characterized by high energy, strong intellectual engagement, and impressive participation in the wide array of academic, artistic, athletic, and social learning opportunities available at AISG. Emphasis was placed on student choice and challenge as our faculty offered real-world learning experiences while fostering a commitment to global awareness.





If you bring the right people into a building every day, great things will happen. Teachers who are really kid-friendly, who are encouraging, who are positive, who are dynamic and supportive... Having those people in our students' lives day to day makes a huge difference to how they develop.



RICK BUNNELL,  
MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

## Middle School HIGHLIGHTS

### 1. DRONE CLUB

The Middle School Drone Club grew from 12 to 28 members last year! Three students helped present insight on starting a drone club at two conferences, EdTech6Z Guangzhou and 21st Century in Hong Kong. The Drone Club also filmed events for several departments and organizations on campus as well as filming an advertisement for Guangzhou's Hotel Nikko.

### 2. ROBOTICS PROGRAM

Last year, our robotics program grew by over 60 students! An impressive performance at a robotics tournament in Shanghai resulted in our students placing first, second, third and fourth out of 36 teams. We also sent a team to compete in the World Robotics Championships in the United States, clearly establishing AISG as a regional leader in robotics!

### 3. TARGET ADVISORY PROGRAM

Our Middle School TARGET advisory program was expanded to include student-focused goals for character development, mirroring those of Character Counts, an American organization dedicated to promoting values of kindness, honesty, and respect.

### 4. DISCOVERY PROGRAM

More than 10 new classes were added to the Middle School Discovery Program. Students studied hip hop dance, martial arts, coding, crime scene investigation, cooking, knitting, electrical engineering, and guitar, giving them even more opportunities to try new experiences outside of their usual curriculum.

### 5. CHINA TRIPS

Grade 6 journeyed to Shaoguan, a new location for our annual Middle School China Trip, where they were able to make connections with curricular goals, push themselves to try new things, and connect with peers and teachers in a completely different setting.



# HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW

The 2017-18 school year was a rewarding one for our High School students. Driven by passion and enthusiasm, students balanced a fun and rigorous course load with opportunities to take ownership of their learning, tailoring their own program in preparation for their “best fit” universities and colleges.



# High School HIGHLIGHTS

## 1. CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

AISG was host to four major APAC events: theater, band, cross-country running, and badminton. Our High School students participated in 12 different APAC contests and festivals throughout the year, including Model United Nations and Quiz Bowl.

## 2. CHINA TRIPS

68 Grade 9 students traveled to Qingyuan, 72 Grade 10 and 12 students went to Hong Kong, and 74 Grade 11 students made their way all the way to Lijiang in China's Yunnan province to learn not only about geography and culture, but to connect with each other.

## 3. ACADEMIC RIGOR

Around 95% of our High School students reported that their classes were rigorous and challenging. Students in Grades 9 and 10 continued to progress through a college preparatory curriculum that fully prepares them for the demands of the IB program in Grades 11 and 12.

## 4. CLASS OF 2018

The AISG Class of 2018, composed of 75 scholars, was the largest graduating class in AISG's history. With 65 full IB Diploma candidates, this class has excelled in the classroom and beyond. Our 2018 graduates will continue their studies at some of the top colleges and universities around the globe, further cementing AISG's reputation as the premier international school in Guangzhou.

## 5. COMMUNITY SERVICE

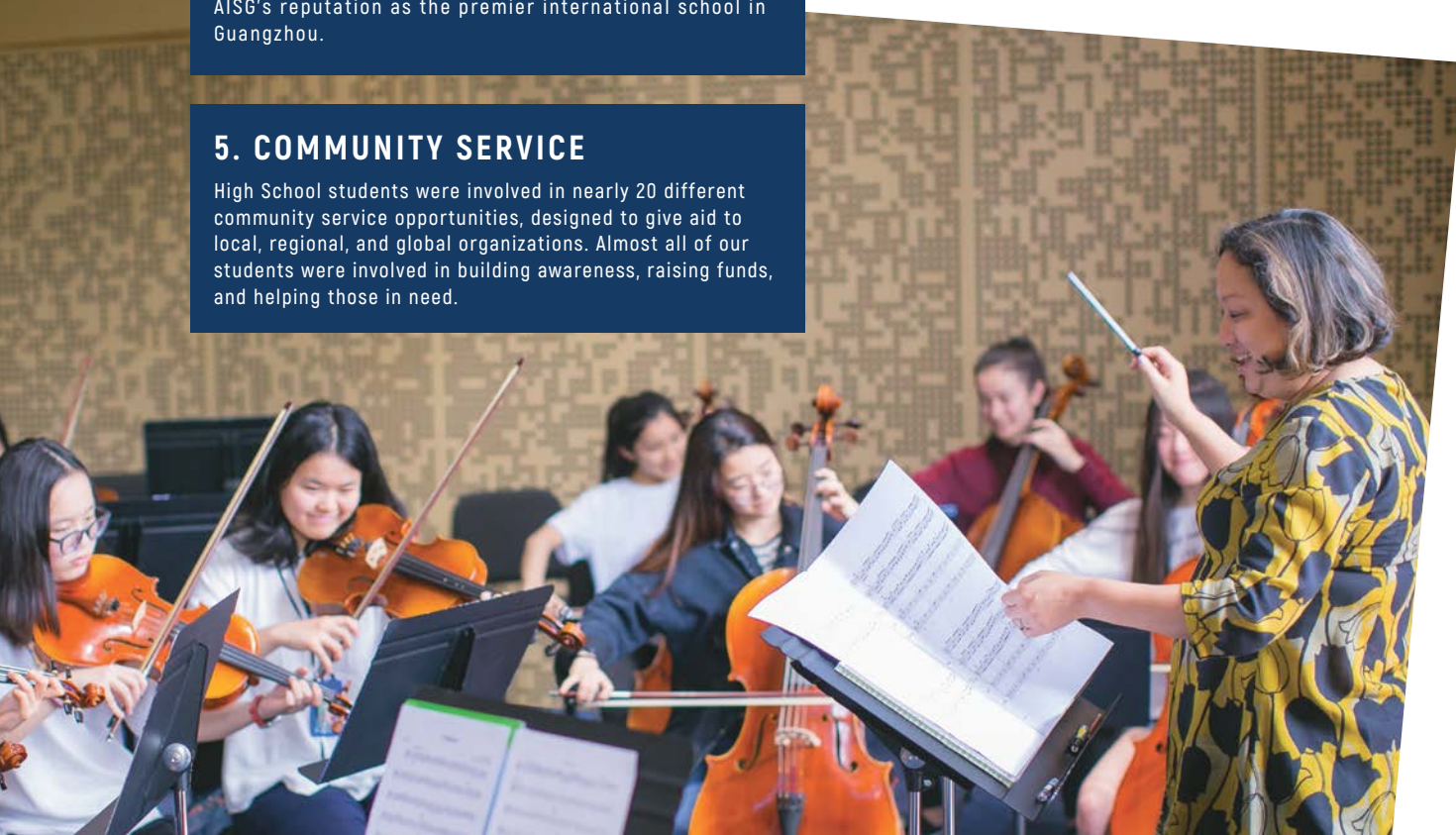
High School students were involved in nearly 20 different community service opportunities, designed to give aid to local, regional, and global organizations. Almost all of our students were involved in building awareness, raising funds, and helping those in need.



We are a little bit special and our students are very special. They put in the time and they are very passionate. You've got the willingness and you've got the school providing the opportunities and it's kind of like the perfect match.

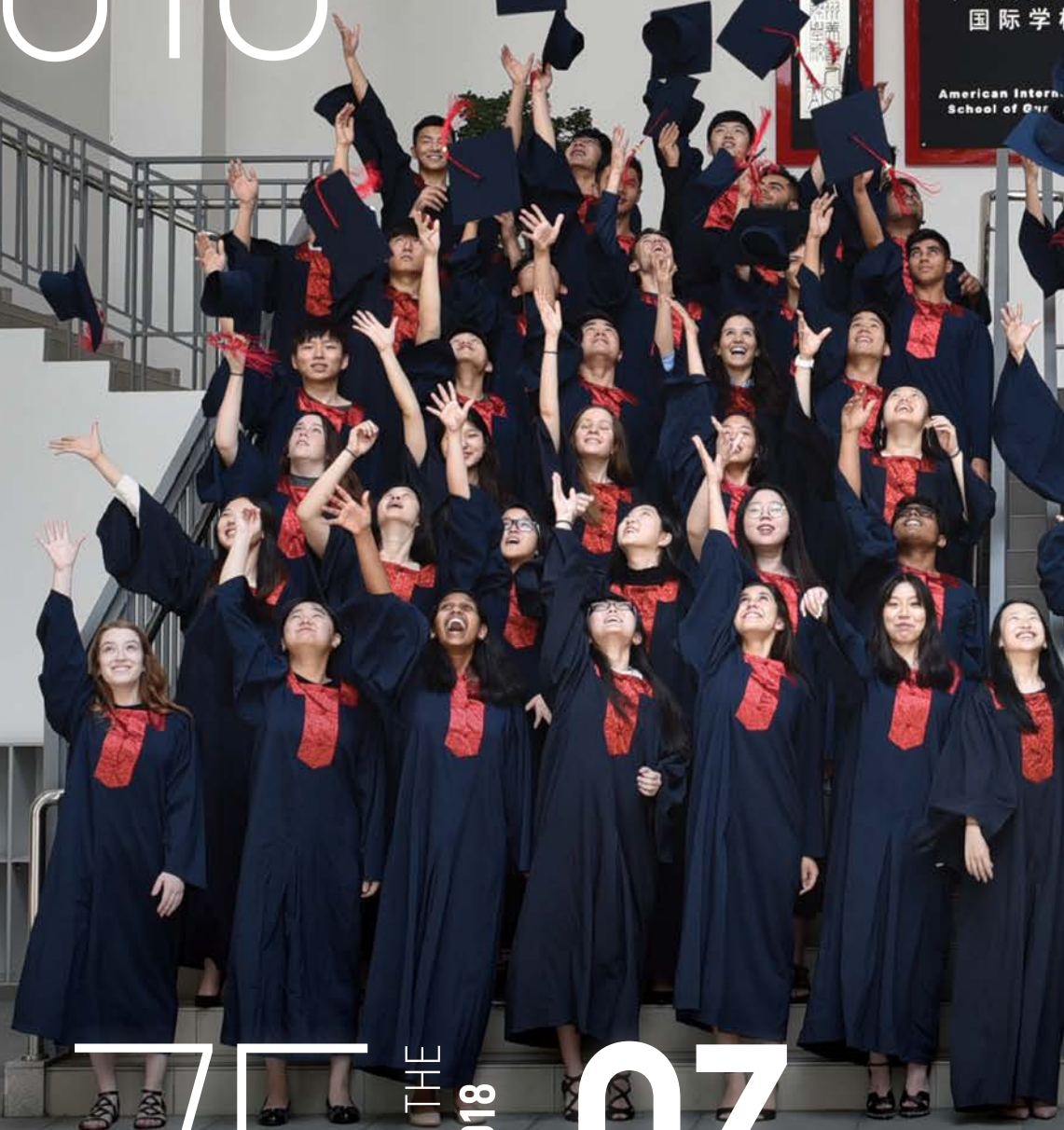


BETTY LIN,  
HEAD OF VISUAL + PERFORMING ARTS





# CLASS OF 2018



# 75

STUDENTS IN THE  
CLASS OF 2018

# 93%

OF THE CLASS OF 2018  
TOOK **6 IB EXAMS**





65 STUDENTS

FROM THE CLASS OF 2018 WERE  
FULL DIPLOMA CANDIDATES

100+

COLLEGES/  
UNIVERSITIES  
VISITED OUR SCHOOL

27

# OF COLLEGES + UNIVERSITIES THE  
CLASS OF 2018 WAS ACCEPTED TO.

# AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TALENT SHOW

Our young Rams performed their hearts out on their biggest stage yet with the Annual ES Talent Show taking place at our Science Park Campus for the first time in our new state-of-the-art theater. Sponsorship from the High School Connect 4 Cancer Club made the event even more special and memorable.



### MIDDLE SCHOOL BADMINTON + TENNIS

Last year, the Middle School's athletics program expanded further with the addition of badminton and tennis teams. Our young athletes learned how to improve their serves, how to volley, and how to keep score in these two popular sports.



### HIGH SCHOOL APAC THEATER FESTIVAL

Last year, AISG's High School hosted four APAC events, including our first ever APAC Theater Festival from March 1-3. Over the course of the 3-day festival, students from AISG, CISS, HKIS, SFS, TCIS, and UNIS worked intensively to explore the themes at the heart of some of Shakespeare's most infamous works. Working alongside guest practitioners such as Owen Liggett, Jonathon Daly, Lymari Alberts, Jan Brink, and Vincent Warren, students participated in intensive workshops and rehearsals before performing at the festival's closing in the SP theater.



## ELEMENTARY AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

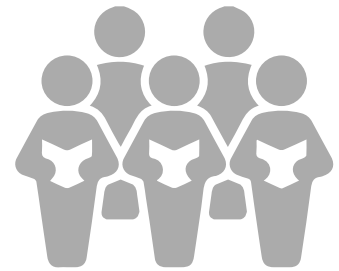
# Highlights

90%  STUDENT PARTICIPATION

397  
K-5 STUDENTS  
PARTICIPATING IN  
EASA

ACTIVITIES  
OFFERED:  


12 K-5  
SPORTS  
ACTIVITIES



6 CHOIR  
PERFORMANCES



TWENTY-SIX  
IT/TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES K-5

1 MUSICAL

17 CREATIVE ARTS  
ACTIVITIES

2 MUSIC EVENTS



## MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

# Highlights



OF THE **MS** STUDENTS  
WERE INVOLVED IN THE  
**SPORTS PROGRAM**

**19** MS  
ASA  
CLUBS

37 MS INTERSCHOOLASTIC  
SPORTS & ACTIVITIES TEAMS

MS PARTICIPATED IN  
**40** PRC & SDRC  
TOURNAMENTS

**100%**

OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

WERE INVOLVED IN THE  
FINE**ARTS** PROGRAM

EIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL  
**SPORTS OFFERED**

4 TEAM: VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL, TOUCH RUGBY, SOCCER  
4 INDIVIDUAL: CROSS-COUNTRY, BADMINTON, SWIMMING, TENNIS

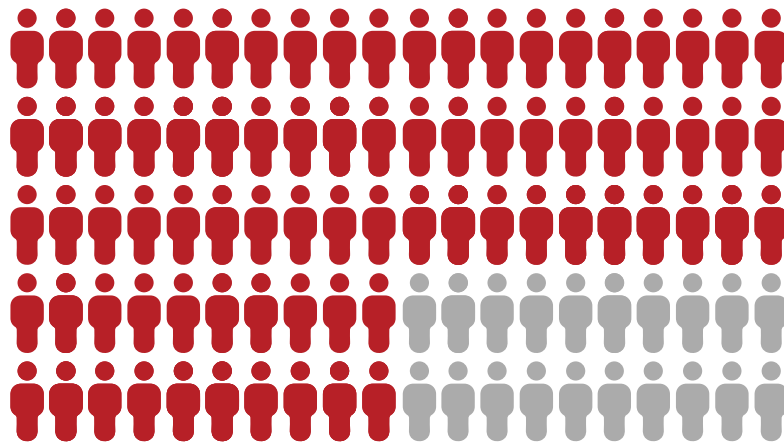


# HIGH SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES Highlights

**8 HS OFFERED COMPETITIVE SPORTS**  
(VOLLEYBALL, TENNIS, CROSS COUNTRY, BASKETBALL, TABLE TENNIS, SWIMMING, SOCCER, BADMINTON)



**16 HIGH SCHOOL**  
COMPETITIVE SPORTS TEAMS



**80% OF HS STUDENTS WERE INVOLVED IN THE  
SPORTS PROGRAM**

**30 HS ASA HS PARTICIPATED IN  
CLUBS 10 APAC TOURNAMENTS**

**16 HIGH SCHOOL**  
INTER SCHOLASTIC  
**SPORTS & ACTIVITIES**

**TEAMS**

**15 MS&HS**  
PERFORMANCES,  
CONCERTS,  
& FESTIVALS

**FIFTY% HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENTS**  
WERE INVOLVED IN THE FINE ARTS PROGRAM

**5**  
**HS APAC FINE ARTS PROGRAMS OFFERED**  
(DANCE, ORCHESTRA, BAND, THEATER, CHOIR)

# 150+

Elementary School students went on virtual reality expeditions

# 100%

of Elementary School students were engaged in coding robots and computational thinking learning experiences

# 1.5million

impressions on Twitter from faculty accounts sharing educational best practices at AISG

# 12

DRONE FLYING missions gathered footage for community and local non-profit organizations

# 100 %

of 6th Graders were introduced to the design thinking process across multiple projects

# 82

programmable robots of various types used to support higher order thinking skills across the Elementary School grades



# TECH INNOVATION + TECHNOLOGY

During the 2017-18 school year, we saw even more focus placed on using technology for creation over consumption. Students were constantly given opportunities to synthesize what they learned with AISG's cutting-edge technology and resources.

Er Sha Campus added Google Expeditions Virtual Reality equipment, while Science Park added HTC Vive and Microsoft Hololens. Old fashioned sewing machines were added to the new Science Park Makerspace in the library and were used to create clothing that responds to darkness and other conditions!

## HIGHLIGHTS

### 1. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Our Elementary School students couldn't seem to get enough of coding, an introduction to programming. In every grade level, students developed strategies for problem-solving and sequencing by using age-appropriate robotics. The integration of virtual reality programs allowed students to explore places as far away as Antarctica and as close as the human heart. The expansion of technology integration across our Elementary School in 2017-18 allowed our students to take even more of an active role in their learning, while broadening their perspectives on what they can achieve.

### 2. MIDDLE SCHOOL

Design Thinking from Stanford University's d.school was incorporated into the Grade 6 Tech course. Middle School students designed a new greenhouse for the community garden. The new Fashion Technology After-School Activity (ASA), held in the Library Makerspace, taught students to build clothing and accessories that can respond to the environment.

### 3. HIGH SCHOOL

This year, the Innovation Initiative brought our High School an Introduction to Programming class, a new Makerspace in the Library, and new virtual reality and augmented reality equipment. In PE and Science classes, students studied the heart and other organs using Microsoft Hololens, HTC Vive and iPads. Math students used 3D printers to transform their theoretical calculus formulae into physical shapes.

75

IB math students learned 3D  
Printing in academic courses

3 SEWING  
MACHINES

at the Science Park Makerspace used  
for sewing conductive wire, motors,  
LEDs and sensors into clothing

SIX

FlashForge and 3 HORI brand 3D  
printers powering the Innovation Lab

70%

of Middle School and High School  
students collaborated using  
Microsoft's OneNote program

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

As part of the "How We Organize Ourselves" unit of inquiry, Grade 5 students received a loan, planned and promoted their own businesses, and then pitched their products to their fellow Elementary School students. Through the resulting sales, our Grade 5 students were able to amass a total profit of RMB 9,492. The money was then donated to the Global Issues Network (GIN), which was used to fund tuition for underprivileged girls in Shaoguan.



It was one of my most memorable moments because we gained more teamwork and cooperation skills, learned more about trade, and most of all, we helped lots of girls to go to school.

JENNIFER,  
GRADE 5







## MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

The successful Middle School Community Service Club, or MSCSC, continued to play an important role in the Guangzhou community by successfully raising money and awareness for underprivileged students, local animal shelters, and the homeless population of Guangzhou.



## HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

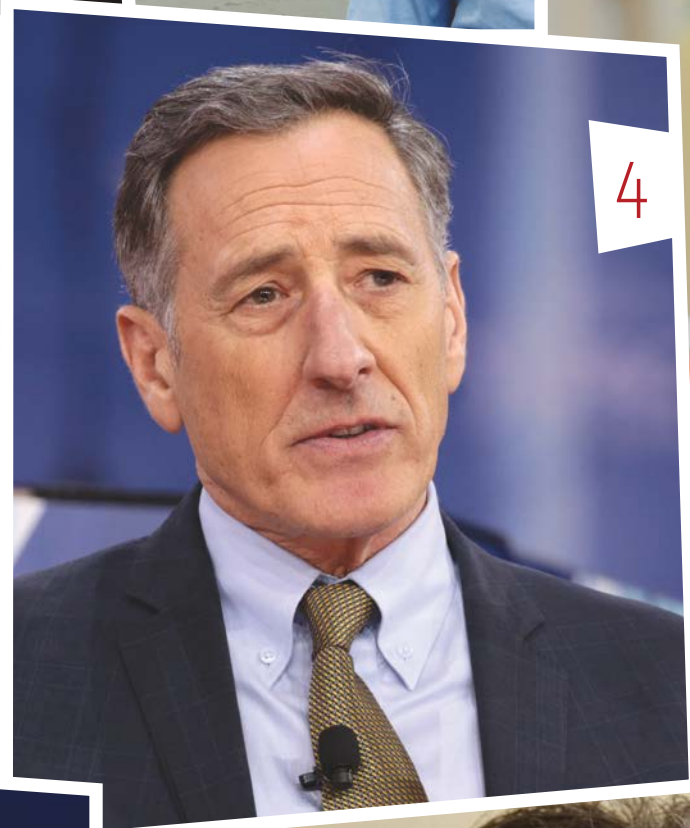
The 2017-18 school year saw an increase in participation throughout the 16 High School community service groups at AISG. Students addressed a large variety of issues from offering services in our own school to providing aid and raising awareness on a regional and global level.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

In 2017-18, we continued to empower our community to take action locally and globally through numerous community service organizations. Our great service experiences were both challenging and enjoyable, giving students the opportunity to bring positive change both in and outside of our community.









# VISITING GUEST PROGRAM

During the 2017-18 school year, we invited a number of brilliant minds from around the world to visit our campuses and speak to students and parents as a part of our Visiting Guests Program. As experts and leaders in various fields, their visits had a profoundly positive impact on our community.

**1. LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON** Award-winning author

The New York Times best-selling author inspired our High School students with her diverse ability across writing genres, and her honest perspective of an author's career.

**2. ANDREW HALLAM** Educator and writer

The expert on planning, saving, and financial independence came to present and run a hands-on workshop for our faculty and students, teaching them the importance of saving for the future.

**3. HELAINE BECKER** Award-winning author (Sponsored by AISG's PTA)

The award-winning author of children's books, children's magazines, and kids' television came to work with, inspire, and show our Elementary students just how fun reading can really be.

**4. PETER SHUMLIN** Former Governor of the State of Vermont, USA

The two-term governor spoke with our economics classes about green energy, his time in office, and the American political process.

**5. DANNY BRACKEN** Sculptor and musician

The sculptor and musician worked with our Elementary students to make nature-inspired artwork, which was then displayed in the Er Sha Campus courtyard as an art installation.

**6. DR. ERIC JOHNSON** Conductor

The guest conductor enriched our students' learning by helping them develop a greater understanding of their craft through the eyes of a practicing professional.

**7. STEVEN PRESSMAN** Producer, writer and director

The director and producer hosted a special screening of his historical documentary, "50 Children: The Rescue Mission of Mr. and Mrs. Kraus" in the Science Park Theater.





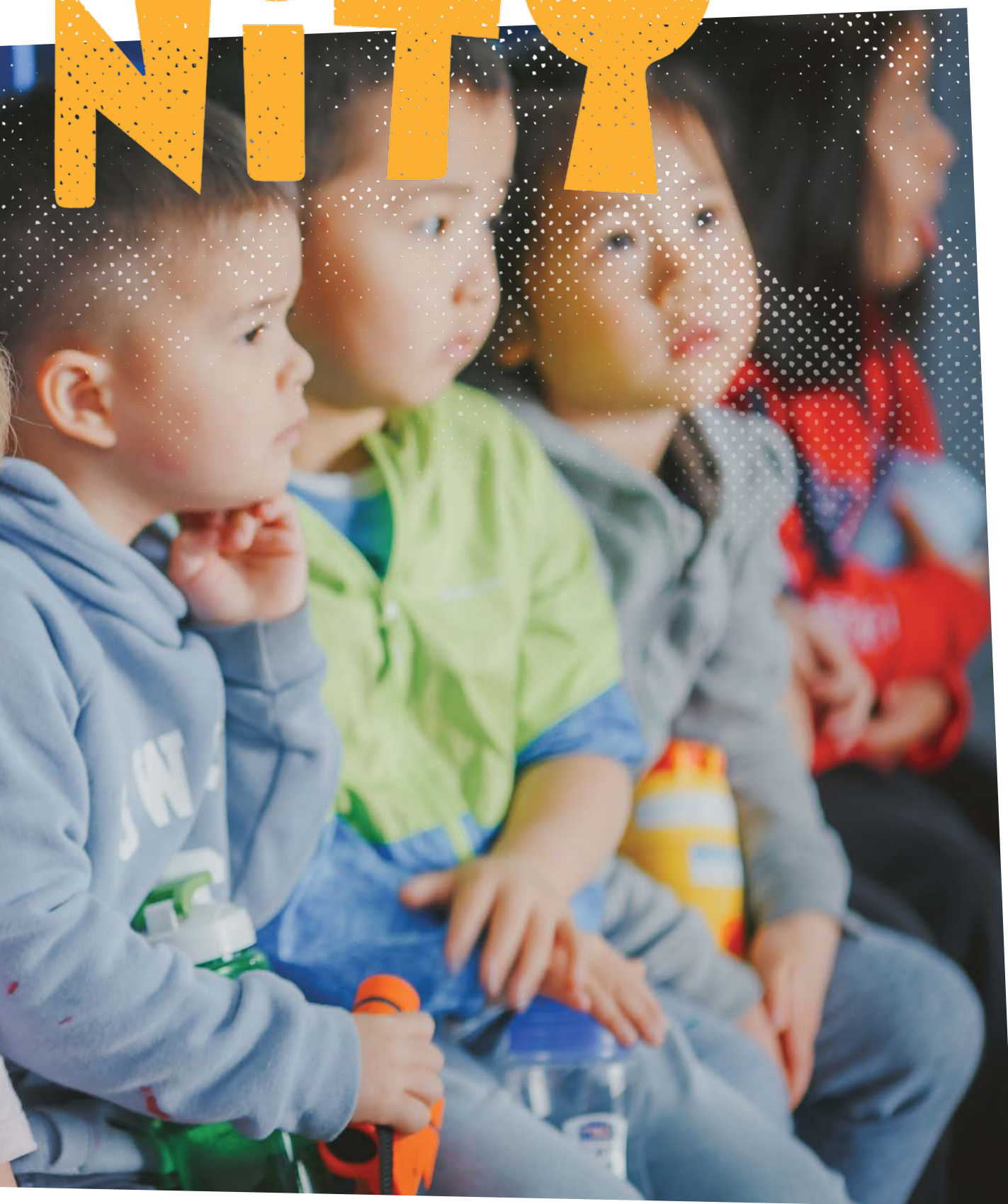
OUR

# COMMUNITY





# NITR





## PTA

PARENT  
TEACHER  
ASSOCIATION

Participating in the PTA is a very rewarding experience. Not only do you work closely with AISG staff and teachers, but you also demonstrate your commitment to your child's learning.

SARAH BARNETT,  
PTA CO-PRESIDENT





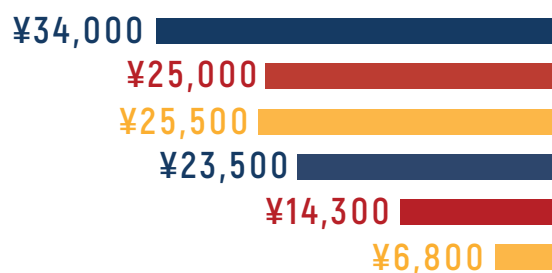
### PTA BOARD:

Sarah Barnett CO-PRESIDENT  
Rita Pohl CO-PRESIDENT  
Sherina Ayub Shaikh SECRETARY  
Tess Cai SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR  
Jiajia Ou TREASURER  
Agatha Yang ES CO-LIAISON  
Tania Walla ES CO-LIAISON  
Julie Zhong MS LIAISON  
Abby Hiser HS LIAISON  
Melissa Van Damm ES RAMSHACK COORDINATOR  
Shan Thangal SP RAMSHACK COORDINATOR  
Karen Li VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is the backbone of the AISG community. Whether it was funding visiting authors, supporting student organizations, or creating opportunities for our community to get to know each other, our PTA played a vital role in bringing our community together in the 2017-18 school year!

Last year, the AISG PTA hosted some of our community's most well-loved events: Family Fun Day, the Holiday Bazaar, and International Day. All three events were a great success, with the addition of the infamous dunk tank being one of everyone's favorite PTA highlights of the year!



**SUPPORT TO STUDENT FUNDING**  
**AUTHOR VISIT**  
**CHINESE NEW YEAR EVENT**  
**GRADE 8 CELEBRATION**  
**HIGH SCHOOL APAC AWARDS**  
**ELEMENTARY INNOVATION RESOURCES**



# OUR STUDENTS

TOTAL FAMILIES: **754**

TOTAL ENROLLMENT = **1,001** \*  
AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

# OF NATIONALITIES: **50+**

NEW STUDENTS **226** [2018/19]  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: 141  
MIDDLE SCHOOL: 53  
HIGH SCHOOL: 32

**1X 5TH GRADE CLASS ADDED**  
DUE TO A LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ON OUR WAITING LIST

AISG has a wonderfully diverse student body that includes students from over 50 nationalities. The school embraces different cultures, values different viewpoints, and builds respect for others while fostering an appreciation of cultural diversity. Students learn, grow, and develop in a truly international community

\* Elementary School: 496  
Middle School: 222  
High School: 283

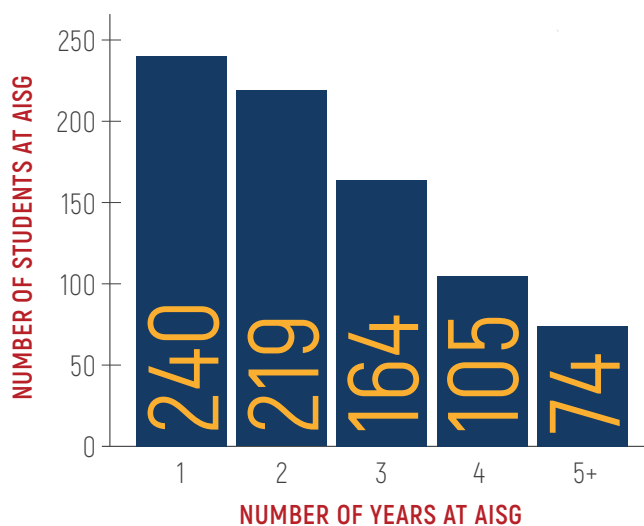
**113**  
CANADA

**227**  
USA

**4**  
MEXICO

**5**  
BRAZIL

GRADE (SY17-18)	STUDENT NUMBER
P3	32
P4	50
K	72
1	72
2	81
3	69
4	71
5	61
6	77
7	87
8	63
9	68
10	73
11	67
12	76
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1019</b>



## PASSPORT NATIONALITY (SY17-18)

## STUDENT NUMBER

Antigua + Barbuda	1
Australia	48
Austria	1
Belgium	1
Brazil	5
Canada	113
China (Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan)*	217
Denmark	1
Dominica	4
Ethiopia	1
Finland	1
France	6
Germany	12
Guinea-Bissau	3
Hungary	2
India	46
Indonesia	4
Israel	5
Italy	6
Japan	30
Jordan	2
Korea	146
Malaysia	3
Mexico	4
Myanmar	1
New Zealand	17
Nigeria	1
Norway	1
Pakistan	2
Panama	1
Peru	1
Philippines	6
Poland	4
Russia	2
Seychelles	3
Singapore	12
Slovakia	1
Spain	5
St. Kitts and Nevis	1
Sweden	1
Switzerland	1
Thailand	1
Turkey	3
United Kingdom	11
Ukraine	1
United States of America	277
Vanuatu	2
Venezuela	2
Vietnam	1

**Grand total** 1019

\* Number of students holding passports from Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan.

**TOTAL FACULTY: 104**

**74%** HAVE A MASTERS DEGREE  
OR HIGHER



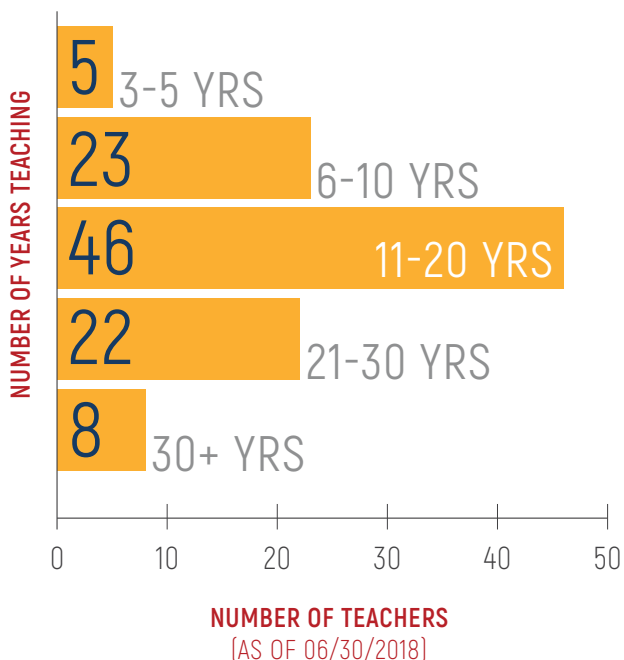
<b>72%</b>	<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>
<b>2%</b>	<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>
<b>8.5%</b>	<b>AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND</b>
<b>10.5%</b>	<b>ASIA</b>
<b>6%</b>	<b>EUROPE</b>
<b>1%</b>	<b>AFRICA</b>



# OUR FACULTY

AISG teachers are exceptional individuals who are passionate about bringing the school's mission to life and nurturing students to be ready for a future that is theirs.

Our administration and faculty share a level of dedication in our work with students because we believe in the pursuit of excellence in both scholarship and character.



886

GRADUATES

IN 21 YEARS  
OF HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATIONS

75

GRADUATES  
IN CLASS OF 2018

1998

INAUGURAL HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATING CLASS



# OUR ALUMNI

The connection between AISG and our alumni does not end on graduation day. Our goal is for alumni to remain connected to each other, to AISG, and to Guangzhou. Last year, we did great work to strengthen the growing connection between our RamNation alumni.

In August of 2017, AISG appointed our first ever Alumni Relations Coordinator and built an alumni strategy to reconnect with alumni via social media and alumni activities.

Official alumni pages are now active on Facebook and Instagram, with a stream of photo throwbacks and candid memories posted from alumni who visited us last year.

Last year also saw the release of our inaugural alumni magazine, *Ignite*. Filled with interviews, photos, and stories from inspiring alumni, the magazine showed that our Rams not only learned from AISG's rigorous academic program, they also felt that our co-curricular programs had prepared them for life after High School.

More recently, AISG invited alumni from all over the world to our first ever alumni networking event, held here in Guangzhou in June of 2018. Our RamNation alumni, currently enrolled in college, also made their way back to campus to share their stories with current students.



AISG encouraged me to believe in my vision of a better world – and that, along with so many factors, has led me to the United Nations and beyond.



NINA SCHNEIDER,  
CLASS OF 2009



# SUPRO

## SYSTEMS + RESOURCES







## NEW + IMPROVED FACILITIES THIS YEAR:

ENHANCEMENTS TO THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

SCIENCE PARK CAMPUS THEATER COMPLETION

ENHANCEMENTS TO THE CAFETERIA

ENHANCEMENTS TO THE *INTERMISSION CAFÉ* (PICTURED)

### CLASSROOMS

36 Er Sha (ES)

66 Science Park (SP)



### MULTI-FUNCTION ROOMS

Elementary School  
Multi-Purpose Room

### ER SHA CAMPUS SIZE

Total indoor facilities 8,843m<sup>2</sup>

Total campus 10,500m<sup>2</sup>



# FACILITIES

Last year, the school doubled the number of agile furniture elements in our classrooms. More than 40 standing desks and rolling partitions were added, with more to come in the 2018-19 school year.

In addition, last year saw a school-wide roll out of our Air Quality Initiative, with installations of air filtration units, HEPA filters, and AQI monitoring stations across both campuses to enhance air quality for our students, faculty, and staff.

## OUR AIR QUALITY INITIATIVE

### # UNITS

AC units retro fitted with HEPA filters	232
Central AC units fitted with HEPA filters	24
Centrally monitored air filtration units assigned to classrooms and work spaces	168
AQI monitoring stations installed	3
Mobile AQI meters for spot checks	10
AC units retro fitted with HEPA filters	322
Central AC units fitted with HEPA filters	102
Centrally monitored air filtration units assigned to classrooms and work spaces	169
AQI monitoring stations installed	3
Mobile AQI meters for spot checking	10

## SCIENCE PARK CAMPUS SIZE

Total indoor facilities 21,540m<sup>2</sup>  
Total campus 29,205m<sup>2</sup>



## STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE BY SCHOOL BUS

240 Er Sha [ES]  
453 Science Park [SP]

## SUMMER WORKS

71	Approved requests & projects
0	Accidents
8,320	Man-hours of outside contracted labor
688	Man-hours of in-house labor

## 6,859 SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS



246

#AISGZ #IGNITEYOURPASSION #FUTUREREADY #RAMNATION #GORAMS #AISGZLEARNS



1,874

We finished the year out with over 1,800 Facebook followers. Our posts were able to reach over 7,000 people.



439

7,913 PROFILE VISITS. 191 TWEETS. 104 NEW TWITTER FOLLOWERS.



4,300

More than 4,300 WeChat followers stayed up to date with all things AISG through news articles, save the date reminders, and important community updates.



# #RAMNATION



# ADVANCEMENT+ COMMUNICATIONS

The 2016-17 school year was all about rethinking what it means to communicate with members of our community. We enhanced and streamlined our communication structures, making it easier for our community to engage with important information.

## WEBSITE

The highlight of the year was the launch of our brand-new, fully re-designed website, [www.aisgz.org](http://www.aisgz.org). We accomplished our goals of creating user-friendly spaces and streamlining communications, resulting in a completely new online experience for the entire AISG community. Our new website reflects AISG's innovative and collaborative spirit.

## PUBLICATIONS

Our inaugural alumni magazine, *Ignite*, was released in June 2018. Aiming to keep alumni around the world connected to our community, the publication is available in hard copy and online through our school website.





**AISG is a non-profit school. Its organization and structure enhance the school's responsibility to be good stewards of its resources.**

The Director of Finance and Operations, under the guidance of the School Director, manages AISG's finances and operations. The Board provides financial oversight through the Finance Committee, which is chaired by the Board's Treasurer, and includes Board members and parents experienced in tax and finance matters. Annually, AISG hires an international firm of auditors to conduct an external audit. Their report, along with the school's financial statements, is presented at the bi-annual American School Association of Guangzhou (ASAG) meeting in October.

The school's budget is developed using historical data and the school's plans for the budgeted year. The school endeavors to set consistent, moderate fee increases to ensure that it meets its costs and generates a cash surplus each year of between 8% to 10% of planned revenues. This surplus funds capital projects and maintains emergency reserves.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

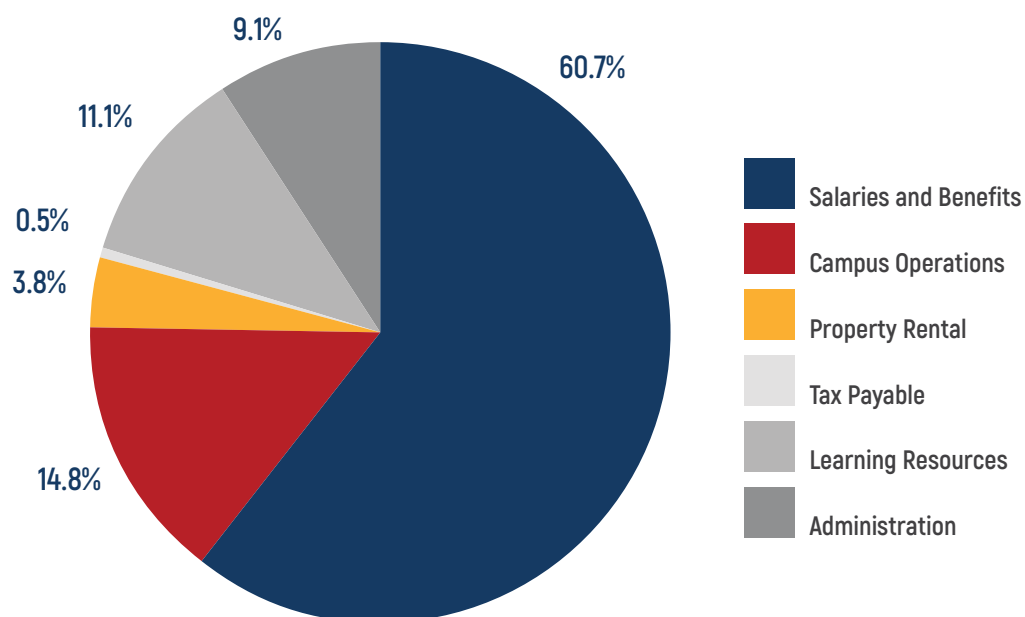
We are pleased to report that our audited financial results for the 2017-18 school year compare well to the budget approved by the Board in March 2017. Revenues were higher than budgeted, reflecting a near full enrollment, despite increasing competition in the Guangzhou international school market. The school also enjoyed higher than expected interest income. Operating expenses were slightly higher than planned, which was the result of unrealized exchange losses on cash balances held in the US. The overall operating surplus of nearly RMB18 Million (US\$2.6 Million) is 9.7% of actual revenues.

## PLANNED RESERVES

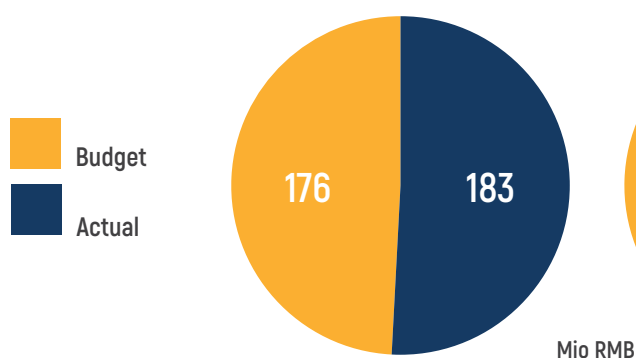
The school's reserves are intended to ensure the school's long-term financial health. The emergency reserves provide a backstop in case of an unexpected decline in enrollment while the capital reserves underpin the school's long-term facilities plan. The total value of the school's reserves at 30 June 2018 was RMB324 Million (US\$47.5 Million).



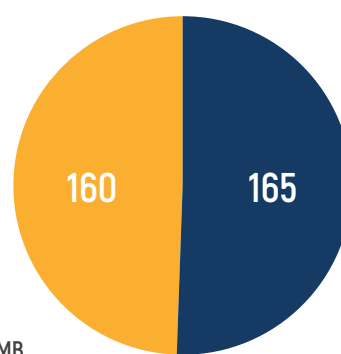
## OPERATING EXPENSES



## OPERATING REVENUES

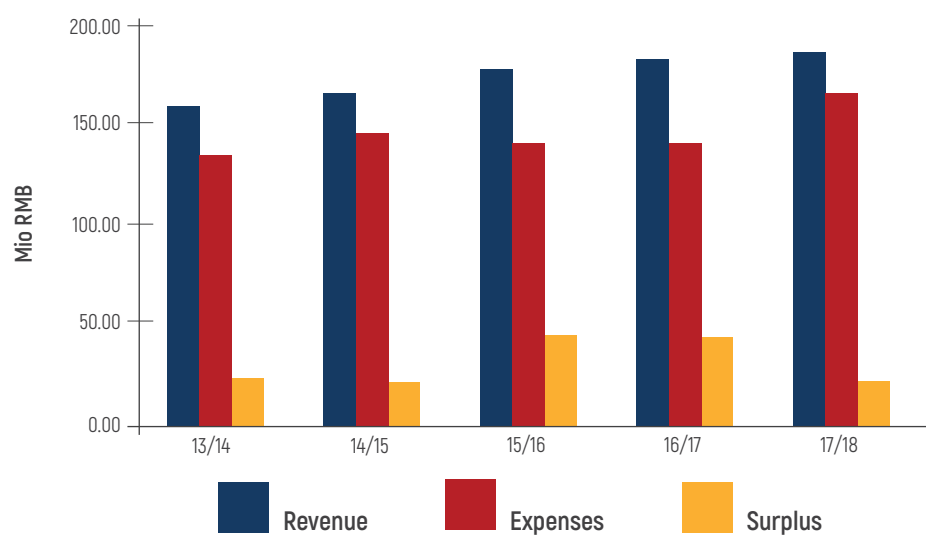


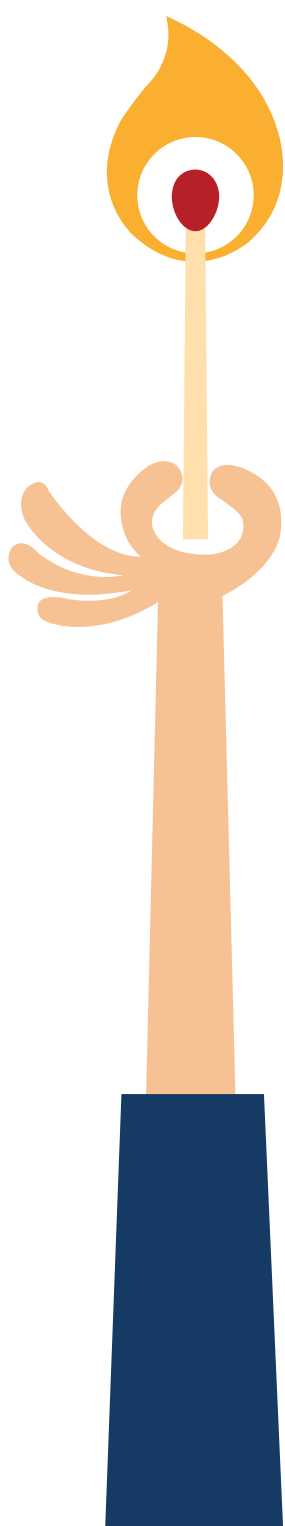
## OPERATING EXPENSES



Mio RMB

## OPERATING FUND







**published by:**  
American International School of Guangzhou

**art direction + production:**  
Lou O'Brien

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TO NURTURE **FUTURE-READY** INDIVIDUALS TO **ASPIRE, ACHIEVE, AND CONTRIBUTE.**

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