

## Introducing the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan

May 27, 2021

Dear TAS Community Members,

We are thrilled to share with you the 2021-2026 TAS Strategic Plan. We are honored to present a plan that will ensure that Taipei American School continues to remain a world-class educational institution that upholds its mission and core values and always places our students first. The 5-year strategic plan reflects our confidence that TAS will be even better in 2026 than it is today.

One of our most important roles as a Board of Directors is establishing the strategic direction of the School. We cannot do this work alone. The final strategic plan reflects months of collaboration between your Board of Directors and the administration team, as well as over 25 focus groups attended by hundreds of parents, teachers, students, and alumni that generated over 5,000 comments. The process was intentionally structured to include the collective voices and visions of our community. We thank all of you for the time and effort you have put into this vitally important task.

The new Strategic Plan incorporates the following widely shared views among the different constituents:

- Maintain strong academics through a curriculum that has both depth and breadth.
- Continue to have a world-class program with a highly-qualified and dedicated faculty.
- Continue to move toward a balanced focus on student wellbeing and academic rigor.
- Increase opportunities for project-based learning and service so that students strive to lead a life of purpose.
- Highlight and celebrate the diversity of the entire TAS community.
- Increase transparency, align communications, and clearly articulate who we are as a school.

The 2021 to 2026 Strategic Plan encompasses five strategic areas. Objectives, action steps and the associated resources required for each action step were carefully evaluated to establish a total budget for the plan. The Board of Directors voted unanimously to adopt this plan at the May 25, 2021 board meeting.

## **New Mission and Value Statements**

In conjunction with establishing the Strategic Plan, we have also taken the opportunity to update the TAS mission and values to reflect the state of TAS today. The previous Mission and Value Statements were adopted in 2005 when TAS was at risk of losing its WASC accreditation. The latest WASC Mid-Cycle Report, dated April 26, 2021, commended the School: "Students communicate that they feel cared for by the adults at the school and that they have trusting professional relationships with faculty. Students indicate that they have access to many pathways for study and exploration, and that they have opportunities to grow as balanced individuals."

While the fundamental mission and values of our school remain the same, we believe the updated Mission and Value Statements more clearly define TAS's purpose to instill an enduring lifelong love of learning, dedication to personal wellness, and service to others; and TAS's aspiration to develop students of character, resilience, and integrity so that they may make the world a better place. We hope you will see your own voices and values reflected in our powerful new statements.

TAS's five core values, HONESTY, KINDNESS, RESPECT, COURAGE, and RESPONSIBILITY, have not changed. We have taken students' description of these values and expressed them in terms that are relatable to their everyday life.

We hope you will take the time to read the <u>2021-2026 Strategic Plan</u> and our updated <u>Mission and Value Statements</u>. Additional information on the strategic planning process can be found below and on the Strategic Plan webpage. The Board, along with school administrators, will continue to share more information about the Mission, Values, and 2021-2026 Strategic Plan in the months ahead. We continue to welcome your questions and feedback <u>here</u>.

As always, we are humbled by the trust you have placed in us as your Board of Directors. We are tireless in our commitment to doing what is best for the TAS students of today and tomorrow. We look forward to partnering with you in the years ahead.

Sincerely,
Ms. Tina Koo
Board Chair on Behalf of TAS Board of Directors

Ms. Vera Wu Co-Chair of Governance Committee/Strategic Plan Lead