



Seoul International School Annual Report

2023-2024



Mission

Seoul International School develops inquisitive, independent thinkers and collaborative learners, who acquire the essential knowledge necessary to be caring and creative contributors to the world around them.

Vision

Seoul International School will foster an earnest passion for learning that inspires students to work with others in creating a better world for all.

Excellence in Global Education Since 1973

Table of Contents

Governance	4
Letter From the Head of School	5
Leadership, Faculty & Students	6
School Events 2023-24	7
Curriculum and Professional Development	8
2024 College & University Enrollment	9
Cumulative College & University Enrollment 2020-2024	10-11
Advanced Placement	12
SAT Results	13
Measures of Academic Progress	14
High School Sports	15
High School Activities	16-17
Alumni Relations	18
School Information	19

Governance



Mr. Edward Ben Adams
Founder & Manager, Established SIS in 1973
M.A. Eastern Washington University
B.A. Whitworth College

The School Board

The SIS School Board, established in May 2019, is composed of parents, leadership team members and appointees from the Founder. The Board's purpose is to lead the school in the service of its constituents towards the SIS vision and mission, and to help it continue on its path of excellence in global education.

A Tradition of Excellence Since 1973

When Seoul International School opened its doors on June 5, 1973, it became the first foreign school to be fully licensed by the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Education.



School's First Logo



School Campus in 1973



New building in 1977



Current Campus View

Letter from the Head of School

Dear SIS Community,

It is with great pride and a sense of accomplishment that I share with you the 2023-2024 Annual Report for SIS. Our past academic year has been a testament to the strength, resilience, and ambition of our school community as we continue to build on our commitment to Excellence in Global Education.

The 2023-2024 academic year saw our school grow and succeed in remarkable ways. Our classrooms were active with the enthusiasm of learners eager to explore, question, and achieve. We embraced opportunities to deepen impactful conversations within our community while expanding learning for our students, both academically and personally.



Dr. James Gerhard
Head of School

Throughout the year, our faculty and staff remained committed to their dedication for nurturing the potential of every student. At the same time, they build their own potential by developing as caring professionals. They cultivated our culture of excellence, creativity, and inquiry, ensuring that each SIS learner, whether student or teacher, was challenged and inspired. From innovative classroom practices to collaborative projects, we have seen our students develop not only through the curriculum but also as empathetic leaders and engaged global citizens. SIS students not only talk about what they know, but they can tell us what they can do with what they know. This is a great expression of good learning.

At SIS, student achievement continues to inspire our focus on becoming even better. This year, students initiated impactful projects, including our green house initiatives, the Terry Fox Run, and our middle school trips, reflecting their commitment to sustainability, community service, and the pursuit of meaningful change. These initiatives are a reflection of the values at the heart of SIS and the value our community places on students to make a difference in the world.

The support of our families has been key to our success. The trust, partnership, and shared commitment to your children's growth and well-being have played an important role in the success of our year. Together, we have navigated challenges and celebrated successes, always with a shared vision of fostering a world-class learning environment.

As we look ahead to the 2024-2025 academic year, we do so with a deep sense of purpose and optimism. Our community is stronger than ever, united by the shared dedication of creating impact through empowering learners and shaping a brighter future.

I invite you to explore this Annual Report, which highlights the milestones, achievements, and collective efforts of the SIS community. It is a celebration of what we have accomplished together and a reminder of the endless possibilities that lie ahead.

Thank you for being an integral part of the SIS journey to promote Excellence in Global Education.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Dr. Gerhard

Leadership, Faculty & Students

Founder & Manager : Edward B. Adams
 Head of School : James Gerhard
 High School Principal : Gray Macklin
 Middle School Principal : Michael Gohde
 Elementary School Principal : Sarah Hay
 HS Assistant Principal : Christopher DelVecchio
 ES/MS Assistant Principal : Lindsey Hagen
 Director of Admissions : Nirmala Jayaram
 Director of Curriculum & Professional Development : David Mannell
 Director of Guidance & College Counseling : Kelcey Edwards

SIS in Numbers

	Faculty	Student
Elementary School	30	289
Middle School	20	235
High School	38	293
Resource Personnel	10	-
Leadership Team	10	-
Total Number	108	817



School Events 2023-24

The 2023-24 academic year at SIS was replete with activities and events, both schoolwide and divisional. In the fall, the school held its first Terry Fox Run, raising funds for the Child Leukemia Center in Korea. High school students organized the Fall Festival, while elementary students celebrated Chuseok with a student-run assembly, and a parade in traditional costumes. All three divisions had drama productions - *Peter Pan* presented by the elementary school, *Crazy Town* by the middle school, and *The Addams Family* performed by the high school. In the second half of the year, SIS was once again the organizer of National History Day Korea, welcoming 600 students from 26 schools across the country. The academic year concluded with the 47th Graduation Ceremony in May, and SIS' inaugural on-campus alumni gathering in June.



Curriculum and Professional Development

In the 2023-24 school year, the school continued its focus on vertical and horizontal alignment across the divisions in all subjects. Emphasis was also placed on enhancing and strengthening all elements of the program by a review of the standards and the scope and sequence in every subject.

Curriculum Highlights

1. Comprehensive curriculum audit and review undertaken for English Language Arts in K-8.
2. Groundwork for the implementation of the UFLI Phonics program in K-2
3. Creation of Curriculum Overviews for parents for all elementary grade levels - PK3 to grade 5
4. Introduction of three new HS courses which were responsive to student needs and interests, and which include a great amount of inquiry and engagement balanced with just-right challenges for students:
 - Communications. A new grade 9 course in 2023-24, which was revised to include a focus on practical ethics and complex real-world issues facing students today.
 - Design Thinking and Engineering (to begin 2024-25). A highly engaging course that will provide a structured application of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) principles for students who are interested in hands-on experiences in the sciences. Students will learn about and explore design principles, mathematical modeling, robotics, and other topics throughout the year. Emphasis will be placed on principles of design and the modeling of behaviors and mindsets central to the application of science and engineering practices.
 - College Algebra and Trigonometry (to begin 2024-25).The school seeks to expand the high school offerings for Mathematics, including an AP Precalculus course to begin 2025-26. The new CAT offering will feed into that course.

Professional Development

It is a great source of pride for SIS to ensure that effective professional development is provided to support our curricular program and our teachers’ continuous improvement, so they can be of greatest service to our students and their needs.

SIS faculty is highly engaged in professional development. In the school year 2023-24, SIS faculty engaged in over 200 highly relevant professional experiences, which included conferences, workshops, delivering presentations of their own, and more.

In addition, across SIS or within particular schools, staff engaged in the following collectively:

1. October 9 - Mini-EARCOS PD Day, a teacher-led professional development day with a deep focus on identifying focus areas for the SIS Strategic Plan
 - Direct impact on student learning: each teacher walked away with a commitment to improve at least one practice, which students certainly benefited from across the entire school.
2. January 2024 - On-site literacy training with Erin Kent Consulting
 - Direct impact on student learning: increased clarity and confidence in delivering a more robust phonics program, and provide curricular integration.
3. March 1 - Autonomy-Supportive Teaching with Johnmarshall Reeve
 - Direct impact on student learning: as an outcome of this training, we delivered student surveys, met in focus groups, and had productive dialogue among staff to provide greater awareness of student perspectives and areas where we can strengthen relationships and confidence in students. This work is ongoing and we will continue to improve our support of student autonomy.

2024 College & University Enrollment

Adelphi University	1	Johns Hopkins University	2	University of California: Irvine	2
Boston College	1	New York University	11	University of California: Los Angeles	1
Boston University	1	Northeastern University	2	University of California: San Diego	1
Brown University	3	Northwestern University	3	University of Chicago	1
Carnegie Mellon University	3	Princeton University	1	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2
Case Western Reserve University	3	Purdue University	1	University of Pennsylvania	1
Columbia University	2	Rhode Island School of Design	3	University of Southern California	1
Cornell University	4	Stanford University	1	University of Toronto, Canada	2
Dartmouth College	4	Tufts University	2	Washington University in St. Louis	3
Duke University	2	Tulane University	1	Wesleyan University	1
Emory University	1	University of California: Berkeley	3		
Harvard University	1	University of California: Davis	1		



Cumulative College &

Adelphi University	2	Cornell University	20	New York University	51
Art Center College of Design	1	Dartmouth College	8	Northeastern University	11
Barnard College	1	Dickinson College	1	Northwestern University	12
Berklee College of Music	2	Duke University	8	Occidental College	2
Boston College	3	Emerson College	1	Otis College of Art & Design	1
Boston University	3	Emory University	7	Oxford College of Emory University	2
Brandeis University	1	Eugene Lang College	1	Parsons The New School for Design	5
Brown University	9	George Washington University	1	Pratt Institute	2
California College of the Arts	2	Georgetown University	8	Princeton University	3
California Institute of the Arts	1	Georgia Institute of Technology	3	Purdue University	3
Carnegie Mellon University	21	Hardin-Simmons University	1	Rhode Island School of Design	11
Case Western Reserve University	8	Harvard University	5	Rice University	3
Claremont McKenna College	2	Johns Hopkins University	9	Saint Louis University	1
Columbia Sciences Po	1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	2	School of the Art Inst. of Chicago	2
Columbia University	8	Michigan State University	1	Stanford University	11
Cooper Union	4	Mount Holyoke College	1	Stevens Institute of Technology	1

University Enrollment 2020-2024

Syracuse University	1	University of Pennsylvania	3	University of Sydney, Australia	2
Tufts University	9	University of Rochester	3	University of British Columbia, Canada	1
Tulane University	1	University of Southern California	17	University of Toronto, Canada	9
University of California: Berkeley	31	University of Texas, Austin	3	University of Western Ontario, Canada	1
University of California: Davis	2	University of the Pacific	1	Hong Kong Univ. of Science & Technology	1
University of California: Irvine	10	University of Vermont	1	University of Hong Kong	2
University of California: Los Angeles	12	University of Virginia	1	Temple University, Japan	1
University of California: San Diego	5	University of Washington	2	Waseda University, Japan	1
University of California: Santa Barbara	5	University of Wisconsin -Madison	1	Ewha Womans University	1
University of Chicago	7	Vanderbilt University	2	George Mason University	1
University of Detroit Mercy (Dental Program)	1	Vassar College	1	Leiden University, Netherlands	1
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	12	Washington University in St. Louis	11	National Univ. of Singapore	1
University of Michigan	5	Wellesley College	1	Glion Institute, Switzerland	1
University of Nevada: Las Vegas	1	Wesleyan University	6	Durham University	1
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1	Wheaton College (Massachusetts)	2	London School of Economics & Politics, UK	1
University of Notre Dame	2	Yale University	2		

Advanced Placement



The Advanced Placement (AP) is a program used in the United States, Canada, and international schools worldwide. It is created by the College Board, which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. Post-secondary schools typically consider a score of 3 or better a passing grade at the collegiate level.

AP Results	2020**	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of AP courses offered	23	23	23	23	23
Number of students taking at least 1 AP course*	260	286	256	225	214
Number of AP exams written	674	851	791	692	639
Number of exams with a score of 5	303	329	342	295	323
Number of exams with a score of 4	226	246	204	186	185

In accordance with the College Board’s Equity and Access policy, AP courses at SIS are open to all students provided that they have passed the prerequisite(s) for that course.

* Students in grades 10-12 are eligible for AP classes.

** In 2020, AP Exams were optional for all students. Exams were shortened and completed by students electronically at home.

AP Scholar Recognition

Year	Category	AP Scholar	AP Scholar with Honors	AP Scholar with Distinction	AP International Diploma	AP Capstone Diploma**
2024	Number of Scholars	13	37	84	10	20
	Average Score	3.42	4.33	4.39	4.49	4.25
2023	Number of Scholars	17	46	91	11	23
	Average Score	3.37	4.41	4.24	4.33	4.13
2022	Number of Scholars	30	47	91	10	12
	Average Score	3.13	4.12	4.3	3.98	4.19
2021	Number of Scholars	29	50	93	19	19
	Average Score	3.29	4.01	4.31	4.32	4.33
2020*	Number of Scholars	22	39	97	10	13
	Average Score	3.28	4.39	4.41	4.41	4.46

* AP exams were taken remotely by students due to the pandemic in 2020.

** AP Capstone was introduced at SIS in 2017 with the first students eligible for the Capstone Diploma in 2018. All students from this initial group graduated with a Capstone Diploma in 2018. The SIS Capstone program accounts for approximately 4% of all Capstone Diplomas outside of the United States.

SAT Results



The SAT is a standardized test widely used for college admissions in the United States. The SAT Test is offered six times a year at SIS. Scores may range from 200 to 800.

SIS Average SAT Scores

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Evidence-based Reading and Writing	727	680	698	703	704
Math	765	760	760	749	751
Combined	1492	1445	1458	1452	1455

Essay and Subject tests were discontinued by the College Board in December 2020. SIS will no longer publish scores from these discontinued assessments. Published scores are averages of each test administration.

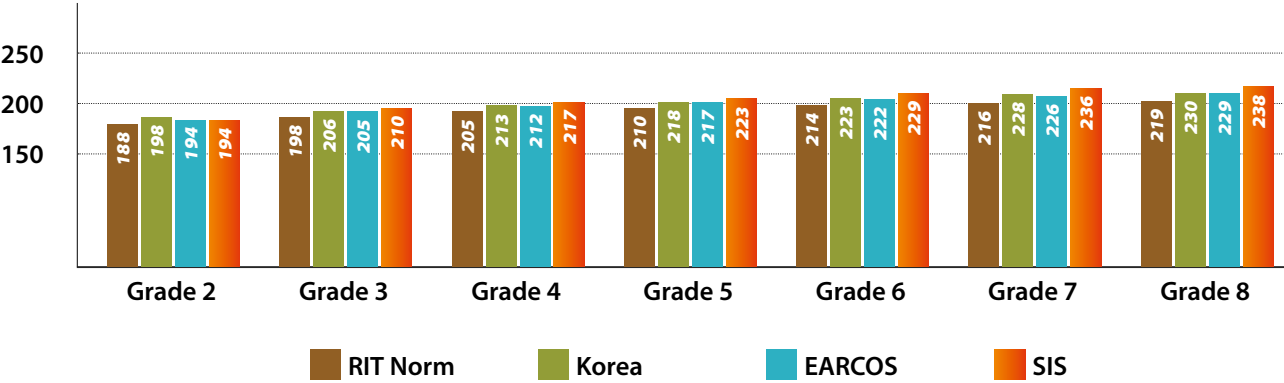


Measures of Academic Progress

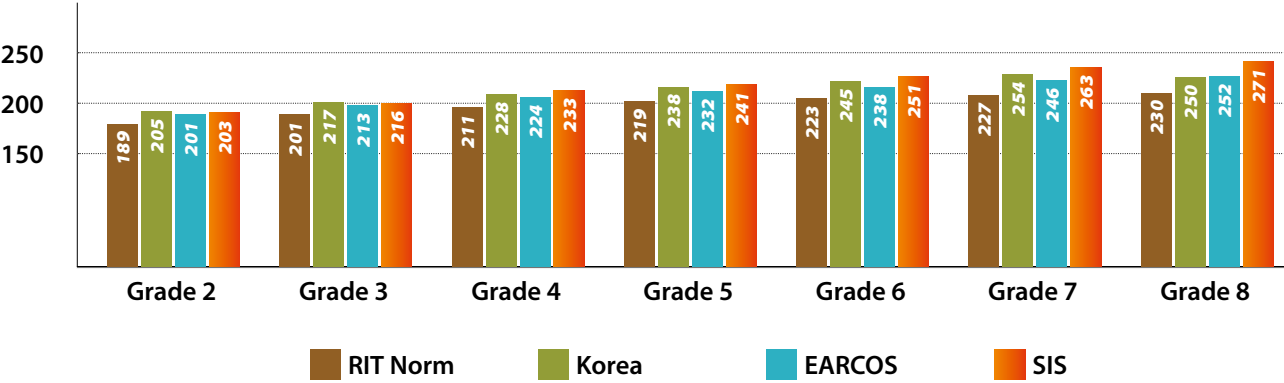


MAP, or the Measures of Academic Progress, is a computerized adaptive test which helps teachers, parents, and administrators improve learning for all students and make informed decisions to promote a child’s academic growth.

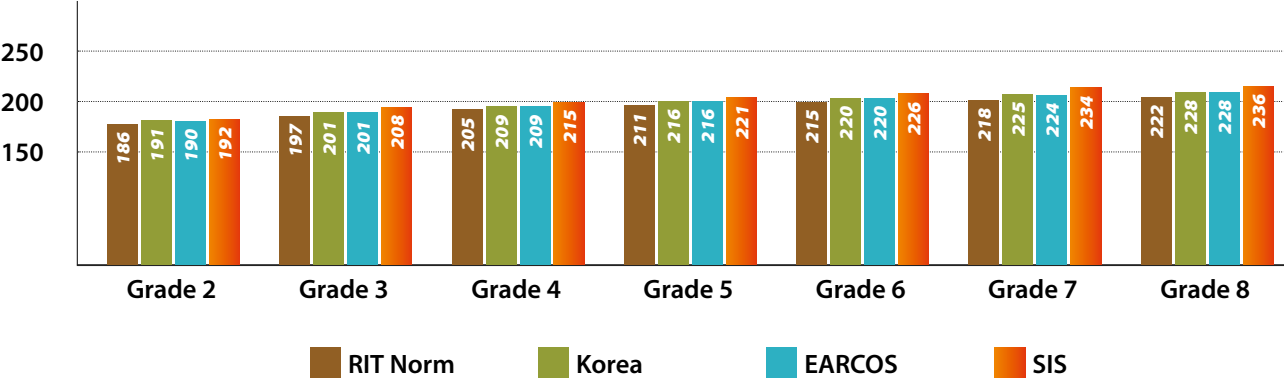
Language



Math



Reading



High School Sports

Students participate in two leagues that emphasize opportunities in sports, forensics, MUN, music, art, quiz, robotics, and math. Our school is a charter member of the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference (KAIAC). The school also founded an international league called the Association of International Schools in Asia (AISA). Our school continues to thrive in both these leagues.



Fall Season

	KAIAC	AISA
Girls Tennis	5 th Place Blue Division 5 th Place Tournament	N/A
Boys Tennis	1 st Place Blue Division 3 rd Place Tournament	N/A
Girls Volleyball	6 th Place Blue Division 1 st Place Tournament	6 th Place
Boys Volleyball	5 th Place Blue Division 7 th Place Tournament	4 th Place
Cross Country	Girls - 5 th Place Boys - 5 th Place	2 nd Place
Golf	Girls - 2 nd Place Boys - 2 nd Place	N/A



Winter Season

	KAIAC	AISA
Girls Basketball	2 nd Place Blue Division 3 rd Place Cup Tournament	1 st Place
Boys Basketball	3 rd Place Blue Division 1 st Place Cup Tournament	4 th Place
Cheer	8 th Place Tournament	N/A
Girls Swimming	7 th Place Conference 7 th Place Tournament	3 rd Place
Boys Swimming	4 th Place Conference 4 th Place Tournament	2 nd Place



Spring Season

	KAIAC	AISA
Girls Soccer	3 rd Place Red Division 8 th Place Cup Tournament	4 th Place
Boys Soccer	2 nd Place Red Division 8 th Place Cup Tournament	3 rd Place
Badminton	1 st Place Conference 2 nd Place Tournament	1 st Place
Track and Field	7 th Place Conference 7 th Place Tournament	N/A



High School Activities

Seoul International School offered approximately 50 clubs for students to participate in at the high school in 2023-2024. Clubs offered students opportunities to explore specialty interests and pursue leadership roles.

AQT

The HS AQT team competed at 4 KAIAC events, including hosting one event. The team finished first or second at each event. In addition, this team participated in the Asia regional competition, finishing in second place.

MUN

Our Model United Nations program sent delegations to two events - THIMUN at The Hague, Netherlands, and UNISMUN in Hanoi, Vietnam. These events provided the opportunity for our students to engage with students from international schools in the greater Asia and Europe international school community.

Performing Arts

Our Music Department and student-musicians continued the tradition of excellence at SIS, with honors such as the Platinum level ranking at KIMEA Large Group Festival, and having students selected for the prestigious AMIS international school music festivals for Band, Choir, and Strings.

Our Drama Department presented The Addams Family Musical, and sent a delegation to the ISTA Drama Festival in Vietnam.



High School Activities



AP Art Show

Every year in April, The Atrium of the Main Building is full of talented artwork from fresh young artists at AP Art Show. More exciting events scheduled for the upcoming academic year, SY23-24.

VEX Robotics

Our Robotics team competed in the KAIAC VEX league, participating in 4 KAIAC events. Students demonstrated growth throughout the season, and with strong participation, SIS was able to field two teams to provide additional opportunities for student participation at events.

Mu Alpha Theta (Competitive Math)

Our Math competition team participated in a variety of local and regional events during the year. Highlights included winning the AISA Math Mania Tournament and having the honor of serving as host for the Asia Regional NEAMC Senior Division Competition.

Alumni Relations



Alumni Open House

A school's alumni represent its living legacy, serving as bridges between past, present, and future generations of students. With a vast pool of graduates both in Korea and overseas, SIS recognized the untapped potential of its alumni network and made alumni outreach a goal for the 2023-24 school year.

The school organized its first-ever overseas alumni event – a meetup in Boston in January 2024. This was followed by the inaugural on-campus alumni gathering in June 2024, which drew more than forty alumni and their families.

Beyond these social gatherings, alumni contributed to student learning by serving as guest speakers, sharing their knowledge, expertise, and experiences with current students. These interactions provided valuable real-world perspectives and strengthened the connection between past and present SIS community members. Looking ahead, the school plans to build on this momentum to establish a vibrant alumni community that remains actively connected to SIS, enriching the educational experience for current and future students.



School Information



Trustworthy Students
Independent Learners
Global Citizens
Effective Communicators
Reflective Learners
Socially Responsible Individuals



School Address | 15, Seongnam-daero 1518 beon-gil, Sujeong-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea 13113
 T +82 31 750 1200 F +82 31 759 5133 info@siskorea.org www.siskorea.org

Bus | Bus From Gangnam: 452
 Bus From Bundang: 422
 Bus From Jamsil Lotte World: 30, 32, 119, 302, 303, 1117, 500-1

Subway | Bokjeong Station
 Exit 2
 Bundang Line (Yellow) Suseo – Ori, Subway 8 Line (Pink) Moran – Amsa



Seoul International School

www.siskorea.org