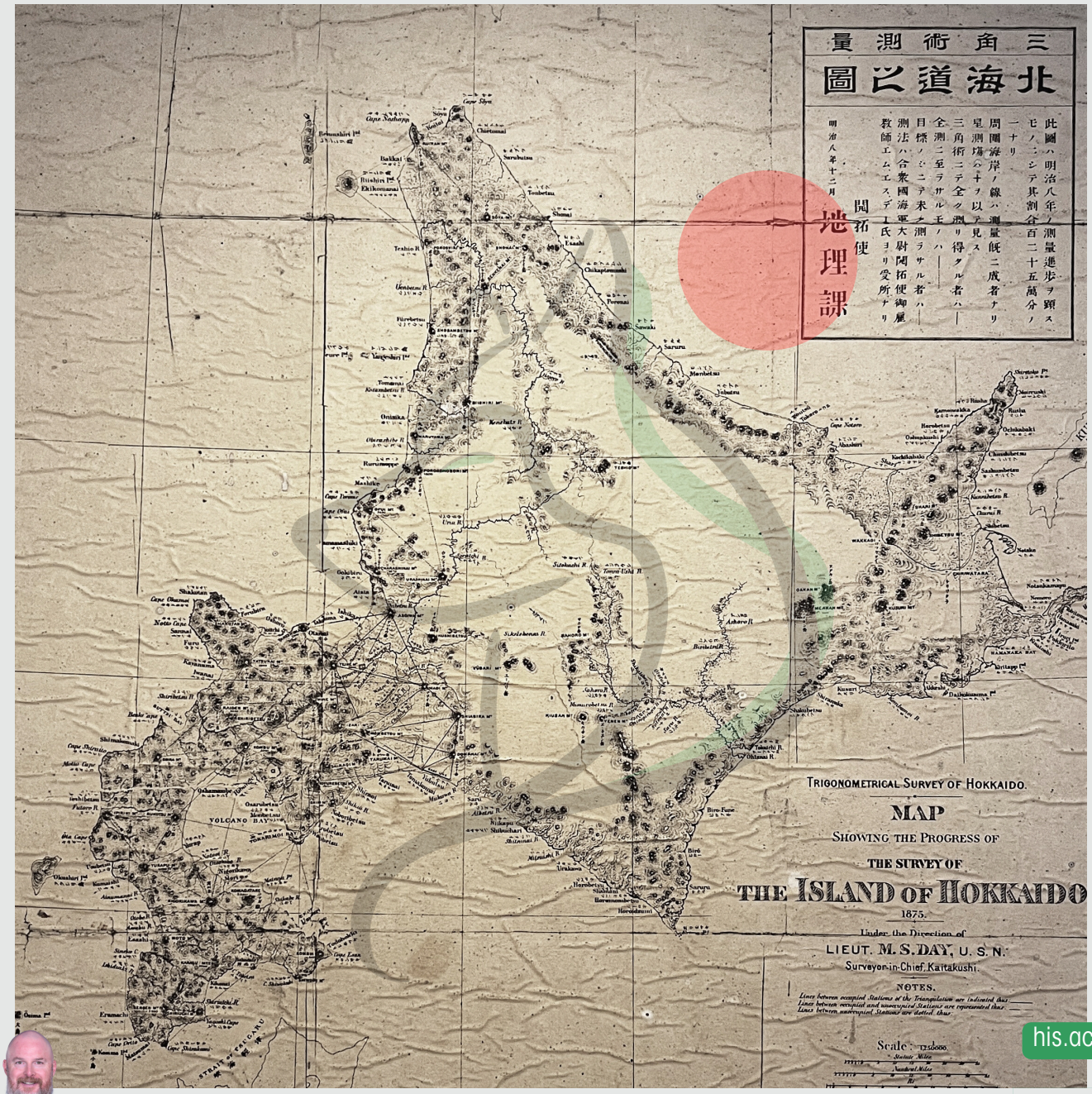
Hokkaido International School

SUMMER PROGRAM ORIENTATION GUIDE

EXPLORE **JAPAN'S** NORTHERN BEAUTY
EXPERIENCE **HOKKAIDO** SUMMER LIFE

FORM CONNECTIONS THAT LAST A LIFETIME



his.ac.jp



summer_school@his.ac.jp
(81) 80-6826-4574 (emergency phone)
(*Principal's Mobile Phone*)

Hokkaido International School
1-55, 5-jo, 19-chome
Hiragishi, Toyohira-Ku
Sapporo, Japan 062-0935
(81) 11-816-5000

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Certified, enthusiastic, professional

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GETTING HERE, GETTING READY

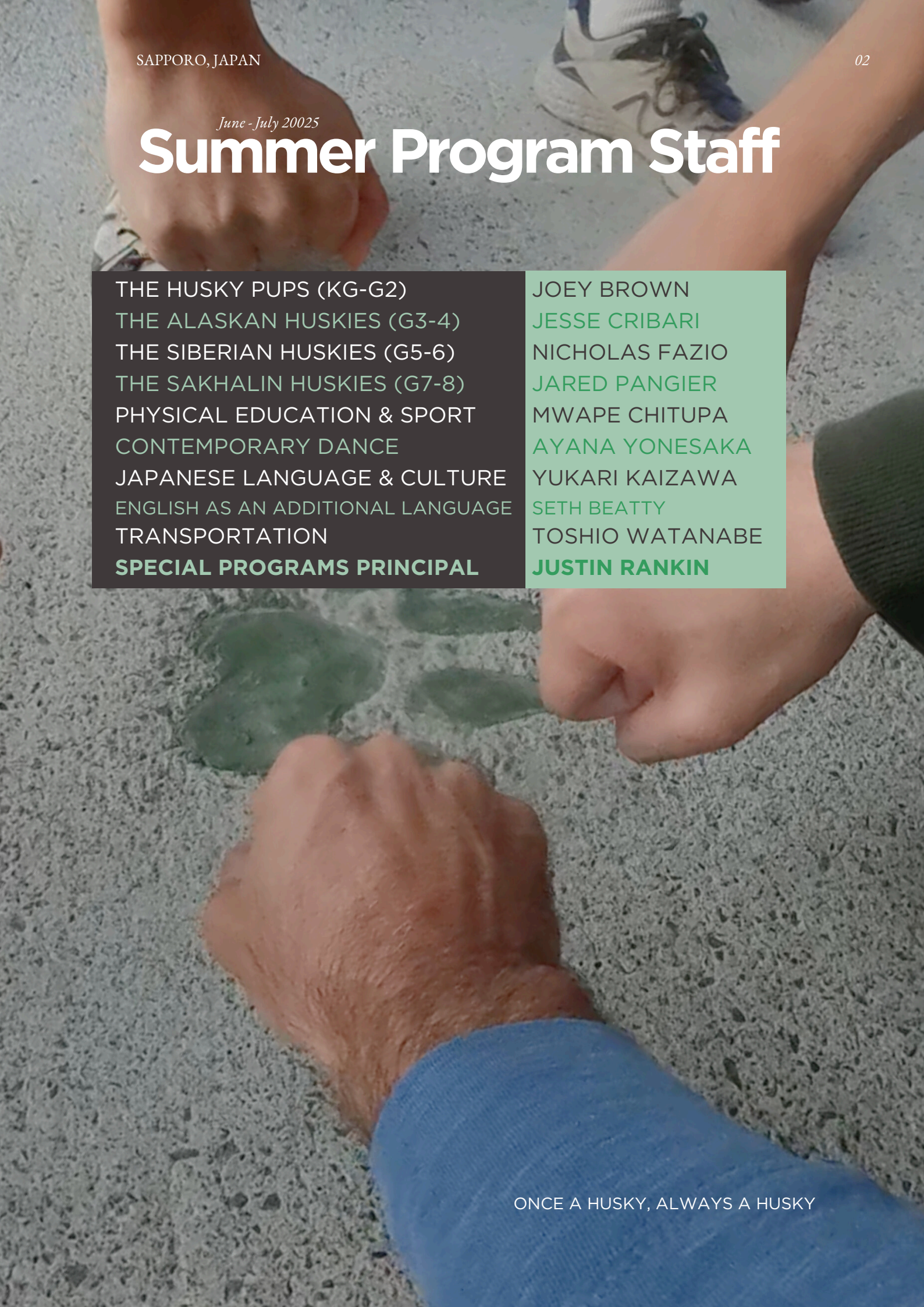


Packing, traveling, contacting us

June - July 20025

Summer Program Staff

THE HUSKY PUPS (KG-G2)	JOEY BROWN
THE ALASKAN HUSKIES (G3-4)	JESSE CRIBARI
THE SIBERIAN HUSKIES (G5-6)	NICHOLAS FAZIO
THE SAKHALIN HUSKIES (G7-8)	JARED PANGIER
PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT	MWAPE CHITUPA
CONTEMPORARY DANCE	AYANA YONESAKA
JAPANESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE	YUKARI KAIZAWA
ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE	SETH BEATTY
TRANSPORTATION	TOSHIO WATANABE
SPECIAL PROGRAMS PRINCIPAL	**JUSTIN RANKIN**



ONCE A HUSKY, ALWAYS A HUSKY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Students and Families,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Hokkaido International School, I would like to welcome you to the 2025 Summer Program at HIS! Last year was a resounding success and we are excited to improve our students' experience this time around.

This summer you will have the opportunity to learn more about what makes Hokkaido, and HIS, the shining star in the Northern sky of Japan. Our vision is to foster mindful leadership and learning through academic pursuit, character development, and global engagement, which includes experiential learning through the surrounding environment. We have designed this summer's experience with these goals in mind, and we are committed to delivering on this vision during your visit to our campus this June and July.

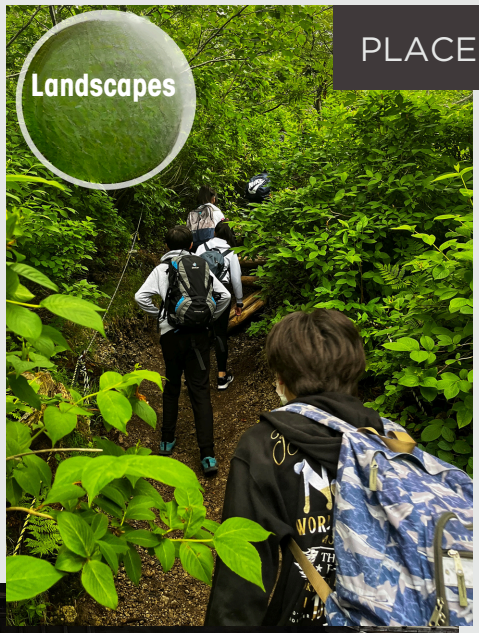
To maximize your experience, please take the time needed to review the content of this orientation guide; it contains program and instructor information, including our philosophy, and the background of our school and summer staff. We are looking forward to welcoming you to our campus in Sapporo this summer!



Stay Awesome,

Mr. Justin Rankin
Special Programs Principal
summer_school@his.ac.jp
(81) 11-816-5000

THE VALUE OF PLACE



PLACE-BASED EDUCATION

Place-based education is an approach to learning that focuses on immersing students in the **local history** and **heritage**, **cultures**, **landscapes**, and **opportunities** of the host learning community. Traditional subjects such as the study of language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and other subjects across the curriculum are **woven into the fabric** of place-based education, rather than taught separately from each other.





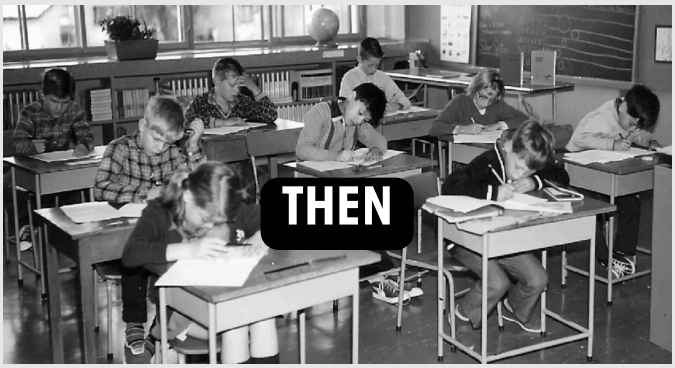
At **Hokkaido International School**, our Summer Program is built on the foundation of place-based education principles.



- ★ Learning takes place in the school, local community, and local environment.
- ☆ Learning is interdisciplinary and focuses on local themes and content.
- ★ Learning experiences connect students to the vitality of the host community and its environment.
- ☆ Learning is supported by strong and varied partnerships with local organizations, agencies, businesses, and government.
- ★ Learning is grounded in a love for one's community.
- ☆ Local learning serves as the foundation for understanding and participating appropriately in regional and global issues.

THE HIS VISION & HISTORY

WE STRIVE FOR MINDFUL LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING THROUGH ACADEMIC PURSUIT, CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT, AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT.





1958 Hokkaido International School opened as Hokkaido American School. The school started with 12 children of missionary families. Our school fulfilled a need after the local U. S. Army Dependents School closed.

1962 The school changed its name to Hokkaido International School. HIS moved to a new campus in Fukuzumi. Students selected a Husky as the school mascot.

1968 Hokkaido Government granted accreditation to the school. By the early 1970s, enrollment was up to 70 students.

1982 Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) granted HIS accreditation.

1995 The school moved to its current location. During this time the school enrolled approximately 120 students. The new campus also included a dormitory to house 20 students.

2012 HIS opened its satellite school, HIS Niseko.

2018 HIS celebrated its 60th year of service, enrolling 170 international students.

NOW Today, HIS continues its mission to provide education for international students, enrolling over 200 across 2 campuses and an expanded boarding program.

TEACHING FACULTY

SUMMER PROGRAM 2025

ELEMENTARY



KG - GRADE 2

After getting his Masters in Education from the University of San Francisco, **Joey Brown** began working full-time in San Francisco as a 5th grade teacher at a local public school, where he continued to work for 4 years. In mid-2019, he decided to relocate to Japan in order to explore his Japanese roots while simultaneously expanding his teaching experience. Since arriving in Japan in 2019, Joey has taught and lived in Utsunomiya, Osaka, and now Sapporo. This past year was Joey's second year as part of the HIS community, and he has loved every minute of it! Lastly, when Joey isn't teaching, lesson planning, or pondering the vast depths of the curriculum, you might find him playing soccer, writing a song on guitar, or most likely, making tacos.



GRADES 3-4

Jesse Cribari is currently a Milepost 3 teacher at Hokkaido International School. He completed his bachelor's in political science at the University of Connecticut. After graduating, he served 3 years as a volunteer doing development work in Panama with the U.S. Peace Corps. He then moved to Japan to work with the JET Programme in Niigata Prefecture. Following these international experiences, Jesse returned to the United States to complete a masters degree in elementary education at Southern Connecticut State University. He has seven years of teaching experience between grades 3, 4, and 5. This was his first year teaching at Hokkaido International School, and he is thrilled to be back in Japan. Jesse loves to be outdoors and has enjoyed the snowy winter here in Hokkaido. He also enjoys working with computers, traveling around Japan, and trying new foods.

MIDDLE YEARS



GRADES 5-6

Nick Fazio is an experienced educator from the Northeast of the U.S., with a Master's in Education from City College of New York. He has taught in the classroom since 2000 in New York City public schools and Japanese middle schools before coming to Hokkaido International School in 2012. For the past 11 years, Nick has taught 7th and 8th-grade social studies, science, and 6th-grade math while serving as a college counselor and middle school curriculum coordinator. In his free time, Nick enjoys snowboarding, playing guitar, and practicing martial arts, all while spending time with his loved ones.



GRADES 7-8

Jared Pangier is currently a secondary teacher at Hokkaido International School. He completed his Masters in Education in 2012 and has taught primarily at three different schools. He has spent the past decade in Hokkaido. With over a third of his life lived in Japan, he considers it his second home. He teaches AP Literature, AP Language, AP Capstone, middle school creative wiring, and publications. He can't get enough of Hokkaido, the outdoors, powder snow, reading & writing, or his beloved daughter and wife.

TEACHING FACULTY

SUMMER PROGRAM 2025

SPECIALISTS



PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT

Mwape Chitupa is originally from Zambia and has spent the past five years in Sapporo working as an English teacher, cultural ambassador, and researcher. His work involves lesson planning, mentoring students, and using creative teaching methods to engage learners. He holds a diploma in Human Resource Management and a Bachelor's in Library and Information Science and Development Studies from the University of Zambia. He's currently pursuing a Master's in Public Health Science and a Master's in Peace and Conflict Studies. At HIS, he teaches English Language Learners (ELL), Social Studies, and Model UN.

With over a decade of experience, he focuses on creating a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes intercultural understanding. He's passionate about education, creative thinking, and helping others grow. In his free time, he enjoys basketball, soccer, chess, and gardening.



CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Ayana Yonesaka-Ruiz, director of *ayanadancearts*, is a dance educator, performer, and choreographer. Prior to her recent relocation to Sapporo, she spent thirteen years in San Francisco, California, pursuing her profession in dance. During this time, Ayana found tremendous joy in dance education, particularly for young children. She is thrilled to bring the San Francisco dance experience to her hometown.

LANGUAGE LEADERSHIP



ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

Seth Beatty teaches Pre-AP English, Middle School English Language Arts, and Model United Nations at Hokkaido International School. Before coming to HIS he taught high school history and ESL in Utah, Sapporo, and Pennsylvania, and worked in English Language assessment in New Jersey. He loves the food and mountains of Hokkaido and enjoys baking desserts, especially oatmeal raisin cookies.



JAPANESE LANGUAGE

Yukari Kaizawa is a Sapporo native who has grown up in Hokkaido and knows the island inside and out. Following High School, Ms. Kaizawa attended Sapporo International University, where she majored in International Communications with a focus on English Language. Ms. Kaizawa's favorite aspect of Hokkaido is the beautiful nature, including the lakes, and she enjoys visiting these with her family. Ms. Kaizawa currently teaches Japanese language at Hokkaido International School.



SPECIAL PROGRAM PRINCIPAL

Justin Rankin has worked as a teacher and school administrator in both international and public school settings. His work as an international educator has brought him to places such as South Korea, Scotland, Myanmar, China, Eritrea, and Japan in addition to his time spent in the Canadian province of Ontario and the Inuit territory of Nunavut. A firm believer in lifelong learning, Mr. Rankin holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Windsor, a Professional Graduate Diploma in Education from the University of the West of Scotland, a Master of Education degree in International School Administration from Endicott College, and has recently been awarded the Certificate in School Management and Leadership from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.In addition to serving as the school's Principal of Special Programs, Mr. Rankin is currently the Director of Athletics and Activities, and teaches Physical Education classes.

SUMMER PROGRAM

OVERVIEW



Week 1

Monday June 23rd ~ Friday June 27th, 2025



HISTORY

Known for its rich agriculture and plentiful aquatic resources, Hokkaido has a rich and interesting history as Japan's star in the Northern Sky. From the times of the early indigenous Ainu people to Hokkaido being recognized as an official prefecture in Japan in 1947 to hosting the Winter Olympic Games in 1972, Hokkaido has seen many changes over the decades. Students will explore different milestones in Hokkaido's history and will leave this week knowing that they are living in a truly unique location!

Week 2

Monday June 30th ~ Friday July 4th, 2025



GEOGRAPHY

Hokkaido is home to magnificent mountains, extensive wetlands, and forests, and boasts some of the best farmland in all of Japan. The land and soil of Hokkaido produce a variety of agricultural, dairy, and livestock products. In addition, Hokkaido contains volcanic zones, which contain active and dormant volcanoes, and those contribute to the rich onsen culture on the island. Students will explore the different landforms and terrain that make our northern island such an intriguing location in terms of its geography.



SUMMER PROGRAM

TIMETABLE



On-Campus Learning



Time	Activity
09:00	Morning Meet & Greet
09:10 - 10:15	Learning/Activity Block 1
10:15 - 10:45	Morning Snack + Outdoor Play
10:50 - 11:55	Learning/Activity Block 2
11:55 - 12:35	Lunch + Outdoor Play
12:40 - 13:45	Learning/Activity Block 3
13:50 - 14:55	Learning/Activity Block 4
15:00	Dismissal



Daily Packing List

In order to be fully prepared for each day of learning and adventure, please ensure that your child has the following items packed:

Snacks & Lunch	Clothing	Miscellaneous Items
• Reusable water bottle • Morning Snack • Packed Lunch • Small picnic mat for outdoor eating	• Indoor shoes • Outdoor shoes/boots • Rain jacket • Hat • Small towel • Backpack • Sweatshirt • Change of clothing in a labeled plastic bag including socks • Long-sleeve	• Sunscreen • Wet tissue pack • Masks (optional) • Gloves for ice skating • Long socks for ice skating • Insect repellant

All writing utensils, paper, art supplies, etc. will be provided by the Summer Program. However, if your child has a preferred set of tools to use, they are welcome to bring them to campus each day.

SUMMER PROGRAM

EXCURSIONS: SKATING & CLIMBING



Explore Hokkaido...

Weekly Off-Campus Adventures

Skating



PROGRAM ATTENDEES WILL VISIT TSUKISAMU ICE ARENA, A HOST VENUE OF THE 1972 WINTER OLYMPICS, TO PARTICIPATE IN A ½ DAY SESSION OF ICE SKATING. RENTAL SKATES, HELMETS, AND GLOVES WILL BE PROVIDED. WINTER SPORTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF HOKKAIDO LIFE, SO WE WANT TO GIVE OUR STUDENTS A CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THIS AMAZING AND CHALLENGING SPORT FOR THEMSELVES.

Climbing



IN ADDITION TO A HALF-DAY SPENT ICE SKATING, ALL CLASSES WILL VISIT NOBO-NOBO CLIMBING LAND TO CHALLENGE THEMSELVES BY SCALING DIFFERENT OBSTACLES, INCLUDING GIANT SLIDES AND TRAPEZES, IN A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL AGES.

SUMMER PROGRAM

FULL-DAY FIELD TRIPS



Big Day Out

EACH WEEK, THE STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE WILL CONCLUDE WITH A THEME-CONNECTED FULL DAY FIELD TRIP TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND THE SAPPORO AREA. THE PURPOSE OF THESE FULL-DAY EXCURSIONS IS TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO MAKE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE WEEKLY THEME AND THEIR PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT. THESE TRIPS ARE GENERALLY HELD TOWARD THE END OF THE WEEK, WHICH SERVES AS A NICE CONCLUSION TO THE 5 DAYS OF LEARNING TOGETHER.





GETTING TO HIS





1. From **Odori Station**, take the **Namboku Line** headed *in the direction of Makomanai,* and **get off at Sumikawa Station**.
2. When you disembark at **Sumikawa**, turn around and take a moment to look back across the rail line you came in on, through the large windows of the station. Towards the crest of the hill, you will see the **green roof** of **Hokkaido International School**. This should help you to orient yourself.
3. The walk from **Sumikawa Station** to **Hokkaido International School** takes approximately **five to seven minutes.**



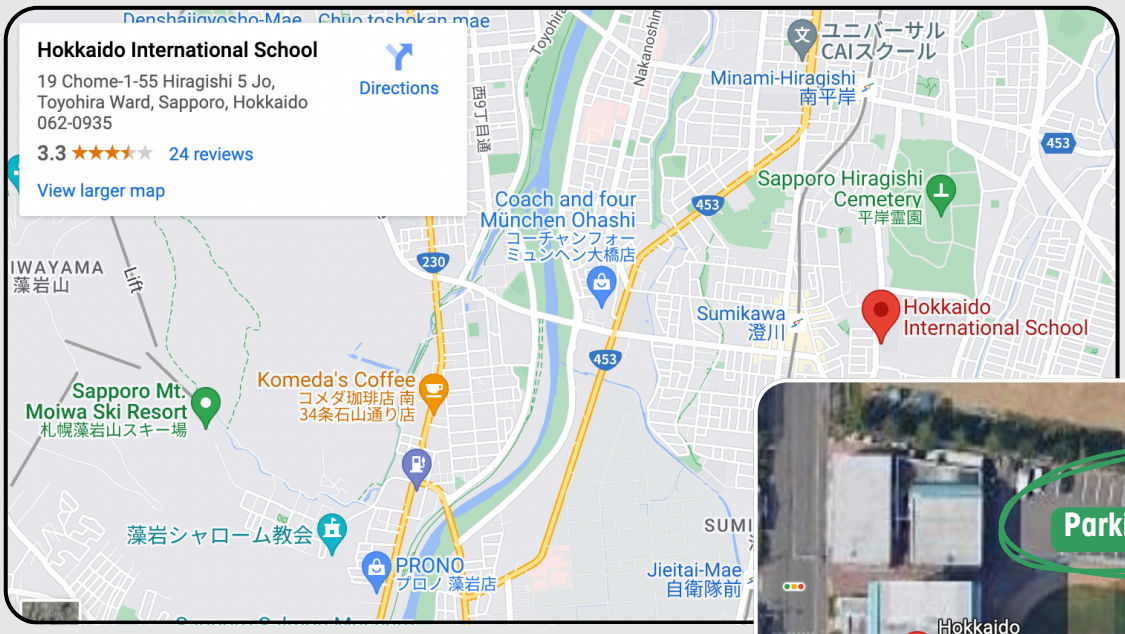
GETTING TO HIS

Hokkaido International School





1. Hokkaido International School is listed in both Google and Apple Maps and our address is provided below.
2. When dropping off and picking up your child(ren), please park in the rear of the school near the back field.There is ample parking available for you here. You can see this parking lot in the aerial photograph below.





FOOD AND ATTENDANCE



Snacks & Lunch

We are not operating the school cafeteria for the Summer Program, so all attendees will be responsible for bringing their own morning snack(s) and a packed lunch. For those families who are visiting us from overseas, there are a number of convenience stores in the area which sell bento style lunches and other items such as rice bowls, sandwiches, etc. To reduce plastic waste, we encourage all participants to bring a reusable water bottle, which can be filled as needed at school with clean drinking water.



Attendance Reporting

If your child is going to be absent, please report this absence through email first by contacting summer_school@his.ac.jp. Please include your child's full name in the subject line. You can also use this email inbox to request an early departure for your child if they need to leave campus earlier than the 3:00 p.m. dismissal time. There is no supervision for students beyond the dismissal time, so please ensure that you are at the school to collect your child on time.



for life!

SUMMER PROGRAM

2024 HIGHLIGHTS



THANKS FOR HANGING AROUND



LOVE HOKKAIDO?

JOIN US IN **WINTER 2026!**







Winter Program 2026 Begins January 5th!

To inquire about this weeklong program (Jan. 5-9, 2026), contact...

winter_school@his.ac.jp

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ALWAYS A HUSKY

LOVE HIS?

FOLLOW US VIA...

Instagram

@HIS.HUSKIES

&

Our Homepage

Hokkaido International School

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See you in the summer!