



ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025



SSiS
SAIGON SOUTH
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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Dr. Catriona Moran
Head of School

Dear SSIS Community,

It is with pride and gratitude that I share the Annual Report of the 2024–2025 school year, a year that reflected both the commitment of our community and the expansion of opportunities for our students.

The transformation of the former Middle School into the new Upper Elementary was a defining milestone. Designed by an SSIS alumn, the renovation honored our past while creating inspiring spaces for the future—STEAM and robotics labs, flexible classrooms, a drama room, and shared facilities that will serve generations of Dragons. Our youngest learners also gained a wonderful new space to play and grow with the opening of the new Elementary School playground.

This spirit of renewal was matched by innovation. New courses in fields such as artificial intelligence, game design, business, textiles, and music reflected our deep commitment to providing expansive opportunities for our students, wherever their curiosity and passion lead them.

This year also brought achievements of pride and inspiration. SSIS was named an Apple Distinguished School, recognizing our innovation in teaching and learning. In February, we welcomed over 200 educators from across the region to our inaugural Full STEAM Ahead Conference, positioning SSIS as a leader in advancing important conversations about the future of education.

SSIS students excelled across academics, the arts, and athletics, supported by their dedicated teachers and families. Our graduates earned places at leading universities around the world, IB Diploma results once again surpassed global averages, and AP students achieved a new SSIS record with their scores. Beyond academics, our students thrived in robotics, MUN, debate, and service—living the qualities of our Profile of a Learner.

The year was also filled with meaningful community connections. Families gathered at parent partnership sessions and celebrations, our PTA brought record numbers to Family Fun Day, SSIS alumni reconnected around the world, and local businesses welcomed our high school interns. Together, these events strengthened the bonds that make SSIS such a special place.

More than metrics and numbers, this Annual Report reflects the spirit of belonging, innovation, and purpose that defines SSIS. It celebrates a community invested not only in achievement but in nurturing individuals who are compassionate, capable, and committed to becoming their best selves.

All good wishes,

Dr. Catriona Moran
Head of School

OUR HISTORY

Twenty-eight years ago, visionary founders Ferdinand Tsien and Lawrence S. Ting saw the need for a school that would offer more than a rich academic program. They believed that, as educators, we must ask ourselves what type of individual we will send out into the world.

Based on that belief, they developed our Mission Statement and our Core Values, which guide our students to graduate with a rich academic experience that includes art, music, drama, and athletics. An SSIS graduate is expected to actively seek acts of service and to look upon others as equals in dignity and worthy of respect. Our graduates will continue to cultivate a sense of responsibility for their immediate and extended communities, both locally and globally, as they venture out into the world.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

We believe that learning is an interactive process of discovery, where nurturing the attitudes necessary to lead a meaningful life is as important as developing the skills to succeed. Students, teachers, and parents all play an integral role in supporting this development.

That is why our school's mission, the foundation of our curriculum, incorporates more than just areas of study. Deeply rooted in conceptual understanding, SSIS courses are student-centered, guiding learners toward purposeful lives as global citizens.






The multicultural aspect of an international school can be a life-changing opportunity for a child. SSIS encourages students to make the most of this opportunity, to ensure their experience is as fulfilling and rewarding as possible.

MISSION STATEMENT

SSIS is a college preparatory school committed to the intellectual and personal development of each student in preparation for a purposeful life as a global citizen.

CORE VALUES

Our Core Values are at the center of all we do. **Academic Excellence**, **Sense of Self**, **Balance in Life**, **Dedicated Service**, and **Respect for All** play a vital role in every student's daily life and, along with their diplomas, will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

	<p>Academic Excellence</p> <p>A challenging academic program, based on American standards, that teaches the student how to think, to learn, to problem solve, and to work individually and in teams while acquiring a foundational knowledge base of the world.</p>
	<p>Sense of Self</p> <p>A community atmosphere in which each student can gain a sense of who they are in the world; to develop self-confidence, strong character, convictions, leadership abilities, grace, courage, the desire to be a life-long learner, and the commitment to achieve excellence in all they do.</p>
	<p>Respect for All</p> <p>A perspective that each individual is a person of worth.</p>
	<p>Balance in Life</p> <p>An academic program that promotes an appreciation for all of life and seeks to balance the sciences with the humanities; academics with the arts; mental wholeness with physical, social, and spiritual wholeness; and future career with family relationships.</p>
	<p>Dedicated Service</p> <p>A view that looks beyond oneself to the assets and needs of the surrounding community and the world and finds fulfillment in unlocking potential in the service of mankind. The model SSIS graduate will demonstrate a caring attitude, be environmentally aware, and persevere for the good of the community.</p>



PROFILE OF A LEARNER

As a community of learners, we are:

Collaborative

We include others, work purposefully and respectfully to achieve a shared goal and recognize everyone's contributions.

Creative

We wonder; we seek and generate original ideas and outcomes.

Critical Thinkers

We ask questions and inquire of self and others; we evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information from multiple perspectives to make meaning before taking action.

Communicators

We listen actively; we express ideas with clarity and respect.

Adaptive

We respond to change with an open mind in order to learn and grow physically, mentally, socially and emotionally.

Courageous

We take action in challenging situations; we persevere when it is right to do so and recognize when it is right to change.

Reflective

We pause and evaluate our thinking, actions, and impact.

Ethical

We act with integrity; we respect the rights of all individuals and meet our responsibilities to the greater community.

Knowledgeable

We develop and use conceptual understandings, exploring knowledge across a wide range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance. (IB)

NEW UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING

The 2024–2025 school year marked a transformative milestone: the complete internal overhaul of the former middle school, the original building on campus. While its exterior remains a familiar fixture, the interior was reborn as the state-of-the-art Upper Elementary.

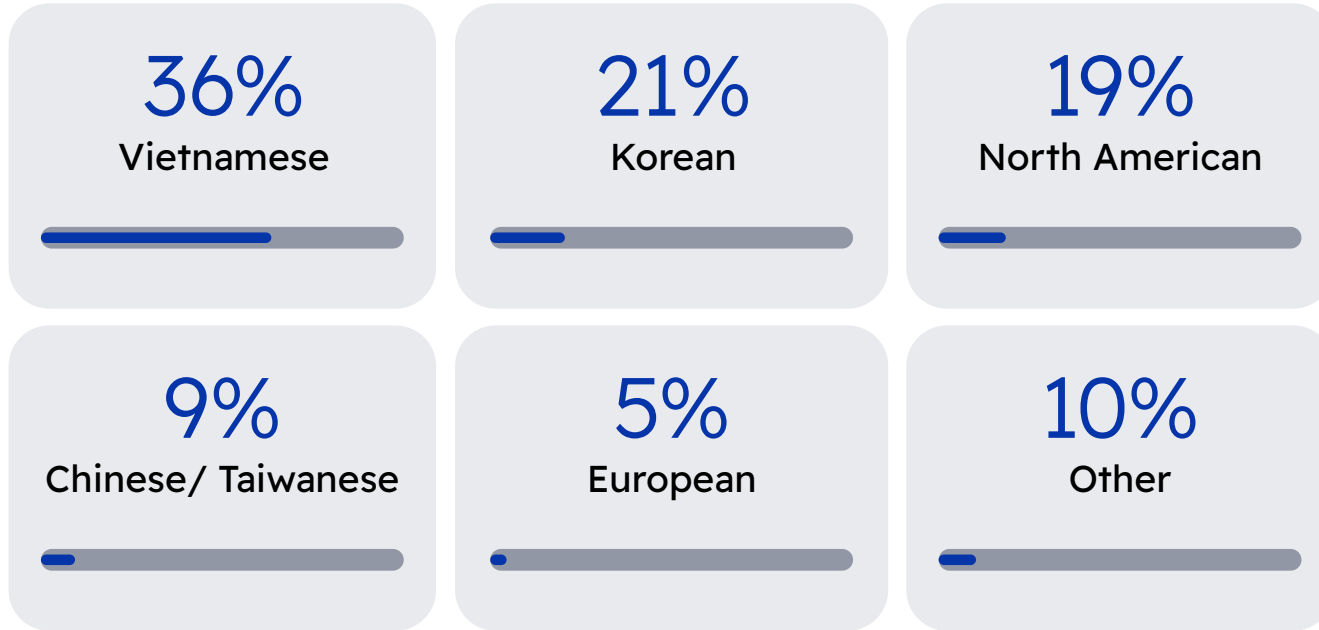
This thoughtfully designed space now inspires the next generation of learners, featuring a top floor entirely dedicated to STEAM and robotics, alongside flexible classrooms, a modern library, a dedicated drama room, and upgraded shared amenities, including a pool, gymnasium, and cafeteria. It's a re-imagined space that honors our past while shaping the future of learning.

The renovation was led by alumnus Luke Nguyen, SSIS Class of 2009, whose connection to the building gave the project more profound significance. The new Upper Elementary carries forward its legacy as a place where generations of Dragons will continue to learn, play, and grow together; an enduring symbol of the community that defines SSIS.

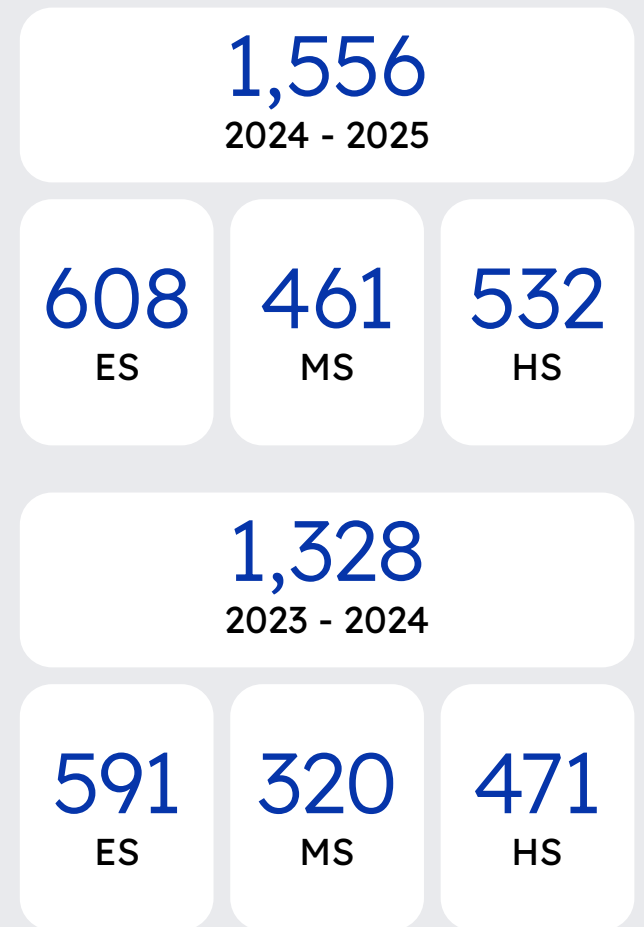


OUR STUDENTS

45 NATIONALITIES

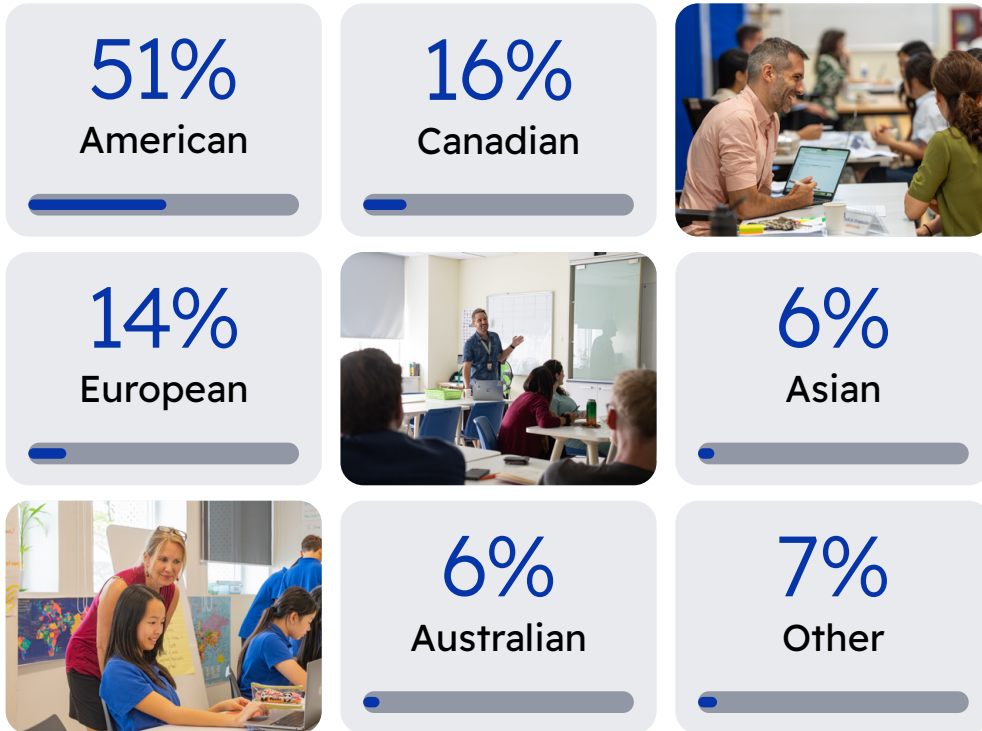


STUDENT POPULATION

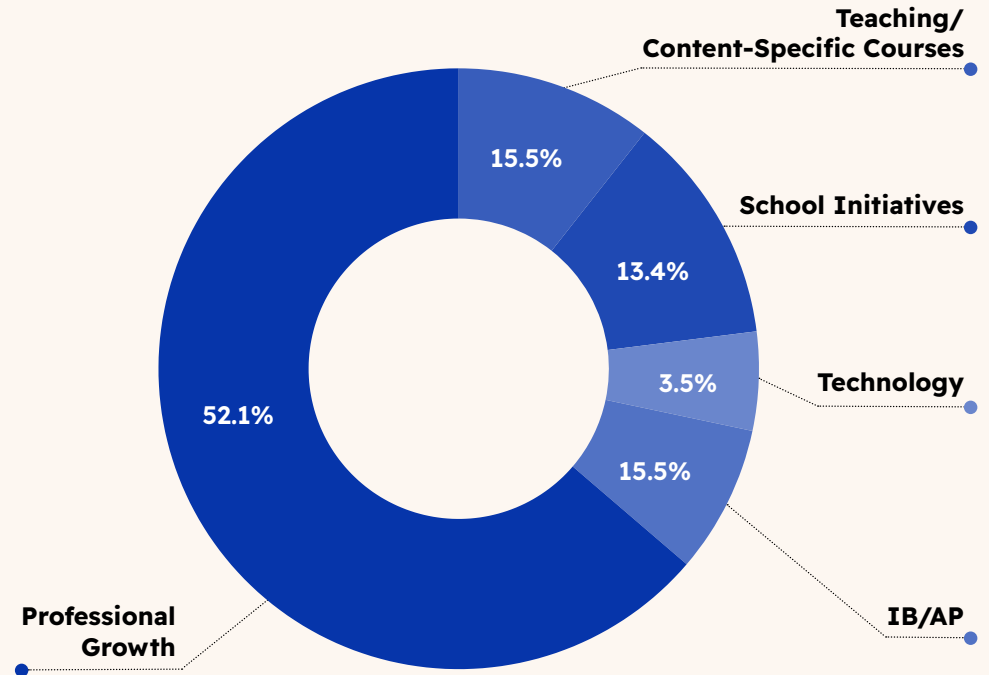


OUR TEACHERS

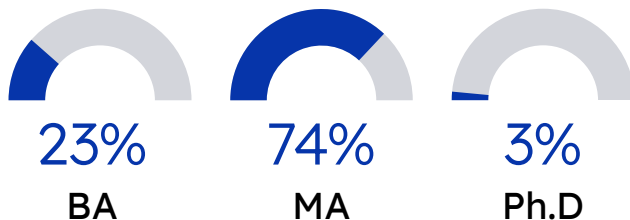
25 NATIONALITIES



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES



HIGHEST DEGREES



AVERAGE YEARS - TEACHERS



AVERAGE YEARS - ADMIN



CLASS OF 2025 - UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

* Multiple acceptances

NORTH AMERICA

Andrews University
 Arizona State University*
 Art Center College of Design
 Auburn University
 Bates College
 Binghamton University*
 Boston University
 Brandeis University
 Bridgewater State University
 California College of the Arts
 California State Polytechnic University-Pomona
 California State University-Long Beach
 California State University-Los Angeles
 Case Western Reserve University
 Central Washington University
 Chapman University
 Claremont McKenna College*
 Clark University
 Colorado State University
 Concordia University-Irvine
 CUNY Bernard M Baruch College*
 DePaul University*
 Drexel University*
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach*
 Emerson College
 Florida Institute of Technology
 Florida State University*
 Fordham University
 Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
 Harvey Mudd College
 Houston Christian University
 Illinois Institute of Technology*
 Indiana State University
 Indiana University-Bloomington*
 Iowa State University
 Johns Hopkins University*
 Kent State University at Kent*
 Lewis University
 Louisiana State University
 Loyola Marymount University
 Loyola University Chicago
 Manhattan University
 Marquette University
 Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
 McGill University*
 McMaster University
 Michigan State University*
 Minerva University
 New Mexico State University-Main Campus
 New York University
 North Carolina State University at Raleigh
 Northeastern University*
 Ohio State University-Main Campus
 Oregon State University

Pace University
 Pepperdine University
 Purdue University-Main Campus
 Queen's University*
 Roosevelt University
 Rutgers University-New Brunswick*
 Rutgers University-Newark
 San Diego State University*
 San Francisco State University*
 Santa Clara University
 Savannah College of Art and Design*
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago*
 School of Visual Arts
 Seattle University
 Simon Fraser University*
 Skidmore College
 Springfield College
 Suffolk University*
 Syracuse University
 Temple University
 Texas A&M University-College Station*
 The New School*
 The Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus*
 The University of Alabama
 The University of British Columbia*
 The University of Texas at Dallas
 Toronto Metropolitan University*
 United States Coast Guard Academy
 United States Military Academy
 University of Alberta
 University of British Columbia - Okanagan
 University of Calgary*
 University of California-Berkeley
 University of California-Davis*
 University of California-Irvine*
 University of California-Los Angeles*
 University of California-Merced*
 University of California-Riverside*
 University of California-San Diego*
 University of California-Santa Barbara
 University of California-Santa Cruz*
 University of Central Florida
 University of Colorado Boulder
 University of Colorado Denver
 University of Delaware
 University of Georgia
 University of Houston
 University of Illinois Chicago
 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
 University of Iowa
 University of Maryland-College Park
 University of Massachusetts-Amherst*
 University of Massachusetts-Boston
 University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

University of Minnesota-Duluth
 University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
 University of New Mexico-Main Campus
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 University of North Georgia
 University of Oregon*
 University of Ottawa
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus*
 University of Rhode Island
 University of Richmond
 University of San Diego
 University of San Francisco*
 University of South Florida*
 University of Southern California*
 University of Toronto*
 University of Utah
 University of Victoria*
 University of Virginia-Main Campus*
 University of Washington-Seattle Campus
 University of Waterloo*
 University of Wisconsin-Madison
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 Wheaton College
 Whittier College
 William & Mary

EUROPE

Arts University Bournemouth
 Aston University, Birmingham
 Cardiff University
 Escape Studios
 Glion Institute of Higher Education
 Leiden University
 LISAA - L'Institut Supérieur Des Arts Appliqués
 Moscow State Institute of International Relations (University)
 Nottingham Trent University
 Oxford Brookes University
 Ravensbourne University London
 Royal Holloway, University of London
 UCL (University College London)
 University of Amsterdam
 University of Essex
 University of Manchester
 University of Reading
 University of St Andrews
 University of Westminster, London
 University of Wrocław

AUSTRALIA

Flinders University
 James Cook University
 Monash University
 The Australian National University
 The University of Sydney*
 University of Melbourne*
 University of New South Wales*
 Western Sydney University

ASIA

American University in Dubai
 Ateneo de Manila University-Quezon City
 Broward College-Ho Chi Minh City
 Hong Bang University International
 Hanyang University
 International Christian University*
 Keio University
 Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
 Korea University
 Nanyang Technological University
 National University of Singapore*
 RMIT University-Vietnam*
 Seoul National University*
 SIM Global Education
 Singapore Management University
 Sophia University
 Sungkyunkwan University
 Temple University, Japan Campus
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong*
 The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology*
 The University of Hong Kong*
 Waseda University
 Yonsei University*

CLASS OF 2025 MATRICULATION

53%	23%	11%
North America	Asia	Australia
6%	6%	1%
Europe	Gap Year/Military/ Training Institute	Undecided

ATHLETICS & AQUATICS

Sports Results

SISAC

HS Champions

Boys Badminton
Girls Badminton
Girls Soccer
Girls Volleyball

MS Champions

Girls U13 Badminton
Girls U15 Badminton

ES Champions

Boys/Girls Tee-Ball
Boys Basketball

MRISA

MRISA Sr.

1st Place
Girls Soccer
2nd Place
Boys Badminton
Girls Badminton
3rd Place
Boys Basketball
Boys Soccer

MRISA Jr.

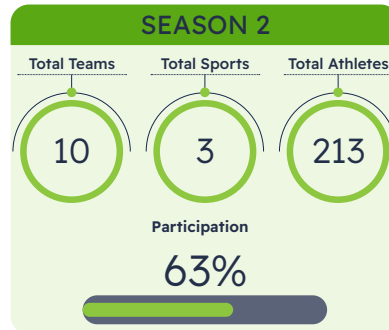
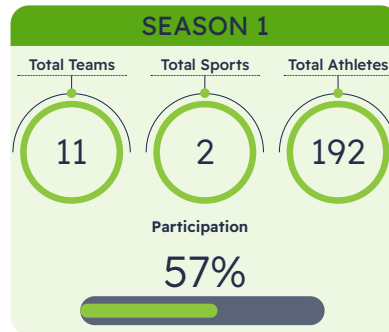
1st Place
Boys Badminton
Boys Basketball
Boys Soccer
Girls Basketball
2nd Place
Girls Badminton
Girls Volleyball
3rd Place
Boys Volleyball

SEASAC

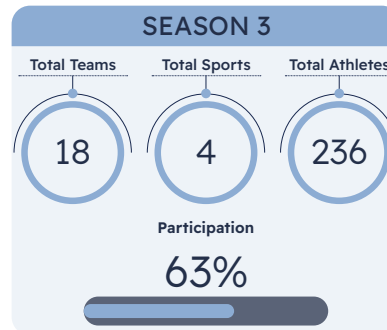
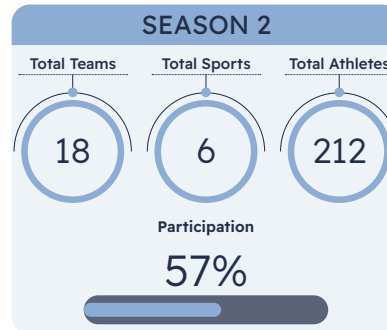
1st Place
Boys Golf (All schools competing)
Girls Badminton (Division 2)
2nd Place
Boys Volleyball (Division 1)
3rd Place
Boys Basketball (Division 1)
***Highest-ever finishes**
Girls Cross-Country - 5th (All schools competing)
Boys 11s Soccer - 6th (Division 1)
Boys Softball - 5th (Division 1)
Girls Softball - 8th (Division 1)

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL*

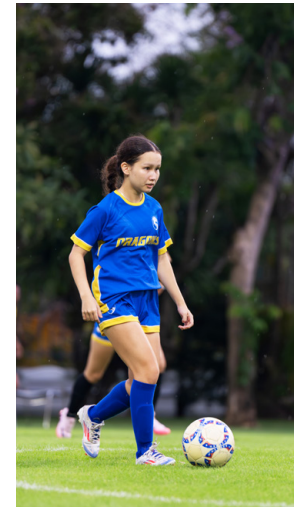
* Athletics only offered G3-G5



MIDDLE SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL



PROGRAMS

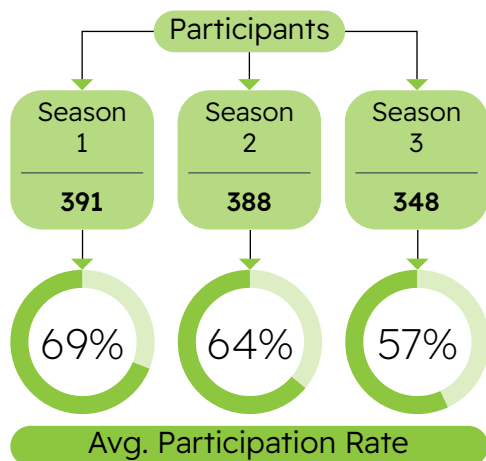
Students	Debate	MUN	Robotics/VEX	Math/MathCounts
Grade 6	18	20	N/A	8
Grade 7	17	28	2	10
Grade 8	28	37	2	9
MS Total	63	85	4	26
Grade 9	20	12	15	10
Grade 10	12	21	17	12
Grade 11	17	17	15	9
Grade 12	8	7	11	11
HS Total	57	57	58	42



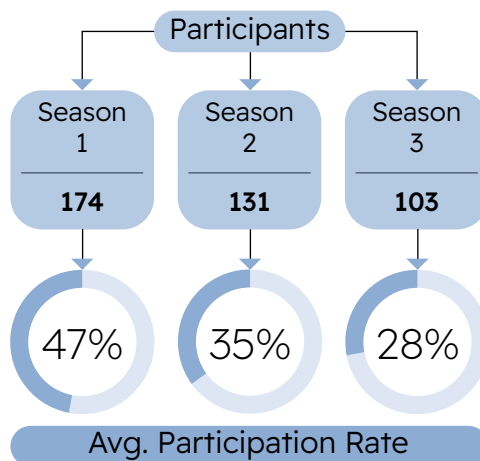
ASA PARTICIPATION

Number of students participating in at least 1 activity (unique students)
 (Note: EC students do not participate in S1 ASAs)

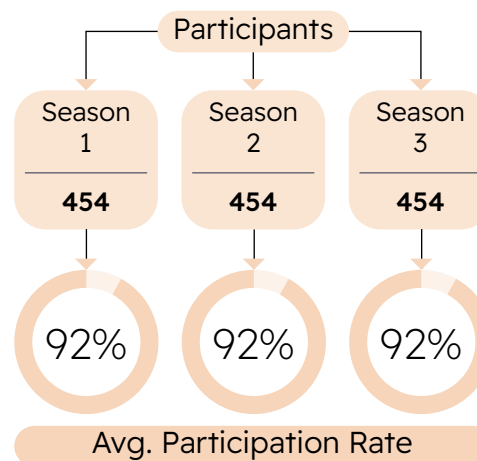
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



MIDDLE SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL



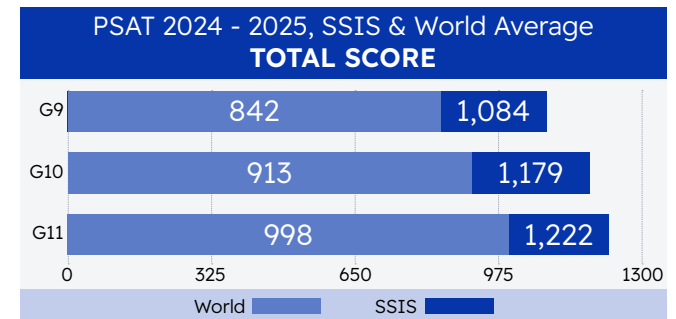
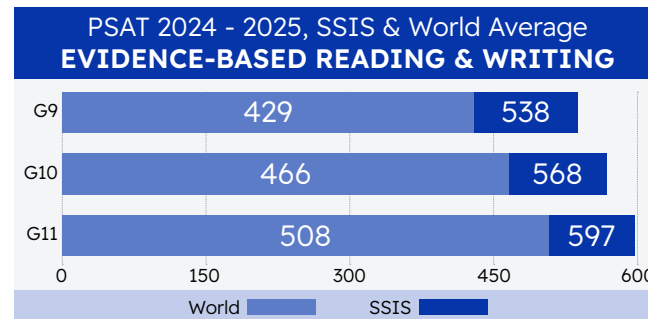
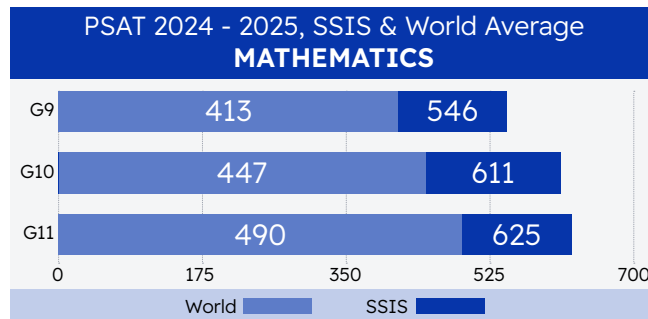
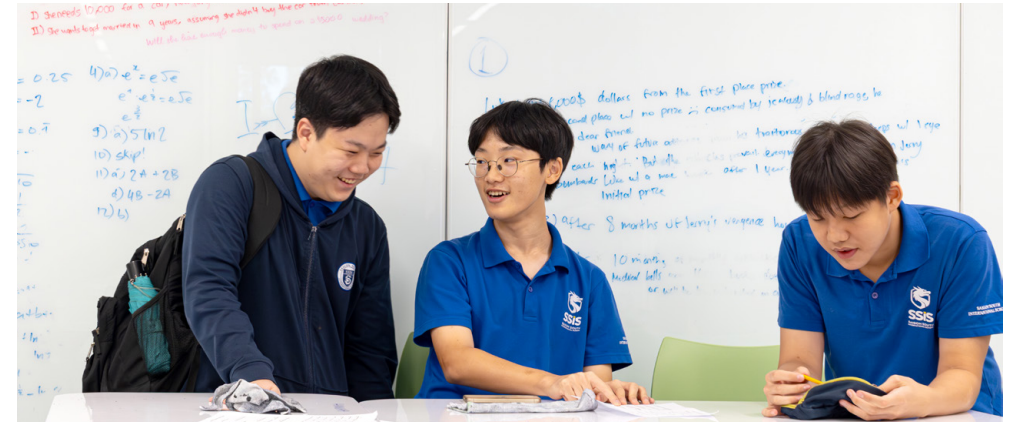
ASAs/CLUBS OFFERED

Season	S1	S2	S3
ES	84	89	86
MS	15	17	13
HS	56	56	56

PSAT

The College Board developed the PSAT to help students with overall preparedness for the SATs. All PSAT tests are scored on a scale similar to the SAT, making it easy to demonstrate growth across years. US citizens qualify for the National Merit Scholarship based on their PSAT results.

SSIS students consistently performed above the world average and have improved their results each year.



SAT

At SSIS, students typically take the SAT in both grades 11 and 12. It is up to the students to determine how many times they want to take the SAT. SSIS reports the overall average of each student's best score.

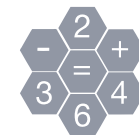
SAT EXAM RESULTS

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Average



648

Math Average



695

IB

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is a widely recognized, well-rounded, rigorous course of study for the final two years of high school. Students are required to take a total of 6 subjects, complete Creativity, Activity, and Services (CAS) activities, complete a Theory of Knowledge class, and write an original 4,000-word Extended Essay.

Each subject has an external exam, which is graded on a scale of 1 to 7. To be awarded the IB Diploma, students must earn 24 points on the exams and complete all of the requirements listed above.



SSIS IB RESULTS, MAY 2025	
36 IB Diploma candidates registered	36.8 Average points obtained by Diploma candidates
36 Candidates awarded the IB Diploma	44 Highest points awarded to a Diploma candidate
312 Subject exams taken	5.8 Diploma candidates' average exam score

SUBJECT	Average grade (SSIS)		Highest grade (SSIS)		Average grade (World)		SUBJECT	Average grade (SSIS)		Highest grade (SSIS)		Average grade (World)	
	HL	SL	HL	SL	HL	SL		HL	SL	HL	SL	HL	SL
English A: Lang & Literature	5.9	5.6	7	7	4.8	5	Psychology	5.9	5.6	7	6	4.7	4.4
Japanese: Literature (Self-Taught)	*	7	*	7	*	5	Env. & Soc.	*	5.9	*	7	5.9	4.3
Russian: Literature (Self-Taught)	*	7	*	7	*	4.6	Biology	6.2	6	7	7	4.5	4.3
Vietnamese: Literature (Self-Taught)	*	5.7	*	6	*	5.1	Chemistry	5.9	5.7	7	7	4.8	4.9
Chinese B: Mandarin	7	5.3	7	7	6	5.7	Physics	5.1	5	7	5	4.9	4.3
Mandarin Ab	*	6.7	*	7	*	5.2	Mathematics Analysis & Approaches	5.8	5.4	7	7	4.9	4.5
Spanish Ab	*	6.3	*	7	*	4.9	Mathematics Applications & Interpretation	5	*	5	*	4.5	*
Spanish B	*	6	*	7	*	4.9	Theatre	5.3	4.3	6	5	5.1	4.6
Economics	5.8	6.4	7	7	5.2	4.9	Visual Arts	6	6	7	6	4.3	4

*Course or level not offered

AP

Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the corresponding AP exams. Exams are graded on a scale of 1 to 5.

Students in the Class of 2025 were permitted to take one AP course in Grade 9, one in Grade 10, three in Grade 11, and four in Grade 12.

(In Grades 11–12, AP Economics includes registration for both AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics exams but counts as one course toward the SSIS AP limits.) Registration requests beyond these limits can be approved by the Administrative Team through a highly selective process.

AP COURSES	Average grade (SSIS)	Highest grade (SSIS)	Average grade (World)
2-D Art & Design	4.8	5	3.3
Art: Drawing	4.7	5	3.5
Biology	4.5	5	3.4
Calculus AB	3.8	5	3.3
Calculus BC	4.6	5	3.7
Chemistry	4.3	5	3.7
Computer Science A	3.0	5	3.3
Computer Science Principles	3.5	5	3.1
Comparative Government & Politics	3.7	5	3.2
English Language & Composition	3.9	5	3.2
English Literature & Composition	3.7	5	3.5
Human Geography	4.3	5	3.7
Macroeconomics	4.4	5	3.9
Microeconomics	4.2	5	3.6
Physics 1	4.2	5	3.8
Psychology	4.1	5	3.2
Statistics	4.0	5	3.4
US History	3.9	5	3.6

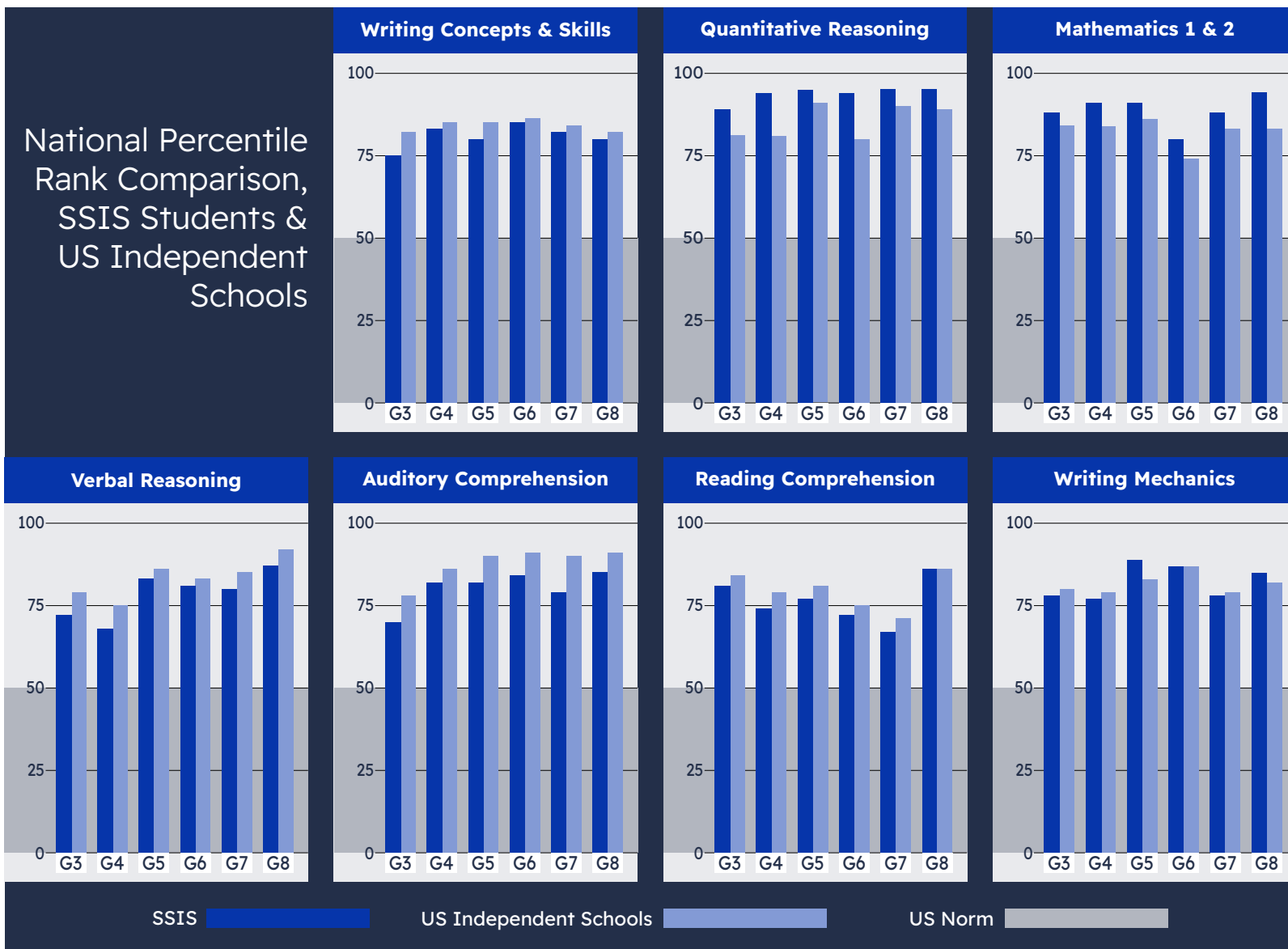


SSIS AP RESULTS, MAY 2025	
96% Scored 3 or higher	57 AP Scholars with Distinction (Highest Distinction)
261 Students registered	31 AP Scholars with Honors
575 Total exams taken	45 AP Scholars

CTP

The CTP is an assessment test for high-achieving students in reading, listening, and mathematics. SSIS students' median percentile consistently ranks above the United States norm (50th percentile).

Our students excel particularly in Quantitative Reasoning and Mathematics 1 & 2, with results comparable to those of US independent schools. As over 75% of our students speak a language other than English at home, it is not unexpected that the results for verbal reasoning and reading comprehension are lower than those of independent schools.

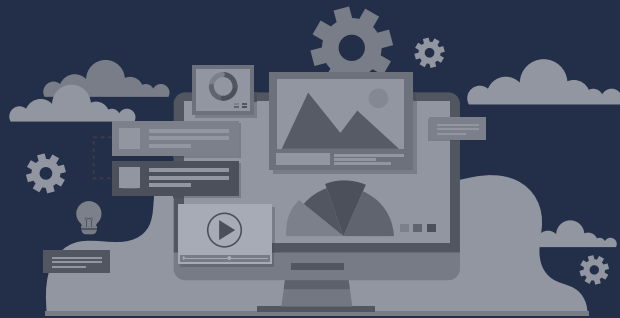


COMMUNICATIONS

At SSIS, clear and accessible communication is central to our partnership with families. The Parent Portal remains the one place parents can easily find what they need—calendars, the weekly Dragon Digest, and important updates from the Head of School—organized in a way that supports busy parents.

We are committed to continually refining our approach to connecting with families. Feedback from surveys and conversations guides us in making our communication clearer and more focused, ensuring that the remarkable work happening at SSIS is always easy to find and follow.

WEBSITE TRAFFIC



149,031 Organic Searches
(number of people who visited our site)

541,525 Page Views
(view of a page on the site)



SSIS Stories
36



Parent Portal Posts
116



HOS Updates
29



Dragon Digests
38



Parent Partnership
Sessions
49



University Visits
116



SeeSaw
Student Journal Items
16,120



Facebook Followers
13,790



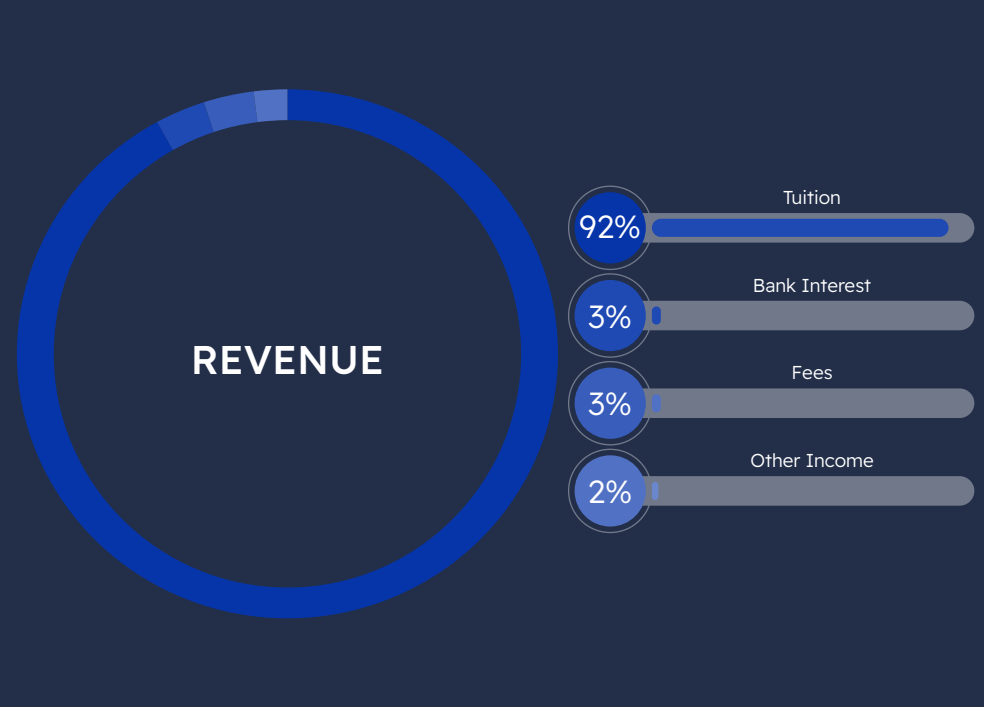
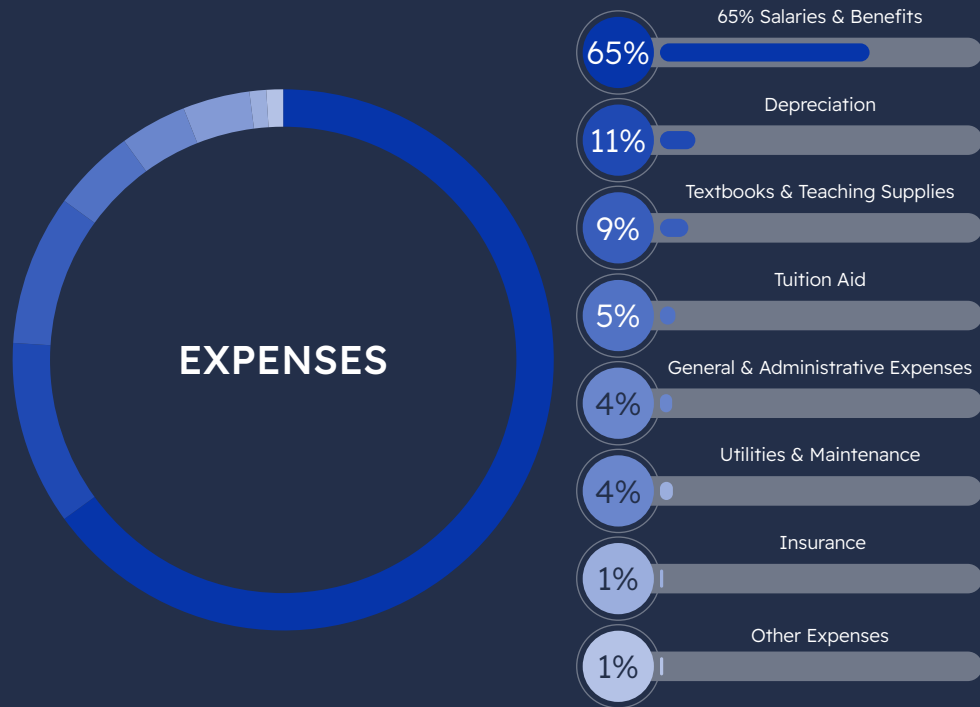
Instagram Followers
5,709



YouTube Subscribers
2,969

SCHOOL FINANCES

As the only not-for-profit K-12 school in Ho Chi Minh City, our revenue is reinvested in our students' educational experience at SSIS. We hire and retain highly qualified teachers and invest in the resources needed to best support our students' learning and growth. Our facilities provide an unparalleled environment for opportunities, both in and outside of the classroom.



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

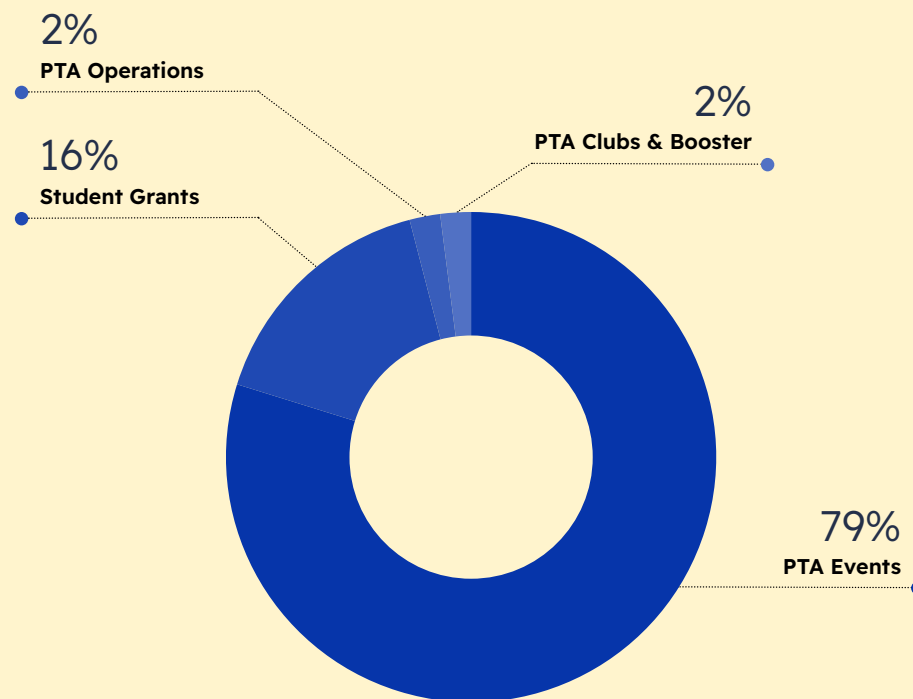
The school year began with an inspiring PTA Welcome Coffee, which brought together more than 150 parents and set a positive tone for what would be a year filled with moments celebrating the strength and unity of our SSIS community.

At the heart of these efforts was our dedicated PTA Board, which included an executive team, divisional representatives, and a booster club leader. Their hard work and leadership were key in organizing five large-scale community events, including the highly successful Family Fun Day, which brought a record 2,071 community members to campus. We celebrate and thank each of them for their tireless dedication in making these memorable events possible.

In addition to these community-wide celebrations, the PTA organized 13 Parent Clubs to encourage parents to connect and engage with one another outside of school. Covering a wide range of interests, from the Book Club to multiple language clubs, an average of around 12 parents attended each activity, further enriching the SSIS experience for our families throughout the year.



EXPENSES

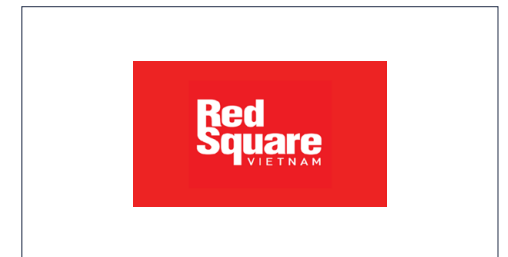


INTERNSHIPS

Forty-four SSIS students successfully completed an internship in 13 different companies in Ho Chi Minh City.

The following local businesses supported our students in pursuing tangible, valuable internship experience:

- American Eye Center
- BDA Partners
- Boho Decor
- Dale Carnegie
- Kids Club Saigon
- Oakwood Residence Saigon
- Phu Hung Life
- Porshe
- Sofitel
- Superior BFF Centuries (Veterinarian)
- VNG Games
- MoMo
- Red Square Vietnam



ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Alumni engagement continues to grow, as evidenced by more than 50 alumni visiting the school in the 2024-2025 academic year, following the appointment of an official visit through the request form added to sis.edu.vn/alumni at the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

Our Grade 2 buddies (now in Grade 3) wrote letters to their senior buddies, and some buddies wrote letters back that were delivered to the classroom to nurture the relationships built throughout their time at SSIS.

We hosted five alumni events during the year, two on campus and three overseas, in New York, Melbourne, and Sydney, collectively drawing 91 sign-ups.

Our newly launched Instagram account (April 2025) has quickly gained traction.





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