



Seoul International School Annual Report

2024-2025



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.

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.



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

Letter from the Head of School

Dear SIS Community,

It is a privilege to share with you the 2024–2025 Annual Report for SIS. Each year, we reflect not only on our milestones but also on the wonderful experiences that make our school a place where students thrive. This past year has reaffirmed what makes SIS unique: the great sense of success, belonging, and shared purpose felt by every member of our community.

Across classrooms, performance spaces, athletic fields, and community experiences, our students demonstrate confidence, collaboration, and joy in their learning. They do not simply acquire knowledge; they apply it, question it, and use it to connect with the world around them. The results are seen daily in the pride students take in their work and the supportive energy they give to one another. Reciprocity in the student learning community is a wonderful part of being on campus each day.

Our faculty and staff remain central to this success. Their commitment to guiding students with care, creativity, and high expectations fosters an environment where growth is celebrated and challenges are embraced. Together, they cultivate not just academic progress but the qualities of empathy, responsibility, and resilience that prepare students for lives of purpose. Our TIGERS Values see to it that students act with integrity to build Talent, Character, and Intellect each day.

Equally essential is the role of our SIS families. The trust and encouragement you provide strengthen the social and learning fabric of SIS, ensuring that our students are surrounded by a partnership dedicated to their development and importantly grounded in their well-being.

As we look to the year's accomplishments, we do so with gratitude and optimism. The SIS community continues to embody the values of global education, leadership, and meaningful impact. This 2024-2025 annual report highlights achievements that belong to all of us and directs us towards the opportunities still to come.

Thank you for joining us in celebration of our achievements and in shaping a future filled with promise.

With appreciation,

Dr. Gerhard
Head of School



Dr. James Gerhard
Head of School

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 and Advancement : Nirmala Jayaram
Director of Curriculum & Professional Development : Molly Fisher
Director of Guidance & College Counseling : Kelcey Edwards

SIS in Numbers

Student

823 TOTAL

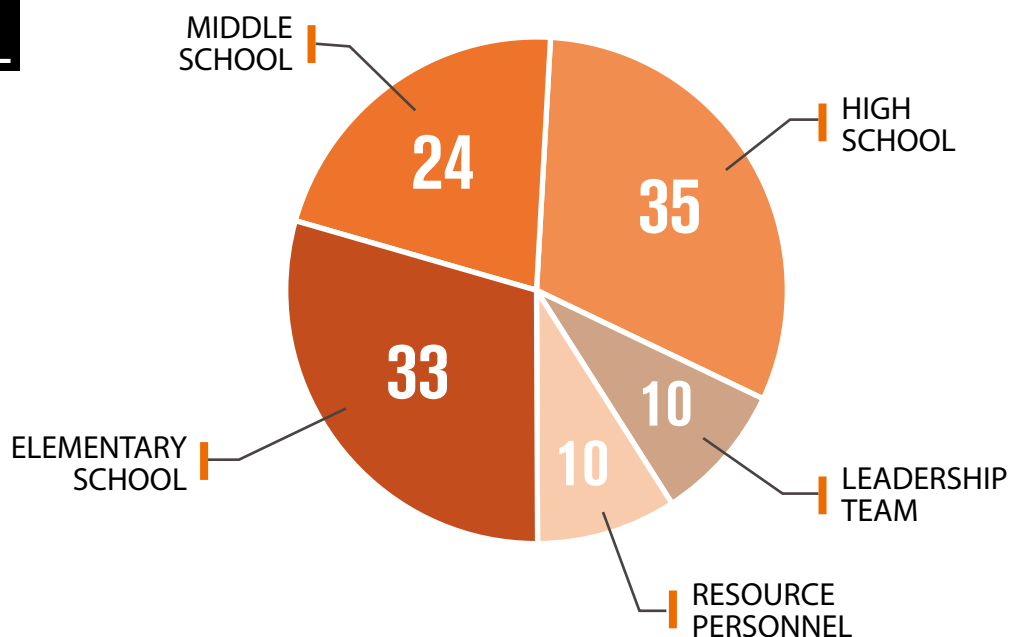
298 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

227 MIDDLE SCHOOL

298 HIGH SCHOOL

Faculty

108 TOTAL



School Events 2024-25

The 2024-25 school year was another successful year at SIS, with numerous schoolwide and divisional events. The annual Terry Fox Run, our second year supporting the Child Leukemia Center, raised over 10 million Korean won. Visiting authors, including James Rhee and Stephen Waterhouse, inspired students to expand their creative boundaries. Fall Festival, Chuseok celebrations, Lunar New Year, Pi Day were some of the popular community-building events. Each division's theatrical production involved a large majority of students, either on stage or backstage. *A Hint of Snow White* (elementary), *A Survivor's Guide to the Apocalypse* (middle school), and *Alice in Wonderland* (high school) showcased our students' diverse talents. SIS hosted National History Day Korea once again, welcoming 800 participants from 35 schools nationwide. The year culminated with our 48th Graduation Ceremony in May and the second annual on-campus alumni reunion in June.



Curriculum and Professional Development

In support of SIS' vision to *foster an earnest passion for learning*, we have worked diligently to ensure our curricular and instructional goals are supported with the highest quality, engaging professional development. The 2024-25 school year saw us reap the benefits of thousands of collective hours engaged in professional growth across SIS.

Curriculum Highlights

Our faculty invest heavily in ensuring our written curriculum is taught in engaging, growth-focused, and developmentally-appropriate ways. The WASC team during our recent accreditation visit highlighted the quality of our curriculum and the powerful support it provides our students' growth. The following are just a sampling of dozens of highlights this school year.

1. Strengthened alignment schoolwide in our Arts, World Languages, Math, Science, and Social Studies programs.
2. Early Years - PK3 and JK created and began the full implementation of a Play-Based Curriculum with strong links among enhanced classroom environments, research-informed best practices, and a system to share evidence of learning.
3. ES - Elementary School Literacy program development, with additional training and preparation already in place for new evidence-informed resources beginning 2026-27.
4. MS - Ongoing progress and continued strengthening of Advisory and Health Education.
5. HS - Great success in balancing the AP program and general course expectations has ensured each of our courses is specifically tailored to challenge all students appropriately. New courses include:
 - College Algebra and Trigonometry. High school has expanded its offerings to ensure high quality Mathematics are accessible to all students. We will offer AP Precalculus beginning in the 2025-26 school year to complete this expansion.
 - Design Thinking and Engineering. In response to student and parent feedback for a more hands-on Science course, we have succeeded in offering a high quality course focused on designing and applying science and engineering principles in a real world setting.

Professional Development Highlights

We have many highlights this school year and truly set the bar by providing some of the best professional development for our own staff and in drawing attendees from all over Asia. We can say with confidence that our students remain at the center of all this work; they will benefit long-term from faculty professional development initiatives. This school year, we drew over 700 visitors to the SIS campus for PD events. Additionally, dozens of SIS faculty presented externally at major education conferences throughout Asia.

In total, SIS faculty attended nearly 200 professional development events this school year. We hosted a number of additional learning opportunities on our campus as well, including:

- Restorative Practices for Educators (September - October 2024). We brought together 75 educators to learn more about building compassionate and just school communities.
- Mini-EARCOS (October 2024). This PD day was fully teacher-led and allowed our faculty to support each other in improving our collective practices, which students certainly benefited from across the entire school.

- KORCOS Conference (November 2024) Small Steps, Big Impact. SIS hosted this conference with nearly 500 educators on campus from international schools across Korea. Our staff facilitated and attended sessions to improve professional practice, plus many students performed and presented at this conference as well.
- Jennifer Abrams (November - May). Throughout the year, Ms. Abrams partnered with SIS to support improved communication and collaboration for educators. These sessions have significantly improved the structures and procedures we build to foster meaningful, and sometimes difficult, communication to improve learning outcomes.
- EKC Literacy (January 2025). This weeklong training was tied to our ES curriculum highlight above, with a direct impact on student learning in increased clarity and confidence in delivering a more robust language arts program now and into the future.



2025 College & University Enrollment

Ayrshire College (Scotland)	1	Georgetown University	1	University of California, Berkeley	10
Babson College	1	Harvard University	1	University of California, Davis	2
Berklee College of Music	1	Johns Hopkins University	1	University of California, Irvine	2
Boston University	2	New York University	5	University of California, Los Angeles	2
Brown University	2	Northwestern University	3	University of Chicago	1
Carnegie Mellon University	1	Oxford College of Emory University	1	University of Michigan	1
Charles University (Czech Republic)	1	Pomona College	1	University of Notre Dame	1
Columbia University	1	Rhode Island School of Design	1	University of Southern California	6
Columbia University/Trinity College Dublin	1	Slippery Rock University	1	University of Texas at Austin	1
Cornell University	3	Stanford University	2	University of Toronto (Canada)	4
Dartmouth College	1	Swarthmore College	1	Washington University in St. Louis	2
Emory University	1	University at Buffalo	1	Yale University	1
Ewha Womans University (Korea)	1	University College London (UK)	2	Yonsei University – Underwood (Korea)	1





48th GRADUATION CEREMONY

MAY 23rd, 2025

Cumulative College &

Adelphi University	2	Cooper Union	3	Northeastern University	10
Art Center College of Design	1	Cornell University	18	Northwestern University	11
Babson College	1	Dartmouth College	9	Occidental College	2
Barnard College	1	Dickinson College	1	Otis College of Art & Design	1
Berklee College of Music	2	Duke University	6	Oxford College of Emory University	3
Boston College	2	Emerson College	1	Parsons The New School for Design	4
Boston University	4	Emory University	7	Pomona College	1
Brandeis University	1	Eugene Lang College	1	Pratt Institute	1
Brown University	10	George Washington University	1	Princeton University	2
California College of the Arts	1	Georgetown University	8	Purdue University	1
California Institute of the Arts	1	Georgia Institute of Technology	3	Rhode Island School of Design	7
Carnegie Mellon University	17	Hardin-Simmons University	1	Rice University	3
Case Western Reserve University	8	Harvard University	6	Saint Louis University	1
Claremont McKenna College	2	Johns Hopkins University	8	School of the Art Inst. of Chicago	2
Columbia University	6	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	2	Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	1
Columbia/Sciences Po	1	Mount Holyoke College	1	Stanford University	11
Columbia/Trinity College Dublin	1	New York University	49	Stevens Institute of Technology	1

University Enrollment 2021-2025

Swarthmore College	1	University of Pennsylvania	2	Ayrshire College	1
Syracuse University	1	University of Rochester	2	Charles University	1
Tufts University	7	University of Southern California	20	Durham University	1
Tulane University	1	University of Texas, Austin	4	Ewha Womans University	1
University at Buffalo	1	University of Vermont	1	George Mason University	1
University of California: Berkeley	27	University of Virginia	1	Hong Kong Univ. of Science & Technology	1
University of California: Davis	4	University of Washington	2	Leiden University	1
University of California: Irvine	11	Vanderbilt University	2	London School of Economics & Politics	1
University of California: Los Angeles	13	Vassar College	1	National Univ. of Singapore	1
University of California: San Diego	2	Washington University in St. Louis	12	Temple University	1
University of California: Santa Barbara	4	Wellesley College	1	University College London	2
University of Chicago	6	Wesleyan University	4	University of Hong Kong	2
University of Detroit Mercy (Dental Program)	1	Wheaton College (Massachusetts)	2	University of Sydney	1
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	8	Yale University	2	University of Toronto	11
University of Michigan	6			Waseda University	1
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1			Yonsei University (Underwood)	1
University of Notre Dame	3				

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	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of AP courses offered	23	23	23	23	23
Number of students taking at least 1 AP course*	286	256	225	214	211
Number of AP exams written	851	791	692	639	629
Number of exams with a score of 5	329	342	295	323	302
Number of exams with a score of 4	246	204	186	185	208

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.*

AP Scholar Recognition

Year	Category	AP Scholar	AP Scholar with Honors	AP Scholar with Distinction	AP International Diploma	AP Capstone Diploma**
2025	Number of Scholars	17	41	84	11	9
	Average Score	3.34	4.35	4.47	4.4	4.59
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

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

SAT Results

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



SIS Average SAT Scores

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Evidence-based Reading and Writing	680	698	703	704	696
Math	760	760	749	751	740
Combined	1445	1458	1452	1455	1436

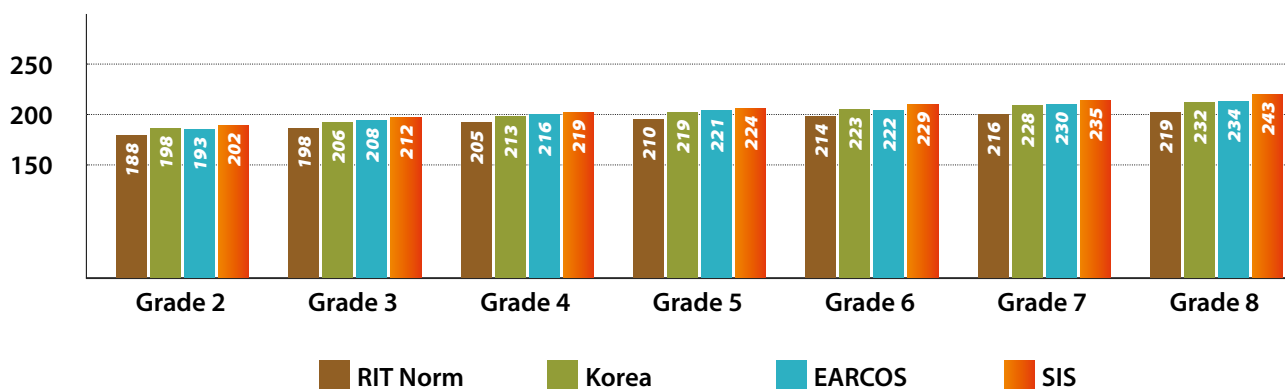


Measures of Academic Progress

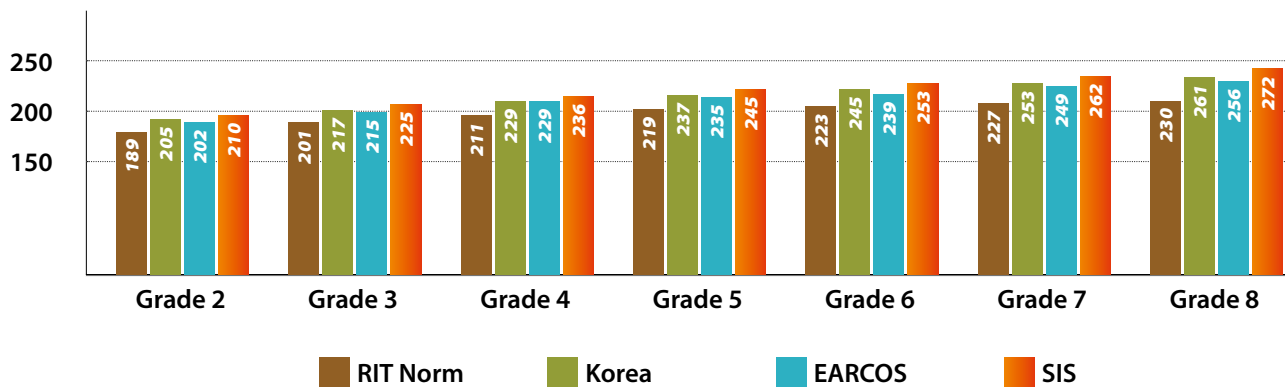


MAP, or the Measures of Academic Progress, is a computerized adaptive test which helps teachers, parents, and administrators improve learning for all students and make informed decisions to promote a child's academic growth. At SIS, it is administered to students in grades 2 - 8.

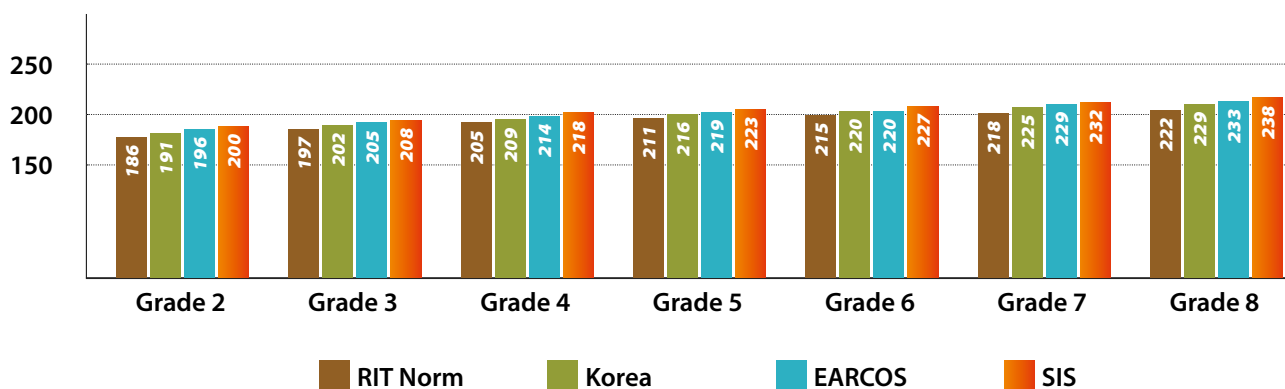
Language



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 Conference	KAIAC Tournament	AISA
Girls Volleyball	T- 1 st Red	5 th - Cup	1 st
Boys Volleyball	T- 1 st Red	7 th - Cup	6 th
Girls Tennis	5 th - Blue	5 th - Blue	N/A
Boys Tennis	1 st - Blue	1 st - Blue	N/A
Girls Cross Country	6 th	7 th	2 nd
Boys Cross Country	5 th	6 th	3 rd
Girls Golf	NP	N/A	N/A
Boys Golf	1 st	N/A	N/A



Winter Season

	KAIAC Conference	KAIAC Tournament	AISA
Girls Basketball	T-2 nd - Blue	3 rd - Cup	3 rd
Boys Basketball	3 rd - Blue	7 th - Cup	2 nd
Girls Swimming	8 th	7 th	3 rd
Boys Swimming	3 rd	2 nd	3 rd
Cheer	N/A	N/A	2 nd Place



Spring Season

	KAIAC Conference	KAIAC Tournament	AISA
Girls Soccer	6 th - Red	5 th - Plate	3 rd
Boys Soccer	1 st - Red	2 nd - Cup	2 nd
Badminton	5 th	6 th	3 rd
Track and Field	7 th	7 th	3 rd



Total unique students involved in sports - 211 / 301 (70%)

High School Activities

Seoul International School offered an increasing number of clubs for students to participate in at the high school level in 2024-2025. These clubs offered students opportunities to explore specialty interests including dance, digital media, coding, public speaking, community service, etc.

AQT

The HS AQT team met throughout the academic year and competed at 4 KAIAC events. The team had strong finishes at each event, with improvements shown throughout the season.

Forensics

Our Forensics teams for speech and debate participated in 4 KAIAC events, and continues to be a program with strong interest from students. This group met for weekly practice sessions throughout most of the school year.

MUN

Our Model United Nations program sent delegations to two events - THIMUN at The Hague, Netherlands, and THAIMUN in Bangkok, Thailand. 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 received several honors and accolades during the year, including the prestigious Platinum level ranking at KIMEA Large Group Festival, received by Band, Choir, and Strings. In addition, students were selected for and participated in AMIS honors events hosted in Beijing, Singapore, and Seoul.

Our Drama Department successfully presented *Alice In Wonderland*, and attended the KIDEA Drama Festival.



High School Activities



AP Art Show

Students in AP Drawing, AP 2D Design and AP 3D Design present the best of their portfolio in the AP Art Exhibition, held every year in April. The art displayed showcases the creativity of our talented students.

VEX Robotics

Our Robotics team competed in the KAIAC VEX league, participating in several KAIAC events and competitions. Robotics continues to grow in popularity at SIS, both at the High School and Middle School.

Mu Alpha Theta (Competitive Math)

Our Math competition team participated in a variety of local and online events during the year. Highlights included winning the AISA Math Competition for the third consecutive year.

After School Enrichment Programs - ES

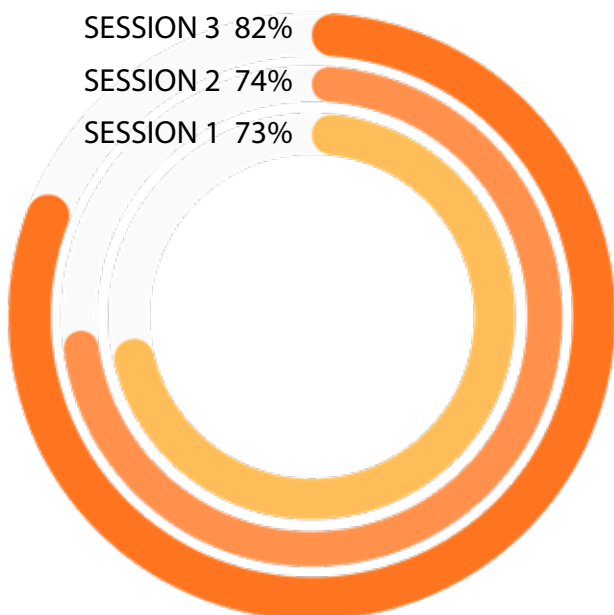
The After School Enrichment (ASE) program is a popular part of the student experience in elementary school. Classes typically consist of 10 students; the small numbers enhancing their experience. In 2024-25, we had a participation rate of 82%.

ES ASE Course List

- Play-Doh
- Art Kids
- Just Dance
- Kids Yoga
- Lego Builders
- Ballerinas
- Community Service Club
- Multi Sports
- Mindfulness Art
- Imaginary Worlds
- Swimming
- Board Games
- Table Tennis
- Violin
- Puzzle Therapy
- Lego & Stories
- Arts n Crafts
- Ukuele
- Rice Paper Dolls
- Noraebang
- Board Game Club
- Art N' Crafts
- Harry Potter Book Club
- Paw Print Press
- Little Chefs
- Literary Legends
- Snow White Dancers
- Cricut Creations



Participation



After School Enrichment Programs - MS

In middle school, the ASE programs are designed to be more in-depth, combining both academic rigor and enjoyment. Middle school students take advantage of ASE classes as a valuable opportunity to practice and develop skills that will benefit them in high school.

MS ASE Course List

- AQT Prep & Practice
- Arts & Crafts
- Baking 101: The Art and Science of Baking
- Dungeons and Dragons Club
- Futsal
- Newspaper
- Yearbook Creators Workshop
- Pumped To Climb: Intro to Bouldering
- Swing in Golf



Alumni Relations

Alumni Gatherings in 2024-25

Alumni are the heartbeat of a school's legacy, carrying its values into the wider world while remaining a vital bridge between generations. At SIS, thousands of graduates, spread across Korea and far beyond, stand as a testament to the school's enduring influence. Recognizing the immense possibilities within this global network, SIS embraced alumni engagement as a defining initiative for the 2024-2025 school year.

This vision came to life through landmark gatherings in the US and Korea. SIS hosted alumni reunions in Boston, New York and San Francisco in January 2025, and the second on-campus alumni celebration in June. Over a hundred alumni and their families attended these events.

Alumni impact extended beyond reunions. They stepped back into classrooms as mentors and guest speakers, generously sharing their stories, professional wisdom, and life lessons. For students, these valuable conversations gave them glimpses into the many futures that an SIS education makes possible.



School Information

Campus Map



Directions

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

Subway | Bokjeong Station
Exit 2
Suin-Bundang Line (Yellow), Subway 8 Line (Pink)



Seoul International School

www.siskorea.org