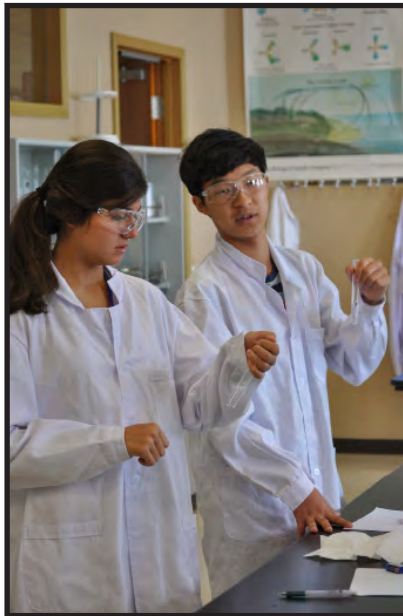


The DAIS CURRENT

October 2014

Volume 21, Issue 21

Dalian American International School



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SERVICES & DAIS

In 1955 International Schools Services was founded as a non-profit organization dedicated to providing assistance to international schools. In 2005, Lisa Liang, CEO of The Honor Roll Company, and ISS teamed up to launch the Dalian American International School. ISS performed many of the duties then that they still perform for many schools worldwide today—including start-up, management, consultancy, material and equipment supply and staff recruitment services. As DAIS and the Huamei Academy at DAIS continue to grow, we continue to value and rely on the ISS partnership. Charles Gregory, ISS Contract Executive for DAIS, recently visited our school for a week of meetings and observation. Charles was instrumental in the original start-up of DAIS seven years ago. “My on-going school support role gives me great pleasure,” he said. “I’m very pleased that what was started in 2005 has grown so much. The vision for this school always placed students first, and still does.”

31
OCT PSP Monster Mash Halloween Party 4-7

07
NOV No School -- Teacher Moving Day

08
NOV SAT Examination



CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Construction of the new teacher housing building is nearing completion with move-in plans established. Recently, ground was broken for the new elementary school building located south and adjacent to the current school building. The new building will house DAIS elementary grades PreK-5. The vacated space in the current school will be utilized by our growing middle and high school student population. The estimated completion date for the new building is August 2015. Teachers will move into their new apartments beginning on Friday, November 7th.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

(1st row) Ruth Tipei, Rachel Mann, Samantha Harris, Anna Harding, Chris Boyle, Joshua Carter, Cos Fi, Oliver Bernabe (2nd row) Benjamin Newton, Rodica Burghilea, Melanie Michel, Michelena McPherson, Teresa Arrastia, Stephen Arrastia, Daniel Gould, Peter Wang, Meik Loughran (3rd row) Michel Kuropatwinski, Michael Felker, Rory Persons, Joseph McPherson, Costin Tescu.



MS. OTANI AND MR. REED'S CLASS



HUAMEI ACADEMY





DIRECTOR MESSAGE--TERRY WOLFSON

Saturday, I had the good fortune to accompany four incredibly talented high school art students, Yuze Deng (12), Tiger Dingsun (12), Crystal Cheng (10), Maddie Michalk (12) and their teacher, Jean O'Neil, to the US Consulate in Shenyang. We were one of six schools within Liaoning Province invited to participate in the Consulate's mural project theme of US-China Friendship to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the diplomatic mission's return to northeast China in 1984. Two American students, two Chinese students collaborating to create and personify the Consulate's theme of US-China friendship was an honor to observe. Witnessing our young artists convert a blank exterior wall into a beautiful visual display of US-Sino relations reminded me of our school's transformational work with Standards Based Education.

As part of our strategic priority Systematic Development of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, currently, we are in the process of more clearly defining each unit within a course or content area where a set of high academic standards are clearly articulated and can be measured as to what students know and are able to do. In addition to identifying rigorous standards, the accompanying content to be learned and skills to be developed, "big ideas" for the unit engage students in deeper understanding reaching far beyond factual knowledge. Students are required to respond not only factual questions but to those that are conceptual, open-ended and encourage them to make connections in their learning. Unit assessments measure growth towards standards and report in depth information regarding student progress.

Our artists' beautiful mural that I call, "Where Lady Liberty Meets the Chinese Opera," is a good example of our work in transforming to standards based unit planning. Standards, Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions guiding the study of our Advanced Studio Art students include:

- Standard: Reflect on how artworks differ visually, spatially, temporally, functionally, and describe how these are related to its story and culture
- Enduring Understandings: Art can be representative of an individual's response to the world.
- Essential Question: How might you create a visual representation depicting the importance of cultural symbols?
- Assessment: Performance based assessment connecting a public audience to its culture or history

As we continue our Standards Based Education work through the year, I will continue to give you updates as to our progress. And, I hope you, too, will enjoy the beautiful and detailed DAIS visual display of US-China Friendship.

Magnificent DAIS Artists!



ANOTHER ACTIVE DAIS WEEKEND

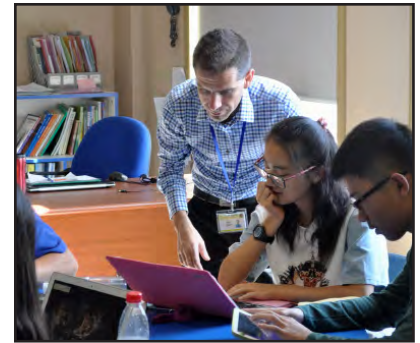


Creating a mural at the US Consulate in Shenyang, competing in a Knowledge Bowl competition in Chengchun (3rd place & a Sportsmanship Award!), and spearheading a clean-up effort in a Kaifaqu orphanage highlight this past weekend's off-campus student experiences. Thank you to all those students, parents, faculty and staff who help support and participate in these community-building events.



MEET CHRIS BOYLE

New secondary Assistant Principal, Chris Boyle, graduated from Colorado State University in 2003 with a degree in history and secondary social studies teaching certification. After teaching for eight years in Fort Collins, Colorado and earning an MS in Sport Administration from the University of Northern Colorado and a MEd. In Educational Leadership from Colorado State, his love of travel and adventure brought him overseas. Before joining DAIS he was the Vice Principal at Pledge Harbor School and Sports Academy outside of Dhaka, Bangladesh. Chris is passionate about active pedagogy and experiential learning and some of his favorite memories as an educator involve taking students out on field studies, adventure trips and on international travel experiences. "I am thrilled to be a part of the DAIS community and look forward to learning and growing alongside our talented staff and students."



FIRST AID/CPR & STUDENT SAFETY



ISOS recently provided DAIS with First Aid/CPR training. Eighteen members of our faculty & staff participated. The certified AHA training course is valid for a period of two years and provides our community with another important layer of safety. Thank you ISOS!

GET YOUR COSTUMES READY!!!

The Parent School Partnership (PSP) is hosting the annual Monster Mash Halloween Party on Friday, October 31, 4-7pm in the DAIS Gymnasium.



Mission Statement

Dalian American International School provides challenging, collaborative and responsive experiences that engage learners in developing intellect, character, and health. At DAIS, every learner achieves personal excellence and contributes to the global community.