

A LifePlus® International School

A year committed to learning, loving and leading Our annual report 2022-23



"Leading this school continues to be one of the greatest joys of my life." Mr Ryan Witt, Head of School A warm welcome...

From our Head of School

The Tianjin International School family is one of the closest things to my heart. Individually, we are all people that are doing our best to understand how to maneuver through the challenges of life. Collectively, we are a group of people that have mourned together, celebrated together, survived together and thrived together. What continues to make our school so unique and special in Tianjin, is that we do life together. Together, we endured another very difficult first semester of the school year. Together, we supported one another when friends, family and ourselves became sick with Covid. Together, we thrived right through to the finish line of the school year. May we never forget the struggle through the difficult times, because through the difficulty we became individual people that turned into the Tianjin International School Family.

Leading this school continues to be one of the greatest joys of my life. There is no other place that I would prefer to raise my family or educate my children. Many leaders will say that their people are what makes a place great, and this is definitely true of our school. However, it is more than that. The teachers and staff of this school make this place a welcoming home for all who enter. Rarely will you find a group of people that will be so willing to invest in the lives of our children. Rarely will you find a place so focused on engaging parents and the community and seeking to build partnerships that permit opportunity for collective engagement. Rarely will you find a place where the people will go above and beyond expectations to invest in the lives of students. Rarely will you find a place that prioritizes the education of character that is countercultural to competitive and individualistic focused environments. Indeed, there is no other place

where I would prefer to raise my family and I am so humbled to have the opportunity to continue to lead this school into the future.

This year has certainly been all about people, and guess what, next year will be all about people too. I cannot help but be excited about the next school year. I can already feel the momentum that this past semester has created. There is a new sense of life that is being generated both internally and externally. Our reputation has continued to permeate throughout the community, and we are seeing new student applications rebound to pre-Covid levels. Excitement for an expansion of the House structure is underway, including an emphasis on a schoolwide positive behavior intervention system. The school's strategic planning team is working on an updated plan to map out Priorities, Objectives, Critical Initiatives and Benchmarks for the next one, two and three years. We are passionate about learning here at Tianjin, and I hope you experience that, but beyond learning, I trust you will continue to find Tianiin International School to be a place where you are family.

With warmest regards, Ryan Witt Head of School









A brief history	05
LifePlus endorsement	06
Cognia Demographics	06
	07
Our values	30
We learn	12
We love	16
We lead	18
Extra-curricular	21
Standardized test results	25
University acceptances	28

Financial summary, 2022-23

Our goals for 2023-24

Growing up in Tianjin

A brief history

1986

Small beginnings

Our school starts life as MTI Education Program, located at Tianjin Binguan complex, and comprises a Head Principal, six full-time teachers, several part-time teachers and 30 students.

1996

29

30

Going up in the world

Now based on the top floor of the Xing Guo Middle School, we celebrate our ten-year anniversary and change our name to Tianjin International School.

"I cherish the memories

I made while travelling

China with teachers and

classmates... It's where I

Jennifer J, alum

have made lifelong friends."

2012

Moving with the times

With an Early Childhood Center established, another campus move happens-this time to our current location in Hexi District. The extra space allows us to expand our student population and teaching, to include innovative subjects such as Robotics.

2021

Growing with our students We celebrate our 35-year anniversary and our school's accreditation moves to Cognia, the largest education improvement organization in the world.

Our annual report 2022-23

Part of the LifePlus family

LifePlus endorsement



Through LifePlus, our school is accredited by Cognia, a world-renowned educational body that recognizes the incredibly high standards of our work and continues to evaluate our performance. LifePlus also benefits us in three important areas.

First, LifePlus helps us to innovate: sharing research, knowledge and ideas. Second, LifePlus is a truly international and robust setup that lets us focus on what we do best: growing servant leaders of outstanding character, competence and calling. Third, LifePlus makes Tianjin International School more than a local school, connecting us to a worldwide network of talent, knowledge and support. To learn more, visit lifeplusworldwide.com

Cognia School is accredited cognia by Cognia, the largest organization in the world-demonstrating learners, teachers, leaders and communities. Being Cognia-accredited, the incredibly high standards of our work are recognized globally, and our performance continually evaluatedraising us higher, taking our students further.

RED



Student population

2022-23 First day of school



Student nationalities

15+

Home countries include Australia, Canada, China (Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan), France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, UK, USA and more

Educational staff

50

Average staff tenure

8.5 years

Teacher:Student

1:5

Staff with Masters Degrees

39.6%

Staff nationalities

Home countries include 10+USA, Brazil, France, New Zealand, Philippines, South Korea, Panama and more

What we do and why

Our values

At Tianjin, we desire for our students to grow in more than knowledge. That's why we spend time and great care investing in character education for all our students. The LifePlus Qualities for Life help guide everything we do. From administrators to kindergartners, we strive to be...

People who learn	People who love	People who lead	
We are <i>purposeful, curious</i> and <i>discerning</i> .	We are <i>connected</i> , <i>courageous</i> and <i>compassionate</i> .	We are <i>humble</i> and <i>persistent</i> in <i>service</i> .	



Purpose

LifePlus 9 Qualities for Life



bigger purposes. • *I look* for

explanations and I am not

content with appearances

deeper meaning and

or easy answers.

I investigate and explore by asking questions and critically thinking about the answers. • *I am eager* for authentic knowledge,

Curiosity

I refuse to let others do my thinking for me or cheat myself out of learning opportunities.



I can see and understand people, things or situations clearly.
I use knowledge to make wise choices and judgments, speak the truth and live with integrity.



I value people and so I invest

in communication, language

learning and understanding

• I collaborate effectively and

respectfully with people from

any culture. • I build and maintain

healthy relationships with others

the cultures in which I live.

Compassion

I show empathy for others

and look for ways to make

a difference. • I listen carefully

and think deeply to determine

the best response or action.

• *I will communicate* my beliefs

with clarity and respect.



I take risks and boldly do what is best. • *I am willing to ask* questions and make mistakes. *I persist* in thinking, inquiring and discussing even in the presence of threat or fear.



in my life.

I have an accurate picture of my abilities, thinking neither too highly nor too lowly of myself. • I acknowledge my limitations and my need for help, as well as accept criticism and demonstrate a teachable spirit. • I demonstrate good sportsmanship. Service

I make available my gifts, talents, time, energy and enthusiasm to serve the needs of those around me. • *I show love* towards the world around me by being a responsible caretaker of our resources.



I strive for excellence and practice diligence to get things right; I don't give up. • I respectfully communicate until I am understood and question until I understand. • I approach challenges with tenacity, creativity and thinking.

•

A year of purpose, curiosity and discernment

We learn

Early Childhood Center (ECC) Fresh discoveries are being made

every day in the ECC! Through the strong student-teacher relationships and supportive classroom communities, the ECC students are learning, loving and leading from the earliest ages. Some of our favorite ECC learning units this year have been rhyming, dinosaurs and planets. A strong emphasis on learning through play has been encouraged throughout the year. We are delighted to see our ECC students persist during the year as they have practiced their English and tried new things. We are looking forward to harvesting our garden in the fall and resuming field trips in the new school year.





"Tianjin International School was literally my childhood! [It] brought me so much joy." Morgan Y, alum









Elementary School (Grades 1–6)

Connection has been the stand-out quality of

this year's Elementary division. Our Elementary

students have built relationships in and out

of the classroom with various team-building

activities, science experiments and other

hands-on learning opportunities. We've

and participating with our Elementary

students in spring events. The future is bright in Elementary; we are looking forward to another year of learning, participating in off-campus field trips and our annual Fine

Arts Celebration.

also been thankful for the parent support

this year as we have seen parents on campus





Secondary School (Grades 7-12) Our Secondary School is where students experience an education that is individually focused and globally connected. Because of our loving and supportive teachers, Secondary students excelled academically and were encouraged as they transitioned from online learning to classroom instruction. Many of our spring events resumed including sports, fine arts performances and spring trips. Secondary students engaged in a variety of service learning and leadership opportunities through Student Council, Model United Nations and our many student-led clubs. Our students exemplified the quality purpose as they strove to learn, love and lead this year. We are excited to continue this momentum as we move to next year and continue connecting our students locally and globally.

"Tianjin's where I found out who I was as a person... Even after all these years, I look back and know how foundational that time was." Lucie T, alum

English Language Support (ELS)

The English Language Support program has had the opportunity to work with numerous new students from various language background experiences. For some students, English is their third language. For others, this is their first opportunity to interact with people from other countries. It is a privilege to watch these students grow not only in their English proficiency but also in learning how to interact and thrive cross-culturally.











A year of connection, courage and compassion

We love





Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

With most of the first semester off-campus, we were again unable to actively engage in school activities and couldn't plan and implement events to foster better connections between parents. However, with school coming back on-campus in the second semester we were able to successfully launch our PTO clubs on Wednesdays.

Moms and dads took a deep dive into how to be better parents in the parenting club. The English club was all fun and games with teachers introducing parents to popular games to help increase English vocabulary. The Chinese club helped to spark confidence in speaking. ECC parents enjoyed morning recess with their little ones. In conjunction with the admin team, the PTO held their first Parent and Staff Celebratory Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel—what a wonderful evening together! We hope this will become an annual event to foster community outside of school.

As we look ahead to a new school year having a full calendar of fun events to participate in, the PTO will continue to live out our motto of loving our kids, loving our school and loving our community.



"Whether your child is three years old, finishing high school, new to international schools, or a long-time attendee, our community is the place for them." Head of School, Mr Ryan Witt





A year of humility, persistence and service

We lead



Student Council

The High School Student Council (StuCo) is a student-run organization that plans various events and activities. This year, the StuCo team was blessed to be able to do so many events after many years of Covid-19 restrictions. Throughout the year, the team embodied persistence as they faced unforeseen difficulties, and did an excellent job in bringing the high school community closer together.



At the beginning of the school year, there were still many restrictions in place, and school was not always held in person. The StuCo team persistently planned for many different scenarios and were able to hold an event for all the high school students when they came back in person. This event was a great opportunity for students to get together for fun after weeks of online school. Throughout the first semester, the Student Council stayed busy with Spirit Weeks and Pepero Days where StuCo sells the popular Korean snack as a fundraiser for events throught



TIANMUN

the year. In December, two different tentative school schedules were proposed as many students began to get sick from Covid-19. In response, the StuCo team again made different contingency plans and held a successful High School Winter Banquet at the Conrad Hotel. Despite having little time to prepare for the event, the StuCo members each showed resiliency and were determined to put on the Winter Banquet, which was the first in two years.

MUN

Model United Nations hosted our 10th annual TIANMUN this past year. This celebrated the tradition of excellence that our students have embodied in planning, leading and running a conference for ten straight years. This conference was a hybrid conference with local schools attending in person and other schools in China and Korea attending online. Overall, more than 200 students and ten schools helped make TIANMUN X a success. We look forward to hosting TIANMUN XI next fall. MUN students attended the first in-person conference in China in Qingdao in February. High school students had the opportunity to travel, debate and craft resolutions in person for the first time in a few years. Students treasure the friendships made on these trips. Middle school students traveled to DIMUN in Beijing and got to participate in an incredible conference geared specifically to help them learn and grow in MUN. Through it all, students continue to adapt and grow. We are excited for the future of MUN and for the young leaders that are emerging and taking active roles in leadership.





Robotics

Our Robotics program, like our students, continued to grow from strength to strength this year. The students demonstrated tremendous curiosity and passion through their enthusiastic participation in various robotics events. This created a stimulating and dynamic learning environment where students were encouraged to explore and experiment with the latest robotics ideas and technologies.

World-class competitions like the VEX IQ Robotics Tournament in Wuhan and VEX VRC Tournament in Tianjin put our secondary robotics students to the test in their programming, assembling, and teamwork skills. At the same time, the middle school and elementary robotics clubs created an outlet for our senior robotics members to exemplify leadership through the means of mentorship and support.

A year of arts, athletics and activities

Extra-curricular

Athletics

The Tianjin Eagles soared to new heights in 2022–23 athletics! Our student athletes' teamwork and our qualified coaches' dedication have been on display as we've returned to regularly scheduled sporting events, competitions and tournaments. Traveling around China and in Tianjin has been an incredible experience for our students as they have competed against other international schools. One of this year's highlights was hosting the Basketball Tournament in which we won 1st place. We are proud of the humility and compassion of our students as they push one another and seek what's best for the team. This was an excellent year of sports and we fully believe next year will be another great year of athletics.



As we head into the new school year, we look to expand our robotics program into more grade levels, providing opportunities for students to explore the fascinating world of robotics, hone their skills and foster their passions in this exciting field.







"Tianjin International School gave me the opportunities and resources to discover more about my strengths, as well as the confidence to go for anything and everything I set my mind to." Chelsea G, alum

EAGLES



Fine Arts

Taking full advantage of our purposedesigned fine arts facilities, students honed their artistic skills individually, as well as in groups on a regular basis. Band, Choir and Elementary Music class taught students to challenge themselves, be disciplined and learn the importance of working as a group to accomplish the same goal: producing beautiful music. They accomplished this goal throughout the year in various events, such as concerts, the Fine Arts Celebration and the Fine Arts Festival. Our Drama department performed the long-delayed Chateau La Roach, a comedy where a failing hotel faces an alarming infestation of cockroaches! In the spring, our Drama department held a very unique event called "72 Hour Theatre." In this event, students were given 3 days to cast, rehearse and premier 4 short plays. It was a true achievement for the students, and an incredibly enjoyable experience for the audience. The visual arts students created many stunning pieces throughout the year and each piece was placed prominently around the school.











How we measure up

Standardized test results

Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP)

MAP is an external assessment test for students in elementary, middle and high school. Test results are used to report students' progress so teachers and parents are able to understand and support our students' academic growth. MAP assessments in Reading and Mathematics are taken by students in Kindergarten through Grade 10.

Tianjin International School average

Global average

MAP Growth® Average Math Scores





MAP Growth[®] Average Reading Scores





MAP Growth® Average Language Arts Scores



Winter 2023

Scholastic Aptitude Test® (SAT)

So far for the 2022–23 school year, our junior and senior students earned commendable marks on their SAT assessments, a major contributing factor to university acceptances worldwide.

SAT scores

	2023	2022	2021	
Number of Exams	61	128	124	
Reading and Writing	605	634	637	
Math	696	742	756	
Total	1301	1376	1393	





Evidence-Based Reading and Writing results





Global averages based on 2021-22 data.

Advanced Placement® (AP)

Tianjin International School's students score higher than average on a global and regional level.

AP scores			
	2023	2022	2021
Total AP students	52	58	60
Number of exams	168	244	245
% of students with scores 3+	87%	91%	93%
% of students with scores 4 or 5	70%	78%	75%

3 year summary, % of students with scores 3+



Global AP scores calculated on previous year's data released by College Board.

Next steps on the learning journey

University acceptances

USA

Boston College Boston University Duke University Emory University Georgia Institute of Technology Johns Hopkins University MIT **UC Berkeley** UC Davis UC Irvine UCLA UC San Diego UC Santa Barbara

UNC-Chapel Hill University of Notre Dame University of South Carolina UK Loughborough University University of Bristol Canada

University of British Columbia Waterloo University

Korea Japan KAIST Keio University Nagoya University Korea University Pohang University of Science and China Technology Seoul National Chinese University of University Hong Kong Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Nankai University University of Hong Kong

Yonsei University Australia University of New South Wales University of

Investing in the common good

Financial summary, 2022–23



for academics and personnel

All costs associated with learning resources, textbooks, field trips and technology for learning as well as hiring, retaining and professionally developing our staff.



for operations

Day-to-day operational expenses, such as utilities, lease and maintenance.



for LifePlus District Services

Costs associated with LifePlus District Services such as special needs support, English learning support programs, curriculum development and student well-being programs.

More university acceptance (not an exhaustive list)

USA

Arizona State University **Baylor University Belhaven University** Bowdoin College Carnegie Mellon Case Western Reserve **Covenant College** Davidson College Fordham University Fullerton College George Washington University Georgia State University Gordon College Grand Canyon University Grinnell College Hofstra University Indiana University Indiana University-

Liberty University UC Santa Cruz University of Minnesota Hampshire University SUNY-Stonybrook SUNY-Binghamton Swarthmore College Taylor University Trinity International University Tufts University University of Illinois Urbana-Champagne UNC-Chapel Hill Washington-Seattle University of Wisconsin University of Wisconsin-Madison Vanderbilt University Virginia Institute of Technology Waseda University Washington and Lee University

Wellesley College

Melbourne

Chung Ang University Gyeongi University Handong University HanYang University Sejong University SoGang University

China Nankai University Tianjin Foreign Studies

Japan International Christian University Meiji University Waseda University



for administration

Administrative costs include our school's technology, equipment and other managerial and support expenditures.



How we intend to grow

Our goals for 2023-24

With what looks like an uninterrupted school year ahead of us, we envision the school event calendar returning to pre-COVID years. This will mean strong connections being formed among the school community, with more opportunities to celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of our community. School trips and travel will be back on, which are critical times for our students and staff to build meaningful connections.



Academically speaking, the continuity of on-campus learning for an extended period of time will benefit all. Teachers will be able to implement and execute learning systems knowing they will have sustained in-person student contact. New systems and programs that have been put on hold can now begin, all of which are there to help our students succeed in their studies. From the leadership level, strategic planning and continuous improvement are on the agenda, and the time needed to devote to major areas can be afforded by our key leaders. We look ahead to the 2023–24 school year with optimism, knowing that we can continue providing a transformative and holistic education to all our students.





"I was able to explore my strengths and reflect on my weaknesses to improve them. The genuine help from my teachers has helped me become a well-rounded and more mature person." Stellen L, alum







2

Learn more at tiseagles.com 天津思锐外籍人员子女学校
 tianjininternationalschool
 tiseaglesrock

Tianjin International School 4–1 Sishui Dao, Hexi District Tianjin China 300222

Phone +86 (22) 8371-0900 ×311 Email admissions@tiseagles.com

LifePlus® © 2023 All rights reserved.