



## **Summary Report of the Discovery College School Council**

**Monday 11 September 2023**

**Present:** Henry Wong, Vivian Cheung, James Smith, Kris Stanhope, Mamta Mukherjee, Kevin Rydeard, Pushkar Sane, Ying Huang, Jasmin Mehta, Livia Tang

**In attendance:** Alice Cheng (Business Manager), Jonny Tate (Director of Curriculum), Will Hurtado (DP Coordinator), Terence Man (Higher Education Counselor), Karen Shum (PA to Principal)

**Apologies:** Eric Lee, Karen Kwan

### **1. 2023 IBDP Results and University Placements**

The meeting commenced with Will Hurtado presenting a detailed breakdown of the 2023 IBDP results. One student achieved a perfect score of 45 points. The DC performance is much higher than the worldwide figures in all respects. The mean point score is 35.2. The current approach to data-driven, targeted intervention and academic mentoring will be continued with an additional focus on enhancing assessment practices and the subject selection process. Terence Man outlined the final university placements for DC students. The UK remains the students' top choice of higher education destination with an increase in popularity of Canadian universities. Students have chosen a wide range of majors, with continuous growth in courses relating to certain professions. Top universities remain very competitive in the UK and US. Congratulations went to all 2023 graduates.

### **2. Finance and Property sub-committee**

The P&L accounts as at 31 July 2023 were approved.

The Communication department is transitioning to a new working mode with some work commissioned from freelancers for more flexibility and cost efficiency.

As part of an ESF-wide initiative a new position is being established in the Finance department to assist with additional responsibilities of the team.

Asia Pacific Adventures was appointed as the Service Provider for all 2023-24 DC No Boundaries local programmes.

The School Council approved the Finance Operating Manual and the Finance Policy on School Trips/Activities.

The Council continues to explore further study of the canopy and options for its management into the future.

### **3. Staff Wellbeing sub-committee**

ESF has introduced a new approach to managing contract dates and renewal for teaching staff commencing this academic year.

Out-of-cycle salary review is conducted periodically for some non-teaching support staff. This act is to ensure that the College remuneration is competitive and a fair reflection of staff experience, thus helping the college to retain highly capable colleagues.

The Terms of Reference for this subcommittee have been reviewed as per the annual cycle.

#### **4. Principal's Report**

Admissions numbers are steady and anticipated to grow across the year.

The Council thanked two members of the Council, who are coming to the end of their periods of service, for their work, and acknowledged the forthcoming departure of one member who will be leaving the College at the end of this academic year.

The Council was updated about the latest situation after the bus accident. The College will continue to maintain regular contact with all the families and carry out follow-up work as needed.

The Chinese Objective (continuing) and Curriculum Objective (new) will be the College's priorities for 2023-24. The objectives will focus on working towards language & culture integration and coherent learning experiences across all year levels.

Middle and senior leaders attended professional development at the start of the school year, led by an external expert Dr Kendall Zoller, to enhance effective collaboration across the college.

A Quality Assurance profile has been created to help understand and develop the quality of the School Council's governance practices.

The Critical Incident Policy has been recently reviewed and revised with some changes.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

None.