



- Jun 8-10: Semester Exams
- Jun 12: Senior Graduation (3:00 at the new campus)
- Jun 14: Field Day (at the new campus, students dismissed at 1:00 p.m.)
- Jun 15: Talent Show
- Jun 15: Last Day of School (at the new campus, students dismissed at 1:00 p.m.)

## The Future of QISS

Jeffrey Fischmann, Director

The future is a product of the past. As this school year draws to a close, I look back over the past and marvel at the resilience of the school. We have gone through many challenging times and are poised to enter the future in a strong and stable position. Over the years, many teachers, students and parents have put their best intentions and heartfelt efforts into making QISS a better school. It is with gratitude and respect that I honor those who have served their students and the school so ably during their tenure at QISS. Some of our finest teachers, administrators, students and parents will be moving on to their next adventures. Teachers are heading off to places such as Senegal, Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand, Qatar and Sau-

di Arabia. Some are also returning to their home countries. Many other teachers are continuing on with QISS to the next campus. We thank them for all their contributions to the school and wish them well in their future endeavors!

The evolution of the school continues. Next year will mark the beginning of a new era. This summer we will be occupying our new campus. We are working now to equip all our classrooms and facilities with new furniture, Smart Boards, computers, and the instruments and supplies they will need. Our new owner, Chen Tou, is the largest government owned investment company in Qingdao. It built our new facility as the first step toward the fulfillment of the

city's vision to establish a premier, government sponsored international school as part of Qingdao's infrastructure. Chen Tou has the financial and political resources to enable the school to grow and prosper over the long-term. QISS is currently a small school with approximately 200 students who will be occupying a campus built for 2,000 students. As such, we will be sharing the campus with other separately managed entities who are preparing bright and talented local high school students to attend universities abroad, primarily in England, Canada and the United States. We will be sharing the facility designed specifically for the pre K-KDG students with a group from Singapore who will offer a bilingual Mandarin/English program. QISS will continue to provide its own separate program that is staffed by our own teachers and managed by our administration. Parents will have a choice between enrolling their children in either program. This facility for our youngest students will have very advanced security systems as will the entire campus. In addition to the group from England that is preparing about 50 local students to take the A Level exams for entrance into the premier British universities, Chen Tou is also interested in providing a Canadian program for local high school stu-

### Bill Dunwoody

*As with all international schools, at the end of the year, teachers and students leave. It is a sad moment when you have friends that you've been working with and teaching, some for several years, move on. But we also need to look at it from their point of view. We should be happy that they will move on to new experiences and a new exciting chapter in their lives. Nobody is ever really gone when you can keep them in your heart. To those who are leaving, may the road you travel be clear and scenic. I'm sorry you won't be with us at the new campus. To those staying, lets make our first year at the new school the greatest year ever.*

## ***The Future of QISS (continued)***

dents who want to attend universities in Canada. Taken together, these separately managed entities will be smaller than QISS in terms of their overall enrollment for several years to come. Over the long-term, there may well be a parity of enrollment. What is envisioned by Chen Tou is an educational park that meets the needs of both the expatriate community and those local students who want to gain admittance to the finest universities around the world.

Sharing the campus presents a challenge and an opportunity for QISS. It will be a challenge to mesh our schedules. However, we can manage this issue without too much difficulty. As the permanent, resident of the campus, QISS has priority usage over the new school's facilities. Sharing the campus will be an opportunity for QISS students to interact in meaningful ways with students from China. An important part of our school's purpose is to cultivate global citizenship among our students. What better way to foster a deeper understanding between nations and cultures than for our students to interact in the spirit of global friendship. The world has entered an era where international cooperation is needed more than ever before to address the global issues we face as a planet and a species. Those who can successfully work with their counterparts around the world will be the ones who will shape this new era. Let us equip our students with the requisite skills, attitudes and character traits that will enable them to do so.

Although we are going through a transitional phase to our new facilities and new ownership, QISS

will retain its distinctly international character and will strive to remain current with best practices in education. Our enrollment practices and the management of the educational program will remain firmly in our hands. There will be no interference by our new owners in this regard. Next year the high school will offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses in calculus, chemistry, literature and economics in addition to providing robust performing arts, athletic and extracurricular programs. We will continue to add more AP courses in the coming years. Scoring well on AP exams will allow our graduates to be accepted to the best American universities. The lower school will continue to move toward authorization by the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program. Next year we will investigate the adoption of the IB Diploma program for our 11th and 12th grade students. The adoption of both IB programs would take years of preparation to achieve authorization. Our goal is to be able to provide those programs that are highly regarded by European and North America universities as well as other schools throughout the world.

In brief, QISS is ready to meet the challenges of the future. It is staffed for the next school year with a highly qualified group

of teachers. We encourage you to read the introductions of the new faculty that appear under the 'School' tab on our web site. This new faculty will build upon the fine work of those who came before them. It is fitting that the renewal of school's accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) is scheduled for next year. WASC is among the premier accreditation agencies world-wide. Based in Burlingame, California, WASC accredits nearly 5,000 schools in California, Hawaii, and most of the major international schools in North, East and Southeast Asia. Next year is the ideal time to reassess our school's curricular and extracurricular programs through an extensive self-study that is intended to improve the school's operation in all respects. The fruit of our self-study will be a revised three year Action Plan that will guide the school into the future. In summation, I believe the school has a very bright future. It has come a long way over the years and it still has a long way to go to fully realize its mission. Of course, this future depends upon those dedicated individuals who will devote themselves to making the school a better place for our students. We invite you to join us in this worthy effort.

### ***The Arnolds***

*We have had an exciting and exhilarating experience in Qingdao over the past three years. Our greatest pleasure has been watching you, our students, achieve. Through reading, story telling, presenting, and other activities you have demonstrated great creativity and ingenuity. We will miss each of you tremendously. Thank you for all your support and generosity. Until we meet again.*

## Mr. Snider & Ms. Alexis

As we look back on our time at QISS we think about all of the wonderful students we have taught and all of the friendships we have made. Qingdao will always be a special place for us and we will miss everyone here. Thank you to all of our students and friends who have made our years in Qingdao and at QISS so memorable.

## Liesbeth Beullens

*Time flies, but I would like to stand still for a moment to wish all of you a well deserved holiday filled with adventure, laughter, and enough rest to take a fresh start in August, wherever that might be. Enjoy your summer.*

## Lisa Woo

*Thank you to all the QISS students for my good memories at QISS ; I hope you will keep healthy and fit for the rest of your life ! To my colleagues, may you find peace and happiness in your future adventures. It's the end of a chapter and the beginning of another one.*

## Read Aloud to Your Child

Alberto Gutierrez

Children of all ages benefit from reading good literature. Reading to children allows children to enhance listening skills, increase vocabulary, improve comprehension skills and develop a joy for reading. Staff members at QISS encourage parents, guardians and care providers to engage in read-aloud activities at home. Children of all ages benefit from being read a good book. Sometimes we forget that older children also enjoy being read a meaningful book; likewise, children of all ages can reap the benefits from a read aloud at home.

Some parents ask which language should be used for read-aloud activities. The language should not be the limiting factor of reading good

literature to children. Since the read-aloud activity is for the development of the joy of literature and social bonding with family members at home, the mother tongue is suitable to activate interest in developing minds for adventure, suspense or nonfiction. Please keep in mind the interest of the child. Thus, you must get to know the likes of your child and pick stories or nonfiction that will entertain and generate inquiry in your child's mind.

Once you discover your child's interest, you and your child are ready to begin an adventure of snuggling up with a wonderful story or a factual journey of a topic of interest. Think of how much better sharing a good literature or nonfiction book between you and your child is versus watching a non-engaging television program. Perhaps the mindless video and computer games could be tossed out the window in favor of a good read aloud?

How can read-aloud activities benefit your child? It allows any child to enjoy a story that he or she could not or might not be willing to read independently. As the child listens to a story, the child hears the language (English or mother tongue) flow in a natural tone. At the same time, new vocabulary is being introduced in a natural setting within the good literature. Likewise, the child has an opportunity to ask questions in a safe environment: in your home. At strategic points in your read aloud, you could ask your child some questions regarding the section read. As you ask open-ended questions, you are engaging your child in comprehension activities. This will have a long term effect on your child's reading, and your child will gain meaningful information during his or her future independent reading, which is a goal of all literate citizens of the world.

Fathers are an important part of the read-aloud equation. Some research points out the increased benefit to children who are read to by dad. Please, fathers take some time out of your busy schedule from the office to read aloud with your child, especially to daughters. There is a social component that makes it important for fathers to bond with daughters, and the read aloud is a powerful tool to build a healthier mind in a child. As a result, fathers do not make any excuses regarding why you do not have time to read to your child. We already know that moms engage in this activity frequently. Now it is time for fathers to also enrich sons and daughters with a good read aloud.

As you consider your opportunity to be an excellent role model that reads for the joy of it, remember to read good literature to your child at home. Similarly, demonstrate the numerous opportunities to your child for gaining knowledge through reading. Let's make reading a meaningful and joyous activity that can be enjoyed by the entire family.

***Come to see how talented our children are  
at the QISS Talent Show 2010, June 15.***

***8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the new campus theater.***

**Don't miss QISS Field Day, June 14.**

**8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the new campus.**



**2002**



**2005**



**2007**

## A Fond Farewell

The Burnside's



**2010**

ing professional challenge that has kept us here year after year. We sincerely hope that our efforts will have a lasting impact on the students of QISS.

Those who have known the school as long as we have are aware that the school has been through some unstable and uncertain times. The school is now entering a new phase of growth and development, which promises to be the most successful and stable phase in the school's history.

Our eight years in Qingdao have brought us a deepened understanding of life and our role in the world. Eight years also brought us enough stuff to fill a 20-foot container! We have adopted Alicia and Ginger, who have brought more joy to us than we could have possibly imagined. China and the people of the Qingdao community will forever be in our hearts.

With QISS on solid ground, our family growing up, and our neighborhood now complete with a KFC and McDonalds, we are ready for a new challenge. So next August, we're off to teach in the emerging international port of Dakar, Senegal—a city without a Starbucks.

When we first came to Qingdao in 2002, we wondered where all the people were. Our new apartment complex near Shi Loa Ren was empty. The wide streets were barren. There were no stoplights at the intersections, but it didn't matter because there was hardly any traffic. It would be several years before Starbucks arrived.

The school (QIS at that time), with about 100 students, was just a young sprout and growing fast. Being a founding builder and helping QISS become a first-rate international school has been the reward-