



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS SERVICES

Making a world of difference

ISS Administrative Search Announcement

Head of School 2018

**Dalian American International School and The
Huamei Academy**

Dalian, China

Application Deadline: October 9, 2017



Overview of School

Established in 2006, Dalian American International School (DAIS) is Dalian's leading school for expatriate families. It is a coeducational privately owned, non-profit school located in the Jinzhou District of Dalian in Northeast China.

As proposed by the government of the Dalian Development Area and Intel Corporation, Dalian American International School was established in 2006 to attract foreign investors providing their families with a high-quality international education through an enriched and creative environment fostering students' love of learning and realization of their individual potential.

In 2010, The Huamei Academy was founded as a parallel program to DAIS to provide a rich college preparatory curriculum offered within an international community setting to meet the desire of Chinese national families in preparing their children for college and university study abroad. DAIS and Huamei Academy share the same vision, mission, beliefs and similar curriculum.

The schools' 500 plus students are organized into two divisions: International Elementary and Secondary Divisions (Pre-K-Grade 5 and Grades 6-12) and The Huamei Academy (Grades 7-12). English is the language of instruction with the exception of proficiency level Mandarin classes. Purpose-built facilities provide spacious learning environments that enhance the delivery of well resourced, high quality programs in the arts and sciences.

Vision

Dalian American International School bridges the educational experiences of international and Chinese national students in an attractive, well-resourced and up-to-date educational facility. Building upon our rich local history, culture and beautiful natural environment, we inspire students to be leaders serving local and global communities.

Through collaboration, the application of learned knowledge and skills, and reflection, students solve authentic problems inside and outside the school walls, thereby developing an appreciation for diverse points of view, respect for each other as unique individuals, and (his or her own) personal excellence.

Mission

Dalian American International School facilitates a challenging, collaborative, and responsive learning environment that develops student intellect, character, and health. At DAIS, every learner strives to achieve personal excellence and contributes to the global community.

Our students and graduates are systematic problem-solvers who apply their knowledge and skills in designing innovative solutions to local and global issues. They are critical and creative thinkers and lifelong learners, who are prepared to graduate from high-quality educational institutions and pursue meaningful career opportunities. Most importantly, their community sees them as compassionate, ethical, and socially responsible.



Community Description

Dalian is a bustling port city in the Liaoning province in northeastern China. Dalian American International School is located on a beautiful campus nestled in the Longshan Hills close to the ocean in the Jinzhou District, Golden Pebble Beach National Resort Area, of Dalian. The campus is an hour's drive from the center city of Dalian which hosts a population of 6.5 million. Located at the tip of the Liaodong Peninsula that juts out separating the Bohai Sea from the Yellow Sea, Dalian is known for its international business, shipping, fish farming, and

for being one of the cleanest and most attractive cities to live in throughout China.

Governance

The school's governing body, the Management Board, consists of the Chief Executive Officer, other members as designated by the school ownership and the Head of School. The school is managed by International Schools Services (ISS), a non-profit corporation dedicated to educational excellence for students attending international schools worldwide.

Accreditation and Affiliations

Dalian American International School is accredited with the Council of International Schools (CIS), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and by the Chinese accreditation board, NCCT. Huamei Academy is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The school is also a member of the East Asian Council of Overseas Schools (EARCOS) and the Association of Chinese and Mongolian International Schools (ACAMIS).

Key Features

Students

Dalian American International School and The Huamei Academy currently have more than 500 students enrolled. DAIS students represent 27 nations around the world while Huamei Academy is comprised of Chinese national students. Our school program prepares our students to be creative, critical thinkers and socially responsible world citizens. A rigorous curriculum coupled with experiential learning experiences provide students a well-rounded, 21st Century education.

Faculty and Staff

The school employs 125 outstanding faculty and staff members. Our faculty come to us from nine different nations. With a reputation amongst the community as caring, dynamic and dedicated, our teachers ensure that each student is engaged in challenging, collaborative and responsive learning

experiences. With 71% of our teachers holding advanced degrees, the faculty models life-long learning for our students.

Curriculum

The school offers a standards-based curriculum based on the Common Core, AERO Standards in Social Studies, Next Generation Science Standards, International Society for Technology Education Standards (ISTE), supported by curricula from other international sources. At the high school level, 17 Advanced Placement courses are offered. Systematic coaching and collaborative planning have contributed to the development of shared knowledge base and practices reflected in the DAIS Curriculum and Assessment Agreements. Student-centered practices designed to promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills are at the heart of teachers' instructional approaches. DAIS/Huamei Academy students experience a comprehensive education including rich arts and athletic programs as well as a strong ethos of service and leadership.



Professional Learning

The primary purpose of professional learning at DAIS is to develop the knowledge, skills, practices and dispositions teachers and administrators need to help students achieve at higher levels. A culture of learning is fostered through a professional development program systematically aligned with the school's Strategic Improvement Goals and informed by data and research on student and educator performance. A focus on Standards Based Education and English as an Additional Language (EAL) is the focus of collaborative planning. DAIS teachers receive a compensation and benefit package competitive with comparable schools in the region.



Campus & Facilities

A beautiful new purpose-built elementary school opened its doors in the fall of 2016, making room for growth in our secondary school. Our educational facilities offer classrooms equipped with modern technology, science labs, libraries and an athletic complex that includes an all-weather sports field, gymnasium, stage, fitness center, dance studio and a 24m heated swimming pool.

The campus residential buildings include teacher apartments (2015), a student dormitory for Huamei residents and condominiums and townhomes for expatriate families. Also located on our campus are a western-style restaurant, a spacious community lobby and outdoor terrace.

Position Overview

The qualifications for the ideal candidate will include, but are not limited to the following:

- Previous experience as an international school director or senior administrator
- Facility with long term program and financial planning
- Broad knowledge base of best practices in teaching and learning
- Strong understanding of a variety of different curricula
- Familiarity with the intricacies of the accreditation process
- Relevant and current professional development
- Certification in educational leadership
- Strong background in human resources
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Marketing expertise

The new leader must be someone who is forward focused, resourceful and resilient when challenges occur. The ability to direct the school's vision and maintain a strong leadership team is essential.

The new Head of School will be recruited and supported by ISS and will work closely with the ISS Asia Pacific staff. The working year will be 220 days.



Application Instructions

Effective date: July 2018

Application Deadline: October 9, 2017

ISS Vice President for Administrative Searches, Dr. Beth Pfannl, will serve as the lead consultant for the Dalian American International School Head of School search. She will be assisted by Ms. Ashley Wotowey and other members of the ISS staff. The tentative deadline for applications is October 9, 2017, however, the Board reserves the right to conclude the search at any point in the process when a successful candidate is identified.

Semifinalist candidates will be identified by ISS and their dossiers will be forwarded to the school. All candidates for this position must have a current ISS profile to ensure that credentials are provided in a uniform and consistent manner. **There is no fee associated with this application.**

Steps to apply: Follow the instructions below to create your quick ISS administrative profile

Current ISS candidates:

- 1) Draft a formal letter of interest (cover letter) specific to this position no longer than two pages, explaining your strengths as a candidate and why you are interested in this particular position.
- 2) Attach your updated CV
- 3) Save your letter and CV in **PDF format**
- 4) Submit via email to Dr. Beth Pfannl (bpfannl@iss.edu) and copy Ashley Wotowey (awotowey@iss.edu). ***Please **only** submit the required letter, all supplementary materials should be uploaded to your online documents portfolio via your ISS dashboard
- 5) Upon receipt of your letter, you will be recorded as a candidate and your ISS file will be sent to Dr. Pfannl

New & Returning ISS candidates:

- 1) Complete the steps above to submit your formal letter of interest and CV
- 2) Await application instructions via email

ALL Candidates:

This search requires that (at minimum) the following materials be uploaded to your ISS online portfolio: Educational Philosophy/Leadership Style and Current CV/Resume (under 2 pages).

*****Applicants are asked to submit their letter of interest and complete all necessary application steps as early as possible, as ISS and DAIS reserve the right to close the selection process at any time if an ideal candidate is found.***

