

**DALAT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** 



ANNUAL RESULTS

I start my message to you this year with the amazing words from Psalm 127:1-3:

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat —

for he grants sleep to those he loves.

Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him.

The 2022 ANNUAL RESULTS book feels very personal to me because my daughter, Esmarie, graduated this year. She spent six and a half years at Dalat. In my mind the development in Esmarie's life is the biggest "result" Dalat should celebrate! (As a dad, I know I am biased.) I am very grateful for the education she received at Dalat – how Dalat has "built" her.

But I am even more grateful that the Lord was "building" her throughout her time in Dalat. Psalm 27:3 is true: she is truly a blessing from the Lord!

Now to apply what I said about Esmarie to all Dalat... In this booklet Dalat showcases the amazing results of dedicated staff, administration, and parents, and we also acknowledge God's grace that enabled all of it. May you also be filled with gratitude for this year's results.

Petrus de Jager BOARD CHAIRMAN

# Contents

Looking Ahead: Dalat in a Post-pandemic Future	2
Student Enrollment	4
Flagships & Student Outcome Statements	5
Strategic Plan Update	6 7
Test Results	7
College Assesments	9
Class of 2022 University Acceptances	10
Finance	11
Parent Survey Results	12
Responses to Survey Results	16
Dalat Staff	20
Department Reports	21

# 01 mission

Education for life founded on a biblical worldview.

# 02 vision

Our students will know God and impact their world for His glory.

# education for life

Dalat International School seeks to provide an education that goes beyond pure academics. Education for life trains the next generation to be people of character, integrity, and compassion and prepares them to make a positive impact on the world, whatever their career choice and wherever they live.

# 04

# accreditation

Dalat is accredited by both the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Both of these organizations have rigorous standards for schools to achieve in order to earn the recognition of being an accredited school. The academic and boarding programs at Dalat have been fully accredited for a number of years, and the school received exemplary accreditation status during the last accreditation cycle.

We are now midway through our six-year accreditation cycle and making excellent progress in achieving the goals in our accreditation reports. We have developed an online course to train our new teachers in biblical worldview integration. We are currently developing a process to assess students' progress towards our Flagship and SOS goals. Finally, we have had committees reviewing our school schedule, calendar, and staffing needs. The accreditation process helps us to continue improving as a school. Additionally, it gives us external validation of the work we have done. The school had a virtual meeting with both ACSI and WASC in early 2022 and was commended for making progress towards our goals in the midst of COVID-19.



# Looking Ahead: DALAT IN A POST-PANDEMIC FUTURE

As the world continues to adjust after years of regulations and lifestyle changes due to COVID-19, Dalat International School looks ahead to an exciting future in a post-pandemic world. We celebrate the return of time-honored traditions and cornerstones of our community, while also evaluating ways to continue growing and thriving. Many conversations around the challenges and opportunities of the last few years helped framed plans for the future, identifying which parts of Dalat should remain, and what new things can be introduced.

While operations around the world slowed down or ceased entirely during the pandemic, the work at Dalat continued. Several campus construction projects and improvements were completed while the campus was quiet, including a brand new cafeteria and additional gym.

As students began to return to campus in November 2021, conversations quickly turned to the upcoming change in leadership, the need for a new facility for middle school students, the conclusion of the current strategic plan, and other opportunities as Dalat nears its 100th birthday. 2022 marked the beginning of several big changes and turned our eyes towards what's to come.

At the end of the 2021-2022 school year, after more than twenty years at Dalat, Head of School Mr. Karl Steinkamp transferred leadership to Ms. Shawna Wood, who had previously been the Deputy Head of School. Ms. Wood was selected after an extensive selection process that spanned 15 months. She brings over 25 years of experience as a teacher and principal at the elementary and middle school divisions in various school communities around the world. We are excited for Ms. Wood to take on this role after ten years in the Dalat community and are looking forward to the strength and momentum she will bring in her leadership.

Additionally, in 2022 the school board approved the construction of a brand new middle school building, The Marina. The purpose-built facility will be constructed on lower campus, where the former cafeteria is located, so students will be able to enjoy the incredible ocean view in their own space. The two/three-story facility will include a new multi-purpose hall to replace the "Vintage Chapel," a designated play area for middle school students, two classrooms designated for science instruction, one large art classroom, one Maker-Space room for technology and engineering lessons, offices for Middle School leaders, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (S.T.E.A.M.) programming, and a rooftop space for the community to gather. Construction is set to begin partway through the 2022-2023 school year, with hopes of completion in time for the 2024-2025 school year.

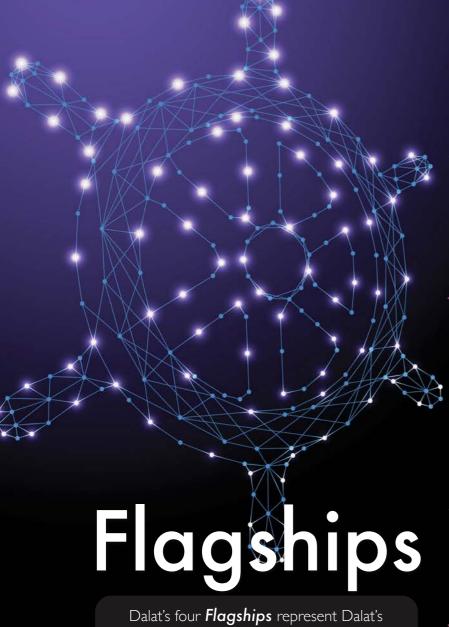
2022 also marked the conclusion of the 5-year strategic plan. School leaders will take a year to draft the next installment of planning and visioning for our community. This process will involve gathering representatives for all of our stakeholders: parents, staff, board members, and students, hosting retreats and focus groups, conducting surveys, committee work, and intentional development of the vision. The culmination of these efforts will allow us to start the 2023-2024 school year with a clear roadmap for the next five years. We are excited for what's ahead!

This Annual Results Book highlights the many challenges and opportunities the school has faced during the pandemic-stricken years. Now that we are emerging into a new season, we are excited for what's to come and are in hopeful expectation for the continued momentum, positivity and growth of our school community.

The Marina will be constructed on lower campus.



2021-2022 STUDENT ENROLLMENT SCHOOL YEAR OFFICIAL TOTAL: n.america 703 STUDENTS FROM 25 **USA162** NATIONS by nationalities CANADAII **BRAZIL9 MEXICO4** CHINA **INDONESIA** INDIA8 JAPAN 13 CAMBODIA KOREA 67 **GERMANY MALAYSIA220 DENMARK SINGAPORE**8 FINLAND4 **THAILAND** FRANCE6 **TAIWANIO NETHERLANDS**5 **HONG KONG** UK<sub>2</sub> **PHILIPPINES AUSTRALIA9 NEW ZEALAND4** AS OF **SOUTHAFRICA** SEPTEMBER 2021



identity and articulate what we want to accomplish for our students.

The Student Outcome Statements (SOS) more fully define the teaching objectives and learning expectations.

### Dalat inspires enthusiastic lifelong learners who are inquisitive, creative, and independent.

### **Communicates Skillfully**

A Dalat student communicates skillfully by:

- asking meaningful and relevant questions
- expressing themselves creatively and ethically through media and the arts
- reading, writing and speaking fluently in English
- conveying clearly their ideas and learning

### Thinks Innovatively

A Dalat student thinks innovatively by:

- demonstrating a growth mindset and exhibiting an intellectual curiosity.
- being a self-directed goal oriented learner.
- embracing new opportunities, taking risks, and overcoming setbacks.
- reflecting critically and seeking creative solutions to every day challenges.

### Dalat empowers students to become responsible members of their community, providing opportunities to lead, serve others and honor God.

### Serves Compassionately

A Dalat student serves compassionately by:

- asking meaningful and relevant questions.
- expressing themselves creatively and ethically through media and the arts.
- reading, writing and speaking fluently in
- conveying clearly their ideas and learning.

### **Lives Ethically**

A Dalat student lives ethically by:

- caring for God's creation.
- living a balanced and self-disciplined life.
- promoting equity and social justice.

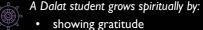
### Dalat mentors students inspiring them to seek truth, love God, and grow in Christ.

### **Reasons Biblically**

A Dalat student reasons biblically by:

- seeking the truth
  - understanding and applying God's word
  - making wise decisions based on biblical
  - evaluating and articulating worldviews based on the bible

### **Grows Spiritually**



- practicing habits of spiritual formation
- pursing a relationship with lesus Christ
- having a teachable attitude
- participating in mentoring relationships

### Dalat encourages students to build respectful and caring relationships with empathy and humility.

**Collaborates Effectively** 

### A Dalat student collaborates effectively by:

- listening and giving feedback respectfully.
- being a flexible, adaptable and responsible team player.
- understanding other points of view.
- cooperating.

### **Connects Authentically**

A Dalat student connects authentically by:

- treating others with empathy and Christlike love.
- building friendships with people of different cultures and generations.
- valuing and appreciating Malaysian culture.





- using technology appropriately.

- exhibiting integrity and honesty.





# Strategic Plan Update

As we share these results from the 21-22 school year, we are excited to look towards the future of Dalat. Last year was the culmination of our strategic plan. The goals were Effective Community, Innovative Learning, Authentic Transformation, and Passionate Personnel. When we set these goals six years ago, we had no idea that we would spend half of that plan in a pandemic. We are grateful that these chosen goals remained relevant throughout COVID. Even though we had to adjust many of our action steps, we were still able to maintain a focus on each of these areas.

In the 22-23 school year, we will be looking to the future and working on a new strategic plan to take us through the next five years. This will also take us to the end of our first century as a school. We are so grateful for God's faithfulness over these many years and looking forward to continuing to move forward as a school.





View the most recent update of the current Dalat Strategic Plan here.

# Test Results

# MEASURES OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Dalat uses Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) standardized tests for Kindergarten to Grade 10.

These assessments are unique in that they adapt to each student's ability, accurately measuring what a child knows. In addition, MAP tests measure academic growth over time, independent of grade-level or age. Most importantly, the results have practical application to teaching and learning — providing educators with timely information which guides instructional planning and school improvement.

Dalat's MAP scores continue to land above the U.S. average, and in many cases, above the East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS) international schools average. Average scores are reported by subject area and grade and are compared with scores from EARCOS-member International schools and average scores of U.S. students.

### LANGUAGE USAGE



Grade	DALAT May 2022	EARCOS May 2022	US Average 2020
2	197.2	193.65	188.4
3	208.5	203.85	198.3
4	216.0	210.50	205
5	221.3	216.57	210.2
6	222.7	220.56	214.2
7	228.7	225.28	216.5
8	230.9	228.86	218.7
9	238.2	228.06	219
10	234.6	229.50	220.9

### **MATH**



Grade	DALAT May 2022	EARCOS May 2022	US Average 2020
K	170.6	166.52	157.1
1	189.3	186.97	176.4
2	196.2	199.49	189.4
3	210.9	209.32	201.1
4	220.2	219.64	210.5
5	226.6	230.98	218.7
6	233.8	234.41	222.9
7	241.0	242.79	226.7
8	249.6	249.56	230.3
9	262.0	253.6	230
10	261.1	257.14	232.42

Beginning in May 2018, all math grade-level RIT scores represent a weighted average of the scores for all math students from each grade level, regardless of the test version they took. Students in Algeba 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry took the appropriate MAP subject assessment. All other students took the Math K-12 MAP assessment.



Subject	DALAT May 2022	US Average 2020
Algebra 1	255.8	238.8
Algebra 2	267.5	246.4
Geometry	262.3	243.2

The Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra 2 final RIT score represents a weighted average, across students in all grade levels who took the listed math course (Grade IO or below). (Equal-interval RIT scores are used to measure student achievement, growth and calculate accurate class and school averages.)



Grade	DALAT May 2022	EARCOS May 2022	US Average 2020
2	194.3	194.26	187.9
3	202.2	199.74	195.9
4	209.3	205.02	201.2
5	213.0	210.48	206.2
6	218.1	214.75	208.5
7	223.7	218.51	210.6
8	227.0	223.39	213.4
9	230.4	224.38	214.0
10	229.5	227.70	215.3

"These science status norms describe the distributions of achievement in general science academic skills and content knowledge for the relevant student populations for these grades and are useful for screening and placement purposes. Test results should not be used to evaluate performance where science content is more specialized, such as in topically differentiated high school science courses e.g., biology, chemistry, physics." (NWEA Student Achievement Norms 2020)

May 2020 MAP tests were not given due to the restrictions of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

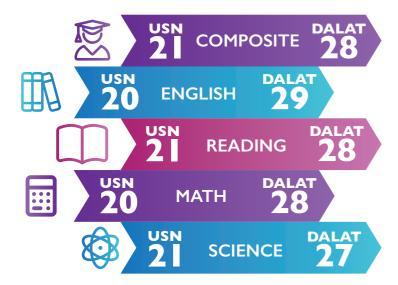


# College Assessments

Results from the SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) or the ACT (American College Testing) are a component of acceptance into U.S. colleges and universities.

SAT: **Dalat's Class of 2022 scored a composite average of 1309** (evidence-based reading and writing, 648; and math, 666) of 1,600 possible points on the SAT exam. The U.S. national composite average score was 1050 (evidence-based reading and writing, 529; and math, 521).

## **ACT RESULTS**



The highest possible composite score on the ACT is 36. USN: denotes US National Score

## SAT RESULTS (Class of 2022)





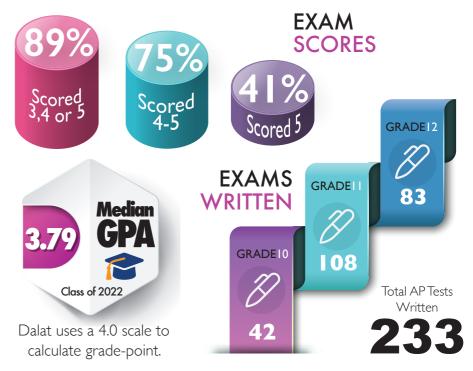




## **AP RESULTS**

Dalat's Advanced Placement (AP) program offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. Dalat offers multiple AP courses at the high school level, and Dalat students take an average of 3.3 AP classes during their time in high school. AP course exams are scored from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest.

141 Dalat students were enrolled in 22 different AP classes.



# Class of 2022

Fifty-four members of the Class of 2022 graduated in June, and they were accepted to the following colleges and universities (These results are self-reported by students prior to graduation, so this may not be a complete list):

### TOP 50\*

KU Leuven, Belgium

Northwestern University, USA

University College, London, United Kingdom

University of California, San Diego, USA

University of Manchester, United Kingdom

University of Melbourne, Australia

University of Toronto, Canada

### TOP 100\*

Ohio State University, USA

University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

University of Groningen, Netherlands

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, USA

University of New South Wales, Australia

University of Queensland, Australia

University of Sydney, Australia

Utrecht University, Netherlands

Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands

### OTHER

Aberystwyth University, Wales

Abilene Christian University, USA

Arts University Bournemouth, United Kingdom

Asbury University, USA

Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Azusa Pacific University, USA

Baylor University, USA

Belhaven University, USA

Biola University, USA

Cairn University, USA

Calvin University, USA

Cardiff University, Wales

Centennial College, Canada

College of DuPage, USA

Collin College, USA

Coventry University, United Kingdom

Curtin University, Singapore

Dallas Baptist University, USA

Dallas College, USA

Durham University, United Kingdom

EADA Business School, Spain

Edinburgh Napier University, Scotland

Grand Canyon University, USA

Houghton College, USA

Hult International Business School, United Kingdom

Keio University, Japan

Kyoto University of Advanced Science (KUAS University) Japan

Loyola Marymount University, USA

LUNEX University, Luxembourg

Monash University Malaysia, Malaysia

New York University Abu Dhabi, UAE

Newcastle University, United Kingdom

NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands

Northwestern University in Qatar, Qatar

Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom

Penn State University, USA

Queen Margaret University, Scotland

Ravensbourne University London, United Kingdom

Rutgers University, USA

Ryerson University, Canada

San Francisco State University, USA

Sophia University, Japan

Southern Methodist University, USA

State University of New York, Buffalo, USA

State University of New York, Stony Brook, USA

Texas A&M University, USA

Trinity Western University, Canada

Universiti Malaya, Malaysia

University of Adelaide, Australia

University of Auckland, New Zealand

University of Calgary, Canada

University of North Texas, USA

University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

University of Sheffield, United Kingdom

University of Sussex, United Kingdom

University of Technology Sydney, Australia

University of Texas, Dallas, USA

University of the Arts London, United Kingdom

University of Utah, USA

University of Western Australia, Australia

Virginia Tech University, USA

Waseda University, Japan

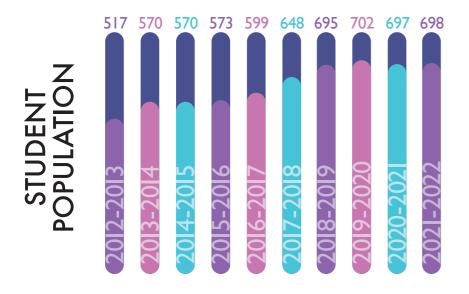
Western University, Canada

William Carey University, USA

\*ACCORDING TO THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

# Finance

The beginning of the end of COVID-19 has brought some good news to the school in the past school year. The easing of travel restrictions and returning of students to face-to-face classes have certainly brought about positive financial impact to the school, too. Student population continues to remain stable while school expenses continue to inch upwards due to general inflation. Overall, the financial performance of the school declined slightly, due to inflation affecting academic expenses, and fewer students enrolled in the boarding program.



In the 2021-2022 school year, manpower cost remained the largest expenditure for the school (73% of total expenses), followed by administrative expenses and plant operating expenses at 8% each. This was followed by educational expenses and kitchen expenses at 5% and 3% of total expenses respectively. The school continued to invest in COVID-19 related expenses (protective equipment, sanitising needs, COVID testing,

## **SCHOOL EXPENSES**



## **DIVISIONAL EXPENSES**



etc.) to ensure the safety of its community. In terms of increase in expenses, manpower expenses saw the largest increase, followed by plant operating expenses.

Income generated at Dalat from fee increases are generally reinvested into the school for facilities maintenance and improvement, covering price increases due to inflation, and general improvement of the school's operations. As the community continues to recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19, the school once again made the decision to not raise its tuition and boarding fees for another school year. Consequently, this meant that the school is taking on the full impact of inflation for another year.

We are thankful that after almost three years of fighting this pandemic, we have finally returned to normalcy. We wish to thank all our parents and the rest of the community for their unwavering support for the past years. While the management continues to plan for the school, we ask that you continue to pray with and for the school, that the time to come will promise continued growth and development for the school and its community.



# Parent Survey Results 2022

This survey was offered to all Dalat parents in May of 2022, with 85 total surveys completed, 53 in English, 21 in Korean and II in Chinese. This completion rate is lower than in 2021.

85% SATISFACTION O1 How would you rate the quality of education at Dalat? 달랏에서의 교육의 질을 어떻게 형가하겠습니까?

请您估计Dalat的教育质量?

54% SATISFACTION

02 How would you rate your student's overall experience learning online this year?

올해 온라인 학습에 대한 학생의 전반적인 경험을 어떻게 평가하시겠습니까? 您如何评价您学生今年在线学习的整体体验?

80% SATISFACTION

03 In your opinion, how well is Dalat preparing your student for university, college, or vocation after Dalat? 여러분은 자녀들이 대학 또는 취업 준비를 얼마나 잘 하고 있다고 생각하십니까?

你认为您的孩子对假期或上大学的准备做得怎么样?

73% SATISFACTION

O4 How satisfied are you with the course offerings? 개설된 강의 과목에 얼마나 만족하십니까? 您对Dalat所提供的学科滿意吗?

79% **SATISFACTION** 

05 How would you rate the impact on your child's life from teaching Christian values from the Bible?

성경으로 기독교의 가치를 가르침이 학생들의 인생에 얼마나 영향을 미치리라 생 각하십니까?

您觉得基督教徒圣经上所教导的价值对您孩子的生活有怎么样的冲击?

85% SATISFACTION 06 How would you rate the use of technology to enhance learning?

배움 증진을 위한 기술 사용에 대해서 여러분은 어떤 등급을 주시겠습니까? 您如何评估运用科技设施以加强学习的效果?

NOTE: Percentages are rounded to the closest whole number. This survey defines "Satisfied" as answering the question with an "Excellent" or "Good" response. "Unsatisfied" is defined as answering the question "Fair" or "Poor.





59% SATISFACTION	14 How would you rate the quality of the sports programs offered? 스포츠 프로그램에 대해서 여러분은 어떤 등급을 주시겠습니까? 您如何评估各项体育项目的素质?	21 How would you rate Dalat's communication with your child (the student)? 달랏과 학생들과의 켜뮤니케이션을 어떻게 평가하십니까? 您如何评估Dalat与学生的沟通?	85% SATISFACTION
52% SATISFACTION	15 How would you rate the value for the price paid for the food in the cafeteria? 식당의 음식이 지불된 가격에 비해 어떻다고 평가하십니까? 您觉得学校餐厅的餐点价钱怎么样?	22 How would you rate Dalat's communication with you (the parent)? 달랏과 학부모와의 커뮤니케이션을 어떻게 평가하십니까? 您如何评估Dalat与学生家长的沟通?	<b>79%</b> SATISFACTION
69% SATISFACTION	16 How well does Dalat meet the needs of your child academically? 달랏이 여러분 자녀의 학구적인 필요를 어느 정도 충족시켜 주나요? Dalat在学术上是否能提供您孩子的需要?	nild 23 How familiar are you with the goals, mission, and vision of Dalat? 달랏이 추구하는 목표, 미션, 비전에 얼마나 익숙하십니까? 您对Dalat的目標、使命和愿景有多了解?	
76% SATISFACTION	17 How well does Dalat meet the needs of your child socially? 달랏이 여러분 자녀의 사회적 필요를 어느 정도 충족시켜 주나요? Dalat在社交应对上是否能提供您的孩子的需要?	aild 24 How well is Dalat achieving its mission and vision statements? 얼마나 달랏 학교가 목표와 사명을 잘 이루어 가고 있습니까? 你对Dalat实现其办学宗旨和愿景的满意度?	
69% SATISFACTION	18 How well does Dalat support struggling learners; i.e., ESL, peer tutoring, and learning support? 달랏은 얼마나 어려움을 겪고있는 학습자를 지원합니까? 즉 ESL, 또래 학습 및 특별 서비스? Dalat 给予挣扎学习者的支持有多好; 即ESL, 同伴辅导以及特殊服务?	Statements (SOS), how are Dalat students meeting these 학습 goals? 학생성취목표(SOS : Student Outcome Statements)에 따르면, 달랏 학생들은	
	19 How would you rate your child's activity level at school? 학교에서 자녀의 활동 수준에 대해서 여러분은 어떤 등급을 주시겠습니까? 您如何评估各级的学校活动?	달랏의 미래에 대해 얼마나 자부심을 갖고 있습니까?	
	4% TOO BUSY 너무 바쁘다 太忙 88% GOOD AMOUNT 적당하다 足够 8% NOT ENOUGH 너무 활동이 부족하다 须增加	<b>27</b> How would you rate the sense of community at Dalat? 달랏의 커뮤니티를 어떻게 평가하십니까? 您觉得Dalat 在社区的服务如何?	84% SATISFACTION
80% YES	20 Are you familiar with Dalat's Child Protection and Safety Program? 여러분은 달랏 학교의 어린이 안전과 위기대응 프로그램에 대해서 익숙하십니까? 您了解Dalat对于您的孩子人身保护及安全措施吗?	28 Do you feel welcome at Dalat? 달랏에서 환영받고 있다고 느끼십니까? 您在Dalat感觉受欢迎吗?	95% SATISFACTION

65% SATISFACTION	29 How would you rate the cooperation and interactions of nationalities? 다른 국적의 자녀들과의 협력과 상호 작용에 대해서 여러분은 어떤 등급을 주시겠습니까? 您如何评估不同国籍的合作与互动?
<b>94%</b> YES	30 Would you recommend Dalat to your family and closest friends? 가족이나 가까운 친구들에게 Dalat을 추천하실 생각이신가요? 您是否会推荐Dalat给您的家人和亲密的朋友?
90% YES	<b>31</b> Do you think Dalat students make a positive impact outside of our school? 달랏 학생들이 학교 밖에서 긍정적인 영향을 준다고 생각하세요? 您认为Dalat 学生在校外有正面的影响吗?
87% SATISFACTION	32 How would you rate your overall satisfaction with Dalat? 달랏에서 전체적인 만족도는 어떻게 평가하고 싶으신가요? 您如何评估Dalat的整体满意度?
87% SATISFACTION	33 How would you rate the leadership of Dalat? 달랏의 리더쉽을 어떻게 평가하십니까? 您如何评估Dalat的领导层?
72% SATISFACTION	34 How well does Dalat administration listen to and address your concerns? 달랏 학교 행정부서에서 얼마나 여러분의 관심을 듣고 설명한다고 보십니까? Dalat有没有倾听和解决您提出的问题?
75% SATISFACTION	35 How would you rate Dalat against other international schools around the world? 전세계의 국제학교와 비교하여 달랏을 어떻게 평가하십니까? 您如何评估Dalat在世界各国国际学校的地位?
91% SATISFACTION	36 How would you rate Dalat's reputation in Penang? 페낭에서 달랏의 평판은 어떻다고 생각하세요? 您怎么评估Dalat 在槟城州的声誉?

37 How would you rate the value you receive for the price you pay at Dalat? 달랏에 지불하는 만큼의 대가를 받고 있다고 평가하십니까? 您如何评估您的孩子在Dalat所付出的学费与所接受到的教育?

68% SATISFACTION

38 How long have you been a part of the Dalat community? 달랏 커뮤니티에 얼마나 오랫동안 관여해 왔습니까? 1 년 미만, 1-2 년, 3-5 년,

您成为Dalat社區多久?少於1年,1到2年,3到5年,過超5年

12% LESS THAN A YEAR

19% 1-2 YEARS

5 년 이상

**20%** 3-5 YEARS

**43%** 5+ YEARS

**39** Where is your home country located? 당신의 모국은 어디입니까? 북아메리카, 아시아, 유럽 您的祖国在哪里? 北美洲, 亞洲, 歐洲

24% NORTH AMERICA

**64%** ASIA

**4%** FUROPE

8% OTHER

# Responses to Survey Results

The annual parent survey and results book are two critical factors in encouraging two-way communication between Dalat and its families. The survey gives parents the opportunity to rate and comment on a variety of factors that are significant to the school. The leadership team analyzes and reflects on the data gathered from the parent survey each year. We then take time to set priorities for the upcoming school year.

The Dalat Parent Survey gives school leadership a detailed snapshot of the feelings of parents at one moment in time. Analyzing the results this year is a bit more complicated for a couple of reasons. For one, COVID significantly impacted school operations for the last three years. There were many limitations that impacted the student experience both in and out of the classroom. Additionally, the survey response rate in May 2022 was significantly lower than in previous years. We will explore new ways to increase the response rate for the 2023 iteration of the Parent Survey, as we value input from all of our parents.

I was both surprised and grateful that Dalat continued to receive high marks for its sense of community and welcoming atmosphere in this latest survey. When parents, and sometimes even students, were not able to physically come to campus, we all had to find new ways to build community. We are really excited to be able to focus on reconnecting in-person during the 2022-2023 school year. Another related area is the sense of safety people feel on Dalat's campus. These sentiments come about because of the strong partnership between the school and it's families. We are so thankful for each member of our community.

There were some low survey numbers in the areas of academics. This is definitely an area we are looking to improve. Many students around the

world show gaps in their learning due to the "COVID years," and Dalat is no exception. The school is intentionally targeting the learning gaps and seeking to provide additional support where needed. We understand the low survey numbers in regards to extra-curricular activities and are excited that we have been able to restart many of those already.

While the survey and results book are important facets of communication, they definitely do not cover everything. We also appreciate feedback in the form of emails and face to face meetings. We are so thankful for the opportunity to interact more freely with parents and look forward to talking with you often. Please remember that school leaders and staff truly value your feedback and suggestions throughout each school year – not only on the annual parent survey.







## RESIDENCE LIFE

Dalat's boarding program continued to provide a safe, secure home environment for dorm students through another year of pandemic-related restrictions. The boarding community is well-known for its close-knit family atmosphere; this year staff and students had more opportunity than usual to encourage and support one another due to the challenges of online schooling and the impact of COVID. The residence supervisors were gone on their one-year home assignment with their mission organization, so the dorm assistant provided administrative support while the deputy head of school provided program leadership and staff member care.

Due to lower numbers related to COVID-travel restrictions, dorm students were housed in two dorms. The remaining empty dorm served as a quarantine center for students who needed to isolate and recover from COVID. The school nurse and spiritual life director who live in the dorm building provided extra care for students and assistance to staff as needed. Living in close community gave staff and students alike ample opportunity to foster close relationships and care for one another through the ups and downs of a challenging year.

## **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

We began the 2021-2022 school year online, but we were able to end the school year celebrating learning and community with Maker's Week (science and engineering projects) and on-campus "field trips". During the last week of school, children enjoyed experimenting with engineering practices, jumping on bouncy castles, playing with bubbles, having their faces painted, and laughing at the hysterics of clowns. It was the perfect way to end a tumultuous school year.

Despite numerous COVID-related struggles, we decided to focus on those less fortunate and created the First IMPACT Initiative, (the new Elementary arm of Dalat's service-learning program). Through the generous contributions of elementary families, we provided 70 backpacks and five teacher bags equipped with school supplies for refugee schools. We also raised over 250 food items for a local foodbank program.

Additionally, we resumed the Elementary Student Council and maintained grade-level bubbles while fostering opportunities for physical movement and socially-distanced fun with our afterschool group games.  $\hookrightarrow$ 

In reviewing the 2022 parent survey results, I am pleased to report:

- Elementary parents reported high levels of satisfaction for Dalat's efforts to prepare their children for the future and imparting Christian values.
- There was an increase in parent satisfaction for technology-enhancing learning.
- Parents continued to describe overall contentment with their child's teacher, the amount of homework given, and the level of activity at school.
- A majority of parents reported their child feels safe and the school meets their child's academic and social needs.

As we transition out of the global pandemic phase of COVID-19, Dalat will make intentional efforts to recover from learning, social, emotional, and developmental losses. On our path to recovery, we are committed to the following:

- We will continue to examine the quality of our homework, ensuring that homework reinforces and inspires student learning.
- We will continue to use best teaching practices to minimize learning gaps.
- We will continue incorporating physical play into the school day to help increase physical stamina and endurance.
- We will continue to invest in social-emotional resources and programs to help children process their COVID and other transitional experiences.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

**During the government COVID-related restrictions the middle school worked hard at returning as much of our program to normal as possible.** By the spring semester, we we were thankfully allowed to reintroduce X Block activities, some intramurals, face-to-face parent-teacher conferences, and host in-person middle school band concerts at the end of the school year. We look forward to the 2022-2023 school year when we can bring back as many of our middle school programs — such as the Fall Retreat, Service Learning Activities, Open Campus and our full range of sports and intrumurals. We also are excited to break ground on a new purpose-built middle school building with a dedicated Humanities wing and a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) Wing which will increase opporunities for collaborative interdisciplinary studies.  $\hookrightarrow$ 



From the parent survey information, the middle school showed strength in integrating a Biblical Worldview in classes and providing a quality education for our middle school students. While communication among students, parents, and teachers has been an area focused on improvement, we will continue to work on sharing learning progression more frequently so that support systems can be put into place to help students be as successful as possible. Communication between school and home is essential in supporting all students. Another area of discussion is the balance between homework and family time. Homework should be meaningful work that can be completed independently in a short amount of time. To better balance school work between school and home in the 2022-2023 school year, we will work to lighten homework loads so that weekends can be dedicated to family. We value the importance of family having time together to build healthy relationships.

Thank you for your thoughtful feedback. Your input into how we can best partner together to provide an education is important so that the needs of your child are met.

## HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The high school finished the 2021-2022 school year focusing on providing students and teachers with a gradual transition to normalcy. As the year progressed, we were able to implement more extracurricular activities such as X Blocks, the Fine Arts Program, and athletics. We finished the year with anticipation and excitement about the 2022-23 school allowing Dalat high school students with even more learning opportunities outside of the classroom, and even off-campus.

After reading the 2022 parent survey results, it is clear that parents are pleased with the overall communication that the school has provided to families as we navigated the ever changing policies and guidelines of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Additionally, there has been an improvement in the confidence of parents feeling that their child is safe and supported while at school. It is clear that there is still work to be done on providing a more robust extracurricular and athletic program. There was also a marked decline in the interaction and cooperation between nationalities on campus, which will be an area of focus for this year.

As always, the high school values the feedback that is provided from the parent survey, and we will take both the strengths and growth areas into account as we strive to create a school that always seeks to improve in our mission of educating students for life based on a biblical worldview.









# Department Reports

# **ADMISSIONS**

Dalat started the 2021-2022 school year with 677 students, including 104 new or returning students. As restrictions in immigration eased, enrollment jumped to 703 students for second semester with 69 new or returning students, thus returning Dalat to pre-COVID enrollment.

Classrooms reached capacity once students happily participated in face-to-face classes partway through the school year. During the COVID season, Dalat closed one dorm, but as the school year progressed, the two remaining dorms grew to almost completely full at 34 total students. The third dorm reopened in August 2022 in anticipation of more dorm students joining Dalat again as travel becomes easier.

Dalat is excited to be back at pre-COVID numbers and to be welcoming back many familiar faces as well as new faces from a multitude of countries.





## **DEVELOPMENT**

Like many others, the Development Department was excited to see the return of many of the things that make Dalat special. Our first Annual Fund since 2019 was successful, with the community helping to surpass our goal of RM 175,000 and raising more than RM 194,000. We hosted the first semester New Parent Breakfast in November, as soon as government guidelines allowed small-scale gatherings. Second semester allowed for the largest mid-year New Parent Breakfast in January (with wonderful help from the PTO), various events throughout the term, and the return of the Fine Arts Showcase in May. We're so grateful for the amount of time we were able to spend in-person during this school year, and are looking forward to the return of even more things next year!

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

The past school year was characterized by a returning back to "normal" as we transitioned from COVID-19 restrictions and online learning and back to a face to face experience. Spiritual Emphasis week was delayed until the full high school could participate, so students could experience, not only time with God, but time with each other. The theme was "Hit Refresh" and as a part of it we included Eagle Games. The response to this change was amazing as students seized that moment to reconnect with God and with their classmates.

Our mentoring program continued to exist in spite of the restrictions and grew again up to approximately 70 staff and students who engage in weekly or bi-weekly times together. By the end of the year, more than 30 small groups met on campus every Friday, led by staff and parents. For this year we focused on youth Alpha at all grades as this is foundational material that all students receive. Also our Leadership Development class included 6 key leaders who did an amazing job of organizing spiritual life events for the school.

Missions Emphasis Week also was well received with the theme "Do Good." A significant amount of money was raised to help refugee students be able to attend school. Speakers included Ms. Lisa Munson, Mr. Tony Wood, and Mr. Bob Wright.

Most significant were the weekly engagements through chapel, Bible classes, and teachers that caused many students to consider and others to respond to Christ. On Easter Sunday morning, we baptized 11 (which brought our total for the year to about 15 baptisms).





## IMPACT SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAM

In 2021-2022, the IMPACT program include student service in the following areas:

- Impact Here on-campus or within the Dalat community
- Impact Near outside of the Dalat community, but on Penang Island
- Impact Far anything off of Penang Island

# HERE.

Students helped with programs, blessed staff, and volunteered at events. Dalat students served a total of 579 hours for IMPACTHERE.





# **NEAR**

Dalat high school students served a total of 3250 hours: helped community members, assisted neighbors, participated in community projects, and served with established organizations, churches, and places of worship. Fifty-seven high school students received service awards for completing at least 20 additional service hours beyond the school's graduation requirement. In March, the middle school division supported two local organizations.

# FAR.

Due to COVID-related restrictions, no official high school projects were done. However, some students did independent service projects via IMPACT Club. In December, elementary students supported two local refugee education-focused organizations on the mainland with 70 back-to-school packs for refugee students and four back-to-school teacher packs.

We will re-launch IMPACTFAR in the 2022-2023 school year with the hope to offer two domestic IMPACTFAR trips in the fall and multiple International IMPACTFAR trips in the spring semester.

No fundraising was completed this year. The student IMPACT Club continues to manage the Care & Share program. This year, Care & Share was essentially limited to collecting donated items and distributing them to our main donation partner, Kawan House.



## **FINE ARTS**

The Fine Arts Dept in 2022 continued to celebrate beauty through music, arts, photography, and media, using the creative talents that God has given each one of us.

### **Elementary School**

The elementary students were back making music together online and face to face. Kindergarten to Grade 4 performed at the Fine Arts Festival which was celebrated with so much excitement and joy after Covid.

### Middle School and High School Bands

The high school and middle school bands shared a virtual Christmas concert on the Music Showcase webpage. The high school and middle school bands performed live concerts to conclude the school year. Nearly all middle school students play an instrument and perform in the band program.

### **HS Concert Choir**

The High School Choir shared a virtual Christmas concert on the Music Showcase webpage, where they showcased their own covers of Christmas songs. The High School Choir performed at the Fine Arts Festival with much celebration at the end of the year. It was an amazing concert with parents and the Dalat community.

### Elementary and Middle School Visual Arts

Elementary and Middle school exhibited work created online for half the year. Each student showcased their high quality work at an exhibition at the Student Center at the end of the year, which was very successful.

### High School Visual Arts

AP 3D Art student Anya Kaloo was selected amongst 57,000 students around the world who submitted their AP Art portfolio, for inclusion in the 2021 AP art and Design Digital Exhibit by AP College Board.

AP 2D and 3D Art student Joseph Yun Chong Sin won the Gold Award for most outstanding Young Artist with a RM80,000 scholarship to One Academy. This was a competition which he won for his exceptional artistic skill.

Liza Nichols, our art instructor, has been offered the position as AP Art and Design Mentor by the AP College Board to lead other instructors around the world.

### Digital Photography and Graphic Design

Despite starting the 2021-2022 school year online, students eventually returned to campus and finished the year strong at the Fine Arts Festival, showcasing their work to the community. Most of their pieces included landscape photography, portraits, and product and macro photography.

Professional photographer David Dobson was a guest lecturer at our Digital Photography class sharing his experiences as well as techniques with our students.

The visual arts department prepared an online art exhibition that included artwork spanning from elementary to high school. The exhibition featured at least one piece of art from every art student in school.

Every high school student who completed Advanced Placement Art scored a 5 on their portfolio.





# DISTANCE LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

In 2020–21, the DLRC started the year serving about 60 students from 30 families, but that number dropped by about half by the end of the year due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

- Three DLRC students audited classes.
- Over 4,000 resource volumes are available in the DLRC library.
- DLRC published a monthly resource letter (news, articles, curriculum reviews, science experiments, art ideas, writing ideas, etc.) now archived for easy access.
- In partnership with Asia Education Resource Consortium (AERC), the DLRC served families throughout the region who needed resources or consultation in making educational decisions for their children.

## **ONLINE EDUCATION**

Dalat offered external online courses by the following providers: The Virtual High School (VHS) Collaborative, Sevenstar Academy, Northstar Academy, Mizzou Academy, and Grand Canyon University.

- 88 students took 31 different online courses, including courses with outside providers and Dalat in-house courses.
- 41 students enrolled in 27 different external courses with an outside provider.
- 22 students took an Advanced Placement (AP) online course, which amounted to six different AP courses in all.
- Four students enrolled in dual-enrollment courses offered by Grand Canyon University (USA).
- Online courses provided in-house by Dalat staff on DISCourse included Bahasa III, Bahasa IV, Exploring Technology Applications, AP Psychology, and Statistics. Total student enrollment in these courses was 47.



## **TECHNOLOGY**

In the 2021-22 school year, the technology department focused on the following:

- Installed new desktops with bulletin power supplies in the Journalism Lab: benefits Journalism, Graphic Design, and Video Editing students.
- Created a High School Creative Zone: a flexible learning space with specialized equipment, such as powerful desktop computers, 3D printer, green screen, and various tools.
- Middle School is now fully one-to-one with an issued school iPad for each student.
- Began replacing older middle school projectors with new highresolution televisions: provides brighter displays and more wireless connectivity options.
- Created a custom car license plate reader system for both school entrances to help with pick up procedures during COVID restrictions.
- Improved various security and backup processes: i.e. instituted twofactor authentication for all staff accounts.

## **FACILITIES**

We took a break this year from "major" building projects. Once the campus was able to reopen, we were able to

enjoy our new Galley cafeteria in full operation. It is a wonderful space for lunches, and will prove to be a valuable place for visiting athletic teams to rest between tournament games and activities.

The Junior Class was also happy to open in a new location in the Galley and served many hungry customers. The Sandycroft gym received a big upgrade with the installation of soundproofing panels making the environment more muted and pleasant for all users. Various other projects were completed: new campus tables and benches, a renovated PTO store, and summer upgrades in the Learning Support Center making campus a more comfortable and inviting place.

Our new Middle School building called the "Marina" was announced with a tentative groundbreaking in the spring of 2023. Construction is expected to take about a year.



## **ATHLETICS**

Prior to the global pandemic, the athletic department offered 10 different varsity sports and teams for students

from grade 5 thru grade 12. Dalat is an active participant in the Asia Christian Schools Conference (ACSC), MSSPP (local Malay schools), and the Penang Schools Activity Conference (PSAC). Dalat teams have also traveled to tournaments in Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru. However, due to the global pandemic, we were left with little opportunity for students to participate in athletics as all local and international competition was canceled or prohibited.

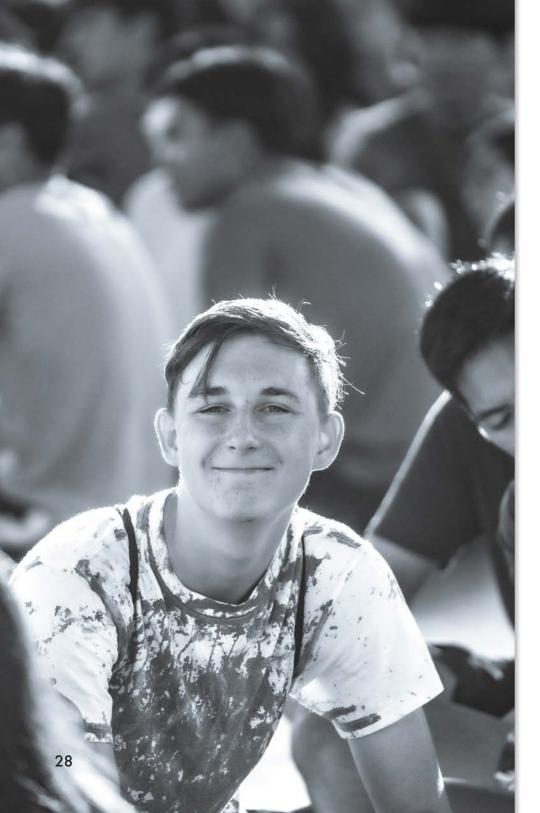
In March 2022, the restrictions were lifted for in-school sports and intramurals were arranged for Middle School and High School students in volleyball, basketball, and soccer. Clubs in Badminton and CrossFit were also established and extremely popular.

The new facility known as the Sandycroft Multi-Purpose Hall was fully opened and hosted many intramural basketball games. This will be a major asset to the athletic department for volleyball and basketball practices, games, and tournaments as well as daily physical education classes.

### Athletics Booster Club

The Booster Club supports school sports teams, athletes, and coaches. Its primary duties include organizing fundraising, sponsorships, and volunteers for athletic events.

• In 2021-2022, the booster Club raised over RM3,000 towards the purchase of new camera equipment for sports photos and supplies for the athletic department.



# PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

In the 2021-2022 school year, Dalat's PTO was led by President Vira Willoughby, Vice President Ellsy Beh, Secretary Margaret Emis, Treasurer Sherrie Lai, and Assistant Treasurer Janet Cheang. Although school campus access was limited for parents most of the year, we were grateful for each of the opportunities we had for our community to come together.

The 2021-2022 PTO activities included:

- Held virtual info session for new parents
- Served at New Student Orientation and New Parent Breakfast
- Facilitated parent communication via social media & grade-level chat groups (WhatsApp and Signal)
- Hosted an Annual Fund Bake Sale
- Hosted two PTO Walk & Breakfast events
- Organized the annual Thanksgiving Lunch and Breakfast events (teachers & international staff and national staff)
- Served lunch to help the school meet government COVID SOPs
- Hosted our annual International Food Fair online (14 countries represented)
- Hosted an Appreciation High Tea for top parent volunteers
- Served as hosts at school concerts and the Fine Arts Showcase
- Gave gift vouchers to staff for Teacher Appreciation Week

Dalat PTO raised RM21,378.90 during the year; the funds went to support and bless the following:

- RM9,026 towards 2021 Annual Fund projects
- RM9,150 Gift vouchers for Teacher Appreciation Week
- RM1,409 PTO thank-you and farewell gifts for volunteers
- RM489 PTO T-shirts for volunteers

Dalat International School educates children from preschool through grade 12 with a robust American curriculum and a biblical worldview. Located in Penang, Malaysia, Dalat now educates students from more than 20 nations.

Dalat began its work as a school for missionary children in Da Lat, Vietnam in 1929. It relocated to Bangkok, Thailand, for a year before moving to the Cameron Highlands, Malaysia, in 1966. The school has operated in its current seaside location in Penang since 1971.

Dalat prepares students for a university education and adult life. The school's academic and boarding programs are fully accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).



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