



AXIS

Head of School

长菁总校长

Dr. Michael Allen
迈克尔 艾伦（博士）



- Doctor of Education, Nova Southeastern University, United States
教育学博士
美国诺瓦东南大学

- Quality Assurance Review Team
- Member for AdvancED & WASC Accreditation
— Reviewed 8 international schools worldwide, including China, Korea, Brazil, Honduras, and Paraguay.

质量保障评估团队成员（AdvancED & WASC 认证）
— 参与评估过包括中国、韩国、巴西、洪都拉斯和巴拉圭等国家共8所国际学校

- International Schools Principal Performance Evaluation System Development Member
国际学校校长绩效评价体系开发成员
- East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS) Leadership Conference Presenter
东亚学校区域理事会（EARCOS）领导力大会演讲者



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- Advisory Member of the Board of Directors
Thai-Canadian Chamber of Commerce
(CanCham), Thailand
泰国-加拿大商会董事会顾问委员（泰国）
- 24+ Years of International School
Leadership: Principal, Deputy Head, and
Senior Administration.

超过二十四年全球范围国际学校高层管理经验。

2020-2026 🇹🇭

International School Bangkok, Thailand
曼谷国际学校（泰国）

2013-2020 🇨🇳

Shanghai American School, China
上海美国外籍人员子女学校（中国）

2005-2013 🇨🇱

International School Nido de Aguilas, Chile
鹰巢国际学校（智利）

2000-2005 🇲🇽

San Roberto International School, Mexico
圣罗伯托国际学校（墨西哥）



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Empowered **Learners** | Effective **Communicators**
Complex **Thinkers** | Global **Collaborators**
赋能学习者 高效沟通者 复合型思考者 全球协作者

Secondary School Faculty Team

G6 - G12



Our Secondary School faculty team consists of highly qualified educators from around the world, with the majority of our team from the United States. Many of them hold Master's degrees. With an average of over 10 years of international teaching experience, our faculty is committed to fostering a rigorous and globally-minded academic environment that prepares students for success in an increasingly interconnected world.





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Matthew Krakowski

Secondary School Principal,
United States

- Doctor of Education, Liberty University, United States
- Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts in Athletic Administration, Springfield College, United States
- Bachelor of Science, Springfield College, United States
- U.S. Principal Training Center Certificate/ WASC Accreditation, Visiting Committee Member/SEL Coach and Lead Certification/ Counseling Certified in Social and Emotional Needs
- 14 years of leadership experience in international schools



I have spent 14 years in international education in China, where my experiences through athletics and educational leadership have shaped my appreciation for the commitment and resilience needed to achieve meaningful goals. Completing my Doctorate in Education reinforced my belief that strong schools are built on trust, relationships, and shared growth. My collaborative, student-centered approach supports the whole child—academically, socially, and emotionally—while developing character, perseverance, and teamwork. I collaborate with teachers, students, and families to build a supportive environment that fosters growth and helps young people become lifelong learners, guided by my experience leading teams and overcoming challenges in diverse educational settings.





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Chad Duby

Secondary English Teacher,
AP Teacher, United States



- Master of Education in International Teaching, Framingham State University
United States
- Bachelor of Art in Philosophy,
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
United States
- U.S. Teaching licenses in English 6-12 and
Computer Science K-12 (Florida); PGCEI
Certificate
- 18 years of U.S. and international teaching
experience
- 11 years IB examiner experience, IB EOI lead
examiner English A and AP English and AP
Seminar Reader



I believe that teachers should show students how to think critically and how to use tools of analysis to approach difficult and complex problems in order for students to come to their own conclusions. Instead of teaching students what to think, students become capable of formulating their own ideas and as a result become empowered and independent.





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Matthew Balmaseda

Secondary English Teacher, United States



- Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction, Arizona State University
United States
- Bachelor of Art in English, Florida International University, United States
- Teaching Certificate from the District of Columbia; TESOL Certificate
- Over 10 years of experience in teaching English



My educational philosophy is rooted in a holistic, student-centered approach that utilizes the English classroom as a setting for global-mindedness and empathy. I believe that by engaging with diverse texts, students develop the ability to critically analyze multiple perspectives, allowing them to better understand both their own identities and the complexities of the world around them. I am committed to promoting equity through an inclusive environment where every student is empowered to find their voice and participate in meaningful discourse. Ultimately, my goal is to develop students who are not only skilled communicators but critical thinkers equipped to make informed, ethical decisions as members of a global society.





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James Wood

Secondary English Teacher, Australia



- Master of Applied Linguistics
Griffith University, Australia
- Master of Educational Leadership
University of New South Wales
(currently studying)
- Bachelor of Arts (Video Game Design)
Griffith University, Australia
- Certificate IV in TESOL
- Experienced teaching English, Digital Design, ICT and AI Literacy in international schools in China



As an educator with a background in linguistics, technology and design, I have taught throughout Asia, bringing a diverse range of classroom and industry experience into my practice. Currently completing a Master of Educational Leadership at UNSW, my passion lies in fostering creativity, critical thinking and effective communication across both language and digital learning. By combining diverse literary works with modern technology, design thinking and real-world connections, I create an inclusive environment where students find their voice, express ideas clearly and discover the power of language and digital literacy to connect and inspire.





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Jeff Mills

Secondary Social Studies Teacher,
United States



- Master of Global Affairs and Policy, Yonsei University, Korea
- Bachelor of Science, Wayne State College, United States
- Teaching Certificate from Nebraska State
- Over 5 years of experience in teaching English and Social Studies in international schools (Korea, Vietnam)
- Experienced AP and IB teacher
- Proficient in Korean (TOPIK Level 5)



I believe that education should empower students to become active participants in a rapidly evolving world. My teaching philosophy centers on moving beyond rote memorization toward the development of critical thinking, adaptability, and digital literacy. By creating an inquiry-based classroom environment, I encourage students to ask complex questions, analyze diverse perspectives, and apply their knowledge to real-world challenges. My goal is to ensure every student graduates with the intellectual tools and confidence necessary to navigate the 21st century successfully.





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Daniel Gressley

Secondary Social Studies Teacher,
United States



- Master's Degree in International Teaching, Framingham University, United States
- Bachelor of Arts in Education and History, York College of Pennsylvania, United States
- Teaching Certificate from Pennsylvania State
- Over 15 years of experience in teaching Social Studies in international schools (Thailand, China)
- Experienced IB teacher



I believe students learn best when they feel safe, supported, and take ownership in their learning. My goal is to create a positive classroom environment where students feel supported in being curious, trying new ideas, and building confidence. I enjoy getting to know my students' interests, strengths, and learning needs so I can design meaningful and relevant learning experiences for them. I aim to connect content, skills, and real world situations in ways that feel authentic and engaging, while helping students build their knowledge and abilities that they can use both inside and outside the classroom. Above all, I hope my classroom is a place where students feel valued, challenged, and excited to learn.





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Ryan Witte

Secondary Social Studies Teacher,
AP Teacher, United States

- Master of Education, Regis University
- Double Bachelor's in Chinese Language and Government, University of Texas
- Professional Teacher License in Secondary Social Studies Education from the State of Colorado
- 10+ years teaching Secondary Social Studies in international schools, including AP History and AP Economics
- Proficient Chinese speaker



I support students to develop their own unique ideas, perspectives, and solutions, yet with the understanding that the world is constantly in flux and that decisions must be made in light of changing circumstances, the varying needs of different groups, and thorough consideration of potential consequences. In the teaching of historical events and modern-day issues in my role as a Social Studies instructor, I will endeavor to provide our future leaders with the tools and skills necessary to seek out all information, critically evaluate all evidence, and carefully examine issues and concerns from many different perspectives before making important decisions on any matter.





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Bivash Chakraborty

Secondary Math Teacher,
AP Teacher, India



- Master of Science in Chemistry
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry
NIILM University, India
- Bachelor of Education in Chemistry,
Mumbai University, India
- Over 10 years of teaching experience in
Chemistry, Math and Computer Science
- Experienced IB MYP/DP teacher



I believe the primary purpose of education is to empower individuals to create a better world. As a mathematics and computer science teacher, I see STEM education as more than just technical knowledge—it's about cultivating problem-solving minds capable of addressing humanity's greatest challenges. Whether students are analyzing data to understand climate patterns, developing accessible technologies, or creating algorithms that promote equity, I help them connect their learning to real-world impact.

I like embracing modern tools and technologies to elevate my practice. Today's high school students learn best through hands-on exploration, collaborative problem-solving, and project-based learning that mirrors the digital environments they'll encounter in their futures. By integrating cutting-edge tools with mathematical principles and computational thinking, I prepare students to become not just consumers of technology, but creators of solutions that can transform communities and improve lives.





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Brandi Anderson

Secondary Math Teacher, AP Coordinator,
United States

- Master's Degree in Education and Curriculum,
University of Phoenix, United States
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Chemistry and Biology,
University of Maryland Eastern Shore, United States
- Over 15 years of middle school and high school teaching experience in the United States



As a teacher, my goal is to reawaken and encourage the natural behaviors of curiosity and discovery which, in the case of too many students, seem to be in hibernation. I believe that these desirable learning behaviors can be supported through student directed learning guided by the questioning and discussion that should occur during classroom conversations between and among students and their teacher. In addition to reflective discussion, learning is also comprised of activity including, but not limited to physical manipulation of the subject matter. Conducting class in such a way creates an engaging and stimulating atmosphere for students.





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Elizabeth Campbell

Secondary Math Teacher, Drama Coordinator,
United States

- **Master of Education**
University of California, Los Angeles
United States
- **Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare**
University of California, Berkeley
United States
- **California Professional Clear Teaching
Credential**
- **Over 20 years of middle school teaching
experience in the United States**



Learning is active, collaborative, and meaningful. I strive to create an inclusive environment where students feel supported, challenged, and confident to be themselves. Through personalized learning, real-world connections, and positive relationships with students and families, I hope to help young adolescents grow into engaged, curious, and compassionate members of their communities.





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Raymund Dimayuga

Secondary Science/Math Teacher,
AP Teacher, Philippines

- Master of Education,
De La Salle University, Philippines
- Bachelor of Science in Physics
Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education
De La Salle University, Philippines
- Teaching Certificate of the Philippines
- Over 20 years of teaching experience in
China, the Philippines, Malaysia, and the
United States.



I believe education should prepare students for life beyond the classroom: to think critically, solve problems creatively, and act with integrity and empathy. My goal as a teacher is to help young people become capable, reflective, and principled individuals who can navigate complex global challenges with purpose.

As a teacher of Mathematics and Physics, I design learning experiences that nurture curiosity and mastery. I combine proven traditional methods with inquiry-based and project-driven approaches, ensuring lessons are engaging, conceptually clear, and relevant. I value both rigor and joy in learning. Students should feel safe to take risks, learn from mistakes, and develop the discipline to pursue excellence.





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Shahida Kandhai

Secondary Science Teacher,
AP Teacher, South Africa



- Bachelor of Science
The Open University, UK
- M.Ed. in International Education
(Degree in Progress)
University of Dundee, Scotland
- PGCE in Educational Leadership
University of Cumbria, UK
- Over 20 years of international education
experience world-wide
- Experienced AP, IBDP, IGCE & A-level
Teacher



As a dedicated math and science teacher with over 20 years of experience, I believe that educators play a pivotal role in shaping the world. This responsibility extends beyond academic instruction to encompass the cognitive, emotional, social, physical, and spiritual wellbeing of every student. My passion for science and math drives me to inspire students to explore and appreciate the intricacies of the world around us. I am committed to fostering a culture of lifelong learning, emphasizing the importance of respecting and protecting our planet while striving for a sustainable future.





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Wilma Piao

Secondary Science Teacher, Philippines

- Master of Education in General Science, Philippine Normal University
- Bachelor of Secondary Education in General Science, Philippine Normal University
- Innovative science teacher with rich teaching experience in Biology, Physics and Earth Science in international schools
- 22 years of teaching experience



As a science teacher I believe that inquiry learning is key to helping students truly understand science. I design lessons that encourage students to ask questions, explore ideas, and discover concepts through hands-on experiments and investigations. My goal is to create a classroom where curiosity drives learning, and students feel confident thinking critically and solving problems. By focusing on inquiry, I help students connect science to the real world and develop a deeper appreciation for how science explains the world around them.





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DeeDee Lyu

Secondary Maker Space (STEAM)
Teacher, China



- Master of Contemporary Painting in Brera Academy of Fine Arts (Honors), Italy
- Bachelor of Chinese Painting in Hubei Academy of Fine Arts, China
- More than 10 years experience in teaching Arts in China
- Winner of Honorary Award in the "World Expo Dream" comprehensive art exhibition at the Kip United Nations Pavilion at the 2015 Milan World Expo



I believe in guiding students to discover their potential through continuous practice and exploration. I hope that in school, students not only improve their learning skills, but also build confidence, responsibility, and a positive mindset. My goal is to inspire them to think independently and to become lifelong learners who are curious about the world.





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Ife Smenkh-Ka-Ra

Secondary EAL Teacher,
Trinidad and Tobago



- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering, University of the West Indies St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago
- Moreland University Teaching Certification; TESOL Certificate
- Over 10 years of teaching experience
- Proficient in instructing middle and high school students



As an EAL teacher with a background in teaching mathematics in Trinidad and Tobago, and having lived and taught in China since 2015, I firmly believe that learning should be a fun, entertaining, and challenging experience. Recognizing that mastering English, much like mathematics, can be daunting for many students, I am committed to breaking down those barriers and making language learning accessible and engaging for everyone. I strive to create a positive and inclusive learning environment where students feel supported and encouraged to take risks and explore new concepts. My goal is to continue fostering this supportive atmosphere, ensuring that every student feels empowered to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential in learning English.





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Chris Paillou

Secondary EAL Teacher, UK

- Master of Science in Educational Leadership and Management, Portsmouth University, UK
- Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Portsmouth University, UK
- TEFL, CELTA Certification University of Central Lancashire, UK
- Over 15 years of international teaching experience (China, Korea, Australia, Japan)



I believe that all students can make progress with their English-language ability with the right motivation. From my educational research, I have found that motivation is a key indicator of success in learning English. As an educator, I hope to inspire our students to advance their English through intrinsic motivation, a desire for self-improvement, and extrinsic motivation by discovering the exciting future educational possibilities and career pathways worldwide that become available after mastery of English in an international curriculum.





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Pohnnipa Gressley

Secondary EAL Teacher,
Thailand



- Master of International Education, Framingham State University, United States
- Bachelor of English, Khon Kaen University, Thailand
- TEFL Certificate
- Experienced IB Teacher



As an educator, I believe that language learning thrives when students feel safe, seen, and supported. My approach centers on creating an inclusive environment that meets students where they are. I strive to build a classroom where every student feels capable and confident. Ultimately, I see my role not just as a teacher of language, but as a bridge builder who helps middle schoolers find their voice in English while celebrating who they already are.





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Rosie Turner

Secondary Art Teacher, AP Teacher,
Wales UK



- Postgraduate Certificate in Education
Secondary Art and Design with QTS,
University of Warwick, UK
- Bachelor of the Arts (Honours) Illustration,
Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK
- AP Art and Design Summer Institute, The
University of Texas at Arlington
- Over 10 years of teaching experience



As a teacher, I strive to foster a collaborative culture of courageous art inquiry. Through process-based artmaking, students develop creative confidence and problem-solving abilities while engaging in ongoing knowledge negotiation via dialogic learning. Inspiration stems from hands-on material exploration and thoughtful investigation of local and global contexts. Within our purpose-built art studios, students experiment, innovate, and articulate their ideas. These experiences broaden students' understanding of what is possible in art, deepen their visual vocabulary, and empower them to develop meaningful artistic identities.





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Pavle Živojinović

Secondary Music Teacher, Serbia



- Master of Music – Piano, University of Arts, Serbia
- Bachelor of Music, University of Arts, Serbia
- Over 10 Years of Music Teaching Experience in Serbia and China
- Award winning coach of students in international competitions
- Experienced concert pianist



The biggest gift we can give our students is an education that is student-centered. For students to learn, they must be involved in their own education. The best learning happens when it is cooperative and collaborative in nature, letting students learn from each other and become more actively engaged in their learning.





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Chad Eppley

Secondary PE Teacher/
Athletic Director, United States



- Master of Arts in Teaching,
Pacific University, United States
- Bachelor of Science in Psychology,
Lees-McRae College, United States
- Over 5 years experience in teaching
PE in China
- Experienced in basketball coaching



Physical education is a basic requirement for a holistic education and is crucial in helping instill lifelong fitness habits in our young people. Not only does PE provide a base knowledge for living a healthy life but through sports education young people learn important life lessons like leadership, teamwork, and goal setting.





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Lingling Qian

Secondary Chinese Teacher;
Chinese Team Lead, China



- Master of Arts in Teaching, Chinese Language, Union College Graduate School, United States
- Bachelor of Arts in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language, Heilongjiang University, China
- Teaching Certificates from New York State and Massachusetts State; Chinese National Teaching Certificate
- 8 years experience in teaching Chinese in the United States; over 2 years experience in teaching Chinese in China
- Experienced IB MYP/DP and AP teacher



As an experienced Chinese language and literature teacher, I am deeply committed to the holistic approach to learning. My goal is to cultivate a classroom environment that is welcoming and inclusive, where students feel encouraged to express themselves freely and engage in meaningful class activities. Embracing the philosophy of lifelong learning, I actively seek opportunities to broaden my knowledge and perspectives, constantly striving to enhance my teaching practice and better support my students on their educational journey.





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Siming Hu

Secondary Chinese Teacher,
AP Teacher, China



- Master's Degree in Teaching and Curriculum, Michigan State University, United States
- Bachelor's Degree in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, Shanghai International Studies University
- Chinese National Teaching Certificate
- Over 10 years of international education experience worldwide (New Zealand, United States, China, etc)



I believe that student-centered education is an effective teaching model because teachers could apply varied teaching methods to help different kinds of students learn and grow. In addition, a teacher's role is not only just to teach knowledge but also to take care and nurture the students.





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Connie Fan

Secondary Chinese/CAL Teacher
China



- Master's Degree in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Language, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
- Bachelor's Degree in Traditional Chinese Literature, Tsing Hua University, China
- Teaching Certificate from Washington DC, United States
- Experienced in teaching AP Chinese



In our classroom, my students and I always strive to create a positive learning environment and build strong, healthy relationships.

As a second language teacher, I believe that being open-hearted and respectful is key to success in every aspect of life. It's also important for language learners to know how to use the language to communicate effectively and to understand cultural differences as a way to connect with others.





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Ranran Guan

Secondary CAL Teacher, China



- Bachelor of Arts in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, University of Jinan, China
- Certificate for Teachers of Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages; Senior Secondary School Teacher Qualification Certificate
- 5 years experience in teaching Chinese (China, Thailand, Spain)
- Multilingual in Chinese, English, and intermediate Spanish



My goal is to nurture students' development through a blend of cultural immersion, language proficiency, and character education. This is done by creating a supportive and engaging learning environment where each student feels valued and encouraged to explore their unique identity. My role is to guide students towards critical thinking and social responsibility with the aim of preparing them to succeed in an interconnected world.





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SECONDARY LEARNING PARTNERS



CHRISTY HONG



MELODY LI



LENNY SHI



KAIA YANG



YANG YANG



EMILY ZHANG



NORA ZHU



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Academic Support Faculty Team



Our Academic Support Faculty team brings extensive professional experience to ensure that every student feels safe, successful, and knowledgeable. With expertise in IT, library services, college counseling, and school counseling, they are dedicated to providing the support needed for each child's growth and development.





厦门长菁外籍人员子女学校
ACHIEVE XIAMEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Empowered **Learners** | Effective **Communicators**
Complex **Thinkers** | Global **Collaborators**
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Said Hasanov

Director of Technology Integration & Innovation (DTII), Azerbaijan



- Bachelor's Degree in Applied Mathematics, Baku State University, Azerbaijan
- Over 17 years of experience in the Technology field based in international schools in China, Qatar, Azerbaijan, etc
- Specialized in Technology, Innovation, and Integration
- Apple Teacher; Microsoft Educator Trainer; IB Workshop Leader
- Multi-language speaker in Azerbaijani, English, Russian, and Turkish



I believe that technology plays a vital role in education today, offering new and exciting ways to engage students, enhance learning outcomes, and prepare them for the future. Technology is a powerful tool that can help us educators and our students support our vision and mission through enabling communication, facilitating collaboration, developing creativity and critical thinking skills, setting goals and reflecting on our learning, transforming learning engagements and embracing innovation.





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Armand Rossouw

School Librarian, South Africa



- Bachelor of Education, University of Pretoria, South Africa
- Masters in Education and Psychology (Currently Studying)
- Masters in Leadership (Currently Studying)
- Over 8 years teaching in South Africa and China
- Coaching experience in Rugby and Cricket
- IB PYP Trained



"To prepare him for the future life means to give him command of himself, it means so to train him that he will have the full and ready use of all his capacities."(John Dewey. 1987)

"... purpose of education to be, teachers themselves have to be living representations of their teachings, and of society. It is the obligation of the teacher to always grow and discover the soul of life. Acknowledge shortcomings, weaknesses and create that into opportunities of learning. Creating a better tomorrow for all of us. One where the whole world benefits from." (E.A. Rossouw. 2021)





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Annie An

School Counselor, China



- PhD in Neuropsychology, Maastricht University, Netherland
- Master of Science in Physiology, South China Normal University, China
- Bachelor of Science in Applied Psychology, Southern Medical University, China
- Psychologist Certificate in China
- Experienced psychology teaching and psychological counseling
- Multilingual in Chinese, English, and intermediate Dutch



I have been doing research and clinical in mental health for more than 10 years. The purpose of education is to let the young people make their own future, and let them survive and thrive in the world in their own way. I hope I could make this journey easier. Every little seed grows into different kinds of plants, respect that.





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Gina Ding

College Admissions Counselor,
China



- Master of Arts in School Counseling ,
Northern Kentucky University, United States
- Bachelor of Arts, Xiamen University, China
- International College Advising Certificate,
University of Pennsylvania Graduate
School of Education, United States
- Experienced college counselor and
English teacher



As an experienced college admissions counselor, I believe in the transformative power of education and its profound impact on a student's life. My philosophy of education focuses on guiding students to explore their interests, potentials, and purposes in life. I am committed to helping them navigate the complex landscape of university admissions, aiming to find the best "fit" where they can achieve academic success and thrive in college life. Throughout this challenging process, I aim to nurture students' self-awareness, critical thinking skills, and resilience, which I believe are equally crucial as the admissions results. Additionally, I enjoy networking with college admissions professionals and college counselors from various schools nationwide and internationally to stay abreast of the latest college application policy changes and developments.





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Cassie Lin

College Admissions Counselor,
China



- Master of Arts in English Studies
University of Macao
- Bachelor of Arts in English
Shanghai International Studies University
- An Oxford Doctor of Philosophy in English
(full-time) Offer Holder
- Global Career Counseling Bootcamp
Certificate
- Experienced school counselor & English
teacher



My educational philosophy centers on lifelong learning—an ongoing practice of reading, thinking, and remaining open to what one does not yet know. I believe true freedom in learning comes not from accumulating credentials but from cultivating kindness: towards oneself in moments of rest, and towards others whose knowledge journeys differ from our own. As a college admissions counselor, I hope to guide students beyond the pressure of prestige towards institutions where they can genuinely thrive. My goal is to help them embrace a robust, growth-oriented learning journey—one that values process over performance, and curiosity over conformity.





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Tracy Huang

Secondary Math Specialist, China



- Bachelor of Accounting
Jimei University, China
- 5 years of teaching experience in English
and Math
- IB PYP Trained
- TESOL Certificate
National Teaching Certificate



I believe that education is not only about imparting knowledge but also about empowering students to think critically and express themselves clearly. I see myself not just as a math teacher, but also as a language supporter—helping students develop both logical reasoning and academic language. I strive to treat every student with fairness while providing differentiated instruction to meet their individual needs, nurturing both their confidence and potential. My ultimate goal is to cultivate lifelong learners who are confident in both their logic and their voice.

