

# Certification Inspection Report

## BRITISH COLUMBIA PROGRAM

*at*

SHANGHAI UNITED INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL JIAOKE CAMPUS

SHANGHAI

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

NOVEMBER 8, 2017

## INTRODUCTION

On November 8, 2017, an unannounced certification inspection was completed on Shanghai United International School Jiaoke Campus in Shanghai, People's Republic of China, termed SUI or the School in this report. The purpose of this inspection was to determine whether the requirements for the British Columbia (B.C.) education program have been met, according to the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement*. The inspection team (the Team), appointed by the Executive Director of International Education, British Columbia Ministry of Education (MoE) in accordance with the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement* (the Agreement), consisted of Dr Laurie Anderson (Chair) and Shawn Chisholm.

The School's B.C. program has an enrolment of 311 students, in grades 9-12. The entire school, which houses the B.C. program, enrolls 1,400 students, and includes a local Chinese program, the Gubei program, Pioneer program and the local Foundations program.

During their visit to the School, the Team reviewed all standards required in the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement* and *Operating Manual* and met with the School's owner/operator, offshore school representative (OSR), B.C. principal and the B.C. teachers.

The owner/operator, Xiehe Education Group, is responsible for the B.C. program. The central mission of the organization is to provide students in all programs with an "East meets West" philosophy, combining the best attributes of both education traditions. The Xiehe Education Group also operates 30 kindergarten programs in Shanghai and elsewhere in China.

The B.C. program's philosophy, objectives and special features include helping their students become world class citizens who combine high academic standards, community service and ethical principles. The School achieves these goals through dedicated teachers, distributed



leadership among all staff, close partnerships with parents and with staff in the other programs in the facilities.

The Team would like to thank Shanghai United International School Jiaoke Campus for its hospitality, cooperation and preparedness for the unannounced certification inspection visit.

**The School has satisfactorily addressed requirements contained in the previous inspection report.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met       Not Applicable

Comment:  
There were no requirements in the previous report

**BUSINESS PLAN**

**The Owner/Operator has submitted a Business Plan to the B.C. Ministry of Education, confirming the sustainability of the program.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:  
The owner/operator has submitted a business plan to the B.C. Ministry of Education. The plan includes a program growth strategy to increase enrolment from the present 285 (grades 10-12) to 320 by 2018-19.

**OWNERSHIP AND AGREEMENTS / BUILDING AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE 2.0**

**2.1 The owner/operator meets all requirements as set forth in the B.C. Global Education Program Offshore Schools Certification Agreement (the Agreement).**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:  
The Team confirms that all elements of the Agreement are in place.



**2.2 The School meets local building, safety and cafeteria codes and regulations. The facilities are deemed to be suitable to support the B.C. program.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The School is housed in a well-equipped, updated building that satisfies all local regulations, building codes and safety standards

**Commendation:**

The School for fosters a warm, purposeful and positive school culture that is immediately evident when entering the school. The Team commends the School for its bright, clean, colourful facilities, and the well-resourced computer and science labs and the technology-enhanced auditorium and meeting rooms.

The School is also commended for developing an exceptionally detailed “Response User Manual” with sections on what to do before (proactive), during (reactive) and after (reflective) emergencies.

**ADMINISTRATION 3.0**

**3.1 Offshore School Representative (OSR) - The owner/operator must appoint an individual to act as offshore school representative. This individual must be confirmed by the province and must meet all of the requirements set out in section 14 of the Agreement.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The OSR is the former principal of the School and has developed a strong working relationship with the Chinese school and the owner/operator.

**3.2 The principal meets the requirements as outlined in section 3.2 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The principal has extensive experience as a principal in B.C., and is in his third year at the School.

**Commendation:**

The Team commends the principal for his positive, caring and thoughtful leadership, and for



building a deep, mutually respectful relationship with the Chinese officials and teachers.

**3.3 The School meets the administrative support requirements as outlined in section 3.3 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School has a 0.75 vice-principal, a full time administrative assistant and additional support from a Chinese teacher assigned to translation services.

**3.4 The School meets the Student Record requirements as outlined in section 3.4 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The random samples of student records examined were in full accordance with section 3.4 of the inspection catalogue.

**3.5 The School meets the teacher certification requirements as outlined in section 3.5 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:

**The Team confirms that all authorized persons under the Agreement possess valid and current certification under the B.C. Teacher Regulation Branch.**

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM 4.0**

**4.1 The School meets the requirements for curriculum implementation outlined in section 4.1 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:

SUIS has provided its teaching staff with several professional development opportunities over the past two years and is committed to continued support of their teachers' implementation of the redesigned B.C. curriculum. The School also relies on its in-house leadership capacity to facilitate discussions on best practices in assessment and pedagogy during regularly scheduled



department and school based team meetings.

The School is encouraging its staff to experiment with the redesigned B.C. curriculum and the Team witnessed several aspects of the draft curriculum in its review of course overviews.

**Commendation:**

The Team commends the School for building a teaching and learning-focused professional culture that provide the conditions for implementation of the redesigned curriculum and for building a collaborative team between the school administration and staff to plan for the successful implementation of the B.C. redesigned curriculum.

**4.2 The School meets the requirements for English language assessment and acquisition as outlined in section 4.2 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The program for the grade 9 and 10 students at SUIS includes English instruction for both semesters and the more language-dependent courses are scheduled in the second semester. To support student English language acquisition, the school has added an additional block of English 11 and 12 to reduce the sizes of these classes.

SUIS students participate in “School Wide Writes” that are assessed using the B.C. Performance Standards. Formal and interim reports also provide data that the school uses to assess students’ English acquisition and to determine appropriate remedial support.

The SUIS staff has received professional development on standards-based assessment and assessment practices are regularly reviewed at department level meetings.

**Commendation:** The Team commends the B.C. program staff for prioritizing ELL instruction and support for their students.

**4.3 The School meets the course credit requirements (equivalency, challenge, exemptions and BAA courses) as outlined in section 4.3 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The Team inspected the documentation to confirm that SUIS complies with Ministry policies for course challenge and equivalency. The Team reviewed the documentation confirming Ministry approval of the following BAA course - Psychology 11.



SUIS provided documentation for courses that have a Ministry exemption that permits a non-B.C. certified teacher to instruct the following courses: Mandarin 9, 10, 11 and 12, Chinese History 11 and Chinese Politics 11.

**4.4 The School meets the course overview/course planning requirements as outlined in Schedule B Part I, 2. (d) of the Agreement; namely, that all B.C. program courses offered in the School meet or exceed the ministry learning outcomes/learning standards identified in the educational program guides for each course.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Team reviewed all course overviews of the B.C. program and confirmed they meet or exceed the Ministry standards. Most of the graduation program course overviews follow the traditional course overview format listing content, learning activities, assessment tasks and prescribed learning outcomes. Some of these course plans also contained some aspects of the draft B.C. curriculum. The Team also reviewed an English 10 course plan that was comprehensive and complies with the redesigned B.C. curriculum.

The SUIS staff reported to the Team that the staff is regularly meeting to collaboratively produce plans that fully comply with the redesigned B.C. curriculum -with particular focus on grade 10 course plans.

Commendation:

The administration and staff are commended for their commitment to creating course plans that comply with the redesigned B.C. curriculum.

**4.5 The School meets the instructional time allotments requirements as outlined in section 4.5 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools, including the requirements set out in sections 1.1 to 6, with the exception of s. 4(5)(b), 4 (6), 5 (8)(a) and (d) and s. 5.3 of Ministerial Order 41/91, the Educational Standards Order, enacted under the Independent School Act.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Team confirms that the SUIS graduation program exceeds the minimum time allotments for instruction.



**4.6 The School meets the assessment methods requirements as outlined in section 4.6 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

To insure assessment consistency and quality, SUIS has created a writing assessment scale based on B.C. assessment standards. Department heads review these results to identify students that may require specific academic intervention.

SUIS consistently achieves a low differential between their school course marks and B.C. provincial exam marks. The School's exam marks have historically surpassed the average achievement level attained by B.C. offshore schools.

The Team observed that course plans displayed a variety of both formative and summative assessments. SUIS teachers shared with the Team how their timely use of descriptive formative feedback has effectively supported learning, especially for ELL students.

**4.7 The School meets the learning resources requirements as outlined in section 4.7 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

SUIS has a large, well-stocked library with over 3,800 book titles. The library is staffed full-time by both English and Chinese speaking library technicians. There is an assortment of magazines catering to student interests as well as print resources from many universities from B.C., Canada and around the world. The library also is the home of four 3D printers that allow students to produce creative artifacts of their learning.

The School provides and maintains a robust Wi-Fi system that is supported by three full-time, on-site tech support staff. The Team witnessed that both the staff and students of SUIS utilize technology to support learning.

SUIS has sufficient textbooks to support the B.C. program and continues to invest in class sets of novels to support student English acquisition.

**Commendation:**

SUIS is commended for their investment in technology hardware and technical support to insure both staff and students have reliable technology to support student learning.



**4.8 The School meets the student progress report requirements as outlined in section 4.8 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

Most of the communication between the B.C. staff and the parents of the B.C. program students is facilitated through the Chinese homeroom teachers. This communication is utilized when teachers need to express concerns with student academic or social issues and to share important program information.

The School provides four formal report cards and two interim reports and parents are welcome to schedule interviews to meet with the subject teachers throughout the school year.

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT 5.0**

**5.1 The School meets the parent/student handbook requirements as outlined in section 5.1 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The Team noted the School's very comprehensive, well-formatted parent/student handbook.

**5.2 The School meets the teacher handbook requirements as outlined in section 5.2 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The School has a very thorough teacher handbook.

**Commendation:**

The Team commends the School for providing new teachers with a very comprehensive "welcome" package that eases their transition into the School and more broadly into life in Shanghai.

The Team also commends the School for using a teacher "appraisal and growth plan" to support staff's professional growth. The plan incorporates pre- and post-observation meetings, a self-assessment tool and a focus on improving teaching and learning.



## COURSE ACCREDITED VIA DISTRIBUTED LEARNING 6.0

**6.1 The School meets the Distributed Learning requirements as outlined in section 18 of the Agreement and Section 6 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met       Not Applicable

Comment:

The School offers five DL courses through the authorized distributed learning provider: Biology 12, Chemistry 11, Family Studies 12, Geography 12 and Pre-Calculus (a total of 10 students enrolled).

## CONCLUSION

### Commendations

**The Inspection Team wishes to recognize the owner/operator, principal and staff of Shanghai United International School Jiaoke Campus for:**

- Providing new teachers with a very comprehensive “welcome” package that eases their transition into life in Shanghai;
- Fostering a warm, purposeful and positive school culture that is immediately evident upon entering the school;
- Developing an exceptionally detailed “Response User Manual” with sections on what to do before (proactive), during (reactive) and after (reflective) emergencies;
- Maintaining bright, clean, colourful facilities, well-resourced computer and science labs, and the technology-enhanced auditorium and meeting rooms;
- Using a teacher “appraisal and growth plan” to support staff’s professional growth. The plan incorporates pre- and post-observation meetings, a self-assessment tool and a focus on improving teaching and learning;
- Retaining a principal noted for his positive, caring and thoughtful leadership, and for building a deep, mutually respectful relationship with the Chinese officials and teachers
- Building a collaborative team between the school administration and staff to plan for the successful implementation of the B.C. redesigned curriculum;
- Prioritizing ELL instruction and support for their students;
- Investing in technology hardware and support to insure both staff and students have reliable technology to support student learning;
- Building a teaching and learning-focused professional culture that provide the conditions for implementation of the redesigned curriculum;
- Creating course plans that comply with the redesigned B.C. curriculum.



**SUMMATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

**The Offshore Inspection Team recommends to the Executive Director of International Education that the British Columbia education program offered at Shanghai United International School Jiaoke Campus continue to be recognized as a British Columbia-certified school.**

