

Certification Inspection Report

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROGRAM

at

CANADA LANGFANG SECONDARY SCHOOL

LANGFANG, HEBEI PROVINCE

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

NOVEMBER 8-9, 2018

INTRODUCTION

On November 8-9, 2018, a certification inspection was completed on Canada Langfang Secondary School (CLSS) in Langfang, Hebei Province, People's Republic of China, referred to as 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 and Independent Schools, British Columbia Ministry of Education (MoE) in accordance with the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement (the Agreement)*, consisted of Theo VandeWeg and Cathy Lowenstein (Chair).

The School's B.C. program has an enrolment of 133 students, in grades 10-12. The School is in its eight year of operation as a B.C. offshore school. The B.C. program is housed within a long standing larger school, China Petroleum Pipeline Bureau Middle School which is a large Middle school hosting over 3000 students from grade 7-12. The Chinese public school has excellent facilities for its students. The B.C. offshore program is housed in a six- story building that is used for all programming. The Team met with the Chinese principal who expressed his support for the development and continuity of the B.C. 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, B.C. teachers, international director and support staff.

The owner/operator, Sunny Bai, Beijing Kezhi Times International Consulting Company Ltd. (BKTICCL) is responsible for the B.C. program. The Team was able to connect with the owner/operator by phone during the inspection visit.



BKTICCL operates several other B.C. programs throughout China. The owner/operator also operates Lowell High School in Vancouver, B.C. The School offers a British Columbia graduation program for grades 10-12. In addition, Lowell High School provides opportunities for Kezhi students to take a semester or year of their studies in the onshore context. It also provides a base for students to attend summer or winter camp in B.C.

Students receive academic advising through Beijing Kezhi Times international Consulting Co. Ltd starting in grade 10 and continuing throughout the graduation program.

The B.C. program's philosophy, objectives and special features include:

- A dedication to preparing students for success in a rapidly changing world by providing a supportive learning environment that recognizes and respects individual differences, encourages students to challenge personal limits and promotes excellence.
- The School communicates openly with parents, students and teachers in order to maintain the goal of a high standard of education.

The Team would like to thank Canada Langfang Secondary School for its hospitality, cooperation and preparedness for the inspection visit.

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

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met Not Applicable

Comment:

The 2017 Certification inspection report listed two requirements:

- The School must conduct a fire and safety drill immediately, and continue to conduct a series of ongoing drills for fire, earthquake, and lockdown on a regular basis each year.
- The School is required to improve the internet connectivity in order to effectively deliver the B.C. program.

The Team has confirmed that the School has developed a solid plan to operationalize emergency preparedness, which includes drills, preparations, and evacuations throughout the school year. The principal had discussed the plan with faculty at a scheduled staff meeting and one drill has already taken place.

While the School has improved its internet connectivity since the last inspection by installing additional routers at the school, the Team experienced difficulties in connecting to the internet during the inspection.



It is recommended that the School consider continued improvements in internet connectivity to enable effective delivery of the B.C. program.

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 Team reviewed the comprehensive annual report and its 2018 business plan that outlines the long-term sustainability of the B.C program.

The School is actively seeking to advance and support the value of the B.C. program and its graduation results in English 12 and Communications 12 indicate that students have been doing very well in the B.C. program.

The School continues to have significant goals designed to improve the B.C. program. These include:

1. The development of rapport and cooperation between the Chinese and offshore faculty members,
2. The development of skills and leadership of the student council,
3. The continued development of systems to assist students in English language acquisition.

The Team noted that the School continues to be very mindful of the importance of recruitment and retention initiatives. The students at CLSS are proud of their school and their achievements.

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 School has on file British Columbia certification confirming that the owner/operator has successfully met the annual requirements set forth in the British Columbia Global Education Program - Offshore Schools Certification Agreement.



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:

Documented approvals regarding local and provincial building safety and cafeteria codes and regulations were examined carefully.

The Team viewed a system-wide emergency plan for natural disasters or any event that would cause an unplanned temporary or permanent closure of the School. The plans have been vetted by the offshore school representative (OSR) for accuracy and functionality. The principal has taken steps to discuss the plan with staff. The Team discussed the importance of the plan with the principal and OSR and was encouraged to see that the plan was operationalized at the school level.

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 owner/operator has appointed Mr. Adrian Conradi as the School's offshore school representative (OSR). He is an experienced educational leader who has served as an OSR since 2014. Mr. Conradi has been confirmed by the Province and meets all the requirements set out in section 14 of the Agreement.

The Team confirms that the offshore school representative is aware of his obligation to report critical information relating to changes in the operation of the School or ownership structure that could significantly impact the School's operations.

The Team appreciated the OSR's attendance at the inspection and his frankness in regard to the current staffing turnover at the School.



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 is in her first year of leadership at the School but is an experienced educational leader with a range of experience in B.C. and offshore schools. She meets the requirements as outlined in section 3.2 of the inspection catalogue.

The principal's job description is comprehensive, outlining all elements required in the Agreement. The principal is in her first year at CLSS and adjusting to a new school, new faculty and the culture of China.

The Team was impressed with her ability to lead and manage various detailed responsibilities and initiatives to prepare for the inspection considering she had just arrived at the school several weeks prior to the inspection visit.

Commendation:

The Team was impressed with the principal's ability to lead and manage various detailed responsibilities and initiatives to prepare for the inspection visit, especially since she had just arrived at CLSS weeks before the inspection visit.

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 reduced administrative support this current year to run the B.C. program. This is a change from the previous inspection visit. The principal is responsible for all leadership duties at the school and there is no designated vice-principal at this time to provide key support.

Beijing Kezhi Times international Consulting Co. Ltd (BKTICCL) has appointed an international director, who provides important direct daily support to the B.C. principal. However, the director is not a B.C.-certified teacher, and her role is two-fold; to assist the B.C. principal and act as a liaison to the Chinese principal at the main school.



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 Team examined a random sampling of student records for grades 10, 11, and 12. The files were extremely well organized and contained all of the required elements.

The student and parent consent forms have been updated based on the ministry guidelines for the 2018/19 school year.

The Team commends the principal for her attention to detail to ensure that the files were ready for inspection.

Commendation:

The Team commends the principal for her attention to detail to ensure that the student record files were ready for inspection.

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 School has experienced significant staff turnover this past year, more so than in previous school years. While the principal is new to her role, the OSR was well aware of this issue and is committed to addressing this situation by securing a higher degree of staff continuity to allow for program stability and development.

CLSS has 6 teachers on staff. Three teachers hold a certificate of qualification from the Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB). Two teachers are currently awaiting TRB certification and are working on an approved exemption until December 2018.

The Team viewed verification from the principal demonstrating that all required documents are being tracked at the school level as they are sent to the TRB for evaluation. The Team had a discussion with the OSR and principal regarding the importance of contingency planning for the potential staffing issues that may arise if teachers do not obtain TRB certification by the exemption deadline date.

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:

The School is commended for its efforts to provide professional development related to the grade 10 curriculum changes both during the 2017-18 school year and now in the current school year. The current principal has planned a series of carefully designed school-based professional development opportunities, including:

Overview of B.C. Curriculum and Core Competencies (November 2018), Flexible Learning Environments (December 2018), Planning Learning Experiences (January 2019), Inquiry and Interdisciplinary Learning (March 2019), Differentiated and Core/Curricular Competencies Assessment, Inquiry/Project/Concept Based Learning (May 2019).

The teaching staff has developed course overview documentation that clearly reflects the required curricular changes (Big Ideas, curricular and core competencies, ELL teaching strategies, assessment methods, etc.).

A review of all teacher planning documents verifies that teachers have actively implemented the new curriculum in grade 10 and are integrating elements of the new curriculum for grades 11 and 12 where possible.

Commendation:

The School is commended for its efforts to provide professional development related to the grade 10 curriculum changes both during the 2017-18 school year and now in the current school year.

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:

Teachers at CLSS understand they are all English language teachers and support ELL students in structured and intentional ways. Students starting at CLSS take the Introduction to English and Social Studies (formerly IESS10 – now listed as ESL10) course in the first semester; focusing on reading, writing, listening, and speaking development through course content that provides an overview introduction to Canadian Social Studies.



In the second semester, students take English 10. This year's grade 11 students take Communications 12 and English 11 concurrently (effectively getting a double block of English), and the grade 12 students take a double block of English 12.

CLSS also provides a peer-tutoring program primarily focusing on English language learning while supporting other courses at the same time.

The 'Whole School Write' program popular in other Kezhi schools is being implemented this year at CLSS and will occur three times annually to assess students' written language development.

The Staff is commended for enabling students to develop facility with conversational English. Classroom observations and interactions with students provided clear evidence that students are doing well in English language acquisition and are highly engaged in their educational program.

Commendation:

The School is commended for its success in enabling students to acquire a high level of conversational English. The staff is commended for its ability to engage the students in learning and English language acquisition.

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 School does not allow for equivalency, challenge or exemptions. The School offers one locally developed course: ESL 10. Its course overview template conforms to Ministry new BAA framework requirements.

Courses at CLSS that are exempted from having B.C.-certified teachers are: PE10, PE 11, Mandarin 11, Mandarin 12, and Chinese History 10. These courses are taught by locally certified teachers at grade 10 level. The PE/PHE BC curriculum has been translated into Chinese language to support the local teachers. The PHE Health topics are delivered into the School's Career & Life Education 10 course with the instructional assistance of a B.C.-certified teacher.



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:

Teacher planning documents were reviewed and included required elements (Big Ideas, curricular and core competencies, assessment strategies, First Peoples Principles of Learning). Grades 11-12 are blends of old and new curriculum where possible. Curricular compliance documentation is very well developed and teachers are making important strides in operationalizing these in their classroom teaching.

Plans are in place to start using B.C. performance standards and this is being implemented this year through the support of professional development opportunities.

The principal is supporting all staff with professional development sessions to effectively implement the new B.C. curriculum changes. The Kezhi school system is testing Microsoft Team application to provide system-wide professional learning communities (PLCs) that will provide ongoing curricular support and discussion forums for teacher starting 2019-2020.

Commendation:

Curricular compliance documentation is very well developed and teachers are making important strides in operationalizing these in their classroom teaching.

4.5 The School meets the instructional time allotment 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 School provides 5 hours of instruction per day over 195 days per year for a total of 976 hours of instruction annually. The School meets the instructional time allotment requirements as outlined in section 4.5 of the inspection catalogue.



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:

The School, as part of the Kezhi network, has system protocols in place to ensure that provincial exams and assessments are managed in a secure fashion that is compliant with Ministry protocols. These system-wide protocols include that all computers used for B.C. exams are equipped with the security features as per B.C. exam requirements, that the Principal and B.C. teachers go through the administration and invigilation procedures before an exam is held, and that teachers work collaboratively to ensure adequate supervision.

The 2017 inspection data report was reviewed and discussed. Overall performance was strong; school and exam mark discrepancies and differences between school and provincial averages were small.

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:

The Team noted the library consists of textbooks, class sets of novels, English and Chinese newspapers, Chinese magazines, and other English and Chinese novels available for students to borrow and read. It is an area that is still in development and growth. The School would like to increase the number of high interest, low vocabulary books.

The main computer lab consisting of 30 student computers linked to one teacher computer is on the 6th floor. As well, 30 student computers are available in the library. All B.C. classrooms are equipped with large project/smartboard style boards or with a large stand alone TV with its own computer processor and Wi-Fi (which allows it to act as a large iPad type system).

The computers and projectors are used in the classroom to show video and supplementary materials, and allow students to make presentation, while the computer lab and library are used by students when working on projects.

The School is equipped with Wi-Fi as well, allowing the students to bring personal laptops and still be able to access the internet.

Each spring, the principal assesses the future resource needs of the School. Lists of library and textbook print resources required for the following year are forwarded to the B.C. superintendent to be ordered, processed and shipped from Canada. The acquisition of



technology is coordinated with the host school international director. The computer technician at the main school supports the staff with technology issues, as necessary.

The School needs to have a more defined process to acquire, distribute and support teachers with classroom resources to support the development of the B.C. educational program. The Principal is new to the School but the offshore school representative and past principal signed off on the 2017-18 learning resource orders for the School.

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:

The Team confirmed that CLSS complies with the student progress report requirements. The reports include letter grades, percentages, work habits and anecdotal comments. All subjects, including daily physical activity (DPA) were reported.

The School reports to parents six times per year. There are four formal report cards that are issued in November, January, April and June and three informal interim reporting periods in September and March.

The School holds planned parent meetings at different points in the year. The meetings are extra assurance that all academic information is communicated effectively and progress is understood by students and their families.

The Team encouraged the School to consider ensuring that the report cards reflect the language of the new B.C. curriculum.

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 School has a comprehensive parent/student handbook which has been updated for the 2018/19 school year. The School has developed policies and procedures for appeals and dispute resolution as required under sections 9.14 of the Agreement. The policies and procedures for appeals and dispute resolutions are printed in each of the student handbooks in both English and Mandarin.



Students and parents are encouraged to read this carefully upon admittance to the B.C. program and in each subsequent year to ensure familiarity with all of the procedures.

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 Team reviewed the School's 2018-19 teacher handbook. The extensive system-wide handbook detailed important information required by teachers to help them understand their unique roles and responsibilities as professional teachers with the B.C. offshore school program. The principal confirmed that there have been some modifications to best reflect the operations and culture of CLSS.

The handbook contains appropriate information for teachers and support staff and is categorized into four major sections and six appendices.

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:

Global Education – SD73 Business Company is the authorized provider that delivers distributed learning (DL) courses.

There are 26 students taking Calculus 12 and 2 students taking Biology 12 by distributed learning. The School meets the DL requirements as outlined in section 6 of the Inspection catalogue.



CONCLUSION

Commendations

The Inspection Team wishes to recognize the owner/operator, principal and staff of Langfang Secondary School for:

- The principal's ability to lead and manage various detailed responsibilities and initiatives to prepare for the inspection visit, especially since she had just arrived weeks before the inspection visit,
- The principal's attention to detail to ensure that the student record files were ready for inspection,
- The School's efforts to provide professional development related to the grade 10 curriculum changes both during the 2017-18 school year and now in the current school year,
- The School's success in enabling students to acquire a high level of conversational English,
- The staff's ability to engage the students in learning and English language acquisition,
- The well-developed curricular compliance documentation and the fact that teachers are making great strides in operationalizing these in their classroom teaching.

SUMMATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The Offshore Inspection Team recommends to the Executive Director of International Education and Independent Schools that, the British Columbia education program offered at Canada Langfang Secondary School continue to be recognized as a British Columbia-certified school.

