

School Vacancy Effective from July, 2017 Chennai, India September 1, 2016

## AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CHENNAI Director of Technologies and Innovation Opening

# THE SCHOOL

The American International School Chennai (AISC) is a private, day school that serves 850 students representing more than 25 nationalities. The school was founded in 1995 to serve the educational needs of international and expatriate families. The school is associated with the Consulate of the United States of America and is supported by the Office of Overseas Schools, U.S. Department of State. AISC is recognized with full accreditation from the Council of International Schools and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. AISC offers Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma options for high school students, and we subscribe to a variety of international, U.S.-based academic standards. AISC is a member or affiliate of the following organizations: Near East South Asia Council of Overseas Schools; National Association for College Admission Counselor; Council of International Schools; and The College Board.

## THE POSITION

The Director of Technologies and Innovation (DTI) is the chief educational technologies and innovation officer of the school. The DTI is integral to the evolution and development of the school's learning and innovation programs. This entails facilitating a vision for learning and technology integration and assuring that ideas and their implementation are vision-driven. The DTI builds cohesive teams and works collaboratively with faculty, students, parents, and staff across the entire community. The DTI engages robust plans and assures the organization of a stable and easily accessible network facility; the availability of necessary tools and equipment for all staff and students; and the development of a cohesive staff professional development program to ensure transfer of skills and, thus, rich instructional experiences for students. The DTI also supports teachers in the classroom with planning and instructional methods in order to integrate technology in their classrooms. The DTI acts as both a child advocate and a parent liaison as required, and will work collaboratively and equally with school administrators and leadership, technology specialists, faculty, and staff.

The Director of Technologies and Innovation serves on the Leadership Team of the school and collaborates integrally with the Head of School, our three Principals, three Associate Principals, and three school-wide Directors – Advancement, Business Office, and Teaching and Learning.

The Director of Technologies and Innovation leads our Technology Support and Ed Tech teams to create a learning culture around the implementation of technology initiatives. Identify and evaluate components that will be needed to facilitate effective understanding of concepts related to technology across the school. Among other things, the DTI is empowered to design, prepare and conduct professional development activities to support ongoing staff growth; facilitate the planning and design of



technology rich environments and experiences; develop, implement and maintain a technology plan to assure the ongoing enhancement of technology systems and integration within the school, and; model, design and disseminate plans that include methods and strategies for maximizing student learning through the use of technology.

### **MISSION-DRIVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY**

AISC engages relevant educational programs aimed to support all students on their quest to self-awareness, autonomy, and ultimately self-fulfillment to make their unique contribution in a diverse and dynamic world. While AISC embraces U.S.-style and progressive pedagogies and curriculum approaches, our South Indian context and international community provide a rich and stimulating learning environment in which our students thrive and strive to reach their potential. Our Five Year Strategic Plan, informed by our Mission and Core Values and designed around four Strategic Objectives (Community, Resources, Talent, and Learning), guides school-wide improvement efforts.

#### AISC Mission

Together we inspire a love of learning, empowering all students with the courage, confidence, creativity and compassion to make their unique contribution in a diverse and dynamic world.

AISC Core Values Responsibility | Excellence | Integrity | Respect | Diversity

Our Core Values are the foundation of our community's beliefs in each other and our students. Our values are the building blocks of our interpersonal relationships and inform all aspects of life on campus.

We believe that...

- 1. Each person has equal intrinsic value, worthy of dignity and respect.
- 2. We are responsible for our choices and their effect on ourselves, others and the environment.
- 3. Being open to new ideas and challenging experiences enriches our lives.
- 4. Mutual respect, trust and caring foster healthy interpersonal relationships.
- 5. Embracing our diversity makes us a stronger community.
- 6. In an interconnected world, our positive contributions to the community and the environment are essential.
- 7. Individuals thrive in a nurturing environment that provides for their physical and emotional safety.
- AISC Student Learning Objectives

By 2018, all students will:

- Explore new interests with curiosity and be resilient in pursuing their passions.
- Evaluate real world situations, identify problems and design innovative solutions.
- Choose to actively serve their local and global communities.



Our Vision for an AISC Learner At AISC, successful learners are:

### Leaders

We show courage by taking action and inspiring others to serve and contribute positively to our interconnected world. Leaders develop a vision, plan appropriately, and work collaboratively to achieve results.

### Collaborators

We develop a deeper understanding by listening carefully to others' perspectives and confidently articulating personal viewpoints in the pursuit of common goals.

#### Innovators

We approach uncertainty with confidence, designing novel solutions in the face of challenges or change. Innovators are creative, resourceful, open-minded and resilient, seeking new perspectives through inquiry, trial, error and feedback.

### **Explorers**

We investigate new interests with curiosity, inquiring with purpose, and seeking deeper understanding and fulfillment through their independent pursuits.

### Thinkers

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical, data-informed decisions.

## Ethical

We show responsibility for our choices and consider their effects on ourselves, others, and the environment. We act on our principles and ideals because we value the dignity of others.

## Versatile

We adapt to changing circumstances, balancing our commitments and showing courage as we take on new challenges. We seek new opportunities for learning, growth, and renewal.

#### **Empathetic**

We appreciate our own cultures and personal histories while respecting the values and traditions of others, believing each person has equal intrinsic value. We are sensitive to the needs of others and show compassion by making positive contributions to our local and global communities and the environment.

#### Resilient

We demonstrate on-going commitment to our endeavors by learning from our successes and failures in the positive pursuit of our objectives, goals, aspirations, and dreams. We practice patience and persistence in all situations, especially when they are challenging or uncomfortable.

#### Reflective

We pause to think about our goals, learning, and growth in order to develop and sustain our creativity and lifelong learning. We review and examine our own ideas and experiences in relation to the world and consider our interdependence and impact on others.



# FACULTY AND STAFF

People come first at AISC, and our exceptional international faculty and staff are the dynamic core of all programs at the school. Our team of 142 instructional professionals strives to provide authentic, and relevant academic and co-curricular programs which meet the needs of each student. We have a strong commitment to professional learning and development, which aligns with schoolwide and personal learning objectives. We embrace collaboration, creativity, and professionalism as we model a dynamic and balanced learning environment for our students.

## CURRICULUM

We recognize that every child is special and will make unique contributions to the world. We embrace the five pillars of a balanced student life: Academics, Arts, Athletics, Service, and Play. Through our academic program, we strive to help each and every student become an independent learner while developing the necessary 21st century critical thinking and problem solving skills. All students flourish from our commitment to the core subjects: math, science, language arts, social studies (humanities); and to the specialty areas like: world languages, theater, band, choir, art, physical education (PE) and technology across all grade levels. The school operates on an August to June School Calendar.

AISC has been a committed Advanced Placement school since 2003 and a fully accredited and recognized International Baccalaureate (IB) School since 2008. Our curriculum, K-12, is designed from a backward design unit approach as we seek to become an inquiry-based learning organization. Likewise, our Middle School (Grades 6-8) and Pre IB/AP Programs (Grades 9-10) promote strong academics and higher level thinking skills that prepare students for the rigors of our AP/IB programs. We believe that English language learners are a hallmark of the school's diversity and have a strong program in English as an Additional Language (EAL). We are committed to ensuring all students access to the general education program and we do that principally by providing an inclusive structure through co-teaching at virtually all levels. In addition to EAL, AISC has a comprehensive Learning Support Services (LSS) Program, which support students with mild to moderate learning difficulties and a supportive and aligned counseling program.

Technology is central to the operation and learning processes at the school. Teachers have ample access to digital resources and the school supports wireless access throughout the campus. We are in our fourth year with a 1:1 Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) in grades 3-12. Our Student Information System is Skyward, our Learning Management System is Moodle, and our Communication Management System is Google.

We are wirelessly enabled, with LCD projectors in every classroom. All computers on campus are wirelessly connected to the internet. All community members use Smart Access Cards, which they use instead of carrying cash on campus. The SmartCard can be used to purchase food, school supplies and items from the cafeterias and school store.



# LOCATION AND CAMPUS

Chennai, formerly known as Madras, is the capital of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. Tucked along the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal, Chennai is one India's largest cities at close to 10 million. The city supports one of the longest beaches in the world and is an Indian arts and education center.

In the 2003-2004, AISC occupied its roomy 13 acre campus, which has evolved into a state of the art facility complete with 122 large, well-resourced classrooms, indoor and outdoor multi-use spaces throughout campus, 3 Collaboration and Inquiry Centers (libraries – one for each section), a literacy library, science labs, 2 design and discovery studio spaces, 2 cafeterias, a gymnasium, full-size soccer field, a half-size astro-turf field, six tennis courts, an auxiliary gymnasium, a fitness room, swimming pools, a dance/rehearsal studio, a black box theater, band and choir rooms, art studios, and a Fine Arts Center complete with an 800 seat auditorium.

# ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

## Required

- Demonstrated lifelong learner.
- A strong leadership orientation.
- Bachelor's degree in a relevant field.
- Expertise with Windows and Apple platforms.
- Experience in working in a 1:1 environment.
- Experience in effectively implementing CMS and LMS systems.
- Fluency with and current knowledge of relevant software, hardware, networks, e-learning and infrastructure processes.
- Teaching experience of at least 5 years.
- Experience in overseeing IT staff and with budgeting.
- Deep understanding of instructional pedagogies and collaborative processes.
- Experience in the development and implementation of curriculum.

## Preferred

- M.A./M.Ed./M.Sc. or equivalent Advanced Degree.
- Formal leadership and team management experience of at least 3 years.
- Overseas experience in the international spectrum.
- Appropriate licensure or certification in a relevant field.
- Experiences in developing online and/or blended learning environments.
- An understanding of learning support and ELL students.
- Continuous professional development experiences in technology.

# **APPOINTMENT DETAILS**

An initial, 3-year, renewable contract offers a competitive compensation and benefits package, which is commensurate with the responsibilities of the position.



# THE SEARCH PROCESS

### **Application Instructions**

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please visit AISC's <u>"Career</u> <u>Opportunities</u>" webpage and our website <u>www.aischennai.org</u> for more information.

All applications and enquiries should be directed to: <u>executiveassistant@aischennai.org</u>. Please send a single pdf document, which includes the following: cover letter, resume, statement of education philosophy, and list of references with complete contact details. If applying with a partner as a team, please send a separate single pdf document including a cover letter, resume, and list of references with complete contact details for partner.

### Note

- Application deadline: Monday, October 3, 2016.
- Candidates are asked to apply as early as possible. In the event of an outstanding applicant, AISC reserves the right to make an appointment before the closing date for applications or ahead of the timeline below. The Head of School at AISC reserves the right to contact referees for confidential statements.
- Semi-finalist interviews will be conducted by Skype before October 7. Finalist interviews will take place from October 10-21. Site visit mutually optional.