



Dear Parents/Guardians,

On November 4, students enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Program will be participating in the IB Capstone Experience in Hong Kong. This largest trip to Asia in our school history will offer students tours of IB schools including St. Paul's Co-Educational College, founded in 1915 and considered one of the top schools in Hong Kong for its excellence in academics, music, and sports; University of Hong Kong, the oldest university in Hong Kong and ranked #2 in Asia; and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, a young research university that is part of the distinguished World Bachelor of Business program with the University of Southern California. Students will be housed in a new dormitory at St. Paul's, a school with which BCA has maintained a partnership through our Global Exchange program.

Since Hong Kong is considered the third most important financial center of the world after New York and London, this trip will provide an opportunity for students to visit some prestigious financial institutions, such as the Hong Kong Monetary Authority through a VIP Guided Tour and the HSBC building on Hong Kong Island, where students will meet with the Asian Economic Research team.

The study abroad experience is built upon four themes: Business and Economics, Community Service, Global Education, and Cultural Experiences. This trip will offer a plethora of cultural experiences: hiking the Best Urban Hike in Asia, according to *Time Magazine*; visiting the Hong Kong History Museum; taking a junk boat cruise in Victoria Harbor; riding on the Peak Tram, the steepest funicular railway in the world; and visiting the Po Lin Monastery, a world-renowned Buddhist establishment, are but some of the highlights. Students will have the chance to earn Creative credit by reflecting on the cultural and historic learning experiences they will have engaged in upon their return.

Our Global Education Initiative continues to offer students a wide variety of learning experiences through interaction with peers around the world. In school year 2016-2017, students took part in study-abroad trips to London, Japan, Singapore, Greece, Israel, and Costa Rica. We look forward to building upon our existing partnerships and expanding our outreach around the globe.

Sincerely,

Howard Lerner, Ed.D.
Superintendent