

CHRISTMAS 2019

Dear Friends of Bo Ai,

As we embark on another Christmas Season and a New Year, Bo Ai sends to You and to your Love Ones a **Warm Christmas Greeting and a Joyous New Year!**

Bo Ai is privileged and honored to be called a **Beacon for Education in the Region**. All of you represent the **points of light** that form this beacon. We are thankful to each and everyone of you who keep **our students learning, maturing and aspiring to higher ground**. Bolstered by your support and prayers, which continues to shape the opportunities and experiences of our students and staff, **Bo Ai is well positioned to move forward**. At a time when education in China faces numerous challenges, **your gifts sustain our mission and create optimism for the future**. In this missive, I like to share with you a snapshot of Bo Ai's accomplishments in this past year and our vision for the future.

NAMES THAT LIVE



Prominently displayed at the Entry Hall of our Middle School Multipurpose Building is a Roster of **NAMES THAT LIVE** who are nothing short of a blessing to our School. They are names of individuals and institutions that Bo Ai recognizes and is indebted to for helping, donating to Bo Ai, making progress and transformation possible. In the year of 2019, **99 Chinese Nationals and 164 Foreign Nationals** came to teach, advise, visit or share their various talents to our students and staff. They are **NAMES THAT LIVE in our hearts**. Space in this letter does not allow us to name all of our special friends. Amongst them are Secretaries, government officials, principals, teachers from **Changzhi Shi, Qinyuan County, Fazhong Xian, Principal Wang Jin Hoa, the Yiu Chung**

International School Shanghai which came on two separate occasions with 23 and 38 persons, the 23 person group, many are Dental School aspirants from the **Hong Kong Bo Ai Mission Team** under the leadership of **Dr. Eilly Lau**. the 23 contingent from **the University of Macau Shiu Pong College** under the leadership of **Dean**

Zhang Ben Xin, the **Houston Texas FBCC Mission** under the leadership of **Chang Rui and Han Yan**, **Mr. Man In Kuen** of Toronto and **Mr George Tsang** from Vancouver, B.C. to supervise the remodeling work of the summer remodeling projects, **Phonics Teacher Specialist Ms Louise Ho**, lawyers **Leonard Girard and Pamela Jacklin** from Portland, Oregon, **my 55 year long childhood friends from Canada and the U.S.**, Our Overseas Helping Hands Board Members **Mike Stofko and Daniel Lau and their Spouses**, and last but not least our **entire Chan Family Clan** who came in April to celebrate Patrick's 80's Birthday. All came with zealous hearts and left behind their deep imprints at our Bo Ai Campus. **On behalf of all of us at Bo Ai and the Non-Profit Organizations in Hong Kong, Canada and the United States**, we are profoundly grateful for the vital contributions they make to our mission which continue to inspire us in our ongoing work.

GOOD TIDINGS A SPIRIT OF THANKSGIVING

Our Three Bo Ai Supporting Non-Profit Organizations: **the Hong Kong Bo Ai Foundation Limited, the Touching Lives Overseas of Canada and the Overseas Helping Hands of the United States** have been in concert with me trying to find a suitable candidate for the principal position. We have had two outside of Shanxi principals who filled the position for a year several years ago. But they left after a year, finding the winter weather too severe or the location of a village setting not suitable for them. We have lowered our expectation of finding an outside of Qinyuan County principal. I have known **Principal Quan Bo Lin** for over twenty years. Principal Kwan instructed through the positions of teacher, director and principal. **He founded a private high school some years ago** but it folded for lack of funds and for political reasons after four years. Lately he has visited our Bo Ai School several times and is well informed about our BO AI VISION. **He has agreed to be our next Bo Ai Principal starting this next semester** after the Chinese New Year. In the meantime, Principal Xin has taken him around Bo Ai and has shown him what has been transpiring. We are **extremely grateful** that **Principal Xin Dian Feng** had come out of retirement and had filled the position of interim principal for the past year and half but shall retire after this present semester. **Thanks be to God** that at long last **63 year-old Principal Kwan will be our next Bo Ai Principal!!**



In a recent staff meeting, I have notified our Bo Ai Staff that **I shall be retiring at the end of the 2020 Academic Year, i.e. summer of 2021**. As you know, we have **two Vice Principals, Vice Principal Wang Ka Ji and Vice Principal Zhang Wei**. They have been long-time staff members at Bo Ai, are well versed with our Bo Ai Vision and have carried out the positionS of Vice Principalship well. Bo Ai also has about **18 6-15 years skilled long serving teachers** who are presently filling the **directorship of different departments**. Even right now, **I am well informed of all the activities** of every Bo Ai Department **through the Internet weChat AND QQ**.

June 18th 2019 was a momentous day in the Chronicles of Bo Ai History. Bo Ai **graduated its 44 Member 5th Middle School Graduate Class** and its **38 Member 15th Elementary School Graduate Class**. All 44 continued on to High School or Vocational School. Both Graduate Classes did well in their matriculation examinations. However out of the **38 Elementary School graduates, only 16, not the best students, remained and continued on** at our Bo Ai Middle School. **There are several reasons:** Bo Ai does not have a High School, many students have spent 9 years, kindergarten included, at Bo Ai School, a matter of Face when their friends would be attending High Schools in big towns, our Middle School teachers are young and inexperienced. However, our **Middle School students did well, ranking number 2** out of seven county middle schools. And ranked 1st in Chemistry, History, Geography and Civics.

NOT JUST FOR SCHOOL BUT FOR LIFE

Even though Bo Ai School is a village School, Bo Ai was chosen to **send 10 students with three chaperons** to the **Yao (Yao Meng) Foundation 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup Dream Journey**. There were **30 nationwide schools**

chosen, Bo Ai among the 30, sent to different cities where the games were held. The Bo Ai students journeyed to Wuhan to attend international teams competing. The 30 nationwide schools were chosen and won by the number of internet votes entered by their students, friends, and families, mobilized in a competitive web site entered daily over a period of time. Bo Ai entered OVER 30,000 votes. We are thankful to our staff and their friends, student parents and their friends, our friends who helped in this impressive, momentous endeavor. We beat out much bigger, well known schools in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou.



In June 2019, Bo Ai was able to send 10 Grade-Seven students for a week of culturalization and learning in Hong Kong. We are most grateful that Simon Yeung, Principal Siu and the Hong Kong Holmgald (坚乐) Kin Lock No. 2 Elementary School and High School made this trip possible. The week was packed with activities: visiting museums, the Hong Kong SeaWorld, learning rock climbing, sleeping in tents, learning outdoor survival skills, cooking-among other activities and equally important - making new friendships. In 2020, the Hong Kong Holmgald Kin Lock no. 2 Elementary School increases the number of Bo Ai students who will be able to go to Hong Kong to 20 students. It is Blessings like this that keep our students maturing and learning! Allelule!

A very unique sports opportunity presented itself when Ms Jessica Hong, introduced by Principal Siu, heard about our Bo Ai. She heard that our students are well mannered and polite. She donated 20 unicycles to Bo Ai and sent 4 of our students and 2 PE teachers to Fukien to learn the Unicycle Sports. Because we have 40 kids who can do this sport, Ms Hong donated another 10 Unicycles and our school bought another 10 Unicycles. I am certain that Bo Ai is the only school in Qinyuan Xian that has the Unicycles Sports Activity.

Each year at Thanksgiving time, Bo Ai students hold a bazaar to raise funds to help the elderly needy or the poor. Each class' students bring their handicrafts, their used but still in good condition: games, toys, books, clothing or food items to a fun-filled Bazaar! This year, our students raised about 5000 Yuan. With this fund, BO Ai bought necessities, like soap, toilet tissues, food items to be given to needy persons throughout the year. Our 6th to 9th grade students, 10 students each time, on a rotating basis on Wednesdays visit the FaZhong Old Foks Home where many old men, who were not able to get married or have families, reside. Our students would clean their rooms, wash their faces, cut their nails, sing songs, do skits, dance etc. How these old men look forward to our students coming to care for them!! At Bo Ai, moral education is a very important part of Education.



Today's world is a world, nationally and internationally, connected by technology. So it is with Bo Ai that it connects digitally internally and externally. With weChat and QQ, our teachers attend seminars, share information, communicate internally or externally. Our teachers communicate each week with the parents digitally when not by seminars or talks. We are thankful and fortunate that Mr. Sammy Yiu and Mr. Yu donated robotics hardware to Bo Ai last year that Robotics continues to be one of the cherished, favorite Encouragement Programs. However, our computer teacher still needs to be tutored in the more advanced robotics programming. Last year the Hong Kong Bo Ai Foundation donated a series of 41 games, called Learning through Games. These games impart, coach, sharpen traits, like logic, eye-hand coordination, math skills, strategy, cooperation, memory skills. Our students can play these games when they have earned enough points.

FRIENDS WHO CARE

Throughout the year many caring friends visited Bo Ai. This last year, many governmental officials came to research Bo Ai as Bo Ai is considered a Model School. Our documents follow the process to a T, are genuine and complete. Principal Wang Jin Hoa of Taiyuan again came in person or through the Internet several times a year, to give

our parents and also our staff - seminars on parent-students-youth-teacher relationships. Bo Ai prizes our PTA as it is well attended and nearly 100 percent attended. Thanks to Louise Ho, our PHONICS Specialist Teacher who comes twice a year to continue her Phonics classes to our students.

The Yiu Chung International School Shanghai came to visit Bo Ai two times in 2019. Before the two teams came, two vanguards, Christopher Perks and Leo Lazo, came in March to scout our campus facility. Bo Ai passed the Shanghai Standard. The first team, students and parents, 23 strong, came in May and the second team 38 strong, again parents and students, came in November. Little Teachers and parents came to teach and play with our kids. What a grand time our students had!!! Before the teams' arrival each time, it sent some 40 big boxes of some barely used or unused school materials that our students and school could use. Bo Ai sent some school materials to other needy countryside schools. Thank You, YCIS.



Since Dean Dr. Kenneth Leung has retired, new Dean Dr. Zhang Ben Xin led the 23-member University of Macau Shiu Pong College Team to Bo Ai and inspired our students for 13 fruitful, win-win days. Their science experiments, cultural talks, introduction to new countries and cities caught our students' attention and curiosity. Bo Ai awaits their arrival each year. Dean Zhang is very much impressed with the maturity and performance of his University students and has already promised that the Shiu Pong College team will come again next

year.

The Hong Kong Bo Ai Mission Team again came during the Hong Kong Easter Break time. Our kids couldn't wait any longer for another CARNIVAL FAIR, complete with games, cotton candy, face painting, sausages. Our kids earn points during the year to play games and to exchange for food. However, this year, we do miss Uncle Michael and Auntie Janet as they were found loitering in the Israeli Desert near the Dead Sea. Uncle Michael made sure the many boxes of food donated by Dai Ka Lock, Dongguan Au Lu Food Company & Bei Au International Food Co. were flown in by air. Chairwoman Dr. Eilly Lau and hubby Gopesh and Beatrice Tang ably led the team. As is customary, the dental team pulled a bucket of teeth from our budding students.

The FBCC Team from Houston, Texas came in June. Most of the adult members were raised in China and had obtained Higher Education in China and/or in the US and are presently working, raising their families in Houston. All speak Putonghua (普通话 Mandarin), so our Ninth grade students understood their tutoring of Physics, Math, Chemistry much more intelligibly. The youth taught English to the lower grades and several adults gave Male and Female Sex Education Seminars to our Adolescent grade students. Other seminars were: the Use of Today's Digital Merchandise and Its Safety Concerns, What does One Expect in LIFE and What are the Values of Life. These are such Important Issues that our Youth faces Every Day.



During the 2019 summer vacation when students were on summer vacation, it was time to do the remodeling and repairs. The fourteen-year-old Elementary Teacher's Dormitory had seen its days and needed an overhaul and renovation. After the renewal, our elementary teachers tell me that they thought they are living in a Five Star Changzhi Hotel. Last winter, the water pipes froze at the Exposed Open Bottom Floor of the Middle School Education Building and heated water could not be delivered to provide heat to the Building. What a horribly cold winter our middle school students and staff had!!! Bo A is fortunate and thankful that Mr. Man In Kuen who hails from Toronto, Canada and Mr. George Tsang from Vancouver, British Columbia, came and supervise the work. Now the Open Floor is enclosed during the winters and is open during the summers. Without their participation and supervision, shoddy work might have been installed. Thank you, Mr. Man and George.

来自长子的 崔宇州 宣德公益服务中心 and Mr. Cui's friends visited Bo Ai three times in 2019. 宣德公益服务中心 is an NGO in 长子, Shanxi which takes care of children whose parents are away at work in the cities. Its directors and supporters are Christians and in our preliminary discourse, It will send Middle School Students to our Bo Ai Middle School. Bo Ai will look for sponsors for these students.

To celebrate **Patrick's 80th Birthday**, the Eleven Member Chan Family Clan decided that the **Birthday Celebration had to be a Grand Affair. A Customary Banquet** was held in **Hong Kong** and the **Younger Chans** had for the very first time **met their cousins and uncles and aunts**. In Hong Kong, the family thanks the **Hong Kong Bo Ai Foundation which wined and dined the Chan Clan**. At **Bo Ai School**, the Clan was greeted with a **Grand Reception and Show** by the children and **another Banquet** by the Staff. Then A trip to **TaiHeng Mountain and a must trip to Pingyao, Shanxi** the Ancient Walled City. Then off to **Shanghai and Hangzhou**, another series of long-remembered sightseeing places. It was difficult to say Farewell to all our dear Friends, to this Grand Celebration and then **Adieu and back to our posts at work!!** On **Dec. 1st**, Patrick and I were able to attend the **Touching Lives Overseas Fund-Raising Dinner**. We were warmly welcomed and attended the very successful Fund Raising Banquet!!

FINALLY

I have tried to give you a snapshot of where we have been and how we look with confidence and hope to the future. Yet, **many students remain to be sponsored**. Natural Gas is coming to Bo Ai next year. So we do not have to purchase 350-400 tons of coal per year at 1,000 yuan per ton. Our Dining Hall and Kitchen is substandard and need to be extended towards the Elementary Education Building side and remodeled. The Kitchen Equipment is fifteen years old and some need to be replaced. The Dining Hall and Kitchen is a **Two-Year Project** as One two-month summer vacation is not time enough for the full remodeling to be completed. For so many years, we **have been trying to build the Sports Running Tract and Soccer Field** behind the Middle School to qualify as a Middle School. There is **now a glimmer of hope that the Government** with the blessing of the new Qinyuan Secretary **might subsidize the cost of the Five Million RMB cost of the project**. We would ask for more subsidy as it is still out of reach of our Bo Ai School. Bo Ai needs to help **convince our 6th Grade students to stay on and continue** their Middle School Education at Bo Ai. Outsiders think that Bo Ai does not enroll students outside of our thirteen villages. **Bo Ai needs to advertise** (Bo Ai has never advertised itself) **that Bo Ai** is a Model School of the Region and **can accept outside students** after the students have taken and passed an exam. Our goal is **to increase our Middle School Enrollment 20%**. Bo Ai **will continue to send our two Vice Principals for more Principal Continuing Education in Beijing and Taiyuan**.

With **our feet firmly rooted in Fengcun, Shanxi and bolstered by your prayers and support**, we look to the future with confidence and hope. **Bo Ai is Not Just for Education but For Life. May the Good Lord Bless You and Your Love Ones with Joy, Hope and Good Health. Peace on Earth to All!!**

Have a Wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Christine Chan,
Executive Director
Bo Ai School, FengCun, Shanxi

FOLLOWING THIS LETTER, PLEASE PERUSE THREE PAGES OF PHOTOS

Overseas Helping Hand 4288 NW Meisler Dr.

Portland, OR 97229

www.overseasHH.org

Overseas Helping Hands is a 501 C 3 tax deductible organization in the United States and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. **20-0919040**

The following organizations, **Bo Ai Foundation Limited of Hong Kong**, **Touching Lives Overseas of Canada**, are **tax deductible non-profit organizations** in their respective countries. All three organizations are conducted for the benefit of Bo Ai School

Hong Kong CONTACT <http://www.boai.org.hk>
http://tlccanada.org/forms/donation_form_en.pdf

OHH donation Form – NEXT PAGE



Overseas Helping Hands
4288 NW Meisler Drive, Portland OR 97229
(503) 644-8798
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BUILDING FUND & STUDENT EDUCATION
SPONSORSHIP FORM

YES I would like to donate to the Bo Ai School Building Fund or Sponsor a Child's Education through Overseas Helping Hands

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| First Name | |
| Last Name | |
| Street Address | |
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| City | |
| State/Province | |
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I would like to donate to Overseas Helping Hands

\$420 – Full-year sponsorship for one child's tuition plus room and board

\$210 – Half-year sponsorship for a child

\$35/month for _____ months (please specify)

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BUILDING FUND \$ _____

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Please note on your check: **Memo:** Building Fund or Student Sponsorship

For Credit/Debit Card Donations, please go to secure link in DONATIONS in

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Thank you for your support



VISITATION TO OLD FOLKS HOME



B O AI ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATION 2019



2019 FIBA BASKETBALL WORLD CUP DREAM JOURNEY
WUHAN HUBEI



A CULTURAL & LEARNING TRIP TO H.K.
KIN LOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #2



VISITATION TO OLD FOLKS HOME



DANGEROUS CEMENT RUNNING TRACT
JUNE 1ST 2019-CHILDREN'S DAY



YIU CHUNG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SHANGHAI
MAY 2019



YIU CHUNG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SHANGHAI
NOVEMBER 2019



ADIEU, ADIEU!!



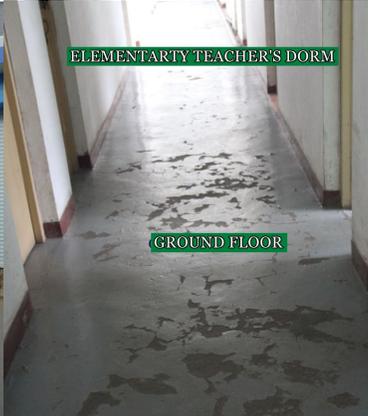
DEAN ZHANG BEN XIN
UNIV. OF MACAU SHIU PONG COLLEGE



PHONICS BY LOUISE HO



ENCLOSED BOTTOM FLOOR
2019



ELEMENTARY TEACHER'S DORM

GROUND FLOOR



REMODELED DORM



FBCC TEAM FROM HOUSTON, TEXAS



UNICYCLE



ROBOTICS PROGRAM



TAEWONDO-2019



关爱困境儿童 民政



TOUCHING LIVES OVERSEAS
CHARITY DINNER DECEMBER 1ST, 2019