



In this issue:

- ◆ *Executive Director's Note*
- ◆ *Lower School Update*
- ◆ *Upper School Update*



Chuseok Festival

Inspiring Global Leaders

PK-Grade 11 School Newsletter of Sejong Academy of Minnesota

Dr. Brad Tipka, Executive Director

Mrs. Yun Cho, Director

Ms. Lisa Thompson, Assistant Director

651-301-8722

Sejong Academy of Minnesota is committed to providing an academically rigorous education to Twin Cities students through immersion experience in Korean language and culture by using research-based curricula, high standards for accountability and promoting an appreciation for diversity and international cultures. Sejong Academy is pursuing authorization as an IB World School, and is currently a candidate for a program of the International Baccalaureate: the Middle Years Program (MYP).

"Sejong Academy students will become scholars of Korean and English, as well as socially responsible global citizens."

- from our [school vision](#)

Executive Director's Note

2021 was a great year for our school community! We moved to our wonderful light-filled new building; celebrated Chuseok outdoors as a whole community with student performances, delicious Korean foods, and a professional K-pop dance troupe; hosted our IB consultant for successful two-day visit resulting in positive feedback for our faculty; and welcomed new students and their families, and new staff as well! As we enter the new year of 2022, we look forward to watching our students continue to learn and thrive at Sejong Academy of Minnesota. Our White Tiger students inspire us everyday with their curiosity, perseverance, and zest for learning!

Lower School Global Leaders

Spotlight on our Korean Immersion Program



In January, Kindergarten-Grade 2 students will participate in a Korean Market Day! Through hands-on learning at stations like Toy Shop, Bookstore, Nail Salon, Arcade, Jewelry Shop, students will experience how goods and services meet people's needs. This amazing learning opportunity is coordinated by First Grade teacher Ms. Dongjin Choi, our new Korean Immersion program coordinator for students in Preschool through Grade 11. Ms. Choi is leading our Korean Language Arts Working Group to plan differentiation for Heritage and Non-Heritage Learners of Korean and to explore Korean language teaching methods and project-based learning in Korean immersion programs.

Celebrating our New Playground



Our new playground brings daily joy to our Lower School Global Leaders! Students are able to enjoy fresh air, exercise, and city sights including the Metro Green Line light rail and lovely Iris Park. Students understand that they are part of a wider community and have even cleaned up neighborhood litter. Caring Lower school Global Leaders serve others and make a difference!

Upper School Global Leaders

New Design Course

Our new MYP Design course is being offered this year to every student in grades 7-11! This fall, students researched mask design and fiber arts techniques before up-cycling fabric from our neighboring thrift store into one-of-a-kind artful cloth masks. In the photo to the left, MYP Designers discuss their final product: hand-stitched double-layered face masks. "MYP design challenges students to apply practical and creative-thinking skills to solve design problems; encourages students to explore the role of design in historical and contemporary contexts; and raises students' awareness of their responsibilities when making design decisions and taking action." - IBO



Upper School Assemblies

Upper School students have enjoyed two assemblies for all students in grades 7-11 this year: one was in-person (October) and one was pre-recorded and viewed in homeroom groups (December). Both Assemblies were led by the leadership team of our very own Student Council, and both assemblies featured award presentations! Over 30 students were recognized in front of their peers for their demonstration of the IB attributes: caring, principled, open-minded, thinker, knowledgeable, risk-taker, communicator, inquirer, balanced, and reflective.

We wish all Sejong Academy families and friends a healthy and happy 2022!

Photos provided by Ms. Alex Hamel, Development and Outreach

"To create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect."

- from the [IB mission statement](#)