校 園 簡 訊 School News Letter 第二百一十期 / Issue 210 - January 31, 2022 聖城中文學校 S. A. Chinese Culture Institute 11927 Mesquite Mesa, S.A. TX 78249 Tel. (210) 415-7641 http://sacci.us

## [ Board of Directors Meeting minutes – 1/23/2022 ]

The meeting opened at 3:30 PM on Zoom, with the following board members in attendance:

John Ng, Chairman

Directors: David Lim, Nancy Forn, Susan Ng

Angela Fang John Lin, VP Lily Traficante, Treasurer

The following items were discussed:

- 1. Review financial report. We are in good shape due to continue saving in monthly rent.
- David Lim suggested that we set up a face book group and invite all of the students and teachers to join. This FB group is open for the public to view but only members can contribute. The main purpose is to connect with other groups, promote our school, post events, and act as a medium for us to communicate
- with students and teachers.3. Review the Calendar for Spring 2021 The upcoming events:
  - a. Take Class Group Photo online February 27, 2022 During zoom class.
  - b. Spring Break March 13, 2022 No School.
  - c. 11th Annual Using Dictionary Contest March 20, 2022 Completed the activity at students home.
  - d. Last day to turn in essay for Yearbook April 17, 2022
  - e. Final Exams April 24, 2022 Exam to be taken at student's home during Zoom online class.
  - f. PTO chair & BOD Zoom online meeting (April 24) at 3:30pm.
  - g. 28th Annual Awards Ceremony May 1, 2022

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed at 4:30 PM.

## 【感謝本學期捐款 - Spring Semester Donations】

This semester we received donations from John Ng:

Name		Amt
John Ng	12/5/2021	200.00

We would like to thank John for his generosity.

## [ About Chinese New Year ]

The oldest and most important festival in China is the Spring Festival (春節), more commonly know in the West as **Chinese New Year**. Chinese New Year starts with the New Moon on the first day of the New Year and ends on the full moon 15 days later. The Spring Festival celebrates the earth coming back to life, and the start of plowing and sowing. The date of the New Year is determined by the lunar calendar rather than the Western (Gregorian) calendar. The Chinese calendar is based on a combination of lunar and solar movements. The lunar cycle is about 29.5 days. In order to "catch up" with the lunar calendar the Chinese insert an extra month once every few years (seven years out of a 19-yearcycle). This is the same as adding an extra day on leap year (閏年). This is why, according to the lunar calendar, the Chinese New Year falls on a different date each year. The date of the holiday varies from late January to mid February.

Chinese New Year's Day for 2022 is on February 1st and is the year of Tiger (虎).

Few days before the Chinese New Year's Day, houses are thoroughly cleaned, debts repaid, hair cut and new clothes bought. Doors are decorated with vertical scrolls of characters on red paper (春聯) whose texts seek good luck and praise nature, this practice stemming from the hanging of peach-wood charms to keep away ghosts and evil spirits. In many homes incense is burned, and also in the temples as a mark of respect to ancestors.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are celebrated as a family affair, a time of reunion and thanksgiving. The celebration was traditionally highlighted with a religious ceremony given in honor of Heaven and Earth, the gods of the household and the family ancestors.

## 新年快樂 Happy Chinese New Year