

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL SEARCH

SAIGON SOUTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

ssis.edu.vn

Start Date: July 2025



**Carney
Sandoe**
& ASSOCIATES

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Mission

Prepare students for global citizenship with a focus on intellectual and personal development.

Mission Statement

SSIS is a college preparatory school committed to the intellectual and personal development of each student in preparation for a purposeful life as a global citizen.

Core Values

Academic Excellence, Sense of Self, Respect for All, Balance in Life, Dedicated Service.

At a Glance



Established
1997



Enrollment
1,500 total
500 High School



Faculty
170 Total
53 High School



Student-faculty ratio
9:1



Nationalities represented
in the student body
47



Nationalities represented in
the faculty
25



Faculty with advanced degrees
75%



Campus size
15 acres



Overview

Saigon South is a dynamic and exciting place to be! The faculty and staff appreciate the pervasive professional culture of support, growth, and development. As one teacher shared, “Our school lives its growth mindset, we are all actively trying to get better in our quest to do the best for students. It is a wonderful place to work.”

Known for its impressive academic programs, SSIS is a not-for-profit entity dedicated to providing top-tier education from Early Childhood through Grade 12. It has been a leader in international education in Ho Chi Minh City since 1997. Today, the school serves nearly 1,500 students and plans to expand to 1,800 students in the next five years. SSIS is a not-for-profit entity of the Phu My Hung Corporation. It is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Offering exceptional opportunities in science, technology, robotics, engineering, and independent research, SSIS boasts the broadest range of high school course pathways in the city. These include the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and innovative SSIS courses such as *Introduction to Artificial Intelligence and Independent Scientific Research*.

In spring 2024, the green, sprawling 50,000 sqm campus opened two new state-of-the-art facilities: a Middle School and a STEAM Design Center. These additions further SSIS’s mission to equip students with the skills needed for a rapidly changing future while allowing the school to contribute to advancing education in Vietnam.

SSIS is seeking a High School Principal, to begin July 2025, who is a strong communicator, to foster a joyful and inspiring learning community for students, faculty and parents. Reporting directly to the Head of School, the High School Principal will partner with the high school team to ensure the high school learning program is aligned with the school’s mission and commitment to “the intellectual and personal development of each student in preparation for a purposeful life as a global citizen.” The ideal candidate will have previous experience as a high school principal in an international school setting, significant teaching experience, a deep understanding of American curriculum standards and standards-based grading and reporting, and a commitment to developing a sense of belonging in the high school. An advanced degree is required.



Opportunities and Challenges

Supporting Transition and Change

With the opening of new buildings, the creation of innovative programs, and the growing of enrollment, the incoming High School Principal's success will depend on their capacity to build relationships, listen deeply and seek understanding for a shared vision for the division. The high school community seeks a trusted partner and inspiring guide as it comes together to shape the next chapter in the school's history.

Nurturing an Experienced and Committed Faculty

SSIS benefits from a talented and dedicated faculty who seek an empathic and collaborative leader with a strong pedagogical background. Especially important will be ensuring that high standards are maintained amid a growing enrollment as well as leading the continuing implementation of standards-based assessment and reporting.

Balancing the Social and Emotional Well-Being of Students with Rigorous Academics

SSIS students are motivated to do their very best. Students will benefit from an educational leader who is invested in understanding and advocating for their social emotional needs in an academically rigorous school. The next High School Principal will continue to work with the school community to balance academic excellence with robust extra-curricular opportunities, counseling programs, and activities that build a sense of belonging in the school.



Qualifications and Personal Attributes

SSIS seeks someone who has the judgment to assess, preserve, and celebrate the High School's many strengths and the resolve to work collaboratively to address those areas where attention is required. The next High School Principal will have the vision and skill to ensure that the High School fulfills its mission for today's and tomorrow's students in a profound and measurable way. In particular, a leader is needed who is unequivocally aspirational and can provide clarity of direction and cohesion particularly with respect to teaching, learning, and assessment.

The next High School Principal will:

- Have a track record as a successful teacher and leader in the Secondary / High School sector;
- Have a positive perspective on working closely and productively with a leadership team in a reciprocal relationship of trust, accountability and transparency;
- Have a proven track record in contributing to and executing a detailed and suitably resourced strategic plan, and a demonstrable ability to advocate for the High School's needs within the context of the school-wide vision;
- Be proficient in building a sense of community within the High School through impeccable ethical standards and personal integrity, self-awareness, hard work, transparency and humility;
- Be an excellent listener who can lead, unify and motivate colleagues, providing clarity of direction, expectations, and accountabilities;
- Demonstrate wisdom, authenticity, warmth, open-mindedness, and empathy in their dealings with other people;
- Be an informed and natural communicator and visible leader, who engages enthusiastically with colleagues, parents and students but with the gravitas and calm authority to create a climate within which people can work to their full potential;
- Have empathy and understanding for the needs of students and an unshakeable commitment to their wellbeing;
- Demonstrate a discerning understanding of trends in 21st century curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment in the high school years;
- Have proven experience in recruiting and inducting talented people and supporting them in their professional development.

Learn More

Click on the links below to learn more about Saigon South International School.

[School Website](#)

[College Matriculations](#)

[SSIS Showcase Video](#)

[About Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam](#)



To Apply

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- Statement of educational philosophy and practice;
- A list of five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

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