

Lincoln Community School

Annual Report

2023-24



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Head of School	2
Message from the Board Chair	3
Elementary School	4
Secondary School	8
Learning at LCS	15
Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)	20
Facilities Developments	23
College Acceptances	27

Message from the Head of School

As we conclude another remarkable school year,

I am thrilled to present our annual report, a testament to the achievements, growth, and aspirations of our vibrant, diverse community. Leading this institution where learning, leading, and connecting are paramount fills me with profound gratitude and honor. At Lincoln Community School, our mission is not merely a statement; it permeates every facet of our endeavors.

This year has been particularly significant as we embarked on the inaugural phase of our three-year strategic plan, emphasizing student agency through educational excellence, the rebuilding of our focus on service learning within the curriculum and a drive to ensure that all members of our school community experience a sense of belonging. As we cele-

brate our 55th anniversary, we've had the privilege of not only commemorating our storied past but also embracing a spirit of evolution and progress. Guided by the Ghanaian adinkra concept of Sankofa, we've looked back to our roots to propel us forward with wisdom and purpose.

At the heart of our strategic initiatives lie the "three big rocks" of agency, service, and belonging. These pillars underpin our educational philosophy, empowering students to own their learning journey, nurturing a sense of community responsibility, and fostering inclusivity and value for every individual.

Throughout the year, we've witnessed numerous moments of exciting learning and achievement, both in and out of the classroom. Our students have excelled as lifelong learners, demonstrating the skills of global citizenship—inquiring, problem-solving, and collaborating. Whether on the sports field or swimming pool, where our athletes exhibit grit and sportsmanship, or on the stage, where our performers captivate audiences with their creativity, our students consistently rise to the occasion, showcasing their diverse talents.

What truly distinguishes our community is not just individual achievements but our collective spirit of collaboration and unity. From community events to service projects, from cultural

festivities to athletic competitions, our students, staff, and community unite as a force for action, resolution, kindness, and togetherness.

As we reflect on the past year with pride and gratitude, I look ahead with optimism and anticipation. I am confident that we will continue to grow and reach new heights of excellence and distinction.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member of our school community (students, staff, families and school supporters) for their invaluable contributions to this year's resounding success. Together, we've achieved greatness, and together, we'll continue to learn, lead and connect as we impact the world.

Kind regards,

Lesley Tait
Head of School
Lincoln Community School



Message from the Board Chair

On behalf of the Lincoln Community School Board of Trustees, I am pleased to present our 2023-2024 Annual Report. LCS has much to celebrate over the past year, not least of which was our successful re-accreditations by the Council of International Schools, the Middle States Association, and the International Baccalaureate Organization. I was particularly impressed by our community's level of engagement throughout the accreditation process. On behalf of the Board, I extend sincere thanks to the many students, parents, teachers, and staff who spent countless hours compiling data, preparing materials, coordinating the accreditation team's visits, and participating in interviews and discussions. I also want to extend my profound appreciation for our esteemed Head of School Lesley Tait and her leadership team for guiding us through the entire process with extraordinary leadership, vision, and enthusiasm.

As a follow-up to our re-writing and modernization of the LCS Constitution in 2023, this past year the Board updated and streamlined the Board Strategic Policy Manual to be more user-friendly and easy-to-read. The revised Constitution and Manual now more precisely adhere to industry standards, reflect LCS's current mission, vision, and values, and serve as the foundation for the current and future success of our school.

As part of our on-going efforts to advance campus redevelopment, the Board also oversaw some major facilities renovations this past year. We were pleased to open a state-of-the-art Makerspace as well as the beautiful new library and staff offices in the Nilee building for both students and staff to enjoy. We were also thrilled to welcome our community to experience several exciting performances and ceremonies in the Akyædee building's newly refurbished multi-purpose room. Following recent additional land purchases, we look forward to partnering with a master-planner soon to further enhance our campus over the next several years.

One of the key tasks of the Board of Trustees is ensuring LCS's long-term financial security. In the face of a weakened local economy and currency fluctuations, the Board spent the past year re-evaluating our short- and long-term financial plans and, in partnership with the Head of School and leadership team, made some difficult but necessary decisions regarding the ideal size of our school in terms of students and staffing. This undertaking will ensure that LCS can best achieve its goals outlined in our Strategic Plan while remaining financially solvent going forward.

In conclusion, I want to thank my fellow members of the LCS Board of Trustees. I am hon-

ored to serve alongside such energetic professionals who are committed to advancing our strategic vision through solid governance, top-notch facilities, and long-term financial stability so that LCS may continue to offer our students the most dynamic, challenging, and joyful learning experience now and into the future.



Katie A. Cummings
Chair of the LCS Board of Trustees

Elementary School 2023-24



Village Square

ES Students met every day at the Village Square which acted as a great source of community building throughout the year. Students regularly performed or spoke, birthdays were celebrated, cultures were celebrated and achievements recognized. Parents also got involved and took time to meet with each other.





Library

Our wonderful Akyedes library became a hub not only of learning but also of creativity for students and parents alike.

Family Conferences

November 2023 saw a 99% attendance of parents at the Family conference event.



Appreciation Cards

Belonging in the Elementary School was given a boost in 2023-24 by the introduction of appreciation cards and friendship quotes between students and from teachers to students.

Emails home to parents celebrating student successes were also much appreciated within the community.



ES Events

The year was full of joyful events free of masks and the threat of Covid. The Elementary School also got to take advantage of the new sound proofed exhibition space (Room 430).

Swimvitational

ES students compete with each other in Physical Education but don't often get to compete against other schools. The swimvitational held at LCS is an exception and ES students did their part to help LCS to a convincing victory.



ES Sports Days

Students played and laughed while learning important team building and leadership skills.



ES Music concert

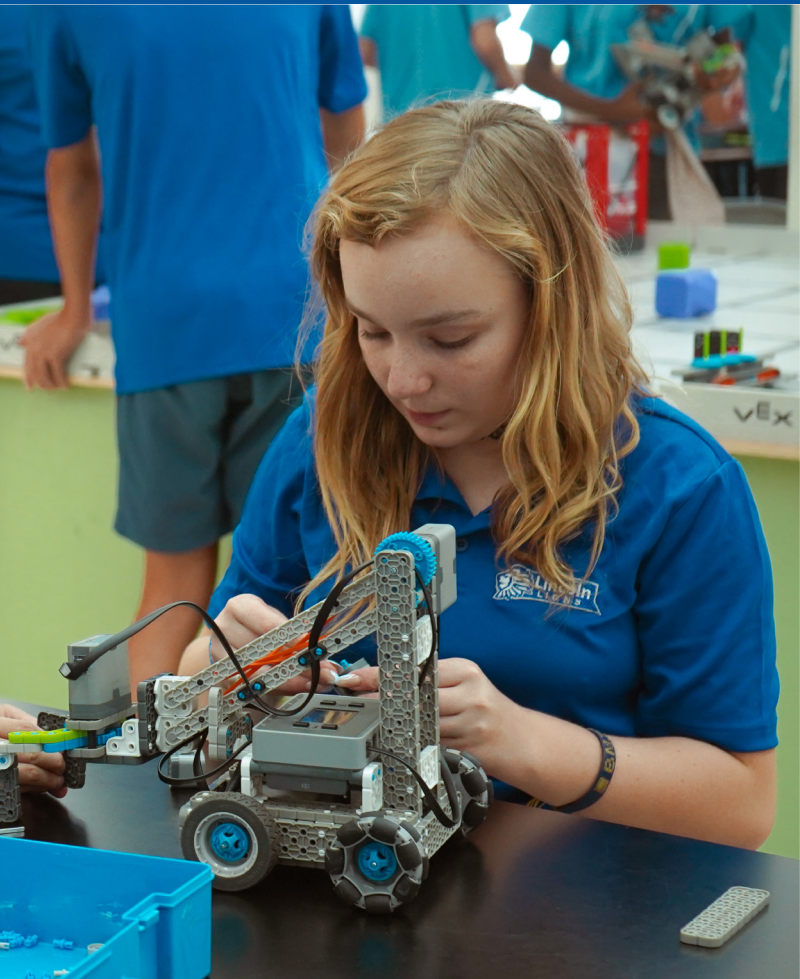
Students showed off their musical skills to a packed audience during the ES music concert.



PYPx Exhibition

Grade 5's PYP exhibition this year began with a short music concert before the students began exhibiting their hard work to parents and each other.





Secondary School 2023-24



Hosting of the WAISAL Middle School Robotics and Mathcounts competition with an individual win for a Grade 7 student in the MathCounts competition.



Full implementation of Toddle following last year's trial with the Elementary School.



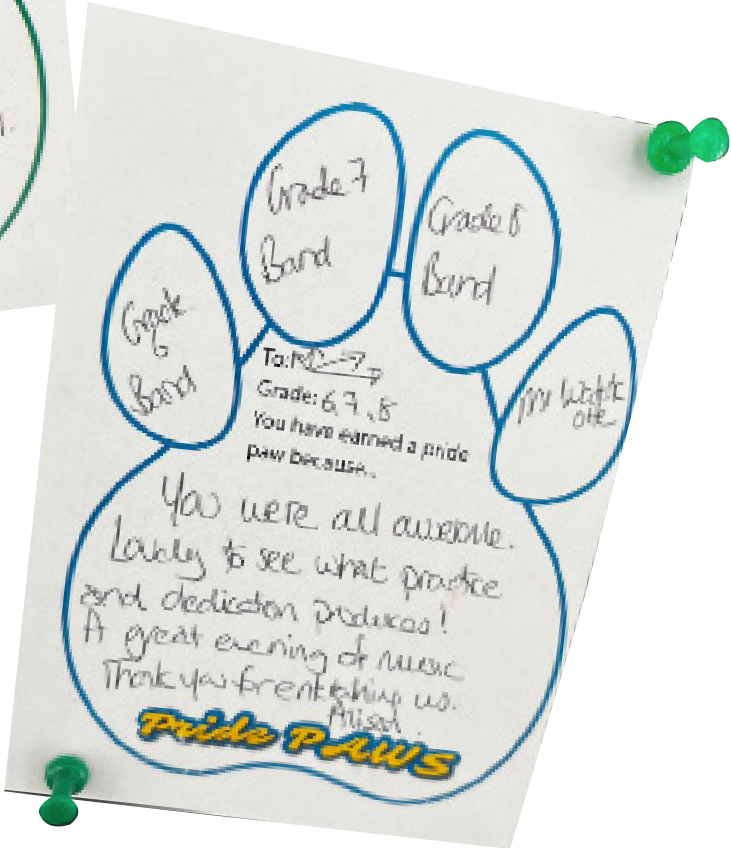
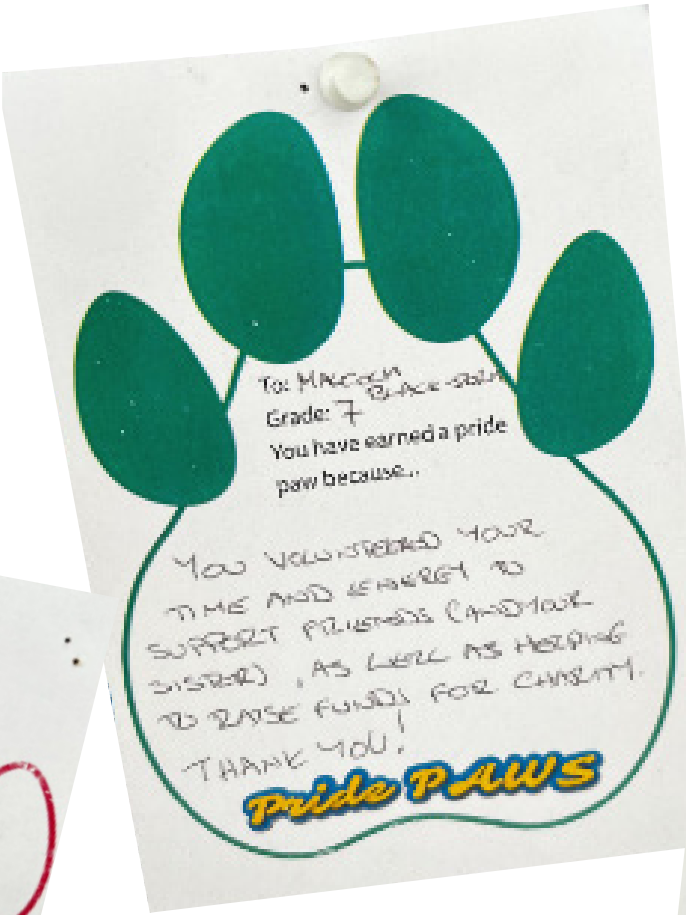
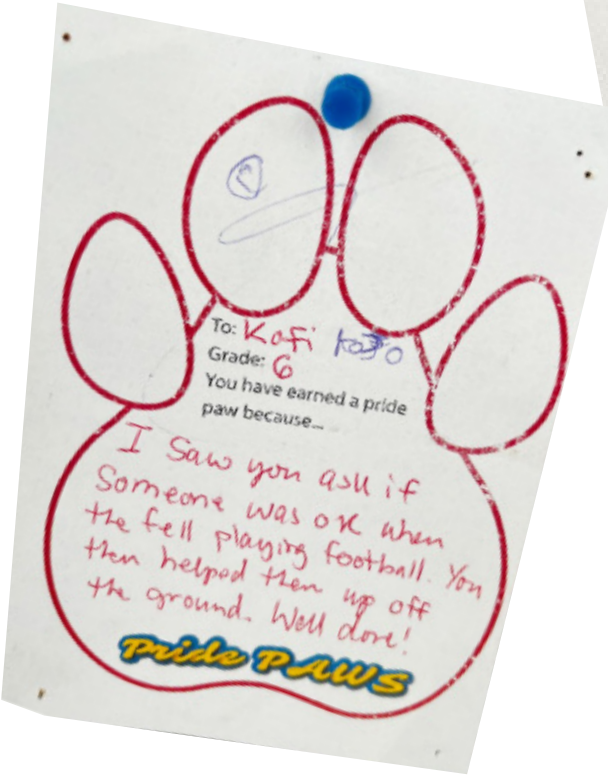
Congratulations!

Jungmin (Grade 7)
for winning 1st place in the WAISAL Mathcounts competition!



Pride Paws

Student led Community Thursdays and the implementation of 'Pride Paws'; the recognition of IB learner attributes as well as academics each week in the Community Thursday assemblies.





Addition of Digital Design into the MYP Design Program.

Student led clubs on Tuesdays during Advisory time and student passion clubs during the last quarter of the school year with a showcase during the last week of school.



The Student Representative council was a constant source of organization throughout the year. They held many fundraising events contributing significantly to the costs of this year's prom as well as helping to fund many other projects.



The High School introduced IB Learner Profile Recognition Cards at the community Monday get-togethers.





Service Learning

Creation of a service database that shows all affiliations between LCS and external partners and a number of very successful service events and activities throughout the year.

Class of 2024 student, Ridaan Gupta, worked on solutions that improve water quality in a cost effective way. His research has led to a system that takes impure river water, heats it using solar power causing evaporation and then condensation to leave water with far fewer impurities.

He went on to successfully install this system in a farming community in the Wenchi Municipality of the Bono Region. Water that was

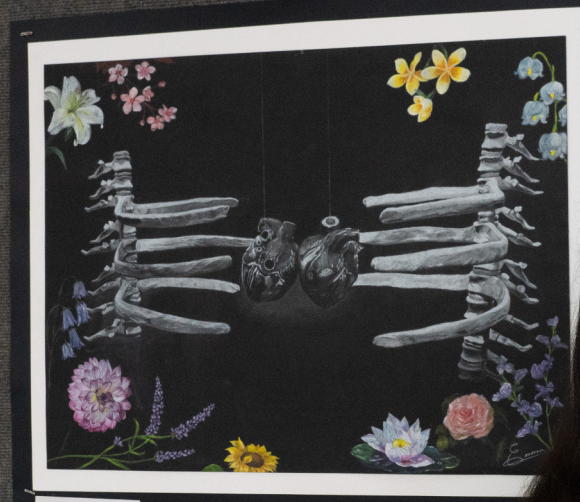
tested after installation showed a significant improvement in quality from a total dissolved solids rating of 150 down to a rating of around 30. To put that into context the World Health Organization standard for drinking water is a rating below 50.



In 2023, the Connie Buford Student Service Award went to Anoushka De (LCS Class of 2024 graduate) for her service activity; Project REY. Anoushka worked with the organization REMAR (REY stands for REMAR Empowering Youth). She started teaching a group of Ghanaian students with little access to education basic technology skills. A fundraiser allowed her to buy some laptops and the program expanded with other LCS students getting involved. Eventually, some of the Ghanaian students were offered jobs in the IT industry.



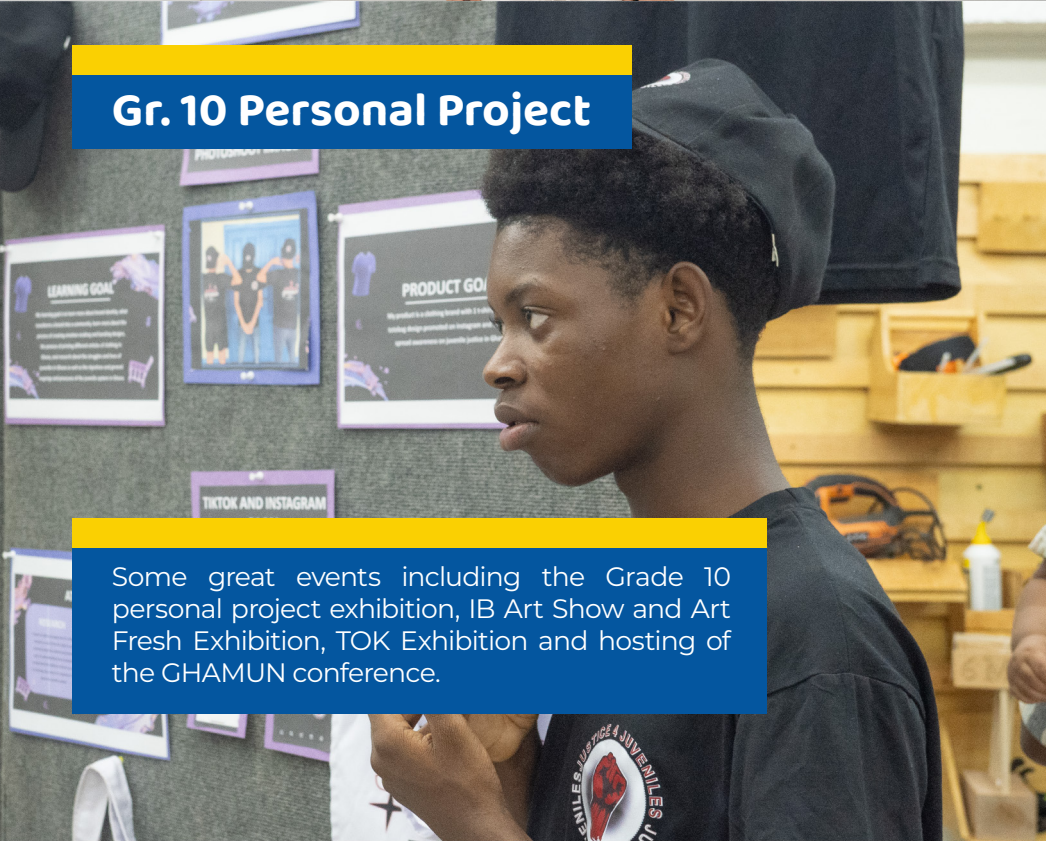
IB Art Show



Art Fresh Exhibition



Gr. 10 Personal Project



Some great events including the Grade 10 personal project exhibition, IB Art Show and Art Fresh Exhibition, TOK Exhibition and hosting of the GHAMUN conference.

TOK Exhibition



Our Commitments

The following are the promises we make to ourselves and our community, for each and every year.



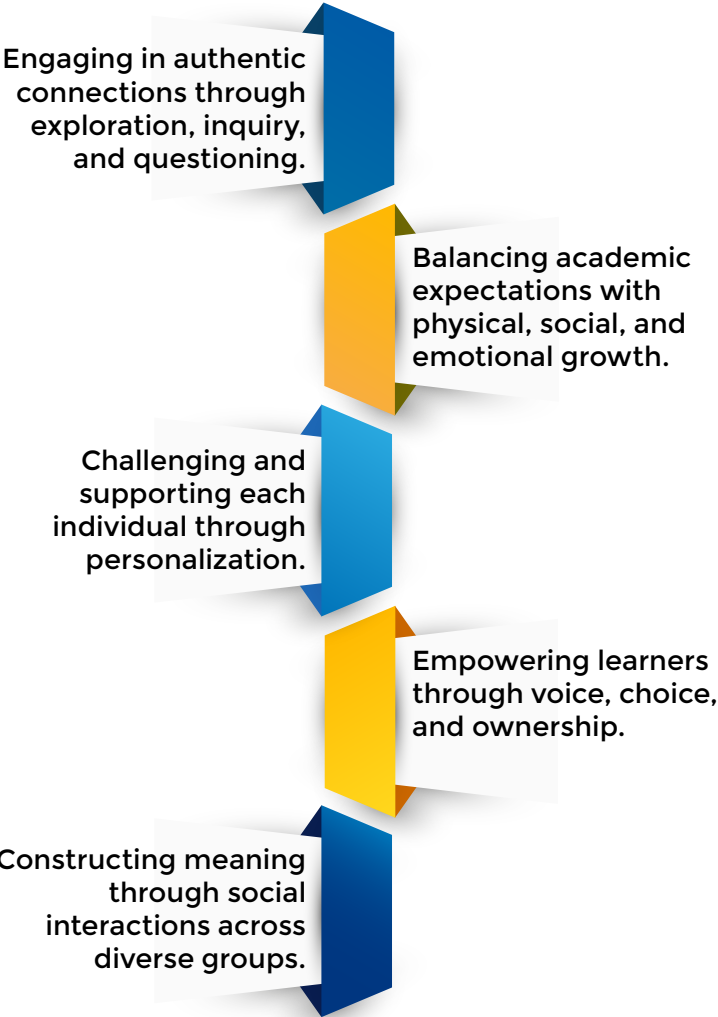
- A complete focus on the academic growth of each individual student
- A focus on equipping each student so that they can excel in one of the three pathways in our senior secondary program
- Meeting the physical, social and emotional needs of each student
- Attracting, recruiting and retaining the very best educators and staff
- Intentional professional development so that the best teaching practices are used in each subject across all grades
- An intentional focus on the creation of a caring, inclusive community
- Support for all students, especially those who find learning challenging
- A commitment to continuous improvement
- Financial sustainability
- Ongoing improvements to facilities that will enhance learning

Learning at LCS

At Lincoln Community School, learning is a continuous and dynamic journey that fosters the growth of every individual. To fulfill the School’s mission, vision, and values, we commit to co-designing high quality learning experiences by:



LCS is committed to the growth of global citizens. Rooted in the IB’s mission and philosophy and our shared beliefs, we prioritize high-quality teaching and learning, connection through intercultural understanding, passion for innovation, and the well-being of every individual in our community.



Agency

At LCS, we are invested in the growth of our students. We know that to become a lifelong learner one needs to develop agency. Agency includes the self-belief and the capacity to take purposeful initiative, to develop a plan and follow it through.

We believe that when each student has a strong sense of agency, then their capacity to be a learner is greatly enhanced.



Service

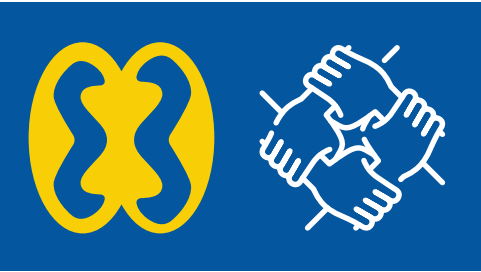
Service is a means by which members of the LCS community recognise the value of, build connections with, and contribute to their communities. A commitment to service learning enables individuals to understand and apply our values. We will focus on the development of each student's leadership skills, through the context of service learning.



Belonging

At LCS, we know that students learn best and develop as global citizens when all community members belong.

We believe a sense of belonging means we are included, safe, accepted, understood, trusted, and part of something bigger than ourselves.



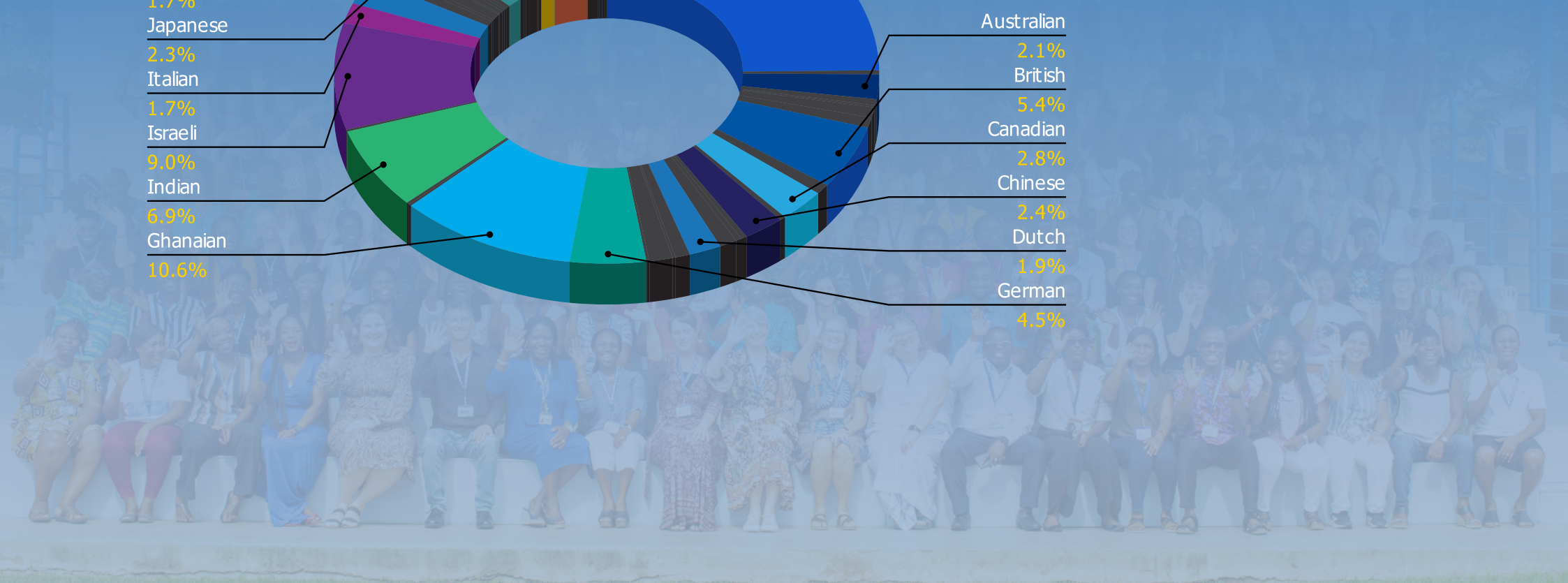
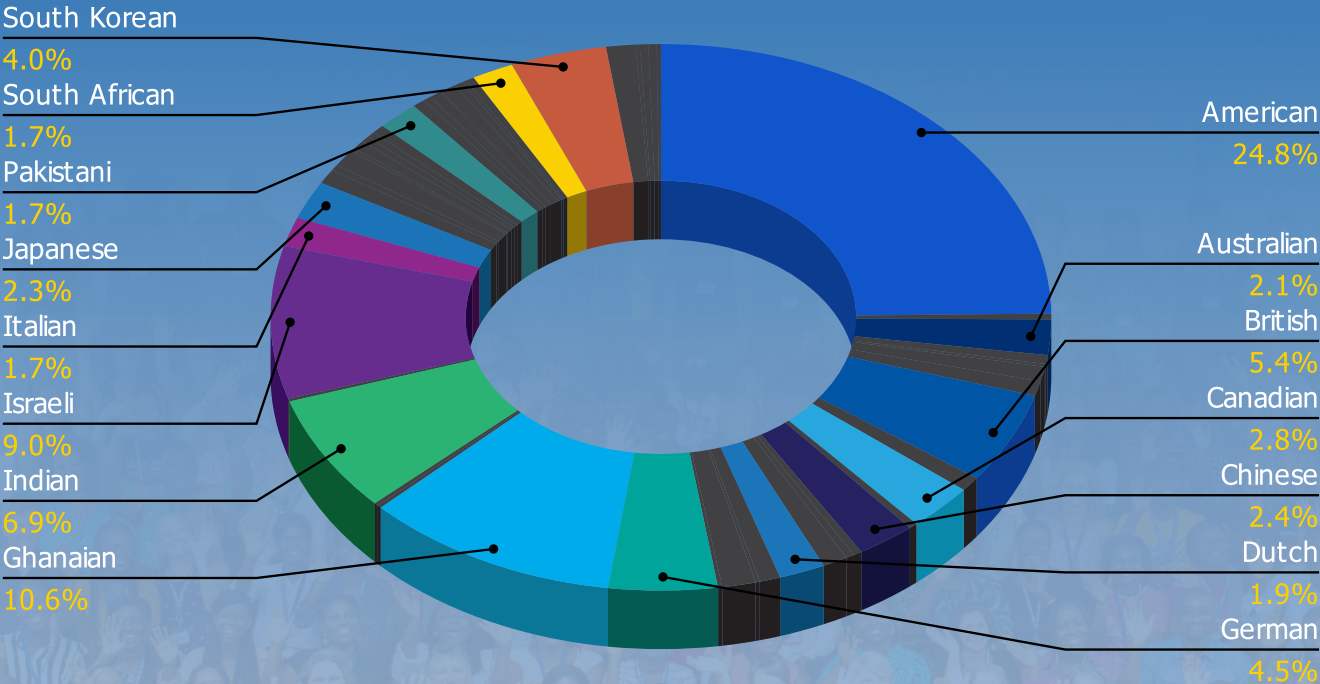
Accreditation

This year LCS proudly received a five year re-accreditation by the Council of International Schools (CIS) in Europe and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) in the United States, along with a re-evaluation by the International Baccalaureate.



We are Community!

Lincoln Community School is a diverse learning community of students, their families, support staff, faculty, and school leaders. In the 2023-24 academic year there students from 52 countries and over 20 countries represented among our staff.



Lion Day

In the 2023-24 school year, LCS began a tradition called Lion Days. These are off-schedule days where the whole school comes together around certain themes. It is a time to celebrate our sense of belonging and community.



This Lion Day took place during the Mother Tongue week and close to our International Festival Day. It celebrated our host country Ghana as well as our diversity as a community.



This Lion Day focused on the arts. Students got together in their houses and played instruments, made collaborative art work and performed short skits.



Parent Teachers Organization (PTO)

Once again the PTO was a driving force of organization, leading many events, bringing the community together, and supporting the Advancement team.

New Parent orientation event visiting sites in Accra.

The PTO was key in galvanizing the community in the run-up to the Run for a Cure event hosted by LCS. This year, LCS won the prize for the largest group to register.

The team supported all Grade levels but especially our seniors as they successfully saw out the year and graduated.

The Elementary School saw a visit by the Accra Fire Station and were treated at the end of their sports days by the PTO.

Each month, the PTO organized a

coffee morning with guest speakers.

Staff Appreciation at the end of the year.

International Festival Day was reimaged with a later time slot allowing for a concert-style stage show.







International Festival Day



Facilities Developments

The 2023-24 year was a big year for facilities at LCS. A large number of major construction projects were completed which primarily consisted of refitting what we now call the makerspace the new Nilee building and the Akyede basement.

The makerspace houses state of the art design equipment including laser printers and 3D printing equipment as well as design classrooms and display areas.

The Nilee building is part of the new area purchased by LCS in 2023 in the easternmost part of the campus. The Nilee building now houses the combined Middle School and High School library as well as study rooms and a large learning space. The top floor of the Nilee Building now contains the business office and an administrative meeting room.

The basement of the Akyedee building was refitted to create a facilities and procurement storage area as well as much needed office space for those departments as well the transport department.

In addition to these projects two new plots of land were purchased to the east of the school, future proofing the school's growth in the future. The West Campus saw two of the westernmost plots of land returned to their respective landlords and the start of the process by which that part of campus is transferred to the East Campus.

All of these projects happened alongside the normal schedule of yearly facilities improvements which this year included the upgrading of a number of Middle School and High School classrooms as well.





Makerspace



Eke - Akyede Basement



Class of 2024 Achievements

94%

of students were accepted into one of their top three choices of University.

— *over* —
\$12 MILLION USD
total Scholarships

HIGHEST DIPLOMA
POINTS AWARDED

43

AVERAGE POINTS
SCORED

33

WORLD AVERAGE
POINTS

30



98%
PASS RATE

Matriculation



30%



20%



24%



12%



4%

United States

Babson College
Binghamton University
Boston University (2)
Brown University
Drew University
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Daytona Beach
George Mason University (2)
George Washington University
Goucher College
Grace College and Theological Seminary
Hofstra University
Indiana University- Purdue University
Indianapolis
Lewis & Clark College
Marist College
Michigan State University
Montgomery College
Mount Saint Mary's University
Northeastern University
Pepperdine University
St. Clair County Community College
Stanford University
Temple University
University of Maryland- Baltimore County
University of Massachusetts- Lowell
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California

The University of Tennessee- Knoxville
University of the Potomac- Washing-
ton, DC
University of Virginia- Main Campus
Utah State University
Wesleyan University

Canada

Carleton University
Concordia University (3)
Toronto Metropolitan University (2)
University of British Columbia
University of Toronto (9)
Western University
York University

United Kingdom

University of Kent
University of Leicester
University of Manchester (2)
University of Reading
University of Southampton
University of Surrey (2)
University of Sussex (2)
University of Warwick
University of Westminster, London

Netherlands

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
Eindhoven University of Technology
Erasmus University College
Erasmus University Rotterdam (2)
Leiden University College of the Hague
NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences
Technical University of Eindhoven
Utrecht University

Additional Countries

Saint Louis University- Madrid, Spain
University of New York in Prague, s.r.o., Czech
Republic
O.P. Jindal Global University- India (2)
Academic City College- Ghana
University of Ghana
Webster University Ghana
Stellenbosch University- South Africa

College Acceptances



