

Founded in 1994 Western Academy of Beijing (WAB, simplified Chinese: 北京京西国际学校 ; traditional Chinese: 北京京西國際學校; pinyin: Běijīng Jīngxī Guójì Xuéxiào[2][3]) is an international school located in Beijing.[4] The school provides education from Early Years 3 to Grade 12. WAB uses the IB PYP (IB Primary Years Program) until Grade 5, IB MYP (IB Middle Years Program) up to and including Grade 10, and the IB DP (IB Diploma Program) for Grades 11 and 12.

WAB was an Olympic Educational Model School for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Out of the 500 schools across China, who were awarded by Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games as an Olympic Educational Model School, WAB was among the top 120 schools.[5]

In 2013 Mike Embley, the headmaster of the British School of Beijing (BSB), stated that along with BSB and the International School of Beijing (ISB), WAB was one of the top three English-language international schools in Beijing, all having long waiting lists.[6] Citing Embley's definition of two lower tiers of Beijing Anglophone international schools which have vacant student spaces, Tristan Bunnell, the author of The Changing Landscape of International Schooling: Implications for Theory and Practice, stated that this was an instance of the idea of " 'superior' and 'inferior' schools" shared by teachers and parents.[7]

Contents

1 Facilities

2 Technology

3 WABX

4 The arts

5 Student life

6 Accreditation

7 References

8 External links

Facilities[edit]

WAB has an Early Childhood Center, Elementary School, Middle School and High School. Each school section has a dedicated building, and the HUB Sports, Arts & Technology Center is a shared facility in the center of the campus. The school has three libraries: the Sabina Brady Library (ES), the Red Scroll Library (MS), and the Green Sky Studio (HS). Other facilities include:

Three gymnasiums

Eight sub-gymnasiums

One swimming pool

Fitness center (known as the Adrenaline)

Certified outdoor field (one full-length football/soccer/rugby field, and three smaller fields)

Athletics track

Tiger L'Air, an air-supported, clean-air dome including indoor tennis courts

Indoor and outdoor basketball courts

Vertex climbing walls

Five theaters (Founders', Blue, OOB, Space, HS Amphitheater)

Three libraries

Computer laboratories
Forty science laboratories
Two photography and editing studios
Music, dance and drama studios
Soundproof recording studios
Live broadcast studio
Three TV/Video production studios (WABTV News)
Specialist classrooms, such as languages, technology, learning kitchens, arts and learning support
Dining courts, cafes and lounges (Lotus Lounge, Atrium, Galleri, Wild Ginger, Link, Koi Garden)
Two PTA supply stores
Five elevators (all accessible to students)
Large on-field scoreboard/monitor
3 Apple-authorized help desks
Properties and securities building
WAB Wild (camp) office
Peace Park
Prototype learning spaces created by the studio of Rosan Bosch to support the Theory of Knowledge curriculum[8]

Technology[edit]

WAB offers a 1:1 laptop environment (for grade 3–12) with wireless access across the school. Students in grade 6 and up are required by the school to purchase and use their own Apple MacBook. The school uses software for things such as submitting homework, which is mainly done on Microsoft Teams for middle and high school. Drupal-powered public news sites and community portals are also integrated into regular school life.[citation needed]
The high school's Tiger Sports Network (TSN) also provides a livestream to watch most sporting matches, performances, parent meetings and assemblies.

WABX[edit]

WABX is WAB's extra-curricular program, offer more than 400 athletic, art, service, academic and social options to students school-wide. WAB participates in multiple interscholastic sporting competitions, including the ACAMIS (Association of Chinese And Mongolian International Schools), ISAC (International Schools Association in China), Tri-Cities (Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai), China Cup, EARCOS and APAC (Asian Pacific Athletic Conference). Sports include: rugby, football (soccer), tennis, badminton, cross country, track and field, volleyball, basketball, swimming, baseball, table tennis, and softball.[9]

Year Team Competition Final Position

2011 Boys soccer APAC 1st

2012 Boys soccer APAC 1st

2013 Boys soccer APAC 1st

2014 Boys soccer APAC 1st

2014 Boys volleyball APAC 3rd

2015 Boys soccer APAC 1st

2015 Boys rugby APAC 2nd
2015 Boys volleyball APAC 1st
2016 Boys rugby APAC 1st
2016 Boys Soccer APAC 1st
2017 Girls football China Cup 2nd
2017 Boys basketball ISAC 3rd
2017 Girls basketball ISAC 2nd

The arts[edit]

WAB has an arts program that engages students of all grade levels and levels of experience. WAB offers options for chorus, band and orchestra, drama options including original and classic musicals and plays; as well as visual arts. All are available as part of the IB curriculum, electives, or as after-school activities.[citation needed]

Student life[edit]

The school has many global citizenship projects, which are actively involved in the local, national and the international community.[citation needed] Each division (Elementary School, Middle School and High School) has its own student government, known as the "Student Council" or "StuCo" for short.[citation needed]

WAB also has many extra-curricular clubs such as:

Allen Wang Foundation
Chinese Culture Club
Fetch
Etch+
Friday Nite Lites (FNL)
Geek Force
Global Issues Network (GIN)
Graphite Designs
Hip-hop Club
H. Wang Student's Board (H. Wang SB)
LGBT+ Spectrum Club
Model United Nations (MUN)
soups & toots
Tedx Club - hosts
The International Thespian Society
Ultimate Frisbee Club
World Scholars Cup (WSC)
Vita Brevis Literary Society
Yearbook Club
TEAM 10

Accreditation[edit]

WAB is accredited by many associations, such as:

International Schools Athletic Conference (ISAC)
The International Baccalaureate (IBO)[10]
National Center for Curriculum and Textbook Development (NCCT)

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

Association of China and Mongolia International Schools (ACAMIS)

The Council of International Schools (CIS)

East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS)

Tri-Cities Association Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai (Tri-Cities 北京, 广州, 上海)

Asia Pacific Activities Conference (APAC).[11]