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KIS Community Announcement, August 22, 2016

This joint statement from Dr. Sunshik Min and Mr. Stephen Cathers is being released so that KIS parents, students, and faculty are aware of an important and significant change for the 2017-2018 school year.

After seven years of team effort to develop and establish Korea International School as a premier international school, School Director Stephen Cathers will be departing from KIS following the close of this school year, approximately ten months from now. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Cathers collaborated with the Board and the entire KIS community to build a progressive vision for the school dedicated to 21st century global learning and forward-focused initiatives. As Mr. Cathers begins his last year at KIS, he and the Board are very optimistic about the future of the school. Mr. Cathers is committed to continuing his undivided effort and leadership until the last day of his contract next summer.

A smooth leadership change and seamless transition are expected and will offer new opportunities while preserving foundational strengths. Because of the school-wide initiatives put in place over the past seven years, an exceptional faculty, a dedicated business staff, and a talented leadership team, KIS is thriving and will continue on its positive track. KIS expects to continue to foster top academic achievement, innovation, collaboration, critical thinking, and global citizenship in all its students. Dr. Min, the Board, and Mr. Cathers feel fortunate to be able to plan this transition with great care and with supportive input from the school community.

Mr. Cathers plans to move to Fiji as Head of School at International School Suva in the South Pacific where he will enjoy a new professional opportunity and a tropical climate. Mr. Cathers looks forward to the challenges of his new school and will hope to establish collaborative opportunities between the two schools and to maintain his valued friendships at KIS.

At this time, the Board has begun its search for the right leader to replace Mr. Cathers in order to keep KIS moving forward and to maintain its absolute commitment to quality. Dr. Min and the Board will provide additional information to the KIS community in the coming months regarding the status of the Director search.