

Queensway Secondary School 2A Margaret Drive Singapore 149295 Tel: 6474 1421 / 6476 6416 Fax: 6474 1302 Email: qss@moe.edu.sg

27 October 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to you and your family as I write what would most likely be my final letter as a Principal to you. Today being the last school day for Sec 1 to 3 students, it also dawned on me when I awoke in the morning that I would be addressing students for possibly my last time as a whole school cohort. It was a surreal thought and to an extent, a sense of sadness swept over me, as I have had a very fulfilling 40 years as an educator and 24 of these as Principal.

My heart was deeply warmed as I was ushered out of my office to the parade ground. The marching contingents marched into the parade grounds in full uniform as the rest of the school stood at the balcony, and I was invited to take my stand at the podium. The uniformed groups together with the school band had formed up in full parade to bid me farewell as this would be my last assembly and parade with the school. What a pleasant surprise indeed.

After the National Anthem and pledge taking, and a special forward march salute, I was ushered back to my office as the students moved to settle in the hall.

Another surprise was to be ushered through 2 neat rows of student leaders lining the whole walkway to the school hall, including a walk through a tunnel of raised hockey sticks to form an archway to walk through. Then the programme began and I was deeply touched by the efforts of the teachers and students to put together a beautiful and memorable Farewell Assembly for me. I was just soaking in everything that was happening in the details and consciousness of everyone in the school hall, and quite honestly, it moved me to tears. They even sang 2 of my favourite songs! After I had the opportunity to address and thank the teachers and students, they all stood up and it was the best rendition of the Queensway Secondary School song I have ever heard in my 6 years in QSS. There was a feeling of pride in being able to stand together as Principal, students, teachers and staff.

Many photographs were taken and even more were taken in the canteen as students were heading for home after dismissal while I was having my lunch. It was so endearing that students came individually or in groups to have their picture taken with me and VP Mr Jay Loh, while expressing their thanks for my being their Principal and to wish me well for my retirement. My heart was deeply moved.

I will still be in school through Open House, giving oversight to the GCE O-Levels and having meetings with our Key Personnel and staff till the Open House on Saturday, 25 November 2023. Do share with your friends and relatives about the Open House as



Ms Audrey Chen, who will take over as Principal will address the new set of potential Sec 1 students with their parents.

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I take this opportunity to thank you, the teachers and staff, and all my students over these past 6 years. It has been a most fulfilling time serving with my colleagues with the support of the QSS School Advisory Committee and MOE. I will begin my preretirement leave from 28 November till I officially retire.

Thank you, parents, for your support over these years. My grateful thanks to all my teachers and staff for their support and understanding as we charted our plans and executed them to mould our Queenswayans to be the best they can be. I will always have a deep interest in how QSS progresses in the years ahead.

I wish everyone good health and a fruitful and purposeful life in your years ahead. For Queenswayans, continue to make us proud of you. Do well as I have full confidence that your future ahead is bright. Keep faith and always be hopeful for a better tomorrow. Never quit trying to find a better way for you will certainly find Success through Diligence.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze Principal