

# Global Trends in the Teaching Profession



**VIVIEN STEWART**  
**ASIA SOCIETY**

# International Summit on the Teaching Profession



## **Improving Teacher Quality Around the World**

**[asiasociety.org/education-learning/world's-education-leaders support teachers](https://asiasociety.org/education-learning/worlds-education-leaders-support-teachers)**

Available at  
[asiasociety.org/education-learning/world's-education-leaders support teachers](https://asiasociety.org/education-learning/worlds-education-leaders-support-teachers)

# Global Trends in Achievement: PISA 2009



- U.S. 16<sup>th</sup> in high school graduation
- 14<sup>th</sup> in reading
- 17<sup>th</sup> in science
- 25<sup>th</sup> in math

Highest performers: Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Korea, Japan

# High-performing countries emphasize teachers



## Focus on

- Recruiting
  - Preparing
  - Supporting
  - Retaining
- 
- Identifying and developing effective school leaders

# Singapore: Outstanding human resource system



- Recruit teachers from top one third of graduates
- High-quality teacher preparation
- Mentoring for all new teachers
- Compensation benchmarked against other graduates
- PD entitlement of 100 hours per year
- Clear career paths-master teacher, curriculum specialist, principal based on sophisticated performance appraisal system
- Bully pulpit- teachers as “ nation-builders”
- Result-high student achievement and 3% attrition

# Singapore: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners



- A confident person who thinks independently and critically and who communicates effectively
- A self-directed learner who questions, reflects and takes responsibility for his or her own learning
- An active contributor who is innovative, takes risks and strives for excellence
- A concerned citizen who is informed about world and local affairs, has a strong sense of civic responsibilities and participates actively in improving the lives of others

# Teacher Preparation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



- Clear standards and accountability for what graduates should know and be able to do in each subject or area
- More guided practice in classrooms
- More mentoring for new teachers
- Development of broad pedagogies, including cooperative and inquiry-based learning
- Skill in incorporating ICT
- Skill in using assessment to guide instruction
- Greater understanding of local and global cultures and communities
- Research skills to diagnose and solve classroom problems based on evidence

# Global Competence



- All students learn a second language from elementary school
- World history and world geography part of core curriculum
- International exposure for all secondary students
- All trainee teachers and principals do community service in local diverse community
- All teachers encouraged to use sabbatical to study an international best practice
- Trainee principals study an innovation in another country and adapt for Singapore schools





VIVIEN STEWART

**A WORLD-CLASS  
EDUCATION**

LEARNING FROM INTERNATIONAL MODELS  
OF EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION