

## Jacqueline Mallais, Director of Student Life- Participant of PTC Leadership and Instructional Supervision 2019



“Hello everyone. My name is Jacqueline and, right now I'm in China. And before I came to China, I was in a school in the middle East, the American international school of Muscat in Oman for seven years. Part of the reason I stayed so long was because of the school community. And so my pearl this morning is a powerful and low cost way to build whole school community and not only a whole school community, but, a school community of learners. And the program is called TTT. So I'm not the founder of this program. I just pass it on and I think part of my mission in life is to just keep passing this program on to other schools. So TTT is a teacher teaching teachers, teachers teaching teachers program, is after school and on weekends. And the school actually pays their teachers \$25 an hour for their time to come up with a course.

And, you might ask yourself why would people do this? Not just for the money, but also because they get to know people across divisions. They get to know others that share their passion or their interests. And for the people taking the courses, they learn something new. So they're continuing to learn. They're also, again, meeting people across divisions and all staff members are allowed to sign up, not just teachers. And it creates a community of, cohesiveness and also staff wellness, when it comes to fitness classes. So who can join? Any staff member can join across the entire school. That's teachers, admin, secretary, support staff, even the business manager. Uh, anyone can sign up as a participant or as a course offer.

And you might ask, well, what kind of courses are offered? So this is just an example of the ones I've taken in seven years. Ultimate Frisbee, yoga, staff play beginner guitar, music club, geocaching book club, knitting, Bollywood dancing. So that the limit, is your imagination for what you could offer. We use school facilities, but also staff homes. So for example, when I was taking my Indian cooking class, we went into GTAs kitchen and used her spices. When do we do this? It's, two semesters. So we sign up for two different semesters at the beginning of the year, the end of the year, or in the spring, one hour a week. So teachers dedicate one hour a week to doing this for 10 hours to a maximum of \$250 for the finance class. You may appreciate that.



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It might say, okay, well this sounds great, but how do I make this happen? So many schools have a social committee or a wellness committee. I would suggest starting, asking someone to say, could you put this together? And maybe see if there's a few already courses happening informally, you know, basketball night or volleyball. Then just say, would you be interested in, in continuing this, but getting paid for it. I'm pretty sure everybody would say, yeah, that sounds great. So I already spoke to, how much does it cost? If you think about if 10 classes were offered per semester, that would be \$5,000 a year for your staff wellness. Um, for us at TAISM, I grew the program from about 10 to 15 to 32 per semester. So we offered 32 courses each semester, ranging, as I said, all the different courses, but from Monday to Sunday. So even on weekends people would go out and do, um, repelling. That was not my thing, but a total class of \$16,000 a year. Our director earmarked that every year in his budget. He said this was top priority for him, for his cohesiveness. So my Pearl today is a powerful and low cost way to build a whole school community of learners called TTT. If you'd like my PowerPoint, just contact me because everything is in my PowerPoint that you could then present to your head of school. Thank you."