

148 Senior High Schools Participate in 2020 National Scout Camp in Minxiong, Chiayi

(Courtesy of Xin-Ping Chen at the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Security)



The 2020 National Scout Camp for National Senior High Schools was held in a grand manner on January 18, 2020 at the National MinShyong Vocational High School of Agriculture & Industry. This camp was divided into three smaller camps: "Dazhi Camp," "Daren Camp," and "Dayong Camp." About 3,000 people from 148 schools nationwide were called on to celebrate this event. This year's event has incorporated Chiayi's local culture and an industry-academia platform. The content of this event was diverse and rich, providing a stage for scouting exchanges and self-expression.

This annual scout camp kicked off tonight at the National MinShyong Vocational High School of Agriculture & Industry. Under the leadership of the Shunshui Zhong, Principal of National

MinShyong Vocational High School of Agriculture & Industry, and with the teachers' and students' efforts, this wonderful five-day/four-night event included a variety of activities, such as scout skills, cultural folk songs, interest and experience, outdoor team-building games, and the Proficiency Badge test. In addition, this event incorporated special topics such as "awareness of gender equality and advancement of character education," and "national defense education as well as knowledge and skills in drug abuse prevention" into curriculum, with the aim of enabling scouts to enhance their thinking ability and problem-solving skills through teamwork, and to create unforgettable memories.

Under the theme of "Scouting in Chiayi and Striving Forward Together," at this year's grand scout camp were a total of 252 teams of 2,011 students and 260 leading teachers from 148 schools, plus the staff of the event. In addition to the large-scale activities for nationwide students, the National Cishan Agricultural & Industrial Vocational Senior High School, the National Caotun Commercial & Industrial Vocational Senior High School, and the National Siluo Agricultural Industrial High School were responsible for the camp affairs at the Dazhi Camp, Daren Camp, and Dayong Camp, respectively. Meanwhile the Chiayi County Government and local schools also actively participated in the activities to create a stage centered on scout spirit and skills with the local characteristics and culture integrated.

Fu-Yuan Peng, Director-General of K-12 Education Administration of the Ministry of Education, pointed out that the Ministry of Education has been committed to implementing the 12-Year Basic Education, an ongoing effort in recent years. The main goal of this educational reform in the new generation is to put into practice the educational values of "promoting diversity, adaptive development, and citizenship cultivation." The 2019 curriculum guidelines emphasize core competencies with a focus on the three core concepts of "spontaneity, interaction, and collective development" to guide students in becoming lifelong learners. This scout camp allowed students to step out of the classroom to acquire real world lessons that was

not quite accessible from textbooks through personal experiencing and interpersonal interaction. This would also broaden and deepen their horizon. Scout education can be said to be the best embodiment of the spirit of the new curriculum guidelines.

The K-12 Education Administration expressed its gratitude toward the National MinShyong Vocational High School of Agriculture & Industry for its full participation in the preparation of this scout camp, to provide a stage for the participating scouts to learn and exchange ideas in a positive manner. It hoped that each participating scout could learn a variety of knowledge and skills while improving their own interpersonal relationships and enhancing their self-growth through exchanges with scouts from other schools so as to have a rewarding experience.