China Foreign Teachers Union

CFTU Monthly Newsletter #120 – December 05, 2019 - ChinaForeignTeachersUnion@gmail.com

Hello friends! Well the bitter cold is coming our way fellow expats, so be sure to get yourself a warm down-coat and a nice wool scarf. The holidays will soon be here along with all the hong baos and Holiday bonus, unless you work at Hampson or Mayflower! To put you all in the holiday spirit before digging into the latest news… let me share a couple of Teacher's jokes with you…

DAUGHTER: Mom, I think we need a new teacher

MOTHER: Why do you say that Monica?

DAUGHTER: Because she doesn't know anything mom, She spends the whole day asking us for all the answers!

So now that we put a smile on your face, lets get down to the good news, bad news that we have to deal with every month here in the Middle Kingdom. First the good news…

1) Debbie is back after her extended maternity leave with recharged batteries to resume her role as CFTU co-chairman

2) Teacher salaries are going up in China since all the recent deportations have created quite a supply shortage. Salaries in 2019 were on average 17%-20% higher than 2018 after more than 3,000 foreign teachers were arrested and deported for no Z visa, fake diplomas and TEFL certificates, or for simply being a person of color. *(See page 6 for salary information)*

3) After 10 years of battling with hackers on a weekly basis, corrupting links, we decided to give up our website and set-up a new online platform on ruqqus.com or reddit.com after the new year.

4) This year our membership increased by 923 teachers and this month we welcome these 27 new members to the CFTU. We will close our open membership at the end of this month

Kristen	Hellen	Carlos
Joey	Van	Nick
Vic	Paul	Sarah
Boris	Rolf	George
Ronald	Demi	Magaly
Lisa	Gorde	Sergei
Yolanda	Morris	
Travis	Larry	
Louis	Tara	
Ross	Samir	
Gavin	Nicolas	

5) Although we do not like to see anyone get arrested, jailed, and deported from China, we remind everyone that we warned all the China foreign teachers in Newsletter number 97 that the PSB crackdowns were coming. Now Chinese parents will have more real teachers teaching their kids, just as we would want for our own children yes? When you make decisions to use fake documents and work for black schools without Z visas, you accept the risk of getting caught, which is now a 50/50 possibility. The days of PSB warnings are now gone forever.

6) Because Frank's place is now closed in Lido (John is looking for a new location) this year we will rent a party room at the Friendship Hotel in Haidian for or Christmas party and Margie is organizing things in Shanghai at the Puxi Community Center. We will be texting everyone within the next 5-10 days with the details but there will be designated drivers this year. Any volunteers for this duty?

Now the bad news that has to be delivered with the good. We cannot ignore the pink elephant in the room any longer

A) There is no way to tip toe around this sensitive issue but it seems to be more than a coincidence that most all the Africans and other black expats residing in China especially in Guangzhou and Yanzhou have been detained and deported in addition to the normal random raids made on schools by the PSB. Our contact at the PSB is completely mum on this issue, so draw your own conclusions.

B) The online bogus job ad count is going back up since Rosie Tang was released from jail as reported by the China Scam Patrol. As usual the fake ads are recruiting new TEFL teachers with false claims of “No degree or experience required” which is a blatant lie. Anyway the ads jumped up almost 20%.

C) Speaking of ads, the amount of PSB sting ads are also on the increase and is probably why so many teachers were busted and deported this year despite the PSB doing 920 random school visits and increasing their immigration investigative staff by 1,100 officers. Although our source originally admitted that 4,502 foreigners were arrested and deported as of November 15th, we have since discovered another 398 expats are still pending deportation. But lately the PSB was quoted in the Chinese press as saying “roughly 3,000 foreign criminals were deported in 2019” without any explanation. No matter what the final count will be by year end, it is clear that they are on a mission and all new foreign arrivals are now being scrutinized like never before. They are even checking invitation letters to see that they match the actual employer and have 15 English-speaking PSB officers assigned to very diplomas with university registrars.

D) Most teachers have recently been noticing the welcomed feeling we once enjoyed fore year as foreign teachers by locals is being replaced with an awkward silence due to the recent tensions of the East-West trade war. This is understandable since Chinese people are very proud and patriotic people. We urge all foreign teachers to avoid discussing any political matters with students, parents, or the Chinese staff at your school and restaurants/bars that you visit. Hopefully things will normalize after the 2020 elections pass and trade is restored back to normal.

E) After our last meeting with SAFEA officials we were told that the strict visa and FEC requirements now in place will not be changed for at least another one or two years, but they are looking at revising the marriage visa which is very inconvenient and puts a financial burden on new families. It seems that they are concerned about foreigners just abandoning their Chinese families after a few years of marriage and especially in a situation of a divorce that is contested. In this regard they have a valid point and need to protect the interests of Chinese children and there parents. We will be submitting our recommendations which we will publish in our next newsletter in February.

"You Don't Know What You Don't Know. Don't find out the hard and costly way" *- Kevin (China Scam Patrol)*

- ***You do not need a TEFL Certificate To Legally Teach in China*** *(But taking a classroom Tefl course will help you be a better teacher. Only courses are garbage and usually a money-grab sham)* *https://www.tefl.net/forums/viewtopic.php?t=6433*
- ***The "Silent Scam" can cost you $5,000 - $10,000.*** *Don't cheat yourself – Read!* *https://www.scam.com/showthread.php?642187-The-Silent-Scam-Cheats-China-Expats-amp-Foreign-ESL-amp-TEFL-Teachers-Out-of-40-Of-Their-Wages*
- ***90% of the TEFL Scams are caused by 10% of the black market schools, job agents, and Tefl recruiters.*** *Do you know who they are?* *https://www.slideshare.net/LaowaiCareerCenter/cftu-blacklist-2018-of-china-schools-recruiters*
- ***TEFL scammers operate under many alias company names and Chinglish personal names. For example… Beile Education is same scam school as Best Learning*** *http://blog.chinadaily.com.cn/home.php?mod=space&uid=2547165&do=blog&id=39566*

Laowai Career, Gi2C, Wiseway, China HR, and Getin2China are all the same scam, Beware!

https://www.reddit.com/r/ChinaScamCentral/comments/6n8vk2/china_snakes_like_gi2c_laowai_career_center_are/

https://mail.eslwatch.info/en/reviews/recruitment-reviews/1308-asia-reviews-recruitment/china-in-asia-recruitment/20330-laowai-career-center-recruiter-china.html

https://chinascampatrol.wordpress.com/2015/04/25/is-gi2c-china-internship-program-a-legal-scam-or-legit/

https://abroadreviews.com/psa-fraud-warning-avoid-laowai-career-center-scam-china-they-lie-cheat

https://www.reddit.com/r/ChinaScamCentral/comments/6q9iui/update_a_closer_look_at_laowai_career_center_is/

https://www.slideshare.net/LaowaiCareerCenter/best-gi2c-reviews-of-scam-victims

Top 10 TEFL Teacher Average Monthly Salaries World-Wide

COUNTRY	MONTHLY SALARY	MONTHLY SAVINGS
Saudi Arabia	*$3,600-$6,500*	*$4,300*
United Arab Emirates	*$3,700-$6,200*	*$3,400*
Kuwait	*$3,600-$5,800*	*$3,350*
Qatar	*$3,500-$5,800*	*$3,200*
Oman	*$3,200-$5,700*	*$2,800*
Japan	*$2,900-$5,700*	*$2,600*
Hong Kong	*$2,800-$5,700*	*$2,200*
Taiwan	*$2,700-$4,700*	*$2,000*
China	*$2,500-$4,700*	*$1,500*
Korea	*$2,500-$4,500*	*$1,200*
Vietnam	*$2,000-$4,300*	*$1,900*

Please note that the above are average monthly salaries and the savings have been factored in based on the current cost of living locally in each country, not based on U.S. nor U.K. standards. Of course your own life style choices will also affect your average savings.

If the current Pandemic situation prevents the some 10,000+ foreign teachers who went home for the holiday break from returning to China after spring festival, TEFL teachers will be in high demand and short supply and you can easily add 20% to the above numbers for China.

Please be sure that you let all your newbie teachers know about the infamous Silent Scam and the biggest 5 biggest TEFL lies they will surely be told by the China job agents and TEFL Recruiters. If you have already forgot, then please refresh your memory at any of the below Sites that we contribute info and data to as it becomes available… *(continued on page 6)*

https://reddit.com/r/ChinaTeachers https://reddit.com/r/TEFLScams

https://reddit.com/r/ChinaScamCenter https://chinascampatrol.wordpress.com

https://www.eslwatch.info/en/articles/asia-articles.html https://reddit.com/r/expatrights

This month we want to focus on all the false job ads for TEFL teachers popping up by the hundreds online as well as an increase in all the unsolicited calls teachers are getting from job agents and TEFL recruiters with Chinglish names falsely claiming *"We received your resume and need a few minutes to chat because we have some great opportunities."*

37 of our members received these calls and complained so we asked the China Scam Patrol folks to investigate and after two weeks they came back with a break-down as to where the **Calls were originating from,,,**

12 calls came from Foreign HR

09 calls came from Laowai Career

08 calls came from ESL Café agents

05 calls came from i-to-i aka TeflOnline

03 calls came from teach-in-chine

ALL OF THESE TEFL RECRUITERS HAVE BEEN BLACKLISTED FOR 7 YEARS OR LONGER!

We were also informed by CSP that these five China job agents along with Hangzhou Helen Placed over 1,200 false jobs ads online for TEFL teachers using 122 different alias company (41 of which were real names like Disney, Wall Street English) but the positions were non- existent high paying jobs on Echinacities, the Beijinger, Gumtree, Craigslist, ESL Café, TEFL World and Sinocities. CSP also found another 412 ads on these same web sites placed by identity thieves who are getting more difficult to detect since they now give very convincing Skype interviews, and then even setting them up with referrals to Foreign HR, which (as per our 10/2017 newsletter) was bought from Eric by Rosie Tang (formerly Rebecca Tang)

Speaking of Rosie, be advised she was arrested for a second time by the PSB and just recently was released from jail after serving a year behind bars for defrauding almost 3,000 teachers from 2010-2015. More than 800 of her teacher placement clients were arrested, jailed, and de-ported during the same time frame for working without Z visas or using the fake uni diplomas. And the TEFL certificates she sold to them.

We found the below photo of Rosie on the internet along with some of the known companies she uses to recruit over a hundred unsuspecting teacher from abroad, **She first came to our attention when we were contacted by Ms. Cox, a teacher from the U.K. and America who was recruited by Rebecca Tang who actually skimmed 60% of Teacher Cox's salary. Here is the story that was also investigated by China Scam Patrol:**

https://chinascampatrol.wordpress.com/2013/02/21/making-your-first-million-in-china-as-a-chinese-school-principal/

These are all of her scam alias company brands to avoid like a hooker with AIDS...

- CHINA ESL
- FOREIGN HR
- FOREIGNERHR.COM
- BEIJINGTEACH.COM
- GOLDEN BRIDGE ESL
- EAST-WEST EDUCTAION
- CHINA-UNI LTD.
- NEW LIFE ESL (w/Yazwa)
- GOLDEN BRIDGE ENGLISH
- NEW WORLD ESL
- MYTEFLJOBS.COM
- FOREIGN EXPATS.COM

Please take note of the contract Rosie made Teacher Cox sign. This is exactly why we urge all of our members to find their own jobs directly (see page 8) in order to avoid the TEFL Recruiters and China job agents, 90% of whom are just like Rosie who keep using new Chinglish names every time they get outed.

In closing things up for this month, we want to wish you all to learn how to find your own jobs directly by using our white lists and a fax machine. By using the White List you already know that the school you are applying with is properly registered with both SAIC and SAFEA so you need not worry about not getting a Z visa or being arrested, jailed and deported. Be sure that when you fax your resume and cover letter to the schools of your choice from our Whitelist, that you address the fax and cover letter to the Principal by name, or if you do not know it, then send it to “FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICER” or “INTERNATIONAL OFFICE” and be sure to also fax a full headshot photo of yourself (never provide a full color photo of yourself to any stranger who might be working for Identity this). And PLEASE, remember to include your Skype contact or you will never hear back from them. If you do not hear back from the employer within 10 days, it means they were not impressed with your resume or your photo. Move on and don’t pester any employer or they just might black-ball you. Here is where to find our White List:

https://www.scribd.com/document/371819349/2018-CFTU-Whitelist-of-Chinese-Schools-For-TEFL-ESL-Foreign-Teachers

As usual we, will take January off and hopefully see you all back in China in January. Until then, we wish you and yours a safe, meaningful, and happy holidays! – Gregg, Debbie, Curt, Ling Johnnie, and all the CFTU volunteers.