Chinese Immersion Forum and Workshop

Confucius Institute at Michigan State University

August 13, 2018
Forest Hills Public Schools

*Founded in 1956

*10,000 students housed in 18 schools

* The Forest Hills district is one of the largest geographic districts in Michigan, encompassing 68 square miles.

*Three high schools

*Pathway for Mandarin Immersion Program K-10 (2018-2019)
Meadow Brook Elementary (K-4)
Northern Trails (5-6)
Northern Hills Middle School (7-8)
Forest Hills Northern High School (9-12)
Program History

The program began in 2008, bringing together Eastern and Western culture in order to provide a rich academic, linguistic, and cultural experience for students.

First Kindergarten group in 2008
- A district-wide lottery held each February
- 50 students admitted

Partnership with MSU Confucius Institute

Federal FLAP Grant awarded 2009

Critically few student instructional resources
Immersion Beliefs

Achievement of grade level content expectations (Common Core State Standards/FHPS Curriculum Standards)

Attainment of high levels of target language performance and proficiency

Awareness, appreciation and sensitivity for world cultures
Non Negotiables

Teachers speak only Mandarin.

Students shift to all Mandarin beginning in 1st grade as they are ready.

Guarantee grade level curriculum and proficiency in Mandarin.

K-6 language arts instruction in Mandarin and English

Program data regularly communicated with parents.
# Program Overview K-8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Mandarin Content</th>
<th>Instruction Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-4</td>
<td>Math, Science, Chinese Literacy</td>
<td>136 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>Chinese Literacy</td>
<td>110+ min</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>Chinese Language and Literacy</td>
<td>57 min</td>
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### High School Partnership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9th Grade</strong></td>
<td>Basic Chinese</td>
<td>Chinese Calligraphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10th Grade</strong></td>
<td>Intermediate Chinese</td>
<td>Business Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11th Grade</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12th Grade</strong></td>
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Students are enrolled in WMU as a Freshman and receive coursework on the HS campus taught by a WMU Professor. Courses are taught with 100% Mandarin spoken. Successful completion of the 4-year program results in a completed Minor in Chinese from WMU. These credits may carry over to other universities.
Chinese Immersion Parent Advisory Committee K-10 (CHI-PAC)

CHI-PAC is committed to the academic and cultural excellence of the FHPS Chinese Immersion program and advocacy for its families. As parents, we are dedicated to enriching the educational experience of all involved in the program by supplementing resources, providing volunteers, and financial support.

- Instructional grants for teachers and schools.
- Enhanced technology to create 1:1 computer access.
- Community outreach to attract new families to the program.
- Annual Kindergarten picnic to connect families and teachers.
- Support new teachers and aides in their needs: transportation, community outings, connecting with community resources or even equipping an apartment.
- Provided emergency medical and dental access pro bono.
- Advocate for all supports needed to create a viable K-12 program.
- Monthly meeting with principals.
Assessment

**SOPA** - Student Oral Proficiency Assessment Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) (Grades 2, 4, 6, 8). Mode: Oral examination in pairs.

**NWEA MAP** - Math and ELA (Grades K-8) September, January, May. Mode: Online

**M-STEP** - Math and ELA - State of Michigan
Professional Learning

■ 1st Year Chinese Teachers

- Curriculum
- American students
- Parent communication
- Classroom management
- Developing mentors
- Driving
- Doctors
- Living arrangements
- Being away from home
- Balance coursework and teaching
- Developing English language

■ 3-5 Year Teachers

- Understand curriculum
- Student ages & stages
- Visa
- Securing elementary self-contained certification K-6
- Connected to community
- Teacher leadership

District must have capable immigration attorney to work with district.
Susan IM susan@imlaw.biz
Critical Resources

Curriculum:
Curriculum Framework (Mandarin)
Dr. Nan Cai, Beijing Language and Cultural Univ.
Visiting professor in Forest Hills for 2 years

K-4 Math
(translated K-3)
Mandarin Language Arts
Arch Chinese

Hiring High Quality Teachers:
Teacher Candidates
Teacher Interns

Almost 1/classroom
Learning Extensions

School Wide Celebrations
Chinese New Year
Confucius Week
Dragon Boat Racing (4th Grade)

World Language Mandarin for English K-4 Students

Summer Chinese Enrichment Programming

Optional Parent-Student Trip to China (4-6)
Sister Sister Visitation

Student involvement in Local Asian festivals
Additional Resources

Mrs. Margie Fellinger, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Forest Hills Public Schools
Ph 616.493.8805  Mfellinger@fhps.net

Mr. Jon Gregory, Principal, Forest Hills Northern High School
Ph 616.493.8600  jgregory@fhps.net

Dr. David Simpson, Principal, Forest Hills Northern Hills Middle School 7/8
Ph 616.493.8650  dsimpson@fhps.net

Dr. Susan Gutierrez, Principal, Forest Hills Northern Trails 5/6 School
Ph 616.493.8990  sgutierrez@fhps.net

Mr. Tim Shaw, Principal, Meadow Brook Elementary K/4 School
Ph 616.493.8740  tshaw@fhps.net

Sr. Jesus Santillan, Immersion Coach, Forest Hills Public Schools
jsantillan@fhps.net

FHPS Dual Language Immersion Website:
https://www.fhps.net/departments/instruction/dual-language-immersion-education/

FHPS Mandarin Chinese Immersion Road Map