

# MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Jeff Turner

From: Dr. Mechelle Bryson

Date: June 4, 2010

Re: Mandarin Chinese Program Update

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**2010 Chinese Bridge US High School Students Summer Camp:** Hanban (the Office of Chinese Language Council International) has been organizing and sponsoring the Chinese Bridge summer camp for high school students over the last three years. It has been very well received by high school students all over the U.S. The mission of this program is to promote exchange between the youth of China and the US, and enhance the understanding of high school students of Chinese language and culture, thus to stimulate their interest in learning Chinese language and culture. The organizers of the summer camp are Hanban and the Confucius Institute at University of Texas Dallas

In March 2010, Coppell ISD was invited to participate in the 2010 Chinese Bridge Summer Camp. The camp duration is 15 days from July 7 to July 22. It is important to note that from the state of Texas, 35-40 high school students were invited. Out of the 35 to 40 high school students, we have 17 students attending with 2 sponsors. Our students are a combination of NTH and CHS students. Overall, there will be 1,500 students from across the US with a teacher/student ratio 1: 10.

During the summer camp program, students will be studying Chinese language and culture (Paper-cut, calligraphy, brush painting, tea ceremony, martial arts, etc.) in traditional classrooms, and participating in various sports and cultural activities (friendly basketball match, international student get-together, host family experiences, etc.); they will also be experiencing for themselves various points of interest of China's long history, and viewing sites of natural beauty. Daily itineraries and curricula will be developed by schools and provincial departments of education.

There are no expenditure requirements for Coppell ISD. In fact, our sponsors' trip was completely free of charge. Our students only had to pay for their flight, \$100 registration fee and the cost of their visa/passport. Our sponsors are Ms. Angelina Wu and Ms. Holly Whiting. Both sponsors have traveled extensively and have each traveled to China.

**The Confucius Institute Classroom Grant:** CISD has been awarded 5 grants from The Confucius Institute Classroom. This is a grant designed to promote and support the teaching of Mandarin Chinese in public education. The Confucius Institute Classroom Grant is coordinated from the Confucius Institute at the University of Texas at Dallas.

The grant will provide 4 teachers from China to teach Mandarin at Middle School East, Middle School West, Middle School North and New Tech High. In addition, these teachers in concert will teach an afterschool program for elementary students, scheduled for the

spring of 2011. The grant will also provide funding for the summer school Mandarin enrichment program as well as provide 1,000 library and class resource books and other needed supplies to support a Mandarin course at each of our four campuses.

In review, the grant will provide:

- 4 teachers
- 1,000 library and class resource books for each campus
- Funding for Staff Development
- Funding for Curriculum Writing
- Funding for Summer School Program
- Technology for each campus
- Cultural supplies
- Classroom management supplies.

This is a three year grant that will support the growth of a strong Mandarin program at CISD's secondary campuses. In addition to this grant, CISD will apply for a FLAP grant next year that will support the growth of our Mandarin program.

If you have any questions, please contact me. I will be happy to assist.

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