



Forest Hills Public Schools Mandarin Chinese Immersion

FOREST HILLS
— PUBLIC SCHOOLS —

Forest Hills Northern High School · 3801 Leonard Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525

K-12 Student Immersion Experience

ABOUT

The Forest Hills Public Schools Mandarin Chinese Immersion Magnet Program was the first of its kind in West Michigan. The program began in 2008, bringing together Eastern and Western culture in order to provide a rich academic, linguistic, and cultural experience for students. Today, we celebrate the growth of this program with nearly 500 students enrolled!

Learners in Grades K-4 experience a 50/50 one-way immersion model receiving instruction by highly qualified teachers, who are native speakers of Mandarin Chinese, in the areas of reading, writing, math, and science.

Upon entrance to Grade 5, the program shifts to an intensive Mandarin Chinese language literacy block designed to build upon the K-4 base. It further deepens target language proficiency levels to prepare students for higher levels of rigor expected in middle and high school.



K-8 PROGRAM MODEL

School	Grade	Mandarin Content
Meadow Brook Elementary School	K-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math Science Mandarin Chinese Literacy
Northern Trails 5/6 School	5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandarin Chinese Literacy
Northern Hills Middle School	7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandarin Chinese Literacy

PROGRAM GOALS

- Achievement of grade level content expectations
- Attainment of high levels of proficiency and biliteracy in both English and Mandarin Chinese
- Awareness, appreciation, and sensitivity for world cultures

CUMULATIVE HOURS SPENT IN THE TARGET LANGUAGE PER STUDENT

K-4 (Over 5 years)	5-6 (Over 2 years)	7-8 (Over 2 years)	9-12 (Over 4 years)
2,040	660	342	600

On average, each FHPS Mandarin Chinese immersion student spends over 3,700 cumulative hours immersed in Mandarin Chinese language input and output during regular school time by the end of the program.

By the end of Grade 12, students are expected to:

- Easily and confidently generate and answer questions to demonstrate reading comprehension, monitor their comprehension, and use strategies to self-correct when needed.
- Maintain conversations with native Mandarin speakers at the paragraph level, even when the topics are unfamiliar.
- Write research papers and present topics that are focused and organized with regard to personal interests or studies.
- Follow multiple written directions and begin to write a multiple-paragraph essay using a structured model and guidance.

HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP WITH WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY


A partnership between FHPS and Western Michigan University (WMU) provides an option for Mandarin Chinese immersion students at Forest Hills Northern High School to continue their Mandarin Chinese language proficiency learning and growth at a higher level of rigor in high school while earning college credits.

Students who successfully complete all courses in this program earn up to 28 credits at WMU, which is equivalent to a Chinese minor degree from the World Languages and Literatures Department at WMU.

The program consists of one course every semester, 7 credits per year. Courses are instructed by highly qualified WMU professors, and students are considered college students under the WMU High School Dual Enrollment Student Handbook for those courses.

Learning takes place in a language-rich Mandarin Chinese immersion classroom environment that promotes language growth in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

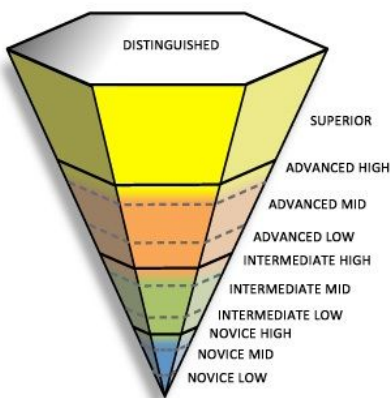
9-12 PROGRAM MODEL

 WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY	Semester 1	Semester 2
9th Grade	CHIN 1010 Basic Chinese II This course, taught in Chinese, is designed to guide first-year students to develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing standard Chinese language.	CHIN 2800 Chinese Calligraphy This course, taught in Chinese, is an introduction to the history of Chinese calligraphy and a brief theoretical framework for appreciation of the aesthetic qualities of the brushwork.
10th Grade	CHIN 2000 Intermediate Chinese I This course, taught in Chinese, is designed to guide second-year students to develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing standard Chinese.	CHIN 2100 Business Chinese This course, taught in Chinese, is designed to introduce students to various aspects of Chinese business culture and to provide basic business Chinese training.
11th Grade	CHIN 2010 Intermediate Chinese II This course, taught in Chinese, is designed to develop third-year students' proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing standard Chinese.	CHIN 2750 Chinese Life and Culture This course, taught in Chinese, is designed to introduce selected themes of Chinese life and culture, past and present.
12th Grade	CHIN 3160 Chinese Composition This course, taught in Chinese, is the advanced study of composition in Chinese. It is focused on increasing students' command of written Chinese.	CHIN 3170 Chinese Conversation This course, taught in Chinese, is the advanced study of conversation in Chinese. Students practice spoken Chinese through role-playing, viewing Chinese films, discussion, and other oral activities.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

By the end of Grade 8, over 90% of students reach the Intermediate level of the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines as measured by the Avnt STAMP Proficiency Assessment. Students in Grades 10 and 12 are tested each spring for language proficiency.

On average, FHPS Mandarin Chinese immersion students spend over 600 cumulative hours immersed in Mandarin Chinese language input and output during regular school time in Grades 9-12.



Students who successfully complete the K-12 Chinese immersion program in FHPS are expected to earn the Michigan Seal of Biliiteracy by the end of 12th grade.