

Guang Ming Academy Parent Advisory Meeting

Notes from October 30th, 2009 Topics of Discussion:

- 1) Introductions (There were approximately 30 people in attendance.)
- 2) Dr. Paula Henry welcomed everyone and reviewed the Advisory Team Protocols (Document available upon request)
- 3) A review and discussion of the newly approved District 742 Strategic Roadmap (Document available on the District's webpage). The discussion emphasized the goal and vision of the district in the area of community partners, which will benefit programs like the Chinese Immersion Program. Collaborative efforts will be made to strengthen the partnership with SCSU and St. Ben's and St. John's Universities.
- 4) FLAP Grant Update: Dr. Paula Henry, Andrea Preppernau, Dr. Ming Chi Own and Dr. Kathy Johnson attending the preliminary meeting on the FLAP grant at Hopkins Elementary. The FLAP grant will provide resources for curriculum design, assessment and implementation strategies of new science and math programs that have been developed in collaboration with the Science Museum of Minnesota. Funding support for professional development of the teachers in the Chinese language program will also benefit the program. The other positive outcome is the opportunity to strengthen the networking between the administrators and teachers of the 4 programs involved. Regular meetings have been set for the year. Updates will be shared as the FLAP grant initiatives evolve.
- 5) Other grant opportunities: The district grant writer, Andrea Preppernau, continues to research and explore other grant opportunities for the program. If anyone comes across grant opportunities that may hold possibilities for the program, please send the information to Andrea at Andrea.Preppernau@isd742.org
- 6) Homework Guidelines: The administrators and teachers at Madison and the District will continue to provide guidance to parents on strategies and programs for assisting in reading to your children at home. It is highly recommended that parents read to their child for at least a half hour a night. Parents who are interested in becoming "Reading Mentors" to new parents in the program are encouraged to sign up for this at the next meeting. Eileen Zhang shared a web site resource for parents that is available on the Madison School website. The teachers will also work to monitor the books that children in the program check out to try to get them to align with the reading level of the student.
- 7) Bonnie Sorensen-Ernst shared information about volunteer opportunities. Sign up sheets were distributed for opportunities in the following areas: Web page design and development, donation drives, advertisement work group. If you are interested in being a part of any of these programs, please contact Bonnie at piano-teacher@charter.net.
- 8) Efforts will be made to video tape lessons and activities in the programs to post on the web page for recruiting students.
- 9) Efforts will also be made to ensure all parents in the program receive information from the Parent Advisory Committee and have access to the google.parentnews list serve.
- 10) The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.