WELCOME TO CHINESE IMMERSION INFORMATION NIGHT!
SUCCESSES:

- My child comes home happily and will rehearse what she has learned in school.
- I like the direct language instruction.
- I like that we are going on to Hoover!
- I like the fact that we have a Chinese teacher here and I like to have two 30 minute lessons per week.
- Language immersion at the elementary level is terrific.
- My daughter enjoys the class and seems to be learning a lot.
- I liked having the Hoover MS parent.
- My daughter really picked up her language skills this year and is trying to talk a lot more. The singing is really helpful!
- Thank you for taking the initiative on transportation!
- The information nights are really helpful!
- We love that CGES is enthusiastically teaching our daughter.
FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS

Suggestions/improvements:
• 5th grade China trip report
• More materials or resources
• Speak only Chinese to students
• Transportation to middle school.
• Chinese homework, homework in Chinese
• Post copies of the PP
• Specifics in homework assignments
CI Data

The current 4th and 5th grade 2011 MSA scores from the 2010-2011 school year:

- 84% advanced
- 16% proficient
- 0% basic
Transportation

- Transportation meeting for 5th grade parents
  - Accomplishments and successes
  - Needs

- Cori Canchieri - transportation, immersion support
Dear Dr. Starr:

If you’d like to meet with a group of satisfied Montgomery County citizens, visit with parents of children in a language immersion program within Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). These students learn the county’s rigorous curriculum in a foreign language—Chinese, French, or Spanish—and county data show that they do as well as or better than their peers on standardized tests. We are writing to you, Dr. Starr, to solidify your support for this dynamic and groundbreaking feature of our school system.

MCPS has been a leader in immersion education since it launched the country’s first French immersion program in 1974. Language immersion is a model for school districts in several states—including Utah and Colorado—that are adding immersion learning. It embraces the fact that we are part of a global community and our children must be prepared to interact with people from other parts of the world—in business, politics, and cultural exchanges.

Language immersion was supported parentally and supported by the community. It enjoys more public demand than it can meet. Students are selected through a lottery system. MCPS does not accept all students at the end of the program’s first year for each program, growing demand leads to a limited waitlist. As of December 2011, 140 children are on the kindergarten waitlist, and 44 on the first grade waitlist. In 2011, 140 Creekside Elementary, French Immersion program had 110 applicants for 80 slots.

Students gain skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in two languages. English and the second language and their academic achievements are high:

- Children who transition from French immersion at SCES to French Immersion at Silver Spring International Middle School (SSIMS) bring academic strength to that school. In 2008, most of the 65 students who transitioned to SSIMS scored in the advanced category for both Math and Reading on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA). Math: 30 advanced, 18 proficient, 2 basic; Reading: 56 advanced, 8 proficient, 1 basic.
- In 2011, 37 College Gardens Chinese immersion 3rd and 4th graders took the MSA; 11 scored advanced and 8 scored proficient in math. In reading, 21 proficient, 15 advanced, 1 basic score.
- In 2011, 62 students at SSIMS took the National Spanish Exam and 83 took the Grand Coteau French Exam. Both groups competed in the category for bilingual or near-bilingual [native speaker] category against secondary students nationwide in both middle and high school courses. 33 (41%) of the French students and 11 (18%) of the Spanish students were ranked as outstanding (top 10%) of those taking the exam.
- From 2005 MCPS Foreign Language report:
  - In 2005, Grade 2 MCPS immersion students performed as well or better than their non-immersion counterparts within their own schools and across the county in virtually all categories.

Spanish Immersion is offered at Rock Creek Forest Elementary, Rolling Terrace Elementary, Burnt Mills Elementary, and Silver Spring International Middle School.

French Immersion is offered at Rock Creek Elementary, Silver Creek Elementary, Galindo Elementary, and Silver Spring International Middle School.

Chinese Immersion is offered at College Gardens Elementary, Potomac Elementary, and Hoover Middle School.

Some of their key points: full immersion: others 25%–50%. They share core characteristics of teaching principles while meeting the communities’ needs.
Chinese Club (K-2):
Our Chinese Club for K-2\textsuperscript{nd} grade began on Feb 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2012. Till now, students have already had 7 classes. The students' ages are around 5 to 6, from Kindergartens to Grade one.

The teaching material is based on "Yes! Chinese". Ms. Yang also added some games and activities during class, like counting numbers, role play, guessing words through body language, drawing pictures and then speaking, etc.

Ms. Yang is very proud of her students. Her students are very good at counting numbers in Chinese and they also like drawing pictures and then talking about the pictures. Above all, the most important thing is that the students are eager to learn Chinese and they love Chinese.
Chinese Club update and info

Chinese Club (grade 3-5)

In this Club, students have been reinforcing conversational Chinese through playing games, acting out in skits, singing songs and pairing activities. Students have also been learning written Chinese, its roots (introducing radicals), stroke orders, pinyin and designing their own character book. Students do a "show and tell" at the end of each session to teach the class new characters (including its meaning, pronunciation, stroke order and roots)." Themes included weather, greetings, calendar, zoo animals, and shopping (money, how to talk to shop keeper).

"Yes! Chinese" can be linked with the website, so that the students can review the lesson on line at home. It has very cute cartoon characters and there is a short play in every lesson. The students can learn Chinese and have fun at the same time.
Chinese Summer Camp

- **Elite Summer Camp**
  - June 18-August 3 (7 weeks); M-F 8:30am-6pm
  - At Julius West MS
  - $180 per week

- **Cultural and Ping Pong Camp**
  - June 18-August 24 (10 weeks); M-F 8:30am-6pm
  - Wyconda Rd in Rockville
  - $200 per week

- **Cultural and Badminton Camp**
  - June 18-August 24 (10 weeks); M-F 8:30am-6pm
  - Champion’s Fieldhouse in Rockville
  - $200 per week

Camp information is on the media center counter.
CI IN THE NEWS!

- PG County introduced Chinese Immersion
- 4th public school in Washington area to implement immersion
- Chinese instruction increased 300% in public schools in three school years
“In the 411-student school, People's Republic of China flags are nearly as visible as American ones. Chinese characters for "boys" and "girls" are prominently displayed above restroom doors. Inside the language lab — which recently received a $25,000 state grant — Chinese picture books, sculptures and posters adorn the room.”

* How can we take advantage of state grant money?

“How can we improve our use of technology to supplement CI instruction?”

“During a recent lesson, seven kindergarten students wore earphones that nearly touched the base of their chins. They spoke into microphones, repeating words that flashed across a flat-screen monitor. Chang, also wearing earphones, listened in, ready to correct the slightest mispronunciation.”
Visiting CI at College Gardens
Celebration!!!
Visiting Teachers 2012-2013

- Provide more direct language instruction through co-teaching and supporting classroom instruction.
- Proposed an additional 30 minutes per week for CI students.
- Proposed a schedule in which there is a:
  - K/1 teacher
  - 2/3 teacher
  - 4/5 teacher
The Han Ban will no longer pay for accommodations.
MCPS will not pay for accommodations.

We must secure FREE housing in order to move forward.
- One year of housing (including furnished bedroom)
- May need travel assistance to and from school
- May include meals, shared living space, etc.
Benefits

- Your child(ren) would benefit from the language and cultural experience.
- The visiting teacher would become a loving addition to your family.
- Life long friendship

If you are interested or know someone who may be interested:
- Complete the form and return it to Molly Murray
5th grade trip

• Spring Break trip to China

• Current CI 5th graders, siblings, parents, Mrs. Gretz

• Parent speaker: Ms. Parsons
CGES China Trip 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 9 Nights, 9 days
- Most meals, good to very good
- Hotels good quality, Beijing and Shanghai in desirable downtown
- Tours most days
- Optional shows (extra $100 pp)
- Variety of everything - ancient history, nature, modern city. Cities visited:
  - Beijing: Chinese history
    - Forbidden City - history and art
    - Great Wall of China - beautiful scenery, hiking, country side
    - Hutongs - traditional Chinese living
  - Xi’an: Ancient capital, history and culture - fantastic for kids
  - Shanghai: Modern city - beautiful skyline, shopping, international atmosphere
- Elementary school visits
- Traditional shows
- National guide for entire trip, local guide in Beijing. Opportunity to get to know a local and ask about their life.
- $3,000 per person, included tips, all international and domestic travel, almost all meals, visa, teacher free. Budget a little extra for shopping, shows, etc. Up to 28 people
- One overnight train – great fun for kids and saw a little of country life
- Great time of year to travel, ideal cool temps, although some rain
- Several members only joined for portion of trip or left early for Heritage tour
- They accommodated allergies very well
- No experience necessary to plan the trip, start with existing trip from our trip or Potomac then alter to take advantage of goods/bads. I recommend China Travel DC in Rockville. Need a lot of patience and trust.
- Group was flexible and willing to try everything, which made planning easy, most input came from prior trips and a few who’d been to China before.
Number of incoming K siblings: 12
Number of spaces available in:
- K: 14
- 1st: 1
- 2nd: 0
- 3rd: 2
- 4th: 5
- 5th: 8
* Language assessments begin in 2nd grade
OPEN HOUSE ISSUE

- Please share all concerns, questions, comments with me.
HOOVER ARTICULATION

- Supply List for incoming 6th grade- on Hoover website in June
- Summer Orientation: TBD depending on budget
- Pre-service orientation: August 23rd (time TBD)
- Friday May 4th from 9:15-10:30
  - Incoming 6th grade Parent Tea in Media Center at Hoover
Questions? Comments?

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**Work schedule:**

- MWF afternoons
- Tuesday all day