

YINGHUA ACADEMY

英 華 學 校

Social Studies News

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After School Contact Information

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www.yinghuaacademy.org

(612) 788-8095

newsletter@yinghuaacademy.org

Sue's News

Sue Berg | Executive Director

Dear Parents,

Just as the prospective parents of the 180+ student applications we have already received for Yinghua's enrollment lottery for 2015-2016, which will be held on Tuesday, February 2, the YA graduating Class of 2015 and their parents are contemplating the best educational opportunities for their students.

Last year we formed the YA Futures Task Force, a group of school personnel and parents, to support families in this important and sometimes potentially overwhelming endeavor. Our goal was and continues to be to determine possibilities for students to maintain their Chinese language skills and to research high school pathways. We made significant gains last year due to the efforts of each working group of the task force.

- A relationship was established with Minnesota Online High School (MNOHS) which offers

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Curriculum Corner

Luyi Lien, Ph. D. | Academic Director

Dear Yinghua Families,

With much anticipation and excitement, we welcomed ten Chinese world champions on Thursday this week.

These athletes are participants in the China Champion Program which is a unique global collaboration involving the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), Global Programs & Strategy Alliance, and the China Center at the University of Minnesota, and China Scholarship Council. The program is planned and operated by the School of Kinesiology within CEHD. With special designs, this program provides these world Champions with seminars and workshops on sport management and exercise science, classes in English As Second Language,

and the opportunities to visit cultural sites and sport venues, meet government and business leaders, and tour corporations.

Thanks to Ms. Jill Griffiths, 5th grade parent, whose enthusiasm for sports and involvement in the China Champions Program helped us engage the athletes and facilitate their visit. We were honored to host 7 Olympic Medalists and 3 World Cup Champions in the fields of diving, fencing, field hockey, judo, rhythmic gymnastics, speed skating, trampoline, and wrestling.

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Upcoming Events and Announcements

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3

15

2015-2016 Enrollment Lottery
6:00 PM

1

30

15

Commons Coffee
8:30 - 10:00 AM

Brewer's Blog

Jeremy Brewer | Dean of Students

Hello Parents! Next Friday, February 6th is our first Spirit Day!

The theme will be Dragon Team Spirit! All students in grades KG-8 are encouraged to wear red, black, or white and may even wear face paint of these three colors (as long as it isn't too crazy!). Students may also wear red, black, or white spirit beads, pom-poms, scarves, sweats, etc. Be creative and have fun with it! Head-to-toe school colors are preferred, but students may wear jeans if they are wearing red, black, or white shirts. Participation is not required, but students not participating need to wear regular school uniform. And, not to forget! We will be finishing the day with an all grades Pep Fest in the gym! It will be awesome and we're hoping to see a ton of Dragon colors!

On another note, please consider joining us for the SEAK winter meeting on Tuesday, February 10th from 4:30-5:30. At this meeting I will be presenting a short over-view of YA's general approach to behavior management and discipline. You may find it interesting. I hope to see you there!

With that, I'll wish you all a wonderful weekend!

Jeremy Brewer
Dean of Students

Sue's News (continued)

Yinghua-designed and taught Chinese classes for graduates to take as electives at any MN high school they choose.

- We hosted a panel of HS administrators from four different schools; in addition, we included YA graduates who attend these schools and their parents for their feedback and insights.
- Added Discovery Advising classes for each of the MS classes (G5-8).
- All 8th graders sat for the ACT Explore.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 12. We will host Sue Luse, past guidance and college counselor at Eagan High School, from 7:00-8:30PM. After many years of experience with high school students, she now provides professional, personalized pre-college planning services for middle school and high school students beginning as early as 8th grade. By working with kids throughout the high school years and from across the Twin Cities, she has become a "pre-college expert" who can advise students as to how to build on his or her strengths and recommend strategies to overcome weaknesses. She is excited to share her expertise with our students and families! Back by popular demand will be past Yinghua graduates and their parents who know our students' preparation. It will be an informative evening for anyone wishing to plan ahead for your student's next chapter.

The next few days will be busy ones! On Saturday, we will be at the School Fair at the Minneapolis Convention Center, proudly representing Yinghua. Tuesday night is the Enrollment Lottery.

Enjoy the weekend!
Sue Berg
Executive Director





Curriculum Corner (continued)

The athletes started their visit by receiving a brief introduction of Yinghua and attending the Middle School Morning Assembly. They shared with the audience their accomplishments and answer questions. Our students wanted to know at what age they started their career, how many hours a day they spent practicing, how they achieved such success, their best and saddest moments in their career, and advise they had to inspire the students.

After the Assembly, the athletes split into 5 groups and spent the morning visiting 2nd through 8th grade classrooms, sharing their success stories and interacting with students on a more personal level. Before they concluded their visit, the athletes enjoyed school lunch with the MS students and engaged in more conversations with them. Our students were amazed and dazzled by these champions – many of them lined up to have pictures taken with them and asked for their autographs! The athletes found our students to be friendly, smart, and polite. They were also astonished with the Chinese abilities of our students.

These ten athletes are:

Li, Ting	Diving	2004 Olympic Gold Medal
Zhang, Hui	Short Track Speed Skating	2010 Olympic 3000 Relay Gold Medal
Zhang, Shuo	Rhythmic Gymnastics	2008 Olympic Gymnastics Group Competition Silver Medal
Lu, Chun-long	Trampoline	2008 Olympic Gold Medal 2012 Olympic Bronze Medal
Ma, Yibo	Field Hockey	2008 Olympic Women's Field Hockey Silver Medal

Gao, Lihua	Field Hockey	2008 Olympic Women's Field Hockey Silver Medal
Yang, Xiuli	Judoka	2008 Olympics Gold Medal
Li, Bingwei	Foil	2008 World Cup Men's Foil Fencing Group Champion
Xu, Qing	Wrestling	2011 World Cup Women's 72 kg Wrestling Champion
Yang, Sen-lian	Wrestling	2011 World Cup Women's 55kg Wrestling Champion

I am very grateful that our students had this wonderful and rare opportunity to meet and interact with these world-class champions on a very personal level, and learned from their pain-staking journeys to success. As we prepare our students to become global citizens, I think we can all be inspired by these champions and their message: be strong, be prepared, and be courageous.

Have a great weekend!
Luyi Lien, Ph.D.
Academic Director



Social Studies News

By Jan Kleinman

Grade 6 has completed the U.S. Dakota War unit. We are learning a brief overview about the Ojibwe, and then moving to an economics lesson about how people decide to move.

Grade 8 is completing the Latin America unit. We meet for the final time on Friday, January 30. Fiesta time! Next week, 8th grade will start studying Social Studies in Chinese with Li Laoshi!

National Geography Bee News

With support from YACA, grades 4 - 8 have the opportunity to participate in the National Geography Bee. 10 intrepid 4th graders gave up their recess last week to compete. They answered questions about cobalt blue color tarantulas, a forest of crooked trees, and places so cold that one's breath turns to ice in midair. Everyone learned something and we all had fun.

This past Thursday and Friday, eager students in grades 5 - 7 could elect to give up their Student Life time for a similar competition. Results to be reported next week.

Pla-IT: Revolutionary Sports!

By John Richardson

When Yinghua has off, Pla-IT: Revolutionary Sports has camp. Stay active at SportsPlus Camp and sign up for camp February 16, March 2, 3, and all spring break.

You still have time to get the early registration pricing for the February 16, Presidents Day field trip to Champions Hall and AirMaxx Trampoline Park. Register by Monday Feb 2, two weeks early to get early bird discounts.

Yinghua only bonus package, register for all five spring break days and get March 2nd and 3rd for free! seven days, over 20 sports, and Kids get to play over 20 sports, including team sports like football, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, volleyball, and tennis as well as rugby, cricket, and team handball. Every day also includes a lot of open play and non-sports activities. After you register for spring break, email info@RevSports.org and let us know you would like to add March 2nd and 3rd for free.

Register at pla-it.com

Physical Education Update

By Sarah Totall

Traverse climbing wall installation is scheduled for Friday February 6.

Mark your calendars! Next "Kids Play Day" is March 28, 2015 from 1:00-5:00pm. It's a fun day for students in Grades KG-4. Details and registration is on the Physical Education webpage.

WANTED: Gently used gym shoes.

Athletics

School Spirit/Student Fan Days: Come watch the Dragons play basketball. All students and parents are welcome. Free spirit beads for all YA students who attend a game. Special Dates: Grades 1-4 fan appreciation day is Wednesday February 11 (5-6th grade basketball team) and Grades 5-8 fan appreciation day is Friday February 13 (7-8th grade basketball team). Games are at 4:30 and 5:30pm on both days.

Check out the Athletic webpage for information on the following sports: Floor Hockey Grades 3-8; Indoor Soccer Tournament Grades 1-5; Badminton Grades 4-8; Track & Field Grades 4-8; Volleyball Grades 5-8. Travel Volleyball registration deadline is February 2.

Summer Adventure Camp at Yinghua

By Sarah Totall

Mark your calendars, Adventure Camp is back for Grades 1-6 at Yinghua this summer June 15-19. Join in the fun. Grades 4-6 will go biking, skate park, geo-caching, swimming and more with Sarah Totall. Grades 1-3 will play games, use scooters, go to parks, swimming and more with Erin Thune.

The full details and registration form will be available on the Physical Education page by February 1, 2015. One week only this year due to the busy schedules of Sarah Totall and Erin Thune.



Olympians Visit Middle School

By Bo Liu

Thursday, January 29th, ten Chinese Olympic winners came visit Yinghua. Some of them spent the morning with middle school students. When the Olympic gold medalists Ting Li and Bingwei Li walked into 5th grade Chinese classroom, they gained a huge round of applause from the students.

5th graders asked them a lot of interesting questions, such as "When did you start learning and practicing this sport and why?"; "Have you ever been injured? "; "How many hours do you practice every day?"

Students also described about their school life to Ting and Bingwei. The athletes asked Yinghua students why they study Chinese, one of the most difficult languages in the world. Some said they could receive scholarships in college if they speak Chinese, some said they could find a good job, and others said learning Chinese would help them to learn other languages easier.

We heard so much laughter between students and the Chinese athletes. It was a wonderful moment in which our students once again realized how amazing learning a language can be and how it can lead them to a larger world.



After School Emergency Contact Information

By Dave Madsen

If you need to report an emergency after regular office hours, please call the following number: (612) 212-4463. This number is to be used for serious, pressing matters only and will be answered from 5:00-6:00 PM. Emergencies are not limited to matters exclusively concerning aftercare; please call us first before seeking further assistance from other institutions!

Morning Arrival Procedures

By Dave Madsen

For those who are not in Morning Care, regular morning arrival is from 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM at Door 14 in the southwest corner of the building. Please note that Door 1 is *not* an arrival door and should only be used by students/parents with mobility issues. The only reason students should use Door 1 is if they arrive late (after 8:45 AM). Mary Schultz and I are busy enough in the mornings without having to attend to both doors and shuttle students to their classrooms.

If your student arrives before 8:30 AM, he/she should go to their respective morning care locations, not to the classrooms. Our teachers are busy during the mornings and cannot accommodate students arriving before their scheduled time.