



# Area IV/V

## Mandarin Program

### Expression of Interest

Harold Panabaker School  
February 8, 2017

learning | as unique | as every student



Calgary Board  
of Education

# Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Why a Mandarin Bilingual Program, and what are the benefits?
- What does a middle school program look like?
- Program location and sustainability
- Next steps moving forward

# Why a Mandarin Bilingual Program?

- Offers students the opportunity to acquire the basic skills for communicating in both English and Mandarin
- Introduces both languages at an early age (K-9)
- Fosters the development of essential knowledge, skills and attitudes related to the Chinese language and culture, the community and the world.

# Benefits Beyond Language Acquisition

- Expands the intellect
- Teaches responsible citizenship
- Promotes exploration, understanding and appreciation of the cultures of the Mandarin-speaking world and contributes to multilingualism and multiculturalism
- Broadens students' cultural life through access to literature, art, music and theatre in another language

# Preparation for the Future

- Develops enhanced feelings of self-esteem due to pride in having acquired a tangible skill
- Allows students to compete internationally
- Provides students with more choices for advanced education and career options
- Strengthens English literacy skills
- Encourages the joy of lifelong learning

# What Does it Look Like?

Instructional time between English and Mandarin allows students to build fluency in both languages. It is distributed as follow:

- ✓ In elementary: 50% English and 50% Mandarin.
- ✓ Grades 7-9: 65%-70% English and 30%- 35% Mandarin.

# What Does it Look Like?

- **Kindergarten to Grade 6**
  - Subjects taught in English: English Language Arts; Social Studies
  - English and Chinese (Mandarin) integrated into the following subjects: Mathematics; Science; Music; Fine Arts
  - Subjects taught in Chinese (Mandarin): Chinese (Mandarin) Language Arts
- **Junior High School - Grades 7, 8 & 9**
  - Chinese (Mandarin) Language Arts; Mathematics

# What does it look like?

- ✓ Simplified Chinese script will be taught beginning in Kindergarten.
- ✓ The Han Yu Pin Yin pronunciation system will be taught to accelerate the process of learning to read in Chinese



# Who can Register?

- Students entering kindergarten or Grade 1 can register
- Previous Chinese experience is not required and parents do not need to know the language
- Students wishing to enter after Grade 1 need to complete a proficiency assessment

# Mandarin Bilingual at Colonel Irvine School



# Mandarin Bilingual at Colonel Irvine School

- Grade 5 & 6 Mandarin Program students
  - Mandarin Math, Science and Language Arts
- Grade 7-9 Mandarin Language Arts & Math
  - Mandarin integrated through other subjects
- Celebrating Lunar New Year – feeling of community
- Bird buddies – intentional pairing of homerooms in different grades and program – “Colonel Irvine School”
- Health and character education is taught through homeroom

## FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS

- Students look forward to trips
  - to Edmonton visiting a Mandarin program school and Confucius Institute
  - Beijing trip with grade 8 and 9's – as the highlight of the program
- When students enter high school, they challenge the 10 and 20 level course – go into 30 Level Mandarin class (15 credits when the 30 level is finished)
- Using the Mandarin mark to enter University

# Mandarin Bilingual at Colonel Irvine School



# Proposed Mandarin Bilingual Program Schools in South Calgary

## **Current - Midnapore School**

- Kindergarten to Grade 4 (currently K-6)
- Mandarin bilingual and regular program students both attend school

## **Proposed - Harold Panabaker School**

- Grades 5-7 (2017 – 2018, and then grow one grade per year until grade 5 – 9)
- Mandarin bilingual and regular program students both attend school

Information about

Harold Panabaker School – current and in  
the future.

# Program Sustainability

We need to be sure there will be enough students in the alternate program enrolled to make it successful over the long-term and in CBE that means having:

- 20 students in Grade 7 registered to attend.
- 40 students in each of Grade 5 and Grade 6 registered to attend.



# Timeline Moving Forward

- Complete an Expression of Interest – either online or here on paper by February 24.
- If not currently enrolled in a Mandarin Bilingual Program, schedule a proficiency assessment by February 24.
- Results from the survey will be posted March 1
- Registration will open on March 1, and students will need to finalize their registration no later than March 31
- We expect to communicate our final decision to you by April 2017.

By Feb. 24

Book a proficiency assessment, if required,  
by contacting:

Area V Office

t | 403-777-8780

e | [areav@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:areav@cbe.ab.ca)

Complete online survey and learn more:

[cbe.ab.ca/dialogue](http://cbe.ab.ca/dialogue)



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