

SDMC MEETING

NOVEMBER2, 2020

Mr. Ying read out the Norms and acknowledge Ms. Dykstra as the timekeeper and the minutes taken by Ms. Chavez. Mr. Ying discussed the Follow Up/Discussion items/Updates. Mr. Ying discussed the Mission Statement update and the two topics on the agenda.

The current **vision statement** is: Live the values, Master Chinese, Excel. Mr. Ying stated that in talking about our mission statement we talk about our vision for our school. The **mission** is: All students will equally have access to develop the skills to demonstrate fluency, relationships, technology prowess, culture understanding and academic competitiveness on the world stage in the Mandarin language and culture while preparing for future job opportunities and continuing to display high achievement across all content. Mr. Ying opened the floor to the SDMC to receive feedback on the mission statement.

Mr. Yang commented that he agreed with most of the vision statement. Ms. Chung stated that she did not see that the technology prowess was necessary for our vision for the school. Mr. Ying elaborated on his view of the technology prowess. Mrs. Stubblefield asked when stating that our students know the culture, especially when speaking of our non- Asian students, truly know the Asian culture of China. Mrs. Stubblefield statement was if our students were to fly to China today, would they just know how to speak the language. Would they truly know the gestures and the mannerisms? She also asked when referring to the technology prowess how will we truly implement it as our students do not take any technology class until they are in the eighth grade. Ms. McGahey agreed with Mrs. Stubblefield. Mr. Ying elaborated on his view regarding technology and where he would like to see us in the future.

Ms. McGahey's concern is that the elementary students are not receiving any technology instruction and behind the times. She stated that we should look into a computer lab for the elementary rotation. Mr. Ying then stated that once we have our vision we put it into a mission. The **mission statement** is: Everyone will embrace our diverse community in an ever-changing world, work hard to become fluent in speaking, reading, writing and performing in Mandarin and show respect and kindness, value STEM as well as cultural appreciation and diversity. Mr. Yang stated that he thinks this is part of the vision statement and not a mission as he explained

that a mission is something we would do. Mr. Yang stated that the mission statement should state that we are preparing our students Ms. Dykstra stated that she did not think STEM should be a part of the mission statement. Mr. Yang and Ms. Chung stated both agreed that more time is needed and to rewrite the mission statement and suggested a thread or email amongst the SDMC committee.

Mr. Yang suggested to move on to SIP and stated that the committee had recommendations on adding more subjects. Mr. Yang recommended goals for our 50/50 for both elementary and middle school. Mr. Ying stated that it is more difficult to hire a certified teacher in Mandarin and subjects like math, social studies and other subjects. Mrs. Stubblefield mention a cultural rotation for elementary for next year. Mrs. Stubblefield also asked how do we advertise for positions at our school. She asked if we place ads or does HISD handle all of the advertising.

Ms. Chung mentioned working now for next year's goal to make it a 50/50 immersion elementary and 60/40 for middle. She mentioned adding a cultural class. She stated the reason immersion works so well is because the students are surrounded by it 50% of the day, whether it be in music class, a folk class being taught in Mandarin. Mr. Yang reiterated that we want to be immersion say that the 50/50, 60/40 is not achievable. He stated that it may not be achievable this year or the next year, but we must have a plan. Mr. Ritsema agreed with Mr. Yang and his statement.

Ms. Simpson stated that there needs to be something in place to hold the parents accountable for their child if they are failing Mandarin. She stated if the student is failing Mandarin it doesn't affect their grade if they are passing their English. She stated that the upper elementary are not 50/50 and that we need to be realistic in our SIP when parents are reading it and wanting their child to come to Mandarin Immersion. She stated that we state that we are working to be at 50/50.

Mrs. Stubblefield asked what resources are available for parents of nonnative students outside the school. She asked if there is a community list to give parents. Mr. Ying brought the meeting to a close.