Program Description and Admission Procedures

The following outlines program components, research findings, admittance policy procedures, and important dates for the Mandarin Language Learning Program at Franklin Elementary. Parents who desire to have their child(ren) considered for admittance are encouraged to carefully read and familiarize themselves with the following information:

- Research findings demonstrate that the language immersion process is most successful when extended for a period of at least five to six years.

- Having a child in a language immersion program offers unique challenges for students and parents. By design, there will be no overlap, or interpreting for students in their native language when there is difficulty understanding. For example, when the teacher is instructing in Mandarin the teacher will not clarify the lesson in English for the English-speaking students. Additionally, homework sent home in English will stay in English while homework sent home in Mandarin will stay in Mandarin. The teacher will use appropriate strategies and encourage cooperation between students to foster learning. Although support materials in English will be made available for parents, it is likely that some students and parents may occasionally experience a degree of frustration.

- Parental involvement is important for students to be successful and reach their potential. We encourage parents to become active partners with the school.

- According to district policy, students residing within the Franklin boundaries will be given priority to be admitted in the Mandarin Language Learning Program. According to Vancouver School District Procedure 3131P – District Attendance Area Transfers, other Vancouver School District residents, and then out-of-district students will be placed as program space and building capacity permits.

- In the event that there are more applicants than spaces available, students will be entered into a lottery drawing to determine order of placement into the program. Students not selected to participate in the program through the lottery process will be placed on a waiting list and will be added as program space and building capacity permit. The waiting list will not carry over from year-to-year, but will be established annually.

- Siblings of students, requesting transfer to Franklin will not be given priority and must follow procedures listed in Vancouver School District Procedure 3131P.

- Parent attendance at one of the following meetings is required in order to become fully informed of all aspects of the Mandarin Language Learning Program.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Parent Meetings</th>
<th>Other Important Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Media Center</td>
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<td>Dates</td>
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<td>Times</td>
<td>Week of June 1, 2020</td>
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<td>Initial notification of program acceptance (families within school boundaries)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>April 9, 2020</td>
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<td>April 30, 2020</td>
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Application for Acceptance

Please review the attached Program Description and Admission Procedures information before submitting an application for the Mandarin Language Learning Program.

I am requesting that my son/daughter's name be entered into the lottery drawing for admission to the Franklin Elementary Mandarin Language Learning Program.

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________  Please Circle:  Male  Female

(PLEASE PRINT)

Child’s Grade in 2020-2021: ___________________________  Birthday: ___________________________

Primary language spoken by child (Please Circle):  English  Spanish  Other: ____________

Primary language spoken by family in the home:  English  Spanish  Other: ____________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Phone Numbers: _______________________________________________  ____________________________

Home  Cell

Current e-mail address: ______________________________________________________________________________

Resident School: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Did the child attend preschool?  YES  NO

If yes, name of preschool: ______________________________________________________________________________

Does your child have a sibling that is currently in the Mandarin Language Learning Program?  YES  NO

Grade Level: ______________________

Today’s Date: __________________________

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: ________________________________________________________________

(PLEASE PRINT)

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: ________________________________________________________________

NOTE: If the parents are divorced and have been awarded joint decision making for education decisions regarding the child, both parents must sign.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date of information meeting attended: __________________________

Date application received: __________________________________________

Employee receiving application: __________________________________________

Lottery drawing category:  

☐  First Lottery (families in the school boundaries)

☐  Second Lottery (families in VPS boundaries)

☐  Third Lottery (families outside of VPS boundaries)

Administrator: __________________________________________  Date:__________________________
Mandarin Language Learning Program Statement of Understanding

2020-2021 School Year

I understand that research shows that the immersion process is most successful over an extended period of time, and I am willing to make a long term commitment of six years, keeping my child continuously enrolled in the Mandarin Language Learning Program and encouraging his or her regular attendance.

I understand that having a child in a language immersion program offers unique challenges for parents. Mandarin and English instruction and homework will not be translated into the other language. Nevertheless, it is understood that parent support of student learning at home is expected.

I understand that for my child’s success support at home is essential.

I understand that there may be a “Lottery” style drawing to ensure fair admission to the program.

- Names of all applicants received by the deadline will be put in the appropriate pool (students residing within Franklin boundaries, students residing within VPS boundaries, and students residing outside VPS boundaries). All names will be drawn and ranked by number for each pool.
- Students will be admitted to the Mandarin Language Learning Program based on their rank # in the lottery drawing. Remaining students will become the “waiting list” and will be added as program space and building capacity permit according to rank order. The waiting list does not carry over from year-to-year.
- If your child is chosen in the lottery, parents will have 5 business days to make a final decision regarding their child’s participation in the program.

I understand that the following are important dates to be aware of:

**Parent Meetings** *(Required attendance at one meeting.)*

February 18  6:00-7:00 PM  
April 9  4:00-5:00 PM  
April 30  4:00-5:00 PM  

**Other Important Dates**

May 22  Deadline for Mandarin Language Learning Program applications 3 PM  
Week of June 1  Initial notification of program acceptance (families within school boundaries)

By signing below, I agree that I have read the above statement and acknowledge the expectations of the Mandarin Language Learning Program at Franklin Elementary School.

Child’s name __________________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian ________________________________

**Applications must be submitted to Franklin Elementary by the deadline to be entered into the lottery.**