

Bilingual Mandarin Program

Give our children the gift of bilingualism through our public schools

Coquitlam School District (SD43) will be offering a Bilingual Mandarin program starting September 2010.

WHO:

- ❑ Children who will enter Kindergarten or Grade 1 in Sept 2010
- ❑ Any student in the district in the above age range who wish to acquire fluency in Mandarin through our public schools.

WHAT:

- ❑ This program will teach children both English and Mandarin concurrently every school day
- ❑ The end result being oral and written fluency in both languages.

WHY BILINGUALISM:

- ❑ Learning a second language has proven linguistic and non-linguistic benefits including enhanced capacity in the first language, significant cognitive advantages, greater awareness of globalization as well as expansion of one's vision of the world.
- ❑ This is a bilingual program and not immersion because the curriculum is taught 50% in English and 50% in Mandarin. This is important as our goal is to ensure that all children enrolled in the program maintain a strong command of English.

WHY MANDARIN:

- ❑ Mandarin is the most spoken language in the world and the second most prevalent language of business. To effectively compete globally and locally our children will need to be well-equipped linguistically.
- ❑ As a level III difficulty language (it takes an English speaker about four times longer to learn Mandarin than French or Spanish), Mandarin's complexity stimulates the brain more and differently from, other languages.
- ❑ Progressive teaching resources and curriculum are available and there is a proven, world renowned 27 year old bilingual Mandarin program in place in Edmonton, Alberta after which we model our own program.
- ❑ Graduates from the program can receive international language certification via standardized testing (HSK for Mandarin similar to TOEFL for English).
- ❑ The bilingual program can include the teaching of French as a third language.

WHERE:

- ❑ The Bilingual Mandarin program will be offered in Walton Elementary School in Coquitlam.

WHEN:

- ❑ Registration begins end of January 2010 for September 2010 enrolment.
- ❑ Come to the parent information session on Jan 13th to find out more about the program and the registration process.

Bilingual Mandarin Program

Give our children the gift of bilingualism through our public schools in SD43

Parent Information Session

Date: Wednesday, January 13th 2010

Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm

**Location: Winslow Centre (Gallery room)
1100 Winslow Ave, Coquitlam**

Host: Coquitlam School District (SD43)

Visit our parent website:

www.MandarinForBCSchools.org or

e-mail tricitieiesmandarin@gmail.com

for more information