



## Community-Based Program

### Background Information

**Institution:** Huaxia Chinese School of Lehigh Valley

**Program address:** 3835 Green Pond Road, Bethlehem, PA 18020

**Web address:** [www.hxcs.org/HX\\_Branches/LehighValley/Info.htm](http://www.hxcs.org/HX_Branches/LehighValley/Info.htm)

### Contact person:

**Name:** Jin Cao

**Title:** Principal

**Email:** [djcao@ptd.net](mailto:djcao@ptd.net)

### Levels:

- PreK-K
- 1-5/6
- 6-7/8
- 9-12
- Other: Chinese as a second language classes and culture classes

**Languages/dialects taught:** Mandarin Chinese

### Program Description

**Purposes and goals of the program:** The school is a non-profit, non-religious, and non-political cultural education institution that teaches the Chinese language and culture and engages in cultural awareness activities in the community.

**Type of program:** Heritage language; foreign language; Saturday academy

**Program origin:** Founded in 1998 by a group of local Chinese residents. At the time, there was a growing local mainland Chinese community, but no schools were teaching simplified Chinese characters.

### Parents

**Parents' expectations for the program:** Parents want their children to have basic conversational, reading, and writing skills in Mandarin Chinese.

## **Staff**

**Instructors' and administration's expectations for the program:** Program directors want to serve the community by effectively teaching the Chinese language to anyone interested, regardless of their background, while promoting Chinese culture.

## **Students**

### **Students:**

- Second generation immigrants, 88%
- Children of interethnic marriages, 5%
- Children of interethnic adoption, 5%
- Native Americans, 2%

**Total student enrollment:** 180

**How the program determines the language background and language proficiency of students:** Placement test; Oral interview

**Percentage of students who complete the program:** 80%

**Possible reasons for student withdrawal:** Relocation; loss of interest

## **Instructors**

**Number of instructors in the program:** 25

**Languages in which instructors are proficient:** Chinese and English

## **Instruction**

**Total contact hours per week:** 2 hours per week

**Times per week:** 1 time per week

## **Language skills**

### **Heritage language skills:**

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading

- Writing

## **Culture**

### **Aspects of culture taught:**

- Geography
- History
- Festivals
- Customs
- Traditions/Beliefs
- Arts and crafts
- Dances
- Songs
- Rhymes
- Social and cultural norms
- Cultural appropriateness
- Literature