

Top-Notch STEAM Academy

Public Hearing Presentation
November 14, 2023

TNSA Board and Founding Team



Name	Expertise
Dr. Mary Shepard Wong	Organizational Development and Strategy, Curriculum Development, Cultural Competencies, TESOL, Pedagogy. Linguistics
Mr. Danny Chen	Business Management, Entrepreneurship, Education, Leadership, Organizational Development and Strategy, international relations, TESOL, and Administration
Mr. Jim Chen	Family and Community Outreach, Parent Engagement, Real estate and Facilities, Engineering and Technology, Organizational Development and Strategy, and Administration
Dr. Louise Huang	Leadership, Organizational Development and Strategy, Curriculum Development, Environmental Science, STEM Research, Interdisciplinary Studies
Ms. Theresa Lee	Family and Community Outreach, Accounting, Finance, Internal Controls, Human Resources, Systems, Relationship Management

Christina Hsu

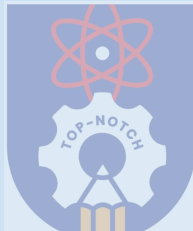
Founder/ Executive Director of Top-Notch STEAM Academy

Experience

- Principal, Myo-Ho Chinese School
- CA Public school teacher in Mandarin dual language immersion programs
- Received STARTALK Project Federal Grant \$98,260 and \$125,000 in 2010-2022
- Lead Petitioner of Southern California Council of Chinese Schools to pass SB1116, promotes foreign language education, tutoring programs, and cultural education for K-12 students in CA heritage schools
- Director, STEAM Summer Camp

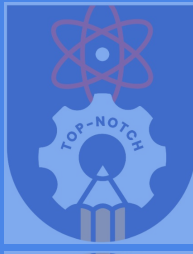
Education

- BS in Chemistry, UC Riverside
- Master in Bilingual Education, LMU
- CA Multiple Subject Credential with Mandarin BCLAD, LMU
- CA Administrative Credential in Fall 2023, LMU
- PhD ABD Claremont Graduate University, School of Education



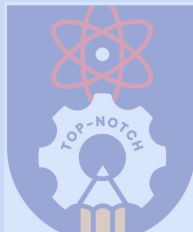
Needs for a STEAM English-Mandarin Dual Immersion School in Azusa

- Background
- Learning a second language: What can one gain?
- TNSA English-Mandarin Dual Immersion Program
- Need for a STEAM-Focused Immersion School
- Unmet educational needs of the Azusa community
- Surrounding schools demographic & performance data



How TNSA Will Meet the Needs of the Community

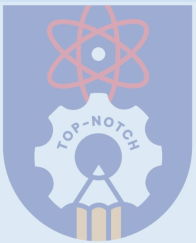
- Outreach and input from parents/ guardians and community members
- TNSA Curriculum
 - 50-50, two way Mandarin-English dual language-immersion model
 - STEAM thematic units
 - Project-Based Learning
 - Intensive literacy focus based on dialogic reading and GLAD strategies
 - Revamp and rigorous Mathematics and Science Curriculum
 - Unique Annual Calendar



Benefits of TNSA Partnership with Azusa USD



- Help to increase students enrollment in Azusa
- Create job opportunities
- Foster economic growth in Azusa City
- More educational choices for parents





Top-Notch STEAM Academy Mission & Vision

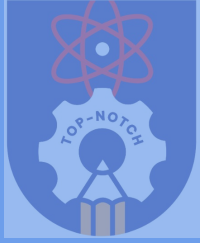
Mission:

Top-Notch STEAM Academy will provide a dual-immersion Mandarin-English inquiry-based learning environment that inspire students to unleash their unlimited potential and expand their cultural perspectives through differentiated instruction and engagement in interdisciplinary project-based learning.

The school will facilitate academically attuned and culturally relevant learning that allows students to explore their own learning interest, build confidence, develop creativity, collaborate with others, and solve real-world problems.

Vision:

Our goal is to collaboratively support all students in developing critical thinking skills, learning autonomy, bi-literacy in Mandarin Chinese and English, global cultural competence, problem-solving propensity and capacity, teamwork, and ultimately become a valuable contributor to our ever-globalizing society.



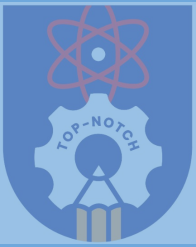
TNSA Core Values

- 德 **Integrity**: Possessing strong moral character
- 勤 **Perseverance**: Striving with diligence and courage
- 仁 **Empathy**: Caring with deep understanding
- 智 **Wisdom**: Learning and reflecting to grow



TNSA: Instructional Design

- 50-50 two-way dual-language immersion
- Curricula aligned to the Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, History Social Science Content Standards, and taught through the filter of STEAM thematic units
- Project- and inquiry-based learning
- Personalized learning
- Instructional strategies, including technology integration, culturally responsive teaching, and parent involvement



TNSA Curricular & Instructional Materials

TK-8 Curricular and Instructional Materials		
Subjects	Chosen Curriculum & Texts	Relationship to State Standards / Common Core / NGSS
English Language Arts	Houghton Mifflin Phonics (K-2); Houghton Mifflin Reading (K-1); Words Their Way (2-5); Teachers College Units of Study (K-8); Reading A-Z (K-8); The Literacy Guild (K-8) and Summit Units (K-8)	CCSS Aligned
Mandarin Language Arts	Mandarin Matrix (TK-8); fiction/non-fiction texts and books (TK-8)	CA World Language Standards/ ACTFL
Mathematics	Engage New York (K-8); Next Gen Math (K-8)	CCSS Aligned
Science	Science A-Z (K-2); Amplify (K-8), Summit Science Project (K-8) and Full Option Science System (FOSS) (TK-8); Mystery Science	Aligned to NGSS
Social Studies	Different Ways of Knowing (TK-2); History Alive! (5-8); teacher-developed curricular materials and thematic units (3-4)	History Social Studies Framework; the planning template will also require teachers to explicitly name the CCSS ELA, Math, and CA State Content Standards that are integrated into each unit
Visual and Performing Arts	American Orff-Schulwerk Association classroom resources (K-1st) Suzuki String Instruments Music Program (2-6)	CA Visual & Performing Arts Standard
Physical Education, Health	Playworks Game Guide (TK-8); teacher-developed curricular materials	Aligned to state content and performance standards
Project-based Learning Course (6-8)	Lego's SPIKE Essential (K-5); Prime Robotics Program (6-8)	Aligned to state content and performance standards

