



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kristin Epstein, Executive Director

Office: (609) 375-8015 Cell: (856) 952-9359

director@yhis.org

YINGHUA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL EARNS MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION

Princeton, NJ — YingHua International School announced today that it has earned accreditation by the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools, a worldwide leader in accreditation and continuous school improvement.

“We are pleased to have earned accreditation by the Middle States Association and to share in our success with the greater school community, especially the teachers, parents and students who worked so hard to make this possible,” said Kristin Epstein, Executive Director. Joy Zhao, Director of Academics, adds, “Accreditation confirms and validates the work we do each and every day to ensure a top quality education for our students.”

Accreditation is a self-evaluation process that schools voluntarily undergo to demonstrate they are meeting a defined set of performance standards. The accreditation process helps schools – and ultimately students – to continuously grow and improve.

The process begins with a self-study that is conducted by the school and requires input from school leaders, teachers, parents and students. Following the self-study, a team of volunteer educators from Association member schools conducts an on-site peer review visit to observe school operations and interview various stakeholders.

The visiting team makes its recommendation to the Middle States Association Commissions, which votes on the accreditation.

“The accreditation process examines schools in a holistic way, supplementing student testing data and providing a more complete measure of a school’s performance,” said Henry G. Cram, Ed.D., president of the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools. “School leaders, teachers and parents are to be commended for working together to create a concrete plan focused on providing high quality education for all students.”

About YingHua International School (YHIS)

YingHua International School, established in 2007, is central New Jersey’s only Mandarin Immersion early years and elementary school (ages 2.5 years through 5th grade). By the 2016-2017 academic year, YHIS will also offer middle school grades for 6th through 8th grade students.

From 9am to 3:30am, Monday through Friday, over 70 students are taught the majority of their subjects through the instructional language of Mandarin Chinese by native Mandarin speakers. Sixteen of the nineteen staff are native Mandarin speakers, and all of the elementary grade teachers possess Masters or Doctorate Degrees from American Universities. The Mandarin staff originate from many diverse areas of Asia including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou (Canton), Tibet, the Philippines and Taiwan. Many of the staff speak other dialects and languages, as well.

The non-Mandarin staff at YHIS include Executive Director Kristin Epstein of West Windsor, English teacher Angela Heller of Bordentown, and science teacher Dr. May Jean Cheah of Plainsboro. All three of these non-Mandarin staff have children enrolled at YHIS. Their children are proficient in reading,

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writing, and speaking Mandarin because of the immersion program at YHIS. An English teacher from Manchester, England, will join the school in the Fall.

About Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA)

The Middle States Association is a worldwide leader in accreditation and school improvement. For over 125 years, MSA has been helping school leaders establish and reach their goals, develop strategic plans, promote staff development and advance student achievement. With more than 2,700 MSA-accredited schools across the United States and in nearly 100 countries, MSA is proud of its continuing legacy and its ongoing innovations to meet the challenges of the 21st century and improve educational opportunities for all children.

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