



MAYNARD H. JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

801 Glenwood Avenue, SE. • Atlanta, GA. 30316

Main: (404) 802-5200 • Fax: (404) 802-5299

Dr. Adam J. Danser

Principal

September 22, 2021

Course Update: Mandarin Chinese

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

I want to provide you an update regarding our vacant Chinese position. As you know, we have had this Chinese vacancy since the start of the year. This was an unforeseen vacancy that continues to this day. Unfortunately, despite our attempts to do so, we remain unable to secure a teacher for these classes. While we have secured a regular substitute, she does not have any Mandarin Chinese knowledge. There are no substitutes who meet that criteria.

Please know that we have been working with the district to find qualified teaching candidates. There have only been three viable candidates to pursue, which we have done. The hiring process has been difficult due to issues ranging from work visa issues to certification to actual difficulty connecting with a candidate overseas. Currently, we have submitted a Request to Hire for a candidate, and are hopeful we will have a teacher soon. Fingers crossed. Importantly, we have secured an online option through Edmentum that will be up and running by close of business today, September 23, 2021. The Edmentum program is taught asynchronously by an online Chinese instructor. While this is not a substitute for an actual teacher, Edmentum provides better structure, instruction, and support to the class. We also know that this is not a perfect fit for our IB Year One or Chinese 4 classes, but the curriculum has been adapted by Edmentum to better meet the needs of students at these levels. Please be reminded that this is a semester long class, so your child's grade will not be final until the end of the first semester in December, which will be after the teacher returns from leave.

If you have additional questions or concerns about your child's educational progress or the substitute teacher, please contact Dr. Kimberley Latchman at 404.802.5247 kxlatchman@atlanta.k12.ga.us or Shamika White, World Languages Instructional Coach, at 404.802.5265 sywhite@atlanta.k12.ga.us. Additionally, please feel free to contact me at 404.802.5240 or adanser@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Thank you for your understanding as we continue to navigate this matter.

Sincerely,

Adam J. Danser

Adam J. Danser, Ed.D.





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