Students

Mandarin I will be offered to students in grades 9-12.

This is a proficiency-based, experiential world languages course for students who are beginning their study of Chinese. Students will be placed in meaningful, realistic situations where they must use their language skills for authentic communication purposes.

Rationale

Introduction to Chinese language and culture is essential in order to prepare the next generation of students for a world in which China is the most populous nation with the second largest economy in the world.

Introducing Mandarin Language to the Paterson Public Schools
The course is divided into seven themes, each of which is anchored by essential questions. Cultural practices and products are incorporated routinely so that students may develop a sense of cultural plurality and thereby expand and reconfigure their worldview. Students will build on their knowledge of the Chinese pronunciation system, the pinyin writing system, and Chinese calligraphy.

Learners will also hone technology skills in the following ways: conducting research, composing thoughts, sorting and organizing information, developing presentations, blogs, and webquests. Instructional methods and materials provide for diversification across ability levels. Cooperative learning and projects are infused throughout the curriculum. Assessment is ongoing and focused on performance-based activities.