

YI HWANG ACADEMY OF LANGUAGE EXCELLENCE
Academics & Student Programs Committee Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2024

I. Attendance – Emile Hanam, Liza Park, Anthony Chung, Tomiko Park, Ji Ma, Ami Hastings, Yelena Kim, Johnny and Katherine.

II. Welcome any members of public, announcements & take 1st public comments

III. Approval of previous meeting, special meeting minutes - tabled

IV. Middle School Planning –

A. Decided last week to set up 6th grade steering committee: to announce today

Timeline proposal – set meetings of the steering committee

The members of the Middle School/6th Grade Steering Committee, a sub-committee of the YHALE Academic Committee, was announced. Principal Chung announced himself, Tomiko Park and Ji Ma as his appointments. Board Chair Liza Park announced herself, Ami Hastings, a parent of a Korean track student, and Yelena Kim, a parent of a Mandarin track student, as her appointments.

B. Review overview from last week – and continue additional overview information

Liza Park reviewed the Middle School power point slides presented a week ago in the specially called Academic Committee meeting then presented additional, new slides and information focusing on the considerations the steering committee is charged with researching, presenting proposals and making recommendations to the Board. Various DLI Middle School programs and schedules in Georgia were presented and compared with regard to student enrollment, courses offered in DLI and English, and scheduling.

C. Target Language Screening for new to YHALE 6th graders – expect to keep this in place for rising 6th graders.

Governing Board had previously approved to adopt the STAMP Assessment for the YHALE language screening process **for 2nd grade and above**. This vote was taken on October 6, 2022. Then on December 1, 2022, the Board voted to withdraw approval of the language screening

process for the remainder of the 2022-2023 year, and the Board would have to determine when to begin language screening for the 2023-2024 year while the administration would determine the process.

Therefore, in order to take off the language screening for 6th grade, the Board would have to approve such an amendment to the policy.

D. Consultants for Middle School Transition – this week we received a proposal for Middle School Transition from Ed Innovation Partners (EIP) via rep Lyn Carden. We have used EIP twice before – first, in 2021 to complete all the necessary documentation, permits, certifications to gain the approval of the SCSC and the GA Dept of Education to move into and operate a public school in 4550 River Green Parkway. Again, in 2023 when EIP did the same for YHALE to move into and operate a public school in 4450 River Green Parkway.

The EIP Proposal also includes many other consultant services such as Governance Accountability, Capacity Building Activities, Facility Expansion, School Level Leadership Development, Governance Training, Charter Renewal Planning/Development/Support, Renewal Finalization/Submission/Support. It is a comprehensive, bundle proposal that isn't separated per service or priced per service.

V. Target Language

A. Screening for 2024-2025 – Ji Ma and Principal Chung proposed that YHALE allow a waiver/omission from the language screener for YHALE students who leave but return to YHALE within 90 days and students whose first language is their desired target language. A fuller explanation of this proposal included that the language screener is very easy for these students and therefore, not necessary and so it is an unnecessary expense for YHALE.

VI. Curriculum & Academic Development – Focus on ELA continuity – being designed by Ms. Campbell

VII. House System – On hold indefinitely

VIII. YHALE Ambassadors –

A. Need a staff member sponsor – Principal Chung had previously suggested that having a school staff member to supervisor and run this program would create more continuity and robust program.

B. Help with Children's Day, Prep for Kindergarten Round-up; Orientation

IX. 2nd Public Comment Section

X. Adjournment