

LANCER TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: MR. O'CHIU

By: Janel Dawson

Hola Lancers! For this month's Teacher Spotlight we welcome Mr. O'Chiu!

- Mr. O'Chiu is a Spanish teacher at East and has been teaching for a total of 14 years this year being his 10th at Belleville East.
- This year, he is teaching Spanish 3-4 at East and Spanish 1-2 at West.
- His favorite part of teaching is the bonds and friendships that are created throughout the course of the school year. Mr. O'Chiu values his students and makes sure to let them know that when they are in his class, they are also his family. This is especially true during the end of the year when he sadly has to say goodbye to them.
- He loves to teach about culture as his goal every year is to inspire students to travel the world and that there are so many different ways of life waiting to be discovered outside of our Belleville area!
- Mr. O'Chiu used to be a club sponsor for the BreakDance club but stepped away so that he could start a family and have time to spend with them. Currently, he is a member of the STAR Team as well as the District 201 R.E.C (Racial Equality Committee).
- Outside of school, Mr. O'Chiu loves to ride his bike and also does triathlons! Over fall break he rode from Swansea, IL to Springfield, IL for 100 miles! In past years he was a competitive eater and has also trained in various martial arts over the past 30 years like Brazilian JiuJitsu, Mixed Martial Arts, Taekwondo, and Gumdo to name a few.
- Although he has won a few eating contests, his biggest achievement is finally starting a family! If you've ever been to

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Mr. O'Chiu's classroom, then you know all about his wife Emily, his daughter Corinne and how in love with them he is!