

## Los Angeles Unified School District

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# News Release

### For Immediate Release

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April 20, 2009  
#08-09-XXX

## Public Invited to LAUSD's City Terrace Elementary School Mandarin-English Dual Language Program Open House

Wednesday, April 22, 2009  
9 AM to 11 AM

4350 City Terrace Drive, Los Angeles, California 90063

**Los Angeles** – Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Superintendent Ramon Cortines, LAUSD Chief Academic Officer Dr. Judy Elliott, Board of Education Member Yolie Flores-Aguilar, Consul General Zhang Yun of the Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles and other guests and dignitaries will be participating in City Terrace Elementary School's Open House featuring its Mandarin-English Dual Language Program. The program began in the 2007-2008 school year with its kindergarten class. At the Open House, teachers will present a lesson in Chinese to illustrate the type of Chinese language instruction students have been receiving these past two years.

City Terrace School is now accepting applications for its Mandarin-English Dual Language Program for the 2009-2010 school year. This is the first and currently the only dual Mandarin-English Dual Language Program being offered in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Students are taught reading, writing, listening and speaking in Mandarin for 50% of the instructional day.

The program is accepting applications for full-day Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2 for the 2009-2010 school year. An additional grade level will continue to be added each subsequent year until the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Limited seats are available, with participation in the program expected to be very competitive.

City Terrace School is collaborating closely with the LAUSD Asian Pacific and Other Languages Office (APOLO); the Pacific Rim Institute of California State University, Los Angeles, directed by Dr. Gay Yuen; Mr. Zhang Yun; Consul General of the People's Republic of China and Mr. Zhixue Dong, Consul for Education. The Hanban Institute of the People's Republic of China has assigned Ms. Xiaoli Gong, a guest teacher from China, for a two year period to work with the school on implementing the language instruction program.

"The Mandarin-English Dual Language Program at City Terrace School provides students with the opportunity to develop linguistic skills in both English and Mandarin Chinese, both important for competing globally in the job market and the world economy," said City Terrace Principal Christopher Ortiz .

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*Media Advisory: Wednesday, April 22, 9:00 a.m., City Terrace School  
N. Eastern Ave. and City Terrace Dr., Los Angeles, 90063*

## **Dual immersion into Mandarin**

**Note to editors and news directors:** Ready to repeat elementary school? In Mandarin half the time? In September 2007, City Terrace School, with assistance from Cal State L.A.'s Pacific Rim Institute, LAUSD's Asian-Pacific and Other Languages Office (APOLO) and the Hanban Institute, launched its Mandarin-English Dual Language Program in 2007-2008 with an inaugural kindergarten class, the first and only program of its kind in the Los Angeles Unified School System. In each succeeding year, the program will expand to include the next higher grade level. The school is currently accepting applicants for next fall's class. The program now encompasses Kindergarten and First Grade with Second Grade being added in 2009-2010.

On Wednesday, April 22, at 9:00 a.m., reporters and guests are invited to attend the Mandarin-English Dual Language Open House. Superintendent of Schools, Ramon Cortines; the Honorable Zhang Yun, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Los Angeles; Dr. Judy Elliott, LAUSD Chief Academic Officer; LAUSD Board Member Yolie-Flores-Aguilar; and other dignitaries and officials will be attending the event. There will be a press conference at 9:00 a.m. which will explain how the program developed, the instructional design and other important program information. Reporters will have the opportunity to ask questions of the distinguished guests. After the press conference, reporters can observe two of the program's lively lessons with kindergarten students in Xiaoli Gong's class and with first grade students in Joyce Hsin's class at City Terrace School, just across the 10 Freeway south of Cal State L.A. Following the lessons, expected to last 30 minutes, reporters will be able to interview Gong, Hsin, and some of the students.

**WHAT:** Instructional Open House of City Terrace School's "Mandarin-English Dual Language Immersion Program"

**WHEN:** 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 22, 2009

**WHERE:** City Terrace School, 4350 City Terrace Drive, Los Angeles, CA. (Click for link to location via Mapquest: <http://tinyurl.com/2myc9k>.)

**WHO:** Kindergarten Teacher Joyce Hsin, Chinese Guest Teacher Xioali Gong, Principal Christopher Ortiz, and representatives of the People's Republic of China, Cal State L.A. and L.A. Unified School District.

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