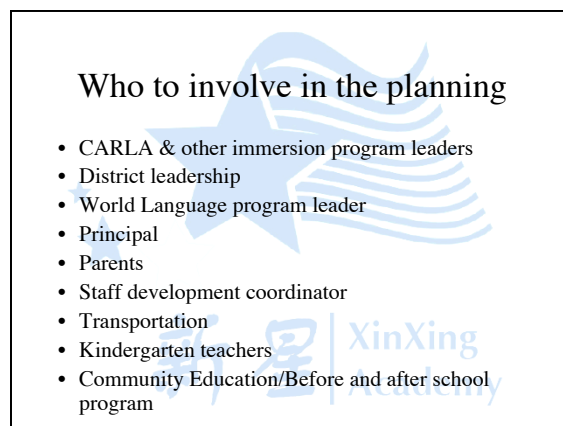




So you are considering starting a Chinese immersion program...

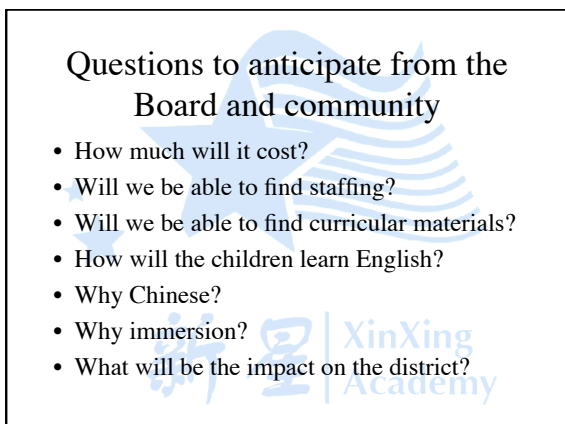


Designing a Program



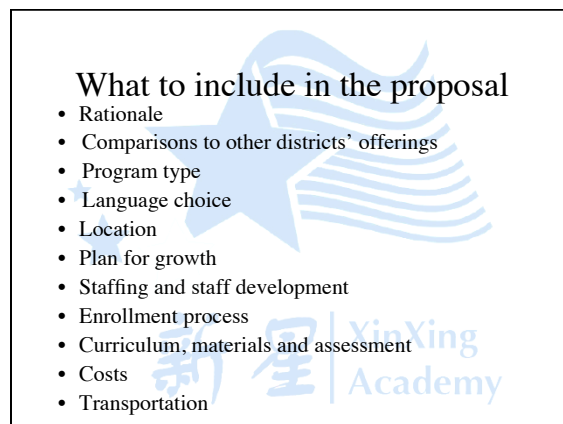
Who to involve in the planning

- CARLA & other immersion program leaders
- District leadership
- World Language program leader
- Principal
- Parents
- Staff development coordinator
- Transportation
- Kindergarten teachers
- Community Education/Before and after school program



Questions to anticipate from the Board and community

- How much will it cost?
- Will we be able to find staffing?
- Will we be able to find curricular materials?
- How will the children learn English?
- Why Chinese?
- Why immersion?
- What will be the impact on the district?



What to include in the proposal


- Rationale
- Comparisons to other districts' offerings
- Program type
- Language choice
- Location
- Plan for growth
- Staffing and staff development
- Enrollment process
- Curriculum, materials and assessment
- Costs
- Transportation



Implementing a Program

Year One

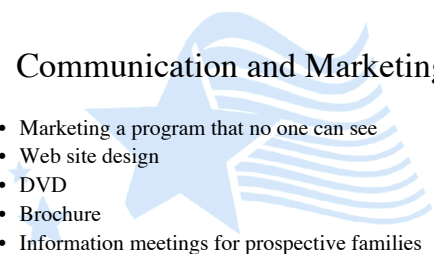
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A team approach

- Building and District leadership
- World language curriculum specialist
- Parents / Strong parent group
- Community education
- Staff development
- Teachers
- Curriculum coordinators for content areas
- Chinese expert / Local Chinese community members

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Communication and Marketing

- Marketing a program that no one can see
- Web site design
- DVD
- Brochure
- Information meetings for prospective families
- Communicating with parents and families in the program
- Promoting the program

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Staffing

- Finding qualified staff
- Licensure issues
- Retaining teachers
- Cross-cultural communication issues

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Staff Development

- Model of collaboration with CARLA
- Balancing immersion-specific staff development needs and district staff development needs

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Networking with other immersion programs

- CARLA
- MAIN and the MAIN parent group
- Visits to other immersion programs

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Nurturing Families in the Program

- Educating and reassuring families about immersion
- Helping families connect with one another
- Creating opportunities for families to ask questions and raise concerns
- Creating unique opportunities for classroom visits
- Helping the children connect with one another
- Creating a family directory

Curriculum Development

- Adapting district curriculum to meet Chinese immersion needs and local curriculum standards
- Finding and ordering appropriate materials in Chinese
- Developing a long-range curricular map for Chinese language development
- Teaching literacy in the kindergarten year
- Teaching characters and pinyin
- Deciding when to introduce English instruction

Technology, Media, Library

- Unique technology needs for Chinese immersion
- Finding, ordering and coding books in Chinese for the media center
- Creating a classroom library and a media center library

Other Issues to Consider

- Transportation
- Registration process
- Administrative or secretarial support
- Space needs: Independent school or program within a school
- Impact of being “first” on the first group to go through the program

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