

07.26.2023



Little Red Classrooms

China's Infiltration of
American K-12 Schools

Little Red Classrooms exposes how the Chinese Communist Party has quietly funded programs in American K-12 education for over a decade. This study uncovers the extent of the CCP's reach—detailing the number of school districts affected, the millions in funding provided, and the states where these programs are most prevalent.

143

(active & inactive) districts,
including 20 near military bases

\$17,967,565.12

in funding
(2009-2023)

34

states and the District
of Columbia



**DEFENDING
EDUCATION**

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PART 1: OVERVIEW

What are Confucius Institutes and Confucius Classrooms?

According to a National Association of Scholars [report](#), Confucius Institutes, and its K-12 programming called Confucius Classrooms, are “centers that teach Chinese language and culture.” Confucius programming creates a partnership between K-12 schools, universities or nonprofits, and a Chinese government entity.

Defending Education uncovered contracts that show Confucius Classrooms, or other Chinese government backed programming, are still in operation at the following schools:

- Cloverport Independent School District, KY
- Minnetonka Public Schools, MN
- St. Cloud Area School District, MN
- Tulsa Public Schools, OK
- Sisters School District, OR
- Highland Park Independent School District, TX
- Seattle Public Schools, WA

In March, Defending Education uncovered that a nonprofit linked to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology had received more than \$1 million in financial aid from Chinese government-affiliated entities over the course of a decade.¹

Further research reveals the People’s Republic of China fostered relationships with American K-12 schools through grants, sister school partnerships, and other programming since at least 2009. Defending Education tracked affiliations in 143 schools across 34 states and Washington, D.C.—and at least seven are still active. Financial exchanges between K-12 schools and the Chinese government range from a few thousand dollars to, in Thomas Jefferson High School’s case, more than a million dollars. Disturbingly, the Chinese government’s ties appear to target school districts near 20 American military bases.

Top Lines

1. Three of the nation’s top science and technology high schools have ties to Chinese government affiliated programs:
 - Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology has had ties to Tsinghua University High School—the high school affiliated with one of China’s top military schools, Tsinghua University.
 - Simpson County Public Schools in Kentucky entered into an agreement with North China Electric Power University to operate Western Kentucky University’s Confucius Institute.
 - North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics received a “Confucius Classroom of the Year” award from Hanban in 2018.
2. The CCP has had ties to school districts near 20 U.S. military bases.
3. While the United States is not officially part of China’s Belt and Road Initiative, Chinese state media has touted the work done by Confucius Institutes and Confucius Classrooms to further the Chinese Communist Party’s global influence.

Major Military Installations Near Confucius Classrooms

- Annapolis
- Buckley Air Force Base and Space Force
- Dover Air Force Base
- Fort Bragg
- Fort Knox
- Lackland Air Force Base
- Langley Air Force Base
- Naval Sub Base at Groton and US Coast Guard Academy
- Nellis Air Force Base
- Norfolk Naval Base
- Puget Sound Naval Base
- San Diego Naval Base

The list of Military Installations near Confucius Classrooms includes these well-known bases.

Programming and funding vary by school district. Carver Middle School, in Tulsa Public Schools, became a “Confucius School” through Hanban—the subdivision of the Chinese Ministry of Education that, until 2021, operated Confucius Institutes and Classrooms. Sisters School District in Oregon has an **active contract** with the Confucius Institute at Portland University.² The district’s high school **World Languages** page noted that its Chinese program featured “three native speaker Chinese teachers sponsored by Hanban, a part of the China Ministry of Education.” In Texas, the Confucius Institute at the University of Texas at Dallas in 2020 **gave** Highland Park Independent School District a \$20,000 grant for the “operation and supplies of the Chinese courses.” The funds were also to be used by a district staff member to “travel to China for educational purposes.”

The Chinese government’s effort to forge ties with American schools through its Ministry of Education is one facet of the Chinese Communist Party’s broader soft-power strategy to influence policy in nations throughout the world. Expanding Confucius Classrooms in the United States has been a top priority for the Chinese government, the United States Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations found.³

The State Department designated Confucius Institutes a “foreign mission” of the Chinese Communist Party in 2020.⁴ As noted in the State Department’s report, these programs are funded in part by the Chinese government under guidance from the Chinese Communist Party’s United Front Work Department, “the Chinese Communist Party’s overseas propaganda and influence operation.”

As of March 2023, 13 Confucius Institutes are still in operation, and 108 have or are in the process of closing, according to the **National Association of Scholars**.

Confucius Institutes have garnered their share of controversy. Hanban’s former director Xu Lin **demanded** her staff remove references to Taiwanese institutions from a conference program, as well as withholding funding for not following the Chinese Communist Party line. Former Chinese Communist Party Senior Chairman Li Changchun in 2009 said that Confucius Institutes were “an important part of China’s overseas propaganda set-up.”⁵

The United States is not officially part of China's Belt and Road Initiative—a global investment campaign launched in 2013 that seeks to advance the Chinese Communist Party's policy infrastructure, technology, and education initiatives.⁶ However, Confucius Institutes, Confucius Classrooms, and other Chinese government-backed programming in the United States support Belt and Road Initiative efforts. A 2017 Hanban **report** stated that the “Confucius Institutes have become a vital force for international cooperation under the [sic] ‘Belt and Road’ initiative.” In a Chinese state media **article** from 2016, the Chinese Communist Party “lauded” Confucius Institutes and Confucius Classrooms for promoting its Belt and Road Initiative.

According to the Brookings Institution, in 2020 China's Ministry of Education replaced Hanban with the Center for Language Education and Cooperation. The Chinese International Education Foundation, a “nominally independent” organization that is “supervised” by the Ministry of Education, now manages Confucius Institutes abroad.⁷

U.S.-based organizations, namely the College Board and Asia Society, worked with Hanban to tailor Chinese culture and language immersion programs to U.S. school districts. They also collaborated on funding Confucius programs in universities and K-12 schools. At times, these organizations would pair American universities with sister universities in China, which curbed costs for U.S. schools.^{8,9}

The Asia Society, which has received funding from **Open Society**, the **Carnegie Foundation**, **Ford Foundation**, and the **Rockefeller Foundation**, was a key participant in Confucius Institutes and Confucius Classrooms until it **ended** its relationship with the programs in June of 2021. The Asia Society operated the Confucius Classroom Network with funding support from the Chinese International Education Foundation, an organization created by Hanban.¹⁰

Alarming, *Defending Education* uncovered at least two connections between American schools and China schools tied to the Chinese military and energy operations. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Virginia partnered with

Tsinghua University High School, helping the Chinese-based school to adopt rigorous science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programming. Tsinghua University High School is connected to Tsinghua University, a Chinese military school¹¹ that is “supervised” by the Chinese defense industry, according to the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.¹²

The Simpson County Board of Education in Kentucky entered into an **agreement** with the North China Electric Power University to develop the Confucius Institute of Western Kentucky. The North China Electric Power University works directly with the Chinese government's energy sector to push China's global energy initiatives, as part of its Belt and Road Initiative.¹³ The Chinese International Education Foundation, sponsored by the Confucius Institute, tasked the university with selecting more than 34 Chinese teachers to send to Simpson County Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

Districts have often partnered with Confucius Institutes of nearby universities through single or multi-year contracts that provided funding and a combination of grants from approved foundations to implement curriculum in American schools. K-12 schools were eager to accept grants from Confucius Institutes which came with perks including fully funded teacher exchanges, Chinese language programs, and opportunities for American students to learn in China.

San Diego Unified School District in California, for example, signed a **contract** with the Confucius Institute of San Diego State University specifically to have the Confucius Classroom “serve in a supportive role designed to enhance language and cultural experiences of students enrolled in district Mandarin language classes.” The contract formalized the district's responsibility to pay \$10,000 to the Confucius Institute for instructors.¹⁴

The St. Cloud Area School District in Minnesota took another approach with Confucius Classroom grant funding. The District **partnered** with the Confucius Institute at St. Cloud University, which provided \$65,000 in grants as well as programming, equipment, books, and curriculum.

Portland State University's Confucius Institute has a similar setup with Sisters School District in Oregon. Sisters School District received \$15,513 from the university's Confucius Institute for the 2022-2023 school year. Districts in Ohio and Virginia have developed similar partnerships with a state university's Confucius Institute to create Confucius Classrooms in K-12 districts.

Other districts mask Chinese government funding through third-party nonprofit entities. Such is the case in schools in Oklahoma, Texas, and North Carolina.

Take the International Leadership of Texas Global, for example—a nonprofit organization that has taken on being an administration apparatus and passthrough for the continuation of the Confucius Classroom programming. Tulsa Public Schools' Board of Education has a contract with the Confucius Classroom Coordination Offices through the International Leadership of Texas Global.¹⁵ Highland Park Independent School District in Texas also received **funding** from the International Leadership of Texas Global to facilitate its "Chinese core curriculum."

Several schools in North Carolina, including Wake County Public Schools, Winston-Salem Forsyth County School District and the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) have all received funding from Go Global NC. Like the International Leadership of Texas Global, Go Global NC is a nonprofit that administers and fosters Confucius Classroom programming.

North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics is the nation's top high school—often competing with Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology for the ranking. Both schools, as well as Kentucky's Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science, the top science and technology school in Kentucky, have had ties to Chinese government organizations.¹⁶

The contract for NCSSM's Confucius Classroom shows a five-year agreement between the school and the Chinese government, spanning from 2015-

2020.¹⁷ The Confucius Classroom programs received a prestigious "Confucius Classroom of the Year" award from Hanban in 2018.¹⁸

In Kentucky, the Confucius Institute of Western Kentucky included **programming** for Gatton Academy for Science and Technology. In addition to programming on campus in Kentucky, high achieving Gatton students had been selected to participate in Chinese language immersion experience each summer in China.¹⁹ The State Department funded similar programming in 2016.²⁰

The allure of Chinese language and culture programs have led American K-12 schools to forge ties with one of the United States' biggest foreign adversaries. While it's important to provide students access to Chinese language and culture programs in schools, American schools should not give the Chinese Communist Party unfettered access to our students.

If you believe your school district has created a Confucius Classroom, email us with documents at info@defendinged.org and we will add it to the list.



PART 2: CASE STUDIES

The extent of ties between Chinese-government affiliated institutions and American K-12 schools in Kentucky and North Carolina merit further detail. With three bases in Kentucky and eleven in North Carolina, the extent of these relationships are of particular concern.

Kentucky

In March 2010, the Western Kentucky University announced it would launch a Confucius Institute. The university appointed **Dr. Wei-Ping Pan** as its founding director. Dr. Pan is a leading expert in coal technology and was a professor at the North China Electric Power University—a school in Beijing which, according to its [website](#), “has actively implemented the Belt and Road Initiative” through “national diplomatic missions and national foreign aid training programs.”

Gatton Academy, a prestigious science and technology high school, opened its doors at the Western Kentucky University three years earlier, in 2007. Gatton Academy is the number one science, engineering, technology, and math (STEM) school in Kentucky and often ranks among the top high schools in the United States.

According to public websites and public records, Gatton Academy participated in Western Kentucky University’s Confucius Institute programming and **received** funding from Hanban. In the summer of 2014, for example, five students from the STEM school participated in the **“Confucius Institute’s High School China Summer Bridge Program.”** Students spent two weeks in China “visiting cultural sites and participating in language courses and learning traditional activities.”

According to Western Kentucky University, its Confucius Institute initially brought eleven Chinese teachers to local public elementary and high schools in Barren, Logan, and Warren counties. Over the course of a decade, the Confucius Institute at Western Kentucky University expanded into classrooms in several counties, including: **Cloverport, Hardin, Jefferson, and Oldham.**

Jefferson County Public Schools’ contract noted that WKU’s Confucius Institute would apply to “Headquarters”—the Chinese Ministry of Education—for necessary start-up funds (up to \$10,000) and a set amount of annual funds (up to \$10,000 per year).”

[CI-Agreement-Jefferson-County-Public-Schools-KY-March-11-2015](#)

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In May 2018, Western Kentucky University Confucius Institute **Interim Director** Terrill D. Martin started **BG Education Management Solutions**, a **nonprofit organization** “designed for the promotion of international programs.” Its “core program” is the recruitment of “foreign language teachers who work in local K-12 schools in the U.S./Abroad.” According to an **April 2021 report**, BG Education Management Solutions requested \$1.255 million from the Chinese International Education Foundation—an organization founded by Hanban. Martin’s group received \$948,462 from the Chinese International Education Foundation in 2020.

Western Kentucky University terminated its agreement with the Confucius Institute Headquarters of China on **April 22, 2019**. This did not end China’s K-12 education programs in Kentucky.

Rather, the following June, Simpson County Public Schools—a district just south of Bowling Green—assumed administration of WKU’s Confucius Institute and all its assets. The five-year **“Implementation Agreement”** for Simpson County Public Schools to operate Western Kentucky University’s Confucius

Institute included the school district, Hanban, and the North China Electric Power University. Along with the responsibility of overseeing the programming, the Simpson County Board of Education took charge of \$192,714.25 in expenses, furniture, artifacts including two life sized terracotta soldiers, and several vehicles including a food trailer and RV.

[CI-Agreement-Simpson-County-Schools-KY-June-19-2019](#)

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The University of Kentucky was also responsible for connecting K-12 public schools to Chinese government-backed programming through its Confucius Institute, founded in 2010. [Fleming County Schools](#), [Fayette County Schools](#), and [Henderson County Schools](#) all developed Chinese language or teacher exchange programming through the University of Kentucky.

[Confucius-Institute-MOU-Fleming-County-Schools-KY-April-8-2015](#)

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Chinese-government backed programming in Kentucky's K-12 classrooms came from sources other than Confucius Institutes at nearby universities. For example, in 2011, Carroll County Schools signed a contract with the College Board's "Chinese Guest Teacher Program." According to the document, Hanban was to subsidize up to \$13,000 of the guest teacher's salary, which "should be commensurate with the salary amount paid to a U.S. teacher with similar responsibilities and similar education who is teaching full-time."

[Chinese-Guest-Teacher-Agreement-Carroll-County-Schools-KY-June-22-2011](#)

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Appendix A – Financial Confucius Classroom Commitment

Confucius Classroom Balance

| | Balance |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Butler County | \$15,154.00 |
| Barren County | \$9,247.75 |
| Central City | \$10,000.00 |
| South Middle | \$10,000.00 |
| Housing Authority of Bowling Green | \$10,000.00 |
| Logan County | \$14,904.92 |
| Hardin County | \$18,357.52 |
| Cloverport | \$10,000.00 |
| BGIS | \$10,000.00 |
| Boyle County | \$10,000.00 |
| St. Francis School (2 Classrooms) | \$13,472.19 |
| Trinity High School | \$10,000.00 |
| Field Elementary | \$7,185.79 |
| Owensboro/Daviess County | \$10,000.00 |
| Simpson County | \$5,548.39 |
| Gatton Academy | \$10,000.00 |
| Holy Trinity Lutheran School | \$18,843.69 |

Expenses **\$192,714.25**



Exhibit P

Confucius Institute at the University of Kentucky
153 Rowley Hall
Lexington, KY 40506-0058
(859) 257-4607
confucius@uky.edu

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is between the University of Kentucky for its Confucius Institute and Fleming County School District on behalf of all participating schools, and serves to document the parties' mutual understanding and agreement to participate in the Confucius Institute at the University of Kentucky (UKCI)'s Kentucky K-12 Chinese Language and Chinese Teachers Program for the academic year 2014-2015 and states the responsibilities of UKCI, the Host School, and the Chinese instructors and trainee teachers participating in the program (collectively referred to as "Instructors"). The Instructors indicated at the end of this MOU will countersign this MOU to indicate their willingness to be bound by the terms before beginning duties with the Host School.

WHEREAS UKCI is a center for Chinese language, culture, art, and business at the University of Kentucky that was founded in 2010 under the aegis of Hanban (the Chinese Language Council of the Ministry of Education of the Peoples Republic of China) and operates certain programs with the financial support of Hanban.

WHEREAS UKCI facilitates the University of Kentucky's China initiatives by supporting educational exchange, strengthening China Studies at the university, providing access for the community to Chinese culture, and providing leadership and support for Chinese language programs in Kentucky's K-12 classrooms.

WHEREAS, Host School wishes to provide its students with access to Chinese language instruction and UKCI and Instructors are willing to provide certain instruction services as outlined herein.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree:

UKCI Responsibilities:

- 1) To Host School
 - a. Select and train qualified Instructors from China, from a pool of candidates provided by Hanban, for placement in full-time Chinese language instruction

The **Kentucky Center for Mandarin Language and Culture**, a program of the **Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services**, assists local school districts in hosting “highly qualified, licensed, native Chinese-speaking educators” with the intent to “provide Chinese language instruction at the elementary, middle, and high school level.” The Center has partnered with at least seven school districts in Kentucky to provide Chinese language programming. It is funded in part by the Beijing Language and Culture University, a key university directly under the Ministry of Education. The **Beijing Language and Culture University** is part of the **Confucius Institute initiative**.

Beijing-Language-and-Culture-
University-Application-Guide-
for-Chinese-Undergraduate
Program-International-
Chinese-Language-Teachers-
Scholarship-2023

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North Carolina

Go Global NC, founded in 1979 as the North Carolina Center for International Understanding, is a nonprofit government, business, and education leadership organization. It claims to have created “the nation’s first statewide network of Confucius Classrooms.” As such, Go Global NC has acted as an intermediary between Chinese government funds via Hanban and K-12 schools across North Carolina.

Go Global NC gave out grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$45,000 for Confucius Classrooms to six different North Carolina K-12 schools and districts—including Envision Science Academy, a top-rated science and technology charter school—according to its 2020 **nonprofit filings**. Go Global NC touts its support for 34 Mandarin Language programs across the state, which have reached “approximately 8,490 students,” on its **2021 nonprofit filings**.

| (a) Name and address of organization or government | (b) EIN | (c) EIN (if applicable) | (d) Amount of cash grant | (e) Amount of non-cash assistance | (f) Method of valuation (State, FMV, appraised, other) | (g) Description of nonzero assistance | (h) Purpose of grant or assistance |
|--|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (1) Cabarrus County Schools 200 Sycamore Carrboro, NC 28705 | | | 45,000 | | | Confucius Classroom stipend | |
| (2) Envision Science Academy 593 Matthews Grand Blvd Matthews, NC 28105 | | | 15,000 | | | New grant stip of Confucius Classroom | |
| (3) Cumberland County 2100 Village Road Fayetteville, NC 28506 | | | 20,000 | | | Confucius Classroom stipend | |
| (4) Hargett City Schools 321 Riverside Drive Hargett City, NC 27530 | | | 15,000 | | | Confucius Classroom stipend | |
| (5) The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics 900 Bar 2710 Carrboro, NC 27511 | | | 10,000 | | | Confucius Classroom stipend | |
| (6) Winston-Salem Forsyth City Schools 30000 Sycamore Road Winston-Salem, NC 27159 | | | 20,000 | | | Confucius Classroom stipend | |

Winston-Salem Forsyth schools received \$10,000 in funding for each of three schools from Hanban through the North Carolina Center for International Understanding during the 2013-2014 school year. Unlike other programs, this funding “did not use the Chinese Guest Teachers” available through Hanban, nor did the district “work with Confucius Institutes.” One middle school eliminated their Chinese language program—and with it, their \$10,000 cash stream from the Chinese government—in 2016-2017.

Summary-of-Confucius-Classrooms-Winston-Salem-Forsyth-County-Schools-NC [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

Career Center Contract – Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools, NC [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

Konnoak Contract – Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools, NC [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

Philo contract – Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools, NC [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

On January 28, 2015, The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM)— the state’s top STEM high school, which often ranks among the top high schools nationwide—signed an **agreement** with the North Carolina Center for International Understanding to establish a Confucius Classroom. The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics received grant funding from Hanban through the Center for International Understanding from 2015 to 2020.

In 2018, NCSSM was given the “**Confucius Classroom of the Year**” award from the Hanban. On its website, NCSSM stated that its Confucius programming included weekly video conferencing between American and Chinese students as well as “collaborative projects.”

CIU-and-NCSSM-Confucius-Classroom-Agreement [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

Webinar-CC-Grant-Presentation – NCSSM, NC [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

CC-Grant-Funding-Guidelines – NCSSM, NC [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

[Confucius-Classroom_NCSSM-Annual-Report_2015-2016](#)

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[Confucius-Classroom_NCSSM-Annual-Report_2019-2020](#)

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The Wake County Public Schools **Board of Education’s Proposed Budget** for **2014- 2015** notes that the district received \$50,000 from Hanban through the North Carolina Center for International Understanding to operate Confucius Classrooms in five schools. A 2016-2017 Office of Grants **summary report** shows that the district received \$40,000 from Go Global NC for “Confucius Classroom Programs” and another \$10,000 from the “[North Carolina State University] Confucius Institute” and “Hanban Confucius Institute Program.” The proposed **budget document** for 2021-2022 shows that the district was still running Confucius Classrooms, relying on carry over funds.

Similar to ties between Chinese government operations and K-12 schools in other states, at least one North Carolina school district’s Confucius Classroom received funding from the Confucius Institute at a state university. In 2020, Cabarrus County Schools received a \$45,000 grant from Go Global NC for “Confucius Classroom allocation.” During the 2011- 2012 school year, the district **hosted** a Chinese delegation which was part of an “educational agreement” between the North Carolina Board of Education and Jiangsu province. In 2015, the district also **received** a \$10,000 grant for Confucius Classrooms through North Carolina State University. The money was intended to be used for “promoting the Chinese language and culture.”

Changes to Grants

Academics - Confucius Grant

Current Funding:
Hanban, in conjunction with the Center for International Understanding, named five schools - Averboro Elementary School, Farmington Woods Magnet Elementary School, South Magnet Elementary School, East Garner Magnet Middle School, and Garner Magnet High School—as Confucius Classrooms Schools and awarded each school a grant totaling \$10,000 per school, \$50,000 total. If spent appropriately and timely, the grant can be applied for up to three times throughout the duration of the program.

Proposed Funding:
The grant details expenditures at the five aforementioned schools to support the implementation and growth of the Chinese Culture and Language Program. Specifically, instructional supplies/materials and equipment, curriculum planning and development, and professional development that give Mandarin language acquisition and cultural exploration will be the focus of grant spending.

Budget Baseline:

| 2013-14 | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| Description | MOE | Amount | Account Code |
| Revenue | | \$ 50,000 | Local |
| Total: | 0.00 | \$ 50,000 | |

Budget Adjustments Requested:

| Description | 2014-15 | | Account Code |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| | MOE | Amount | |
| Instructional Supplies - Averboro ES | (10,000) | 07.5110.544.411.3320.0825 | |
| Instructional Supplies - Farmington Woods ES | (10,000) | 07.5110.544.411.3414.0825 | |
| Instructional Supplies - South Magnet ES | (10,000) | 07.5110.544.411.3560.0825 | |
| Instructional Supplies - East Garner MS | (10,000) | 07.5110.544.411.3404.0825 | |
| Instructional Supplies - Garner Magnet HS | (10,000) | 07.5110.544.411.3436.0825 | |
| Total: | 0.00 | \$ (50,000) | Local |

Changes to Grants, Donations, and Fees

Confucius Institute

Area Schools

Description Confucius Institute is a public educational organization under the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China, whose stated aim is to promote Chinese language and culture, support local Chinese teaching internationally, and facilitate cultural exchanges. Due to COVID, Enloe High School intends to carry over the funds into the 2021-22 school year.

Strategic Objectives Learning & Teaching and Achievement

Budget Adjustments

| Description | MOE | Local |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Salaries | | \$ 629 |
| Employer Provided Benefits | | 51 |
| Purchased Services | | 2,514 |
| Supplies and Materials | | 447 |
| Unbudgeted Funds | | (4,404) |
| Total | - | \$ (763) |

California

On September 14, 2016, San Diego Unified School District inked a **contract** with the Confucius Institute of San Diego State University. Documents show that the school district was to pay \$10,000 to the Confucius Institute for Mandarin instructors who would “serve in a supportive role designed to enhance

language and cultural experiences of students enrolled in district Mandarin language classes.”

[PS19-0677-08_Agreement_with_SDSU_Confucius_](#)

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Minnesota

St Cloud Area School District also participated in the Confucius Classroom programming through the Confucius Institute at St. Cloud State University and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Funding, which originated from Hanban through the Confucius Institute, included over \$20,000 worth of equipment, books and curriculum materials, and over \$65,000 in grants.

As of June 2023, St. Cloud State University is one of two U.S. universities that receive Department of Defense funding for “to conduct sensitive military research” **while hosting a Confucius Institute**

21. Grant award from the St. Cloud State University Confucius Institute to Madison Elementary School in the amount of \$10,000, along with \$20,000 worth of equipment, as well as 50,000 RMB (Chinese currency) value of books during the first year and 25,000 RMB value of books from China each of the following years for a total period of five years. This grant allows our Chinese Immersion Program to become a “Confucius Classroom.”

[January-22-2015-at-7_00-PM-Board-of-Education-Meeting](#)

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[Confucius-Classroom-Board-Presentation-St-Cloud-Area-School-District-MN-August-2016](#)

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[Confucius Classroom Contract – St Cloud Area School District, MN – 2017](#)

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[Confucius Classroom Contract – St Cloud Area School District, MN – 2018](#)

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[Confucius Classroom Contracts – St Cloud Area School District, MN – 2020–2023](#)

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Ohio

The Gahanna-Jefferson School District Chinese program was started in 2008 with assistance from the Ohio Department of Education and The Ohio State University. According to the district [website](#), in 2009 the district was selected as one of twenty “founding members of the Confucius Classroom Network” operated by the Asia Society and Hanban. Board documents reveal that the district received grants from the Asia Society and Hanban ranging from \$8,524 to \$12,900.

[Confucius-Grant-Gahanna-Jefferson-School-District-OH-1.14.16](#)

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[Confucius-Grant-Gahanna-Jefferson-School-District-OH-2.9.2017](#)

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[Confucius-Grant-Gahanna-Jefferson-School-District-OH-4.12.2018](#)

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Oklahoma

On **July 11, 2022**, the Tulsa Public Schools board of education approved entering into an agreement with the Confucius Classroom Coordination Offices, which operates out of the [International Leadership of Texas Global](#) nonprofit. The Chinese International Education Foundation would cover the cost of

the program. Carver middle school offers students a “Confucius Connection” through its “Global Awareness” programming. The [site](#) states that “Carver became a Confucius School through the Han Ban (sic) Confucius Institute.”

E.4. RECOMMENDATION:
Enter into an agreement with the Confucius Classroom Coordination Offices through the International Leadership of Texas, a 501(c)(3) organization, an international partnership dedicated to building the field of Chinese language teachers and learning in American schools for the 2022-2023 school year.

FURTHER RECOMMEND:
The attorneys for the school district prepare/approve the appropriate contract document(s) and the proper officers of the Board of Education be authorized to execute the document(s) on behalf of the district.

COST: No cost to the district. The Chinese International Education Foundation will provide funding for operating expenses.

FUND NAME/ACCOUNT:
Confucius Classroom
81-2273-1000-000000-000-07-735

RATIONALE:
This will be Booker T. Washington's ninth year to participate in a Confucius Classroom program. International Leadership of Texas, in partnership with Confucius Classroom Coordination Offices offers a quality program which will allow our students to continue the study of the Chinese language and culture. This item aligns with our high school experience strategy as outlined in Pathways to Opportunity.



Oregon

The Sisters School District [2022-2023 Adopted Budget](#) revealed that the Oregon district appears to still have a fiscal partnership with the Portland State University Confucius Institute. Line-item revenues revealed \$15,513 in funding for the 2022-2023 school year. In 2015, an [article](#) featuring the district's language program stated that the district was engaged in a partnership with the University's Confucius Institute to offer students from elementary to high school the opportunity to study Mandarin Chinese. According to the article, the Sisters School District partnership was the "only program of its kind in Central Oregon and one of 25 across the state."

[0.0-22-23-ADOPTED-BUDGET-Sisters-School-District-OR](#)

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The district's high school [World Languages](#) page posts that its Chinese program featured "three native speaker Chinese teachers sponsored by Hanban, a part of the China Ministry of Education." The district included on its "[Our Partners](#)" page a brief description of the Confucius Institute and Confucius Classroom. A Portland State University letter from January 27, 2021, stated that the university was "ending its agreement with the Confucius Institute."

[Portland-State-University-Jan-27-2021-Letter-to-Soochow-University](#)

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Texas

On September 7, 2022, the Highland Park Independent School District [received](#) \$12,369.93 in grant funding from [International Leadership of Texas Global](#) for "the purpose of supporting Highland Park Middle School's LOTE Department Chinese Course Curriculum." In addition to the middle school grant, the district received \$2,004.94 in funding from the International Leadership of Texas Global in support of the high school's "Chinese course curriculum."

[2022 Grant – Highland Park Middle School, TX](#)

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[2022 Grant – Highland Park High School, TX](#)

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In 2018, the high school [received](#) a \$10,000 grant from the Confucius Institute at the University of Texas at Dallas. The "gift" was to be used "in support of Highland Park High School's Confucius Classroom 2018 Annual Operation Funds." In 2020, the Confucius

Institute at the University of Texas at Dallas [gave](#) the district's middle school a \$20,000 grant for the "operation and supplies of the Chinese courses." The funds were also to be used by a district staff member to "travel to China for educational purposes." The high school also [received](#) a \$20,000 "gift" to be used for the school's "2019 and 2020 Confucius Classroom Annual Operating Funds."

[Confucius-Classroom-grant-Highland-Park-ISD-TX-2018](#)

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[HPMS-Gift-Letter-Highland-Park-ISD-TX-2020](#)

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[HPHS-Gift-Letter-Highland-Park-ISD-TX-2020](#)

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Read Texas Scorecard's comprehensive [report](#) on Confucius Classroom programming across Texas.

Virginia

Virginia Beach Public Schools signed a **contract** in 2015 to become part of the “Asia Society Confucius Classrooms Network.” The district’s Tallwood High School was awarded \$13,000 in grants to operate the program, which included a partnership with a school in China, involvement in Asia Society activities, and attendance at national conferences. According to a June 30, 2015 report, the district joined the Asia Society network in 2009 and had offered Chinese as a language since 2005.

[1415-Agreement-between-Tallwood-High-School-and-Asia-Society](#)

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Tallwood High School signed another agreement with Asia Society on November 19, 2018 to continue as part of the Confucius Classroom Network. The grant award for \$11,414 was to be used “to promote Chinese language and/or Chinese culture” and may also go towards “professional development/ curriculum, cultural activities, field trips, operation/ administration, and school-to-school partnerships.”

[2018-19 Confucius Classroom Contract – Virginia Beach Public Schools, VA](#)

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State and federal officials should immediately begin investigations to determine the scope of China’s involvement, influence, and access to our K-12 student information and curriculum. This report should be made public once complete, so parents can make informed decisions on their children’s involvement in these controversial programs. Families should also have full access to view how these cultural and language immersion programs are financed.

At the Congressional level, committees of jurisdiction should move to hold hearings to determine the scope of this security vulnerability, and specifically to evaluate how China’s infiltration of our K-12

classrooms has compromised student information, curriculum data, and America’s intellectual property.

DE will continue to stay focused on this concerning development. Please pass along all tips and information to: [insert inbox email], so we can track down leads to be able to provide parents with an accurate perspective of how these programs are being manipulated to influence children across the United States.



PART 3: STATES AND MILITARY BASES

Arizona

Catalina Foothills School District
International School of Tucson
Tucson Unified School District

California

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District
Los Angeles Unified School District
Manhattan Beach Unified School District
Redding School of the Arts
San Diego Unified School District

Colorado

Global Village Charter Collaborative

Connecticut

East Hartford Public Schools
Glastonbury Public Schools
Greenwich Public Schools
Newtown Public Schools
Norwalk Public Schools
Simsbury Public Schools
West Hartford Public Schools

Delaware

Appoquinimink School District

Florida

Charlotte County Public Schools
Pinellas County Schools

Georgia

Fulton County Schools DeKalb County School

Illinois

Chicago Public Schools
Huntley Community School District 158
Lake Forest High School District 115

Iowa

Cedar Rapids Community School District

Kentucky

Beechwood Independent School District
Carroll County Schools
Cloverport Independent School District
Fayette County Public Schools
Fleming County Schools
Francis Parker School of Louisville (St. Francis High School)
Hardin County Public Schools
Henderson County Schools
Jefferson County Public Schools
Louisville Collegiate School
Montgomery County Schools
Oldham County Schools
Simpson County Schools

Maine

Oxford Hills School District

Maryland

Garrison Forest School

Massachusetts

Andover Public Schools

Boston Renaissance Charter Public School

Brooks School

Lexington School District

Medfield Public Schools

Michigan

Forest Hills Public Schools

Grosse Point Public School System

Oxford Community Schools

Portage Public Schools

Roeper School

Minnesota

Minnetonka Public Schools

Rochester Public Schools

St. Cloud Area School District

Nevada

Alexander Dawson School

Clark County School District

New Hampshire

Keene School District

New Jersey

Bergenfield Public School District

Englewood Public School District

Glen Ridge Public Schools

Lawrence Township Public Schools

Peddie School

Piscataway Township School District

Princeton Public Schools

The Pingry School

Wardlaw-Hartridge School

West Orange Public Schools

New York

Dalton School

Half Hallow Hills Central School District

Herricks Public Schools

Jericho Public Schools

Massapequa School District

New York City Department of Education

Nichols School

Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES

Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District

Ramapo Central School District

Suffern Central School District

Washington-Saratoga-Warren Hamilton-Essex
BOCES

North Carolina

Carrabus County Schools
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
Cumberland County Schools
Envision Science Academy
Guilford County Schools
Mount Airy City Schools
North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics
Randolph County Schools
Union County Public Schools
Wake County Public Schools
Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County Schools

Ohio

Brooklyn City School District
Chagrin Falls Schools
Columbus School for Girls
Gahanna-Jefferson School District
Shaker Heights Schools
Winton Woods City School District

Oklahoma

Heritage Hall
Tulsa Public Schools

Oregon

Beaverton School District
Bend – La Pine Schools
Hillsboro School District
St. Mary's School
Sisters School District
West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Pennsylvania

Germantown Academy
School District of Philadelphia
Sewickley Academy
Southern Lehigh School District
State College Area School District
The Hill School

Rhode Island

South Kingstown Schools
Westerly Public Schools

Tennessee

Sumner County Schools

Texas

Austin Independent School District
Coppell Independent School District
Episcopal School of Dallas
Highland Park Independent School District
Houston Independent School District
Mathis Independent School District
North East Independent School District
YES Prep Public Schools – Brays Oaks
Yselta Independent School District

Utah

Davis School District
Granite School District
Provo City School District
Renaissance Academy
Salt Lake City School District

Vermont

Arlington School District

Virginia

Collegiate School

Fairfax County Public Schools

Falls Church City Public Schools

Norfolk Public Schools

Virginia Beach City Public Schools

Washington

Bellevue School District

Issaquah School District 411

Peninsula School District

Seattle Public Schools

Washington D.C.

Washington DC International School

West Virginia

Harrison County School District

Monongalia County Schools

Wisconsin

Kettle Moraine School District

Oconomowoc Area School District

School District of Janesville

University School of Milwaukee

Wyoming

Natrona County School District

Military Bases Nearby These School Districts:

U.S. Naval Academy and Naval Support Activity (NSA) Annapolis

Buckley Air Force Base and Space Force

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base

Dover Air Force Base

Fort Bliss

Fort Liberty (formerly known as Fort Bragg)

Fort Knox

Naval Station Great Lakes

Hanscom Air Force Base

Hill Air Force Base

Lackland Air Force Base

Langley Air Force Base

Los Angeles Air Force Base

MacDill Air Force Base

McGuire Air Force Base

U.S. Coast Guard Academy and Naval Submarine Base New London

Nellis Air Force Base

Naval Station Norfolk

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard

Naval Base San Diego

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- 4 <https://2017-2021.state.gov/confucius-institute-u-s-center-designation-as-a-foreign-mission/#:~:text=The%20Australian%20Strategic%20Policy%20Institute,currentl%20chair%20the%20Confucius%20Institute>
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