

MEDIA NOTE
AMERICAN COUNCILS FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.
JUNE 1, 2013

## MANOR VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL / FORT MEADE, MD TO HOST A TEACHER FROM CHINA THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENT PROGRAM

**Washington**, **D.C.**, **June 1**, **2013** – Zhang Guifen from China has been awarded a fellowship from the U.S. Department of State to participate in the 2013 <u>Teachers of Critical Languages Program (TCLP)</u>. Ms. Zhang is one of a total of 16 teachers who have been selected from China and Egypt for participation. She will teach Chinese for a full academic year at Manor View Elementary School in Fort Meade, MD.

TCLP is designed to increase the study and acquisition of important world languages in U.S. schools. This program enables primary and secondary schools to strengthen their teaching of critical languages by bringing Egyptian and Chinese teachers to the U.S. to teach Arabic and Chinese language for an academic year. Launched in 2006, TCLP has provided fellowships to over 150 primary and secondary school teachers of English from Egypt and China to teach in K-12 schools throughout the United States.

In addition to teaching their native languages, TCLP exchange teachers expand the understanding of the world in their U.S. host communities by establishing strong ties with teachers, students, parents and members of community, and by sharing information about their home countries and cultures. At the same time, teachers gain first-hand knowledge of the United States to share with students and fellow teachers in their home countries. Upon return, many of them establish lasting bonds between their U.S. host schools and their home schools in Egypt and China.

TCLP is funded by the <u>U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs</u>, which promotes international mutual understanding through a wide range of academic, cultural, private-sector, professional and sports exchange programs. These exchanges engage youth, students, educators, artists, athletes and emerging leaders in the United States and in more than 160 countries. Alumni of ECA exchanges comprise over one million people around the world, including more than 50 Nobel Laureates and more than 350 current or former heads of state and government.

TCLP is implemented by American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS (http://www.americancouncils.org).

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