MY “DISCOVER CHINA” TRIP

AASA NATIONAL CONFERENCE – MARCH 3, 2017
DR. PHYLLIS PAJARDO, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, CITY OF FAIRFAX SCHOOLS
PHYLLIS.PAJARDO@FAIRFAXVA.GOV

- Overview of trip/program
- Highlights and Reflections
- Comments and Questions

SPECIAL THANKS TO …

- John Wu, President and Founder
- Mrs. Wu and Triway staff members in Beijing and Nanjing offices
- H. Charles (Chuck) Woodruff, Chief Operating Officer
- Tara Gao, Business/Cultural Exchange Specialist
EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE WITH CHINA

- Hosted Chinese delegations in City of Fairfax Schools
  - Fall 2015 (Fairfax HS and Lanier MS)
  - Summer 2016 (Lanier MS and Providence ES)
- Discover China Program
  - July 5-16, 2016
  - China – Beijing, Nanjing, Wuxi City
  - Delegation
    - School and district leaders
    - City of Fairfax Schools
    - Arlington Schools
    - AASA staff

WE VISITED ... BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY

- Chairperson of the University Council
- Faculty Member and Author

WE VISITED ... EDUCATIONAL OFFICES

- Beijing Institute of Education
  - Vice Dean
- Jiangsu Education for International Education
  - Secretary General
- Wuxi City Commission of Education
- National Academy of Education Administration
- Ministry of Education
  - Deputy Director
WE VISITED … SCHOOLS
- Beijing Fangshan No. 4 Middle School
- Yangzhou Tian Jia Bing Middle School
- Jiangsu Province, Xishan Senior High School
- High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China (RDFZ)
- Beijing Royal School

HIGHLIGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

FOCUS ON CULTURAL TRADITION IN SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES
FOCUS ON OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

- Makerspaces, STEAM
- 21st Century Meeting Space, State of the Art Technology

FOCUS ON FACILITIES AND WELL-EQUIPPED LEARNING SPACES

- Many of the school visits included tours of elaborate facilities being upgraded with innovative technology and flexible work spaces.

SATELLITE FACILITIES

- Satellite provides uninterrupted signal
- Robotic Conferencing Cameras
- Provides access to professionals around the globe
- Allows students to be recognized and participate in classes.
- Speciality courses have the opportunity to work with teachers from around the globe
PROTOTYPE LABS/SHOPS

- Students build model structures
- Processing materials and fabrication
- Apply geometry and math skills

PROGRAMMING AND ROBOTICS

- Dedicated classroom just for robotics
- Problem-based projects prepare students for international competitions
- All students take the class
- Each station is outfitted with materials to build robots and each station has a drone

COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

- Similar courses as the Fairfax Academy
- Several classrooms for each course
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL

- Investment in teacher education and training
- Comprehensive course programming

TOURING CHINA TO SHARE EXPERIENCES

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

CITY OF FAIRFAX SCHOOLS, VA
HTTP://CITYOFFAIRFAXSCHOOLS.ORG
DR. PETER NOONAN, SUPERINTENDENT • DR. PHYLLIS PAJARDO, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT