**East Hardin Middle School Confucius Classroom Project Summary**

East Hardin Middle School in Hardin County Kentucky is a school on the rise. East Hardin has been rated as a proficient and progressing middle school for the last two years based upon the KPREP standardized testing and has experienced improved scores every year for the last four years. Most recently East Hardin was ranked 26th out of 323 middle schools in Kentucky on the EXPLORE test.

East Hardin Middle School looks forward to working with Western Kentucky University and the Confucius Institute in an effort to give our students access and exposure to the Chinese language and culture. This opportunity will give a rural student population the chance to experience and understand the global impact of Chinese language and culture.

Our Confucius Classroom will have a focus on Chinese culture and Art. This space will function as a classroom that will house the Chinese Instructor that will have an emphasis on Chinese Art. The classroom will be a place that is equipped to allow for many different types of art projects that can help students gain a better understanding of the Chinese culture. Initial funds will be utilized to provide tables for the classroom that will function as work and display spaces for students. Funds will also be expended to provide the appropriate materials necessary to support artistic needs. This room will also become a display location that will be open to the public on open house nights as well as for special community celebrations during the year such as Chinese New Year. The ultimate vision is for the work of the students to become the decorations of the classroom.

We are committed to supporting the work of our Confucius classroom by emphasizing Chinese culture not only in the Confucius classroom but in our art classroom as well. Our current art teacher is ready to work with the new Chinese teacher to help create projects that all students will have access to that are related to Chinese culture.

The Confucius classroom is a room that all students will experience at some time during the school year and will have the opportunity to experience Chinese art and culture. Art that is created in this classroom will be displayed at our annual Fine Arts nights, Chinese New Year celebration, and at the Hardin County Diversity Fair held each February.

**East Hardin Middle School Confucius Classroom Program Outline**

I. Classroom space

1. Confucius Classroom will be used as a Chinese language and art classroom that will be accessible to both the student body and the public.
2. Confucius Classroom will serve as a showroom of student art depicting Chinese culture.

II. Demonstration and Display

1. Confucius Classroom will be used throughout the day to help instruct students in the 6th grade about Chinese culture. There will be a primary focus on art but other components of Chinese culture will be demonstrated such as food, music, and language.
2. Confucius Classroom will allow students to create Chinese art that will be displayed in the classroom, during the Fine Arts showcase and at the Hardin County Diversity Fair.

III. Academic Learning

1. Confucius Classroom will be a center for learning where the top 7th and 8th grade students from East Hardin will receive instruction in Chinese language and culture. Students that are entering the program will be asked to make a two year commitment to the program.
2. Students in the Confucius Classroom program will be required to participate in events during the school year the help exhibit their knowledge of Chinese language and culture. These events may include Chinese New Year celebrations, participation in the diversity fair, open house nights and Fine Arts night.

**East Hardin Middle School Confucius Classroom Marketing Strategy**

1. East Hardin Middle School will issue a press release that will celebrate the partnership with the Confucius Institute.
2. Art work created by the students in the Confucius classroom will be displayed in the classroom and around the school.
3. Students that successfully complete the program will be recognized at our awards program.
4. Art work will be displayed at Fine Arts night, Open Houses, Chinese New year celebration, and the Hardin County diversity fair.
5. East Hardin will submit information about the program via social media, website, local newspaper and student agenda.