

2010 Election Day Institute for Chinese Language Teachers Culturally Responsive Student Centered Learning

Have you ever wondered how to connect with your students and make your Chinese language classroom more fun and alive? Making your teaching materials and methods more student friendly and connected to their daily life and culture is the key! More than 40 Chinese teachers participated in the professional development session ,held on Tuesday, November 2 at the High School for Dual Language and Asian Studies (HS for DL), to explore new ideas and strategies to reach their students.

Pat Lo, ALBETAC Director, and Robin Harvey, DCLT Coordinator, greeted the participants and introduced the comprehensive program of the day. This introduction was followed by a warm welcome from the hosting Principal, Yan Li, at the HS for DL. Mr. Yan shared the successes and challenges of the school as well as many of the wonderful resources that the school has been utilizing.

Presenter Jamel Mims, A.K.A. Mr. Tingbudong, brought in a new aspect of looking at student culture through his Fulbright Scholarship project – Hip Pop Culture in Chinese Society. Teachers engaged in meaningful conversations and practiced incorporating the Hip Pop culture components (Rap, Break dance, graffiti, etc....) into their lessons to raise student interest and participation.

The second session focused on using songs and drama to teach Chinese as a foreign language. Ms. Harvey brought in various music and lesson samples to share with the teachers. Teachers were also given a few tasks, applying what they learned, to create meaningful and purposeful lessons for their classrooms.



Please [click here](#) to view more activity pictures.