

Senior High School



Senior high school education is designed to cultivate physically and mentally sound citizens, laying the foundation for academic research and the acquisition of professional knowledge in later years. Senior high schools can be divided into “ordinary senior high schools,” “comprehensive high schools,” “magnet senior high schools,” and “experimental high schools.” Students who graduate from junior high school or have an equivalent education level can gain admission to senior high school through methods such as examination-free entrance, application, recommendation and screening, and registration and placement. 160 credits are required for graduation.

Senior High School

A. Promoting 12-Year Basic Education:

1. The Ministry of Education has long been planning for the launch of 12-year Basic Education, and since 2008 has been implementing the 12-year Basic Education Precursor Program.

2. To allow junior high school education to become more adaptive, creative, active, superior and quality-driven, and to enhance the quality of high school and vocational high school education,

President Ma Ying-jeou made the announcement during his New Year's speech for the ROC's Centennial Celebration of the initiation of 12-year Basic Education.

3. Key objectives for the year 2012~2013: Promote the "Implementation Plan for 12-year Basic Education" approved by the Executive Yuan and ensure that it is completely and effectively carried out.

B. Advanced Science Education and Cultivation of Talent in the Science:

1. Taiwan has achieved outstanding results in the international Mathematics and Science Olympiad. Domestic mathematics and science competitions are frequently held for senior high school students, and there are also science talent cultivation plans and domestic and international exhibitions to stimulate interest and learning in the sciences.

2. Key objectives for the year 2013:

(i) Continue training students for the Math and Science Olympiads, and organize similar domestic competitions in mathematics and information technology for junior high school and senior high school students.

(ii) Plan to host the 26th International Olympiad in Informatics in 2014.

(iii) Continue supporting secondary and elementary education projects in science and cultivation programs for scientific talent.

(iv) Set up science programs in senior high schools and monitor the effectiveness of the programs.



C. Bring Second Foreign Language Education into Practice and Improve Students' International Awareness:

1. The main goals of the third 5-year plan to "Improve Second Foreign Language Education in High Schools", launched in 2010, include:

(i) Encouraging and schools to adopt the plan and offering them support.

(ii) Strengthening the promotion mechanism for the second foreign language education system.

(iii) Creating a second foreign language learning environment.

(iv) Improving the teacher recruitment system.

2. In SY1999, a total of 22,623 high schools students chose to enroll in a second foreign

language, a number which ballooned to 108,166 by SY2011. In SY2011, ten colleges and universities applied to offer 33 advanced placement foreign language classes for high school students, which is 21 more classes than were offered in SY2008.

3. Key points for the year 2013~2014:

Continue encouraging schools to teach more foreign languages and offer more foreign language classes in order to cultivate talent and increase international competitiveness in the area of languages.

Vocational high schools serve to cultivate technical personnel with professional knowledge and practical skills, and to help students lay the foundation for their future careers. To meet the rapidly-changing demands of students and industry, the following programs have been adopted:

Vocational High School

Vocational Schools

Vocational education is credit-based, with 160 credits required for graduation. Curriculum planning focuses on meeting the needs of the rapidly-changing industry. Graduates can choose to continue with studies at a university of technology, technical college or two-year junior college, to enter the job market, or to start one's own business.

Practical Skills-Based Curriculum

These programs impart practical skills to students who choose the technical arts curriculum in junior high school, providing them with the means to enter the job market and secure employment. Instruction is provided via day classes or evening classes, and students are eligible for graduation after completing 150 credits in 3 years.

Cooperative Education (Alternative Classes)

These classes were first implemented in 1969. Students study general subjects and theory at school while receiving hands-on training in the workplace. This approach was extremely popular in past decades. Now, in response to the changing environment, the Ministry of Education has published "Implementation Guidelines for Cooperative Education in Vocational High Schools," changing the hour-based system into a credit-based system. Students can graduate after completing 150 credits in 3 years.

In order to enhance cooperative education and ensure the rights and privileges of students in the cooperative education programs, the Ministry of Education established an "the Act of the Cooperative Education Implementation in Senior High Schools and the Protection of Student Participants' Right" approved, promulgated and enacted by the President on January 2, 2013 with Hua-Tsung (1)-Yi-Tzu No. 10100290761. ■





Eco-friendly Yet Shining: a Fish Scale-made Dress Wows the Audience

Lin Li-hsin, 18, Senior, Department of Facial & Hair Beautification, Kaoyuan Vocational High School

A bunch of students aged between 18 and 19 took their interpretation of the term “eco-friendly chic” and fabricated it into a ballet dress made of waste mullet scales, winning the runner-up spot in the national vocational high school students’ project competition this year.

Living near a fishing harbor and seeing lots of discarded fish scales, Lin Li-hsin, then a senior studying in the Department of Facial & Hair Beautification, felt the impetus to recycle and make the most of them.

Lin teamed up with classmates Chuang Tsu-yi, Wu Pei-chi, Yang Yu-hsuan, Ke Chin-yao, Ling Yu-wen, Wu Ching-wen and Li Yi-hsuan to further develop the idea. They found that the scales of jumping mullet reflecting a delicate radiance in the

sunshine were a lot like a ballet dancer pirouetting in the water.

After gathered a desired quantity of materials, Lin and her classmates first cleaned, dried, trimmed and ground the scales. Then, they applied their nail art painting skills to do some painting.

The winning work underwent several failures before they came up with a satisfactory finished product. “It’s time-consuming and took a lot of labor, as we had to trim the different-sized scales to the same size,” said the students, “not to mention the smell of the scales.”

But the most challenging part came during the painting process. “We tried crystal nail with nail polish, acrylic lacquer with nail polish, and finally adopted a nail-painting spray gun with nail polish that dries quickly and can apply color evenly on scales.”

“The spirit of teamwork and the chance to see other creative works were the most rewarding parts of this experience,” said the team. ■

Seeing his school club instructor rush in and out to answer calls on a fixed-line phone inspired Lu Yu-yung to invent a utility that can answer a phone call through a cell phone or other appliance with no extra charge. The idea won him and his team a gold medal in the category of Telecommunications at the 2012 Invention & New Product Exposition (INPEX) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

EZ CHAT, as the name suggests, allows people to chat effortlessly simply by connecting to any electronic products through Bluetooth. Thus, within a range of up to 90 meters, according to the team, people can pick up phone calls or call out via a fixed-line phone to save fees.

“Many people have had an experience where phone rings just as they are about to leave or return home, and then it suddenly stops ringing when you rush to answer it,” says Lu. “If you have EZ CHAT installed at home, you can easily answer the call from outside the house,” he says.

Lu teamed up with his peers Li Yu-feng, Pan Kuan-yao, Tsai Jen-kai and Lin Chih-chiang to design a data interconnection bridge after 13 months’ effort. In addition to the convenience, EZ CHAT also helps to avoid the risk of bacterial inter-infection,” adds instructor Yang Chen-che.

“The most challenging part during the invention process was consistency in modifications and the testing of programs,” recalls the team. “We also had to reinvent the circuit design several times due to failures.”

However, the students believe that the best invention is one that makes life better, and they eventually conquered all obstacles and won the gold medal at widely-acclaimed INPEX.

“Winning the competition has brought us huge sense of accomplishment and made us more confident in everything we do,” say the young inventors. ■



Remote Chat Utility Makes Communication Easier

Lu Yu-yung, 16, Freshman, Chung Shan Industrial & Commercial School