

# Senior High School

## 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.

### A 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 2014:

- i. Continue training students for the Math and Science Olympiads, and organize similar
- 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.

domestic competitions in mathematics and information technology for junior high school and senior high school students.

### B 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 enrolled in 648 second foreign language classes, a number which ballooned to 112,980 students with 3,760 classes by SY2012,

which is 4.97 times the number in SY1999. In SY2013, nine universities, colleges and junior colleges applied to offer 31 advanced placement foreign language classes for high school students.

**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 School**

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 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.

**Steadily Promote 12-year Basic Education**

**A** 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.

**B** 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.



**C Key objectives for the year 2012~2014:**  
Promote the "Implementation Plan for 12-year Basic Education" approved by the Executive Yuan and ensure that it is completely and effectively carried out. The President also promulgated the Senior High School Education Act on July 10, 2013 to establish the legitimacy of 12-year Basic Education. ●

## Young Leaders Take Action to Change the World for Better

National  
Changhua  
Senior High School

"Tiny men, huge egos" might be the best description of students from National Changhua Senior High School as well as their peers from Canada, Japan, the Czech Republic, Malaysia and other nations as they take real action to discuss serious issues and change the world.

Initiated in 2006, the International High School Youth Leadership Conference is held annually under the umbrella theme of "Reading + Action = Change the World", in a bid to encourage high school students to change themselves and the world with knowledge and passion gained from reading.

So far the event has attracted 300 students from 100 schools in over 40 countries as it reaches its tenth anniversary next year. Janine Maxwell, the author of



the international bestseller "Is It Okay with You?" has said "The weeklong conference in Taiwan was one of the highlights of my life, and my life has not been uneventful."

She said after the 2009 meeting, "We were completely blown away, not only by the size and significance of this gesture, but by the fact that this high school in Taiwan was taking the world stage by inviting youth leaders from all over the world to gather and discuss global change."

Five representatives from each of ten high schools abroad are invited to attend a 10-day experience that embodies seminars, class events and host family activities, as well as tours of Taiwan. The foreign students are asked to write an essay of 2000 words and attend all meetings, while their peers from

Taiwan act as full-time passionate hosts during the weeklong activity.

"We bring forth performances rich in Taiwanese culture such as indigenous dances," says David Chen, who participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the get-together. "The superb performances showed Taiwanese students' creativity and passion and made us realize that high school students are able to introduce Taiwan to the world," he says.

Beginning in 2011, in addition to the seminars, the event included a fundraising event, "Walk for Water," aimed at helping to solve drinking water issues in Africa. Now, a fund of NT\$3 million has been successfully raised and will be used to build a reservoir for drinking water and irrigation purposes in the near future. ●



Billed as the longest-standing artistic craft and design school in Taiwan that established in 1957, Fu-Hsin Trade and Arts School has spared no effort in cultivating young talents, while at the meantime ensured the training meets industry demand.

Concrete measures include portrait sketch program, regular art-related competitions and exhibitions, in addition to

fundamental training. All are aimed to lay a robust ground and expand the horizon of students.

In 2013, Fu-Hsin furthered to strengthen the academic-industry tie through the anime, comic and game industry program co-host by world-renowned game software company XPEC Entertainment. Professionals in the line were invited to give instruction, while students were granted internship during breaks. Those with outstanding performance were rewarded and admitted to a position in the company after graduation. It's also the first-ever successful cooperation of its kind in New Taipei City.

As a frequent award winner, Fu-Hsin has snatched dozens of titles



## A Cradle of Young Art Talents

Fu-Hsin Trade and  
Arts School

in various competitions such as the best vocational high school, best team award of 4C digital creation competition, just to name a few.

"Fu-Hsin is confident in brand management, and we're certain that we are among the best in vocational high schools," said Principal Wang Chich-chen.

In the near future, Fu-Hsin plans to lift students' literacy in culture, art, design, and technology; deepen students' learning motivation and competitiveness; promote academic-industry cooperation in the fields of cultural creativity, anime comic, and games to reinforce employment; integrate resources from society, community, and alumni to establish a role model for vocational education. ●