Stars Newcomer Program
Who are the Stars?

• new to the United States
• beginning stages of learning English
• middle school students ages 11-15
• engaged in grade level content and skills
The Folk Arts–Cultural Treasures Charter School comes out of a history of struggle:

- for equity and justice for Asian American students and immigrant and refugee students of all races in the public schools;
- for public investment and public space in the under-served Chinatown community;
- & for public schooling that engages children as active participants in working for a just society.

After a decade and a half of public school advocacy and organizing, Asian Americans United decided to start a school that would **address the particular needs of Asian American immigrant and refugee students**, with an emphasis on the Chinatown community, and create the kinds of changes we had been advocating.

FACTS is designed to provide expertise and knowledge regarding the needs of Asian American and immigrant students; to bridge the gulf of isolation, unfamiliarity with institutions, and language barriers that prevent parents and community members from playing active roles in the education of their children; and to provide our students with the character, skills, and sense-of-self they need to thrive in this world.
• The Stars program started in 2017.
• Students build community in a self-contained class most of the day.
• Core classes: math, English, social studies and science.
• Stars are integrated into middle school for electives, ensembles, lunch and recess.
Who can join the Stars program?

1. Students new(er) to the United States
2. Going to grades 6th through 8th
3. In the 1.0 to 2.9 range on the WIDA ACCESS
Logistics

- Located in Chinatown North (Center City)
- Bussing is available
- We will need an Intent to Enroll form and the students most recent WIDA scores.
- We are a K-8 school. Siblings will have preference in next year's lottery.
Curriculum Design:
1. maximize language learning
2. trauma-informed environment
3. ethnographic tools and practices

Real-world learning in a safe environment that helps to increase language learning!
Stars students study and explore our communities.

- School as a community
- Chinatown neighborhood
- Foodways
- Philadelphia neighborhoods
- Public Transportation

Language Learning with meaningful context

Ethnographic tools and skills

Trauma-informed practice
Interested?

Learn more:
http://www.factschool.org/en/middle-school-newcomer-program/

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