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Interactive Videoconferencing now Available at Queen of Peace

Consistent with Queen of Peace High School's commitment to seamless integration of advanced instructional methods and technologies, the school recently added interactive videoconferencing capabilities to their program.

"Videoconferencing in the Peace Media Center gives us the ability to offer courses and interact with other schools and teachers throughout the world," said President/Principal Dr. Kathleen Hanlon. "The possibilities for additional personal contact with people around the globe are now available to our students."

Presently, this opportunity is being made available to students of a Mandarin Chinese class. The course, which is being offered for the first time this fall, will immerse students in global collaboration.

"Mandarin Chinese is the fastest growing language in the world, and it certainly will give students an opportunity to understand more of the world and to be able to succeed within a global economy," Hanlon said. "It is rich in the opportunities and long-range implications that it's going to provide our students."

Course instructor Yanfei Hu, an MBA candidate at Dominican University, also will be teaching students from Maria High School, which has partnered with Peace for the yearlong course. Hu began learning English when she was 10-years-old, and became a certified tour guide in China through the Northwest University for Nationalities, where she earned a degree in Chinese Literature. Of the 5,000 people who took the six-hour test in 2007, only 10 became certified.

“In China it is required for students to learn English, and I hope more and more Americans will begin to learn Chinese,” Hu said. “I am proud of my language and culture, and I am very excited to be able to teach Chinese in a high school in the United States.”

In a school year dedicated to the Dominican value of Community, Peace is looking forward to the opportunity to implement and participate in educational programs worldwide, as well as provide links with community organizations. It is Peace’s hope to offer live presentations from colleges, museums and other global connections to area schools through their videoconferencing center.

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