



Dr. YVONNE CHAN
NOTES BIOGRAPHIQUES / BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Dr. Yvonne Chan is the Principal of the Vaughn Next Century Learning Center in Los Angeles which serves 1,500 PK-6th students living in poverty (95.5% Hispanic, 4.5% African-American, 1000 Limited-English proficient students; 100% free lunch eligibles). She has pushed public school reform to its limits. Student achievement soars and attendance is near perfect.

As one of the most successful urban public school and a conversion charter schools in the nation, Vaughn serves as a model which has solved many public education challenges, including class size reduction to 20 in all grades, universal preschool education, accelerated English learning, special education full inclusion, longer school day till six and longer school year of 200 days, a school-based clinic, museum, family center and business co-op, community library and university professional development center, a schoolwide teacher peer-review system, and a performance pay plan for all staff.

Through her shrewd management skills, the school leverages millions of dollars for programs and new buildings. It turned a crack house to a school house, built three new schools, provided construction jobs, and stimulated economic growth in the community. By 2005, Vaughn will be a full-service Pk-12th learning center serving 2,400 students on four contiguous campuses under Dr. Chan's most capable leadership.

Vaughn was named the 1995 California Distinguished School and the 1996 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. It was visited by the Mrs. Hillary Clinton, U. S. legislators and dignitaries from all over the world. Dr. Chan has delivered keynote addresses in 37 states on school reform, given testimonials in our nations' capitol, in China, Thailand, Argentina, and Chile. In 2001, Dr. Chan and her 84 staff members took over the instruction of three schools in Beijing and Shanghai through a US-China collaborative program. She was invited to many town hall meetings with President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, as well as President George W. Bush. Dr. Chan was profiled by *Time Magazine*, *Prime Time Life*, *Good Morning America*, *National PBS*, *Education Week* and various local and national publications.

Her degrees include a B.A. in foreign languages from UCLA, a M.A. in special education from California State University, Northridge, a doctorate in education from UCLA, and post-doctoral in computer science. Dr. Chan is a first-generation immigrant who came to the US alone at age 17 with only \$100 and has realized her American Dream. She is multilingual (English, Spanish, Chinese) and a master in grant writing.

In addition to being a school principal, she is also an adjunct professor at UCLA and California State University. Dr. Chan is a Commissioner of the Los Angeles City Commission for Children Youth and Families. She also serves on the Board of Public/Private Venture in Philadelphia, the WorldClass Schools Foundation in Florida, the California State University Advisory Board, the Consortium for Policy Research in Education, College Board-Curriculum Advisory Committee in New York.

She was awarded the National Educator Award by the California State Department of Education in 1991. Her donation of the entire cash prize of \$25,000 to her school has leveraged more than a million dollars in matching grant funds for her students. She received numerous awards including Woman Making History, Educator of the Year by the National Council of Negro Women, the Pacoima Chamber of commerce, the Optimist Club, the Organization of Chinese American Women, the Y.W.C.A., the Asian Businesses, USC and UCLA. In 1997, she was awarded the McGraw Hill Prize in Education Award and again she donated the \$25,000 prize to her students.