



Changchun American International School, POI Matrix 2017 - 2018

Updated June, 2017

Grade level	Who we are An Inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.	Where we are in place and time An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.	How we express ourselves An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.	How the world works An inquiry into the natural worlds and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.	How we organize ourselves An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.	Sharing the planet An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and with other living things; communities and the relationships within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.
<b>Pre-K</b>	<b>Central Idea</b> We develop our identities through the things we do. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Experiences that help develop our identities • Our roles and responsibilities • How families and friends shape who we are <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Connection, Causation <b>Related Concepts:</b> Family, Identity, Traditions 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People use different spaces for different functions. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Different places have different uses, purposes and organisation • We use places in our daily life • Different ways we can use a space <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Function, Change <b>Related Concepts:</b> Space, Organization, Habitat 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> We can express our emotions creatively. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How ideas and feelings can be explored and expressed • How senses affect our ideas and feelings • Things we like and dislike <b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Reflection, Responsibility <b>Related Concepts:</b> Emotion, Colour, Texture 2 <sup>nd</sup>			<b>Central Idea</b> People can take responsibility for the well being of other animals. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Characteristics of animals • Our needs and the needs of animals • How our actions affect animals <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Reflection, Causation <b>Related Concepts:</b> Classification, Lifestyle, Life 3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>K1</b>	<b>Central idea</b> We learn about how people are the same and different by learning about ourselves. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • Our physical characteristics • Differences and similarities between people • People's unique abilities <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Function, Connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Growth, Diversity, Natural Borders 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Central idea</b> People go to different places using many forms of transportation. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • Means of travel • How to show respect and stay safe wherever • The journeys we take in our lives <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Change, Form <b>Related Concept:</b> Safety, Culture, Citizenship 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Central idea</b> We can express ourselves through forms of celebrations. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • Reasons people celebrate • Different traditions in celebrations • Similarities and differences between celebrations <b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Connection, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Traditions, Symbols, Celebration Revisited	<b>Central idea</b> People can choose different light sources to use energy wisely. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • Different sources and properties of light • How we use light • Conserving energy <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Reflection, Responsibility <b>Related Concept:</b> Conservation of Energy, Forms of Energy (light), Technology 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central idea</b> Communities are able to work when members contribute to shared rules and routines. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • What rules and routines are • Why we need rules and routines • Our school rules and routines <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Responsibility, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Roles, Rights and Responsibilities, Community 1 <sup>st</sup>	
<b>K2</b>	<b>Central Idea:</b> Friendships enrich our lives and require nurturing in order to develop. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How friendships are made and kept • How our similar and different interests affect our friendships • Why friends are needed <b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Connection, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Interdependence, Conflict, Growth 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Central idea</b> Local conditions can determine the structure of a shelter. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • What a shelter is. • How local conditions affect the structure of a shelter. <b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Form, Causation. <b>Related Concept:</b> Materials, Diversity, Weather. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Central Idea:</b> People express their feelings through the arts. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Different forms of art • Ways to interpret artistic expression • How feelings and ideas can be expressed through the arts <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Change, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Art forms, Feelings, Shape 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea:</b> The properties of air can provide advantages and obstacles in human activities. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The evidence of the existence of air • The properties of air • How air is used in a varieties of ways <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Connection, Function <b>Related Concepts:</b> Evidence, Properties, Gases 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea:</b> Individuals and groups work together to make society function <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Individuals and groups in our local communities • Communities we belong to • How people work together <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Function, Change <b>Related Concepts:</b> Compromise, Systems, Cooperation 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Central Idea:</b> Living things share space to meet their different needs. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Living things in our environment • The needs of living things • What our responsibility is toward living things <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Causation, Function <b>Related Concepts:</b> Ecosystems, Conservation, Landscape 5 <sup>th</sup>
<b>PYPI</b>	<b>Central Idea</b> People can make choices about their eating habits. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Healthy dietary habits • Benefits of a nutritious diet • Proper hygiene <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Function, Form <b>Related Concept:</b> Health, Diet, Growth 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People look to the past to better understand the present <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Moments in time that caused significant change • Ways to find out about the past • Things that have changed or have stayed the same over time <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Reflection, Connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Evidence, History, Chronology 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Humans can communicate messages in various ways. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Signs and symbols • Ways to communicate messages • Who we communicate with <b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Responsibility, Connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Communication, forms of energy (electricity, heat, kinetic, light, potential, sound), Innovation 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People can use force, balance and motion to explain how things happen. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The effects of force and motion • How different materials affect force, balance and motion • How to use force, balance and motion to solve problems <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Function, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Mechanics, Force, Landscape 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea:</b> People create rules to govern the behaviours of other people in various situations. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Different rules in different places • Types of rules • Consequences of breaking rules <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Perspective, Causation <b>Related Concepts:</b> Authority, Rules, Changes of State 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Living things require nutrients to live and get them from a variety of sources. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Where food comes from • How living things get their nutrients • How food is processed <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Connection, Responsibility <b>Related Concepts:</b> Organism, Nutrition, Consumption 3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>PYP2</b>	<b>Central Idea</b> People celebrate as a way to share their beliefs and values. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Types of celebrations and their characteristics • The connection between beliefs and celebrations • Reasons for celebrations <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Connection, Reflection <b>Related Concept:</b> Celebration, Belief, Properties and uses of materials 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Exploration leads to discoveries, opportunities and new understanding. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How people explore the modern world and beyond • How explorations have taken place over time • The consequences of exploration <b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Responsibility, Causation <b>Related Concepts:</b> Geography, Discovery, Exploration 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People tell stories to entertain and communicate ideas. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Ways stories are communicated • What stories convey and express • How stories can be passed on <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Function, Perspective <b>Related Concepts:</b> Conflict, History, Classification 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People can use energy to their advantage when they understand it. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Different forms and sources of energy. • The transformation and uses of energy. • Benefits and challenges in using different forms of energy. <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Change, Perspective. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Properties, Systems, Sequences. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People take on different roles to participate in, and contribute to, a community. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How different jobs contribute to a community • Procedures within different communities • Our rights and responsibilities in the communities we belong to. <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Function, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Rights and Responsibility, Roles, Adaptation 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People employ a variety of strategies to resolve conflict with others. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Strategies to resolve conflict • Causes of conflict • Possible outcomes of conflict resolution strategies <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Connection, Change <b>Related Concepts:</b> Space, Borders, Prejudice 4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>PYP3</b>	<b>Central Idea</b> Individuals can choose their role models to help shape their beliefs, values and personal identities. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • What determines our beliefs and values • How, when and why role models are chosen • Influence of role models on our choices <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Responsibility, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Beliefs, Identity, Growth 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Societies change and adjust to influences from outside cultures. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • Similarities and differences between countries and cultures • Countries and national identities • How cultures have influenced each other over time <b>Key Concepts:</b> Reflection, Connection, Perspective <b>Related Concepts:</b> Evolution, Conflict, Impact 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Imagination enables us to think, create and express ideas and feelings creatively. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Different ways cultures express their imagination • How people use technology to be creative • The use of imagination and creativity in designing structures <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Change, Reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Structures, Attributes, Communication 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People can prepare for sudden or slow changes to the earth and its weather. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Causes, effects and experiences of natural disasters • How people and communities can prepare for natural disasters • Human responses to the earth's changes <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Causation, Function <b>Related Concepts:</b> Erosion, Plate tectonics, Consequences 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Organizations can work together with governments and communities to ensure basic human rights are provided for children. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Basic human rights • Challenges, risks and opportunities that children face • Ways in which individuals, organizations and nations work to protect children from risk <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Perspective, Connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Rights and Responsibilities, Dependence, Resources 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Ecosystems require a balance between different types of organism to remain healthy <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The composition and usefulness of different types of soil • Types of ecosystems • Ways to maintain healthy ecosystems <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Function, Connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> Biodiversity, Ecosystems, Interaction 6 <sup>th</sup>
<b>PYP4</b>	<b>Central Idea</b> The effective interactions between body systems contribute to health and survival. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Body systems and how they work • How body systems are independent • The impact of lifestyle choices on the body <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Connection, Reflection. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems, Interdependence, Lifestyle 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Humans migrate in response to challenges, risks and opportunities. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The reasons why people have migrated throughout history • How people can prepare for migration • Effects of migration on communities, culture and individuals <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Causation, Perspective. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Migration, Adaptation, Preparation 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People can create or manipulate messages to influence a target audience. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • Reasons for influencing others with specific messages • Ways in which advertisements and media influence us • How people discern between messages that could have positive or negative effects on their lives <b>Key Concepts:</b> Reflection, Function, Perspective. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Media, Persuasion, Propaganda 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People design and create products through a variety of scientific methods to improve the lives of individuals and communities. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How the manufacturing process creates by-products and how they can be reduced • The nature of natural scientific processes • Why people change materials <b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Change, Responsibility. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Industrialization, Roles, Properties and uses of Materials 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Our daily decisions help direct changes in local and global economies. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The role of supply and demand • The distribution of goods and services • Our changing economic responsibilities locally and globally <b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Connection, Change. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Trade, Distribution, Economics 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Collaboration and the responsible management of globally limited resources can achieve sustainability for future generations. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The impact of the distribution of resources on individuals and communities. • Factors that encourage or discourage responsible resource management. • Best practice for sustainable change. <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Perspective, Responsibility. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Conservation, Sustainability, Natural and Human Resources. 6 <sup>th</sup>
<b>PYP5</b>	<b>Central Idea</b> People's sense of self evolves during changes that occur throughout life. <b>Lines of inquiry</b> • Consequences of the choices we make • Changes that happen at different stages in life • How to keep a sound mind and body <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Change, Responsibility <b>Related Concepts:</b> Progress, Evolution, Health 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Societies document significant breakthroughs and events to preserve knowledge and understanding. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The ways a society records and preserves information. • Individuals who are remembered for inspiring or implementing change. • Different opinions about important historical figures. <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Connection, Perspective. <b>Related Concepts:</b> Classification, History, Chronology. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> People use art and design to reflect their culture <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How art reflects societal values and issues • Preserving cultural art forms • How cultural art has changed over time <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Form, Change <b>Related Concepts:</b> Culture, Art forms, Materials 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>EXHIBITION</b> <b>Central Idea</b> Problem solving extends human capabilities and leads to inventions and innovations <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • The uses of simple machines and scientific forces • How to use tools to create solutions • The scientific method <b>Key Concepts:</b> All <b>Related Concepts:</b> Student Choice 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Central Idea</b> Governments use different systems and leadership styles to influence and organize their citizens. <b>Lines of Inquiry</b> • How government systems function • How decision-making practices can affect a society • The rights and responsibilities of citizenship <b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Causation, Function <b>Related Concepts:</b> Citizenship, Borders (natural, social and political), Geography 1 <sup>st</sup>	

\* The ordinal number denotes the order of the UOI for the academic year, 2017 - 2018.