

THE WESTSIDE BREEZE 古人

December 2020

西區中文學校



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科技戰爭

Jiansong Xie: Vice Principal Academic Affairs

行政面試: Meet Our Admins

I have a BA degree in German Language and Literature, and studied for a year pursuing my dream to be a professional Pipa player. I received my two master's degrees in Social Work and Educational Leadership. Life is full of surprises. I went back to get my doctoral degree in Policy, Planning & Development in 2012 while working at USC as a faculty member, and graduated in 2018. I also volunteer as a member for the CA Department of Education Student Mental Health Policy workgroup, as well as serving as a board/treasurer for a 503c NGO Friends of School Mental Health (FSMH) that provides emergency funds to LAUSD students and families in need. Recently, I was virtually deployed to support Bobcat/North Cal fire victims as an American Red Cross Mental Health volunteer.

I truly enjoy my community volunteerism. I enjoy traveling around the world, watching movies, cooking and learning about different cultures. Since March, I get to spend more quality time with my twin nephews, as well as learning all kinds of technology through their virtual learning.



Suh Chen Hsiao: Principal

I love being a part of this 50 years of learning community.

Technology is changing how we think, behave and learn. How can we leverage technology for social good and change the landscape of our world? It will be a collaborative effort from all of us to support our students' remote learning.

I received a PhD in Biology at USC in 2003. I also held a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Medicine before coming to the U.S. in 1998. After 5 years of postdoctoral training at USC, I joined a biotechnology company in Thousand Oaks in 2008 aiming to help patients where I have been working as a senior scientist and lab manager for 12 years. I like hiking, traveling and cooking. I am glad my cooking skills have improved during the quarantine. My family and I are grateful to be members of the CLSSC family for seven years, and we really appreciate the education, help and support we received from the school. My goal as academic VP is to team up with other admin team members to serve and support our teachers, students and parents to make Chinese learning a fun and rewarding experience.



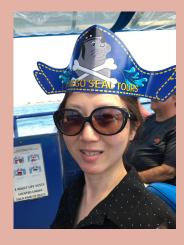
Sharon Savene: Vice Principal General Affairs

I have a B.S. in Aquatic Biology from UCSB, and an M.S. in Zoology from the University of Florida. I currently work as a full time Lactation Consultant at Cedars Sinai Medical Center. I am also an actress, singer, writer, director, and producer. We installed a rock climbing wall in our home, and have been literally climbing the wall lately. Prior to the quarantine I sang with LA South Towns Show Chorus (a Sweet Adeline's Chorus), as well as leading La Leche League meetings, my daughter's girl scout troop, and caring for and cuddling with our two black cats, and pet hamster. I also recently started a rather intricate cross stich... I hope to help the school weather the challenges we face this year. I also hope to encourage that sense of community that the Westside Chinese school has always had. Even though we are not meeting in the same location on Saturdays, I hope we can find ways to still feel connected.

I am in the real estate business. I have done work in the non-profit sector as well as management consulting for retail businesses throughout the United States. I am on the board of a university and a non-profit. I received an Economics major and a Business Administration minor from UC Berkeley. When I was younger, I used to be an avid swing dancer. I am now more focused on spending time with my kids and family. Since we began quarantining at home, we've really enjoyed having movie nights with the kids. I've always wanted to watch the Star Wars movies and the MCU movies with my kids when they get older, and there is no better time to check that off your list than when we are all quarantining at home! So far we have gone through all 3 trilogies of Star Wars and most of the way through the Marvel Cinematic Universe! One of my goals this year is to work with the rest of the administration to formulate a strategic plan that will carry us through this pandemic and beyond. I think it is very important that we come together as a school community and get through this unprecedented year together!



Patrick Poon: Vice Principal



Mary Chan: Treasurer

I am a MBA and CPA. My professional job is to collaborate with other professionals to oversee and give advice on certain financial and business operations at the corporate level of an university. My hobbies are traveling, watching movies and reading. The quarantine activities that I am grateful for (not necessarily fun) is to be able to work from home and see my daughter in person. As the Treasurer is the only Board position that needs to report to governmental agencies, my goal is to be able to close the book and file tax returns successfully again this school year. Life is tough, what can you do?

Jieping Yang: Director, Registration

I received my PhD in cell biology at Indiana University. I am now working at UCLA in the field of nutrition research. My hobbies are cooking, gardening and watching movies. I really appreciate that I am able to spend more time with family and friends during quarantine. One of my goals this year is to register all the potential students and process all the registration related requests as quickly as possible.





Kevin Sun: Director, Student Affairs

I have a master's degree in computer science. I am currently working as an IT in a video game company. Before quarantine I was teaching kids Kung Fu in a studio every weekend. My hobbies are playing video games, singing karaoke, and Kung fu practice. My role this year is to become the communication bridge between teachers, students and parents in the curriculum and class performance area. Evaluations and surveys can be used to find out possible ways to improve; also, teachers and the school can be affimative about all the wonderful things they have done.

Yue Liu: Director, Student Events

I got my Ph.D degree from Shandong University. I work at UCLA as a staff member, focusing on tumor treatment. My hobbies are reading and cooking. This is my first year in this position. I look forward to helping my supervisor realize our goal.





Cheng Ling Yu:
A Track Teacher Rep

I earned a degree in Banking and Insurance in Taiwan and later worked as a licensed underwriter at Central Insurance Company. After immigrating to the US, I studied early childhood development at UCLA Extension. I have taught at Westside Chinese school since 2003 and teach Chinese outside of Chinese school. I have participated in Chinese Teaching trainings hosted by the School of Continuing Education, National Taiwan Normal University in 2005 and 2015. I am also certified as a Chinese Culture and Folk Art Teacher by the Overseas Community Affairs Council, Taiwan. Currently, I am an executive council member of Southern California Council of Chinese Schools (SCCCS). This year, I am learning different digital teaching tools in order to better engage and motivate students during this difficult time period. As the A Track Teacher Representative, my goal is to share insights and difficulties teachers have in teaching with the rest of the school to ultimately find solutions. Let us work together to support our school!

I received my Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University and my Masters degree from Pacific State University. I used to be a long-term substitute Mandarin teacher at Vista Mar and New Roads private high school. Currently I'm working at Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Traveling around the world and learning about different cultures is one of my hobbies I truly enjoy. During this trying time in quarantine, I regularly work out on the treadmill, bike ride with my family to the beach and support local business by ordering gourmet family meals. It's my pleasure to have the opportunity to be the B Track teacher representative this year. One of my goals this year is to be a good liaison between teachers and the school board. I will try to support students with remote learning by stimulating their experience, focusing on each student individually, and trying to make learning fun and interesting.



Eve Wallace: B Track Teacher Rep

I have a Bachelors in Science from NYU in Marketing and a Master of Fine Arts from UCLA in Playwriting. I currently work at UCLA in the Department of Theater and am active in the theater community in Los Angeles. Most recently, I wrote a short play for the TogetherLA Digital Stage Festival, which will be streaming on Twitch in the month of October. I have been very busy during quarantine. I improved my sewing considerably with the Auntie Sewing Squad in the early days of the pandemic by sewing masks and other PPE items for health organizations and vulnerable communities across the country. I also improved my camera skills by cocreating a web series on how to stay sane while quarantining at home and took part in a letter writing campaign to encourage voter participation in the upcoming election. Asian Americans have the lowest participation rate of all minorities. Vote! I'd like to help keep our children's educational online experience as dynamic as it was when we were in person.



Annette Lee: B Track Parent Rep

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Susan Chang: A Track Parent Rep

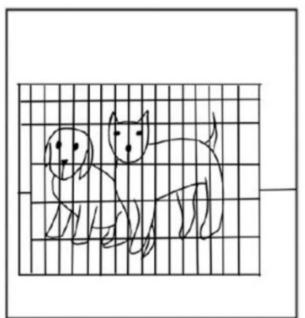
I have a bachelor's degree in Math/Applied Science. I have worked benefit in retirement administration and in accounting in the past. Now I'm a stay at home mom. I love to read. One fun thing I have done with our daughter during the quarantine is to learn how to make simple jewelry. I would like to help the Westside Chinese School communicate with parents whatever way is helpful and to help parents and students connect to resources in our Chinese school.



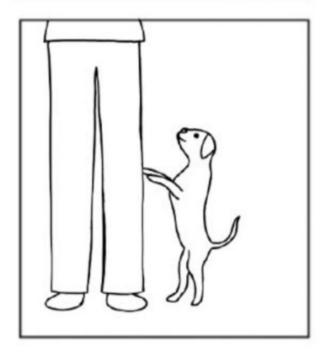
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By Amelia Chief 漆曉曦

Pangolin PSA - Jason Durkee

You probably don't know about the Pangolin. (or maybe you do - kudos) They're rare buggers that are only found in Asia/Africa, and to top it off, the best you'll find for public relations is the pokémon Sandslash (and Sandshrew too), and maybe an offhand reference in an animated movie. Pangolins are nocturnal mammals that eat ants and termites. The pangolin's main form of defense is their scales, which they utilize by rolling up into balls, similar to armadillos or "rolly pollies".



Pangolin - Facts

- -Only mammals with scales
- -Eight species in total: Four are found in Asia and four are found in Africa
- -Baby Pangolins ride on their mother's tail
- -Pangolins are the most trafficked animal in the world, making up about 20% of trafficking
- -Pangolins have no teeth, instead using their long tongues to eat insects

In Chinese the Pangolin is called 穿山甲 or Chuān shān jiǎ. This translation refers to its scales as "armor" that they wear, and to the mountains in reference to their digging abilities.

Pangolins have a disease similar to Covid-19, which started the idea that they caused the pandemic. They are affected by a coronavirus, but it isn't likely that their equivalent is the cause of the pandemic, or that Covid-19 evolved from something they had. Regardless, more mass slaughter of the animal won't fix our predicament, it will only further



endanger them. Also, worth noting, the theory connecting Pangolins to Covid-19 infers that the disease originated in an illegal animal market selling pangolin, so maybe there's a lesson there.

Many cultures and specifically TCM or traditional Chinese medicine use pangolin scales in some of their practices. Pangolin scales have no medicinal worth because their scales are primarily made of keratin, so powdering or roasting scales is closer to eating your nails than medical treatment. In case clarification is needed, there is no medical basis for claims of spontaneous amelioration/alleviation by the consumption of rare* animal scales. Using pangolin scales in traditional medicines or as a rare delicacy is the main reason they are hunted and killed. These practices are harmful to local environments and the animal itself yet are practiced for novelty.

What you should do to help - Most people aren't able to commit time and resources to extremely rare animals, and that's ok! The easiest way to help out the pangolin is to spread knowledge about it. Here's a template for you to righteously harass teach your family with

ACT 1 - SCENE 1 - Bob's house. Respectfully social distanced 38.6 feet apart. Masks also.

"Bob" – Hey! There's this really cute rat armadillo thingy and you should take a look!

"Sally"- This being the abridged version Sally has no immediate part. You can purchase the official version by commencing this dialogue. The possibilities are limitless.



-A cute Pangolin and It's child for the road

您的牙齒、我的工作、您的微笑、我的欣慰

您的第一選擇



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RAMONG US

Among Us

Similar to games like Mafia and Werewolf, Among Us is a multiplayer deduction game in which players are either crewmates or imposters that take place in sci-fi inspired locations. As crewmates rush to finish their given tasks and debate who the imposter is, the imposter hurries to eliminate players for the win. Overall, it is an exciting game full of teamwork and betrayal.

"Among Us is one of the most thrilling and entertaining games to play amongst friends that I have ever played. It allows users to practice skills of persuasion and critical thinking through a simplistic, and easy-to-follow game. If you have not played yet, hurry and gather your friends to



play!"

Genshin Impact is a role-playing game that takes place in a fantasy world where players combat mythical creatures using elemental magic, character switches, and more while following in an interactive storyline. It is a gacha style game where plays can obtain different characters, weapons, and other



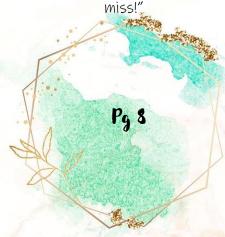
"If you are a fan of Legend of Zelda Breath of the Wild and phenomenal graphics, then Genshin Impact is for you! The main storyline is extremely interesting to follow and the design that goes into every background, Non-Player Character (NPC), and item are breathtaking. Each character has its own unique style and skill set that makes them so addicting to explore. Don't miss the free event items while they are still ongoing and play!"



Sky: Children of the Light

In Sky: Children of the Light, players fly through mythical and magical worlds to help ancestral spirits who have lost their light. Each land is different and unique, therefore uncovering the secrets within each land is exhilarating and relaxing at the same time.

"Sky: Children of the Light is one of the most relaxing, addicting yet simple games I ever played. The graphics and detail in each land are amazing and the background music makes it a whole new experience. The ability to fly is a key feature in the game and something you don't want to



Apps Jor School

AnhiDroid Flashcards

AnkiDroid Flashcards is a way to learn effectively and efficiently through flashcards using a technique called "spaced repetition" which strengthens and reinforces memory by showing information at certain, set intervals.



"I have been using Anki since the beginning of the semester, and I can say that it has made studying much easier. I am a sophomore in high school with 2 APS, AP Biology and AP European History, and both classes are information-heavy; however, Anki has made memorizing countless names, periods, and functions much more manageable than ever before. Study faster, effectively, and smarter. Use Anki!"

Photomath

Photomath can be described as a "camera calculator"; users only need to take a picture of any problem for an in-depth step-to-step explanation on how to the problem. Photomath works for countless algebraic equations.

"Photomath is extremely useful especially during E-learning where asking for help is difficult out of office hours. The explanations behind each step reinforce and simplify what is learned at school. It is one of my go-to apps when doing my math homework. So, before you struggle to do the math, download this app and watch your worries disappear!"



OneNote

One Note is an electronic note-taking application that can be shared and stored on multiple devices. It has multiple features that cover and go beyond all the users' note-taking needs. Basic features include organization, audio recordings, typing, manual writing, digital printouts, and more.





"OneNote is one of my most used applications nowadays, especially because teachers are assigning a lot of reading online. I use it most for assigned reading assignments because highlighting and taking notes on the side is simple and efficient. Also, OneNote allows

students to save hundreds of sheets of paper, while permanently keeping each page!"



Island Life: A Story

By Alula Savene

Our story begins. Our main characters are, Alana, Sam, Emilia, and Summer. They were on a call because of quarantine. They were playing a game together. Then all of a sudden, they were all sucked into the game! They screamed until they realized where they were. They were on a deserted island! "What the..." said Sam. "Hmm... Wait! We're on an island. We were playing a game about living on an island...we must be in the game! ""Why, Hello there!" said a voice. "Who are you!? Where are you?! What is going on?!" shouted Summer. They all grabbed on to each other to keep each other safe. "No need for panic," said the voice. "I'm John May!" They all looked around and found a short man with an abnormally large pimple on his nose standing in front of them. "Follow me and I can introduce you to the others." "Others?" stammered Alana. He ignored the question and began walking into the trees. The girls were hesitant, but they decided follow him. They came to a clearing where animals were standing up on two legs in a dirt area. "Alright, you begin," said John pointing to one of them. "Hi, I'm Sherb," said a blue goat. "I'm Marshal," said a yellow squirrel. "Heeeeyyyy! I'm Kitty, and I hope we can all be friends!" said a sassy looking brown cat. "Hi, I'm Alana, and I just want to say that all of you are adorable," said Alana. "Hola, soy Sam," said Sam. "Hiii! I'm Emilia," said Emilia. "Hey!! I'm Summer. Y'all are adorable, and I want to befriend all of you!" said Summer. "Ok, now that we know each other's names, come on over here to get your tents," said John "Let's all set our tents up next to each other so it can be like a little neighborhood" said Summer, reluctantly accepting their fate. They all agreed and set their tents by the beach. They then returned to the plaza and waited for the others. When everyone was there, John gave each of them tasks. "Emilia, you can collect sticks for the fire. Alana, you can pick flowers to decorate with. Sam, you can sweep the plaza with the others. Summer, you can collect the peach looking fruits." So they split up to complete their tasks. When they all finished, they returned to John. "Alright, let's raise a toast to our island! Well, we shouldn't call it that. What should we call it?" said John. Everyone talked about it and they decided to call it Coolisland. "Wonderful! To Coolisland!" said John. "To Coolisland!" everyone shouted. They all partied until it was time for bed. Then they all went to their tents, set up their sleeping bags, and went to bed. When Summer woke up, she realized that something big and fuzzy was in her mouth. "AAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHH!!! SPIDER!" she screamed. She ran outside and threw it into the ocean. She looked behind her and saw Emilia. "YOU- YOU PUT THAT SPIDER IN MY TENT DIDN'T YOU!?" she yelled at Emilia. "What? No! I was just walking by your tent!" shouted Emilia. They argued for a bit, and then it turned into a full on fist fight until the others managed to tear them apart. The two calmed down and avoided each other for the rest of the day. "Look, I'm sorry," said Emilia at dinner. "It's ok," Summer replied. "Ah, yes, Forgiveness," said John. "Well it looks like you passed the test." "What test?" asked Alana. "The friendship test of course!" replied John. "You forgave each other so you passed! Now you may all return home!" Suddenly, the girls started to fade away and one by one, they returned back to their computers.

The End

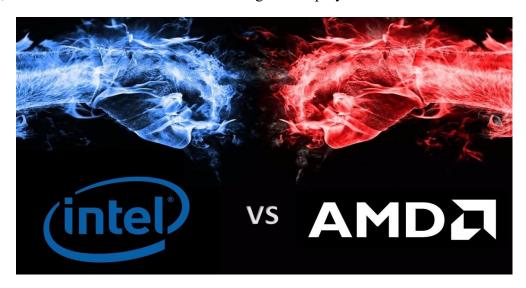
Central and Graphics Processing Units

By Hanwen Huang

The CPU, or central processing unit, is used to power almost every digital device we use. There are two companies, AMD and Intel, competing for the top of the CPU market. They have been fighting for over five decades now, but could a newcomer steal the spotlight from both of them?

AMD and Intel started the large war in 2007 when AMD launched a lawsuit against Intel, the world's leading microprocessor manufacturer. AMD claimed that Intel was engaging in unfair competition by offering rebates to PC manufacturers who agreed to eliminate or largely limit purchases of microprocessors made by AMD or other manufacturers. Intel wanted to dismiss this claim, but the judge refused. This was not the first time AMD struck against Intel. A smaller and almost forgotten case in court occurred in 1991, when AMD accused Intel of trying to create a monopoly as the leader of x86 processors.

Intel was on top until late 2016, when AMD started to create a new type of technology that could disrupt everything. In February 2017, AMD released Zen CPUs, using a new type of architecture that was not even close to perfect, but flipped the CPU industry upside down. Intel was still the leader, but their lead diminished from 20% faster performance at the same price to less than 5% faster performance at the same price. In 2020, AMD is now the leader in the CPU industry, demolishing Intel in every single task, from gaming to rendering and animation. Now, AMD is the one who is close to starting a monopoly.



ARM was created in the 1980s, and it was staying under the radar for common use until now. They are planning to release a 192 core CPU with minimal latency between all cores in 2021, able to demolish both AMD's Threadripper series and Intel's Xeon series. Considering ARM is already used in smartphones and other handheld devices, this does not seem unlikely. That CPU could take the crown for multi-core processing. After that, ARM is planning to beat AMD and Intel in other uses as well. In September of 2020, ARM was bought by NVIDIA, who is trying to change ARM and both improve and diminish its power.

Speaking of NVIDIA, they are currently the largest company making GPUs. Now, what does the average teen do 3 or more hours a day? No, it's not sleeping, high school only allows us to get 2 hours. It's gaming. Gaming is one of the largest industries in the world and is rapidly growing. People get their money scammed from them by companies like Walmart, Xidax, CyberPower, iBuyPower, DigitalStorm, and more.

NVIDIA and AMD have both released new GPUs this fall, and this is the first time in 10 years that AMD has managed to be competitive with NVIDIA. The last time AMD had a faster GPU was in 2009. NVIDIA almost achieved monopoly status in 2016 and 2017 with their Pascal GPUs. Then AMD released RNDA in 2018, which increased performance by almost 50% overall compared to former generations. That was also a bad year for NVIDIA because they only had a 25% performance increase compared to former generations. Now, NVIDIA is even selling GPUs directly to GPU miners, which angered the entire PCMR. I can't imagine why, considering they already have very severe supply issues. (Whoever had the idea to sell directly to minors needs to... never mind, this article needs to be child friendly.)

So, to not have an extra 100-500 dollars wasted on prebuilt PCs, build your own. It's not that hard. Building a computer is just like Legos with sharp edges (and a risk of electrocution or the components exploding/catching on fire if you mess up).

Here are some parts you can buy and build your own desktop with for almost every budget. If you are broke then these won't be of any use. I also have not included a windows key in the parts list. Just pirate Windows onto your computer, it's easy and (I think) legal. Keep in mind these part lists will be outdated by late 2021.

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