

GREETINGS FROM EEF

Dear Donors and Friends of Evergreen,

First and foremost, I hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe.

2020 has been an unusual year for all of us. Due to the global crisis of COVID-19, Evergreen has not been able to do as much as we had before in China. However, with the commitment and compassion of our partner agencies, our financial supporters, our volunteers, and our staff, Evergreen is still focused on our cause.

Our way forward has not always been easy. We've had to adjust our processes and make hard decisions. We've asked more from our supporters than ever. But the result of all that effort is undeniable. The question is, where do we go from here? Our board has spent the better part of 2020 laying out a new strategic plan in order to answer that question. The answer is this: It's time to move from merely filling the individual gap at each school to addressing the root causes of the need itself. This will involve a shift in thinking.

Our commitment to education equity in rural China demands that we serve all levels (Schools, Principals, teachers, and most of all, students) according to their needs, no matter how diverse their needs might be. With limited resources, our education committee, headed by Dr. Lili Luo, Dr. Jo Bell Whitlatch, and Jingyi Yu, developed and administered a need based survey to identify the issues that EEF should focus on for the next year or two. Teacher training, especially on developing informative assessments and rubrics, comes on top of the list. We had two successful pilot projects completed from March through August with encouraging and promising results. As we cannot offer in-person workshops or trainings this year, we are making progress on effectively communicate with teachers under the new normal of purely online communications.

As we traverse through a new uncharted norm of operation, we are committed to embody in our vision for the big, sprawling community we serve, as a place in which all students are nourished and empowered within equitable education opportunities. We know that vision is attainable — if we work together.

Sincerely,
Winnie Wong, Ph.D.
President



青樹教育基金會

EVERGREEN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

2020 Annual Letter

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REPORT CARD ON COMPLETED EVERGREEN PROGRAMS

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VISION:

Every Child in Rural China Has
Access to Relevant Educational
Opportunities

MISSIONS:

To improve education opportunities
To promote information literacy
To bridge between China & the world

VALUES:

Bringing education opportunities
to rural China

Evergreen wanted to know how well we were meeting the needs of Evergreen educators in China; therefore in a deliberative, intentional process we initiated a plan to obtain feedback on priorities for support from Evergreen in future years.

In the summer of 2020, Evergreen initiated an inquiry on WeChat asking for feedback from all of the educators in China who had received Evergreen grants to conduct projects and successfully completed those projects. Feedback is coming in from many educators in China. In the first phase, the core question we are asking educators is: To improve the learning experiences and learning outcomes of your students, what is the most important support that Evergreen could provide for you?

Such a needs assessment effort will help EEF obtain a more clear idea of how to most effectively and efficiently support Evergreen educators and therefore more meaningfully inform EEF's funding and programming directions. The EEF Board will be discussing the results of the needs assessment at the December meeting.

As part of this process, in the first set of responses from educators, we have received some very much appreciated remarks on the value of past Evergreen support for educational improvements in the local schools and libraries in China. We are sharing these comments with our supporters through the EEF Newsletter



FEEDBACK FROM THE EDUCATORS

Evergreen opened the door to robotics for us. Over the years, Yaozhong's robot club has grown rapidly. They have successively won awards in the Shaanxi Province and World Robotics Competitions in 2017, 2018, and 2019. They have become an important force in school clubs and have trained a group of robot instructors.

In the past, with the kind support from Evergreen, I (Teacher in Gansu Province) was able to lead students in conducting projects, where they not only learned a lot, but also improved their abilities in various aspects. I'm grateful for Evergreen. What we learned at Evergreen is real knowledge, especially in project-based learning. Now I find that there are many benefits to team projects

The former Evergreen team members of Tongwei Maying Middle School are now distributed in Tongwei No. 1, 2 and 3 High Schools. No matter where we are, the spirit of Evergreen urges us to use the ideas, methods and thinking provided by Evergreen to improve education and teaching. . . . After receiving the 2016 Wuhan Evergreen training, we were inspired to guide students in technological innovations. Some of the student-designed products, such as "Smart Flower Watering System", "Smart Trash Can", won awards above the provincial level.

With the help of Evergreen, Tongwei County Library has organized and carried out 3 large-scale projects and applied for 16 small projects. Forty-three people have participated in the annual meetings and various trainings organized by Evergreen. In recent years, participation in various activities organized by Evergreen has played a positive role in the overall development of Tongwei County Library and the growth of library staff's professional skills.

In recent years, the country [China] has also attached great importance to the development of public libraries. In order to promote the development of public libraries in various places, the government has passed the "Public Library Law," and conducts nationwide evaluation of public libraries every four years. Tongwei County Library was recognized as a national first-class library two times in a row in the nationwide evaluations. Of course, the achievement of this honor cannot be separated from the strong support and help provided by Evergreen over the years.



UPDATE ON NEW WEBSITE PROJECT



WORKSHOPS

A refresh of the Evergreen Education Foundation website has been a long time coming! We set out to update the look and feel of the website and create a WordPress platform to make maintaining and publishing postings for our readers and donors much easier.

We are grateful to have a new volunteer to spearhead this project, Dr. Jeff Amen, who will do the website development and once completed, will maintain it as webmaster. Dr. Jeff, a Podiatrist, recently retired from over 30 years of private practice. For his encore career, he learned website development. Dr. Jeff is also an active blogger on sustainable activity as we age.

Look for announcements regarding the new website in the coming year.

I want to support rural education in China by donating to Evergreen Education Foundation:

Oral History and STEAM Programs

_____ \$50 will support one day for a teacher's lodging at a workshop

_____ \$150 will give one way workshop travel expenses for a teacher

_____ \$500 will fund a teacher to attend an entire workshop

Small Projects

_____ \$750 will fund small project at a rural school

Name: _____

Address: _____

General Funds

\$ _____

Phone: _____

Donation Total

\$ _____

Email: _____