

# Professional Goals

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I am still a fairly novice teacher and still have a long way to go improving my teaching. To continue the professional development is my ongoing goal to empower myself in teaching as to benefit my students and school community. I started the Chinese language program at my current school since 2008 and plan to expand it to a full program from Chinese 1, 2, 3, 4, all the way up to AP Chinese and beyond, in the near future.

There are many strengths and advantages in being a native-speaking language teacher. But one of the disadvantages is that we very often forget how difficult learning a new language is. The majority of us have pretty good command of English and have long forgotten the very first moment when we struggled to come up with an English sentence, or even just one sound. We should all try to learn a foreign language at the same time to remind ourselves, especially the beginning moment of learning a new language. Moreover, we should try to learn a language as far different as Chinese or English as possible, like Russian, Korean or Arabic etc., to get the feelings our students have toward Chinese. I am hoping to take advantage of other language classes in my school in the future as soon as I know my new teaching schedule. I will also keep a journal to record my own learning curve step by step, which will be of great help in reflecting and improving my teaching.

In a long run, without leaving my classroom, I am hoping to be able to step into the field of teacher education and/or administration to help promote the Chinese language program. I am hoping to bring Chinese language and culture into every corner of the world where there is a need and interest.