Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School
317 Russell St. Hadley, MA 01035
W: www.pvcics.org T: 413-528-7040 F: 413-582-7068
Email: info@pvcics.org
Executive Director: Richard Alcorn
Principal: Kathleen Wang kwang@pvcics.org
College Counselor: Maria Paoletti mpaoletti@pvcics.org
IB Coordinator: Mary MacPherson mmacpherson@pvcics.org
See 2nd page - How COVID impacted our students

Mission Statement: The Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School (PVCICS) prepares K-12th grade students for academic and personal success through rigorous study and instruction augmented with Chinese language and culture. PVCICS is committed to equal access and is an International Baccalaureate (IB) for all high school. All students in the 11th and 12th grade take all their courses in the IB Diploma Program.

About Us: PVCICS is a tuition-free regional public charter school located in Hadley, Massachusetts. It opened in the fall of 2007 and had its first graduating class in 2017. PVCICS draws students from 39 rural, suburban, and urban communities in Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties. Students represent a diverse range of races, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds. Most students at PVCICS speak English as their mother tongue. PVCICS is a Title I targeted assistance school.

Enrollment: Entrance is by lottery. PVCICS total enrollment 2021-2022: 575 students in K-12 program. The high school is growing each year and is at 140 students.

US News Best High Schools 2021 Rankings
➢ #1 in Springfield, MA
➢ Metro area high schools
➢ #2 in MA high schools
➢ #6 in Charter High Schools
➢ #40 in National Rankings

View Curriculum Guide

Graduation Requirements:
All students who earn a PVCICS Diploma must meet the following course requirements. (1 credit = 1 year of study):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Electives</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Graduation requirements exceed Massachusetts State requirements

**IB for All** Philosophy: PVCICS provides ALL students with access to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program without having to be preselected for admission. Therefore, ALL 11th and 12th grade students take all their coursework in the IB program. Students may earn IB Certificates in specific courses or complete the full IB Diploma Program. The requirements for the full IB Diploma Program are below:

- Enroll in three Higher Level (HL) and three Standard Level (SL) courses and achieve an overall score of 24 on a battery of six externally marked exams (out of 7 points each). Points are accumulated on a combination of examinations taken in May of senior year and coursework submitted for external marking.
- Complete Theory of Knowledge (TOK), the IB course in critical thinking.
- Complete a 4000-word extended essay on a topic of their choice.
- Complete activities in three strands: Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS).

All High School students also take a double period of Chinese. All grade 9 and grade 10 core courses are comparable to HONORS level to prepare students for the rigors of the IB Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2021 IB Diploma Scores*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(of possible 45 maximum score):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVCICS Ave.: 34  Worldwide Ave.: 33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IB Diploma Results per Class:
2021: 92%  2020: 100%; 2019: 92%; 2018: 88%

IB Courses Offered 2021-2022

Course (By Group)  Level(s) Offered*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Latin/English</th>
<th>French/Italian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language &amp; Lit.</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandarin Chinese</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business &amp; Management</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math Applications &amp; Interpretations**</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math Analysis &amp; Approaches**</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>HL/SL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory of Knowledge</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PVCICS Students take at most three HL classes per year.  ** Both IB Math Courses include calculus.
GRADING
• Grade Scale: All term and final grades are reported as letter grades. To receive credit for a course, a student must earn at least a 60 percent (a “D-” or above).
• Grade Point Average (GPA) & Class Rank: The unweighted GPA is based on a 4.0 scale and includes core subjects only. No additional weight is given for any courses including IB courses. The GPA is computed at the end of each school year and does not take into account Pass/Fail courses or transfer grades. PVCICS does not report rank in class except by percentile when requested by colleges, universities, and scholarship services as part of the application process.

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numerical Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>International Baccalaureate (IB)</th>
<th>Value in Grade Point Average (GPA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-96</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-30</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

College Admission Testing: Class of 2022
SAT Combined (mean): 1279 ERW: 647 Math: 632
NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
CLASS OF 2021: Commended Students: 1; Finalist: 1

TRANSFERRABLE GRADES FOR 2022
- Credit or No Credit
- Pass or Fail

TRANSFERRABLE GRADE SCALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Below Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Below Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>Below Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PVCICS started the 20-21 School Year using a 100% Remote Learning model and was fully compliant with IB guidelines for IB courses and assignments. In March 2021, students returned using a hybrid learning model and schedule. By May 2021, all students had the option to return for in person learning. With all the models used, all students attended classes five days a week on a full day schedule. All classes were synchronous and followed the standard curriculum requirements. There were also some asynchronous sessions for independent work however the core content was delivered synchronously. Attendance was taken at each class and grades were issued as normally done using a standard letter grade scale. PVCICS’s high school clubs/activities met virtually and in person when possible. Athletics resumed following the state guidelines.
College Acceptances Since 2017

Allegeny College
American International College
American University
Amherst College
Assumption University
Babson College
Barnard College
Bay Path University
Beloit College
Bentley University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Bridgewater State University
Brown University
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Carleton College
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University of America
Clark University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
CUNY City College
CUNY Hunter College
Dartmouth College
Dean College
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke Kunshan University
Duke University
Elms College
Emerson College
Emmanuel College - Boston
Endicott College
Fairfield University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Fisher College
Fitchburg State University
Fordham University
Framingham State University
Franklin and Marshall College
George Washington University
Greenfield Community College
Grinnell College
Harvard College
Hofstra University
Holyoke Community College
Indiana University-Bloomington
Ithaca College
Thomas Jefferson University
Johnson & Wales University
Keene State College
Lafayette College
Lasell University
LIM College
Macalester College
Manhattan College
Marist College
Marymount Manhattan College
MCLA
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Middlebury College
Molloy College
Morehouse College
Mount Holyoke College
New England Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
NYU Shanghai
Oberlin College
Pace University-New York
Penn State University-Main Camp.
Pomona College
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Sacred Heart University
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art Design
Simmons University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Springfield College
Springfield Tech. Com. Coll.(STCC)
St. John’s University
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Purchase College
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stonehill College
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Texas A&M – College Station
The University of Arizona
The University of Tampa
Trinity University
Tufts University
Union College
US Coast Guard Academy
US Naval Academy
University of Bridgeport
University of California, Irvine
University of California, San Diego
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Hartford
University of Maine
UMass Boston
UMass Dartmouth
UMass Amherst
UMass Lowell
University of Miami
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
UNH-Main Campus
University of New Haven
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Toronto
University of Vermont
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vassar College
Vermont Technical College
Wellesley College
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wesleyan University
Western New England University
Westfield State University
Wheaton College
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University
Yale University