

Understanding & Working with Hmong Students



Hmong Population

- Minnesota: **68,625**

Twin Cities and Metro area: appx. **65,00**

% of Hmong Spoken at Saint Paul Schools: **44%**

% of Hmong Spoken at Minneapolis Schools: **8%**

Hmong Language Immersion Schools in the Twin Cities Hmong Charter Schools in the Twin Cities

Washington Technology Magnet School
School

Hmong Academy Charter

Harding Senior High School

Hmong International Academy

Battle Creek Middle School

Hmong International Academy

Jackson Elementary

Community School of

Excellence

Phalen Lake Hmong Studies

Hope Community Academy

New Millennium Academy

Noble Academy

Education and Literacy



Hmong youth perform low on standardized tests. Usually this is because English is their second language. There is also a high rate of post-secondary school dropouts with only 76.2% of students who held a high school diploma in 2010.

- Culture and education often intersect (i.e. the importance of support and



contribution to family is priority)

- Studies have shown that the more students are connected to their culture at school, the higher they will achieve because of a *support network*.

Connecting Culture to Classroom

Ideas of Cultural Relevant Teaching for Hmong Students

- Assign projects related to Hmong history
- Discussing social and cultural inequalities within the community
- Celebrate cultural holidays and traditions (i.e. Hmong New Year)

Knowing a student and their culture is essential
for educators to facilitate and structure
successful learning for all students.

Common Stereotypes Among Asian American Students

- Students are high achievers and often seek less attention
- Students who don't speak up don't need help or assistance
- Students excel in math

“Positive” stereotypes are actually not positive if it pressures the student to be something they are not.

Greeting Students

Hello	Nyob Zoo	Nyaw - Zhong
Goodbye	Sib Nstib Dua	Shee - Jee - Doua
Nice to meet you	Zoo Siab Nstib Koj	Zhong - Shia - Jee - Gaw
Thank You	Ua Tsaug	Oua - Jow
You are Welcome	Tsis Ua Li Cas	Jee - Oua - Lee - Cha

Hmong Books and Authors

<https://www.hmongabc.com/collections/books-ntawv>

Cultural Centers, Sites, and Other Resources

Hmong History Center and Library - 375 University Avenue, Suite 204, Saint Paul, MN 55103

Hmong Village Shopping Center - 1001 Johnson Pkwy, St Paul, MN 55106

Hmongtown Marketplace - 217 Como Ave, St Paul, MN 55103

Minnesota Historical Society - <http://www.mnhs.org/hmong>

Learning About Hmong - <http://www.learnabouthmong.net/>

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