

# Chiayi City Bo-Ai Elementary School

## Introduction

### ① History and location of the school

Bo-Ai Elementary School was established on November 1st, 1948, and was named "Bo-Ai Ordinary School." Much of what Bo-Ai has accomplished has been through the efforts of the local people. For the first 16 years, the school did not have any classrooms for lectures. Instead, teachers and students had to attend class in the storehouse of Lin's Lumber Company. After the devastating 9/21 Earthquake, the school buildings and facilities had to be completely rebuilt and refurnished. This was accomplished through the contribution of many local community members. Today, Bo-Ai fully owns the lovely campus and magnificent buildings. Alumni from Bo-Ai have gone to work in numerous fields across Taiwan.

Bo-Ai Elementary School is located in Chiayi City's western district, close to Beixianghu Park. During the timber boom Chiayi City, also known as the Wood City, had many timber factories and bungalows for workers. Beixianghu Park is the second largest park in Chiayi City and is rich with local flora and fauna. You can also find the endangered Farmland Green Treefrog. It is a good place for doing exercises and taking a break.

### ② History of the Marching Band

Founded in 2003, the Bo-Ai Elementary School Marching Band was started under the direction of Principal Xian-Zhong Pan and assisted by Director De-En Wu and Director Shu-Fen Lin (the music teachers). It was formed by the integration of the school's drum corps and cheer squad. There was a total of 110 members : 60 fifth and sixth graders in the band and 50 participants in the color guard. When it was established, Parent Teacher Association President Wen-Zai Huang petitioned the local governmental for equipment and qualified teachers for the band. Thanks to his efforts, the band was able to gradually acquire the necessary resources and the development of the band was off a good start.

To build solid support for the band, "Bo-Ai Band Music Club" was founded on January 19,

2005, and Mr. Wen-Dong Ye served as the club's first president. The club's purpose was to manage the band's resources and to assist the band in its various performances and competitions. Bo-Ai Band Music Club has served as an excellent model for parent-teacher cooperation. In June of that same year, Bo-Ai Elementary School was authorized by Chiayi City government to establish the city's first school marching band. With additional help from the local government, the Bo-Ai Elementary School Marching Band has continued to prosper and become one of the school's crowning features.

### **③ Curriculum vision: light up every child's hope**

Combining the local characteristics of Peach Town (Chiayi City) and the characteristics of the children in the Bo-Ai School District, the school team has sought to design special courses for the students of Bo-Ai through careful thinking and collaboration. These program courses take the four abilities of [ exploration, thinking, cooperation, and sharing ] as their central vision. We hope that the children of Bo-Ai will learn more through dialogue with others, through working with the environment, and through self-reflection in this four-axis curriculum design. The teachers of Bo-Ai seek to build self-confident learners by helping students to better understand themselves and achieve their goals. It is in this way, we can all become people who “embrace hope” and better appreciate everyone's diverse abilities.

Using modern digital learning equipment, Bo-Ai has developed a number of SHINE Problem Based Learning (S-PBL) courses. These S-PBL themed courses allow teachers to teach simply and children to learn easily. Bo-Ai's S-PBL teaching model includes five key teaching components : cross-domain, hands-on, life application, five senses learning, and problem solving. In addition to its original meaning, the word SHINE in S-PBL also serves as a five-letter acronym for the following : Speculate, Hands-on, Interact, Narrate, Evaluate. With the help of these cross-domain action learning strategies, it is the hope of Bo-Ai Elementary School that all students can show their true colors and SHINE.