Studying Chinese in the MCCSC could pay off long into the future

Posted: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 12:00 am

The importance of world culture was highlighted in a story in Tuesday’s newspaper about the first year for Chinese to be taught in the Monroe County Community School Corp. The story, by H-T reporter Rachel Bunn, notes that 80 students are taking the language through the MCCSC’s three middle schools.

Teacher David Chen said his goal is that students learn not just the language, but lessons about the culture as well.

In a day and age when high-stakes testing seems to enthrall lawmakers at the state and national level, the notion of teaching young people about how others live around the world often takes a back seat. But it’s important, vitally so, to the future. The more barriers can be broken down; the more cultures can be explained and understood; the more myths can be exploded — the more chance the next generation of leaders will be able to build positive relationships to ensure more stability in the world.

China will be a big part of that. So will the kids growing up in Bloomington. This learning opportunity should pay off for many years to come.