

## **Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister School Program Goals and Benefits**

- Provides opportunities for Yokkaichi Jr. High students to practice speaking, reading, and writing English with students in Long Beach.
- All exchanges introduce students to “thinking globally” — by learning how their cities, schools, home lives, hobbies and outside interests with peers in Sister Cities are similar and different.
- Introduces students to the Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City program/relationship.
- Personal connections are made with students in the partner school.
- Develops students’ pride in their home cities and schools as they share about them with their Sister City peers.
- Middle/Jr. High School programs can be a pipeline to Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City programs for high school students. The experience might inspire students who are in Sister Schools while in middle school to apply to work in Yokkaichi as English Fellows (YEF) program after college their graduation.
- This is a new role for Assistant Language Teachers/YEF’s working in Yokkaichi. ALT/YEF’s assigned to Yokkaichi’s partner junior high schools work with the English teachers at their school and the lead teacher at the Long Beach Sister School to plan and implement exchange activities each year.