

Oct./Nov. 2010



# The IUS Newsletter



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Web Page: [www.inci-ehs.eu.dodea.edu](http://www.inci-ehs.eu.dodea.edu)

## Incirlik Unit School



Parents,

This is your time for the teacher to provide you with specific information about your child and for you to ask any questions you might have about your child's progress. You will also be picking up your child's report card at this conference.

Teachers will work together to schedule families with more than one child in school so that conferences are on the same day and close together in time.

### **Parent Conference for ES Students**

Parent Conferences for elementary students are scheduled for:

**Monday, November 15**—school will be dismissed for elementary students at 11:15—MS/HS will have a full day of school

**Tuesday, November 16**—full day of conferences—no school for elementary students

**Wednesday, November 17**—full day of conferences—no school for elementary students

Your child's teacher will be sending you a suggested time to meet at the beginning of November. The conferences take place in your child's classroom.

### **Parent Conferences for MS/HS Students**

Conferences for MS/HS students are schedule for **Wednesday, November 17**. There will be no school for MS/HS students on that day.

Conferences will take place in the school multi-purpose room (cafeteria) beginning at 7:45am to 12:00 and from 1:00 to 2:30. All of the MS/HS teachers will be seated at tables in the cafeteria and will have a name plate so that if you have not met the teacher, you will still be able to find them.

You may walk up and sit down at the table and talk to the teacher at a time that is convenient for you. With everyone in the same room, you will also be able to meet individually with each of the teachers on your own schedule. Or if any of your child's teachers are interested in meeting with you, you may get a call or email from them requesting a conference with you at a specific time.

If you would like some privacy and would like to meet with a specific teacher at a certain time, please get in touch with that teacher or teachers and arrange a time to meet. There are numerous places in our school for you to meet privately to address your child's needs.

You may pick up your child's report card from Mr. C., our secondary counselor, who will have a table right in the middle of the multi-purpose room.

Terry

TERRY A. GREENE Ph.D.  
Principal  
Incirlik Unit School

**Oct. 22-23**: Girls and Boys Volleyball @ Ankara.

**Oct. 24-31**: Red Ribbon Week.

**Oct. 27**: SAC meeting, HS Media Center, 1500.

**Oct. 27-31**: Tennis Championships, Germany.

**Oct. 29-31**: Cross-Country Championship, Germany.

**Nov. 3-7**: Girls and Boys Volleyball Championships, Germany.

**Nov. 5**: End of first quarter. Teacher work-day. No school for students.

**Nov. 6**: SAT, 0800, HS Media Center.

**Nov. 11**: Veterans Day. Federal Holiday.

**Nov. 14-19**: Creative Connections, Germany.

**Nov. 15-17**: Parent conferences. See parent bulletin for details.

**Nov. 16**: College Night, 1800-2000, IUS HS Media Center.

# IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

## *Reporting Out on Goal 1 and 2*

### —D. C., Chair, Goal 1 Committee

During the 2009 – 2010 school year, Incirlik Unit School did a wonderful job putting goal interventions into every classroom. By the end of the school year, all students were using flowcharts to organize ideas and concepts for their writing.

This school year, we will progress to the next level of the process and begin looking for better ways for the organization to transfer to student writing. With a better understanding of the writing process and research based writing instruction, teachers will enable students to produce better organized writing. Classroom teachers will participate in professional development in order to keep abreast of current research trends and pattern our instruction after what schools around the country and world are showing works with writing instruction. Students will become more engaged in the writing process as teachers become more engaged with student writing.

By providing students an active and responsive audience, teachers will enable students to better voice thoughts, put words to ideas, and further self expression. In order for students to see improvement in writing, time and diligence will be demanded of the community as a whole.

Incirlik Unit School is encouraging every member of our community to engage with student writing, provide feedback, and let students know what they say, and how they say it, is important.

### —S. W., Chair, Goal 2 Committee

Work continues this school year on school improvement with teachers meeting, discussing, and coming to consensus on a more powerful intervention for Goal 2.

Goal 2 states that all students will increase performance on the critical thinking skills of extracting and applying essential information in a variety of situations. On October 1, teachers reached agreement on the use of the *Frayer Model* as the intervention for this goal. The *Frayer Model* is a highly researched instructional practice that helps students to develop their understanding of concepts and vocabulary through analysis, organization, and evaluation.

Students will be challenged to use higher level thinking to examine, compare and contrast, give analogies, find examples and non-examples, and define concepts and vocabulary across the curriculum.

This intervention will help to prove that “IUS is the best” when it comes to critical thinking.

***IUS 4 - EVER***



# Continuous School Improvement in Action



## *What AVID is...—H. R.*

**AVID** is an acronym that stands for **A**dvancement **V**ia **I**ndividual **D**etermination.

**AVID** is an in-school academic support program for grades 5-12 that prepares students for college eligibility and success.

**AVID** places academically average students in advanced classes.

**AVID** is for all students, but it targets those in the academic middle.

**AVID** is implemented school-wide and district-wide.

### **What AVID isn't...**

**AVID** isn't a remedial program.

**AVID** *isn't a college outreach program.*

### **Curriculum**

The AVID curriculum, based on rigorous standards, was developed by middle and senior high school teachers in collaboration with college professors. It is driven by the WIC-R method, which stands for writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading. AVID curriculum is used in AVID elective classes, in content-area classes in AVID schools, and even in schools where the AVID elective is not offered. Our middle school students are getting AVIDized this year.

### **The AVID Elective**

Not only are middle school students enrolled in high school classes, such as Algebra I and/or Spanish I but also in the AVID elective class. For one period a day, they learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Their self-images improve, and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students.

# Continuous School Improvement in Action

## Why AVID Works

Between the remedial programs for students who lag far behind, and the gifted-and-talented programs for a school's brightest children, lies the silent majority: average students, who do "okay" in ordinary classes but, because they don't attract attention to themselves, are left alone. Many of these students hunger for more challenging coursework but fear failure. Their potential lies dormant, waiting to be recognized, encouraged, and supported.

First, AVID identifies these students. The selection criteria include,

**Ability:** Are the students getting Cs and Bs but are capable of more? Can they succeed in college preparatory courses with support?

**Desire and Determination:** Do they want to attend college? Are they willing to work hard to get there?

## Teaching Methodologies

**WIC-R** — or writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading — form the basis of the AVID curriculum. It gives students the skills they need to succeed in college-preparatory classes, like Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate.

**Writing to learn.** AVID emphasizes writing in all subjects, with a focus on clarifying and communicating their thoughts and understanding material.

**Emphasis on inquiry.** AVID is based on inquiry, not lecture. Many activities, from Cornell note taking to tutorial groups, are built around asking questions, which forces students to clarify, analyze, and synthesize material.

**A collaborative approach.** The AVID classroom is not a traditional one in which a teacher lectures to passive students. An AVID teacher is a facilitator and an advocate. But students, not teachers or tutors, are responsible for their learning. Tutors function as discussion leaders, while students challenge, help, and learn from one another.

**Critical reading.** AVID students don't merely read words on a page. They are taught to analyze, question, critique, clarify, and comprehend the material.

These techniques turn students from passive learners into active classroom contributors and critical thinkers, an approach that's necessary for college admission and success.

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# IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

## ES Counselors' Corner—L. D.



September's Guidance theme was "Me and My Safe and Caring Schools." Guidance lessons and mini-groups have focused on building our school family. Students have learned more about themselves and each other. Students will be signing the "Safe and Caring School Pledge."

October's Guidance theme is "Discovering Our Feelings." Guidance lessons and mini-groups focus on awareness and appropriate expression of feelings, building our feelings vocabulary, problem solving, anger management and assertiveness.

## MS/HS Counselors' Corner—D. C.

### SAT and ACT

The IUS calendar for administration of these two college entrance exams is as follows:

#### SAT

November 6	registration deadline is October 8
January 22	registration deadline is December 23
May 7	registration deadline is April 8

\*The cost of the SAT reasoning test is \$47. In addition to the regular SAT reasoning test there are specific subject tests available in a variety of subjects. These individual exams cost \$21 each.

#### ACT

December 11	registration deadline is November 5
February 12	registration deadline is January 7
April 9	registration deadline is March 4
June 11	registration deadline is May 6

\*The cost of the ACT without writing is \$33. Cost for ACT Plus Writing is \$48. The ACT Plus Writing is available on all dates except February. The additional charge of \$26 for International Testing is waived for DoDEA students.

Please contact our guidance counselor, Mr. C., for specific registration information for both the SAT and the ACT. Incirlik Unit School is a private testing center and requires special codes for registration and fee waivers.

# **IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action**

## **MS/HS Counselor's Corner**

### **ASVAB**

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is the most widely used multiple-aptitude test battery in the world. As an aptitude test, the ASVAB measures your strengths, weaknesses, and potential for future success. The ASVAB test also provides you with career information for various civilian and military occupations and is an indicator for success in future endeavors whether you choose college, vocational school, or a military career. Please see Mr. C. this week if you have interest in taking the ASVAB. Mr. C. will organize a date and time for all interested seniors and juniors.

## **The PSAT—B. S., Gifted Resource**

**The PSAT** was administered on Wednesday, October 13th. This test allows students to identify their strengths and weaknesses through access to the College Board's website when their results are graded. It is considered a practice test that can be used as a study aid to help prepare them for SAT or ACT testing in the future. The score given is an indicator as to how well they may do on the SAT. With that information, a student can plan their academic career better to make sure they hit any weak spots in order to increase their scores in that area, thus allowing them to score better on future standardized tests like the SAT. It also allows colleges to send them information regarding programs of study so they may begin thinking about their future.

When students take this test from year to year, they can track their own growth with no consequence other than meeting or not meeting their personal goals. Research has shown that when students track their own progress they become more connected to their learning and consequently perform better academically. (Marzano, 2001). It can also lead to potential scholarship opportunities if they score high enough. Additionally, gifted students are encouraged to take the PSAT each year as this is often used by summer talent search programs as a measure to qualify.

## **College Night—D. C.**

The annual IUS College Night will be held on November 16th from 18:00-20:00 in the IUS high school information center. Community members will be on hand to share their college experiences. Information will be provided on a variety of topics including college applications, finances, scholarships, SAT/ACT testing, military recruitment information, and many other relevant topics. Please contact our Guidance Counselor, Mr. C., for additional information or if you would like to participate as an informal "college rep."

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# IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

## \*Scholars4Success—Dr. Terry Greene

The goal of the program is to provide support to our students in raising their grades. The Scholars4Success program meets Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons from 2:25 to 3:25. This time is dedicated to providing extra time and attention to student learning.

For our high school students, D. C. and S. C. will be working with your child in our school multi-purpose room. Mr. C. will be supporting students in English language arts and social studies while Mr. C. will be supporting students in math and science. Our Algebra tutor, D. S., and our Geometry tutor, G. G., will also be available to support our students.

Our middle school students will meet in H. R. classroom from 2:25 to 3:25 every day after school except Tuesdays. M. B.-R. will be working with Mrs. R. Middle school students will also be involved in a mentoring program and more information will follow about that opportunity.

Students will need to bring their school books/supplies so that they will be working on homework or other assignments for that hour each day with extra support if needed. We would prefer that they work in the area where they have their D's and F's.

If your child is an athlete, he/she will join their team practice at 3:25 when the program is over. Our coaches are fully on board with this program. If your child is involved in another club or activity, those activities will also begin at 3:25 when Scholars is over.

I will soon be sending you a timeline as to when grades are pulled across the school year. I am also meeting with students who currently have D's or F's to talk about our expectations.

If you have questions, please get in touch—thanks for your support in our partnership for the academic success of your child!!

## \*SCHOLARS4SUCCESS TIMELINE

### QUARTER DATES GRADES PULLED:

End of first quarter, Friday, November 5

Mid-point-second quarter, Friday, December 10

End of second quarter, Friday, January 28

Mid-point, third quarter, Friday, March 4

End of third quarter, Friday, April 8

Mid-point-fourth quarter, Friday, May 4

# IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action



## Happy Fall Y'all!—A. T.

There is something for everyone at the library!

Come and see the books in the **F**all section like pumpkins and scarecrows or browse around the shelves of various Award Winning books. Then you can head over to the **M**ystery Corner and test out your super sleuth skills in one of the many mystery books located there just for you. Also, keep an eye out for the **M**ystery Reader Contest that is coming soon! See if you can guess

who the Mystery Readers are and win a prize!  Feel free to **Go Batty** at the library! You won't want to miss reading about these special animals and other nocturnal creatures from

the bat display. The choice is yours and it is all here at the Library!



Congratulations to all the classes that have “**Made the Band**” and are now officially **IUS Library Rock Stars**! Good job goes out to these classes: Ms. G., Ms. H., Ms. H., Ms. H., Ms. M., Ms. R., Mr. R., Mr. W. and Ms. Z. **YOU ROCK!**



## The Dentist Visits Sure Start—Dr. L. S.

On 21 September the dentist and her assistant came to visit the Incirlik Sure Start class to check everyone's teeth as part of the required Sure Start Health Component. They brought their friend, a kangaroo puppet, which helped the children learn how to brush their teeth. The children received bags with toothbrushes, toothpaste, a timer, and other items for taking care of their teeth after the dentist looked at their teeth. This was a great time saver for the parents and the dental clinic and fun for us!

## **IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action**

### **Come Run With US!—Coach S. D.**

Parents, teachers, students, and members of the Incirlik community...



The Incirlik Unit School Cross Country Team would like to invite anybody at any fitness level to come out every Tuesday in October and enjoy our 3 mile cross country course. Runners will meet outside the high school gym at 16:00 and we will begin the run at 16:15pm. Spectators are encouraged to sit in the stands at the track starting at 16:30 and the runners will finish their last mile on the track.

See you Tuesday for our “fun run.”



# IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

## MEET YOUR SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER (SLO)

\*\*Mr. V. R. has been on the job since February 1999. He says he actually started in August 1998 by volunteering as Lead Bus Monitor and was officially hired February 1999. In July 1999 he applied for and was hired as 39th Wing SLO, a position he has held since that time.

\*\*As the SLO he describes his job as “operating a small command post for the school while taking directions from his military supervisors.” He is responsible to the Wing Commander but day-to-day supervision comes from/thru 39th MSG/CC.

\*\*Mr. R. has more tenure as a SLO than any other serving in USAFE and is often sought out to help mentor and train new SLOs.

\*\*The mission statement for SLOs as dictated by USAFEI 36-401 says “The School Liaison Officer assists community partners in providing the best possible education for all students by serving as the installation commander’s liaison between the installation, school, and community.”

\*\*Locally Mr R. functions as the commander’s primary advisor on school related issues. He is the focal point for school support matters and is responsible for implementing the Free and Reduced Lunch Program as well as having the additional duty of overseeing School Bus Transportation. He is a permanent member of the School Disciplinary Committee and whenever students appear before the Family Member Misconduct Board, you’ll find him there as an advisor to the commander AND advocate for the student (when warranted). He attends most school meetings to include SAC, PTSA, and SIP (just to name a few) while having a position in 39MSG/CC Staff Meetings.

\*\*After retiring from the Air Force, he described his ideal job as one that would allow him to wear his collection of wacky ties. Being the SLO has afforded him that opportunity.

\*\*Life after Incirlik? He says “only God knows right now.” We are open for any and everything. His wife has been a DoDDS teacher here, as well as other overseas locations. Of their five children, the two older ones graduated stateside and the last three from this school. He and his wife are active in the community, especially in the chapel arena.

\*\*So, if you have a school related question or concern and you are not sure of whom to call, contact Mr R. at 676-3750/3043 and you are guaranteed to be pointed in the right direction.

**CORRECT AND UPDATE EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:** Please let this serve as a reminder to all sponsors to ensure your contact information at the school is updated and correct. If there is an emergency and contact needs to be established I would hate to think an incorrect phone number slowed the process. Please call or email S. M. today to ensure contact can be made if needed (676-6330 or [first.last@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:first.last@eu.dodea.edu)).

**COMUSAFE POLICY ON PARENT INVOLVEMENT:** USAFEI 36-401, 22 Apr 08, para 3.1.7. states COMUSAFE position of parental involvement in student education:

“Parent/Teacher Conferences are the place of duty for military members and supervisors will grant civilian leave, as appropriate. Supervisors shall provide military members time away from the duty site to volunteer in school, and grant civilian leave, as the mission allows.” Research has proven the more parents are involved, the odd increases that the child will be successful. The Wing Commander recognizes that fact and fully supports COMUSAFE policy. If you have questions relative to the written guidance, contact Mr. R., but if your question is more military related, seek guidance from your chain of command. A copy of the instruction is available on line or you can call Mr. R.

**SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION:** Parents, this is written to be a reminder as well as provide an update in how we safely transport your dependents to and from school. We now have three people that applied for the three vacant paid positions as School Bus Monitors. We hope to get through the hiring process in record time, but until we do and they are on the payroll, we will continue scheduling parents IAW the letter signed by 39WG/CV dated 15 Aug 10.

As a reminder, when you are scheduled, the Wing CC has designated this as your place of duty. If you cannot for whatever reason perform the duty as scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement and notify the Transportation Officer (676-3750) of the replacement person.

Starting the year out we allowed the students to get on any of the buses without regards to grade, age, etc. Recently we had one child not accounted for and realized we needed more strict procedures to fully account for any child that may or may not get on one of our buses. That being said, we are reverting back to procedures from last school year. Beginning Tuesday 12 October, all kindergarten thru 5th students who are signed up to ride will be assigned a bus. It will be either bus #2 or bus #3. We will be sending an e-mail to the sponsors/parents of the bus riders to let them know which bus their child/children are assigned to and teachers will also be briefed.

Bus #1 has been designated for middle school and it will continue to depart campus at 0710. This one leaves early because of the start time for Middle School. Buses 2 & 3 will depart campus at 0725 and 0730 respectively. They should arrive at the first bus stop in Falcon at 0730 and 0735. Bus #4 will depart from the school at 0740 and pick up any students at the AYA (Youth Center) and return to school. It is important that your child be in place at the bus stop at least five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled time to ensure they get on a ride. The PSCD/Sure Start bus (the small white commercial bus) will also make a pass through housing to pick up any students that may have been too late for their assigned bus. Please note that all times are estimated as it will depend on traffic flow, the number of students loading/unloading at each stop and any number of other factors. If you have questions and or concerns, please contact Mr. J. P., Lead Bus Monitor or Mr. V. R., School Liaison/Transportation Officer at 676-3750.

**PCS'ING SOON?** If you are and if you are interested, HQ USAFE/A1SAS has purchased a nice blue and black student portfolio complete with a Student & Parent School Transition Checklist free to departing students. Please stop by my office (located directly below the Base Education Center) during regular duty hours or call to arrange for pick up.

Additionally, the School Registrar, Ms S. M., requests you bring a copy of your PCS orders at least two weeks in advance of your actual departure date to allow for collection of final grades and such from your child's teachers.

**Adults and Students:** As you hopefully know by now, IUS is a smoke-free campus. What some of you may not realize is the parking lot is part of school property and is off limits to smoking. Please wait until you exit the parking lot (especially if walking) before lighting up. Direct questions to the Principal, Assistant Principal, or School Liaison Officer.

**Students:** This is a reminder that helmets are required when riding skateboards. Base officials are enforcing this requirement and when caught without one, your board stands a very good chance of being confiscated and will only be returned to your parent. The rule also applies to bicycles.



## *Continuous School Improvement*

**DoDEA Mission:** To provide an exemplary education that inspires and prepares all DoDEA students for success in a dynamic, global environment.

**IUS Vision:** To prepare students to become problem solvers and life long learners for an ever-changing world.

**To Prepare Students** - we are teaching, equipping, and providing multiple opportunities to be problem solvers and life long learners.

**Problems Solvers** - are independent decision makers who think critically and creatively.

**Life Long Learners** - have a passion for learning in and out of the classroom.

**In an Ever Changing World** - a society requiring its members to be more flexible and adaptable.

### **IUS Goals:**

**Goal 1:** By June 2011, all students will increase performance targeted **Written Communication Skills** using instructional interventions implemented in all curricular areas as measured by the TN3 Language Arts subtest, PSAT Writing subtest and school-based assessments. The targeted skills are the organization of information for effective writing.

**Goal 2:** By June 2011, all students will increase performance on targeted **Critical Thinking Skills** using instructional interventions implemented in all curricular areas as measured by the TN3 Math subtests, PSAT Math subtest and school-based assessments. The targeted skills are the ability to extract and apply essential information in a variety of situations.

**NCA Accreditation:** Our accreditation took place May 4 - 6, 2010. We passed with five commendations, as well as being referred to as the “Model School for Continuous School Improvement” and a “Model School Turn Around.”

## *IUS 4 - EVER*