

Sept./Oct. 2010



The IUS Newsletter



Email: IncirlikEHS.Principal@eu.dodea.edu

Web Page: www.inci-ehs.eu.dodea.edu

Incirlik Unit School



Parents,

Welcome back to the new 10-11 school year! It is truly an honor and privilege for everyone at IUS to work with you and your families. The relationship that we build is critical to the success of your child/children's education. Your support, commitment, and involvement coupled with the teacher's dedication, knowledge, and professional skills are what make our relationship strong.

Our mission statement states that "the vision of IUS is to prepare students to become problem solvers and lifelong learners for an ever changing world". Our team of teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators is focused on providing excellence in instructional programs and support to your child/children to succeed.

While we are focused on your child/children's success, we are also focused on building strong communication with you. Our daily bulletin goes out each day to bring you news and information about school. It goes directly to the military member's email address, but we are also happy to include a home email as well, so let us know if you want us to add another email address. This parent newsletter comes to you monthly via email as well. Occasionally, you will receive very specific email about dress code, discipline, or other school issues from me or Ms Washington as well. Our goal is to keep you involved, informed, and up-to-date about our school and your child/children.

So, please call me (676-3109), email me (terry.greene@eu.dodea.edu), or stop by if you ever have an issue or need clarification. Thanks for all of your support!

Terry

TERRY A. GREENE Ph.D.

Principal

Incirlik Unit School

Model United Nations—N. B.



Incirlik Unit School will, once again, send a Model United Nations (MUN) student delegation to attend a DODDS sponsored European event later this school year. The MUN is a mock legislative extra-curricular event that is open to all Incirlik high school students.

MUN events in Prague, Czech Republic and Dublin, Ireland are being considered as potential conferences for our student delegation, at this time. If you believe your son or daughter would be interested in this activity, contact Mr. N. B., sponsor or Mrs. P. G., parent chaperone, for details.

Sept. 24: 11:15 Early school release. Faculty online training.

Oct. 01: 11:15 Early school release. Faculty Continuous School Improvement meetings.

Oct. 01-02:

Ankara @ Incirlik

Oct. 09: SAT, HS Media Center, 0800.

Oct. 11: No school. Columbus Day, Federal Holiday.

Oct. 13: PSAT Administration, 0800, MPR. Report to first period at first bell.

Oct. 14, 15, & 16:

Incirlik @ Ankara (ASA Tournament)

Oct. 22-23: Incirlik @ Ankara (Add on) Volleyball & Tennis Varsity only.

Oct. 27-31: Tennis Championships, Germany.

Oct. 29-31: Cross-Country Championships, Germany.

IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

—L. R., Chair, Communications Committee

On Sept. 14, teachers and administrators met in the ES Media Center for a whole group discussion for “next steps” in the IUS Continuous School Improvement process. Later that meeting, each participant broke into their committee meeting to focus on their new tasks in order to carry out the two CSI Goals to completion. Please refer to the last page of this newsletter for an in depth description of our mission and vision statements, as well as our two goals, their interventions and specific measurements.

Previous to this meeting, in order to gain a new focus on these “next steps,” each committee chair participated in the School Improvement Leadership Team meeting, lead by the two SILT chairs, L. D. and C. C. During this meeting, the Quality Assurance Review was read. The QAR is the final report written by the The AdvancED team, that recommended our school for full accreditation this year, to the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI). Each committee chair was then assigned new tasks to address the Strengths and Opportunities (that related to their committee) for each of the Seven Standards required to be accredited.

Committee Chairs were asked to:

Cover a brief history (using the QAR as needed)

Talk about “Strengths and Required Actions,” and

Make a task/goal list for their committee

As stakeholders, who witnessed our success, or perhaps new to our community, we are proud for you to know of our outstanding results, as being referred to as a “Model School for Continuous School Improvement” and for having had a “Model School Turn Around,” with five commendations.

We also would like you to know that one of our Strengths noted was that “Collaborative relationships within the school community have been strengthened during the current school year, and this has promoted a sense of community ownership for the success of the school.”

Message from the CSI Co-chairs:

Incirlik Unit School is on the search for parents to serve on the School Improvement Leadership Team and School Committees for the 2010-2011 school year. The School Improvement Leadership team guides and makes decisions about Continuous School Improvement at IUS. Membership of parents on the School Improvement Leadership Team, as well as all other committees is required to meet the AdvancEd standards. More importantly, we see it as a best practice for the process itself.

If you are interested in serving on the SILT or a School Committee, please email or call C. C. or L. D. first.last@eu.dodea.edu 676-3109.



Continuous School Improvement (CSI) Committee Descriptions

2010-2011

CSI Co-Chairs: C. C. and L. D.



Profile Committee:

A. C., Chair

Organize data about school demographics, base demographics, testing data, gives information about school, students and faculty, assessment information, such as TerraNova, Local Assessment, etc. Maintains an up to date school profile.

Goal 1 Committee:

D. C., Chair

Goal 1 is Communication.

Communication is defined as the organization of information for effective writing.

1. Streamlining the interventions.
2. Coming up with a plan to monitor how the intervention is implemented.
3. Designing a plan for professional development related to the intervention.

Goal 2 Committee:

S. W., Chair

Goal 2 is Critical Thinking.

Critical Thinking is defined as extracting and applying information. Goal 2 Committee will guide the staff through:

1. Streamlining the interventions.
2. Coming up with a plan to monitor how the intervention is implemented.
3. Designing a plan for professional development related to the intervention.

Communication Committee:

L. R., Chair

Builds an understanding of the continuous school improvement process to all stakeholders through a variety of media and school events.

Data Committee:

D. W., Chair

The data committee will be responsible for locating any required data, expressing it in a variety of ways, and supplying the results to the other CSI teams.

Vision Statement Committee:

A. A., Chair

Assist the school in creating a vision, defining the vision, and using the vision to move forward with a unified purpose.

Assessment Committee:

L. S., Chair

Develop a timeline for local assessments. Determine staff training needs for all assessments. Write an action plan for completion of training, giving, and scoring (local only) assessments.



IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

ES Counselors' Corner—L. D.

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year. As the IUS PreK-5 Guidance Counselor, I am committed to helping your child have the best possible school year. My guidance program addresses the identified needs of Incirlik students in three areas: academic development, career development and social/interpersonal skill development.

I meet these student needs through a variety of means including classroom guidance (regular lessons I teach in each class), small-group lessons, small group counseling, individual counseling, appraisal, referral, consultation (parent and/or teacher), and coordination with other services (both outside and inside the school).

Through these services I am able to support each PreK-5th grader on her journey to become a happy, healthy, and compassionate citizen of our world. I am looking forward to working with you and your child.



MS/HS Counselors' Corner—D. C.

The next administration of the ACT will be October 23. The deadline to register on-line is September 17. The cost is \$33. Please see Mr. C. for important registration information.

IUS is full of Rock Stars! —A. T.

The media center is open and full of students who are ready to Rock! IUS students are working hard in the library to "Make the Band". In order to become an IUS Rock Star and make their band, the classes learn a different library related lesson each week, such as rules, procedures, and book selection. When they have completed all the lessons, they will have a singer, electric guitar, drummer, and bass guitar player. Making their band earns the class a special prize!

In October, the IUS students will enjoy flashlight check out, a Mystery Reader Contest and Spooky Story times. The media center is rockin'! Come by anytime!

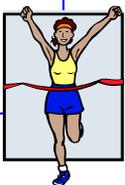


Fourth Graders Write Grandparents—C. M.

Fourth grade students in Ms. M.'s class are off to a good start. They created a card for Grandparents' Day, the first Sunday after Labor Day. They also wrote a four line poem to accompany this card. Since they would not have time for grandparents to receive it in the mail, they were encouraged to read them the poem in person or on the telephone.

IUS Cross Country Team—S. D.

The Incirlik Unit School 9th-12th Grade Cross Country Team began its training recently and there are 8 dedicated, hard working young men that might just make a name for the Incirlik Unit School Cross Country program at The European Championships in Germany. We still have a spot available for five female athletes but time is running out so they need to sign up as soon as possible. We are looking forward to a great year for the Incirlik Cross Country Team and the Incirlik Unit School athletic program in general.



IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

Digital Citizenship

What do we need to focus on to keep our students safe in the digital age?



DoDEA has developed policies, training and technical security measures to protect students while they are online. The ability to learn and communicate effectively using emerging technology requires judgment that starts with individual decisions.

The International Society for Teaching in Education (ISTE) has developed six National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) outlining goals for student learning. In Standard 5, Digital Citizenship, the ISTE advocates that students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.

Teaching students appropriate legal and ethical online behavior is critical to developing responsible digital citizens. Each time students sign the user agreement allowing them to access the Internet from DoDEA computers, educators and parents have an opportunity to discuss the implications of actions on the Internet. Ideally, students will internalize the ethics and make a wise decision because it is the right thing to do, not because they fear the consequences. The topics below can be tailored to present age-appropriate questions that help our students think through how they would feel in a situation demanding ethical behavior online.

Dishonesty – Discuss who is hurt if students “pretend to be someone else online.” Ask students how they would feel if someone invaded their privacy by taking over their e-mail or social networking account.

Plagiarism – Encourage students to imagine how they would feel if their study group wrote a school play, and another group of students began to perform it. Part of respecting other people’s intellectual property involves recognizing that ideas are property.

Harassment – Nobody thinks of himself or herself as a cyber-bully. Encourage students, before they send a message, to ask themselves how they would feel if someone sent that same message about them.

Threats – Students might be tempted to dismiss a threat of violence, they saw online either because they do not take it seriously or because the person making the threat is a friend. Challenge students to make a personal commitment to always report threats of violence.

As students think through the impact of their actions they are more likely to make wise decisions online.

IUS 4 - EVER



IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

UPDATES/REMINDERS FROM YOUR SCHOOL

LIAISON OFFICER—V. R.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM: The Free and Reduced Lunch Program continues to be available to qualified applicants at Incirlik. To learn more about the program, contact me via email at first.last@incirlik.af.mil or 676-3750/3043.

USE OF DoDDS FACILITIES: Any base agency or private organization requesting use of school facilities must do so using USAFE Form 401, *Request For Use of School Facilities*. The SLO tracks and coordinates facility use between the school and installation. I am also required to maintain a completed copy of the 401 once coordination is complete. Contact me if you have questions/concerns.



SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION: Parents, please be patient with us as we start the year out as we ended last school year...not having enough paid workers to man all of the buses. By now, you know that everyone with a dependent riding the buses will share in the duty of being a bus monitor. To that end, Col B. has been scheduled. Col B., while not having any children in school, said that he would volunteer. When you are scheduled, the Wing CC has designated this as your place of duty and, if you can't, 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.

Additionally, in the past we have separated the students by grade. This will not be the case this year. We will pick up all students at a bus stop and repeat the process until that bus is full. It will then head back to the school and the next bus will repeat the process. In the afternoon, your students are to proceed to bus #1 (the first bus in line) and they load until the bus has reached capacity. Any remaining students will proceed to bus #2 and repeat the process. We ask your patience, as we employ these new procedures.

Bus #1 has been designated for the middle schoolers and it will (for now) depart campus at 0710, arriving at the first bus stop in Falcon at approximately 0715. This one leaves early because of the start time for Middle School. Buses 2, 3, & 4 will depart campus at 0720, 0725, and 0730 respectively. They should arrive at the first bus stop in Falcon at 0725, 0730, and 0735. 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 the bus. As it stands now, bus 4 will be the last one to come through housing and the last chance a student has to get to school via the school bus.

Please note that all times are estimated because 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. You may also email Mr. R. at first.last@incirlik.af.mil.





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: All students will increase performance on 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: 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