

October 2008



The IUS Newsletter



Email: IncirlikEHS.Principal@eu.dodea.edu
Web Page: www.inci-ehs.eu.dodea.edu

Learning Lights the Way



We have gotten the school year off to an exciting start. We would like review some of the accomplishments to start off the new school year.

- ◇ At the beginning of August we opened up the school year with 365 students registered — well below our projection of 492 — a cause for concern with respect to staffing. To date our official population total for the school year (and becoming the new projection for staffing purposes for next year) is 485 students.
- ◇ We opened the school year missing three teachers and needing seven clerical positions filled. All new teachers have now arrived and all clerical positions are filled.
- ◇ We recently completed our School Improvement Plan (SIP) in-service implementing a new model to facilitate the SIP process for the school. This process was enthusiastically received by staff and we anticipate exciting results.
- ◇ We held our first School Advisory Committee (SAC) for the new school year on 18 September. This was an inauguration and training meeting for the newly formed SAC. They will host their first meeting on 16 October.

Of course our school year cannot be a success without you. We continue to solicit your thoughts and feedback. Thank you very much for your ongoing support.

Raynard Eddings
Principal

Lucille Sutherland
Assistant Principal

Oct. 03: half day/ in service.

Oct. 03-05: Ankara@Incirlik. TBA

Oct. 09-11: Incirlik@Ankara.

Oct. 11: Cheer Camp
0900-1400, HS Gym

Oct. 13: Fed. Holiday

Oct. 15:
PSAT:10/11th grade

Oct. 16: SAC Mtg.
1500, IC HS.

Oct. 18: SAT, IC HS.

Oct. 20-25: Tennis
Championship

Oct. 25: ACT, IC HS.

Oct. 30: Carnival,
MPR, TBA

Oct. 30: End First
Quarter.

Oct. 27-31: Volleyball
Championship

Oct. 31: Teacher
workday/no school

Nov. 1: SAT, IC HS

Nov. 6: College Nite

Lady Hodjas' Volleyball—Coach R.



The Lady Hodjas' Volleyball teams are gearing up for a great season! Our first games will be played here at the Incirlik Base Fitness Center on the 3rd and 4th. We will then take it on the road to Ankara, 9-11 October, to continue our season. We would love to have local support and encouragement! Come out and enjoy volleyball!

News From the School Nurse—T.C.



Back Pack Information for Parents and Students



A concern has been recently brought to my attention regarding safety issues while wearing back-packs.

The primary observations I have made of some students in the 4-8th grades are:

1. Too much weight in the backpack for body size.
2. Large size backpack that is not appropriate for the body size of the student, making it impossible to shorten the straps enough to wear it properly.
3. Wearing the backpack too low on the back.
4. A fair number of students are carrying more books than are needed. They need to adjust it to the *daily* need.

Please review the following information. It is important for the safety and well-being of our students. Some of the students don't seem to understand what is, and is not, necessary. I have asked the teachers to assist with this.

Thanks for your help!

Back Pack Safety

Backpacks are a healthier choice than bags or purses, which often cause neck and shoulder injuries.

When worn correctly, the weight should be distributed over the body evenly. The strongest muscles in the body (the back and pelvic muscles) carry the weight.



If worn incorrectly...

If too low on the back, they put more strain on it, affect balance and can cause spine injury.

Falling is a risk, and bags can be dangerous for others, who may be bumped into or can trip over them, when they are too large.

Safety Guidelines:

*Should weigh no more than 10-13 % of a person's body weight.

*Weight should be on upper part of the back, primarily, covering $\frac{3}{4}$ of the length from shoulder blades to waist—NOT resting at the waist or lower.

*Double strap style is best.

*One shoulder style is definitely not good for the back.

*Pull-style is better for the back, but can pose problems at school, and is less convenient with stairs, etc. Some schools do not allow them.

*Wide, padded straps are best. Narrow straps dig into the back and can cause nerve and circulation problems.





Counselor's Corner
MS/HS
Mr. D.C.

SAT

The **SAT** dates for administration here at Incirlik Unit School are:

October 18	Registration completed
November 1	Registration completed
December 6	(not available at Incirlik. Register for Tarsus American School)
January 24	Deadline to register December 26
May 2	Deadline to register March 31
June 6	(not available at Incirlik. Register for Tarsus American School)

*Registration is completed on-line and requires special codes to get Incirlik as a testing center. We are a private site.

ACT

The **ACT** dates for administration here at Incirlik Unit School are:

October 25**	Registration completed
December 13**	Deadline to register November 7
February 7	Deadline to register January 6
April 4**	Deadline to register February 27
June 13	Deadline to register May 8



** ACT Plus Writing also available on these dates only

Registration is completed on-line and requires special codes and an international fee waiver. See the guidance counselor for registration information.



PSAT

The Preliminary SAT (**PSAT**) will be administered to all 10th and 11th graders at no charge on October 15th during regular school hours. Other students can take the PSAT, if extra tests are available, for a fee of \$13. Please contact Mr. C. at 676-6484 for additional information.

Counselors' Corner—College Night—D.C.



College Night is scheduled for November 6 from 18:00-19:30. If you would like to be a "college representative" from your alma mater and be available to answer questions about finances, admissions, and college life in general, please let the high school counselor know. If you want to help with any other aspect of the event that would be appreciated too. Last year's event was very successful, due to the many volunteers from our staff and the community. We are soliciting volunteers from the Company Grade Officers Council (Lt-Capt) once again. Their participation was awesome last year.

Please reach out to our high school counselor, Mr. D.C. at 676-6330 if you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information about College Night.

Classroom Guidance Supports School Improvement Goals —L.D., ES Counselor

The current goals of IUS are to improve student communication and critical thinking skills. In classroom guidance, students are learning a variety of different critical thinking and communication strategies.

K-2 September lessons focused on gaining effective listening skills, following directions, and identifying and expressing feelings (orally and visually). These skills are the foundation of making effective decisions. The 3rd- 5th grade lessons involved learning three types of graphic organizers.

These organizers were used to evaluate self- concept in several areas such as school, home and friends. The students then considered important traits for student success and selected a short-term goal on which to focus. In every lesson, at all grade levels, I'm asking students to communicate what we are learning in a variety of different ways (artwork, writing, orally).

Evidence of this should be coming home to you and can also be found on bulletin boards at the school.



MEET YOUR SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER (SLO)



Mr. Vernon “Poppa” Reddick 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. Reddick has more tenure as a SLO than any other serving in USAFE and is often sought out to help mentor and train new SLO’s.

The mission statement for SLO’s 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. Reddick is responsible for implementing the Free and Reduced Lunch Program as well as overseeing School Bus Transportation. He is a 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. 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.



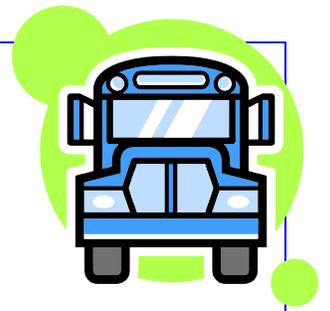
After retiring from the Air Force, he described his ideal job as one that would allow him to wear his collection of wacky ties. Being the SLO has afforded him that opportunity.

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, two graduated stateside, two from Incirlik and the last one set to graduate at the end of this school year. Rounding off what he joyfully refers to as the “Reddick Village” is one of six grandchildren. He is in the second grade and also lives at Incirlik.

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



School Bus Service—V.R.



Parents with dependents riding to school via Incirlik’s School Buses are asked to share with their students the responsibility for student behavior on our school buses. Parents and sponsors must ensure their children understand the rules for riding the school bus and they follow those rules. When children disobey the rules, they make the bus unsafe for every student on the bus. Bus drivers must not be distracted from safe driving by children’s misbehavior. Students must show respect for bus drivers and security guides and follow their instructions.

School bus transportation is a privilege that may be suspended or revoked. We do not have the resources to be school bus policemen and women. We rely on parents and sponsors to teach their children proper behavior. School bus rules will be strictly enforced. Students not complying with school bus rules may have their bus riding privileges suspended or revoked up to the rest of the year. When privileges are suspended, parents and sponsors must make their own arrangements for their children to get to and from school according to established school hours.

All 39Wing and DoDDS personnel take the safety of the children who ride our buses very seriously. We expect parents and sponsors to do the same. Please sit down with your children and carefully review the below rules. Let’s work together to make this school year a safe one.

The school bus rules:

Obey the driver and/or adult.

Enter and exit the bus safely and always show your bus pass.

Stay properly seated.

Keep your hands, feet and other body parts to yourself.

Do not throw things.

Put nothing out of the window.

Remain quiet and do not disturb the driver or others.

No profanity, smoking, prohibited items or vandalism.

Do not eat, drink or chew gum.

Be responsible and safe.



School Bus Service—cont.

Currently, school bus transportation is provided to all eligible students living in Falcon/Eagle Housing based on the commuting zone. Non-students are not authorized daily commute bus riding privileges. Request to be a chaperone for field trips are handled on a case-by-case basis. Volunteer chaperones are expected to perform in accordance with instructions. The sports trip to Ankara is very popular and we receive numerous requests from personnel to act as chaperones for this event. If you are selected as a chaperone you are expected to stay with the team and help supervise our students as part of your agreement to ride the bus. More information concerning the duties of a chaperone can be obtained from school administrators.

Parents and sponsors of our Sure Start, Kindergarten and First Grade students must be at the bus stop to receive their child at the end of the day. Students will not be allowed to exit the bus if their parent, sponsor or designated person is not waiting at the bus stop to receive them. If no one is there to receive the student, the student will be returned to the school's main office after the run is completed at which time the parent/sponsor will be notified.

As mentioned in last month's school newsletter, **PARENTS, WE NEED YOU TO BE BUS MONITORS. YOU ARE STILL NEEDED!** This month has been a challenge for getting a sufficient number of adults to assist with our bus monitor program. If every parent/sponsor would volunteer two hours per month the buses would be covered. Without you, our bus monitor program will not run as smooth and effective as we would like. We have assessed the situation and reviewed several scenarios. Two possibilities exist: 1) our school buses would have to make two runs to transport all students to and from school. Some of our students would have to wait at school for the bus to return from making its first run before they can be transported home. 2) We reduce our bus fleet by one vehicle. If the fleet is reduced, our 7th & 8th grade students will no longer be provided bus-riding privileges.

Direct questions/concerns to 676-3750/3043.





Halloween Carnival

Come one and all

For a splen- did evening
filled with games and



prizes cake walk and costumes

For all ages!!



Oct. 30,

MPR

TBA



Incirlik Unit School Cheerleaders Present:

Hodja Cheer Camp

Incirlik Unit School Gym (HS)

All students in grades K-5 invited

Saturday, 11 October, 2008

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

\$20 per participant (make all checks payable to Incirlik PTSA)

Instructed by the 2008/2009 Hodja Cheerleaders!

Learn new jumps!

Learn new stunts!

Learn new cheers!

Learn new chants!

Learn new dance movements!

All participants will learn a variety of motions, jumps, cheers, chants, stunts and dances taught by the Hodja Cheerleading Squad. All participants must be dropped off between the hours of 08:50 - 09:00 and picked up no later than 2:00pm. A hotdog lunch (chips & drink included) will be provided. There will be a small performance for parents, family and friends at 1:30.

A \$20 registration fee is required. Any interested participants must reserve their slot by filling out a registration form and turning it in no later than **Wednesday, October 8, 2008**. The clinic cannot take any persons who have not registered in advance. All participants will receive a certificate upon completion of the clinic. Payments are non-refundable starting 8 October 2008.

POC for this event: Adriane R. (676-3109)



Office of the Director, DoDDS-Europe
Diana J. Ohman, Director

Parent Newsletter Article for October 2008

GOOD ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY ARE A MUST FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR

The opening of another school year means that over 37,000 students have returned to the classrooms across DoDDS-Europe. As the new school year gets into full swing, parents and students need to form a working partnership with the schools and their staff that will result in a successful academic year. One important aspect of this partnership is consistent school attendance. Good daily attendance correlates directly with success in school.

Punctuality and good attendance are skills that need to be modeled by parents. Parental attitude and example have an impact on children. Parents need to let their children know how important school is to their future success. Parents in partnership with the school and community should make sure their student attends school daily, completes the academic requirements, graduates from high school, and learns the values and skills needed so they can be successful in the world of work.

Tardiness is an issue, too. When a student is late to school or class, the minutes quickly add up and valuable instructional time is lost. Studies show that students who are habitually late to school or class are more likely to bring the same habit into their adult life. We have to set an expectation for students to be on time...everyday.

Talk to teachers and our administrators about your child's attendance and punctuality. If everyone does their part, DoDDS-Europe students can secure their place as educated citizens of the future.

DIANA J. OHMAN
Director, DoDDS-Europe



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, EUROPE
UNIT 29649, Box 7000
APO AE 09096-7000**



September 18, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR DODDS-EUROPE EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: National Hispanic Heritage Month--September 15 - October 15, 2008

National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed each year from September 15-October 15. It honors the histories, cultures and contributions of the approximately 45.5 million American citizens who trace their ancestry to Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the Spanish-speaking countries of Central and South America. The observance started in 1968 by President Lyndon Johnson. In 1988 President Ronald Reagan expanded the observance to cover a 30-day period.

This is a time to recognize the many cultures and become educated about the rich heritage, art and traditions of Hispanic Americans. This year's theme is "Getting Involved: Our Families, Our Community, Our Nation." National Hispanic Heritage Month is the perfect time to learn more about the history and heritage of Hispanic Americans.

Did you know that many American places have been named after Spanish words? This is not surprising given the number of Spanish explorers who came to America. The name of California derives from a mythical land described in a popular Spanish novel from around 1500, *Las sergas de Esplandián* by Garcia Ordóñez de Montalvo. Nevada comes from the Spanish word for "snow covered." Colorado gets its name from the Spanish word meaning "reddish." Montana means "mountain" in Spanish and Florida derives from the Spanish word for "flowery." Many American cities have Spanish names as well. San Antonio (St. Anthony), San Francisco (St. Francis) and of course, Los Angeles (The Angels) to name a few.

We are thankful for these Americans and their contributions to our great society. America is especially grateful to the many Hispanic Americans who have courageously answered the call to defend freedom as members of our Armed Forces. In fact, there are currently over 1.1 million Hispanic American veterans.

I encourage you to take advantage of the following resources to further appreciate National Hispanic Heritage Month:

- Learn about the heroic sacrifices made by Hispanic Americans in the service of America: http://www.homeofheroes.com/e-books/mohE_hispanic/index.html

- Cook some traditional dishes to explore new tastes and honor the Hispanic American heritage:
http://www.dmoz.org/Home/Cooking/World_Cuisines/Latin_American/
- Sit down with your children and do a project about Hispanic Americans:
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/hispanic/index.htm>
- Visit the various web-sites that can teach you the contributions of Hispanic Americans:
http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/resource_library/hispanic_resources.html

//Original signed//
Diana J. Ohman
Director, DoDDS-Europe