

September 2008



The IUS Newsletter



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

Learning Lights the Way



Welcome to school year 08-09. It is our pleasure to once again have the opportunity to serve the parents and young people of the Incirlik Air Base community. With this upcoming school year we anticipate many exciting developments as we inaugurate a new school year. Not new to this school year, but critical to our learning process will be the school's ongoing focus on our School Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP or CSP (Continual School Progress) is based on our standardized assessments and other local data to focus the school's efforts toward growth and increased effectiveness. For the past two years at Incirlik Unit School our growth goals have been focused on two distinct areas:

Student Performance Goal 1: *All students will improve their written communication across the curriculum.*

Student Performance Goal 2: *All students will improve their critical thinking skills across the curriculum*

You can expect to hear more about our SIP goals and goal activities as we progress through the school year.

One of the critical features of any successful school is the effective partnerships formed with our parents. You may have already heard our emphasis on your active support of the *IUS PTSA* in that regard. However, I would like to enlist your support in a different forum — the **School Advisory Committee** or **SAC**. The **SAC** is composed of elected parents and educators and serves to advise the school's administration in matters of program or policy that affect the overall effectiveness of the school. The **SAC** is vital to school quality and effectiveness. Members serve one or two-year terms. Three parent members are needed. The preferred composition of the SAC would be at least one parent representatives of elementary, middle and high school students to ensure all three perspectives are maintained as viable voices. If you are interested in serving in this capacity please contact the school via phone or at the email above before 9 September.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Raynard Eddings
Principal

Lucille Sutherland
Assistant Principal

From the A.D.'s Corner—J.D.



The Fall Sports season gets underway with practices starting as early as 2-5 September!! Coaches are still being recruited and then our student-athletes will be "ready to roll!!" Our Fall Sports are Boys and Girls: Volleyball, Tennis, and Cross Country. Tentatively, our first competitions with Ankara will be here at Incirlik on 26-27 September. We are scheduled to travel to Ankara from 9-11 October, and the European tournaments will be held during the last two weeks of October. All students in grades 9-12 are urged to join our very successful and competitive extracurricular sports program here at Incirlik Unit School.

Mark Your Calendar:

Sept. 01: *Labor Day—No School*

Sept. 02: *Instruction Resumes*

Sept. 02: *Open House 2nd Grade @ 1700*

Sept. 03: *Open House 1st Grade @ 1700*

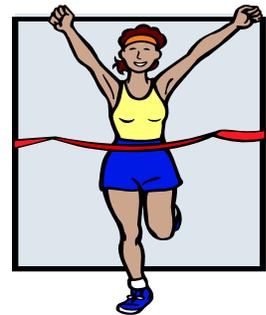
Sept. 04: *Open House Multiage 1/2 & 3/4 @ 1730*

Sept. 02-05: *Fall Sports practice begins*

Sept 9: *Kinder Open House (Kresser/Ramos) @ 1700*

Sept. 18: *Open House for Middle School and High School. TBA*

Sept. 19 *SAC meeting 1500 HS Info Ctr.*



Sept. 26-27: *Sports Ankara @ Incirlik. TBA*



News From the School Nurse—T.C.

Parents/Students

Heat Reminder: While the outdoor temperature remains hot, be sure your students are well-hydrated. They can bring bottled water to school.

Reminder to MS/HS Parents and Students: If you wish to participate in any extra-curricular sport activities this school year, you must have a current Sport Physical. It is important to get it done soon, as you cannot participate in practice until completed, and on file with the School Nurse. Forms and information are on the Bulletin Board outside the Nurse's office at the HS campus. You can get an appointment at the clinic to get this completed. Physician, Parent, and Student must sign the form. MS students may participate in practices, but cannot participate in competition games and travel with the team.



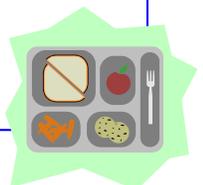
Free and Reduced Lunch Program—V.R.

For those not familiar, the Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program is a federally funded and regulated program that is available here at Incirlik.

General information that applies to everyone:

- ◆ Sponsors may apply for benefits any time during the school year. However, there is no carryover policy; applications must be renewed at the beginning of the school year regardless of when applied for.
- ◆ An application will not be processed unless it contains ALL eligibility information (this includes attaching your latest LES and proof of income if spouse is employed).
- ◆ Sure Start students are granted free status regardless of household income. Siblings of Sure Start students do not automatically receive free lunch status; an application must be completed and a separate determination made.
- ◆ Information submitted on the application is subject to verification at any time.
- ◆ Final decision of this office may be appealed by using the hearing procedures described in the Free and Reduced Price Policy.

This program is managed by 39th School Liaison Officer. Complete information can be obtained by contacting vernon.reddick@incirlik.af.mil or by calling 676-3750.



School Bus Service—V.R.



The school buses at Incirlik look different from your typical school bus state-side. Here, the “blue” military buses double as school buses for students at IUS. This service is paid for and managed by DoDDS-E through 39MSG/SLO. The commuting area for Incirlik only includes Falcon & Eagle Housing Areas. Currently any student (K-8th grade) living in those areas is authorized school bus transportation to and from school. PSCD students will be provided transportation regardless of their physical location. If you have been assigned housing in one of these areas and desire to use the school bus system, call 676-3750 or inquire at the school office. Please understand this service is not part of the base shuttle bus system, therefore adults cannot hitch a ride to or from the school for their convenience.

The chart below reflects approximate times for pick-up & delivery and is based on a 4 – 6 minute transit time from campus. Again, call if you have questions.

	Departs School for housing	Arrive @ first stop on Adana	Arrive back @ school
Bus 1: 6 th - 8 th Grade	0710	0715	0730
Bus 2: 2 nd - 3 rd Grade	0720	0725	0740
Bus 3: 4 th – 5 th Grade	0725	0730	0745
Bus 4: AYA – 1 st Grade	0730	0735	0750
School dismisses at 1415 and all buses will depart campus at 1425. Students are given 10 minutes to load and be ready for departure.			

DoDDS provided transportation is a privilege that may be suspended or revoked. We rely on parents and sponsors to teach their children proper behavior. Accordingly, school bus rules will be strictly enforced for the safety and security of all riders. Students not complying with established rules (each parent/sponsor is given a copy at the time of sign-up) may have their bus riding privileges suspended or revoked. If this happens, parents/sponsors must make arrangements to get their children to and from school on time.

Parents, (with children riding the bus) until we are able to fill the still vacant paid positions as school bus monitors, you are being asked to volunteer as school bus monitor (a statement to that effect was included on your request for transportation for your dependents). Incirlik is one of the few locations where a second adult is required on school buses (Turkish law) and we are fortunate to have these as paid part-time positions. Currently none of the positions are filled and recruiting is being done on the USAJOBS.GOV website.

If enough parents volunteer a drafting system will not have to be implemented. In order for us to continue providing children with a safe and secure ride to and from school, your help is needed. Primarily an adult is needed from 0700-0750 and again 1400-1430 (approx times) to ride and supervise. To find out the exact details of what the duty entails and/or for scheduling questions, call 676-3750/3043.



AVID News—H.R.

Mission Statement

The mission of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is to ensure that all students **especially students in the middle** capable of completing a college preparatory path:

- ◇ Will succeed in the most rigorous curriculum
- ◇ Will enter the mainstream activities of the school
- ◇ Will increase their enrollment in four year colleges
- ◇ Will become educated and responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society.

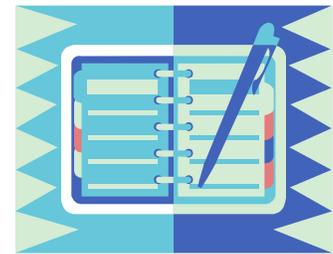
Purpose of AVID is to restructure the teaching methods of an entire school and to open access to the curricula that will ensure four-year college eligibility to almost all students.

What is AVID?

AVID is a program designed to help middle and high school students prepare to enter and succeed in four-year colleges. As the name implies, AVID students are "eager, characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit" of knowledge. Students in the program commit themselves to improvement and preparation for college. Students receive instruction in academic "survival skills" and college level entry skills. Academic survival skills include how to study, how to read for content, note taking, and time-management. Students participate in collaborative study groups or tutorials led by tutors who use skillful questioning to bring students to a thorough or higher level of understanding.

What does AVID do?

- ◇ AVID meets the needs of these students by providing
- ◇ Academic preparation for entrance into college
- ◇ Study skills for college level work, particularly in composition and organization
- ◇ Motivation for seeking a college education
- ◇ Assistance in coping with a college-prep curriculum
- ◇ Awareness of career possibilities
- ◇ Encouragement to stick to a plan



Middle School AVID

The middle school AVID program can begin in 6th grade. AVID is an elective class which meets during the regular school day. In preparation for the college prep curriculum in the high school, AVID students are encouraged to enroll in the most rigorous courses, Algebra 1 and a Foreign Language, offered at the middle school.

AVID Contract

Both the student and parent (sponsor) sign a contract upon entry into the AVID class. Parents agree to support class requirements, attend AVID parent meetings, and provide support to ensure academic success of their child. AVID students agree to carry a binder and take Cornell notes in all of their academic classes. They are encouraged to take an active role in their school by participating in extra-curricular activities.



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
GUIDANCE OFFICE
INCIRLIK UNIT SCHOOL
UNIT 7180 BOX 270
APO AE 09824-005**



Dear Parents:

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year at Incirlik Unit School. As your child's guidance counselor, I am committed to helping your child be the best student he or she can be. My guidance program addresses the needs of the students in three areas: academic development, career development and social/interpersonal skill development. In classroom guidance (where I visit with the students in their classrooms) we will learn about issues that affect all students such as friendship, problem solving, empathy, goal setting, and stress and anger control.

Several times a year I will offer small group lessons to students. These lessons often include topics such as divorce, grief and loss, friendship, anger control, study skills and more. They will take place during the day and occur weekly for about 30 minutes each week for about 6-8 weeks. These lessons are not intended to be psychotherapy, but instead are designed to help normal kids deal with normal problems in a setting where they can share their concerns with peers who may be experiencing the same thing. The subject of the group is determined by my assessment of the students' needs from talking with them, their teachers, and you. Currently I am forming deployment support groups (Pre-K through 12) and a social skills group (K-2) Please contact me for more information. ** Both these groups are ongoing and may last more than 8 weeks.

I also offer individual counseling for specific issues such as those mentioned above as well as others such as self-control, and anxiety related to school. Sometimes individual lessons last all year and others are 3-9 visits. The classroom teacher, other teachers or medical professionals refer children for services. Sometimes students refer themselves. Parent permission is required when specific goals are set and there is a specific plan to work on a specific issue that would require more than 2 or 3 visits. This would be different than the 1 or 2 time visits often made by kids for specific, usually problem- solving related things, such as a problem with a friend.

I have many resources available for kids and parents that discuss common problems and issues related to kids in elementary school. There are books and videos from professionals and parents from many different viewpoints. I am happy to help you with anything that affects your child at school. Together with your child's teacher we can make this year a success for your child.

You may call me at school between 7:30 and 2:30 at 6-3109 or e-mail me anytime at ladye.daniels@eu.dodea.edu.

Sincerely,

L. D., M.A., LPC, LPA

Prek-5th Grade Guidance Counselor