

# NETZABERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

8 September 2008



## Netzaberg Elementary School Students Begin the 2008—2009 School Year

### CALENDAR ITEMS

- **Thursday, 11 Sept.**  
Sure Start begins
- **Thursday, 11 Sept.**  
Open House—1:00
- **Monday, 15 Sept.**  
Early Release Day—  
11:15 Dismissal
- **Monday, 22 Sept.**  
Early Release Day—  
11:15 Dismissal
- **Friday, 10 Oct.**  
No School —Staff  
Development Day
- **Monday, 13 October**  
No School —  
Columbus Day



It's 2:45!

### Do You Know Where Your Children Are?

"Math Matters!"

Parents are asked to ensure that their child's teacher knows where their children are to go upon dismissal at 2:45. If that routine changes, even if it is a one-day only change, please send a note to the teacher. Often children are confused at the end of the day about just what they are to do. If that is the case, we will stick to the established routine. For example, if your son normally rides the bus home and today you plan to pick him up, just send in a note. If we have no note, we will put him on the bus! Help us keep your children safe!



## SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

We are committed to providing a safe environment for children. To that end, we have measures in place to ensure that safety.

- You need to show your ID card to the Ponds Guard at the Main Access Point.
- The street within the fence line is one-way during school hours.
- Student drop-off is just past the entry to the elementary school and to the right. This way students do not cross the bus lane. The speed limit around the school is 10 MPH. Please obey the crossing guards.
- Parents are always welcome in our school. We do ask, however, that you sign in at the main office when you arrive and sign out when you leave. All guests must wear a "visitor" badge while at school.
- For safety and security reasons, all exterior doors will remain closed and locked at all times.
- Entry is at the main door only. You merely need to press the buzzer to the right of the entrance and we will release the lock so you may enter!

## FOSTERING COMMUNICATION . . .

The staff at Netzaberg Elementary School values communication with families. We encourage you to keep in close contact with your child's teachers.

All staff members can be reached by leaving a message with the clerks in the Main Office, at the temporary telephone number: 09461-83-9534. Messages will be emailed to the staff member. Please specify if a message is urgent or if immediate attention is needed, as uninterrupted instructional time is a priority. Teachers may also be reached via e-mail by following this address pattern: FirstName.LastName@eu.dodea.edu. For example: Barbara.Mueller@eu.dodea.edu

*. . . More Communication Tools:*

## THE MONDAY FOLDER AND ASSIGNMENT BOOKS

To help ensure clear communication between school and home, soon every Monday your child will take home a "Monday Folder".

In this folder you will find informational items such as newsletters from the classroom teacher or the principal, community announcements (i.e. Boy/Girl Scouts, PTSA), the corrected schoolwork for the previous week, et al.

Look for the folder each Monday and return it to school on Tuesday. Should Monday be a holiday, look for the folder on Tuesday and return on Wednesday. If you are involved in an organization that has a principal-approved flyer to send home to families, please have them submitted to the main office no later than noon the previous Friday.

Assignment books are a terrific way to clear up that age old parent question, "Do you have any homework?" If your third, fourth, or fifth grader is not yet utilizing this tool (also called an Agenda), they are available from the PTSA for \$5. Contact the teacher for more information.

## DoDDS HOMEWORK POLICY

### DS Administrative Instruction 2000.9 POLICY

A) Homework is defined as assignments to be done outside the classroom to reinforce classroom instruction, increase understanding and retention, transfer and extend classroom instruction, prepare for class discussion, and provide curriculum enrichment opportunities.

#### Guidelines for Hours of Homework Per Week:

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1-3	2-4
4-6	5-7

- B) Homework assignments are reinforcements for classroom curricular learning as appropriate for the ability of the student.
- C) Homework will not be used to introduce new information.
- D) Assignments shall be designed to meet the needs and abilities of individual students.
- E) Homework will be done outside class time, not during the instructional period.
- F) School events and other burdens will be taken into consideration when assigning homework.
- G) As appropriate to the nature of the assignment, teachers shall evaluate and return homework.

# OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, 11 September

1300

Parents are welcome to visit the school and meet the teachers. This is the schedule for individual teacher presentations:

Kindergarten and First Grade

1:00 – 1:20

Second and Third Grade

1:30 – 1:50

Fourth and Fifth Grade

## EARLY RELEASE DAYS

On 15 September and 22, September students will be dismissed at 1115. Teachers must participate in mandatory trainings. These trainings include: NoFEAR Act Training, Privacy Act, Anti-Terrorism, and Ethics.

Also mandatory for teachers is a half day science training. The focus of this training is to examine the components of the science curriculum guides, to review the DoDEA science curriculum standards, and to plan the facilitation of the inquiry method in science lessons.

Parents who are interested in joining us for science training are welcome to do so! Please call the school for details.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Researchers Karen Mapp and Anne Henderson reviewed more than 50 studies on parent, family, and community connections to schools. Their report, *A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family, and Community Connections on Student Achievement*, included the following ways that schools can help families develop their capacity to support their children's education: Engage parents at school so they understand what their children are learning. Give parents a voice in what happens to their children. Provide information about how to help their children at home and what their children need to learn. Foster social connections among families and with teachers. Build your understanding of the education system and how to guide your children through it successfully. Identify and build on strengths in the community and among families. We look forward to working with all parents to provide an educational program of excellence.

*Barbara J. Mueller*  
Principal

# PTSA

## PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA) at Netzaberg Elementary School is a very active group! They work hard to support our school. The children will benefit through activities such as Bingo Night, School Pictures, Spelling Bee, Winter Wonderland, Pastries for Parents, Book Fair, and Book Swap. The PTSA provides additional resources to the school with the funds raised. They also have the Volunteer Brigade that assists teachers by helping prepare materials for lessons.

Join this most helpful and fun group! Call the school to see how you can become involved!

# SAC

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The School Advisory Committee (SAC) consists of parents and teachers and is created to foster the concept of participation in school affairs by members of the school community. The committee, which meets monthly, advises the principal on matters affecting the operation of the school. DoD Instruction 5105.49 outlines membership eligibility and election procedures. Three parents and three teachers are needed for the 2008—2009 SAC.

Nomination forms and information are attached. Elections will be next week.

All community members are welcome to attend any and all meetings.



## NETZABERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Unit 28130  
APO AE 09169

Comm: 09641-83-9534  
DSN: 475-9534

NetzabergES.Principal@eu.dodea.edu  
Check us out on the web!  
[www.netz-es.eu.dodea.edu](http://www.netz-es.eu.dodea.edu)

## OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, 11 September  
1:00

Meet the Netzaberg  
Elementary School Staff!

Nominate a school mascot  
and colors!

SUCCESS FOR ALL