

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2011 Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial NASA Space Camp Scholarships due NLT 10 March
- Anti-Bullying Campaign Evening Event Feb. 8th DGF Multipurpose Building

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Communication Corner

Have you ever wondered how you can make changes to the current procedures at your local DGF School? Do you have recommendations about the way you see your child's education being handled?

There is an appropriate way to have your voice heard by the school's administrators here in Rota.

The new principals of DGF Elementary, Middle and High Schools wish to reiterate that handling issues you have with your child's classroom environment begins with that child's teacher. It is important to regularly communicate with your child's teacher in order to have a working relationship with them. Please also remember that your child's teacher is working with more than one child within their classroom and

needs your support in maintaining a structured environment in which your child may learn. If you are not able to reach a working agreement with your child's teacher the school principal needs to be made aware of this and you must communicate with them before going to any other person in the chain of command.

If you feel changes need to be made to any regular handbook procedures or policies you must first inform the School Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair person of your respective school.

- Martina Sullivan Elementary School Committee Chair
- Tammy Schaefer Middle / High School Committee Chair

Call the School Liaison Officer for contact information at 18-727-1104 or 690-399-785

The item must be placed on the agenda for the upcoming meeting and must be handled by parliamentary procedure within this committee.

This Committee also contains members that have been voted to represent at the base Installation Advisory Committee (IAC) to bring any matters in the realm of logistics to the Commands attention. This may include but is not limited to physical upkeep and maintenance of the school facilities, transportation issues, school meal program issues, medical services needs, and administrative and logistical support services provided by the installation. Any policies and standards that relate to the above matters are all heard by the IAC.

By Barbara Peters

PCS Passport

Please be aware that the acceleration date for the 2011-2012 DoDDS school year is May 17th. In order to receive full credit for the school year students must attend through this date. High school students that will be PCSing around this time will need to submit the required form to the regis-

trar and make arrangements with their teachers to take their final exams prior to this date.

All families PCSing at the end of the school year will need to provide a copy of orders to either the elementary or high school office in order for their records to be prepared for transfer. The

registrar needs to be notified of the pending transfer and needs 24 hour notice of withdraw in order to prepare your students records. Please be courteous to the registrars as this is their busy season.





Here to support your child's education during times of deployment

You shouldn't have to feel alone when navigating the Special Needs Process

Take Advantage of this Free Resource



Developments in Deployment

A recent study of more than 300,000 military children, conducted by researchers at the National Center for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, found nearly 17 percent of children with deployed parents had a mental health diagnosis -- most often anxiety, behavioral problems, depression,

sleep disorders and stress disorders.

Please let the school administrators and decision makers you work with know that you have a deployed service member. This will aid them in recognizing any changes in behavior or grades that might be the result of

the absence of the service member in their life.

For additional resources and information use this helpful website.

<http://www.mentalhealthscreening.org/programs/military/youth-programs/>

Savoy on Special Needs

Child Find for children three to five years of age is an ongoing outreach program that actively seeks to locate and identify children who might have developmental delays or educational disabilities and may need special services.

Children grow and develop at different rates, but most follow a path of predictable milestones. Some children, however, experience delays in one or more of the five developmental areas:

Physical
Social Emotional
Communication
Thinking Skills
Adaptive Skills

If you have concerns regarding your child's development, please contact the special education chairperson to request a screening.

**Linda Hill, CSC Chair at DSN
727-4185 or
CIV 956-82-4185**

Homeschooler Heads-up

Terra Nova Testing is right around the corner and your children are eligible to take the test. Students will need to be sure they have a test ordered for the week of testing. If you have not informed the school of your intentions to have your child tested please contact the elementary guidance counselor

at 727-4417 or the high school at 727-4580 to inform them of your intentions. If you are planning to have your child tested the week of March 12-16 they will be able to fill you in on the details of the week. This test is a great tool for parents to assess their child's abilities and to be aware of

areas to supplement a child's education plan. This standardized test is also helpful to other school districts if you plan to return to the public school system at anytime during your child's school years. Take advantage of this free resource.

The Volunteer Voice - DGF Science Symposium



Volunteers make great events happen here in Rota, Spain. In November volunteer graduates from individual colleges and trade schools from the local community represented their schools at the annual College Fair. Thank you to all that made this event possible. Students making decisions on what school best fits them now have a greater insight to the schools they cannot visit due to our remote location.

Make your plans now to volunteer for the 2012 College Fair and represent your alma mater. It is simple – request material to be mailed to you from your school and sign up with the DGF High School guidance counselor to man a table. It is a great way to give back to the students of the community.

In addition to the College Fair over 40 volunteers enhanced the learning

“What you do today will effect your tomorrows”

process of our middle and high school population in the recent Science Symposium. Various members of the community judged the entries of the Science Symposium put on by DGF science teacher Kathleen Tierney. The critiques and interactive questions by the judges helped to build confidence in the presenters in order to ready them for the Regional Science Symposium.



Graduates' Guide

Parents this a great scholarship opportunity for Navy dependent spouses and children, Officer and Enlisted, active duty, retired, honorably discharged or deceased. The sponsors must have served in naval aviation and subordinate (squadrons, naval air stations, training, carriers, etc.) commands. Scholarships are awarded to further the undergraduate education of students. In April 2011 the foundation

awarded scholarships to 43 deserving high school students, college students and spouses totaling over \$75,000.

Candidates who submit applications must be graduates or graduating seniors of an accredited high school or an equivalent home school or institution and must plan to attend an accredited academic institution during the 2012-2013 school year. Additional eligibility requirements are listed at the following website <http://www.wingsoveramerica.us>

Pre-qualification forms (for first time applicants) are available on the website and are due by March 1, 2012.

Completed applications and supporting documentation are due April 1, 2012.

If you have additional questions please contact your School Liaison Officer at 690-399-785.



Resource References

Boys and Girls Clubs of America
www.bgca.org

Free Tutoring
www.tutor.com/military

DODEA
www.dodea.edu

DODEA Curriculum
www.dodea.edu/curriculum/index.cfm

Military Youth on the Move
apps.mhf.dod.mil

Free SAT/ACT program
www.eknowledge.com/military.asp

Military Child Education Coalition
www.militarychild.org

Educational & Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS)
727-4029

Library Spot
www.libraryspot.com

School Matters
<http://www.scchoolmasters.com>

Navy Child & Youth Programs
<https://qol2.navyaims.net/CYPWeb/>

CDC Registration
<https://qol2.navyaims.net/CYPWEB/Web/RFC/RequestForCare.aspx>

MWR
www.rotamwr.com

Screening for Mental Health
<http://www.mentalhealthscreening.org/programs/military/youth-programs/>

Military Comm & Family Policy
<http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/f?p=OUTREACH:COVER:0:::DAY.MONTH.YEAR:23,December,2011>



Knowledge is Power!

Tutor.com New and Improved



Prep Testing Support at Tutor.com

Tutor.com for Military Families has launched a few changes. They have made creating an account easier. Starting in October, all military families go through the same online registration process regardless of their service branch affiliation. New users can go to

<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?Tutor.com/d42906ea0d/c821e8c98b/e673731971>

to create an account.

They simply click on the appropriate button, certify their eligibility, answer a few quick questions about their family military status and location, and connect to a professional tutor within minutes.

STANDARDIZED TEST PREP

Students can prepare for standardized exams such as the ACT and SAT through the assistance of Tutor.com!

Students can ask live

tutors to check an answer, provide feedback, and talk strategy on how to tackle those daunting tests ahead.

Tutor.com is available at no charge for ALL Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve families.

Please remember this resource is also available to dependent spouses currently enrolled in college.

Parent Page - Teens and Texting



What Are Your Kids texting?

The following list was supplied to attendees of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America Asia Youth Impact Conference. Be a parent in the know and educate yourself on how your children may be communicating via their cell phones and computers. TOP 25 INTERNET ACRONYMS PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

source: www.netlingo.com

8 - Oral Sex
1337 - Elite or Leet or L337
143 - I love you
182 - I hate you
1174 - Nude Club
420 - Marijuana
459 - I love you
ADR - Address

AEAP - As early as possible
ALAP - As late as possible
ASL - Age/Sex/Location
CD9 - Code 9 - it means that parents are around
C-P - Sleepy
F2F - Face to face
GNOC - Got naked on cam
GYPO - Get your pants off
HAK - Hugs and Kisses
ILU - I love you
IWSN - I want sex now
J/O - Jerking off
KOTL - Kiss on the lips
KFY or K4Y - Kiss for you
KPC - Keeping parents clueless
LMIRL - Let's meet in real life
MOOS - Member of the opposite sex

ADDITIONAL ACRONYMS

MOS - Mom over shoulder
P911 - Parent alert
PAL - Parents are listening
PAW - Parents are watching
PIR - Parents in room
POS - Parents over shoulder

Also be aware that texting can be costly. The following website provides insight into the costs of texting with many phone companies. Be sure you are not affected by the cost of texting.

<http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/AmericanFamily/story?id=3269814&page=1>

DoDEA Details

DoDEA and HHS Join Forces to launch Stop Bullying Now! Campaign in DoDEA Schools

ARLINGTON, VA — The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) have joined forces to launch the Stop Bullying Now! campaign in DoDEA Schools.

Bullying is a widespread and serious problem across our nation. It's what happens when someone repeatedly hurts or threatens another person on purpose. Bullying comes in many forms—name calling, leaving people out, spreading rumors or physically hurting someone. It's what happens when someone repeatedly hurts or threatens another person on purpose.

"DoDEA is firmly committed to providing all students with a safe and supportive learning environment," said Marilee Fitzgerald, Acting Director of DoDEA. "As we begin the new school year, we are joining forces with the Department of HHS and the U.S. Department of Education to make bullying prevention a top priority."

Fitzgerald added that every child is entitled to feel safe in the classroom, in the hallway and on playgrounds and buses.

The HHS campaign "Stop Bullying Now! Take a Stand. Lend a Hand," will help unify efforts and build a common understanding of, and expectations for, DoDEA's commitment and action to prevent bullying. The materials - posters, websites, videos and handouts -- will complement existing bullying prevention programs in DoDEA schools.

"We are proud to partner with Department of Defense Education Activity to provide Stop Bullying Now! campaign resources for military schools and communities," said Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "Bullying is not an education problem or a health problem - it is a community problem. And we are committed to working together at the federal level to help communities, schools, and families address it as one."

"Bullying, verbal harassment, and cyber-bullying interfere with a student's ability to learn and we must work together to eliminate bullying and harassing behavior," Fitzgerald said. "Together we can make our schools safe places to learn, grow and thrive."

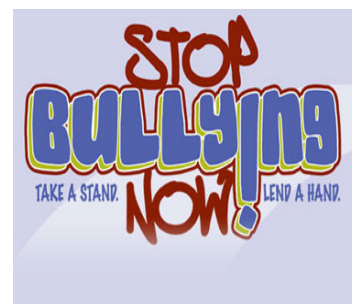
DoDEA plans, directs, coordinates, and manages pre-kindergarten through 12th grade education programs for Department of Defense (DoD) dependents who would otherwise not have access to a high-quality, public education. DoDEA schools are located in Europe, the Pacific, the United States, Cuba, Guam and Puerto Rico. DoDEA also provides support and resources to Local Education Activities throughout the U.S. that serve children of military families.

For more information on HHS' efforts on bullying please visit www.stopbullying.gov or www.dodea.edu/stopbullying.

Also in response to the new Anti-Bullying initiative DGF Rota Middle High School and community partners are hard at work to formulate and plan an Anti-Bullying event. Be on the

watch for the February program coming to the local community. This will be your opportunity to work closely with your child's school administrators, teachers, community partners and your child to stop bullying in all its forms.

The team of event coordinators is made up of representatives of Navy Child and Youth Programs leadership, school counselors, teachers, FFSC staff, security and various other players. It is the goal of the program to implement a way of life in the local community that does not tolerate bullying in any form and to create an everyday mindset within the student population that bullying is not acceptable. Through dramatic presentation, display of art and personal poetry submissions the students have established what they see as the face of bullying. They will be given the opportunity to sign a pledge of non-tolerance to bullying at this evenings event. Show your support and spend the evening with us.



Ponder Point



Dads are the first male role model in a young girl's life.

To never let the importance of father daughter relationships fade from our minds it is important to once again ponder the valuable outcomes of these relationships. As the guest speaker of the Inaugural Cinderella Ball 2010 FFSC Director Robin Hudson reminded us of the importance of fathers in their daughters' lives. As Fathers and daughters celebrate annually at the Cinderella Ball the very important message of father/daughter relationships is brought to the forefront again. The following are a few of the reasons Ms. Hudson reminds Dads that their role is so important to their daughters future.

“As a Marriage & Family counselor, I know that Dad's are the first male role models in a young girl's life. Their opinion of their daughter shapes how she sees herself and what to expect of the men and boys in her life. This will also be reflected in how she eventually sees herself in the world at large.

What we know is that girls need both their parents and it helps marriages when both partners are fully engaged with their children. It's especially important for Dads to understand the necessity

of their role in their daughter's lives. As their daughters move into puberty and adolescence some fathers may find themselves feeling distant from their daughters or awkward with the changing dynamics. Just remember Dads, this is the time when your daughters need you the most. By being a steady, unwavering presence in her life you both stand a better chance of getting through the teen years with your sanity!!!

So what does it take to be a successful Dad? It depends on how you define success. Some fathers may say, "Good job" when their daughter get's an A in school. Some may support their daughter's accomplishment in a sport but what it comes down to is telling and praising your daughter in all aspects of her life. This kind of support builds a dialog in her mind that she should be treated this way by all men and that she has much self worth. So the way fathers act toward their daughters will influence a daughter at an unconscious level and she will hear your attitudes,

words and beliefs in her head and this will set the foundation for how she interacts with boys and men in her world.

I've met Dads in family counseling who struggle with telling their daughters how wonderful they are or feel awkward about it. Be mindful that you are reinforcing her self esteem for the job well done and communicating your values about hard work and being a team player. She also needs to be told and praised for her intrinsic qualities as well, such as being truthful, kind, patient or a good listener and just being who she is...your daughter. Sometimes the best thing a Dad can do is just sit with his daughter and listen to her, maybe offer her a hug and tell her how special she is. She may need to know how glad you are to have her as your daughter. Sometimes Dads that's all they need. Other times they may need you to help them problem solve and offer them a solution, but it's your job to ask.

Since a dad is the first male role model in their daughter's life they will influence the formation of their daughter's ego and super ego development. In all of this, you Dads represent to her the richness, honor, and value of being a man. When you are true to her and true to the best qualities in your masculine heritage, she will learn to respect men and treat them as equals. She will learn to gravitate toward men who respect and treat her as an equal, while turning away from men who threaten, violate or try to abuse her. That's good for both a daughter and her father. Perhaps that's what's behind the old saying: "When a girl grows up, she marries her father." Her life partner may very well be a reflection of you, your characteristics, your attitudes, your beliefs. That is the good news if you have parented her well and have influenced her with a positive self esteem.

A woman having this kind of relationship with their Dad gives them an opportunity to learn what real trust looks like. Their Dad's love, support and encouragement through the years helps give them a sense of

their own identity, worth and value. You have a choice, get involved and be an active parent and send your daughter down her life's road with clear and healthy boundaries for men, or you can be uninvolved and leave your daughter to guess what that means from observing the actions of others. Hopefully, they will be drawn towards men like you and choose paths similar to the ones you've tread as men and fathers.

Know that there is not an absolute right way or wrong way to raise your daughter. You are all here tonight because you care and you know that having a positive fatherly influence in your daughter's life will have a lasting effect. Research is telling us that a father's positive interactions with his daughter will increase her success in academics and her career, that she will delay premarital sex, that she will experience a higher level of self esteem and self satisfaction. Involved fathers show daughters ways to navigate the world outside the family, they are role models of independence and competency, and are moral anchors for their daughters to judge all other men by. True fathering is a unique and powerful contribution to

a daughter's sense of herself. *Real "fathering" is not biological-it is the conscious choice to build an unconditional and unbreakable connection to another human being. Once that choice is made, it cannot be unmade.*

In closing, I'd like to say that the Dad's I've seen in counseling who feel they're making headway with their daughters are the ones who know how to influence them without being a complete authoritarian, who know when it's time to listen and when it's time to problem solve, who see their roles as an opportunity, as well, as an obligation and are excited about it. These are the fathers who are working on a formula for success."



"Real "fathering" is not biological-it is the conscious choice to build an unconditional and unbreakable connection "



Child and Youth Programs

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Supporting the Military Child