Additional Points from Parent to Parent Session

Before you go:

- 1. Learn everything about the special needs program at post.
- 2. Learn about after school activities.
- 3. Learn about the philosophy of the school.
- 4. Use websites.
- 5. Learn about the post and culture.

• When at post:

- 1. Visit the school. Bring the children and do a pros and cons list with them.
- 2. Look at ways to volunteer at the school.
- 3. Learn how the school likes to communicate with parents.
- 4. Look for support groups. If there isn't one, make one.
- Setting the tone at a school meeting:
 - 1. If you come in all defensive, the school will be defensive back.

- 2. Try to set the tone yourself.
- 3. Bring a photo of the child with you if they cannot attend.
- 4. Start talking about the child's strengths instead of weaknesses.
- 5. Have a purpose.
- 6. Know what you want.
- 7. Be organized.
- 8. Try to check your emotions at the door.
- 9. Try not to feel intimidated.
- Do not use jargon the school employees will not understand.

• At home:

- 1. Give child some down time.
- 2. Do things to build up their self esteem.
- 3. Let the child be if they are confident in something.
- 4. Look for hidden experts or talents to teach a class.

- 5. Encourage your child to teach a class.
- 6. Look at ways to build your child.
- 7. Be open and creative.
- 8. Have fun with your children!