



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS PACIFIC/
DOMESTIC DEPENDENT ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS - GUAM
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
UNIT 35007
APO AP 96376-5007

December 18, 2008

**A Message from the Director
Safe and Happy Holiday Season**

This holiday season, families all over the world will join together with friends and neighbors to rekindle old friendships, honor traditions, and renew the hope for a new and better year. During this special time of the year, I want to pass along a holiday greeting to our dedicated employees in Japan, Okinawa, South Korea and Guam and wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season.

This year our stateside counterparts, friends, colleagues and family members face tough financial times. Children sitting on Santa's lap will not only be asking for more stuffed animals and video games, but asking for Daddy to find a job or money for Mommy to buy the house back. Others will be asking for personal care items, school supplies, and warm clothing. With this in mind, try to be a little more generous this year as we are certainly blessed with financial security.

As we know, freedom is not free. To date, more than 35,000 troops have been injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. More than 4,800 servicemen and women have died since 9/11. There are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, wives, husbands and children who have suffered terrible loss. We live in a society that doesn't force our young women and men to defend our freedom. They do it willingly. Not because they want to engage in danger or killing, but rather they serve in spite of those things.

As you make plans for your holiday gathering and celebrations, please remember the family members of those who are deployed, as well as single soldiers and other members of our communities who are away from their own families. If possible, extend a special invitation to them allowing them to join you and your family in celebrating this holiday season.

Finally then, let us never forget how fortunate we are to be working for a wonderful organization, having great jobs, and teaching the best students in the world.

As I have said on numerous occasions, we are all part of a great team. Thank you all for your unwavering commitment to quality education. I wish all our DoDDS and DDESS employees a joyous holiday season and the best for the New Year!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy C. Bresell".

Nancy C. Bresell
Director