



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
EDUCATION ACTIVITY
4040 NORTH FAIRFAX DRIVE
ARLINGTON, VA 22203-1635

March 18, 2011

Dear Fellow School District Leader,

The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) requests your support in providing a continuum of education for our children of our families impacted by recent events. The substantial earthquake and subsequent disasters in Japan have prompted the Department of State to issue a voluntary authorized departure from the Island of Honshu, Japan for military family members. We anticipate that some families with school aged children will chose to relocate. The designated safe haven location is the United States. We do not know how many families will return to United States, where they will reside for the 30 day period.

To the extent that children of military families will temporarily enroll in your schools, we ask that you partner with us in easing the burden on the students affected by this tragic natural disaster. To that end, we have encouraged our families to resume the stability and routine of school once settled at a safe haven. We know that a significant element of support for these children is the educational setting; one that provides not only a quality education but that recognizes and responds to each child's unique needs.

The DoDEA education community stands ready to assist and we will do our part to facilitate a seamless transition of students from our schools to yours. The point of contact is Ms. Kathleen Facon, Chief, Educational Partnership. She can be reached by email at Kathleen.facon@hq.dodea.edu or telephone at (703) 588-3191.

Sincerely,

Original signed

Marilee Fitzgerald
Acting Director, DoDEA