

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT KOREA DISTRICT UNIT 15549 APO AP 96205-5549

PACIFIC DODDS –KOREA

20 July 2012

Dear Sponsors and Parents of Korea District Students:

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administrators of the Korea School District, I'd like to welcome students and parents to School Year 2012-2013. An exciting year is in store for our students and our entire staff is eager to open the doors of our classrooms to opportunities for learning, growing, sharing, and most importantly, highest student achievement for each and every child.

In preparing for the start of a new school year, a large part of our efforts include planning for and accommodating the increased number of students that will attend schools in the Korea District this year. The increase in command-sponsored tours for those Service members assigned to Korea may mean higher enrollments for our schools. As a result, you may see more children per classroom and more changes to class schedules than you are accustomed to experiencing in DoDEA schools.

Working with the Services, we are also embarking on a plan that will add new schools in some areas of our district and replace or renovate existing schools in other areas. Plans for these schools are in various stages of progress and the completion of construction on these facilities is several years in the offing. We are very fortunate to have the support of the leadership of Department of Defense on this initiative, both with regard to resourcing and the commitment to provide the best education possible for children of military families.

We ask for your understanding and support while these improvements are underway – to borrow a phrase, "Please pardon the dust" as we make the necessary accommodations for the construction and changes that are ahead of us. I ensure you what will not change are the quality of education and the care and concern your children receive from our teachers, principals, and staff members. We will work with you to minimize the inconveniences and do everything possible to ensure a seamless stream of learning and achievement for all students.

Before the start of the school year, I encourage you to visit our website, <u>http://www.korea.pac.dodea.edu/</u>. We have posted enrollment policies and procedures for the coming school year that are important for parents and sponsors to review and understand to ensure a smooth transition for their children into the new school year.

We will keep you updated periodically through our website, letters, e-mails, AFN-Korea, and installation newspapers. Together with our partners in the Services, we pledge to you to do our very best in supporting military families and ensuring quality of life factors such as education, remain a top priority.

We are excited to be your partner in the educational journey of your child. We look forward to meeting your children and giving them every opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns at 738-5922.

Dr. Irby L. Miller Superintendent DoDDS-Korea

Cc:

Commander, USFK Commander, 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Commander, IMCOM-K Commander, USAG – Casey Commander, USAG – Yongsan Commander, USAG – Humphreys Commander, USAG – Daegu Commander, 7<sup>th</sup> Air Force Commander, Fleet Activity Chinhae J1, USFK J8, USFK G1, 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Principals School Liaison Officers