

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS DAEGU AMERICAN SCHOOL KOREA DISTRICT PSC 305 APO AP 96218

August 2012

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Daegu American School (DAS). The focus of our school is to nurture and challenge all students, building on their strengths and providing the support needed to be fully successful. We have a group of highly educated and trained teachers who excel at their profession. Every one of them will work to provide the best possible education for your child/children.

For 35 years we were a unit school (PK-12). Our unique enrollment offered many advantages to our students: a sense of family, nurturing partnerships between our older and younger students, and capitalizing on the strengths of the diversified staff. Starting with SY 2011-2012 we transitioned to two schools, a 9-12 located at Camp Walker and a PK-8 located here at Camp George.

The success of our students depends upon close and active partnerships with parents, the military community, and our Korean neighbors. Research indicates that "When parents are involved in children's schools and education, children have higher grades and standardized test scores, improved behavior at home and school, and better social skills and adaptation to school." (http://childparenting.about.com/cs/parentinvolvement/a/parentschool.htm, August 2010)

DAS offers a number of programs and clubs in addition to a first class curriculum. Student-2-Student helps students transition from one school to the next; AVID is a college-readiness system designed to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges; Junior Honor Society recognized academic excellence; and student council builds leadership skills. We also offer a variety of after school clubs.

Parents are important to our school. The School Advisory Committee (SAC) is a forum for communicating recommendations, concerns or advice to the principal on educational matters and the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) provides parents and families with a powerful voice to speak on behalf of every child and the best tools to help their children be safe, healthy, and successful - in school and in life.

To remain a fully accredited school DAS undergoes accreditation visits every five years; regularly reviews data to determine school wide needs; and uses research to identify best practices to support improved learning. Continuous school improvement is a process that involves constantly reviewing the growth and progress of students over time. Parents are an essential part of this process. Please consider becoming an active member of one of our CSI committees. DAS goals for this year are: "All students will improve their comprehension of nonfiction text in all content areas" and "All students will improve their reasoning skills to solve problems in all curricular area."

We look forward to new challenges, new students and parents, and the return of familiar faces.

Laurel Eisinger – Principal Nedra Jones – Assistant Principal