21 September 2012



Netzaberg News

Calendar Items

- Friday, 28 September: Volunteer Orientation 0830
- Friday, 28 September: Dragon Den Booster Club (DDBC)—Free Popcorn for all Students
- Thursday, 4 October: Volksmarch 0830-1100
- Thursday, 4 October: 1/2 day for Students early release at 1100
- Friday, 5 October: CSI Day—No school for Students

School Hours: 0800-1435

It's the responsibility of the parent/guardian to report student absences to the front office before 9:00 AM.

09645-917-9313/9184

Attachments:

- School Attendance Policy
- SAC Information and Ballot
- Notification of AHERA inspection
- Parent Connection
- Box Tops for Education
- School Lunch Menus







Welcome to School Year 2012-13

The air was filled with patriotic music and a feeling of excitement and anticipation as 723 students,

their parents, and 92 staff members started a new school year at Netzaberg Elementary School. Teachers began the process of teaching rules and explaining routines and expectations to the children. We all look forward to working in partnership with you to provide the best educational program for your children.







School Attendance Policy

DoDEA has implemented the first comprehensive DoDEA policy on student attendance.

Please see the attached document - DoDEA Regulation 2095.01, "School Attendance," August 26, 2011

Drop Off Area — Kiss 'n Roll

Parents we need your help. Please assist us with the Kiss 'n Roll area in the morning. When entering the lane, we ask of you to pull all the way to the end of the lane, so as many cars as possible can fit in this lane. This is the <u>only</u> area in the complex where children are allowed to exit a running vehicle. Please be sure to only have children exit the passenger side of the vehicle.

Netzaberg Elementary School Mission

To provide an exemplary education that inspires and prepares all DoDEA students for success in a dynamic, global environment.

Safety First!

We need your help in keeping our school safe. Please wait for your children behind the tree, which is directly in front of the main school doors.

Waiting in front of the main doors when school is released is a safety hazard to you and our students. Hundreds of children exit through those doors and having the main area clear for them to safely exit is our goal. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Construction Zone

Construction is under way. A paved path and drainage system will be installed on the front grassy area outside the front windows of the Kindergarten wing. The paved walkway will be installed from the right end exterior door and lead out to the sidewalk. Afterwards, the shrubs out front will be removed and a new drainage system will be installed. Estimated time of completion will be late October or early November.

Although the construction area will be secured, please stay clear of the area.



PCSing Soon?

If you are PCSing or leaving NES please complete the attached flyer. We understand there will be a lot of movement within the next couple of months and we need to prepare your student's records in a timely fashion. The registrar needs at least five (5) business days to prepare student records. You will be able to take sealed student records with you for a smooth transition to the receiving school.

Thank you for your assistance.



GradeSpeed = Parent Connection

DoDEA has implemented an online gradebook application for grades 4-12. A powerful feature of this application is the ability of parents to access their child's assignments and grades online. The goal of this implementation is to increase parent communication and to encourage parents to take a more active role in their child's education. For more information please see the attached document.

http://www.netz-es.eu.dodea.edu/parent_info/gradespeed/gradespeed.html

Please see the attached document for more information.





The Counselors Are In

Are you new to our school or neighborhood? Is there a new baby in the home? Is Mom or Dad deploying? The NES Counselors, Tom Bardusch (PreK , Kinder and 1st) and Mary Corrigan (Grades 2 – 5) are here to help. While all NES students will meet regularly with a guidance counselor for a whole class lesson, students may also visit with a counselor on an individual or small group basis to chat, problem-solve or develop coping and social skills. If you would like to chat with a counselor for additional information, call the Main Office for an appointment 09645-917-9184. If you are in the school first thing in the morning, simply drop by. We are here to help!

End of Day Interruptions

In order to maximize daily learning, **please do not** pick-up your child between **1400-1435**. The last 35 minutes of the day bring closure to a successful day of learning. Parents picking up their children from school are requested to wait outside. The congestion of adults and strollers make the hallways a chaotic and unsafe area.

Thank you for your support.





NE\$ Need; YOU!

Reading mentors, math tutors, library and playground assistants . . . we invite you to share your talents with us. If you are interested in helping out this year, please email <u>mary.corrigan@eu.dodea.edu</u>. We will hold a **NES Volunteer Orientation on Friday, 28 September, at**

0830. Coffee, juice and refreshments will be offered.





NE\$ Dragon; Den Boo;ter Club

An organization of concerned parents, teachers, and students gives excellent support to school

programs. The booster club sponsors fundraisers such as individual and class school pictures, Bingo Nights, and Fall Fest, as well as supports other activities such as Breakfast with Santa, popcorn Fridays, Terra Nova snacks, etc. Our Booster Club membership drive begins when school starts, at which time a calendar of events for the year will be distributed. A Family Membership of \$10.00. Volunteers in any capacity are always welcome!





AAFE\$ Lunch Program

You can check these on line (free of charge) and add additional funds (for a fee). Using this web site will also remind you when your account is low (under \$10.00). You can access this web site at: www.mealpayplus.com; http://www.mealpayplus.com/. When you log in you will be given instructions on how to set up an account.

- 1. You will need your child's ID number from the Horizon System. This number you must get from the school cafeteria or PX. This is not the 4 digit PIN. It is a separate ID number.
- 2. You will be asked for your address and state. The state you must choose is Armed Forces Europe AE. At the second place for your stated, select Exchange.
- 3. You will be asked for a school district. The school district is AAFES-Grafenwoehr.
- 4. There is a fee to make payments. Everything else is free.
- 5. Hopefully this will help prevent some of the charges for your child as you can be reminded automatically by email if the account is low.

If you are new to the area you will need to open a Horizon account at the school cafeteria or the PX. I recommend that you do everything with your AAFES account at the school between the hours of 0800-1000. Please do not try to make payments during the lunch block as this is a busy time for our AAFES staff. If you have any questions, please call 09641-925-635.

Netzaberg Elementary Mission & Goals

OUR MISSION: To Provide an Exemplary Education that Inspires and Prepares ALL DODEA Students for Success in a Dynamic, Global Environment.

OUR VISION: Netzaberg Elementary School is committed to success for ALL Students!

Goal 1: By 2011, all students will improve targeted reading comprehension skills (retelling, summarizing, and drawing conclusions) as measured by local and system-wide assessments.

Goal 2: By 2011, all students will improve their understanding of number sense and operational concepts across the curriculum as

Lost & Found

If your child has lost their sweater, sweatshirt, lunch box, etc., please check our lost & found area inside the lobby (to the right) of the main doors. It is filling up quickly!

We are on the web! http://www.netz-es.eu.dodea.edu





Netzaberg Elementary School Office Hours: 0730-1600 Unit 28130, APO AE 09114 Phone: DSN 472-9184/9185 / Comm. 09645-917-9184 Email: Netzaberg ES.Principal@eu.dodea.edu

Bavaria District Superintendent's Office Unit 28614, APO AE 09177 Phone: DSN: 468-7429 / 0981-183-429



School attendance is important and in order to receive the best education, students need to Be Here! DoDEA's system-wide attendance policy for students is consistent with those found in many public schools throughout the United States.

School attendance issues have been identified as a serious issue for children throughout the country and military children are no exception.

DoDEA's attendance policy provides specific guidance on attendance, absences and identifies support services for students at-risk for not fulfilling the grade or course requirements.

It's not surprising that regular school attendance correlates directly with success in academic work, improves social interaction with adults and peers and provides opportunities for important communication between teachers and students. Regular attendance also has a cumulative effect of establishing life-long positive traits — responsibility, determination, respect for rules of society -- that are critical for developing career readiness skills, success in college and in life.

Here are a few of the highlights of the policy:

- All students are required to attend school for 180 instructional days per school year.
- Academic penalties will not be imposed for excused absences.
- Whenever a student needs to be out for more than five days, the teacher will provide a Student Educational Monitoring Plan to lessen the impact of a student missing instruction in class.
- Excused absences can include:
 - Personal illness
 - Medical, dental, or mental health appointment
 - Serious illness in the student's immediate family
 - A death in the student's immediate family or of a relative
 - Religious holiday
 - Emergency conditions such as fire, flood, or storm
 - Unique family circumstances warranting absence and coordinated with school administration.
 - College visits that cannot be scheduled on non-school days

• Reasonable amounts of time surrounding deployments and reintegration providing missed schoolwork is obtained in advance and completed upon return.

The policy establishes a balance between the need for military families to spend time together following deployment, while emphasizing the importance of education. We have and will continue to be as flexible as possible in accommodating the precious time families have together but flexibilities and accommodations have limitations, especially when they impact on student performance and attendance at school.

Procedures for monitoring daily student attendance and communicating with families are established in this policy. Academic penalties will not be imposed for excused absences. Students at-risk will be monitored by the Student Support Team and school administration to include the identification of supports and interventions.

Many families—both military and non-military—underestimate the importance of regular school attendance for young children (kindergarten and first grade) but even missing just 5% of kindergarten—that's just nine days—can be an indicator that a child will fall behind by the fifth grade.

Children take their cue from their parents when it comes to the importance of school attendance. To have a quality education experience, you need to be here.

There are times when a student needs to miss school - everyone understands that. But attendance is important. To have a quality education experience, you need to Be Here.

Attendance—what parents should know

- Parents can team up with teachers to make sure students are in school and ready to learn.
- How parents can help:
 - Schedule medical and dental appointments outside of school hours.
 - Schedule vacations during school breaks.
 - Schedule Permanent Change of Station (PCS) moves to coincide with summer breaks or other scheduled school breaks.
 - When moving, check school calendars to be aware of important school dates (beginning/ending of school year; testing dates, breaks, etc.).
 - Make it a habit to contact their child's teachers/principals to arrange to pick up missed school work, either in advance if the absence is known, or the same day their child is absent.







The School Advisory Committee (SAC) is composed of an equal number of locally elected parents and full-time professional school employees. The SAC advises its school principal on all local school-related matters, including educational programs, resources, services, and policies. Representatives are required to serve for two school years.

Netzaberg Elementary School Advisory Committee 2012-2013

Statements of Interest:

Kristen Alvardo

"I want to be an active member of the school. I'd like to be a part of the postive things that happen here!"

Carol Drayton

"This is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of the school and to use my qualifications. Working with children and making the school better is something I feel strong about. I have been an early educator since 2006 and prior service. This would be a wonderful way to share my experiences."

Jerry Edwards NES Math Lab Teacher

"Children come first. Where there are strong-home partnerships, there is greater student success. Teachers need parents, parents need teachers, and children need both. Together we can and, atNES, together we will make our school community stronger, positive, and productive. I'll bring to the committee 30+ years of teaching experience and 20+ years of S.A.C experience." *Nia Gomez*

"Throughout my entire life I have always enjoyed being involved in my community, school, and FRG. My main goal is to be a huge part in my childrens education, to include learning and the fun stuff. Becoming a member would benefit everyone because I am reliable in all I do."

Barbara L. Lambert (NES Teacher)

"As a teaceher at Netzaberg Elementary School and as a parent, I would like to share the responsibility for guiding this school towards continuous improvement. I have previously served on SAC and I want to be a part of the team that effectively reaches goals and objectives to enrich the academic environment of the children to enrich the academic environment of the children to enrich the academic environment of the children who attend this wonderful school !"

Danielle Smith

"I volunteered almost 40 hours from January til the end of school last year for my daughters class. I also submitted well beyond the goal for The Box Tops for Education last year. I care immensely about the education and success of all children, not just my own."

<u>Shafeequah Thomas</u>

"I want to support, promote, and enhance the school functions and affairs. I want to be a part of the school advisory committee to provide communication between parents, school faculty, and students. I have an conviction that public education is important and education is the one thing that cannot be taken away from you, so it is priceless to be educated. I want to make sure the students are recognized for their ability to learn."

<u>Ronald Wright</u>

"I am a member of the U.S. Army and have been very active with the schools and communities at my past duty assignment. I have aquired some great experiences while dealing with the school and communities and would love to share them with this committee."









Category 1: Netzaberg Elementary School Parent Representatives (Please Select 2)

Kristen Alvardo 🗖	Carol Drayton	Nia Gomez 🗆
Danielle Smith 🗌	Shafeequah Thomas 🗔	Ronald Wright
Category 2: Netzaberg Elementary School <u>Teacher</u> Representatives (Please Select 2)		

Jerry Edwards NES Math Lab Teacher

Barbara L. Lambert NES Teacher

Please return this form to the front office. All ballots are due back by Friday September 28th. Thank you in advance for your assistance.







DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL NETZABERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UNIT 28130 APO AE 09114



August 30, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR PARENTS AND STAFF SUBJECT: Notification of AHERA Inspection

As required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986, our buildings have been inspected or re-inspected for asbestos-containing materials (ACM). The most recent inspection was conducted on 6/20/2011 in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and DoDEA policy. The results of the inspection indicate we have asbestos materials in our school. This asbestos is contained in the fire door lining inside the elevator doors.

As required by EPA, a triennial re-inspection and six month periodic surveillance program is in effect for any asbestos materials that remain in place and their condition will be closely monitored. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan, which includes the recommended management response action(s) for ACM, is kept in our office and is available for your review. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 09645-917-9184.

Sincerely, -signed-Barbara Mueller Principal



Parent Connection – Netzaberg Elementary School

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Please join our Parent Connection program, which allows parents/guardians to see grades entered for your student (s) in the teachers' GradeSpeed grading program, attendance information, and a basic school calendar. This letter will help you establish an account. Once you create your account, approval is pending until I verify your information. **This program is for grades 4-12**.

Be sure to log in every so often. A policy is in effect that deletes accounts not accessed after 90 days. I'm not sure how strictly it will be followed, but be aware of the possibility.

If you ever forget your password, I can reset it. <u>Please do not create an additional account</u>. <u>Contact me and I will help</u> <u>you</u>. My contact information is at the end of this message. Please save this letter.

It is VERY important that you understand how this program works, so that you have realistic expectations. The electronic teacher grading program is called GradeSpeed. Teachers enter grades into GradeSpeed. They don't enter new electronic grades every day, but they are updated in a reasonable amount of time. Teachers may list assignments before they are due and enter grades after all work is graded.

If your child is missing work, it will usually say "Missing" and it counts as 0% unless the work is completed as to a teacher's grading guidelines. If the teacher hasn't posted grades for an assignment, there may be no grade at that time. Eventually, the grade will appear.

Please keep in mind that the grade you see today may change tomorrow. If you click on a letter grade for a class, you will see a new screen with more detailed information about the grade. If you click on "Assignments", you can view assignments and any attachments the teacher may have added. If you click on the "Calendar" and any noted events, you can keep up with some of our major happenings at school.

Students in grades 4 and 5 are given accounts to the Student Connection program, which allows them to see any grades entered in GradeSpeed. This information is provided to them at school and they see exactly what you see.

Directions:

- Go to https://dodea.gradespeed.net/pc/ (make this a favorite).
- Click the dropdown to choose "Department of Defense Europe".
- Click where it says "Click Here to Sign Up" in the bottom left area.
- Follow the rest of the directions on the site to create the account.
- Be sure to add your student (child/children) and put in only the information that is required (the phone number sometimes causes a problem and isn't necessary). You can have students from various campuses on one account.

If you have trouble adding your child/children, DO NOT set up another account. Contact me and I will help you.

Let me know how it goes when you are done by contacting me at my email address: kristie.mashburn@eu.dodea.edu

Once you create an account it will be pending until reviewed, so it is important to write me to let me know you are done.

We look forward to a strong partnership in helping our students reach their highest potential.

Kristie Mashburn Educational Technologist - Netzaberg ES <u>kristie.mashburn@eu.dodea.edu</u>



www.BTFE.com

September 21, 2012

Dear Parents and guardians,

Netzaberg Booster Club welcomes your children back to school! We have started our Box Tops drive, so please help your child and start gathering up all those box tops that you collected over the summer and get them ready to turn in.

For those of you new to Box Tops, they look like the picture on top of this letter, found on cereal boxes and such. Each is worth 10 cents to our school when you cut them out and return them to us. Last year we made over \$1000 for our school from Box Tops and hope to earn even more this year.

We are currently kicking off the program for the year and the classroom with the most Box Tops turned in as of October 26th, will receive a Popsicle party! We plan to collect Box Tops all year and keep a running total for each teacher. When a classroom reaches 300 Box Tops the first time, they will receive a popcorn party. For every 150 Box Tops turned in after that point, the teacher will receive 10 booster bucks to use on their class. So, please save your Box Tops and have family and friends in the states send them to you as well.

How to turn in Box Tops:

- Check for the expiration on the bottom of the box top.
- Please be careful not to cut or tear off the expiration date on the bottom or the upper right corner of the box top as these will not be accepted by Box Tops for Education.
- Cut each box top cleanly on the dotted line.
- Place Box Tops in a plastic baggie with your child's name, grade, and teacher's name written on the bag.

To learn more and track our school's progress, register at BoxTops4Education.com (BTFE.com). When you visit, opt to receive the newsletter. That way Box Tops can send you emails full of helpful information and coupons to save on Box Tops products. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at: <u>dragonsdenbooster@gmail.com</u>.

Thank you for your support and remember, let's keep clipping.

Sincerely, Lesley Gagnon, Box Tops Coordinator Netzaberg Elementary



Sure Start

OCTOBER 2012



Happy Halloween!

In accordance with Federal law and US Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from

institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer



Grades K-5

OCTOBER 2012

Happy Halloween!

