

# SCHWEINFURT MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER *Moving Forward.....21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills*

VOLUME ONE 2007-2008

Learning Is A Lifelong Process

March 2008

Dr. George P. Carpenter  
Principal

Phone: DSN 354-6813 or CIV 09721-804301

Mr. Michael Thompson  
District Superintendent

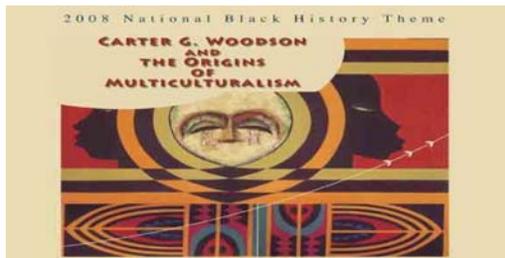
Phone: CIV 09811-83430

## MISSION STATEMENT

Schweinfurt Middle School will engage all students in meaningful experiences that develop 21st Century Skills, preparing them to be successful and responsible citizens in a technological, global society.



## **INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS = READING COMPREHENSION**



**Black History Month** is held every February. The aims to promote knowledge of black history and experience; circulate information on positive black contributions to American Society : heighten the confidence and awareness of black people in our cultural heritage. The origins of Black History Month go back to 1926 when **Carter G. Woodson** established African Caribbean celebrations in America. SMS and Youth Services celebrated Black History with style, class and fashion. We saluted influential Black Americans, who have helped pave the way for us, by putting on a fashion show. The **SMS choir** performed "The sound that Jazz makes" and the **SMS step team** showed the audience a few step moves. The highlights were a speech given by **1LT Thierry Ngoufan**, a native of Cameroon.

### Upcoming Events

Mar 03-Read Across America  
Mar 11-13-Terra Nova Testing  
Mar 17 -St. Patrick's Day  
Mar 17-Guts  
Mar 19- SAC Meeting @ 1500

Mar 23 -Happy Easter  
Mar 28- Family Fun Night @1800  
Mar 30-Daylight Savings Time  
Mar 31- Picture Day (Casual Clothes Day)

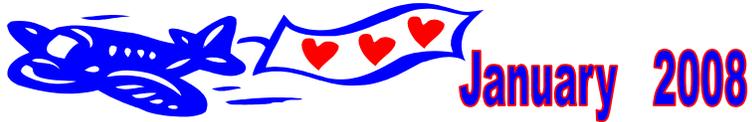
### NCA Visit

Being evaluated can be stressful and the best news one can hear is that you passed. Schweinfurt Middle School has successfully met the standards for **accreditation** from the **North Central Association Commission** on Accreditation and School Improvement (**NCA/CASI**). This organization represents 23,000 public and private schools and districts in 30 states and 65 countries and serves nearly 15 million students. On **February 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>** SMS was visited by eight educators to see how we prepare our students for the future. They stated that they were impressed with the level of challenges we offer the students and the opportunities for leadership. They also liked the use of **21<sup>st</sup> Century skills** to prepare our students for the **World of Work**. The students that they interviewed gave a clear positive picture of life at **SMS**. Overall, the **NCA/CASI** team was impressed with **SMS** and the good things that happen for students.



To our wonderful Parents of Schweinfurt Middle School, we are trying to get accurate emails from you so that you can receive all of the great news that is being sent out to you concerning your children. If you would please come in or call the front office @ 09721-804301 or 09721966812/6813 with an accurate email address, it would be greatly appreciated.

# Students of the Month



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Samantha Gray  
Brandon Lucas

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Frances Negron-Miranda  
Chantal Johnson

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Jacob Bautista  
Nia Patterson

## February 2008

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Trent Mitchell  
Hannah Nelson

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Maria Shimkus  
Nelson Soto-Perez

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Korianna Purdin  
Sasha Whitlock

# AVID

## **AVID (Advancement VIA Individual Determination)**

All eighth grade AVID students took the **PSAT** on **October 17, 2007** at the Middle School. Mr. Conrad reviewed the results and had students complete a personality profile on-line in My Road, a College board site that stores all of the multi-year PSAT and SAT information for student and parent future use. Students were given a password and school ID number to access the site. Please ask them to share their test results and profiles using the following website

[www.collegeboard.com/quick](http://www.collegeboard.com/quick)

Mr. Purdin (AVID Teacher) and Mr. Conrad (Counselor and AVID Coordinator) attended a two day European AVID Conference. We are among the few AVID programs using the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills of Information, Media, and Technology Skills in creating multi-media student port-folios and the AVID Program Port-folio.

Mrs. Shannon Williamson, our AVID tutor is leaving us to return to the states as her husband in PCSing. We will miss her and wish her the best in her new endeavors.

Mrs. Jennifer Evetts just started as our new AVID tutor and we are excited she is with us.

Thank you also to Mrs. Andrea Reynolds for her volunteer tutoring of German for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade German language students.

## ***Congratulations to the following AVID students for their following achievements!!!***

They need to include these in their electronic port-folios.

### **Golden Knights**

Alexandria Curry, Alexusia Dickerson, Jacob Martin, Wilson Hall, Anna Duenas, Alexis Mitchell-Dugan, Maria Shimkus, Kiera Huiel, Justin Mangrum, Trevor Wright.

### **Semester Awards**

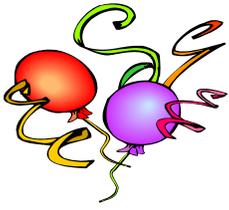
Wilson Hall (Science, Spanish, and Passport to Manhood), Alexandra Curry (**Student of the Semester** and Drama), Jessica Rychlik (Science), Steven Pedroza (Band and AVID), Kiera Huiel (**Student of the Semester** and PE), Anna Duenas (AVID, PE, and Citizenship), Samantha Gray (AVID), Maria Shimkus (AVID), Nia Patterson (AVID), Trevor Wright (Flag Team)

### **Black History Celebration Participation**

Alexusia Dickerson, Jacob Martin, Nia Patterson, Jessica Rychlik, Theis MacKenzie, Wilson Hall, Orya Lau, Alexis Mitchell-Dugan, and Kiera Huiel.

**The AVID Program is always looking for AVID Tutors. Qualifications include being hired as a Substitute Teacher and ability to tutor in mathematics through Algebra I. We are also in need of volunteer tutors during our end of the day tutorials to assist in Foreign Language (German and Spanish) tutoring.**





# Second Quarter

## Honor Roll !!!!

### Principal's Honor Roll - 4.0

Trent Mitchell

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Kiersten Cade  
Rafael DeAlmeida  
Frances Negron-Miranda  
Angelica Rago

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Edward Bagtas  
Haile Baker  
Austin Eubanks  
Danielle Mitchell  
Marissa Rago  
Ryan Whitcomb

### "A" Honor Roll - 7th (3.99-3.5)

Jasmine Collins	Alexis Mitchell-Dugan
Anna Duenas	Gabriella Rago
Wilson Hall	Daniel Reynolds
Sofia McCormick	Maria Shimkus
Morgan Montgomery	Alison Sprosty

### "B" Honor Roll - 7th (3.00-3.49)

Malik Boozer	Shaniquah Lipki
Cesar Colon-Torres	Chelsea Murdock
Amara Dasalla	Caleb Petersen
Dominick Delgado	Alexandra Rosado
Atavia Hagler	Nelson Soto-Perez
Chantal Johnson	Corinna Sweeney
Jessenia Villalobos	

### "A" Honor Roll- 6th (3.99-3.5)

Thomas Diaz	Raechel McCormick
Samantha Gray	Francesca McNeal
Cecilie Huettner	Robert Miska
Kiera Huiel	Danielle Montano
Jessica Hunt	Hannah Nelson
Christian Rivera	

### "A" Honor Roll - 8th (3.99-3.5)

Jacob Bautista  
Alexandria Curry  
Xavier Davis  
Ryle Francisco  
Korianna Purdin

### "B" Honor Roll - 6th (3.00-3.49)

Heather Arthur	Justin Magrum
Justin Beaty	Angelina Morrison
Brennan Booker	Steven Pedroza
Holly Crossthwaite	Alice Rivera Torres
Zachary Davis	Kaitlyn Sharp
Haley Downs	Sidney Shippy
Khayree Files	Derek Shreve
Kaitlyn Floyd	Florian Slovine
Christopher Foster	Omar Torres
Ta'Jah Foy	TiAnna Vaughn
Janie Glidewell	Trevor Wright

### "B" Honor Roll - 8th (3.00-3.49)

Haley Carlsrud	Shannen Maxwell
Jonathan Delgado-Lopez	Lucias Napier
Alexusia Dickerson	Nia Patterson
Caleb Isom	Celeste Ramirez
Jacob Martin	Theron Stanley
Lauren McClafin	Connor
Timmerman	





*Math Matters!*

**Office of the Director, DoDDS-Europe**  
**Diana J. Ohman, Director**

Children will pursue many passions in their young lives. Below are some suggestions on being your child's cheerleader.

- ◆ Identify skills early on. If your child wants to participate in sports, be realistic about their ability. If your child is just within the age requirement, make sure that they are able to physically handle themselves.
- ◆ Allow your child to follow his or her own interests. Don't discourage your child if they are more interested in playing soccer than practicing the piano. Making their own choices helps them forge their identity.
- ◆ Don't blame yourself for your child's choices, talents, or failures. Disappointment may stem from your own youthful dreams or your sense of personal responsibility. Remember, you are not the direct cause of your child's missed goal or failed audition. Encourage your child to try their best and support them. Sometimes the only way to do that is by lending a sympathetic ear. Later, offer to help practice the skills for that sport or interest.
- ◆ Discourage activity hopping. Does your child want to quit the school band or swim team after only a few weeks? Set a "wait and see" period before allowing them to give it up. Help your child determine why they want to leave the activity. Is it too challenging? Too

boring? Too time-consuming? Maybe they don't click with the other children or the coach. Once you know, you can work to remedy the situation - or move on.

- ◆ Prevent burnout. If basketball practice starts to get in the way of schoolwork, then it may be time for your child to scale back or take a break. Ask your child if they are too tired or if the coach is working them too hard. Discuss your concerns with the coach, and help your child set priorities.
- ◆ Stay positive. Don't be hard on your child if they lose a game or flub a recital performance. They are bound to have bad days, no matter how often they practice. Focus on their efforts, not the final outcome.
- ◆ Set a good example. Good sportsmanship starts with you. If your child spots you kicking and screaming on the sidelines, they learn that it's acceptable to do so too.
- ◆ Let children be children. Your child needs time to socialize. Unstructured activities with peers give them time to recuperate from the pressures of extracurricular activities and school.
- ◆ Above all, have fun with your children and enjoy their journey toward self-discovery.

**DIANA J. OHMAN**  
**Director, DoDDS-Europe**

Happy   
St. Patrick's Day



Math Matters!

March is Terra Nova testing month and when the test days finally arrive for your child, he/she will answer multiple-choice questions and write out answers as they prove of their problem-solving skills. The results of these efforts will show the student's strengths and weaknesses in five subject areas: Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies.

The Terra Nova assessments are intended to sample the many and varied skills represented in selected content areas. Educators in each DoDDS-Europe district will look at the exact skills a child is having difficulty mastering. Staff, faculty and administration seek to continuously improve the quality of student achievement in the classroom and the Terra Nova tests assist with that task.

Although most children don't enjoy taking tests, students perform better when they are well prepared. Here are some steps that can help your child:

- Brainstorm about possible test topics. Encourage your child to review class notes, handouts or textbooks.
- Take a practice test. Write down questions that could be on the test. Have your child answer each one. Set a timer so that the test feels more realistic.
- Make flash cards. If your child has trouble with certain questions, write them on index cards with the answers on the back.
- Review several times. Study over a few days - not all in one night. You might brainstorm the first day, take a practice test the second day and review the third.
- Get enough rest. Since your child won't be staying up late "cramming", he/she can go to bed on time. The next morning, they should have a nutritious breakfast.

- Congratulate your child on how prepared they are!
- When they come home, let them express feelings about the test. Show support and understanding.

Such parental preparations and support have paid big dividends over past years. Schools in the United States would love to have our scores. They are good. DoDDS-Europe scores have consistently been in the upper 60 to 70 percentile across the board. Past year results of DoDDS-Europe Terra Nova scores as well as other standardized test scores can be viewed on the web at

<http://www.dodea.edu/data/europe.htm>.

DoDDS-E students have made significant gains by increasing the percent of students in the "Above the Standard" and "At the Standard" levels since Terra Nova was adopted in 1998. We can continue to do so with your help.

**DIANA J. OHMAN**  
**Director, DoDDS-Europe**

