



SCHWEINFURT MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Moving Forward.....21st Century Skills



Learning Is A Lifelong Process

Dr. George P. Carpenter
Principal
Phone: DSN 354-6813 or CIV 09721-804301

May 2008

Mr. Michael Thompson
District Superintendent
Phone: CIV 0981-183430



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

Principal's Message

During an annual physical examination in November 2007, my German doctor found a small tumor in my pancreas. On January 23, 2008, I had an eight-hour operation at the Nordwest Hospital in Frankfurt, Germany. The tumor was successfully removed and it was found not to be cancerous. Since that time, I have received treatment to facilitate the recuperation process. After spending three weeks at a rehabilitation clinic at Bad Kissingen, I returned home to Schweinfurt on April 11, 2008. My family and I want to thank all of the students, staff, and parents for all of the well wishes and prayers. My sincere thanks and appreciation is extended to Mrs. India Wilson, Administrative Secretary, who has performed above and beyond the call of duty during my absence. I want to thank Ms. Wilma Holt, Principal, Schweinfurt Elementary School, and Ms. Karen Rose, Teacher, for acting on my behalf. . My doctors have not determined exactly when I will be able to return to duty. The initial decision by my doctors was that I should not return to work before July 2008. I will be evaluated in mid-May and a decision will be made regarding whether or not I can work on an abbreviated schedule beginning the first week of June. I may be available to participate in special events at the school in late May or early June.

Dr. George P. Carpenter
Principal

Upcoming Events

- May 09 -Pride Idol@1315
- May 13-Spring Concert @1800
- May 16-Asian Pacific @1330
- May 22- NJHS Induction @1315
- May 26-Memorial Holiday No School

May 29- Renaissance Fair @ 1215

Renaissance Fair

May 29, from 1215 - 1430 the 6th grade will hold their Renaissance Fair. Students are working hard to complete their Trading Spaces projects in World Cultures, catapults for Math, Romeo and Juliet for Reading, Fermented food for Science and their newspaper articles for English. Students will be presenting these activities to the other 6th graders and you, their parents. We have some medieval games to play and craft activities to try. We hope you can join us on May 29, Thursday for our Renaissance Fair.

Student of the Month

**6th Grade Robert Miska
Danielle Montano**

**7th Grade Corinna Sweeney
Mathieu-Colon Torres**

8th Grade Gianna Williams

April 2008



PRIDE IDOL



The annual PRIDE IDOL Talent Show will be held on May 9 at 1315 in the school Gym. The participants have practiced hard to improve their talents and prepare a great show for their families as well as their peers. A small group of the top winners will

take the show on the road to the elementary school
several weeks after the show.

AVID NEWS

AVID (Advancement VIA Individual Determination)

Writing is an essential skill for college success and AVID places a major focus on the writing process.

AVID 8th graders are completing “Character Analysis” essays based upon a currently read novel. AVID 7th graders are completing “Autobiographical Incident” essays based upon a significant event in their lives. AVID 6th graders are working on a “Report of Information” based upon research of fads since the 1960s.

We continue to practice the 21st Century Skills of Information, Media, and Technology Skills in creating multi-media student port-folios.

AVID 8th graders played a major collaborative roll in planning and executing the 8th Grade Café during our last Family Fun Night. These students and the entire 8th grade should be commended for doing a fabulous job. They earned over \$200 to apply toward the 8th grade entrance and pictures at the Spring Formal sponsored by the Middle School Zone May 3rd.

AVID 6th graders will be presenting their power points documenting their “Cookie Factory Project” and teaching Cornell Note taking to all the sixth graders. This form of notes includes taking active notes, writing questions for the notes, and summarizing the most important information.

Congratulations to these AVID students for their following achievements!!!

Maria Shimkus – 7th grade Student of the month for February

Trevor Wright – 6th grade Student of the Month for March

Jacob Martin – 8th grade Student of the Month for March.

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.



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

Parent Newsletter Article

MANAGING YOUR CHILD'S INTERNET USAGE

Young people have fully embraced the Internet as both an environment and a tool for socializing. Via the Internet and other technologies, they send email, create their own websites, post intimate personal news in blogs, send text messages and images via cell phones, contact each other through IM's, chat in chat rooms, post to discussion boards, and seek out new friends in teen sites.

Unfortunately, there are increasing reports of children using these technologies to post damaging text or images to bully their peers or engage in other aggressive behavior. There are also increasing reports of teens posting material that raises concerns that they are considering an act of violence toward others or themselves.

I encourage you to make it your business to know what your child is doing online and who their online friends are. As parents you have an obligation to ensure that your children are engaged in safe behavior. To stay involved.....

- * Keep the computer in a public place in the house. Periodically check on what your child is doing. Discuss with your child, the kinds of Internet activities they enjoy.
- * Be up front with your child that you will periodically investigate the files on the computer, the browser history files, and your child's public online activities.
- * Search your child's name online, look at his or her profiles and postings on teen community sites, and review web pages or blogs.
- * Tell your child that you may review his or her private communications activities if you have reason to believe you will find unsafe or irresponsible behavior.
- * Watch out for secretive behavior as you approach the computer such as rapidly switching screens, and for attempts to hide online behavior, such as an empty history file.
- * You can install keystroke-monitoring software that will record all online activities. The use of such software can raise trust concerns. If you install the software, tell your child it has been installed and what actions on his or her part could lead to your investigation.

Online activities are here to stay – it is important to keep alert and stay aware of your child's online behavior.

DIANA J. OHMAN
Director, DoDDS-Europe