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CSI at Humphreys ES

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As we continue to work with our military partners on the transformation to increase command sponsored students for the 2009-10 school year, we know that there will be many changes that will effect our schools. With this increase in the number of students at each of our schools, the district will feel these pressures and challenges. Even so, "Student Success!" is our vision and we will reach deeply this year to continue our strong tradition of commitment to this enduring vision.

Helping all students achieve success is what we do every day. From ever improving academic programs, to technical skill building, to flourishing arts, music, and drama offerings, to exciting athletic competitions, our students discover their own personal paths to success.

In the past several years, we have met many challenges as a school district and have been designated as a high performing school district by the Department of Defense and by AdvancED our accreditation agency. Even so, we can not rest on those past successes or retreat from our vision of "Student Success!" just because of the transformation factors that challenge us now.

Now, more than ever, you can count on a vigorous, energetic group of teachers, support and leadership staff to make this year and beyond one of the finest we've ever had. The children of our communities are at stake and we will not let them down!

Sincerely,  
Sam Menniti

Superintendent





## District Events

### Visit by Dr. Shirley Miles

Dr. Shirley Miles, DoDEA Director, visited the Korean peninsula during the week of November 10, 2008. Although Dr. Miles was here at the invitations of General Sharp to discuss transition information, she was able to find time to make short visits to some of the district schools. Dr. Miles was impressed by what she saw, especially in the area of Distance Learning and teachers using technology as a learning tool. Dr. Miles will return to Korea in the coming months to visit all of the schools in the District.

Rigor • Relevance • Relationships • Results



### Korea Connection

- Doug Kelsey**    **Interim Superintendent**
- Sam Menniti**   **Superintendent**
- Peter Grenier**   **Acting Superintendent for Education**
- Terry Greene**   **Chief of Staff and Education**
- Ann Abata**       **Editor**

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# District News

## Awards Ceremony



Each year the USFK Commander recognizes teachers and staff of the Korea District for their outstanding work. This year was no exception. On November 7, 2008 at the Dragon Hill Lodge, General Sharp recognized and honored teachers and staff for their outstanding efforts. Each person recognized received a personalized engraved plaque thanking them for the work they do for our military and civilian community's children.

Attendees were entertained before and after the ceremony by the Seoul American High School String Quartet under the guidance of Irene Lee and the SAHS choir directed by Lisa Riehle. The SAHS JROTC performed Honor Guard duties.



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## Changes At the District Office

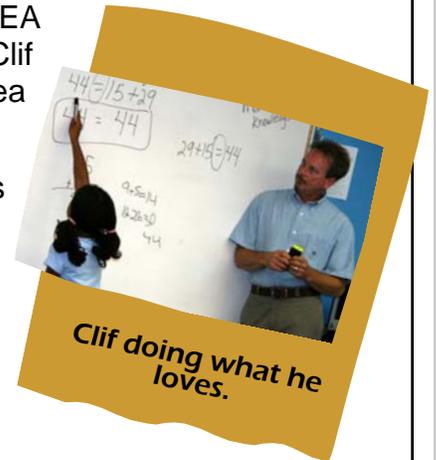
### Clif West Leaves the Korea District

Clif West has accepted a position as the ISS for Math at DoDEA Headquarters in Washington DC. He will report in January 2009. Clif along with Brenda Taylor are the Lead Math Teacher in the Korea District

For more than two school years Clif has been helping teachers and students make sense of math. Last school year he began teaming with Brenda Taylor. Brenda plans to continue seeing all participants in the math initiative.

Clif will be missed here at the District Office and throughout the district. However, his expertise will not be lost as he now serves even more teachers and students.

Best of Luck and Congratulations Clif!



### CSI Juniors: Students Become Involved With Continuous School Improvement

At SAES, Continuous School Improvement (CSI) is no joke! Just ask any member of Mrs. Boyer's CSI Juniors Club. Twelve civic-minded students from Grades 3-5 recently committed to improve the learning environment at SAES by joining CSI Juniors, a student-led organization that supports the school's ongoing school improvement process by working with administration, teachers, and other students to advance education and improve the learning experience through involvement, awareness, and experience. By joining, these students accepted the challenges and rewards associated with leadership, motivation of peers, and communication on a broad scale. One of the first tasks these young leaders undertook was to rewrite SAES' mission statement and its CSI goals into kid-friendly language. It was their intent to "turn on" their fellow students to what is being done every day and to help them understand the connection between these activities and the "Big Ideas" promoted by the Continuous School Improvement team. In addition to this task, the students plan various other activities designed to make the improvement process more manageable and maybe even a little fun. Currently, the organization of its kind within the Korea District.



Submitted by Jeremy Walker



## Student Page

### Bully Free Zone

Have you ever gotten bullied and didn't know what to do? Some people hurt other people's feelings without knowing that they hurt them. Others bully other people on purpose. "Bullying can be in many forms like teasing, name calling, and physical contact," says Mrs. Wilde, counselor at Seoul American Middle School stated. Bullying is basically when you hurt a person physically or mentally.



If you were ever bullied, did you ever just stop and wonder why they are doing it? Revenge, depression, family problems, and more may cause some bullying. "Many bullies are bullies because they are insecure and think they are the best and the smartest. They think they're important enough to push someone else around," stated Mrs. Wilde. You should always know how to handle a bully.

When people tell you to tell the bully to stop or just ignore him, it isn't that easy! "The way to handle a bully is to be forceful, brave and to have good eye contact. Tell the person to stop. If the bullying doesn't stop, then tell an adult you feel comfortable with, or just walk away," added Mrs. Wilde. A counselor usually does peer mediation for big problems.

Counselors always try to understand the situation from both people's point of view. "A counselor would handle a problem by doing peer mediation with the bully and the victim; the counselor would call the accused student and explain the consequences," says Mrs. Wilde. "I taught in high school so it can be different because of the age groups," believes Mrs. Wilde. Mrs. Wilde had peer mediation training to help kids with problems.

Bullying isn't a big problem at SAMS, although we do have instances of bullying once in awhile. When there is bullying at SAMS, the counselors put a stop to it immediately. Mrs. Wilde added, "I think it is important that we learn about bullying so we can help prevent it."

*Submitted By Hannah Scanlan SAMS*





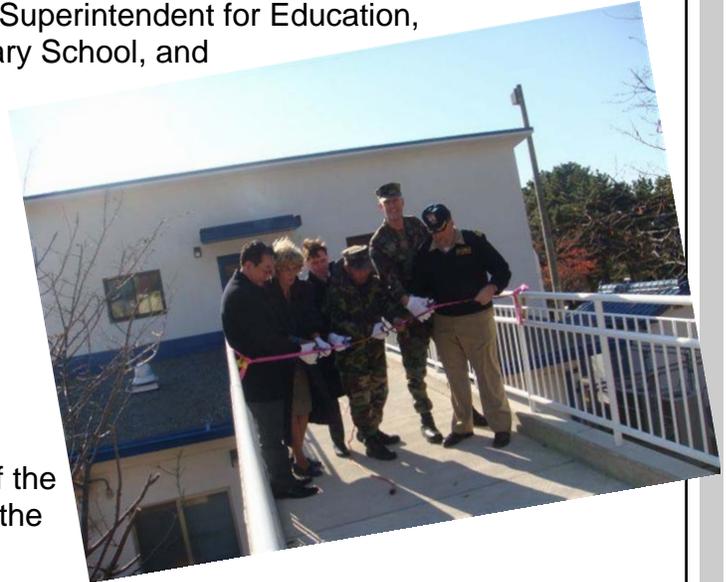
## News From the Schools

The Distance Learning Lab was officially opened on Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at C. T. Joy Elementary School.

Speeches were given by Peter Grenier, Acting Superintendent for Education, Marguerite Green Principal, C. T. Joy Elementary School, and Commander Weedon, Base Commander, Chinhae. Commander Tufts from Yokosuka was also present for the ceremony and participated in the cutting of the ribbon. All of the students and staff attended the ceremony. Parents, base employees, and community members also attended. Mrs. Huss and the Family Consumer science class plus parents prepared food items for this event.

It was an important event for this small community. Base support made the opening of the DL lab possible through joint efforts to prepare the school for the addition of the DL lab.

*Submitted by Marguerite Greene*



### OAES Students Honored

Native American Heritage Month was celebrated at Osan American Elementary throughout November. Five guest readers read to six different classes and each shared their love of books and their heritage.

The Native American Heritage committee also sponsored a writing contest, and two OAES students were honored for their work. Catherine Duke, fourth grade, won for her essay "What Thanksgiving means to me". Hailey Faude, sixth grade, won for her report on Sacajawea.

Tuesday November 19th, Catherine and Hailey and their parents attended the Native American Heritage banquet. They read their papers to the group, and received great applause. They were also awarded with Dream Catchers and AAFES coupons. It was a great experience for them, and an inspiration to never stop writing.



*Submitted by Monica Hoagland*





## AFJROTC KO-951 OAHS Current Affairs

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According to Gale L. Goodman-Floyd, Major (Ret.) , Osan American High School, C/Colonel Eui-Li Tolliver, the esteemed Commander of the OAHS JROTC Group, brings achievements to an extraordinary new level this school year. The JROTC Group not only honored the OAHS veterans with a choir performance during the first Veteran’s Day recognition ceremony at OAHS, they also provided an armed drill performance that was inspiring, bringing goose-bumps to the audience of their peers, teachers and honored veterans.



The JROTC held their Fall Dining-In Program on Sunday 16 November at a local restaurant in Songtan called Chang Pwuck at the Yong Chon Hotel. The group was treated to an incredible Thai buffet with excellence assured by owner Catherine Grieb. At the Dining In, 36 Cadets were inducted by formal ceremony into the JROTC Honors Program, the Kitty Hawk Air Society. The photos provided shows the Kitty Hawk Air Society Commander, C/Capt Angel Harris using the power vested to her position to grant induction to C/2Lt Jon Carr *Submitted by Dr. Ronnie Holley*



### Far East Cheer Camp and Competition

National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) recently held the Far East Cheer Camp and Competition at Seoul American High School.

Cheerleading squads from throughout the Pacific area participated in this event.

*Submitted by C. Jimison*





## Osan Middle School News

The Parent/Student Guide for Osan American Middle School is in process! A dedicated group of parents has been meeting to review Parent/Student Guides from middle schools across DoDEA. Collaboratively sharing their insights, the Steering Committee will make a difference for students of OAMS. Their recommendations, along with DoDEA regulations, are the foundation of the new school's policies and procedures.

A sub group of the steering committee visited Seoul American Middle School on October 22, 2008. Mrs. Somers, Ms. Westlake, Mr. Washington and Ms Cullen braved the overcast, rainy day. Mr. Darrell Mood, SAMS principal and his assistant, Dr. Stander greeted the group warmly and provided them with a schedule of classes and a map of the campus. Mr. Mood made himself available for clarifications and information throughout the day.

Two seventh grade Advancement Via Individual Determination, AVID, classes were in session. We observed students reviewing their notes and composing well thought out, specific questions to ask the tutors. Tutors did not give specific information; they posed Socratic questions designed to lead students to find answers to their own questions. This method has many advantages. Students are encouraged to think through the information they already have written in their Cornell notes. The realization that it is very important to be attentive and take specific notes during class challenges students to be responsible for their own learning. Students write Cornell notes when they read assignments so that they make connections with the material and have excellent notes to use in preparing for tests. Students need high GPA's in high school if they are going to be competitive for entrance into four year university programs.



The objective of the AVID program is to create the desire for students to attend four year Universities. The AVID teachers provided information about the average lifetime income of people according to the amount of schooling they had. This information provided specific reasons why succeeding in school and going on to higher education would benefit them.

It is the policy at SAMS that each student creates and maintains their own electronic portfolio. Throughout the school year students are to save their best work in all of their classes. This habit supports the idea that students need to be involved in school and critical of the quality of their work. Showing your best work is a wonderful way to motivate student achievement. We saw a class of 7<sup>th</sup> graders learning to make their portfolios.

Plan to attend our next Town Hall meeting to hear about teaming, the role of the PTSO and other ideas we saw in action.

*Submitted by Marie Cullen  
Principal Osan American Middle School*



## A Look into the Schools

### CSM Braswell Honored

CSM Al Braswell was honored recently for his long and distinguished career. CSM Braswell has been serving his country for more than 60 years. He was presented the Military Excellence Award and a Certificate of Recognition, the Korean Association of Retired Persons (KARP) presented a special recognition of over 50 plus years of Korean Public Service, Yongsan Retired Council (YRC) Retiree Icon (the first recipient to be awarded the YRC Medallion), Dragon Hill Lodge, American Red Cross and a Certificate Of Appreciation from the Command USAG-Yongsan. CSM Braswell is well deserving of these awards for his contribution to our community, school, and our country.

*Submitted by Col Don Hedgpath & Brian Martin SAHS*



### SAES Mock Elections

The Newly Elected SAES Student Council held a school-wide Mock-Presidential Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. Class representatives from grades 3-5 oversaw the elections, visiting classrooms to give speeches and distribute and collect ballots. The entire voting process took approximately 15 minutes. Just like in the general election stateside, Barrack Obama was elected president! The students enjoyed the process and learned much about our great democracy

*Submitted by Jeremy Walker SAES*

### SAES Flu Vaccinations

On 6 and 7 November at the SAES gym, medical personnel from the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital dispensed flu vaccinations. With the support of the SAES school nurses and the local PTO, the personnel immunized 116 students and 142 others on 6 November and 182 students and 162 others on 7 November, for a total of 602 over the two-day period. The SAES team is very appreciative to the medical personnel for making a "house-call" to the school to dispense the vaccine. Specifically, Nurses Cho and DuBose want to extend to very special "thank you" to Colonel Fox, Colonel Smith, Captain Myers, Captain Warwick, and Captain Williams for their efforts in making the flu vaccination a great success and for their efforts in such events as the TB Screening, the Health Screenings, and on-site staff CPR training. SAES appreciates the soldiers and civilians that work hard to meet our daily medical needs.

*Submitted by Jeremy Walker SAES*





## Literacy Facilitators What do they Do?

### SAES Literacy Facilitators

In School Year 2008-2009, April Jennings and Michelle Van Woodfork serve as the SAES Literacy Facilitators. They, along with Literacy Support Specialists, Marita Brooks, Nancy Speer, Janie Stewart, and Jack Woodfork, provide intensive literacy support to SAES students. These committed professionals do an excellent job of meeting emerging readers and writers where they are at and providing the instruction necessary to move them to where they need to be.



As Literacy Facilitators, April and Michelle's key roles are to serve as on-site professional developers available to assist teachers in the development of their literacy program, and particularly, meeting the needs of struggling students; They also co-plan, co-teach, and model lessons for the teachers to help guide their future instructional approach. Thirdly they support the development of a balanced literacy instructional model in every classroom, for every student.



The literacy support personnel employ a research-based, eight-component model centered upon differentiated instruction within a framework of *Guided Reading*, and *writer's workshop*. Within that framework, the activities gradually progress from teacher-driven activities such as *read aloud* and *shared writing* to student/teacher-driven activities like *Guided Reading* and *writers workshop* to solely student-driven activities like *independent reading* and *independent writing*.

Submitted by Jeremy Walker SAES





## Osan American High School Leadership Team

### New Leadership, New Commitments to Excellence at OAHS

Students, parents, and faculty speak openly and proudly of the new OAHS/MS administration and their efforts to make the school the best of the best. Principal Timothy Erickson and Asst. Principal Truly Schramm continue to excite everyone at the campus with their hard work ethic, leadership by example, and determination to ensure the best educational environment for all students and staff. The positive impact and results of their earnest and enthusiastic efforts are evident in all aspects of campus activities.

The new administration's winning attitude is contagious and far-reaching. For example, recent Far East competitions proved most noteworthy with the Journalism Team receiving 5 Medals: 1st & 2nd Place Sports Writing; 2nd Place Beginning Photography; 3rd Place Sports Photography; and 3rd Place Feature Writing. The OAHS Cheerleading: Third Place;. Cross Country: Boys and Girls Team Runner-up 5K, Division 1A second place; Far East Team Relay runner-up; Football Team: Far East Finalist. Tennis: Mixed doubles Far East Champions; Volleyball Teams: Boys - best season in history of school; 2nd place KAIAC (two Stars and Stripes Athletes of the Week); 2nd place KAIAC tournament; Girls – won second straight Far East Championship; 2nd place KAIAC; 3rd place KAIAC tournament.

Sports is not the only area of excellence being developed under the guidance of the new leadership at OAHS. On the hills of a very successful Parent-Teacher Conference Day, seven OAHS educators were recognized by General Sharp for Excellence in the Classroom. The teachers honored in Seoul were Ms. Lonnae Calvin, Dr. Ronnie Lynn Holley, Mr. Onan Floyd, Ms. Christine Dunham, Ms. Rainetta Brown, Mr. Michael Hogen and Ms. Donna Lansberry. These educators received a very nice Scroll of Appreciation from the general and most sincere words of praise, not to mention a wonderful spread at the Dragon Hill Lodge!

*Submitted by Dr. Ronnie Holley*





### SAHS Students Study Ancient Egypt

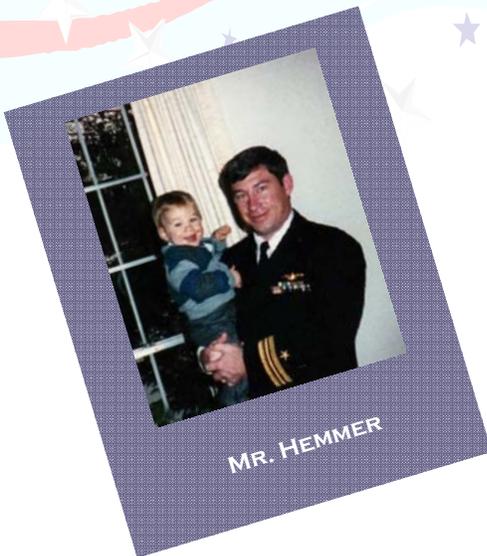
The Honors 9 students at SAHS are studying ancient Egypt. They are creating pyramids and decorating the inside along the lines of the ancient Egyptian religious beliefs. They are placing the things they believe they will need in their afterlife inside the pyramid. This is giving the students an opportunity to express their creativity while demonstrating their understanding of this particular area of ancient Egyptian civilization.

### Veteran’s Day Celebration at OAHS/MS

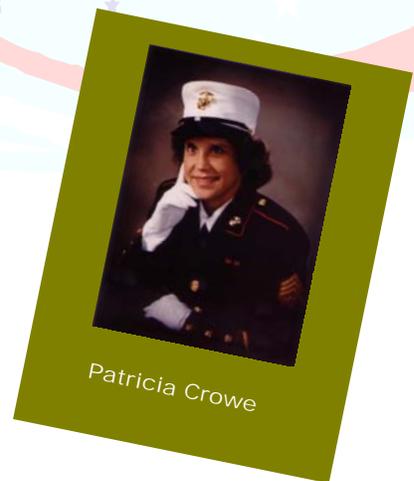
Several of the staff members at Osan American High School & Middle School were honored at a Veteran’s Day appreciation activity earlier this month. Students, guests, and staff members were entertained by members of the school band who played patriotic songs, under the tutorage of OAHS music teacher Mr. Bill Waldron, and by the singing of the national anthems, both Korean and American, by the JROTC choir cadets. A power-point presentation provided photographs and a brief biography of the school’s veterans for the enjoyment and pleasure of the student body.

OAHS senior, Sofia Hemmer, opened the program and gave an introduction of the guest speaker, OAHS teacher, Mr. David Hemmer, a former Navy commander who delivered a wonderful, inspiring narrative of his former days in the military serving our country abroad titled “What it Means to Serve.” His words of sacrifice and doing one’s best with courage and compassion received a loud applause by all in attendance. The program also included an impressive drill performance by the school’s JROTC.

Thanks to Ms. Donna Lansberry and all who helped make the day special for the special OAHS veterans: Ron Lane, John Cogswell, Gale Goodman-Floyd, Onan Floyd, David Hamilton, Andrea Geer, David Hemmer, Tyler Dixon, Pam Crowe, Bob Kabanuk, Tom Carlin, Taebon Kwon, Kevin Peterson, Renee Petree, Bruce Barker, Chris Vega, Donna Lansberry, and Johnny Windom.



MR. HEMMER



Patricia Crowe

Submitted by Ronnie Holley



*School News Continued*

## Parade of Characters

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of October, students at Humphreys American School participated in the Parade of Characters. This was an exciting day as the students spent countless hours at home picking out their book and character costume. Parents with cameras in hand, were also looking forward to this parade and lined up all along the playground and even on the sidewalks of family housing.

Each student chose their favorite book and brought it to school along with their costume. In the afternoon, all the students lined up showing off their costumes, and holding their books. They were all so proud of the book they picked and shared with friends.

Each class had original story book characters and not only wore the costume but also took on the role of their character as they paraded around the school. There were great warriors, brilliant presidents, mischievous pirates, beautiful princesses, and of course a parade is never complete without a few brave soldiers.

The parade was lead by Mrs. Cole's first grade class waving at all the parents and neighbor's who came to see them. Mrs. Miller's kindergarten class was all dressed up as little Einstein's and was a big hit among the parents. The parade continued on until the entire school walked through family housing, into the middle school, and back into the elementary building where they were met with cupcakes and other treats.



*Submitted by Alicia Brown HAS*



*School News Continued*

## OAHS Advanced Placement Success Story

Osan American High School's Advanced Placement program continues to produce some of the best students in the world, literally. AP scores are released in the summer. This fall, OAHS received notification that one of the school's students, Miss Kathryn M. Barnes received three different College Board awards based on her outstanding scores on numerous AP examinations. In fact, Kathryn has received the highest level of recognition for her exemplary college-level achievements. The awards include the AP Scholar Award with Distinction, the National AP Scholar Award, and the DoDEA AP Scholar Award which is granted to one female student attending Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools with the highest average on the greatest number of AP Exams.

According to Mr. Trevor Packer, Vice President of the AP Program, College Board, "Earning an AP Scholar Award is a great accomplishment. It signifies that the student is part of a unique group of students worldwide who have successfully completed a rigorous series of college-level courses. This achievement is acknowledged on all grade reporting sent to colleges and most universities provide college credit to student who earns such recognition."

According to OAHS AP teacher, Mrs. Pamela Crowe, "Katie is a brilliant study who consistently seeks self-improvement and knowledge. Initially, she did not wish to take AP Literature and Composition because she is more math and science-oriented. By mid-semester last year, she came begging to transfer from my regular senior English class to AP Literature. She wanted a challenge that she was not getting in the regular class. When you consider the students who are best matched for AP, Katie is a poster child." According to OAHS Information Specialist, Ms. Christine Dunham, "Katie is hardworking, respectful, intelligent, bright, and goal-oriented." According to OAHS AP teacher, Mr. Shawn Knudsen, "I had the pleasure of teaching Katie for two years; AP Calculus and AP Physics. She was a very diligent student with her studies and always added to the discussion in the classroom. Her positive attitude towards challenging material would spread to others in the classroom." These are surely the qualities it takes to succeed at the AP level.

Miss Barnes entered the Osan schools in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and has completed all of her high school courses at OAHS. Presently, she is enjoying the fruits of her efforts on a full scholarship to MIT.

Submitted by Ronnie Holley



### CSI Continuing School Improvement Humphreys American School

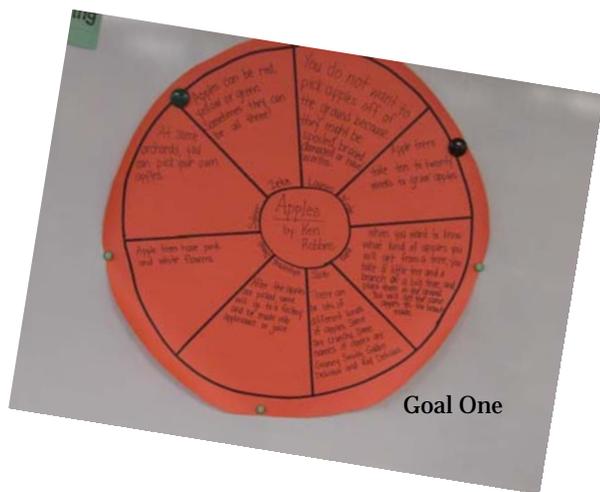
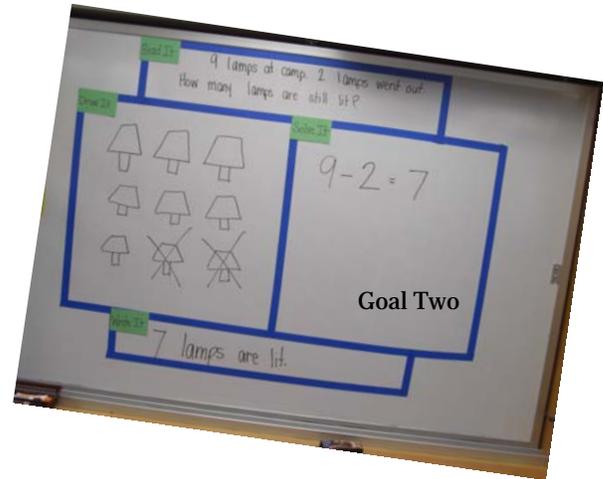
This year at Humphreys American School, the staff has been working diligently in maintaining our Continuing School Improvement (CSI) Plan. Throughout the year, teachers are implementing interventions and strategies that focus on our CSI goals. By the end of the year, we hope to improve student success in mathematical thinking and comprehension when reading non-fiction texts.

Our first goal at HAS is that "All students will increase reading comprehension in the content areas." Teachers are modeling five structures when reading non-fiction texts and are using graphic organizers to support this. The five structures that we are focusing on are as follows: Topic and Detail, Time Order, Compare & Contrast, Sequencing, and Cause and Effect.

The staff has been collaborating ideas, evaluating students' work and setting expectations for quality work. The United Club has also helped so graciously in supporting this goal, by purchasing non-fiction big books and guided reading sets for the HAS students.

Our second goal is that "All students will improve their knowledge and skills in mathematics and will apply these skills in all content areas." The teachers are using a strategy called "Read It, Draw It, Solve It, Communicate It" to help students solve mathematical problems by clearly communicating their solution. Students are also using a graphic organizer to support their thinking when solving mathematical equations.

Walking through the halls and entering the classrooms of Humphreys American School, you will see examples of students' work on bulletin boards, collaboration between teachers and students, posters, and teachers using appropriate vocabulary to teach these two goals.



Submitted By: Tammy Maassen  
CSI Chairperson for HAS



*Continues on next page*

## Thanksgiving Feast with Dishes from Around the World

This will be the third year that students in grades three through five will be celebrating a Thanksgiving Feast together. On November 26<sup>th</sup>, the teachers will be bringing in turkeys that they prepared and students will be bringing side dishes. These side dishes will consist of typical food from countries they have lived in or are from. Parents have volunteered to decorate, set-up and serve students their meals during the feast. This Thanksgiving Feast will provide an opportunity for students in different grades to get to know each other and try some dishes that otherwise they would not experience.

*Submitted by Alicia Brown*

## Archeological Dig

Sixth grade students at Humphreys American School had the opportunity to participate in an archeological dig in their Language Arts class. While studying about different Ancient Civilizations these students discovered that most of what we know today is from archeologist discoveries.

To really grasp this concept, Mrs. Nalker assigned her students a creative project. The students filled up shoe boxes with important items that represented themselves and their family. They had to include items from the last three generations. The items were placed in the boxes among different layers of dirt.



Each box was labeled with random numbers and passed out to the students. Each student slowly and carefully uncovered the items in the boxes. Students used toothbrushes, paintbrushes and spoons to remove the dirt and pull the items out of the box.

Each item was appropriately labeled and set aside for further observation. After all the items were discovered in their own archeological dig, the students had to guess which civilization (student) they discovered by using the clues that were buried.

Students enjoyed both the process of burying the items representing their civilization and the process of uncovering items of a new civilization. After the assignment students understood how we had learned so much about civilizations that no longer are in

existence

*Submitted by Alicia Brown*

