



**NAVSTA Rota Multicultural & Diversity  
Committee  
and DGF Elementary School invites you to  
celebrate**

**NATIONAL  
HISPANIC  
HERITAGE  
MONTH**

**When: 15 OCT 2024 at 1500**

**Where: Elementary School Cafeteria**





# FLU VACCINES ARE COMING SOON

Flu vaccines will be available for all beneficiaries starting **October 16th**

Vac

## Vaccine Clinics:

**NEX**

**Oct 16-17 1000-1600**

**DGF**

**Nov 7 1000-1500**

**Nov 8 0800-1500**

Patients under 3 or over 65 should report to the  
Immunizations Clinic

Vaccine will also be available in the Immunizations Clinic during  
normal working hours



For questions, contact COMM: 956-82-3464 / DSN: 727-3464



# FLU VACCINE CLINICS

**Navy Exchange (NEX)  
Oct 16-17 1000-1600**

**DGF School  
Nov 7 1000-1500  
Nov 8 0800-1500**

**Patients under 3 or over 65 should report to the  
Immunizations Clinic**

**Vaccine will also be available in the Immunizations Clinic during  
normal working hours**



**For questions, contact COMM: 956-82-3464 / DSN: 727-3464**

powerful change **Pledge** you're not alone support  
 care acceptance protect kindness help  
 community inclusion together

## National Bullying Prevention Month

A very important part of our school counseling program and guidance standards is how to identify and prevent bullying. During the month of October, students will learn in guidance lessons the definition of bullying, the types of bullying, how to decipher between bullying and conflict, ways to resolve conflict, and how to be an 'upstander'. Being an 'upstander' means the student actively participates in standing up for the student affected by bullying behaviors. Some research defines the other student roles as upstanders vs. bystanders and other students who assist, resist, or defend. In all classes, we will discuss what each student can do to prevent and report bullying behaviors as well as what to do if they cannot safely help the affected student. Bullying prevention is a top priority at DGF because feeling safe is the necessary foundation for kids to be happy and successful learners.

### GUIDANCE FOCUS & IMPORTANT DATES

October	Bullying Prevention
October 16	Unity Day*
October 28-Nov. 1	Red Ribbon Week **

\*Wear orange to show you will unite with others to stand up against bullying!!

\*\*See flyer about ways to celebrate life living drug free!!

### RESOURCES

<https://www.stopbullyingnow.com/>

<https://www.stopbullying.gov/bullying/roles-kids-play>

<https://bbrave.org/mt/2019/04/03/the-bullying-circle/>



PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center has great resources for parents and educators as well. Inclusion is one of the focuses this year for Unity Day on October 19. It is important that kids know that not allowing others to play with them (or join their classroom group) is a type of bullying. Inclusion is important to creating a bullying free zone where kids feel safe and they belong. The prevention of bullying and critical topics like diversity and inclusion are discussed in guidance lessons all year long.

I invite you and your family to watch one of the PACER clips about inclusion. Many more videos are available on their website.

<https://www.pacer.org/bullying/video/player.asp?video=126>

### CONTACT

Please reach out at any time as we want to support your child's success and wellbeing.

Dr. Mary Anne Hartley  
[maryanne.hartley@dodea.edu](mailto:maryanne.hartley@dodea.edu)  
 856-82-0220



**RED RIBBON WEEK  
2024**

**LIFE IS A  
MOVIE**

**MONDAY  
Oct. 28**

**Dress Like a Movie Star-  
Life is a movie - Live Drug Free!**

**TUESDAY  
Oct. 29**

**Mix & Match Your Clothes  
We won't get MIXED up with drugs!**

**WEDNESDAY  
Oct. 30**

**Wear Red-  
We are REDy to say No to Drugs!**

**THURSDAY  
Oct. 31**

**Dress like a Book Character-  
We've got character!**

**FRIDAY  
Nov. 1**

**Wear Blue or DGF Shirt-  
Toros Say No to Drugs!**

# Our Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC) are offering



## LEMON CHAT

(formally known as LUNCH BUNCH)

**Small groups 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade meet on Mondays**

**9:55 – 10:35**

**10:45 -11:25**

September 30, 2024 through December 16, 2024

January 6, 2025 through March 24, 2025

April 7, 2025 through June 2, 2025

**Small groups 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meet on Tuesdays**

**10:05 – 10:45**

**10:50 – 11:30**

October 1, 2024 through December 17, 2024

January 7, 2025 through March 25, 2025

April 8, 2025 through June 3, 2025

**Small groups Kindergarten will meet on Thursdays**

**9:55 – 10:20**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade meet on Thursdays**

**11:20 – 12:05**

October 3, 2024 through December 19, 2024

January 9, 2025 – March 20, 2025

April 10, 2025 – June 5, 2025

**\*Commitment to both playground time and lunch time for the small group is required.**

**\*We must have MFLC Parent Consent Form on file for student to participate.**

Barbara Angstadt

and

Roneiko Henderson

641 482 865

624 262 856

**MILITARY FAMILY LIFE COUNSELORS (MFLC) ARE OFFERING**  
**FAMILY DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP**



**ONCE A MONTH**

**3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**

**2:50 PM TIL 4:00 PM**

**DGF Elementary Library**

OCT 17, 2024

NOV 14, 2024

DEC 19, 2024

**Barbara Angstadt**  
641 482 865

and

**Roneiko Henderson**  
624 262 856

**Feeling Stuck and alone in Supporting Your Child's Mental Health?**  
(ex) Oppositional behaviors, attentional issues, depression, anxiety, substance concerns, trauma, stress related concerns, or general phase of life?

*Join us Monthly for A Parent Support Group on*

# **SUPPORTING YOU & YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL WELLNESS**

**Parents in this 1 hour 15 minute support group you will:**

- Learn Ways to support yourself and your child around their mental health
- Discover some potential tools that may help both you and your child
- Recognize mental health "red flags" and what to do in those situations



- Learn strategies to discuss your child's mental health challenges in positive ways
- Improve your communication with in your family
- Manage your own stress in helping support children with mental health challenges

**Details:**

**When: First Wednesday of the Month**

**Time: 8:15 to 9:30**

**Where: EDIS Building Conference Room**

**Reserve your Space:**

**Call EDIS Department and Reserve  
Your Space 727-4029**



		AUGUST '24						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
9	New Parent Orientation					1	2	3
12	Teachers Report	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16	Open-House	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	Students Report (K-5th)	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31

		FEBRUARY '25						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
14	Holiday							1
17	President's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18	Teacher Training	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		23	24	25	26	27	28	

		SEPTEMBER '24						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
2	Labor Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	Teacher Training	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	Students Report (PreK)	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		29	30					

		MARCH '25						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
13	Teacher Training		3	4	5	6	7	8
26	Q3 Ends	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
27	Teacher Workday	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	Holiday	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31	Spring Break	30	31					

		OCTOBER '24						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
10	Teacher Training			1	2	3	4	5
11	Holiday	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14	Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
24	Q1 Ends	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	Teacher Workday	27	28	29	30	31		

		APRIL '25						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
1-4	Spring Break			1	2	3	4	5
11	Teacher Training	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		27	28	29	30			

		NOVEMBER '24						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
7	Parent Conferences						1	2
8	Parent Conferences	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	Veterans Day	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
28	Thanksgiving	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27 - 29	Fall Break	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

		MAY '25						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
20	Teacher Training					1	2	3
23	Memorial Day	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
26	Holiday	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31

		DECEMBER '24						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
16	Teacher Training	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23 - 31	Winter Break	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		29	30	31				

		JUNE '25						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
10	Q4 Ends	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	Teacher Workday	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19	Juneteenth	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		29	30					

		JANUARY '25						
		S	M	T	W	R	F	S
1	New Year's Day				1	2	3	4
1-3	Winter Break	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	Q2 Ends	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	Teacher Workday	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
20	MLK/Inauguration Day	26	27	28	29	30	31	
21	Parent Conferences							

**Contact Information**

Phone: 856-82-0220

DSN: 682-0220

	No School
	Early Release @ 1055
	Key Date

**CHECK US OUT AT**

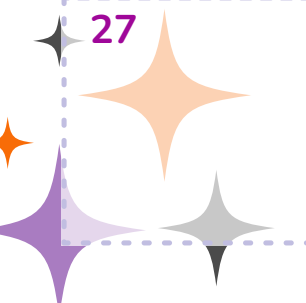
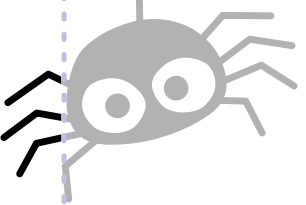
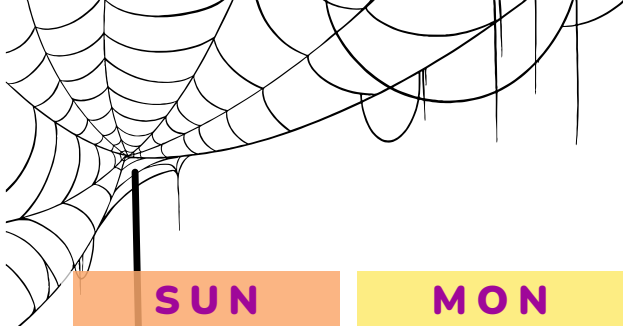
<https://www.dodea.edu/RotaES/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RotaDGFe>



**NOTE:** Every Wednesday students are dismissed at 1:35 p.m. for teacher focused collaboration

# OCTOBER 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Early Release @ 1335	3	4	5
6	7	8 SAC (Q1) Meeting @ 1100 (Library)	9 Early Release @ 1335	10 No School Teacher Training	11 No School Holiday	12
13	14 No School Columbus Day	15	16 Early Release @ 1335 Unity Day (Wear Orange)	17 MFLC Parent Group @ 1450	18	19
20	21	22	23 Early Release @ 1335 Halloween Craft @ 1340 (MPB)	24 End of Q1	25 No School Teacher Workday	26 Trunk-or-Treat
27	28 Book Fair Red Ribbon Week	29 Book Fair Red Ribbon Week	30 Early Release Book Fair Red Ribbon Week	31 Character Book Parade @ 0830 Book Fair Red Ribbon Week	1 Book Fair Red Ribbon Week	



# OCTOBER 2024 ROTA UPK LUNCH

2024-2025 Meal Prices	
UPK	\$3.50
UPK Reduced	\$0.40

MONDAY 7	TUESDAY 8	WEDNESDAY 9	THURSDAY 10	FRIDAY 11
<b>Chicken Nuggets</b> <b>Roll</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Mashed Potatoes Honey Glazed Carrots Variety of Milk	<b>Sloppy Joe</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Roasted Broccoli Seasoned Corn Variety of Milk	<b>Bean &amp; Cheese Burrito</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Black Beans Shredded Lettuce + Tomato Variety of Milk	<b>Chicken + Waffles</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Tater Tots Sliced Cucumbers Variety of Milk	<b>Macaroni + Cheese</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Romaine Side Salad Roasted Potatoes Variety of Milk
MONDAY 14	TUESDAY 15	WEDNESDAY 16	THURSDAY 17	FRIDAY 18
	<b>Chicken Alfredo</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Roasted Broccoli Seasoned Corn Variety of Milk	<b>Nachos Supreme</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Black Beans Shredded Lettuce + Tomato Variety of Milk 	<b>Hummus Snack Pack</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Tater Tots Sliced Cucumbers Variety of Milk	<b>Hamburger</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Romaine Side Salad Roasted Potatoes Variety of Milk
MONDAY 21	TUESDAY 22	WEDNESDAY 23	THURSDAY 24	FRIDAY 25
<b>Pasta w/ Meatballs</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Green Beans Honey Glazed Carrots Variety of Milk	<b>Chicken Parmesan w/ Roll</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Roasted Broccoli Seasoned Corn Variety of Milk	<b>Soft Tacos</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Black Beans Shredded Lettuce + Tomato Variety of Milk	<b>Chicken + Waffles</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Tater Tots Sliced Cucumbers Variety of Milk	
MONDAY 28	TUESDAY 29	WEDNESDAY 30	THURSDAY 31	
<b>Chicken Nuggets</b> <b>Roll</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Mashed Potatoes Honey Glazed Carrots Variety of Milk	<b>Sloppy Joe</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Roasted Broccoli Seasoned Corn Variety of Milk	<b>Bean &amp; Cheese Burrito</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Seasoned Black Beans Shredded Lettuce + Tomato Variety of Milk	<b>Breakfast for Lunch</b> <b>Variety of Fruit</b> Tater Tots Sliced Cucumbers Variety of Milk	

**UPK is served Family Style\***

Family Style Mean:

- Children eat in their classrooms
- Everyone eats the same food
- Children serve themselves

Family Style Promotes:

- Physical, social and emotional development
- Decision making skills, Sharing

\*Menu subject to change based on availability\*



# OCTOBER 2024 ROTA ELEMENTARY LUNCH

2024-2025 Meal Prices	
Grades K-5	\$3.50
Grades 6-12	\$3.75
Reduced (all grades)	\$0.40

**TUESDAY 1**

(1) Chicken Parmesan w/  
Roll  
(2) Ham & Cheese  
Sandwich  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Roasted Broccoli  
Seasoned Corn  
Variety of Milk

**WEDNESDAY 2**

(1) Soft Tacos  
(2) Cheese Quesadilla  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Black Beans  
Shredded Lettuce +  
Tomato  
Variety of Milk

**THURSDAY 3**

(1) Chicken + Waffles  
(2) Grilled Cheese  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Tater Tots  
Sliced Cucumbers  
Variety of Milk

**FRIDAY 4**

(1) Macaroni + Cheese  
(2) Italian Meatball Sub  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Romaine Side Salad  
Roasted Potatoes  
Variety of Milk

**MONDAY 7**

(1) Chicken Nuggets  
(2) Cheese Lasagna  
Roll (w/ either entrée)  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Mashed Potatoes  
Honey Glazed Carrots  
Variety of Milk

**TUESDAY 8**

(1) Hotdog  
(2) Sloppy Joe  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Roasted Broccoli  
Seasoned Corn  
Variety of Milk

**WEDNESDAY 9**

(1) Bean & Cheese  
Burrito  
(2) Chicken Fajitas  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Black Beans  
Shredded Lettuce +  
Tomato  
Variety of Milk

**THURSDAY 10**

NO SCHOOL

**FRIDAY 11**

NO SCHOOL

**MONDAY 14**

NO SCHOOL

**TUESDAY 15**

(1) Chicken Alfredo  
(2) Turkey Club Sub  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Roasted Broccoli  
Seasoned Corn  
Variety of Milk

**WEDNESDAY 16**

(1) Nachos Supreme  
(2) Taco Salad  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Black Beans  
Shredded Lettuce +  
Tomato  
Variety of Milk

**THURSDAY 17**

(1) Bacon, Egg &  
Cheese Croissant  
(2) Hummus Snack  
Pack  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Tater Tots  
Sliced Cucumbers  
Variety of Milk

**FRIDAY 18**

(1) Macaroni + Cheese  
(2) Italian Meatball Sub  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Romaine Side Salad  
Roasted Potatoes  
Variety of Milk

**MONDAY 21**

(1) Teriyaki Chicken  
w/ Rice  
(2) Pasta w/ Meatballs  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Green  
Beans  
Honey Glazed Carrots  
Variety of Milk

**TUESDAY 22**

(1) Chicken Parmesan w/  
Roll  
(2) Ham & Cheese  
Sandwich  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Roasted Broccoli  
Seasoned Corn  
Variety of Milk

**WEDNESDAY 23**

(1) Soft Tacos  
(2) Cheese Quesadilla  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Black Beans  
Shredded Lettuce +  
Tomato  
Variety of Milk

**THURSDAY 24**

(1) Chicken + Waffles  
(2) Grilled Cheese  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Tater Tots  
Sliced Cucumbers  
Variety of Milk

**FRIDAY 25**

NO SCHOOL

**MONDAY 28**

(1) Chicken Nuggets  
(2) Cheese Lasagna  
Roll (w/ either entrée)  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Mashed Potatoes  
Honey Glazed Carrots  
Variety of Milk

**TUESDAY 29**

(1) Hotdog  
(2) Sloppy Joe  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Roasted Broccoli  
Seasoned Corn  
Variety of Milk

**WEDNESDAY 30**

(1) Bean & Cheese  
Burrito  
(2) Chicken Fajitas  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Seasoned Black Beans  
Shredded Lettuce +  
Tomato  
Variety of Milk

**THURSDAY 31**

(1) Ham & Cheese  
Croissant  
(2) Breakfast for  
Lunch  
**Variety of Fruit**  
Tater Tots  
Sliced Cucumbers  
Variety of Milk

**MAKE A COMPLETE MEAL:**

Entrees: Choose One

\*Fruit: Choose One OR Two

\*Vegetables: Choose One OR Two

Milk: Choose One

\*Must Choose a Fruit OR Vegetable\*

**NOTE:** Students are permitted **one complete meal**. Second meals are available at full price. Students who do not select at least 3 items with one being a fruit or vegetable will be charged full price.

\*Menu subject to change based on availability\*



# OCTOBER 2024 ROTA MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH

2024-2025 Meal Prices	
Grades K-5	\$3.50
Grades 6-12	\$3.75
Reduced (all grades)	\$0.40

## TUESDAY 1

- (1) Chicken Parmesan w/Roll
- (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Roasted Broccoli
- Seasoned Corn
- Variety of Milk

## WEDNESDAY 2

- (1) Soft Tacos
- (2) Cheese Quesadilla
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Shredded Lettuce + Tomato
- Variety of Milk

## THURSDAY 3

- (1) Chicken + Waffles
- (2) Grilled Cheese
- Variety of Fruit
- Tater Tots
- Sliced Cucumbers
- Variety of Milk

## FRIDAY 4

- (1) Macaroni + Cheese
- (2) Italian Meatball Sub
- Variety of Fruit
- Romaine Side Salad
- Roasted Potatoes
- Variety of Milk

## MONDAY 7

- (1) Chicken Nuggets
- (2) Cheese Lasagna
- Roll (w/ either entrée)
- Variety of Fruit
- Mashed Potatoes
- Honey Glazed Carrots
- Variety of Milk

## TUESDAY 8

- (1) Hotdog
- (2) Sloppy Joe
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Roasted Broccoli
- Seasoned Corn
- Variety of Milk

## WEDNESDAY 9

- (1) Bean & Cheese Burrito
- (2) Chicken Fajitas
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Shredded Lettuce + Tomato
- Variety of Milk

## THURSDAY 10



## FRIDAY 11



## MONDAY 14



## TUESDAY 15

- (1) Chicken Alfredo
- (2) Turkey Club Sub
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Roasted Broccoli
- Seasoned Corn
- Variety of Milk

## WEDNESDAY 16

- (1) Nachos Supreme
- (2) Taco Salad
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Shredded Lettuce + Tomato
- Variety of Milk



## THURSDAY 17

- (1) Bacon Egg & Cheese Croissant
- (2) Crispy Chicken Sandwich
- Variety of Fruit
- Tater Tots
- Sliced Cucumbers
- Variety of Milk

## FRIDAY 18

- (1) Macaroni + Cheese
- (2) Italian Meatball Sub
- Variety of Fruit
- Romaine Side Salad
- Roasted Potatoes
- Variety of Milk

## MONDAY 21

- (1) Teriyaki Chicken w/ Rice
- (2) Pasta w/ Meatballs & Roll
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Green Beans
- Honey Glazed Carrots
- Variety of Milk

## TUESDAY 22

- (1) Chicken Parmesan w/ Roll
- (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Roasted Broccoli
- Seasoned Corn
- Variety of Milk

## WEDNESDAY 23

- (1) Soft Tacos
- (2) Cheese Quesadilla
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Shredded Lettuce + Tomato
- Variety of Milk

## THURSDAY 24

- (1) Chicken + Waffles
- (2) Grilled Cheese
- Variety of Fruit
- Tater Tots
- Sliced Cucumbers
- Variety of Milk

## FRIDAY 25



## MONDAY 28

- (1) Chicken Nuggets
- (2) Cheese Lasagna
- Roll (w/ either entrée)
- Variety of Fruit
- Mashed Potatoes
- Honey Glazed Carrots
- Variety of Milk

## TUESDAY 29

- (1) Hotdog
- (2) Sloppy Joe
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Roasted Broccoli
- Seasoned Corn
- Variety of Milk

## WEDNESDAY 30

- (1) Bean & Cheese Burrito
- (2) Chicken Fajitas
- Variety of Fruit
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Shredded Lettuce + Tomato
- Variety of Milk

## THURSDAY 31

- (1) Ham & Cheese Croissant
- (2) Breakfast for Lunch
- Variety of Fruit
- Tater Tots
- Sliced Cucumbers
- Variety of Milk

**MAKE A COMPLETE MEAL:**

Entrees: Choose One

\*Fruit: Choose One OR Two

\*Vegetables: Choose One OR Two

Milk: Choose One

\*Must Choose a Fruit OR Vegetable\*

**NOTE:** Students are permitted **one complete meal**. Second meals are available at full price. Students who do not select at least 3 items with one being a fruit or vegetable will be charged full price.

\*Menu subject to change based on availability\*

# ROTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (DGF)

## School Advisory Committee (SAC)

### Quarter 1 Meeting

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- I. Call to Order (11:04 AM)
  - a. The meeting was called to order at 11:04 AM by SAC Chairperson, Nicole Gambia.
  - b. DGF Principal, Mr. Ken Kirk, welcomed everyone to the first SAC meeting of the 2024-2025 school year and provided a brief overview and explanation of the functions of the SAC and their quarterly meetings.
  
- II. Roll Call (11:05 AM)
  - a. SAC Officers, voting members, and designated members were introduced.
  - b. Rota's School Liaison Officer (SLO), Randy Lambert, was introduced.
  - c. All attending school staff were introduced.
  
- III. Attendance by Sign-In
  - a. This was completed for those individuals attending the meeting in-person.
  - b. As a reminder, attendance is available virtually via Microsoft Teams.
  
- IV. Principal Report/ School Updates (11:06 AM)
  - a. School Enrollment and Staffing: The school currently has 569 students enrolled, with 11 new students pending. There are several open positions, including aides for Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and SPED, as well as teaching positions in Kindergarten, Prekindergarten, and 4th grade (the 4th grade position will be announced in conjunction with a December teacher departure). Additionally, the school is looking to fill an Administrative Officer role and a half-time School Counselor position. Recent staffing updates include the arrival of Shannon Sherwood as the new School Psychologist, starting October 15th, and the anticipated arrival of Tynia Hopkins, tentatively starting as School Counselor on January 6th.
  - b. School Events for October and November: Several key events are scheduled for October and November, including the Hispanic Heritage Event on October 15th in collaboration with Naval Station Rota's Diversity Committee and Unity Day on October 16th, featuring a musical performance from second grade. The PTSA will host a Halloween Craft event on October 23rd, and a Book Fair from October 28th to November 1st; Red Ribbon Week will take place during that same period. Additional highlights include a Character Parade on October 31st, Bingo Night on November 15th, and the Turkey Trot Fun Run on November 22nd. The Turkey Trot Fun Run is the largest fundraiser of the year; all funds will go toward DGF to support various efforts including the Toro Store.

- c. Important Dates for October and November: October and November have several no-school days, including October 10th, 11th, and 14th due to a federal holiday, and October 25th for a Teacher Workday. The first quarter ends on October 24th. November also has key dates, such as Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 7th and 8th (approximately 15-20 minute sessions), no school on Veterans Day (November 11th), and Thanksgiving Break from November 27th to 29th.
- d. Student Supports: Student support programs include "Lemon Chat," a series of small group sessions for students in grades 1-5, running from September 2024 to June 2025. The Family Deployment Support Group, led by Military Family Life Counselors, meets on the third Thursday of each month, with upcoming meetings scheduled for October 17th, November 14th, and December 19th. A monthly support group focused on children's mental health meets on the first Wednesday of each month, offering strategies for managing stress and supporting students. These support groups are intended to provide opportunities to discuss and connect with other families, as we all navigate the challenges faced with raising children overseas.
- e. School Reminders: Flu vaccine clinics will be held at the Navy Exchange on October 16th and 17th, with additional vaccines available at Rota Elementary on November 7th and 8th. Flu vaccines are required; waivers will have to be completed for those students with extenuating circumstances (religious, medical, etc.). Students exhibiting illness symptoms such as fever or lethargy will be sent home and can return to school after being fever-free for 24 hours without medication. Consistent school attendance is emphasized, with prompt communication for absences appreciated. Students are also reminded to follow the school's electronic device policy to maintain a focused learning environment.

#### V. Open Issues (11:17 AM)

- a. Advanced Academic Program and Services (AAPS): Mr. Tutti, the AAPS instructor, presented an overview of the Gifted & Talented Program, explaining the recent shift from a traditional pull-out model to a more inclusive, in-classroom approach. In this new model, the AAPS instructor co-teaches with classroom teachers, designing project-based learning activities that foster creative and critical thinking. Flexible grouping is used during instructional time to enhance engagement. These lessons are shared with other grade-level teachers, allowing for consistent implementation across classrooms. This inclusive approach enables the AAPS instructor to reach more students while reducing missed class time. Based on AAPS testing results, eligible students may receive additional instructional time, either in-class or outside the classroom. Recent AAPS testing for all second graders was completed during the week of October 1-4, and results will be reviewed to determine eligibility for increased AAPS services. Additional AAPS testing is conducted in third grade, and all students, regardless of

grade-level, who enter a DODEA school with identified AAPS services receive instruction at DGF.

- b. **Spanish Language Classes and Activities:** A request was made for more Spanish language offerings as part of the after-school activities, with additional suggestions that all students receive daily Spanish instruction, given the school's location in Spain. In response, it was noted that DODEA curriculum standards and funding for Spanish language instruction have evolved over the years. Around six to seven years ago, DGF had a full-time Spanish language instructor, but this position was eventually eliminated. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school did offer an elementary Spanish immersion program, which unfortunately had to be discontinued due to health-related protocols. Currently, Spanish is taught through a Host Nation "specials" class, where students receive 45 minutes of instruction each week. This class is conducted approximately 80% in Spanish and focuses on aspects of Spanish history, culture, and traditions. In addition, students in grades K-2 attend a separate 45-minute Spanish language class that introduces them to basic language skills. However, due to the required instructional time dedicated to core subjects such as math, reading, and phonics, additional classroom time for Spanish instruction is not feasible. Despite these constraints, it was acknowledged that there could be opportunities to expand Spanish instruction outside of regular class time. Should there be sufficient interest, the school could consider offering Spanish as an after-school club, provided funding and a suitable sponsor can be secured to support the program.
- c. **After School Clubs:** A request was made for additional after-school clubs, with a wide range of suggestions such as board games, soccer, STEM, Roman history, archaeology, geology, film, art history, cooking, aviation, engineering, and more. While DGF currently offers several clubs—including violin, free play, chess, gardening, fitness, art, running, and Anchored for Life—there is potential to expand these offerings. The establishment of new clubs depends primarily on two factors: available funding and finding a certified sponsor to lead the club. DODEA schools receive designated funds for clubs, so there may be resources to support new activities. Teachers are the first candidates considered to lead these clubs, followed by substitutes if no teacher is available. Moving forward, the review of current and potential future club offerings has been taken as an action item (see Meeting Minutes Section IX) for further consideration. Clubs may operate for various lengths throughout the school year, ranging from full-year programs to semester or quarterly offerings. Most clubs typically run from October through May. To ensure the school community is well informed, communication regarding club openings and start dates will remain transparent and consistent, continuing through established channels such as Mr. Kirk's weekly updates, the DGF Facebook page, and the school website.
- d. **School Lunch Times:** Concerns were raised regarding the early lunch times, with some students eating as early as 10:00 - 10:30 AM. These early meal



times are due to the shared use of the cafeteria between elementary, middle, and high school students, requiring coordination to serve approximately 1,000 meals daily. To address this, students are given scheduled snack breaks throughout the day, which are also used to incorporate Social Emotional Learning (SEL) instruction.

- e. Student Meal Services: Concerns were expressed about the high amount of processed foods in school lunches, such as pizza, hamburgers, and waffles, and the impact these meals may have on students' health and cognitive functions. While fruits and vegetables are provided, there is worry that this doesn't compensate for the overall unhealthy options, nor does it promote healthy eating habits. However, DGF is unable to modify the menu, as school nutrition standards are set by the USDA. These standards are implemented and overseen by the Navy Exchange (NEX), which works with an awarded contractor and sources food from the commissary to execute the program.

VI. Open Session (not to exceed 15 minutes) (11:58 AM)

- a. Accelerated Reader: A question was brought up as to whether or not DGF uses the Accelerated Reader program. DGF does not use the Accelerated Reader program, as DODEA schools do not fund/ implement the program as a part of their curriculum.
- b. Playground Lighting: Mr. Kirk raised awareness regarding lighting on the DGF playgrounds, as there have been concerns as to whether lighting is actually sufficient for students early in the morning, as students are on the playground early in the morning, prior to sunrise.

VII. New Business (12:02 PM)

- a. SAC Officers
  - i. Chairperson: Nicole Gamboa
  - ii. Vice Chairperson: Heather Selvie
  - iii. Secretary: Mariana Miller
- b. SAC Dates
  - i. SAC (Q1) – October 8th at 11:00 AM (completed)
  - ii. SAC (Q2) – December 10th at 3:00 PM (next upcoming)
  - iii. SAC (Q3) – February 11th at 11:00 AM
  - iv. SAC (Q4) – May 6th at 3:00 PM

VIII. Adjournment (12:04 PM)

- a. All in attendance were reminded the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 10 December at 3:00 PM. A virtual join option via Microsoft Teams will be provided for those unable to attend in person.
- b. This meeting was adjourned at 12:04 PM by SAC Chairperson, Nicole Gambia.

- IX. Action Items (to be completed prior to next SAC (Q2) Meeting)
- a. Mr. Kirk will present a list of the current clubs available at DGF that also includes the associated grade level for each club.
  - b. Following Action Item IX. a., SAC members will review the list and present a list of desired clubs and activities for funding and sponsorship consideration.