

# FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

"HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE"

## Ready for school?



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Second grader Temi Alumanah shows his mother Rosalind the glue sticks he picked out from his school supply list while sister Ada looks on Monday at the Post Exchange. The first day of school for the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District is Aug. 25. *For information ranging from dress codes to school supply lists, see the Back to School insert on Pages 15 to 27.*

## Sesame Street comes to Fort Sam Aug. 10, 11

The Sesame Street Experience for Military Families will be held Aug. 10 at 3 p.m. and Aug. 11 at 1 p.m. in the Army Community Service center, Building 2797, 2010 Stanley Road.

The Sesame Street Experience will offer 60 minutes of entertainment, giveaways and outreach materials, as well as educating the military community about helping children cope with the challenges of homecomings, deployments and changes. Featuring a live Sesame Street mini-show with special songs and dance, the experience will also offer Families free bilingual education material including components from Sesame Street's "Talk, Listen, Connect" programs.

The event is open to military ID cardholders. Admission is free, and



seating is available on a first-come, first served basis. The doors will open 30 minutes before showtime and goody bags will be distributed, along with souvenirs for children.

For more information about the Sesame Street Experience at Fort Sam Houston, call Army Community Service at 221-2705.

## Contract awarded for \$556 million BAMC expansion

FORT WORTH, Texas — The construction phase of the biggest and most complex individual project of the San Antonio Base Realignment and Closure program has formally begun with the award of a \$556 million contract for additions and renovations to Brooke Army Medical Center.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, has awarded the contract to Clark/Hunt, Joint Venture, which is headquartered in Tampa, Fla.

The changes to BAMC will allow the facility to absorb additional medical responsibilities as part of the BRAC implementation process. The military inpatient care currently provided at Wilford Hall Medical Center will be consolidated at BAMC. Throughout the construction and renovation work, all medical services are expected to be fully maintained. Upon completion of the project, BAMC will be re-designated as the north campus of the San Antonio Military Medical Center, or SAMMC North.

This effort will bring more than 760,000 square feet of new space to the BAMC complex. A multi-story addition will house a Level 1 trauma center, operating rooms, clinical and administrative space, and an extension of the Institute of Surgical Research's internationally acclaimed burn center. A 5,000-space parking garage will also be built, as well as a central energy plant. Approximately 288,000 square feet of the existing BAMC facilities will be renovated.

This effort will bring more than 760,000 square feet of new space to the BAMC complex.

The project will result in SAMMC becoming the largest inpatient facility in the Department of Defense and will provide virtually every medical and surgical subspecialty to its patients, which include war wounded, active duty, retirees and their Family members, according to BAMC officials.

SAMMC is a part of a larger BRAC impact in San Antonio. The San Antonio BRAC program is a construction and renovation initiative to provide the facilities that will accommodate the movement of military personnel and missions to the city required under the 2005 BRAC law. Construction is scheduled to take place across San Antonio at Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, and Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases through September 2011.

In all, the San Antonio BRAC Program will involve building and renovating as many as 78 major facilities that amount to more than 6 million square feet of space. The total cost of BRAC and related military construction projects is projected to exceed \$2 billion.

(Source: Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

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## News Briefs

### Dental Clinic closure

The Dental Activity will hold its annual Organization Day Aug. 8. The Rhoades Dental Clinic and the Hospital Dental Clinic (Oral Surgery Clinic) will be closed that day. All emergency and sick call patients should report to Budge Dental Clinic from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call the Budge Dental Clinic at 295-4113 or 295-4156.

### SFAC moves to new location

The Soldier and Family Assistance Center has moved from the basement of Brooke Army Medical Center to 3941 Okubu Barracks Road, off of Roger Brooke Road. For more information, call 916-7322.

### On-post housing available

Lincoln Military Housing has four-bedroom homes available for W1 to O-3, and two-bedroom homes for E-1 to E-6. Soldiers who would like to apply for housing need to bring their orders assigning them to Fort Sam Houston, latest end-of-month Leave and Earnings Statement, Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System enrollment documentation, and ID card to Building 367. For more information or availability, call LMH at 270-7638 or e-mail ftsamhoustonquestions@lpsi.com.

### Gate relocation

The Binz-Engleman Access Control Point will close the evening of Aug. 29 through the morning of Sept. 1 while contractors relocate the ACP to Schofield Road, near the fire station. The gate relocation will also affect access onto S-33 Road. People will no longer be able to access S-33 from Schofield Road starting Sept. 1. The gate relocation is a necessary measure to accommodate Base Realignment and Closure-related construction along Schofield Road.

### Parking lot closure

The parking lot west of the McWethy Clinic, Building 1279, will be closed in mid-August while contractors add a new parking lot around the present parking area. The increased parking area will be built north of the parking lot. The construction should take about 90 days, weather permitting.

### DLI offers free language materials

The Defense Language Institute has launched a new Web site that offers hundreds of language survival kits and other materials free of charge to deploying service members. The survival kits include pocket-size booklets with audio CDs in more than 30 languages, ranging in topics from public affairs, cordon and search, to medical terminology. Language materials can be viewed, downloaded and ordered at [www.dliflc.edu](http://www.dliflc.edu) under the Products tab. Users must register and receive a DLI Foreign Language Center account before placing an order.

# Taking care of Soldiers:

## Education expands options for wounded warriors

By Elaine Wilson

Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

Education System.

"ACES has a lot to offer Soldiers, particularly to Warriors in Transition," said Dias. "We have counselors, instructors and interactive computer programs all aimed at helping Soldiers and Family members succeed in their goals."

Sgt. James Ford's career imploded the moment an improvised explosive device exploded on a roadside in Afghanistan in October 2007.

Two out of the six people present were injured, including Ford. The Soldier sustained a right leg fracture, shattered heel and mild Traumatic Brain Injury.

The injuries left Ford unable to continue with the demanding physical requirements of a combat engineer, whose strenuous tasks include building roads and constructing bridges.

Ford, now an outpatient of Brooke Army Medical Center and on the mend, decided to turn to another career rather than opt out of the Army.

But, "If I'm staying in, I need to reclassify," said Ford, who is married with two children, ages 1 and 3.

Ford became one of the many Warriors in Transition who are seeking out career and educational options after life-altering injuries shifted their career path.

"I see a lot of former infantry Soldiers here. Most are interested in continuing some facet of their Army career and focus in an area of law enforcement," said Gabriele Dias, one of two Army Continuing Education System counselors dedicated to helping Warriors in Transition at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center. The SFAC, which is just up the road from BAMC, contains myriad resources for wounded warriors and their Families to include help with education, personnel issues, benefits and finance.

Ford's focus also was on law enforcement. But before he could reclassify into another career field, Ford decided to first open his options by boosting his Armed Forces Qualification Test scores. AFQT scores help determine a Soldier's eligibility to enter the Army, as well as qualify for certain careers.

Ford decided to hit the books, but not alone. He turned to Dias and the Fort Sam Houston Army Continuing

While each Soldier has a different goal, Dias said there are common themes. "Some are trying to stay in (the Army), while others are looking to make a transition and want to be more marketable," Dias said.

Dias said she spends a majority of her time working with Soldiers on college degree plans, serving as a liaison to universities and an advocate on behalf of the Soldiers.

"I want to make sure the college is providing the best possible service," Dias said. "I'm working to develop relationships with universities so I can offer students the easiest transitions back into the classroom."

Dias also helps Soldiers navigate GoArmyEd, which is the portal for Army Tuition Assistance, as well as more than 200 universities.

While Ford has long-term college goals, his short-term focus was on beefing up his AFQT math and verbal scores. Dias suggested he start by using the interactive computer programs at ACES.

Ford spent hours at the education center, focusing on the basics. And he didn't stop there. Combating mild TBI, which can cause short-term memory loss, Ford created flashcards with vocabulary words and mathematical formulas and practiced at home.

"He studied every night," said Ford's wife, Liz, who drove him daily to the education center. "He was very dedicated. I'm very proud of him."

The long nights proved worthwhile. Ford took the AFQT about a month ago and raised his score by 15 points.

"I couldn't believe I did it," he said.



Photo by Jeff Crawley

Sgt. James Ford visits the education center Tuesday to take advantage of the educational resources. Ford is one of the many Warriors in Transition who are exploring their educational and career options after war injuries.

"I even got a perfect score on one of the sections."

Ford now has a broader range of opportunities, to include one of his passions, law enforcement. He's also enrolled with the University of Maryland University College pursuing his associate degree in criminal justice.

Dias said Ford is an encouraging success story, one of many she's increasingly seeing among Warriors in Transition.

"It's a challenge for wounded warriors," Dias said. "Some may have a speech impediment that causes stress about performing speeches in class or reading out loud, or multiple appointments can cause a Soldier to fall behind. I try to work with the Soldiers, and the universities I work with have been very supportive if a Soldier needs to drop a class or skip a semester."

"But it's a challenge that pays off in the long run," she said. "Education opens doors for everyone."

See EDUCATION P8

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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5 AUG 2008



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

MCCS-A

MEMORANDUM FOR All US Army Medical Department Center and School Personnel

SUBJECT: Voting Message

1. I strongly encourage all to participate and cast your vote in the 2008 General Election. Voting is the essence of our democracy and one of our most fundamental rights. Our elected officials have important jobs and you have a voice in who is elected to do the job, if you vote. You can exercise your right to vote by completing the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) Standard Form (SF) 76 or complying with the ballot request procedures enacted by the state in which you vote. The FPCA SF 76, or other request, should be mailed or sent electronically. The Voting Assistance Officers (VAO) in your organization stand ready to assist you.

2. The 2008 Armed Forces Voters Week (AFVW), 31 August - 7 September 2008, marks the last safe week when military and overseas citizens can send in the FPCA SF 76 to register as an absentee voter with their Local Election Offices and to receive their absentee ballot in time to vote in the November election. Don't wait until the last minute to register or send in your absentee ballot.

BE SMART. DO YOUR PART. VOTE!

*Russell Czerw*  
RUSSELL CZERW  
Major General, DC  
Commanding

*Please let your  
voice be heard!  
VOTE!*

# Taking care of Soldiers:

## New GI Bill provides increased educational benefits

By Staff Sgt. Michael Carden  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The latest GI Bill considerably improves the opportunity for today's service members to obtain their education, a senior Defense Department official said.

President Bush signed the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 on June 30. The new law mirrors the tenets of the original GI Bill, which gave returning World War II veterans the opportunity to go to any school they wanted while receiving a living stipend, said Bob Clark, the Pentagon's assistant director of accessions policy.

"The original GI Bill was said to be one of the most significant social impacts of the 20th century," Clark said. "We believe the new bill is going to

have a similar impact."

The new GI Bill applies to individuals who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, and offers education benefits worth an average of \$80,000 – double the value of those in the previous program. It covers the full cost of tuition and books, which is paid directly to the school, and it provides a variable stipend for living expenses. It's also transferable to Family members of career service members.

Its only restriction is that payment amounts are limited to the most expensive in-state cost to attend a college or university in the state where veterans attend school, he said.

The variable stipend is based on the Defense Department's basic allowance for housing for an E-5, which averages about \$1,200 a

month, and \$1,000 a year will be paid directly to the service-member for books and supplies, he added.

Enrollment into the Post-9/11 GI Bill is free. Eligibility for the Montgomery GI Bill is based on service commitment and requires active-duty service members to pay a \$1,200 fee over the initial year of their enlistment.

The new bill requires that an individual serve at least 90 days on active duty after Sept. 10, 2001, and if discharged, be separated on honorable terms. Service members discharged due to a service-connected disability are eligible if they served 30 continuous days on active duty. Service members must serve 36 aggregated months to qualify for the full amount of benefits.

Service members are enti-

**"This new bill will allow our veterans to chase their dreams. It will allow them to go back and experience college like they deserve, much like their grandfathers did in World War II."**

**Bob Clark**

*The Pentagon's assistant director of accessions policy*

led to benefits of the new bill for up to 36 months and have up to 15 years from their last 30 days of continuous service to use their entitlements. But as successful as Defense Department officials anticipate the new bill to be, Clark suggested that new recruits still enroll in the Montgomery GI Bill.

The Montgomery GI Bill gives benefits for higher education as well as vocational training, apprenticeship programs and on-the-job training, he explained. The Post-9/11 GI Bill focuses solely on higher education and can only be used at institutions that offer at least an associate's degree, he said.

"We recommend that all new recruits think hard before turning down the Montgomery GI Bill, because they will limit their opportunities for additional education without it," he added.

Service members also are highly encouraged to use the Defense Department's tuition assistance program while on active duty, because the Post-9/11 GI Bill's full entitlements, such as the living stipend and book allowance, will not be available, Clark said.

"If you use the Post-9/11 GI Bill while on active duty, it will merely cover tuition or the difference of what tuition assistance will pay," he explained. "Another downside to that is each month you use (the new bill), you lose a month of your 36 months of eligibility."

So, if service members serve on active duty on or after Aug. 1, 2009, and meet the minimum time-in-service requirement, they will be eligible for the new GI Bill while also maintaining benefits from the Montgomery GI Bill, he said.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill also brings good news for officers and for service members who enlisted under the loan repayment program. Since eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill is based on time already served, more service members will be able to take advantage of its benefits, Clark added. Officers commissioned through one of the service academies or through ROTC and enlisted service members participating in the loan repayment program don't qualify for the Montgomery GI Bill, he said.

Those service members will be able to qualify if they finish their initial obligatory service. Commissioned officers must complete their initial five-year commitment if they attended a service academy or their four-year agreement if they were commissioned through college ROTC. Service members whose college loans were paid off by the Defense Department as a re-enlistment incentive must finish their initial commitment – whether it is three, four or five years – before they can apply, Clark said.

"Any amount of time an individual served after their obligated service counts for

**See GI BILL P7**

## Kernel Club pops its way to volunteer success

By Jen Rodriguez  
Brooke Army Medical Center

Six years ago, Brooke Army Medical Center volunteer Lou Cottrell faced a dilemma: how to support the BAMC Retiree Activities Group administrative needs and the BAMC Auxiliary team.

"BRAG relied on the BAMC Auxiliary to fund their administrative costs," said Jessica Veilleux, BAMC Volunteer Services chief.

BRAG, a dedicated volunteer organization of more than 210 volunteers serving patients, was a growing organization and the auxiliary no longer had enough funds to meet all of the group's expenses, said Veilleux.

Cottrell, the past BRAG

president, had an idea. He recruited and trained a special group of volunteers to sell bags of popcorn to Soldiers, Family members and retirees in the hospital's medical mall as a means of helping the auxiliary, which fulfills the wish lists of the clinics for medical items that couldn't otherwise be purchased.

In 2002, the Kernel Club was born.

Today, BRAG volunteers Cottrell, Clyde Laws, Alda Martinez, Linda Hauptli, Christen Jensen, Ruth Fritz, Max Balderas and Rosemarie Bonilla make up the Kernel Club, a group of dedicated volunteers with one mission: to serve others.

"They are dedicated to contributing to BAMC's environ-

ment of compassionate healing," said Veilleux.

Last year, the Kernel Club raised more than \$42,000 in popcorn sales, and over the past five years, they've raised more than \$250,000.

Donations from the sales are given to the BAMC Auxiliary team to purchase health-care items, such as clothes for evacuated warriors, coffeepots for waiting rooms, and educational and rehabilitation items not funded by Congress.

For their efforts, the Kernel Club has

received local recognition. In June, BAMC's Kernel Club was awarded the San Antonio United Way Community Volunteer Group of the Year Award (military category) during the 19th annual Volunteer of the Year Awards recognition dinner at the Henry



Photo by Jen Rodriguez

Brooke Army Medical Center volunteer Lou Cottrell of the Kernel Club scoops up freshly popped popcorn for Tonya Ellison and Naomi Squires Tuesday in the BAMC medical mall. One patron described the popcorn as gourmet because of the various seasonings offered to suit a variety of tastes.

B. Gonzalez Convention Center.

Veilleux said the United Way of San Antonio event honors the volunteers of the year who make "unique and meaningful contributions to our community through volunteer services."

The military group of the year competes with all other groups of the year nominations from San Antonio military installations, Veilleux said.

**See KERNEL CLUB P7**

# San Antonio Hiring Heroes Career Fair preparation

The Hiring Heroes Career Fair will be held Sept. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club.

The following workshops, seminars and job fair preparation classes are being offered to help people prepare for the upcoming Hiring Heroes Career Fair:

**Transition Assistance Program 2 1/2 day Workshop** – The comprehensive TAP class, courtesy of the Army Career and Alumni Program, teaches the entire spectrum of the job-search process — networking, resumes, interviewing and salary negotiation skills. The workshop will be held Aug. 13 to 15 and Aug. 27 to 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Building 2263, Room B-100, Stanley Road. For reservations, call ACAP at 221-1213. The workshop is open to all ACAP clients.

**Federal Job Application Development** – These classes are courtesy of the Office of Personnel Management. Learn tips on complet-

ing the federal application, where to find federal jobs, and go “live” inputting your application into USAJOBS. Sign up at the Warrior and Family Support Center on the second floor of the Powless Guest House. Classes will be held Aug. 14 and 28, and Sept. 4, 11 and 16 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Reservations are required.

The classes are reserved for Warriors in Transition and their Family members only.

**Job Fair Preparation Class** – This class is courtesy of the Army Career and Alumni Program and will offer tips on how to “work” a job fair, final list of employers and jobs offered, plus a resume review. The class will be held Sept. 3 from 9 to 11 a.m. in Building 2263, Room B-100. For reservations, call ACAP at 221-1213. The class is open to all ACAP clients.

**Small group/individual counseling** – The counseling is courtesy of the Army Career and Alumni Program and the Office of Personnel

Management. Counseling is available in the Soldier and Family Assistance Center on a first-come, walk-in basis Aug. 13, 20 and 27, and Sept. 3, 10 and 17. Civilian resume counseling with Tinisha Lomax will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and federal assistance with Kim Goffar from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Priority will be given to Warriors in Transition and their Family members. Similar assistance is available Aug. 8, 15 and 22, and Sept. 5 and 12 in the ACAP Center, Building 2263, Room B099 for any ACAP client. To reserve a workstation, call 221-1213.

**‘Last Chance Resume & Federal Job Application Workshop’** – The workshop is courtesy of experienced mentors. One-on-one help will be offered to build or fine-tune resumes and applications. Same-day classes will be presented on resumes, federal applications, how to work a job fair, reasonable accommodations, veteran’s preference, and dress for



success. The workshop will be held Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club on a walk-in basis.

People are urged to prepare their resume well before Sept. 23. Planning ahead, creating a resume, having it

reviewed by ACAP or OPM counselors, and attending a TAP workshop are all part of a comprehensive approach to future success after military service. The ability to present talents, skills and experience to prospective employers is a lifelong skill.

## GI BILL from P4

qualifying service under the new GI Bill,” he said.

Another facet unique to the Post-9/11 GI Bill is that it’s transferable to Family members. The feature gives the defense and service secretaries the authority to offer career service members the opportunity to transfer unused benefits to their Family. Though Defense Department officials still are working with

the services to hash out eligibility requirements, there are four prerequisites that are subject to adjustment or change, Clark said.

Currently transferability requirements include:  
— Qualifying service to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill;  
— Active-duty service in the armed forces on or after Aug. 1, 2009;  
— At least six years of service in the armed forces; and  
— Agreement to serve four

more years in the armed forces.

“We’re really excited about transferability,” Clark said. “That was one of the things about education and the GI Bill that’s come up the most often from the field and fleet.”

Individuals who may not qualify to transfer unused benefits because they leave

the service before the new bill’s effective date most likely still will qualify for the bill. As long as the separated service members meet the minimum qualifying time served, they can contact their local Veterans Affairs office and apply for the program. While payments are not retroactive, eligibility is, Clark said.

“This new bill will allow our veterans to chase their dreams,” Clark said. “It will allow them to go back and experience college like they deserve, much like their grandfathers did in World War II.”

For more information about the Post-9/11 GI Bill, visit a local Veterans Affairs Office or [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

## KERNEL CLUB from P5



Photo by Jen Rodriguez

Lou Cottrell, Max Balderas, Rosemarie Bonilla, Ruth Fritz, Alda Martinez and Christen Jensen are members of the Kernel Club. The Kernel Club sells bags of popcorn to Soldiers, Family members and retirees in the Brooke Army Medical Center medical mall as a means of helping the BAMC Auxiliary purchase health-related items.

In addition to the United Way award, the Kernel Club was named the BAMC Volunteer Group of the Year in April.

Veilleux said the BAMC Auxiliary now funds all of BRAG’s requests as well as the requests of more than 20

BAMC organizations.

Some of the recipients of Kernel Club donations include the Department of Surgery, Tumor Registry Service, Pediatric Clinic, Ambulatory Nursing, Tobacco Cessation Program and the Breast Cancer Management Program.

## Honorable service



Photos by Ed Dixon

(From left) Col. Kay Malone III, Col. David Clark, Lt. Col. Christopher Pate, Lt. Col. Jose Betancourt, Sgt. Maj. Kevin Barlow and Col. Reginald Howard are honored for their service during a retirement ceremony July 31 at the main post flagpole.



(From left) Staff Sgt. Frank Kawkins, Col. Kathleen Zurawel, Master Sgt. Ricky Evans, Sgt. 1st Class Jeannette Lincoln, 1st Sgt. Douglas Hitchens, Lt. Col. Deborah Gilbertson and Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Parkman are honored for their service during the end-of-the-month retirement ceremony.

### EDUCATION from P3



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Gabriele Dias, Army Continuing Education System education counselor, helps Warrior in Transition Staff Sgt. Juan Rodriguez navigate GoArmyEd, an online education resource for Soldiers, at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center.

Dias said she has learned to find rewards in the small steps that eventually lead to greater success for the Soldiers.

"I was working with one Soldier and he was having the most frustrating time registering and finding the classes he wanted," Dias said. "But he made it through and got all As in his classes. He came back

very happy. It's moments like those that make it all worthwhile."

For more information about ACES and its programs, call 221-1738 or stop by the education center on New Braunfels Road off Stanley Road. For Warriors in Transition, visit the SFAC at 3941 Okubu Barracks Road or call 916-7322.

# Warriors, staff team up for dodge ball tournament

By Capt. Matthew Humphrey  
Special to the News Leader

More than 100 Warriors in Transition and staff from the Center for the Intrepid and Warrior Transition Battalion joined forces to compete in the first annual WTB Dodge Ball Tournament July 30 at the Center for the Intrepid.

The event was part of the Warrior Transition Battalion's

quarterly sports and warrior-staff relationship-building program, said Battalion Commander Lt. Col. John Myers.

"The Warrior Transition Battalion is not really unlike other battalions in our Army. Athletic competition is a paramount piece of our Army traditions," Myers said. "It is important to focus on each warrior's abilities and encour-

age their participation in sporting and social events. Both warriors and staff truly enjoy the rivalry and a routine opportunity to have some fun. We are committed to building a 'sacred trust' with warriors and their Family members as they heal and transition."

The winner of the tournament was the undefeated "Purple Heart Cobras" team, a mixed team of CFI staff and



Zachery Arnold of the "Disco Knights" holds his own as he winds up for a throw against an opposing team.



"Purple Heart Cobras" Mike Gallardo, Eli Ramos, Heather Gardner, Andrew Looney, John Farwell, Mike Okikawa and Rico Roman are the undefeated champions of the first Warrior Transition Battalion Dodge Ball Tournament.



Courtesy photos

"Disco Knights" player Domingo Soto-Santana hurls the ball at an opponent at the Warrior Transition Battalion Dodge Ball Tournament July 30 at the Center for the Intrepid's outdoor sports court.

Warriors in Transition. The "Self Abuse" team, comprising the WTB command suite team, took second place, and the B Company team, "Spartans 1," took third place. Participants from the top three teams received certificates of appreciation and a medallion.

The Fort Sam Houston Morale, Welfare and Recreation, WTB Family

Readiness Group and the Warrior and Family Support Center helped sponsor the event. Fort Sam Houston MWR provided the battalion with T-shirts, awards, team jerseys, referees and time-keeping assistance. Additionally, the WFSC provided bottled water, and the WTB Family Readiness Group purchased the dodge balls used in the tournament.

"Fort Sam Houston MWR continues to provide superb support to our Warrior Transition Battalion. Their contributions and efforts always enhance these sporting events," Myers said. "We have a tremendous partnership with Fort Sam Houston and are extremely grateful for their continued focus on working with warriors and their Family members."

## Fish in water

(Right) Keneally Phelan, 11, placed eighth for her age group in the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation state championship swim meet, thanks in part to her swim coach, Ignacio Flores. The swim meet took place last weekend as part of the 2008 Games of Texas at Palo Alto College. Phelan was one of 32 Fort Sam Houston Marlins who made it to the competition. For more information about the swim team, call Flores at the Aquatic Center at 221-4887.



Photo by Emily Pratt



Courtesy photo

(Left) The Fort Sam Houston Marlins team had 32 team members make it to the state swim meet. The swim team is open to children 6 and up and practices from May to July each year.



### Health and Wellness Fair

MWR's Community Recreation Division is hosting a Health and Wellness Fair Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Come by for a cholesterol screening, diabetes screening and information on injury prevention, breast cancer awareness and much more. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 221-1234.

### 5K Fitness Run/Walk

A 5K Fitness Run/Walk will be held Aug. 30 at 9 a.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The event is free and open to the public. T-shirts are only \$10 at the event. For more information, call 221-1234.

### Post soccer team

Coaches and players are needed for the Fort Sam Houston soccer team. Tryouts will be held Aug. 18 through 23 at 6 p.m. at Leadership

### Men's basketball team

Coaches and players are needed for the Fort Sam Houston men's basketball team. Tryouts will be held Aug. 25 through 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Coaches should send resumes by Aug. 22 to Earl Young at 1212 Stanley Road, Ste. 20, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234, or drop off at the Brigade Gym. For more information, call 221-3185 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil.

Field. Coaches should send resumes by Aug. 15 to Earl Young at 1212 Stanley Road, Ste. 20, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234, or drop off at the Brigade Gym. For more information, call 221-3185 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil.



### Cash and Carry Sale

The next MWR Cash and Carry Sale will be held Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Building 4192, Bay A on Wilson Road. The event is conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. Cash and personal checks with picture ID are acceptable forms of payment. All property must be removed from the warehouse at the time of the sale. All sales are final. Property is sold as is, where is. The following used items are available for sale: used TV armoires, desk chairs, wall mirrors, wall mount headboards, VCRs, computer desk with hutch, recliners, lounge chair with ottoman, executive chairs, used golf clubs and bags, 7.2-cubic refrigerators, small replica furniture items from the post childcare center and more. There is no prior viewing of sale property. All property listed is to be issued to Non-Appropriated Fund Activities for con-

tinued use and may not be available on the sale dates. For more information, call 221-4449/4950.

### Recreation and Leisure

#### 2008 Military Long Drive

The MWR Long Drive Championship, presented by 7-Up, will be held Aug. 17 at 1 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. This one-day program is a qualified Long Drivers of America event and is open to active-duty service members, Reserve, National Guard, retirees and Family members 18 years and older with a valid military ID card. All competitors will compete in an open division. Women will be spotted 65 additional yards on their qualified drives. Prizes will be awarded for first through third place finishers. The top long drive competitors at each of the four geographical zones who record the longest drives will win an all-inclusive trip to compete in the military division at the RE/MAX Long Drive Championship in Mesquite, Nev. The participant who hits the longest qualified drive during the Military Division of the RE/MAX Long Drive championship will win \$10,000 and be featured on the ESPN coverage of the event. Competitors in the MWR Long Drive Championship will pay \$10 per try (six balls). Contestants can compete more than once pending time availability. For more information, call 222-9326 or visit [www.mwrpromotions.org](http://www.mwrpromotions.org).

#### National Bowling Week

Stop by the Bowling Center Aug. 23 to 30 for National Bowling Week. Check

See MWR P13

### MWR from P12

back for more details next week.

#### Aquatic Center

The Aquatic Center is open daily from 12 to 8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 221-4887 or 221-1234.

#### Bowling Leagues

Sign up now to participate in the fall bowling leagues at the Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Fall leagues begin in September. For more information on leagues and how to join, call 221-4740.

### Dining and Entertainment

#### Texas Hold 'Em Tournament

The next Texas Hold 'Em Tournament will be held Aug. 8 starting at 6 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. Registration for this one-day event is only \$20 and includes a special meal and unlimited soft drinks. Players must be at least 21 years old to participate. To reserve a seat or for more information, call the Sam Houston Club at 224-2721 or 226-1663.

#### MWR Ticket Office

Stop by the MWR Ticket Office for discounts on summer fun. The summer hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., closed Sunday and Monday. Come by for discount tickets on local and out of state locations. For more information, visit [www.fortsamhouston.mwr.com](http://www.fortsamhouston.mwr.com) or call 226-1663 or 224-2721.

#### Sam Houston Club

##### Karaoke Fridays

The Sam Houston Club will offer free karaoke every Friday at 7 p.m. Practice vocals or just have fun with friends to celebrate the end of another long work week. For more information, call 224-2721.

#### Harlequin Dinner Theatre 'A Month of Sundays'

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre presents the comedy "A Month of Sundays" by Bob Larbey through Aug. 9. Tickets are \$28 Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$31 Fridays and Saturdays. The doors open at 6:15 p.m. for salad bar and cocktails, with a buffet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; the show begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. For more information or reservations, call 222-9694.

### Child and Youth Services

#### CYS football, cheerleading registration

The Child and Youth Services Division of MWR will conduct registration for football and cheerleading through Aug. 8 at Central Registration. To enroll, patrons must have current immunizations and a sports physical that is valid the entire sport season. Activity fees are \$45 for flag football, \$60 for tackle football and \$50 for cheerleading. Enrollment is open to youth ages 5 to 14 (age as of Aug. 1). Central Registration is located in Building 2797 on Stanley Road; hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

#### Parent Advisory Council

A Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held Aug. 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center. PAC meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. Lunch will be provided. All CYS patrons are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to meet staff, attend parent workshops and learn about upcoming events. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

#### Central Registration

Central Registration is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Building 2797. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome; patrons are seen after 4 p.m. by appointment only. To register for Child and Youth Services programs, patrons must provide a current shot record for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, two local emergency designees with addresses and telephone numbers, a health assessment/sport physical within the last year that is valid for the entire season, required Social Security numbers from all Family members, sponsor's Leave and Earnings Statement, spouse's W2 form, and activity fee. For more information, call 221-1723 or 221-4871.

#### Volunteers for youth sports

Anyone interested in volunteering for youth sports can contact the Youth Sports Program at 221-5513 or 221-3502 or Central Registration at 221-1725 for more information on the registration process. Background checks are required.

### SKIES

The Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills offers instructional programs for youth in step and hip hop dance, hit-

ting and pitching, martial arts, tennis and piano. Upcoming fall classes include: cooking, drivers' education, gymnastics (tumbling), tutoring, football and basketball camps, and drum lessons. For more information,

call 221-4871 or 471-9548.

#### Helpful information

The Garrison School Liaison Services Office is available to help

See MWR P14

MWR from P13

make transitions for youth in school as trouble-free as possible. Visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com and check out the School Liaison Services page for a list of Web sites that contain helpful information for transitioning military Families. For more information, call 295-4806 or 221-2214.

Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood

Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood care options provide parents and guardians the same peace of mind as Family Child Care and the Child Development Center. Participants in the ACCYN program

must meet standards comparable to those required in on-post care, which includes ongoing training for various national accreditations and credentials. For more information on ACCYN, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723 or visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com.

Army Community Service

Single parenting

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will hold a single parenting class Aug. 13 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, Building 2650. This class pro-

vides skills uniquely designed for single parents. Topics include dating, children, separation and more. For more information, call 221-2055.

Family Readiness Group Key Caller Training

A Family Readiness Group Key Caller Training will be held Aug. 19 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. This training defines the responsibilities of the FRG Key Caller and provides information on performing this role. The registration deadline is Aug. 15 by 4 p.m. To register or for more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Pre-, Post-deployment Planning Training

A Pre- and Post-deployment Planning Training will be held Aug. 19 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. This training is designed to increase the spouse's ability to face deployments with resilience and strength, allowing easier separations and smoother reunions. The registration deadline is Aug. 15 by 4 p.m. To register or for more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Care Team Training

A Care Team Training will be held

Aug. 20 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The training will focus on the Care Team's responsibilities and provide guidance on how to handle issues volunteers will face such as dealing with Family's reactions. This training is recommended for casualty assistance officers, casualty notification officers and Battalion Care Team volunteers. The registration deadline is Aug. 18 by 4 p.m. To register or for more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Battlemind Training for Families

A Battlemind Training for Families will be held Aug. 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The training is part of the Battlemind Training System and focuses on helping Soldiers and Families prepare for deployment. The registration deadline is Aug. 25 by 4 p.m. To register or for more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

# Back-to-School



## Fort Sam Houston District prepares for successful year

I hope you are staying cool in this August heat and enjoying the last weeks of summer vacation as you begin to prepare for the upcoming school year.

All of us at the Fort Sam Houston ISD are also busy preparing for the start of a new school year, which begins Aug. 25.

So how does our school district, as a whole, prepare to help students learn?

We take time to reflect on student achievement. Not only do we analyze our students' scores on the state-mandated Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests, but we also review student discipline and attendance data as well as other achievement indicators. The data provides insight and focus as campus teams develop campus-specific goals, using our District Improvement Plan as a framework. This process is ongoing, and student progress is monitored throughout the year to keep students on track for continuous growth.

We recruit and hire the best-qualified staff to replace those who have retired or resigned for a variety of reasons: moving, job transfers, etc. We also provide staff development for our instructional staff. This summer our teachers have been trained on CScope, a comprehensive, customized, user-friendly curriculum management system built on the most current research-based practices in the field. Its primary focus is to impact instructional practices in the classroom to improve student performance.

We recognize that parent and community support is an essential ingredient of school success, so we plan numerous opportunities for involvement. Your help is critical, whether it be chaperoning a field trip, serving on a district-level com-



mittee, or working the Book Fair or football concession stand — think about which opportunities are the right fit for you, then sign up!

We're dedicated to using the best tools to help parents communicate with their students' teachers and other school staff. We listened to your feedback and sugges-

tions, and have just launched a new district Web site at www.fshisd.net. Not only will it have much more information than our previous Web site, but it also will provide parent access to their student's progress, teacher e-mails and course information.

We've also been busy this summer making sure our facilities are the best they can be. While the new Cole Middle School, Media Center, Cole Gymnasium, and Kiehle Technology Center will be dedicated in a special ceremony to be held Aug. 26, work on the complete renovation of Robert G. Cole High School has officially begun. Until that project is completed in approximately 18 to 24 months, high school students and administrators will be housed in portable buildings on the Cole Stadium parking lot. Construction on a new student/staff parking lot located across the street from the stadium will be finished prior to the start of school.

These are just some of the many ways we are preparing for the upcoming school year. We look forward to working with you and your student!

Sincerely,

Gail E. Siller  
Gail E. Siller, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

## Dates of interest for 2008-2009 school year

### Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Registration for new students is scheduled for Aug. 7 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Parents unable to register on this day may do so Monday through Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. with the exception of Aug. 19 when all offices will be closed for District Convocation.

Meet Your Teacher is scheduled for Aug. 22 from 3 to 4 p.m. This is an opportunity for students to find their classrooms and meet their teachers for the new school year.

Parent Orientation Day will be held Sept. 4 during the grade-level conference periods to give parents the opportunity to visit with all their children's teachers.

Early release days will occur at the elementary campus to allow for parent conferences and staff development. Students will be dismissed at 11 a.m. on the following days:

- Oct. 9 and 10
- Dec. 5
- Jan. 16
- Feb. 13
- May 15

School hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade may arrive as early as 7:15 a.m. Students in pre-kindergarten may arrive at 7:25 a.m. No students may arrive before 7:15 a.m. as no adults are on duty to supervise students.

### Robert G. Cole Middle School

Registration for new students will be con-

ducted with a counselor on an appointment basis. Appointments can be made by calling Jane Morin at 368-8734. Appointments are scheduled for 30 minutes.

### Middle school registration dates

- Aug. 12 — sixth grade
- Aug. 13 — seventh grade
- Aug. 14 — eighth grade
- Aug. 15 — all levels

### High school registration dates

- Aug. 12 — ninth grade
- Aug. 13 — 10th grade
- Aug. 14 — 11th grade
- Aug. 15 — 12th grade

New Kids Camp will be held Aug. 21 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the middle school building. This day camp is open to all newly registered middle school students, grades six to eight.

Cougar Camp is scheduled for Aug. 22 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the middle school building. Middle School Cougar Camp is open to all sixth grade students.

Middle School Orientation will be held Aug. 22 at 6 p.m. in the Cole gym. This orientation is open to all middle school students and their parents.

### Robert G. Cole High School

New Kids Camp for high school students will be held Aug. 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Moseley Gym. This day camp is open to all high school students new to Robert G. Cole High School.

Open House will be held Sept. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Cole Gym.

## School District Calendar

Aug. 18 to 22	Teacher Staff Development/ Prep Days	Jan. 19	Martin Luther King holiday
Aug. 25	First day of school	Jan. 20	Begin 3rd 9 weeks
Sept. 1	Labor Day holiday	Feb. 16	Presidents Day/student holiday/staff development
Oct. 24	End of 1st 9 weeks (44 days)	March 9 to 13	Spring Break
Oct. 27	Begin 2nd 9 weeks	March 27	End 3rd 9 weeks (43 days)
Nov. 10	Student holiday/staff development	March 30	Begin 4th 9 weeks
Nov. 11	Veterans Day holiday	April 10	Holiday
Nov. 24 and 25	Student holiday/staff development	April 24	Battle of Flowers holiday (bad weather make-up day)
Nov. 26 to 28	Thanksgiving holiday	May 25	Memorial Day holiday (bad weather make-up day)
Dec. 22 to 31	Winter Break	June 5	Last day of school/end of 4th 9 weeks (47 days)/second semester ends (90 days)
Jan. 1 and 2	Winter Break	June 6	Teacher prep day
Jan. 16	End of 2nd 9 weeks (43 days)/ first semester ends (87 days)		

# Fort Sam Houston ISD announces registration

The military installation of Fort Sam Houston, to include Camp Bullis, comprises the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District. Children of military personnel residing on the installation are eligible to attend pre-kindergarten through grade 12. The Fort Sam Houston Elementary School includes grades pre-kindergarten to five, Cole Middle School includes grades six to eight and Cole High School includes grades nine to 12.

Parents unable to register on these two dates may do so Monday through Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. The school office will be closed the morning of Aug. 19.

Parents are requested to bring:

- Immunization records;
- Copy of birth certificate;
- Social Security card for the student;
- Report card from previous school;
- Other school records from the previous school;
- Proof of residency; and
- Driver's license of the parent/guardian.

Parents with students already residing on the installation should bring a copy of their Lincoln Housing Lease Agreement to registration. Parents with students not currently living on the installation but with an anticipated move-

in date during the 2008-2009 school year should contact the Lincoln Housing Office prior to registration to request a permission form be faxed to the FSHISD District Office at 368-8741.

A change in state law allows all pre-kindergarten-aged children of active-duty military personnel to receive a public school education. Students must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2008. All children of active-duty military personnel who reside on the installation or will move into housing within the 2008-2009 school year are eligible to attend. District transportation is not provided for pre-kindergarten students.

Children must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2008, to enroll in kindergarten and 6 years old on or before Sept.

1, 2008, to enroll in first grade.

## Robert G. Cole Middle School, High School

To better serve parents and students, registration will be conducted with a counselor on an appointment basis. Appointments can be made by calling Jane Morin at 368-8734. Appointment times are 30 minutes.

Parents should bring the following documents to registration:

- Immunization records;
- Copy of birth certificate;
- Social Security card for the student;
- Last report card;
- School records from the last school attended;
- Proof of residency; and

• Driver's license of the parent or guardian.

Students who attended Fort Sam Houston Elementary School or Robert G. Cole in May 2008 have already been registered and need not re-register unless the pupil was withdrawn at the end of May by his parents or whose parents had not been assigned quarters as of Aug. 25, 2008.

### Middle School Registration Dates

- Aug. 12 – sixth grade
  - Aug. 13 – seventh grade
  - Aug. 14 – eighth grade
  - Aug. 15 – by appointment
- ### High School Registration Dates
- Aug. 12 – ninth grade
  - Aug. 13 – 10th grade
  - Aug. 14 – 11th grade
  - Aug. 15 – 12th grade

Parents who are not able to register their children on these dates may do so Aug. 25.

## Fort Sam Houston Independent School District School Board



Keith Toney  
President



Eustace Lewis  
Vice president



Deborah Seabron  
Secretary



Jane Crow  
Board member



Jeanne Warren  
Board member

# Special programs help students achieve full potential

Numerous special programs and services are available to help students achieve their potential.

Certified counselors serve the guidance and counseling needs of the students through classroom meetings, small group sessions and individual counseling. The goal of the school is to provide a school climate in which each child may live comfortably and confidently and function successfully.

A strong drug-free program is integrated through the health curriculum. The health curriculum addresses the negative effects of the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drugs, with special emphasis on illegal drugs. In

The goal of the school is to provide a school climate in which each child may live comfortably and confidently and function successfully.

social studies, emphasis is placed on personal, social and civic responsibilities. The counseling department also is an active participant in the education of students about this important subject.

Students who attend Fort Sam Houston Elementary School possess rich and varied experiences in that a wide range of instructional arrangements and programs are required to meet their specific learning needs. Services are provided for those identified as

at-risk, disabled, gifted and talented, limited English proficient, and those whose previous educational experiences are inconsistent with Texas requirements. A team approach ensures that all identified students receive needed services to improve their academic performance.

Gifted and talented programs are available for students in grades kindergarten through 12th who have demonstrated exceptional proclivity toward excellence

or the potential to excel in general intellectual ability. Students are referred for this program by their parents or teachers. Older students may nominate themselves for the program. Eligibility for the program is based on test results and rankings on a student profile matrix.

An exemplary fine arts program is provided for fourth and fifth grade students showing exceptional talent in the areas of art, music and theatre arts. Eligibility for the

programs is based on individual test results and rankings on a student profile matrix. Speech, fine arts classes and band are also available at the secondary campus.

Comprehensive special education services are available for eligible disabled students who require provision of special services in place of or in addition to instruction in the regular classrooms. Students served include those from birth to age 21 who have auditory or visual impairments, and those ages 3 to 21 who are physically disabled, mentally challenged, emotionally disturbed, learning disabled, autistic or multi-handicapped.

## KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### Fort Sam Houston Independent School District

- Administration Building ..... 368-8700
- Superintendent ..... 368-8701
- Associate Superintendent ..... 368-8703
- Business ..... 368-8705
- Food Service ..... 368-8745
- Operations (Maintenance / Transportation) ..... 368-8719
- PEIMS Coordinator ..... 368-8707
- Technology Infrastructure Coordinator ..... 368-8709
- Technology Instructional Coordinator ..... 368-8755
- Fax ..... 368-8741

### Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

- Principal ..... 368-8800
- Assistant Principal (grades 3-5) ..... 368-8805
- Assistant Principal (grades PK-2) ..... 368-8806
- Counselor (grades 3-5) ..... 368-8808
- Counselor (grades PK-2) ..... 368-8817
- Special Education Coordinator ..... 368-8818
- Fax ..... 368-8801

### Military Special Education Cooperative

- ..... 368-8771
- Fax ..... 368-8776

### Robert G. Cole Middle/High School

- Receptionist ..... 368-8730
- Principal ..... 368-8733
- Assistant Principal for the Middle School ..... 368-8742
- Assistant Principal for the High School ..... 368-8736
- Counselor's Office ..... 368-8734
- Fax ..... 368-8731

## Parents can access school district policies online

The policies governing the operation of Fort Sam Houston Independent School District are available online at [www.fshisd.net](http://www.fshisd.net) (site will be launched in about a week).

"We encourage our parents to visit our district home page as often as they can for the policies governing our school district, as well as for other pertinent information," said Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent.

Fort Sam Houston ISD's Policy Manual is divided into seven sections, each devoted to a separate area of school governance. The seven sections include the following: A - Basic District Foundations; B - Local District Governance; C -

"We encourage our parents to visit our district home page as often as they can for the policies governing our school district, as well as for other pertinent information."

*Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent*

Business and Support Services; D - Personnel; E - Instruction; F - Students; and G - Community.

Policies are labeled either legal or local. The legal policies track the language of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, federal and state statutes, State Board of Education rules, the Texas Administrative Code and other regulations.

Policies designated local are those that have been approved by the local Fort Sam Houston Board of Trustees and are deemed essential to effective district governance and management and particular to this district. Local policies that are preceded by a legal policy in the same code generally expand on, or qualify, the legally referenced provisions. Other local policies stand alone, portraying the

school board's stated intentions in areas not otherwise addressed by law.

Fort Sam Houston ISD uses the services of the Texas Association of School Boards to develop and maintain both legal and local policies. TASB is used by more than 90 percent of the school districts in Texas for policy services and staying current with federal and state law, case law, State Board of Education rules, and other legal authorities affecting the governance of Texas school districts.

"When reviewing the policies, parents will obtain a complete understanding if they review both legal and local sections," said Siller. "If they have questions, they can contact the campuses or district administration office."



## Positive Behavior Support improves learning environment

Fort Sam Houston ISD has adopted the Positive Behavior Support model that enhances the capacity of schools to educate all students by adopting a sustained, positive, preventative and instructional approach to schoolwide discipline and behavior management.

The Positive Behavior Support approach focuses on giving priority to teaching and encouraging positive schoolwide behavior expectations.

The Positive Behavior Support project creates an environment where:

- Students and staff members are

- physically and emotionally safe, socially civil and academically productive;
- Classes are welcoming and inviting to all students;
- Students are taught the skills they need;
- Students and staff members are excited and take pride in doing difficult, but important work;
- Students and staff members support the progress of others;
- Students and staff members are filled with a sense of accomplishment; and

- All people are motivated, engaged in meaningful learning tasks and experiencing growth.

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School guidelines for success are: Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be Respectful. Expectations for schoolwide areas and the classroom are taught the first two weeks of the school year, ensuring a positive, successful beginning for the school year. New students learn these expectations when enrolling throughout the year.

Cole Middle School and High School

will be taught "ROAPS" this school year, learning the importance of Respect, being On time, being Accountable for their actions, being Prepared for class and making Safe decisions while in school.

Fifth grade teacher Brenna Howell said she is excited that the positive, research-based practices will improve the learning environment for students and teachers.

"This new approach meets the needs of students and increases time for instruction," Howell said.

# Comprehensive curriculum offered

Fort Sam Houston schools provide comprehensive, well-balanced learning experiences for students that are developmentally appropriate. The state-mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills form the core of the curriculum; however, additional enrichment activities are included to extend learning opportunities.

All students are assigned to homerooms with class sizes limited in grades kindergarten to four to an enrollment of 22 students. The fifth grade is completely departmentalized. Specialists in music, art, drama and physical education provide instruction to all students on a regularly scheduled basis. Individual teachers schedule library time and computer classes for their students' use.

Students in sixth through 12th grade rotate to classes, fulfilling grade-level course requirements, preparing them to meet rigorous graduation requirements. Parents with questions regarding their student's course schedule should contact their school counselor.

The pre-kindergarten program is available for children of active-duty military personnel who are 4 years old by Sept. 1. The goal of this full-day program is to provide intensive language development within the context of a balanced curriculum.

The school libraries are fully equipped resource and media centers, which serve the entire faculty, staff and student body, and are considered teaching stations. Both

the elementary and secondary libraries provide a balanced collection of print and non-print media. In addition to this collection, there is a rich array of support services. The librarians also serve as the campus contact person for the distribution of materials from the regional education service center and the local educational public broadcast TV station.

In grades pre-k to 12, computers are an integral part of the school curriculum, providing students with experiences in drill and practice, tutorial, problem solving, research and simulation. Students use computer labs to learn word processing, data filing and graphic utilities. Opportunities include use of software correlated to the curriculum.



## 2008 State Assessment Calendar

<b>Oct. 21 to 24</b> TAKS Exit Level English Language Arts, math, science, social studies retests	TAKS Exit Level math TAKS Grades 3, 5 and 8 reading retest TAKS Exit Level math retest
<b>March 3</b> TAKS grade 3, 5, 8 and 9 reading TAKS grade 4 and 7 writing TAKS grade 10 and Exit Level ELA TAKS Exit Level ELA retest	<b>April 30</b> TAKS grades 5, 8, 10 and Exit Level science TAKS grade 9 math TAKS Exit Level science retest
<b>March 4</b> TAKS Exit Level math retest	<b>May 1</b> TAKS LAT grades 5, 8 and 10 science TAKS grades 8 and 10 and Exit Level social studies TAKS Exit Level social studies retest
<b>March 5</b> TAKS Exit Level science retest	<b>May 19</b> TAKS grades 5 and 8 math retest
<b>March 6</b> TAKS Exit Level social studies retest	<b>June 30</b> TAKS grades 5 and 8 math retest
<b>April 6</b> TAKS LAT grades 5 and 8 math	<b>July 1</b> TAKS grades 3, 5, and 8 reading retest
<b>April 7</b> TAKS grades 5 and 8 math	<b>July 14</b> TAKS Exit Level ELA retest
<b>April 27</b> TAKS LAT grades 3, 4, 6, 7 and 10 math	<b>July 15</b> TAKS Exit Level math retest
<b>April 28</b> TAKS LAT grades 3 to 8 reading TAKS LAT grade 10 ELA TAKS grades 3, 4, 6, 7 and 10 math TAKS Exit Level ELA retest	<b>July 16</b> TAKS Exit Level science retest
<b>April 29</b> TAKS grades 4, 6 and 7 reading	<b>July 17</b> TAKS Exit Level social studies retest

# Parents invited to visit new district Web site

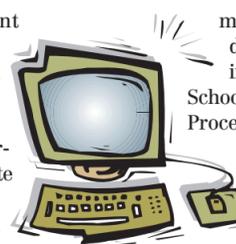
Fort Sam Houston Independent School District has a new Web site designed to provide parents with up-to-date information about the district and its schools.

The Web site should be fully operational in about a week. The new site can be found at [www.fshisd.net](http://www.fshisd.net). People who previously bookmarked the old address at [www.fort-sam-houston.k12.tx.us](http://www.fort-sam-houston.k12.tx.us) will need to update their bookmarks.

The new Web site uses eChalk, a national leader in school Web site development, and allows teachers and administrators to collaboratively create a dynamic and up-to-date site.

During the summer months, FSHISD faculty participated in staff development to help assure a smooth transition to the new Web site. They will be hard at work over the next few weeks getting their class sites up and ready.

Each campus and the district office will



maintain a site. The sites use a pull-down menu system and are divided into main areas such as About Our School; Staff Directory; Offices; Policies & Procedures; School Resources; and Clubs & Organizations. Users are able to "subscribe" to the calendar feature on each site and events can be downloaded to their PDAs or cell phones.

A new feature at the district site is "PCS Central" billed as the "one-stop Web site for military Families on the move." It provides valuable information for Families transitioning into the district. Also new is the ability to have the Web pages translated into another language. This feature is located at the bottom right-hand corner of the district home page.

The new site is intended to be a joint community effort, so feedback and suggestions are encouraged. An e-mail link to the Web master is available on the new site.

# Immunization requirements Students need immunizations to attend school

State law and district policy require medically validated up-to-date records of immunizations to be on file for all students. Immunization records must be as complete as medically feasible. To claim exclusions for medical reasons or reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, please contact the school nurse.

### 3 Years Old

- 4 Doses – DTP, DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)
- 3 Doses – IPV (Polio)
- 1 Dose – MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) on or after 1st birthday
- 1 Dose – Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b) on or after 15 months or primary series with booster on or after 1st birthday
- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B
- 1 Dose – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)
- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B
- 2 Doses – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)
- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness (see additional information)
- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B
- 1 Dose – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)

- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness
- PCV7 (Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine) – Visit [http://www.neisd.com/health/documents/PCV7\\_chart.pdf](http://www.neisd.com/health/documents/PCV7_chart.pdf) for more information.

### 4 Years Old

- 5 Doses – DTP, DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) 5th dose on or

after 4th birthday or 4 doses with 4th dose on or after 4th birthday

- 4 Doses – IPV (Polio) 4th dose on or after 4th birthday or 3 doses with 3rd dose on or after 4th birthday

- 1 Dose – MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) on or after 1st birthday

- 1 Dose – Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b) on or after 15 months OR primary series with booster on or after 1st birthday

- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B

- 2 Doses – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)

- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness (see additional information)

- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B

- 1 Dose – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)

- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness (see additional information)

- PCV7 (Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine) – Visit [http://www.neisd.com/health/documents/PCV7\\_chart.pdf](http://www.neisd.com/health/documents/PCV7_chart.pdf) for more information.

### Kindergarten, First Grade

- 5 Doses – DTP, DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) 5th dose on or after 4th birthday OR 4 doses with 4th dose on or after 4th birthday

- 4 doses who are age 7 or older:

- 3 doses – Tetanus-Diphtheria containing vaccine, one of which must have been received on or after the 4th birthday

- 1 Dose – Mumps on or after 1st birthday

- 1 Dose – Rubella on or after 1st birthday

- Pertussis vaccine is not required

- 4 Doses – IPV (Polio) 4th dose on or after 4th birthday or 3 doses with 3rd dose on or after 4th birthday

- 2 Doses – Measles (1st dose on or after 1st birthday)

- 1 Dose – Mumps on or after 1st birthday

- 1 Dose – Rubella on or after 1st birthday

- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B

- 2 Doses – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)

- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness (see additional information)

- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B

- 2 Doses – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)

- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness (see additional information)

### Second Grade, Third Grade (If under 7 years old, see first grade.)

- 3 Doses – DTP, DTaP, DT, Td (Diphtheria, Tetanus; Pertussis is not required) 1 dose must be on or after the 4th birthday

- 4 Doses – IPV (Polio) 4th dose on or after 4th birthday or 3 doses with 3rd dose on or after 4th birthday

- 2 Doses – Measles (1st dose on or after 1st birthday)

- 1 Dose – Mumps on or after 1st birthday

- 1 Dose – Rubella on or after 1st birthday



- 3 Doses – Hepatitis B

- 2 Doses – Hepatitis A (1st dose recommended on or after 1st birthday; required on or after 2nd birthday; minimum spacing between doses is 6 months)

- 1 Dose – Varicella (chickenpox) on or after 1st birthday or statement/date of chickenpox illness (see additional information)

### Fourth Grade to 12th Grade

- 3 Doses – DTP, DTaP, DT, Td (Diphtheria, Tetanus; Pertussis is not required) 1 dose must be on or after the 4th birthday

- 1 dose – Td (Tetanus) required every 10 years after last dose of DPT/DTaP/DT/Td

- 4 Doses – IPV (Polio) 4th dose on or

- 1 dose – Td (Tetanus) required every 10 years after last dose of DPT/DTaP/DT/Td

- 4 Doses – IPV (Polio) 4th dose on or

- 1 dose – Td (Tetanus) required every 10 years after last dose of DPT/DTaP/DT/Td

See IMMUNIZATIONS P27

# Attendance requirements Non-discrimination notices for FSHISD

Attending school regularly and on time is crucial to a student's academic success. Student attendance is so important that it is mandated by state law, which requires students ages 6 to 18 to attend each school day for the entire period the program of instruction is provided at school. Students are also required to attend any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended-year program or tutorial session, unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

Once children are enrolled in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, they are required by state compulsory attendance law to attend school each day.

"Elementary students begin their day with morning announcements, a teachable moment for the students," said Tonya Hyde, elementary principal. "Students should be in their rooms, ready to listen and participate in the program."

School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent without permission from school will be considered in violation of the law and subject to disciplinary action.

Report cards will note a student's attendance history. Parents with questions should immediately contact the school office to ensure that accurate information is maintained on official school documents.

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District offers career and technical education programs in the Human Services Career Cluster; the Marketing, Sales and Service Career Cluster; and the Hospitality and Tourism Career Cluster.

Admission to these programs is open to all FSHISD-enrolled secondary students and is based on student interest.

It is the policy of FSHISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

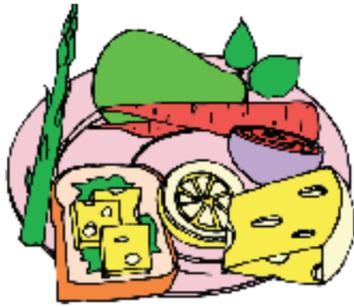
Additionally, it is the policy of

FSHISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

FSHISD takes steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Jayne Hatton, associate superintendent, Title IX coordinator, and Section 504 coordinator, at FSHISD, 1902 Winans Road; or call 368-8703.

# Fort Sam ISD participates in school lunch program



The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District has announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children whose parents qualify under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and non-profit private schools and residential childcare institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day. The program was established under the National School Lunch Act, signed by President Harry Truman in 1946.

Household size and income criteria will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits (see chart at right). Children from households whose income is at or below the eligibility levels are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court may also be eligible for benefits regardless of the

income of the household with whom they reside. Eligibility for the foster child is based on the child's income.

Application forms will be distributed to all households, along with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for their children. Applications also are available at the office of each school. To apply for free and reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-priced benefits, households receiving food stamps or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families only have to list their child's name and food stamp or TANF case number. An adult household member must sign the application.

Households that do not list a food stamp or TANF case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate that a Social

Security number is not available by writing the word "NONE," "No Number," or some indication that the person does not have a Social Security number. The application must be signed by an adult household member.

The housing allowance for military personnel living in privatized housing will be permanently excluded from income when determining household eligibility for free and reduced-price meals. Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the food service director will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent, FSHISD, 1902 Winans Road, San Antonio, TX 78234; or call 368-8711.

Household eligibility for free and reduced-price meals shall remain in effect beginning on the date of eligibility for the current school year and ending on a date during the subsequent school year. Also, if a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the eligibility levels. For additional information, district residents can

write the Food Service Department at 1902 Winans Road, San Antonio, TX 78234; or call 368-8745.

Meals are served every school day. Students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade can prepay or purchase their meals at the cost of \$1.75 per lunch and 80 cents per breakfast. Students in grades six to 12 can prepay or purchase their meal at the cost of \$2 per lunch and 90 cents for breakfast.

The following is the newly revised chart of federal annual income qualifying guidelines for the free and reduced-price meal program:

### Family Eligibility Income Chart

Household Size	Annual Free	Annual Reduced
1	\$13,520	\$19,240
2	\$18,200	\$25,900
3	\$22,880	\$32,560
4	\$27,560	\$39,220
5	\$32,240	\$45,880
6	\$36,920	\$52,540
7	\$41,600	\$59,200
8	\$46,280	\$65,860
9	\$50,960	\$72,520
10	\$55,640	\$79,180
11	\$60,320	\$85,840
12	\$65,000	\$92,500

For each additional family member add:  
+\$4,680      +\$6,660

### FSHISD increases communication with parents

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District will use a new mass phone and e-mail notification system to help the district and campuses deliver important information in a timely manner.

Using the new system, parents will receive phone and e-mail messages periodically about important events at school to include notices of early-release days, special events, award ceremonies, holidays and school closings.

Phone numbers and e-mail addresses provided by parents will be used for this communication system. As a result, it is imperative that parents provide current phone numbers and valid e-mail addresses to their child's school office.

## Agendas teach organization skills

Education studies indicate that good study habits and organizational skills help children succeed in school. Parents can assist by keeping close communication with the school and establishing a routine that encourages students to keep up with their schoolwork.

District schools strive to teach organizational skills that will last a lifetime. Students in first through 12th grade will be provided a daily planner, an "agenda," for the 2008-2009 school year. Students in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten are provided daily take-home folders.

Agendas and take-home folders provide parents with current information about home-

work, class projects, and general school news or events. They also provide a means for teachers and parents to communicate in writing on a regular basis.

"Parents play a key role in the successful use of the agendas for elementary school children," said elementary principal Tonya Hyde. "A powerful message is sent to the students when parents review and sign agendas daily. Additionally, parents model important organization skills through the use of their own calendars or daily planners."

Students will receive an agenda the first week of school.

# Students should 'dress for success'

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District prides itself on high academic and behavioral expectations. The district believes that school performance and future success are enhanced by appropriate dress and good grooming.

"Parents are strongly encouraged to work closely with the school to enforce moderate hairstyles and high standards of dress for their students," said Isabell Clayton, principal, Cole Middle and High School. "Parents will be serving the welfare of our students and helping us as educators by emphasizing standards of neatness, cleanliness, safety, and decency in dress and grooming."

The Dress Code is in effect for students while attending school functions or school-sponsored activities on or off school property.

The following rules are to be followed:

- Hair must be neat and clean. Unconventional hairstyles, spiked hair or extreme hairstyles that are considered to be distracting or disruptive to the educational environment are prohibited. Students may wear natural

hair colors only.

- Halter tops, exposed midriffs, strapless or low-cut tops, exposed backs, spaghetti straps, see-through clothing, tank shirts and sleeveless athletic shirts are not permitted. Shirts and blouses must extend below the waistband, but cannot extend beyond the student's fingertips when the student is standing. Shoulder straps on clothing must be worn on the shoulder. Underwear shall not be visible or exposed.

- Clothing with inappropriate advertising or statements that are offensive or inflammatory (alcoholic beverage, sex, tobacco, drugs, gang, satanic, promoting violence, lewd, vulgar, obscene, disrespectful, etc.) is prohibited at the discretion of the campus administration.

- Appropriate footwear is required. Footwear that has toes or soles reinforced with steel, hard plastic or similar materials is prohibited. Footwear with wheels is prohibited.

- Shorts will be permitted provided that the shorts are neatly hemmed and conservative and modest in appearance and must extend beyond the student's fingertips when the student is standing or as determined appropriate by an administrator. Oversized athletic shorts are prohibited. Bicycle shorts, gym shorts and basketball shorts are prohibited for students in grades six to 12. Form-fitting and skin-tight shorts, pants, or body stockings of spandex worn alone, or other similar materials worn alone, are prohibited.

- Pants and shorts shall be worn securely at the waist. Sagging is prohibited. Excessively worn, torn, frayed, oversized or long clothing is not permitted. Underwear shall not be visible or exposed. Pants or shorts held up by drawstrings or elastic are pro-



Photos by Elaine Wilson

Emma Long helps her grandchildren, 9-year-old Christina (left) and 8-year-old Jacey, pick out belts for their new school clothes Monday at the Post Exchange.

hibited for students in grades six to 12. Warm-up suits, sweat suits or wind pants except during physical education classes are prohibited in grades six to 12.

- Dresses, skirts, skorts and split-skirts will be permitted provided that they are neatly hemmed, conservative, and modest in appearance and must extend beyond the student's fingertips when the student is standing or as determined appropriate by an administrator. Excessively high slits in skirts will not be permitted.

- Body-piercing ornaments and other similar ornaments will be worn on the ear only.

- Visible tattoos must be covered.

- Hats, caps or other head apparel ("do rags," bandanas) are not permitted with the exception of Junior ROTC, physical education classes with permission of the teacher, or those that meet medical needs of students. Hoods on hooded sweatshirts, shirts and jackets may not be worn during instructional time or while in the building.

- Any apparel or attire that is considered to be distracting or disruptive to the educational environment — pajamas, lounging undershirts, pajama-style clothing, temporary or permanent cosmetics, ornamental dental applies, "grills," house shoes, shower shoes, hair curlers, sunglasses, spikes or chains of any type considered a safety concern — is prohibited.

While it is inevitable that there will be differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress, grooming or determining whether or not a student's attire is disruptive or distracting to the educational environment of the school, the final determination will be made by the campus administration. Students who choose to violate the dress and grooming code will be sent to an administrator for clarification or disciplinary action. Parents will be contacted and requested to bring a change of clothes so that the student will be in compliance with the dress code. Repeated violations of the dress code will be construed as insubordination and further disciplinary consequences will be incurred by the student.

Because fads in dress and grooming are subject to sudden, and sometimes radical change, campus administrators reserve the right to rule on dress and grooming matters that involve decency, cleanliness, safety, bizarre, disruptive or extreme modes of dress for school. Any exceptions will require approval and will be for a specific purpose or reason. This applies to school activities during or after instructional time, and either on or off campus.

The principal, in cooperation with club sponsors, coaches or other persons in charge of a school organization, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in extracurricular activities.



Barbara Bartlett enjoys a day of school clothes shopping with her grandchildren, 6-year-old Cera (right) and 8-year-old Bailey, Monday at the Post Exchange.

# Drop-off, pick-up procedures ensure student safety

Increases in enrollment, changes in transportation, and structural issues in the front parking lot of the school require procedures to ensure students arrive and leave school safely.

Almost all students riding a school bus will be dropped off and picked up at the front of the school with the exception of the special education buses. All students dropped off or picked up by a privately owned vehicle will do so at the back parking lot of the school.

Elementary staff has established some simple drop-off and pick-up guidelines for parents. Two lanes exist to drop off and pick up students. There is no parking in this

area. Adults should not leave their vehicle unattended. An adult will escort children to and from the car. Due to anticipated road closures, parents will no longer be allowed to park along Nursery Road and receive their child from the side gate. All parents are asked to remain in their vehicles and allow school personnel to assist their children in and out of vehicles.

## Drop off

Parents dropping children off at school will drive through one of two lanes in the designated area. Staff will be on hand to direct children to the appropriate gate. Pre-k children have a designated, color-

coded line where they will join their teacher. Pre-k teachers will check to see that every child is accounted for and remains in the designated safe zone.

## Pick up

If a pre-k child has a sibling in kindergarten through fifth grade, the staff will have all children stand in the designated pre-kindergarten safe zone to await parent arrival. All other kindergarten through fifth grade students will stand in designated lines. The staff will ask brothers and sisters or those riding with one adult to stand in the line together to expedite pick up.

Parents can help facilitate

the drop-off and pick-up process by asking children to join each other in the line on the ramp. It should take about one week to get everyone in the routine for these procedures.

## Securing the school grounds

The back gates will be kept locked during the school day. The gates will be unlocked for student arrival and dismissal. Gates will be unlocked at 7:15 a.m.; the first bell rings at 7:45 a.m. This gate will be locked at 7:47 a.m. Students arriving after 7:47 a.m. are not expected to have sufficient time to get to class prior to

the tardy bell. Parents must use the front parking lot and escort their child to the office. Students arriving in home-room classes after 7:50 a.m. are considered tardy and must be signed in at the front office by their parent.

Students who have not been picked up immediately following the 3 p.m. dismissal will be taken to the front office. Parents picking up their child late must sign their child out in the school office. At all times throughout the day, parents must sign in and out in the front office. These procedures are in place for the safety of children. Parents are not allowed to routinely pick students up before the 3 p.m. school dismissal.

## Background checks for school volunteers

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District is very fortunate to have active and supportive parents and community volunteers.

"Volunteers are essential to the operation of our schools," said Tonya Hyde, elementary principal. "Our volunteers represent the character of our community, often serving as chaperones on field trips or supporting other school events."

Background checks, common in schools, churches and summer camps, are conducted in the spirit of ensuring student safety. Those who would like to volunteer at FSH schools should obtain a criminal history form from any school office or on the district's Web site at [www.fshisd.net](http://www.fshisd.net). Completed forms should be turned in to the appropriate school office. Once a volunteer is approved, the appropriate school will be notified.

will also provide updates on the need for school closings or delays.

Both the district and campuses have a crisis management plan in place in addition to emergency kits in selected locations in each building. The district's emergency plans have been filed with the installations' Contingency Plans Office and physical security inspections and assessments of both campuses have been conducted. Staff members have been trained on the required emergency guidelines to follow and are familiar with lockdown and evacuation procedures.

In the event of an emergency, students will not be released to parents or transported home until the Fort Sam Houston Police and district officials have determined that it is safe to do so. Information will be provided to the local media to inform and communicate with parents and the community.

When Fort Sam Houston is placed on Force Protection Condition Delta, the Emergency Operations Center and the Fort Sam Houston Police will notify the school district. According to garrison officials, if this occurs during the work week, the schools will remain in session for the remainder of the day. Classes will be cancelled the next school or work day until FPCON Charlie or a lower level is mandated. Non-key and non-essential, on-post Soldiers will be required to tend to their children in quarters.

# Fort Sam Houston ISD continues its focus on safety

Student safety on campus and at school-related events is a high priority of the district.

Students are taught emergency procedures and regularly conduct fire, Shelter in Place and lockdown drills. When the alarm is sounded, students are able to follow the direction of teachers or others in charge.

## Fire

In the event that a fire occurs on campus, all students are evacuated from the building until an "all clear" is issued. Once it is deemed safe to reenter the building, students return to their regular activities.

## Shelter in Place

Shelter in Place means that all windows and doors are locked. A campus would activate Shelter in Place procedures if, for example, there was an environmental concern that may put the campus at risk to chemical exposure. For the safety and security of all students and employees, no one is allowed to enter or leave a building that has activated Shelter in Place procedures. Once the "all clear" is given, students and teachers return to their regular activities.

## Lockdown

This procedure is activated when, for

example, an intruder invades a campus. If Lockdown procedures are activated, all doors, windows, classrooms and administrative offices are locked. Students and staff members remain in their locked classrooms and offices until the "all clear" is given. Under Lockdown procedures, no one is allowed to enter or leave the building.

## Inclement weather

The safety of students and staff is the school district's main consideration when making a decision to close Fort Sam Houston schools or to delay the start of classes due to inclement weather.

"We work closely with installation officials and other school districts regarding their closure plans. Sometimes we are faced with the situation that students who live on the installation can safely reach school, but the weather conditions prevent our faculty or staff from being able to commute to work," said Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent of schools.

If schools are closed due to severe weather, the announcement of the closing will be made on local television and radio stations. The superintendent releases this information to the stations early enough in the morning to alert parents of the school closing prior to children leaving home for school. The district's phone notification system and the Web site — [www.fshisd.net](http://www.fshisd.net) —

# Bus service for Fort Sam Houston students



form of tobacco. Upon leaving the bus, wait for the driver's signal before crossing in front of the bus.

Bus drivers are authorized to assign seats when they feel it necessary to ensure student safety and order. When a student, by undisciplined behavior, contributes to the problem of safe transportation of others, the following procedures for corrective action will be enforced:

**First and second offense:** The school bus driver will advise the student, record the infraction, and report the student and incident to the campus assistant principal. Parents will be contacted.

**Third offense:** Bus-riding privileges will be suspended for one week.

**Fourth Offense:** Bus-riding privileges will be suspended for two weeks.

**Fifth Offense:** Bus-riding privileges will be suspended for the remainder of the school year. A discipline hearing with the campus principal will be held to determine if further disciplinary consequences are warranted.

Any severe infraction of safety rules that endanger life or property will be immediately reported to the campus assistant principal who may remove the student from privileges immediately. Any student causing severe infractions who cannot be controlled by the bus driver may be turned over to the Fort Sam Houston Police after notifying Fort Sam Houston ISD transportation.

For more information, call 368-8720.



## Fort Sam Houston ISD Bus Schedule

Area Stops	Route # A.M. & P.M.	Elementary K - 5	Middle School 6 - 8	High School 9 - 12
Forbush Road and Kimbro Circle	1, 2, 3	7:15 a.m.	Students	Students
Forbush Road between Farr Circle and Meeks Circle		7:17 a.m.	walk	walk
McMurray Road and Decker Circle		7:18 a.m.	to	to
McMurray and Buckner Court		7:20 a.m.	and	and
McMurray and Frazier Road		7:21 a.m.	from	from
McMurray and Johnston Circle		7:23 a.m.	school	school
McMurray and Rodrigues Circle		7:24 a.m.		
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:30 a.m.		
Chaffee and Taylor	4	7:18 a.m.	7:38 a.m.	7:43 a.m.
Chaffee Shelter # 2522		7:19 a.m.	7:37 a.m.	7:42 a.m.
Chaffee (Quarters 854)		7:20 a.m.	7:35 a.m.	7:39 a.m.
Chaffee Shelter # 1221		7:21 a.m.	7:34 a.m.	7:37 a.m.
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:27 a.m.	7:51 a.m.	8 a.m.
Marvin R. Wood 2720	5	7:22 a.m.	7:40 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Marvin R. Wood 2870		7:24 a.m.	7:41 a.m.	7:46 a.m.
Marvin R. Wood (Quarters 3071)		7:26 a.m.	7:42 a.m.	7:48 a.m.
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:30 a.m.	7:51 a.m.	8 a.m.
Garden Avenue and Birkhead Drive	6	7:14 a.m.	7:30 a.m.	7:35 a.m.
Garden Avenue and Playground 3222		7:16 a.m.	7:33 a.m.	7:36 a.m.
Ingram Path and Walter T. Bahl		7:17 a.m.	7:34 a.m.	7:37 a.m.
Walter T. Bahl and Birkhead Drive		7:19 a.m.	7:37 a.m.	7:38 a.m.
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:24 a.m.	7:48 a.m.	7:53 a.m.
Patch Road and Foullois Pass	7	7:19 a.m.	7:30 a.m.	7:35 a.m.
Patch Road and Birkhead Drive		7:20 a.m.	7:31 a.m.	7:37 a.m.
Forage Avenue and Birkhead Drive		7:21 a.m.	7:32 a.m.	7:38 a.m.
Forage Avenue and Foullois Pass		7:23 a.m.	7:34 a.m.	7:39 a.m.
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:28 a.m.	7:44 a.m.	7:49 a.m.
Guest House and Fisher House		<b>A.M. ONLY</b>		
FSH Campground		<b>Elementary</b>		
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:20 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	7:20 a.m.
Guest House and Fisher House		<b>Middle</b>		
FSH Campground		7:25 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	7:25 a.m.
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:30 a.m.	7:35 a.m.	7:40 a.m.
Infantry Post		<b>Cole</b>		
<b>Arrive at school</b>		<b>P.M. ONLY</b>	<b>ROUTE 8</b>	<b>ROUTE 8</b>
S16W and Graham	9	7:01 a.m.	7:35 a.m.	7:35 a.m.
Graham and New Braunfels		7:02 a.m.	7:36 a.m.	7:36 a.m.
Artillery Loop (Quarters 176)		7:04 a.m.	7:37 a.m.	7:37 a.m.
Artillery Post (Quarters 165)		7:05 a.m.	7:38 a.m.	7:38 a.m.
Artillery Post (Quarters 101)		7:06 a.m.	7:39 a.m.	7:39 a.m.
Artillery Post (Quarters 109)		7:07 a.m.	7:40 a.m.	7:40 a.m.
Artillery Post (Quarters 115)		7:08 a.m.	7:41 a.m.	7:41 a.m.
Staff Post Road and Stanley		7:09 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Staff Post Road (Quarters 13)		7:12 a.m.	7:46 a.m.	7:46 a.m.
Hancock Road (Quarters 2283)		7:16 a.m.		
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:30 a.m.	8:06 a.m.	8:11 a.m.
Gorgas Circle (Quarters 1016)	10	7:14 a.m.	7:43 a.m.	7:43 a.m.
Gorgas Circle (Quarters 1009)		7:15 a.m.	7:44 a.m.	7:44 a.m.
Graham and Worth		7:18 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Graham and Harney		7:19 a.m.	7:46 a.m.	7:46 a.m.
Graham and Schofield		7:20 a.m.	7:47 a.m.	7:47 a.m.
Graham and H. T. Allen (Shelter)		7:21 a.m.	7:48 a.m.	7:48 a.m.
<b>Arrive at school</b>		7:30 a.m.	8:08 a.m.	8:13 a.m.

Students need to be at their bus stop prior to the scheduled time.

Elementary school dismissal time is 3 p.m.

Middle school dismissal time is 3:50 p.m.

**NOTE:** Bus schedule subject to change



# Fort Sam Houston Elementary prepares to celebrate first day of school

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School faculty and staff view the first day of school as a celebration of exciting things to come. Teachers, para-educators, secretaries, support staff and administrators are busy planning so all students can enjoy successful experiences at school.

The first week of school is spent easing students' transition from home to school. Several steps are taken to ensure a successful first experience for all students. Elementary staff members greet the oncoming buses, ready to welcome all students with a wave and a smile. Young students and those new to the school also may be escorted to their class.

All entrances to the school are supervised so students receive a warm, friendly welcome. Students arriving by bus or escorted by parents may enter the school grounds through the front of the school. Students transported by personal vehicle enter through the back entrance bordering Nursery Road. For reasons of safety and security, students may not enter the grounds from Williams Road.

The school gates will be locked every day at 7:47 a.m. Visitors must check in at the front office. Ramps/wings are painted different colors to help young children locate their room.

Parents are encouraged to

enroll their children before the first day of school to ensure a smooth and successful beginning for their children. New students can register Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Make sure to check the school calendar for school holidays and information regarding early-release days. School will dismiss elementary students at 2:45 p.m. Aug. 26.

During the course of the first few days, students will take home important information for parents to review and in some cases return to the school. The Parent-Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use Policy will require parent signatures. Please read and

review these important documents carefully with children and return the paperwork by the date requested.

The majority of students will ride a bus to school. Students are not allowed to ride a bus other than the one to which they have been assigned. Younger students may not wait for older brothers or sisters to ride a later bus home. Pre-kindergarten students cannot ride a school bus to or from school.

Students should not arrive at school before 7:15 a.m. Students choosing to eat breakfast at school must be in the cafeteria no later than 7:30 am. The installation provides before- and after-school pro-

grams for children. Parents who need this service should call Central Registration at 221-1723.

Pre-k students will be issued nametags that should be worn everyday. Kindergarten students will be given name tags on the first day of school. Students are asked to wear their nametags at least the first two weeks of school. This will help faculty and staff keep a watchful eye on these young children.

The 2008-2009 school year will be an exciting year as both the school and the community continue to work together. Through our efforts, we can continue to provide a quality education for all students.



## Robert G. Cole Middle and High School

### Regular Bell Schedule

1st period	8:30 to 9:18 a.m.
2nd period	9:23 to 10:09 a.m.
3rd period	10:14 to 11 a.m.

### Sixth Grade

Lunch	11:05 to 11:35 a.m.
4th period	11:40 a.m. to 12:26 p.m.
5th period	12:31 to 1:17 p.m.

### Seventh and Eighth Grade

4th period	11:05 to 11:51 a.m.
Lunch	11:56 a.m. to 12:26 p.m.
5th period	12:31 to 1:17 p.m.

### High School

4th period	11:05 to 11:51 a.m.
5th period	11:56 a.m. to 12:42 p.m.
Lunch	12:47 to 1:17 p.m.
6th period	1:22 to 2:08 p.m.
7th period	2:13 to 2:59 p.m.
8th period	3:04 to 3:50 p.m.

# Robert G. Cole Middle School

## Sixth to Eighth Grade Suggested List of School Supplies for 2008-2009

### Sixth Grade

QTY	ITEM
4	spiral notebooks (70 pages each)
1	five subject notebook (wide rule, 200 sheets, eight-pocket, poly cover, heavy duty back by Exceed – available at Wal-Mart)
1	set of five individual dividers
2	pocket folders with brads
2	packages of wide-ruled, three-ring notebook paper
5	1 1/2 binders (one for each subject)
1	pencil pocket with binder holes
1	set of colored pencils
2	red pens
1	package of No. 2 pencils
1	scissors
2	glue sticks
1	ruler
1	pack of Pink Pearl erasers
2	packages of Expo markers (for white board work)
2	large boxes of Kleenex tissue

Optional item: Locker shelf

### Seventh Grade

QTY	ITEM
4	2-inch, three-ring binders
1	70-page spiral notebook (reading)
2	150-page, three-ring binder
2	three-subject spiral notebooks
1	homework pocket folder
5	packages of wide-ruled three-ring notebook paper
5	packages of tab dividers
1	zippered pencil/pen bag
1	package No. 2 pencils
2	packages blue or black ink pens
3	red grading pens
1	package colored pencils
1	package of dry erase markers (black)
1	package of three glue sticks
1	package transparent highlighters
1	ruler (centimeters/inches)
2	large boxes of Kleenex tissue

Optional item: Locker shelf

### Eighth Grade

#### Optional Items:

QTY	ITEM
4	2-inch, three-ring binders
1	150-page spiral notebook
1	tablet 1/4-inch graph paper
4	packages of wide-ruled three-ring notebook paper
2	packages of tab dividers
1	package of No. 2 pencils
2	packages blue or black ink pens
1	package red grading pens
1	package colored pencils (12-count)
1	package of dry erase markers (black)
2	packages of transparent highlighters
3	large boxes of Kleenex tissue

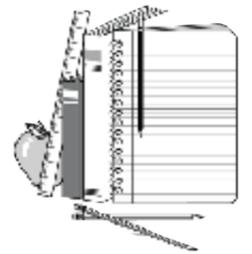
Optional Items:  
– Eighth grade students taking Algebra I are encouraged to purchase a TI83+ calculator. If stu-

Optional item: Locker shelf

Optional item: Locker shelf

dents cannot purchase a personal calculator, they will be issued one in class.  
– Locker shelf

- Please note some supplies will need to be replenished during the year.
- Elective classes may have additional minimum requirements determined by the nature of the elective.
- All middle school students will be issued a school locker and are allowed to carry a backpack (no wheels).



# Fort Sam Houston Elementary School 2008-2009 School Supply List



### Pre- kindergarten

- 1 box of tissues
- 1 school bag (large enough to hold papers and a library book – no bookbag with wheels)
- 4 Elmer's School glue (not "gel" or "no run" glue)
- 4 sticks Elmer's School glue
- 1 pocket folder (solid color)
- 1 box gallon-sized Ziploc bags – boys only
- 1 box sandwich or quart bags – girls only
- 1 box Crayola Classic markers
- 1 Kindermat
- 1 package construction paper (variety pack 9" x 12")
- 1 box Crayola water colors
- 1 box Crayons
- Refill of baby wipes (hand wipes)

### Kindergarten

- 4 glue sticks
- 1 Fiskar scissors – round tip
- 1 package construction paper (variety pack 9" x 12")
- 1 backpack (no wheels) – with student name on it (large enough to hold papers & library book)
- 1 Crayola Brand Water Color Paint set – eight colors
- 2 packages Crayola Classic markers (fat ones)
- 1 package paper bags – girls only
- 1 box Ziploc quart or gallon bags – boys only
- 8 boxes Crayola crayons – 16 count
- 2 boxes Kleenex – 200 count
- 1 package manila paper
- 2 bottles of Elmer's Glue
- 1 bottle of hand sanitizer
- 1 ream white copy paper
- No supply boxes please

### First Grade

- 2 spiral notebooks
- 1 bottle antibacterial hand sanitizer
- 24 #2 yellow pencils
- 2 Elmer's glue – 4 oz
- 1 Pink Pearl eraser
- 2 box Crayola Crayons – 24 count
- 1 package Crayola Classic Markers – wide tip
- 1 Fiskar scissor
- 3 box Kleenex – 200 count
- 3 folders with pockets and brads
- 1 composition book with sewn binding (not spiral)
- 1 package baby wipes
- 1 ream Ziploc sandwich bags – boys only
- 1 package Crayola water color paint set – 8 colors
- 1 package paper plates – girls only
- 1 package construction paper
- 1 ream white paper

### Second Grade

- 1 ream white copy paper
- 4 spiral notebooks – wide ruled (80 pages)
- 48 yellow #2 pencils - (No Eagle Brand )
- 2 boxes Crayola crayons – 24 count
- 1 plastic shoe box (no taller than 4 1/4")
- 1 Fiskar scissor – sharp point
- 2 boxes Kleenex – 200 count
- 2 white school glue – 8 oz
- 4 pocket folders with brads (assorted colors)
- 1 12-inch wooden ruler (centimeters and inches)
- 1 package assorted color 9 x 12 construction paper (no tablets)
- 2 packages Crayola brand markers
- 1 backpack
- 1 package Ziploc quart freezer bags – boys only
- 1 package baby wipes
- 2 packages manila paper 12 x 18
- 2 Pink Pearl erasers
- 1 package of wide-ruled notebook paper

- 2 bottles antibacterial sanitizer
- 1 Ziploc gallon size freezer bags – girls only
- 1 white T-shirt

### Third Grade

- 48 yellow #2 pencils - (no Eagle Brand )
- 2 box colored pencils – 12 count
- 1 12-inch ruler – inches and metric – wood only
- 2 boxes Crayola crayons – 24 count
- 2 Elmer's glue – 8 oz
- 2 boxes Kleenex – 200 count
- 2 packages of wide-spaced notebook paper
- 1 ream white copy paper (letter size)
- 1 Fiskar scissor – sharp point
- 10 pocket folders (2 blue, 2 green, 2 yellow, 2 orange, 2 red) no designs
- 6 spiral notebooks – 70-page, wide-ruled, no design
- 1 package assorted 9 x 12 construction paper (no tablet) – boys only
- 1 package 9 x 12 manila paper - girls only
- 2 Pink Pearl erasers
- 1 bottle hand sanitizer – girls only
- 3 red checking pens
- 1 box Crayola markers – classic wide tip
- 1 dozen eraser caps for pencils
- 1 Fiskar scissor – sharp point
- 1 gallon Ziploc bags – boys only
- 1 wet wipes – boys only
- No three ring binders or Trapper Keepers

### Fourth Grade

- 1 zipper pouch
- 12 #2 pencils
- 2 highlighters
- 2 red checking pens
- 1 box colored pencils – 12 count
- 1 3-inch, 3-ring binder
- 2 boxes Kleenex – 200 count
- 1 package of re-enforcements
- 5 folders with 3-brads and pockets
- 2 packages tab dividers with pockets
- 5 spiral notebook – 70 pages
- 1 packages wide lined paper
- 1 glue stick
- 1 roll paper towels
- 1 ream (500 count) white copy paper
- No backpacks
- 1 supply box – large
- 30 yellow #2 pencils (not eagle or mechanical)
- 1 12-inch ruler – inches and metric markings
- 1 box Crayola crayons – 24 count
- 1 Elmer's glue – 8 oz
- 2 boxes Kleenex – 200 count
- 3 packages wide-spaced notebook paper
- 1 package Crayola fine point markers – 8 color

- 1 Fiskar scissor – sharp point
- 10 pocket folders (bold)
- 6 wide-ruled spiral notebooks (70 page)
- 1 roll paper towels
- 1 box colored pencils – 12 count
- 1 bottle waterless hand sanitizer (pump)
- 4 highlighters
- 1 box quart sized freeze lock baggies – girls
- 1 box gallon sized freeze lock baggies – boys
- 2 red pens
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 ream (500 count) 20# white copy paper
- No notebooks or Trapper Keepers

### Fifth Grade

- 1 zipper pouch
- 12 #2 pencils
- 2 highlighters
- 2 red checking pens
- 1 box colored pencils – 12 count
- 1 3-inch, 3-ring binder
- 2 boxes Kleenex – 200 count
- 1 package of re-enforcements
- 5 folders with 3-brads and pockets
- 2 packages tab dividers with pockets
- 5 spiral notebook – 70 pages
- 1 packages wide lined paper
- 1 glue stick
- 1 roll paper towels
- 1 ream (500 count) white copy paper
- No backpacks

Please note  
Supplies must be replenished throughout the year.

Pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first graders should bring a change of clothes to keep in their backpack in case of an accident and a large plastic bag to place wet garments in should the need arise.



# Robert G. Cole High School

## 2008 Cougar Football Schedule

Head Coach: Larry Ransom

### Varsity Football Schedule 2008

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 16**	Memorial	Away	9/10 a.m.
Aug. 21**	Poth	Home	6/7 p.m.
Aug. 29	S.A.C.	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 5	St. Anthony	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 12	Marion	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 19	Karnes City	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Comfort	Home	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 3	Brooks	Home	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 10***	Harper	Home	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 17*	Johnson City	Away	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 24*	Open		
Oct. 31	Blanco	Home	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 7*	Randolph	Away	7:30 p.m.

### Junior Varsity Football Schedule 2008

Aug. 28	S.A.C.	Home	6 p.m.
Sept. 4	St. Anthony	Away	5 p.m.
Sept. 11	Marion	Home	6 p.m.
Sept. 18	Karnes City	Home	6 p.m.
Sept. 25*	Comfort	Away	6 p.m.
Oct. 2	Cornerstone	Away	6 p.m.
Oct. 9*	Harper	Away	6 p.m.
Oct. 16*	Johnson City	Home	6 p.m.
Oct. 23	Open		
Oct. 30*	Blanco	Away	6 p.m.
Nov. 6*	Randolph	Home	6 p.m.

\* Denotes district game

\*\* Denotes scrimmage

\*\*\* Homecoming

# Robert G. Cole High School

## 2008-2009 Lady Cougar Volleyball Schedule

Head Coach: Joella Allen

Date	Opponent	Site	Team(s)	Time(s)
Aug. 8	Randolph Scrimmage	Cole	JV/ V	TBA
Aug. 9	Lanier/Keystone Scrimmage	Cole	F/ JV/ V	TBA (pending)
Aug. 12	Karnes City/Gonzales	Karnes City	JV/ V	4:30 and play on
Aug. 14	Sabinal	Cole	JV/ V	10/11:30 a.m.
Aug. 14	Dilley	Cole	F/JVV	3/4/5:30 p.m.
Aug. 15	Stockdale	Stockdale	F/JVV	TBA
Aug. 19	Medina	Medina	JVV	5:30/6:30 p.m.
Aug. 22	Dilley – Pending	Dilley	F/JVV	TBA
Aug. 26	Utopia	Cole	JVV	5/6 p.m.
Aug. 29	Medina	Cole	JV/ V	5:30/6:30 p.m.
Sept. 2	OPEN			
Sept. 5	OPEN			
Sept. 6	Utopia Tournament	Utopia	Varsity	TBA
Sept. 9	Sabinal	Sabinal	Varsity	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 11	Tilden Tournament	Tilden	Varsity	TBA
Sept. 12*	Blanco	Cole	F/JVV	TBA
Sept. 13*	Tilden Tournament	Tilden	Varsity	TBA
Sept. 16*	Harper	Harper	F/JVV	5/6/7 p.m.
Sept. 19*	Randolph	Randolph	F/JVV	TBA
Sept. 20	Stockdale Tournament	Stockdale	JV	TBA
Sept. 23*	Johnson City	Cole	F/JVV	5/6/7 p.m.
Sept. 26*	Comfort	Cole	F/JVV	TBA
Sept. 30	BYE – OPEN			
Oct. 3*	Brooks	Cole	F/JVV	TBA
Oct. 7*	Blanco	Blanco	F/JVV	5/6/7 p.m.
Oct. 10*	Harper	Cole	F/JVV	TBA
Oct. 14*	Randolph	Cole	F/JVV	5/6/7 p.m.
Oct. 17*	Johnson City	Johnson City	F/JVV	TBA
Oct. 21*	Comfort	Comfort	F/JVV	5/6/7 p.m.
Oct. 24	BYE – OPEN			
Oct. 28*	Brooks	Cole	F/JVV	5/6/7 p.m.

\* Denotes district games

# Sales tax holiday takes place Aug. 15 to 17

For the 10th year, Texas shoppers will get a break from state and local sales taxes. The state's annual tax holiday will take place Aug. 15 to 17.

The holiday exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which saves shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. For more information, visit <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/tax-pubs>, or call 1-800-252-5555.

Parents and students should review school district's

dress code before purchasing clothes to be worn at school to ensure compliance with dress and grooming requirements.

Backpacks priced under \$100 to be used by elementary and secondary students are exempt. A backpack is defined as a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption does not apply to items reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks.

Clothing and footwear used primarily for athletic activities or for protective wear are not eligible for the exemption. Customers buying golf shoes or football pads, for instance, must pay sales tax. Athletic wear that is also used for participation in other non-athletic activities can qualify for tax exemption; for example, tennis shoes, baseball caps and jogging suits are worn during everyday activities and thus may be purchased tax-free during the holiday.

### Tax-Free

- Baby clothes
- Backpacks for use by elementary and secondary students
- Belts with attached buckles
- Boots – cowboy, hiking
- Caps/hats – baseball, fishing, golf and knitted
- Coats and wraps
- Diapers – adult and baby
- Dresses
- Gloves (generally)
- Gym suits and uniforms
- Hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts
- Hosiery
- Jackets
- Jeans
- Jerseys – baseball and football
- Jogging apparel
- Neckwear and ties
- Pajamas
- Pants and trousers
- Raincoats and ponchos
- Robes
- Shirts
- Shoes – sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis and walking
- Socks (including athletic)
- Shorts
- Suits, slacks and jackets
- Sweatshirts
- Sweatsuits
- Sweaters
- Swimsuits
- Underclothes
- Work clothes and uniforms

### Taxed

- Accessories (generally) – barrettes, elastic pony-tail holders, wallets and watches
- Backpacks – unless for use by elementary and secondary students
- Baseball cleats and pants
- Belt buckles (without belt)
- Boots – climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski and waders
- Buttons and zippers
- Cloth and lace, knitting yarns, and other fabrics
- Dry-cleaning services
- Football pants
- Golf gloves
- Handbags and purses
- Handkerchiefs
- Hard hats
- Helmets – bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle and sports
- Ice skates
- Jewelry
- Laundering services
- Leather goods – except belts with buckles and wearing apparel
- Pads – football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee and shoulder
- Personal flotation devices
- Rented clothing (including uniforms, formal wear and costumes)
- Roller blades and skates
- Safety clothing, glasses
- Shoes – bicycle (cleated), bowling and golf

## Post Pulse

What was the highlight of your summer vacation?



"We went to the Japanese Gardens (in San Antonio). I saw fish, trees, lakes and a guy proposing to a girl."  
Nowell Davila, 10, with mother, Maria



"I liked going to Schlitterbahn (water park)."  
Hillary Esplen, 12

"My favorite thing was shopping for clothes."  
Austin Esplen, 10



"I had fun going on trips to Illinois and Missouri."  
Margara Reese, 8, with mother, Sonya



"Riding my bike. I have a big bike."  
Jordan Oravits, 4, with grandmother, Mary Lou

## Parent-Teacher organizations support students, Families, staff

The Fort Sam Houston Elementary Cougar Cub Parent-Teacher Organization and the Robert G. Cole Middle and High School Cougar Pride Organization are gearing up for another great year.

Parents are encouraged to join their parent organization. Executive committee members will be available to speak to parents at open houses and other school-sponsored events.

Both organizations have an active volunteer program that offers a wide range of options for parent participation. Volunteers are an important ingredient to a successful school year. Parents are encouraged to attend monthly meetings held at the schools.

Each Friday is "Spirit Day." Students are encouraged to

wear green or gold on that day. Both organizations will sell "spirit wear" throughout the year. More information will be available at open houses and other events.

The organizations sponsor several fundraising events throughout the year. All monies collected benefit students. In previous years, the elementary PTO has purchased keyboards, a poster machine and a portable speaker system to be used at school-sponsored events. Money also has been used to support the Accelerated Reader program.

The Cougar Pride Club supports both academic and extracurricular activities. The club also raises money for scholarships to be awarded to graduating seniors.

### IMMUNIZATIONS from P19

after 4th birthday or 3 doses with 3rd dose on or after 4th birthday

- Not required for students age 18 and older.
  - 2 Doses – Measles (1st dose on or after 1st birthday)
  - 1 Dose – Mumps on or after 1st birthday
  - 1 Dose – Rubella on or after 1st birthday
  - 3 Doses – Hepatitis B
  - 1 Dose – Varicella (chicken-pox) on or after 1st birthday
- OR statement/date of chicken-pox illness or 2 doses are required if first dose of vaccine given at 13 years of age or older

### Additional Information

A second dose of Varicella is recommended, but not required at this time for the 4- to 6-year-old group.

Receipt of the dose up to (and including) four days before the birthday will satisfy immunization requirements for all vaccines.

Pre-kindergarten to grade 4 for DTP, DTaP, DT, and Polio: Only a four-day grace period for all vaccines is acceptable.

Grades five to 12 for DTP, DTaP, DT and Polio: The calendar month prior to or of the 4th birthday is valid.

Polio: No dose is required on or after age 4 if any combination of four doses of both OPV and IPV were used. However, if the series is comprised of all IPV or all OPV, then a dose is required on or after age 4.

Hepatitis B (alternative for unvaccinated adolescents age 11 to 15): Two doses clearly documented of Recombivax HB 1.0 ml (adult formulation) spaced four to six months apart; Engerix-B is not licensed for a two-dose schedule.

Vaccines administered after Sept. 1, 1991, shall include the month, day and year each vaccine was administered.

Exclusion from compliance includes medical reasons — a statement from an MD or DO, duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States is required —

stating that in the physician's opinion that the vaccine required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the child or to any member of the child's household. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

Conscientious Exemptions, including religious beliefs, must be obtained from the Department of State Health

Services in Austin and submitted to the school nurse for immunization exemption upon enrollment or at the time exemption is requested.

Valid Texas Religious Exemptions dated prior to Sept. 1, 2003, are lifelong exemptions.

Out-of-state religious/philosophical exemptions are not valid in Texas. Students claiming exclusion for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs, must present an affidavit issued by the Texas Department of State

Health Service.

Provisional Enrollment: Student may be provisionally enrolled if he or she has begun the required vaccine series and is receiving subsequent immunizations as rapidly as medically feasible. If a student is transferring from another Texas school, he or she may be enrolled for 30 days while awaiting the transfer of the immunization record. Children of active-duty military Families who are moving to Texas from out-of-state and are awaiting the transfer of immunization

records may be provisionally enrolled for 30 days. A student who is homeless, as defined by the McKinney Act, shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available.

Serologic confirmations of immunity to measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis A and B or varicella are acceptable. Evidence of measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis A and B or varicella illnesses must consist of a laboratory report that indicates either confirmation of immunity or infection.



Photo by Elaine Wilson

## Future politician

Billy Yates (right), son of Bill Yates, Army Community Service, and Capt. Maria Rouenna Yates, Army Medical Department Center and School, was selected for an internship with the Office of U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar. Yates is one of 20 students participating in Cuellar's internship program in the district and Washington, D.C. The 17-year-old's job is to assist with general office duties, be exposed to casework, and learn how a representative can help citizens with federal issues.



The 25th Annual National Night Out will be held Oct. 7. Residents who wish to hold events will need to register to receive a National Night Out kit filled with "how-to" materials. For registration information, call Lincoln Military Housing at 270-7638.

## Grand-prize winner



Photo by Jennifer Morris

Susan Artiglia, reference librarian, congratulates Rachel Seigler for winning the Summer Reading Club's grand-prize drawing Aug. 3 at the Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library. The reading club, which is open to the children of Department of Defense personnel, runs from June to August each summer. Children receive prizes based on the number of books they read throughout the summer months, and also can enter into a grand-prize drawing at the end of the program. This year the grand prize was a SeaWorld backpack with a variety of prizes inside, including four passes to SeaWorld San Antonio. For more information on the Summer Reading Club at the Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library, call 221-4702.

# ICE

**Have feedback for  
a post customer  
service provider?**

Go to the Interactive Customer Evaluation Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil> and voice your opinion today.



# Community

## Events

### Free school supplies

Operation Homefront Texas is lending a helping hand to military Families with school-age children by giving away free backpacks and school supplies. Registration is now open to military members (E-6 and below) whose children are between

the ages 5 to 17 (kindergarten to high school). Registration will be open until all slots are filled. Once registered, an e-mail confirmation will be sent with the date, time and address of distribution. To register or donate school supplies, visit the backpack registration link at [www.operationhomefront.net/forms/backpack\\_submission\\_form.asp?Chapter\\_ID=44](http://www.operationhomefront.net/forms/backpack_submission_form.asp?Chapter_ID=44) or e-mail [texas@oper-](mailto:texas@oper-)

ationhomefront.net.

### Back-To-School Essay Contest

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is offering aspiring young writers an opportunity to win great prizes. The Back-To-School Essay Contest will give students in first through 12th grades the opportunity to submit an essay of 200 words or less on "What AAFES means to me and my family." The essay contest will run through Aug. 31. First place winners in each category will receive a computer; second place winners will be awarded a \$500 savings

bond; and third place winners a \$200 savings bond. For more information, visit [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) under the Patriot Family Connection link.

### 2008 Annual SAMM Conference

The Sexual Assault Medical Management Conference will be held Aug. 17 to 21 at the Doubletree Hotel in San Antonio. The conference is for designated military treatment facility sexual assault care coordinators and sexual assault clinical providers who support Soldier readiness through the multidisciplinary approach to sexual assault care and medico-legal process. For registration forms, e-mail [Jennie.A.Johnson@amedd.army.mil](mailto:Jennie.A.Johnson@amedd.army.mil). For more information, call Wanda Hubert at 221-7103.

### 'Run for the Fallen'

Run for the Fallen, a national effort to honor fallen heroes by running one mile across the country for every service member killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, will be held Aug. 24 at 7:30 a.m. at the Veteran's Memorial Plaza, downtown San Antonio, at the intersection of

Jefferson and Martin streets. The 1.5-mile run begins at 8 a.m. The event is free; walkers, bikers and Segways are welcome. For more information or reservations, e-mail [runfortheFallensa@satx.rr.com](mailto:runfortheFallensa@satx.rr.com) or visit [www.runfortheFallen.org](http://www.runfortheFallen.org).

## Training

### Enterprise Web Training

Enterprise Web-Army Medical Department Electronic Forms Support System training will be held in Building 2841, Willis Hall on the following days:

- Aug. 7 and 27 from 8 to 11 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m. in Room 2105C.
- Aug. 13 and 14 from 8 to 11 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m. in Room 2105B.

Seating is limited and attendees must bring their common access card to training. For more information or reservations, call Julie Gueller at 221-6203.

### AKO Training

There will be a hands-on training on Army Knowledge Online Aug. 26

See **COMMUNITY P31**

## COMMUNITY from P30

from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and Aug. 28 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Willis Hall, Building 2841, Room 2105C. Forms in AKO Forms Management Content Program training will include AKO hands-on training pre-requisite, leave form templates, uploading local forms from the Army Medical Department server, renaming forms, digital signatures, sending a form as an original, locating additional computer basic training within AKO and much more. Seats are limited in each classroom and individuals must bring their common access card for training. For more information, call 221-6203. To register for training or reserve a seat, e-mail [Julie.Gueller@amedd.army.mil](mailto:Julie.Gueller@amedd.army.mil).

## Meetings

### Federally Employed Women meeting

The Federally Employed Women annual membership meeting with training and orientation will be held Aug. 7 at 4:30 p.m. at the Army

Community Service center, Building 2797, on Stanley Road. The meeting will include information on training opportunities, membership overview and more. For more information, call Phyllis at 221-6629.

### Warrant Officer Association meeting

The Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association meeting will be held Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. at Chacho's & Chulucci's, 8614 Perrin Beitel Road, near Loop 410. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard warrant officers and Family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, call Juan Gomez at 295-6596, e-mail [juan.gomez@us.army.mil](mailto:juan.gomez@us.army.mil), or Jim Gonzales 666-9818, e-mail [rgonzales879@satx.rr.com](mailto:rgonzales879@satx.rr.com).

## Volunteer

### Seeking host Families

The American Field Service Intercultural Programs are seeking host Families for students arriving in

mid-August. Students are 15 to 18 years old, have health insurance and spending money, and attend local public schools. Host Families provide

a bed, meals, transportation to school and the opportunity to learn about America through participating in Family life. Families can host a stu-

dent for a school year, a semester or a six-to eight-week period. For more information, call Diane Soto at 866-AFS-USA1 or e-mail [dsoto@afs.org](mailto:dsoto@afs.org).

## For Sale Fort Freebies

**For Sale:** Little Tykes variety climber, outdoor play center, two slides and rope climb, \$200. Call 263-9094, leave message.

**For Sale:** 1991 Ford F-150, single cab, long bed, six-cylinder, five-speed, dual fuel tanks, A/C, \$2,700. Call 648-5907 or 687-3980.

**For Sale:** Toshiba TV, 50-inch projection screen, \$300 obo; three-piece entertainment center, rustic with glass doors, \$500; ceiling fan with light fixture, 42 inches, \$25; Pentair pool cleaner, in-ground pool, \$300. Call 697-9261 or 363-4056.

**For Sale:** Programmable Honeywell digistat thermostat, home A/C, \$30. Call 221-3549.

**For Sale:** Polish pottery

dinnerware includes 12 dinner plates, seven lunch plates, five soup/cereal bowls, assorted mugs and three serving bowls, \$100. Call 221-5501.

**For Sale:** Jet 1 Pride electric wheelchair, \$650. Call 662-8767.

**For Sale:** Pride chair lift, new, \$1,200. Call Duane at 653-3286.

**For Sale:** Air dynamic covered trailer, 6 feet by 4 feet, hauled by small truck or SUV, used for light moving, \$500 obo. Call 493-2828, leave message.

**For Sale:** Step 2 play center with slide, good condition, \$100; twin captain's bed with three drawers and bookcase headboard, one drawer broken;

### Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is close of business Friday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real estate ads will not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail news.leader@conus.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-0546.

\$90; Murray lawnmower, 20-inch, 3.5 hp, \$75. Call 379-5807.

**For Sale:** Five 22-inch Gitano Blades with tires, \$2,800 obo; four 24-inch Gitano Blades with tires, new, \$2,850 obo. Call JP at 392-5366.

**For Sale:** 2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser wagon, 77K miles, four-cylinder, automatic, power windows, four doors, CD player, gray color, A/C, cruise control, \$5,700. Call 584-0010.

**For Sale:** Chain link fence,

140 feet with 4-foot gate and all required attachments and poles, \$250. Call 383-7900.

**For Sale:** King-size mattress and box spring, good condition, \$175 obo. Call 859-1419 after 6 p.m.

**For Sale:** Paper shredder, Power Shred PS30, \$10; Compaq keyboard and mouse, model SDM45 40ul, Compaq color monitor, model MV540, make an offer. Call 653-5302.

**For Sale:** 1992 Ford Custom van by Magnum, \$2,395. Call 659-6741.

## \$1,500 REWARD



IS OFFERED BY THE UNITED STATES ARMY  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COMMAND  
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX 75234

On July 10, 2008, person(s) unknown entered the parking lot adjacent to Building 3190, 1601 Conus Maintenance Facility, Scurry Road, Fort Sam Houston, and stole a 2008 Ford F150 3.5L D Utility Vehicle. The vehicle was abandoned on the railroad tracks adjacent to the Base Enclosure Access Control Point and struck by a train.

Anyone with any information regarding this case leading to the identification, arrest and successful prosecution of the person(s) responsible for the thefts, please contact Special Agent Markon Sero at the Fort Sam Houston CID Office at 221-1363 or 221-1764. People wishing to remain anonymous will be honored and information will be held in the strictest confidence wherever the law.

The reward will be in effect until July 22, 2009.  
Reference: Case number 0042-2008-C-0044-07848

### News Leader survey online

Submit your feedback to help improve the News Leader. The survey is available online at <http://www.samhouston.army.mil/pao/default.html>. For more information, call 221-0615 or 221-1031.