

THE BULLDOG BYTE

SPANGDAHLEM MIDDLE SCHOOL'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



DODEA MISSION

*EDUCATE, ENGAGE, AND EMPOWER MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS TO
SUCCEED IN A DYNAMIC WORLD*

DODEA VISION

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOR EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE

IMPORTANT LINKS

[SPMS HOME PAGE](#)

[SPMS FB PAGE](#)

[SPMS PTSA FB PAGE](#)

[SCHOOL LIAISON FB PAGE](#)

[DODEA EUROPE FB PAGE](#)

**SPANGDAHLEM
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

06565-61-7205

DSN: 452-7205

SPANGDAHLEMMSATTENDANCE

@DODEA.EDU

**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL
REGISTRAR BY 0900 IF YOUR
CHILD IS/WILL BE ABSENT FROM
SCHOOL**

BULLDOGS B.I.T.E:

- **B**reak through barriers
- **I**magine a Better Tomorrow
- **T**ake Care of Our Community
- **E**mpower One Another

Principal's Update

The month of November flew by. With Veteran's Day, the Thanksgiving holiday break, and even a snow day, it was nice to experience extra time with family and friends. However, our Bulldog faculty and scholars remain dedicated to exceeding expectations. This means we will continue to move forward towards our educational goals right into the holiday break.

We have some information below on an amazing school resource, school links. Please have your student take advantage of our other resources including homework club, tutor.com, and seminar. As always, continue to monitor ASPEN for assignments and grades. With the second quarter ending just around the corner, we want to avoid any surprises from parents and students.

We hope our Bulldog families will enjoy this magical time of the year and take advantage of all of the festivities on and off base.

Bulldog Cares

December 2-8th is National Grief Awareness Week. This is a reminder that grief is a natural response to loss and you are not alone. See the flyer for some more information and ideas to find healthy ways to cope.

Healthy Bulldogs

Flu vaccines were due on December 1, however we understand the challenges that our Spangdahlem families have been facing getting an appointment. Communication is key! If your student has an appointment or circumstance in which they cannot make the deadline, please notify [Nurse McCollum](#).

STEMposium

It's middle school STEMposium time!! SpMS is looking for 7th and 8th grade students who like to tinker, have grit, and are naturally curious. We are seeking problem solvers to be a part of a team. If your student is interested, they can apply [here](#):

Questions? Contact Ms. Mench at jennifer.mench@dodea.edu

Holiday Concert

You are cordially invited to Spangdahlem Middle/High School's Holly Jolly Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00pm in the SPMS/HS Commons. See the flyer for more details on this impressive event.

School Resources

DoDEA recently purchased access to a great website (SchoolLinks) to help students plan for school to career success. I recently challenged all middle school students to use this tool to plan out all the courses they may take leading up to graduation. We refer to this as a 6-year plan for 6th graders, a 5-year plan for 7th graders, and a 4-year plan for 8th graders. The instructions for how middle schoolers do this can be found in an extended video I made and sent out to all students' gmail. I know it's a flawed process in the sense that few of our students will be seniors here, but it's still an important exercise for students.

If you want access to SchoolLinks, you will get the most out of it by looking at it with your child. It is possible to get access as a parent to SchoolLinks (follow [this link](#)). Currently, parent access does not provide a way to see results of your child's Assessments, School Search preferences, or the Course Planner, and is largely limited to the Career tab. Let me know if you have questions about this great resource. -[Mr. Jed Weyland](#)

Book Club

It's not too late to sign up for Book Club! There are two Book Clubs available, one for 6-7th grade and another for 8th grade students. Please see Ms. Miller for the book. The club will meet Mondays after school in the library.

Coding Club

Is your student interested in the ins and outs of coding? If so, this is the perfect opportunity. Coding Club meets Mondays after school, starting December 4. Minecrafters are welcome! See the flyer for specifics.

NAEP Testing

Our SpMS 8th graders will be taking the NAEP test in February. Please see the attached letter for further details on this test.

Important Dates

December 6: Holiday Concert

December 8: Teacher Training Day, **No School for Students**

December 11: PTSA Meeting

December 18-January 1: Winter Break, **No School**

January 2: School Resumes



THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR ... CAN BE HARD TOO!

Winter holiday time can be exciting, joyful, and full of fun. But it can also be sad, lonely, ... Or a mix of both.

Remembering loved ones no longer with us; recognizing ways in which our life didn't quite turn out as expected; and worries for the future can affect all of us, especially at a time when we are "supposed" to be "happy & jolly"!

DECEMBER 2 – 8TH IS NATIONAL GRIEF AWARENESS WEEK.

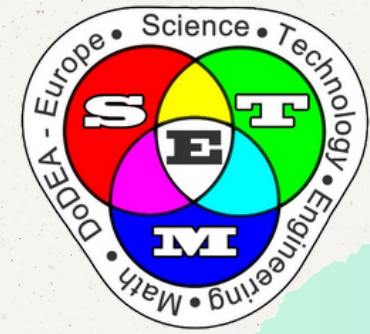
It was established to recognize the importance of acknowledging and addressing grief openly and compassionately. It serves as a reminder that grief is a natural response to loss. There are similar ones in many parts of the world!

IDEAS

- Share stories of loved ones no longer here
- Do an activity your loved one would enjoy with you or would love hearing about. Make time for joy!
- Reach out to others you know have experienced loss – even if it's in the past. Sharing helps!
- Take this time to talk with loved ones; share stories and memories

#YouAreNotAlone





DODEA MIDDLE SCHOOL

STEMPOSIUM

Hosted by Spangdahlem Middle School

WEDNESDAY JAN 31 - FRIDAY FEB 2

SpMS is excited to host the **2023 Middle School STEMposium for Europe East and West!**

Student teams of engineers will confront a disaster scenario and collaboratively develop potential solutions.

Any interested **7th or 8th grade student** *who has not previously attended* may apply [HERE](#).

Applications are due by **Thursday, Dec 7.**

Due to time constraints, late applications cannot be considered.



You are cordially invited to

SPANGDAHLEM MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL'S

Holly Jolly Christmas Concert

featuring: Band & Choir

Wednesday, December 6

6:00PM

SPMS/HS COMMONS

SMALL CONCESSIONS WILL BE SOLD BY
HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTER CLUB

CODING BOOT CAMP

Meetings Mondays

Starts December 4
after school until 1600
Meet in 2.Z.13

MINECRAFTERS WELCOME



Bring your Chromebook.
Ask Ms. Sander for details.



Department of Defense Education Activity
Spangdahlem Middle School
Office of the Principal
Unit 3640
APO, AE 09126-3640



30 November 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Spangdahlem Middle School will participate in the 2024 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on February 29th, 2024. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessments because it is a common measure of achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents/guardians, policymakers, and the public.

Your child will take a mathematics or reading assessment. In addition to subject-area questions, students voluntarily complete NAEP survey questions. These questions provide valuable information about participating students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom. Additionally, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students will be included in the National Indian Education Study (NIES). NIES describes the condition of education for AI/AN students in the United States. More information about NAEP survey questions is available at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents> under the section "What Questions Are on the Test?"

The assessment takes about 120 minutes for most students, which includes transition time, directions, and completion of survey questions.

The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

- Your child's grades will not be affected.
- Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question.
- While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by 31 January 2024.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. Contact Dr. Elaine Wiedemer at Elaine.Wiedemer@dodea.edu if you have any questions.

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that Spangdahlem Middle School's students will show what our nation's students know and can do!

Bulldog Proud,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stefanie Adams".

Stefanie Adams
Principal, Spangdahlem Middle School

Spangdahlem Middle & High School

BREAKFAST	LUNCH ENTRÉES <u>Monday December 04</u>	LUNCH SIDES
Pancake-Sausage Bites w/ Syrup	Chicken Tenders w/Rooster Sauce	Baked Beans (V)
**Cereal Assorted	Penne Mac & Cheese (V)	Cucumber Coins
Fruit	Beefy Mac & Cheese	Choice of Fruit
Choice of Juice		
Choice of Milk	w/Herbed Dinner Roll	Choice of Milk

BREAKFAST	LUNCH ENTRÉES <u>Tuesday December 05</u>	LUNCH SIDES
Pancakes w/ Sweet Blueberry Sauce	Mini Chicken Corn Dogs	Seasoned Green Peas
Scrambled Eggs		Bell Pepper Strips
*Bacon Slices	Spicy BBQ Chicken Wings w/ Large Dinner Roll	Choice of Fruit
Fruit		
Choice of Juice	Mediterranean Hummus Wrap (V)	Choice of Milk
Choice of Milk		

BREAKFAST	LUNCH ENTRÉES <u>Wednesday December 06</u>	LUNCH SIDES
Pork Sausage Gravy & Biscuit	Pepperoni Pizza	Seasoned Broccoli
**Cereal Assorted		Cherry Tomato Dippers
Fruit	Cheese Pizza (V)	Choice of Fruit
Choice of Juice		
Choice of Milk	Southwestern Salad w/Tortilla Chips (V)	Choice of Milk

BREAKFAST	LUNCH ENTRÉES <u>Thursday December 07</u>	LUNCH SIDES
Cinnaroll Sliders	Cheesy Breadsticks w/ Marinara (V)	Street Corn
*Sausage Patty		Carrot Dippers
Fruit > Banana	Beef Nachos	Choice of Fruit
Choice of Juice	(Salad for Nachos & Jalapenos)	
Choice of Milk	Chicken Nachos	Choice of Milk

BREAKFAST	LUNCH ENTRÉES <u>Friday December 08</u>	LUNCH SIDES
	NO SCHOOL	
	CCRS TRAINING	

** May Contain Pork
*Pork Free Menu Item

~~~ Menu Subject to change based on product availability ~~~

~~~ This institution is an equal opportunity provider ~~~