



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

May 22, 2009

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SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) GOALS

All students will improve their problem-solving skills across the curriculum.
All students will improve their reading strategies in all areas of the curriculum.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Month	May 1-31	Better Hearing and Speech Month
Monday	May 15-31	Yearbooks Available Until Sold Out
Wednesday-Saturday	May 20-23	European Soccer Championships
Friday	May 22	Early Dismissal at 1100 (Professional Development)
Monday	May 25	Memorial Day Holiday
Monday-Friday	May 25-29	End of Year Carnival from 1100-1600
Friday	May 29	Middle and High School Math Calculator Verification
Saturday	May 30	Sports Banquet
Saturday	May 30	Senior Breakfast
Thursday	June 4	High School Prom
Wednesday	June 10	Class of 2009 Graduation
Thursday	June 11	Award Assembly Grades 6-11
		Last Day for Students, Dismissal at 1100

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS (SIP) - What is SIP? SIP is a critical part of our school's accreditation process. To be accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, we work toward improving our school on a five-year cycle. Two years ago we assessed our student's academic needs and set goals. Then we designed lessons and activities to help students meet those goals. Last year we began implementing the activities, and the process continues in this, the third year of the cycle.

SIP MOMENT - "Some people will lie, cheat, steal and back-stab to get ahead... and to think, all they have to do is READ." *Fortune.*

YEARBOOKS - The 2008-2009 yearbooks have arrived! We have extras, but they will sell out quickly. This is your last opportunity to purchase an annual. Please bring your check for \$50 to room 130. If you've already purchased one, you or your child can pick it up from room 130, immediately after school.

SURE START HOME VISITS - Sure Start Home Visits will begin on June 1. In order to allow you enough time to make arrangements for both parents to be present during the visit, we have begun to make out the schedule. You can arrange for a visit on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday afternoon after 1430, or on Friday between 0845 and 1600. Each visit will take about thirty minutes. When you are ready to schedule your visit, stop by the Sure Start Classroom or call the office at 295-57-4151 to set up a time. Thank-you. We look forward to seeing you!

Sure Start needs 16 empty spools of thread. If you have some please drop them off in the Sure Start room or call 295-57-2035. Thank you.

CLASS OF 2009 GRADUATION - The Lajes Elementary/High School community is invited to attend the Class of 2009 Commencement Ceremony to be held on Thursday, June 4 at 1700, at the Ramo Grande Auditorio in Praia.

Please be aware that, because of the ongoing construction near the auditorium, parking is at a premium. There is no available parking around the auditorium itself. There is a car park at the bottom of the hill down from Modelo's and across from Make Me Nuts, that holds about 50 cars (this is about a 5 minute walk from the auditorium). Parking is also allowed on the street between Modelo's and that car park. There is also parking available at the marina/port, but the walk is considerably farther. The suggestion is, if at all possible, guests should carpool.

Please join the Lajes Class of 09 in their celebration of 12 years of hard work and the beginning of their journey into the future.

CLASS 2009 SENIOR BREAKFAST - The annual Senior Breakfast Program is the event at which seniors are recognized for their various school related achievements, and for the Lajes Community Organizations to publicly announce the recipients selected for their organization's scholarships. This year's Senior Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, May 30, 0930, in the TORC Ballroom. Anyone wishing to attend this event should contact the Lajes E/H Counselor at 295-57-4228 for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL PROM AND AFTER PROM "LOCK-IN" PARTY - The high school prom is being held at the golf course on Saturday, May 30 from 2000-2400. Tickets are on sale during high school lunch from now until May 29 and are \$28 per person, which includes the cost for the after party. If you are paying with check, please make your check payable to "Lajes E/H School S.A.F." We will also be selling Prom Photos for \$10 for a full CD of pictures! We will have a professional photographer available throughout the evening during prom to take individual and group photos. We will then put all of the photos on one CD so that everyone can treasure the memories of the night. You can print as many pictures as you want! CDs will be \$10 pre-sale or \$12 after prom.

- PROM AFTER-PARTY & LOCK-IN: There will be a Prom After-Party and Lock-In from 2400 until 0600 at the Community Activities Center (CAC) for all high schoolers that attend prom. This party is being offered as a safe alternative for students who wish to spend their evening in a supervised, drug and alcohol free place. There will be a bus to take students directly from the golf course to the CAC, after the prom. All students must have a permission slip to attend. Permission slips with more information will be sent home with your Prom ticket purchase. It should be an amazing night of fun! We have had generous donations from several base organizations that have sponsored our food, fun and prizes for the night. There will be games, contests, give-aways, movies, food, friends and lots of big prizes!

-HELP NEEDED FOR PROM AFTER PARTY - Calling all high school parents...We need your help!!! We are looking for a few parent volunteers to help with organization for the party or to donate food or prizes. There are lots of jobs to be done, from making phone calls to baking cookies or running errands, so if you're willing to help, we can find just the right job for you! We are also seeking donations of food and prizes. We will be hosting games and contests throughout the evening and need prizes of all kinds! We still need some specific food items as well, including fruit trays, veggie trays, cakes for a cakewalk, and bagels or muffins for breakfast. If you would like to donate food, a prize, or if you

would be willing to help with the event organization please contact the ASACS Counselor at 295-57-3963. We will not be able to do this without your help!!!

MATH CALCULATOR VERIFICATIONS -The math department will be checking calculators that were issued to Middle and High School students May 25-29, to ensure that the calculator issued to each student, is the one that they have. The Middle School students were issued a TI 83 calculator and the High School students were issued a TI 84 calculator. If the calculator has been lost or if the calculator's serial numbers do not match the calculator the one that was issued, it is DoDEA policy that it will have to be replaced with the exact same kind of calculator. TI 83 calculators at the BX are \$95 and TI 84 calculators are \$150. These calculators can also be purchased cheaper through E-Bay. If you order through E-Bay, you will need to bring in a copy of the receipt, showing the school as the recipient of the ordered calculator. If the lost calculator is returned at a later date, you will receive the calculator you bought in exchange. All of the calculator transactions must be completed prior to the last week of school, Jun 8-11.

PTO NEWS – If you like to be guaranteed an Elementary School Yearbook, please stop by the PTO Office to fill out the pre-order form. The Yearbook cost is \$11.00, until May 20. The yearbook cost will increase to \$15 on May 21. Popcorn - There is still time left for your child to receive popcorn at the end of each week. Please come by the PTO Office to submit your \$5.00 and fill out the popcorn request form for your child or children.

- The End Of Year Carnival will be held at the school on May 25, from 1100 until 1600. We will have games, food, face painting, and jumping castles. If you would like to volunteer please email lajespto@yahoo.com

- We are still looking for people who are interested in being Lajes E/H School Officers. Please e-mail lajespto@yahoo.com We are accepting nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

FUNDING EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL - *Guide to Federal Student Aid 2009-2010* booklets are now available in the counselor's office. This 53-page document is one of the most comprehensive and useful resources available to students and parents. If you would want to acquire a copy of this booklet to begin researching and planning your child's post-secondary education, please stop by the school office and request a copy.

TERRA NOVA TEST RESULTS UPDATE - The school has not received the scored student results yet for the Terra Nova testing done in early March. When results are received via the mail, a copy of the *Home Report* will be mailed home to parents of all students who took the Terra Nova tests. A copy of each student's results will be placed in their cumulative records folder. Terra Nova test results are a vital part of our school's SIP (School Improvement Program), and all students results will be reviewed and analyzed locally as required by the SIP.

MARCH 2 SUCCESS - is a FREE, no obligation tool that provides educational content to help anyone improve their knowledge and test scores in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics and Science. Check the March 2 Success website: <https://www.march2success.com/index.cfm> The content in *March 2 Success* is provided by Peterson's, Educational Options, and College Options Foundations. *March 2 Success* provides materials to help improve scores on standardized tests such as SAT, ACT, state exit exams, and ASVAB. Content selection includes course material from middle and high school level lessons, SAT and ACT practice tests, an SAT/ACT preparation game, and vocabulary and math flashcards. *March 2 Success* also provides information to help students plan for post-secondary options.

MENTORS AND MENTEES PROGRAM - The Mentors and Mentees Program will hold an end of the year session, available to students at all grade levels. The program goals focus on educational achievement through academic, social and emotional support.

Who can be a mentor? A mentor is a caring adult who is willing to spend time helping our students excel. Mentors are sincere, committed individuals who are positive role models.

* Mentors & Mentees End of the Year Session Schedule

Thursday, May 21, 2009: 1430-1530

Thursday, May 28, 2009: 1430-1530

Interested individuals can look forward to more information coming soon, or contact the Lajes School at 295-57-4151.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS - Summer can be more than just vacation time for kids; it's also a great opportunity for parents to spend more time participating in learning activities with their children. Fill the days of summer with these interactive sites for children that are full of fun through online educational games, stories, songs, and other hands-on activities. Attached is also a calendar of PK-1 activities for summer. A great website with summer activities for primary age children is: <http://www.activitiesforkids.com/summer/calendar.htm>