



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
LIVORNO UNIT SCHOOL
UNIT 31301, BOX 65
APO AE 09613-0065**



Dear Livorno Unit School Students, Parents, and Community,

The faculty, staff, and I welcome you as together we begin another fantastic school year at our wonderful Livorno ES/MS School. As the new Principal, I am particularly excited and look forward to a successful year for each student. The faculty and I want you to know that our enduring mission is to provide every student a challenging and rewarding educational experience and for each of them to continue to develop a love of learning. Our desire is to accomplish this in a collaborative manner which embraces parent and community involvement. Together, we strive to continuously improve our practices and curriculum, and to provide an optimal learning environment for your children. We want your children to flourish. I look forward to our opening day for 1st through 8th graders on Monday, August 30th and for Kindergarten on Thursday, September 2nd.

The faculty at Livorno Unit School is a dynamic family of professionals. We are fully staffed with an outstanding team of teachers who possess multiple areas of certifications, experience, expertise, and passion, to meet the needs of all of our children. I have had the pleasure to meet our new faculty members and can say without hesitation that we are very fortunate to have them join us at Livorno Unit School. They possess the experience, skills, and background necessary to excel here as they have done in their previous schools. Our returning professionals are extremely talented and equally excited to begin another year of serving your children.

Near the conclusion of last school year, our faculty devoted much time and effort into designing our programming for the 2010/2011 school year. This includes multi-age classrooms, differentiated instruction, and data-driven decision making, among other best practices of a 21st century education. Decisions regarding teaching and classroom assignments were made with the best interests of our students in mind. Our collective endeavors reflect our desire to continuously improve and best serve your children's needs.

We invite each of you to be involved with your child's education. There are many opportunities to support our efforts including volunteering in the classroom, mentoring students, joining the Parent Teachers Association, the School Advisory Committee, or the Continuous School Improvement Team. Education works best when we all work together and collaborate on behalf of students. Again, together we can provide the best learning environment for your children. I look forward to getting to know each of you and your children.

Please join us to meet the teachers and the classrooms on Thursday, September 2nd at 12:45 to 2:30. As in previous years, we will schedule a "Community Partnership Day" later in September. Our school newsletter with many details is forthcoming.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Serfass".

Dan Serfass, Principal