



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
MEDITERRANEAN DISTRICT  
UNIT 31401, BOX 11  
APO AE 09630-3141**

As a DoDDS school system, we continually assess our ability to deliver effective educational programs and ensure that our students are receiving the widest range of educational services needed to successfully transition back to schools in the US. We strive to carefully balance quality of life considerations for students and families with our ability to provide quality services for an enriching school experience. While we are able to do this with relatively small student populations in many locations, it becomes especially challenging to maintain the variety of quality programs at the high school level. Occasionally we determine that a school has reached a point where the enrollment has dropped to such a low level that it is neither realistic nor cost effective to continue with a high school program.

In the course of our on-going assessment, we have determined that we have reached such a point at Livorno Unit School. In school year 2004 – 2005, a total of 30 students were enrolled in grades 9 – 12. For school year 2005 – 2006, we currently have a total high school enrollment of 26 students – 7 freshman, 5 sophomores, 11 juniors and 3 seniors. There are no indicators that this declining enrollment will change in the near future. This small enrollment makes it especially difficult for us to offer a comprehensive educational program for all our students at Livorno Unit School. There are other DoDDS opportunities available to provide your students a quality educational experience.

We, of course, are very interested in your concerns and any information you may provide which should be considered as DoDDS begins implementing this transition. Furthermore, we want to ensure that parents are involved and made aware of why this action is being taken.

Our mission is to provide all students with an exemplary educational program. While this mission has become challenging to achieve at Livorno, we look forward to working with you as we determine the best solution for our students and families assigned to Livorno.

To this extent, we will be visiting the Livorno Unit School on Thursday, September 22, 2005 and would like to invite you to a parent informational meeting at 1530 in the Performing Arts Center (Music Building).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Archie W. Bates". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr. Archie W. Bates  
Superintendent  
DoDDS Mediterranean District