

# Handbook For Parents Of School Age Children 2008-2009



**HILL SCHOOL LIAISON  
"SERVING DOD FAMILIES"**

*Connecting Families, Schools and Communities*

School Liaison Officer  
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**School Liaison Services Welcome**

Welcome to the start of a new school year. We look forward to getting the 2008/2009 school year off to a great start. If you are new to Hill Air Force Base, congratulations and welcome to the our community.

The School Liaison program was created to work with local schools and with parents, to successfully navigate the school transition process for military children. The program provides a range of services to USAF parents and their K-12 children. The vast majority of children of USAF families who live both on and off base attends public schools. The main goals of the program are to identify barriers to academic success and develop solutions, promote parental involvement in their children's education, develop and coordinate partnerships in education, provide parents with the tools they need to overcome obstacles to education that stem from the military lifestyle, and to promote and educate local communities and schools regarding the needs of military children. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families in ensuring their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. This is accomplished primarily by acting as an advocate and intermediary among the parents, the military community, and the local school district.

Hill AFB is a superb place for families. In addition to great amenities and recreational facilities found on the installation, our location offers unlimited points of interest in the surrounding communities with local schools committed to providing quality education for families. As School Liaison Officer, my role is to improve transitional support for school children of Hill personnel by establishing partnerships between the school and the base, advocating for our military children.

We have a superb relationship with the schools. Our commitment as a member of the surrounding school districts/communities is very strong—We will need to continue to expand the relationship to help improve our schools. Please consider volunteering in your children's schools.

There are several school districts serving Hill AFB. An extensive listing of schools located in the different districts serving the military students is included in this handbook. If you have any questions about the schools, please contact the School Liaison Officer at DSN 775-5960 commercial **801-775-5960** or email at **Judith.maughan@hill.af.mil**

# School Choice

## Discover Your Options

Some of the most important decisions parents will make are about their child's education. Parents want their child's school to meet the same goals of high academic achievement they have set. School choice is part of the strategy to give children an excellent education. The most common way may be in choosing where to live based on the public school district or neighborhood schools. In many areas, parents can choose from neighborhood schools, charter schools or other public schools of choice, or transfer their child to another public school (in or out of district). They can also select a private school (religious or secular) or teach their child at home.

All parents want the best possible education for their children. Studies have shown that many service members are accepting or rejecting assignments based on their schooling options. Commanders should be aware of the schooling choices and quality of the schools surrounding their installation in order to assist parents in understanding their education options. Because education is regulated by the government, available options can vary between states.

All students have different learning styles and needs. Children within the same family may not learn in the same way or at the same rate. Finding the right educational setting for each child requires a careful examination of various options that are available to students and their families. Understanding expanded school choice is essential to selecting the best type of school setting for a child. The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) signed in 2002, has given parents additional options when considering how to educate their children.

Here are some quick resources to help military parents make informed choices:

- Choosing a School for your Child, a publication of the U.S. Department of Education <http://www.ed.gov/parents/schools/find/choose/index.html> offers a series of checklists and pertinent questions to assist parents in making schooling choices.
- Military OneSource is a useful resource for obtaining information on schools. Users can access the service toll free from the United States: (800) 342-9647; from overseas: (800)-3429-6477; or overseas collect: 1-484-530-5908. In addition, Military OneSource offers a website at [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) for information on a variety of topics and issues.
- The Military Child Education Coalition is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, world-wide organization that identifies the challenges that face the highly mobile military child, increases awareness of these challenges in military and educational communities and initiates and implements programs to meet the challenges. MCEC's goal is to level the educational playing field for

- military children wherever they are located around the world and to serve as a model for all highly mobile children. <http://www.militarychild.org>
- A list of school choice surrounding all heavily impacted military installations is being compiled for DoD. The results of this study will be posted on the MilitaryStudent.org website <http://www.militarystudent.org> and will be available through Military OneSource.
  - MilitaryHOMEFRONT is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, you'll find what you need!  
<http://www.militarystudent.dod.mil/>
  - National Military Family Association goals are to educate military families concerning their rights, benefits and services available to them and to inform them regarding the issues that affect their lives and to promote and protect the interests of military families by influencing the development and implementation of legislation and policies affecting them.  
<http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=homepage>

### **Learn what choices are available to your child**

#### Public, Charter, Private Schools and Home schooling

**Public schools** get their financing from local, state, and federal government funds. In most cases, they must admit all students who live within the borders of their district.

Charter schools and magnet schools are two relatively new kinds of public schools.[http:// www.usoe.k12.ut.us](http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us)

**Charter schools** began appearing in the early 90s. They are "alternative" public schools started by parents, teachers, community organizations, and for-profit companies. These schools receive tax dollars but the sponsoring group must also come up with private funding. Charter schools must adhere to the basic curricular requirements of the state but are free from many of the regulations that apply to conventional schools and the day-to-day scrutiny of school boards and government authorities. Charter schools allow parents, community leaders, educational entrepreneurs, and others the flexibility to innovate, create and provide students with increased educational experiences. To find out more about charter schools and where to find them in your area, visit [the U.S. Charter Schools Web site](#).

**Magnet schools** are highly competitive, highly selective public schools renowned for their special programs, superior facilities, and high academic standards. They may specialize in a particular area, such as science or the arts.

Students who apply to these schools go through a rigorous testing and application process. Some magnet schools have boarding facilities to allow students from out of state to attend. Magnet schools were first launched in the late 1970s to help desegregate public school systems by encouraging children to attend schools outside their neighborhoods. Student diversity is still an explicit goal of most magnet schools.

## **Non-Public Education**

**Religious Private Schools** are private schools which generally espouse a specific religious belief based on the denomination or faith established by the governing board. Often religious schools have open enrollment and do not require their student body to be members of the faith or denomination, although they do require that all students abide by the rules established by the school leadership. In addition to academic coursework, religious schools usually require coursework in religious studies. Students must apply to attend the school and entrance exams may be required. Private religious schools can refuse admission to any student or dismiss a student after enrollment for an infraction of the rules. Teachers are not required to be certified by the state, though they may be required to be a member of the religious denomination. Teachers may hold a variety of degrees and certifications. Requirements vary by school. Tuition costs vary widely. Transportation may be included in the cost of tuition or may be separate charge. For more information on religious private schools visit <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oij> and <http://www.parochial.com>

**Private Secular Schools** are schools without religious affiliation. Many secular schools have a long history and tradition while others are relatively new. Secular schools often give preference for admission to students whose relatives are alumnae of the schools. Secular schools may offer a traditional education that centers around preparation for college while others focus on an educational philosophy or a specific approach to learning such as those that accommodate individuals with special needs, i.e., schools for deaf or blind students. Tuition costs vary widely. Transportation may be included in the cost of tuition or may be separate charge. Teachers are not required to be certified by the state though they may hold a variety of degrees and certifications. If you want to read more about private secular schools visit <http://www.schoolmatters.org> and <http://www.schooltree.org>

**Home Schooling** is educating children outside the public-private-parochial school establishment. Parents may decide to homeschool their children for a variety of reasons – religion, special needs, concern about physical conditions and danger in formal school settings, or fear of unacceptable teaching or religious curricula. Each state has specific mandatory requirements for parents who choose the homeschooling option. Parents who choose to educate their child at home and who resides in Arizona visit:

[http://www.maricopa.gov/Schools/HomeSchool/home\\_school.aspx](http://www.maricopa.gov/Schools/HomeSchool/home_school.aspx) or call 602-506-3144-----[www.utahghomesschooling.com](http://www.utahghomesschooling.com)

Parents may decide to perform the schooling themselves in their own home or a relative, neighbor, professional tutor, or homeschooling cooperative may perform the service. Parents who are considering this option should inform themselves completely about time commitments, curricula, relevant state laws, outside resources and available support groups. Please visit the sites listed below to learn more about homeschooling:

<http://www.militarychild.org/homeschoolings.asp>

<http://www.hslida.org/laws/default.asp>

<http://www.nheir.org>

## General Information

### New Student Registration

**Bring the following documents at the time of registration:**

### **Davis and Weber County and Ogden School District**

- If the last school attended was out of state, please provide the school's name, telephone number and address.
- If your child was previously enrolled in an Utah school, provide an official withdrawal form from the last school attended.
- A Certified State Birth Certificate (military copies are acceptable)  
<http://www.usbirthcertificate.net>  
<http://www.birthcertificatesusa.com>  
<http://www.vitalrec.com>
- An updated copy of Immunization records
- The Social Security Number of the child
- Attendance and Tardy Records
- Transcript/Course History (grading System) Class Rank
- Cumulative Folder
- Testing Information-Standardized Test Scores, End of Course Test
- Activities such as co/extracurricular
- IEP/504/Gifted Records
- JROTC Records
- Guardianship/custody papers
- Proof of Residency/Military Orders

## **School Websites:**

**All area school districts and individual school maintain websites. The sites contain important, up-to-date information on your school, to include calendars, student handbooks, parents' information, just to name a few. Please include your school's website on those favorite links and monitor regularly.**

### **Davis County School District**

<http://www.davis.k12.ut.us>

### **WEBER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

[www.weber.k12.ut.us](http://www.weber.k12.ut.us)

### **OGDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

[www.ogden.k12.ut.us](http://www.ogden.k12.ut.us)

### **Parent Teacher Student Association**

Parents interested in becoming a member of the PTSA or have questions about the organization visit the Department of Education site Most

<http://www.pta.org>

### **Impact Aid**

The Impact Aid program distributes Federal money to local educational agencies (LEAs) to help offset the impact Federal Government activities have on LEA revenues and expenses. The purpose of the Impact Aid program is to fulfill the Federal responsibility to assist with the provision of educational services to federally connected children because certain activities of the Federal Government place a financial burden on the LEAs serving areas where such activities are carried out and to help children meet challenging State standards (20 USC 7701). More information on Impact Aid Funding can be located at

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osee/impactaid/index.html>

### **Utah Basic Skills Competency Test**

The Utah Basic Skills Competency test will measure concepts in reading, language, mathematics drawn from the Utah State Core Curriculum. The test will measure only “basic skills” as defined by the State Board of Education.

Students must pass each section of the test, as well as fulfill other graduation requirements, in order to receive a “basic high school diploma.” Once the section is passed, it does not need to be retaken.

The test contains three sections; the three sections areas are reading, language and mathematics. Students will have multiple opportunities to retake any section of the test as needed.

Students will initially take the test during the spring of the tenth grade year. Total testing time will be aprox 4-6 hours.

Accommodations will allow for students with an IEP, 504 plans or those who are designated as LEP. A Spanish language of the mathematics section will be developed.

## **Special Education**

If you have any questions about Utah’s Special Education or Exceptional Student Services, please call 801-538-7587 or visit the Utah Department of Education website at <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/> In addition to Utah’s Special Education Services, the military has the Military OneSource resource for special needs assistance. Military OneSource also has free Tip Sheets, Booklets, CDs and Cassettes that families can order online at <https://www.militaryonesource.com>

## **Davis County School District**

<https://www.davis.k12.ut.us/schools/>

801-402-5261/5630----45E State Street PO Box 588 Farmington. Ut 84052

Base Housing Schools:

**Hill Field Elementary School**—<https://www.davis.k12.ut.us/schools/hillfield>

801-402-2350---3895 1000E—Clearfield, Utah

**North Davis Jr High**—<https://www/.davis.k12.ut.us/schools/>

801-402-6600—1100 West Antelope—Layton, Ut—84041

**Nothridge High School**—<https://www.davis.k12.ut.us/schools/nh>

801-402-8500---2430 N Hill Field Road—Layton, Utah 84041

**WEBER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

<https://www.weber.k12.ut.us/schools/>

5320 Adams Avenue Park Way

Ogden, Utah

84401

801-476-7846

**OGDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

<https://www.ogden.k12.ut.us/schools>

1950 Monroe Blvd

Ogden, Utah

84401

801-737-7300

**School/Bus Locator:**

Your address determines which elementary, middle, or high school your child will attend. You may locate your child's school by going to the school district website.

**What Parents/Guardians can do:**

- 1. Tell school when your child will be leaving as soon as you know.**
- 2. Tell the school if you or your spouse is deploying**
- 3. Call or email to find out about the new school**
- 4. Make an appointment to discuss required withdrawal procedures with school counselor**
- 5. At least a week ahead request in writing an official copy of school records**
- 6. If you have a choice plan your departure date around test dates and grading periods to prevent child from losing credits. Ask about an accelerated schedule to complete course requirements. Moving to a new school is hard enough without a repeat of course materials**

