



# School Scuttle

*Educational issues affecting military kids*

Camp Lejeune - New River - Onslow - Jones - Carteret - Pender - Private - Home Schools

SEPTEMBER 2008

[www.MCCSLejeune.com/schools](http://www.MCCSLejeune.com/schools)

## BACK TO SCHOOL

One of the things I liked best about being a teacher was getting a fresh start every new school year. I had a chance to change procedures or lessons to improve them and make my year run more smoothly and help my students be more successful. The same thing can happen at home.

Did you know that YOU can improve your child's grades? There are two very simple and well researched ways that parents can cause improvement in their child's academic performance.

1. **Eat dinner together as a family** at least three times per week. Just this simple act of sitting down for some family time has been shown to improve student performance at school. Rather than asking the same old "What did you learn today?" Try some creative questions that will engage your child and get them started talking. Which class takes up the most space in your notebook? Which teacher has the best sense of humor? If you could change one class what would you do and why? These questions are non-threatening because there are no wrong answers, and they will get the conversation started.
2. **Talk to your child's teacher.** Children of involved parents are much more likely to be good students, to be involved in school activities, and to attend school regularly. Talking to people at your child's school lets your child know that education is important to you. By staying in touch, you will be better able to support your child when challenges arise. You will have built a relationship with an adult that can help support your child throughout the year.



## From the Bulletin Board...

### **FREE SAT or ACT TEST PREP MATERIALS - A \$199 VALUE!**

Thanks to a grant from the NFL, eKnowledge.com is offering military connected students free prep software. The package includes a high quality DVD set that has 120 instructor lessons, 11 hours of training, 40 hours of student participation, a study at home pacing guide, and 120 video question/answer movies. Testimonials claim students have improved their scores by hundreds of points after using the program. **Get your free copy here:**

<http://eknowledge.com/military.asp>



## CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENT SCHOOLS DATE CHANGE

The staff development day for teachers has been moved from September 17 to September 10. There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Students WILL be in school on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

## PROGRESS REPORTS ARE KEY TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Progress reports are snapshots in time of your child's school performance. They can alert parents and teachers to problems before the final grades are assigned at the end of a grading period. Watch for and ask your child for his or her progress report. Ask questions if there are problems and follow up with your child's teacher. Problems that are identified early can be solved before the child falls too far behind.

### **Progress report dates for September:**

16<sup>th</sup> - Onslow County high schools

25<sup>th</sup> - Onslow County elementary and middle schools and  
All Camp Lejeune/New River schools

## ATTEND COUNTY SCHOOLS? DON'T BE LEFT OUT OF THE "FIRST COUNT"

If you live off base, your children are counted at the beginning of each school year to allow local school systems to collect extra funds due to your status as a federal employee. The program is called "Impact Aid" and it is designed to help military or federally impacted communities who might have lost tax base because of federal property in their area. Your child will bring home a card from school. Please fill out the card and return it promptly. Each card is currently worth about **\$450 in funds** for the local school district. In the case of children with special needs, that amount can double. Please help our local schools, be ready, and sign your card when it arrives.

## INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY KIDS

In August, **North Carolina became the 11<sup>th</sup> state to sign on** to an interstate compact that makes educational transitions easier for military kids. The compact is especially important for high school students because it allows more flexibility in accepting credits and testing from other states. It also allows students more flexibility in participating in sports. For a complete list of the benefits that the compact has to offer, check it out at

<http://www.csg.org/programs/ncic/EducatingMilitaryChildrenCompact.aspx>

## RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

Did you know that riding a school bus is a privilege and not a right? Many people think that since a free public education is granted to every American, that the ride there is protected as well. Not so. School districts choose to provide that service to help the children who might not otherwise be able to get to the school building. Since it is a privilege, it can be lost. Poor student behavior on buses can be a major safety concern for the driver. Please take a few minutes to **talk with your child about proper bus behavior**. Keeping hands, feet, and objects to oneself and staying seated are the keys to a safe and convenient ride.

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