MEMORANDUM FOR SUPERINTENDENTS, DoDDS-EUROPE
PRINCIPALS, DoDDS-EUROPE

SUBJECT: Accelerated Withdrawal Due to PCS SY 2015-2016

References:
(a) DoDEA Regulation 2905.01, “School Attendance,” August 26, 2011 w/ch 1 Aug 12, 2013
(b) Director, DoDDS-Europe Memorandum 14-EUR-003, “Accelerated Withdrawal” March 24, 2014, 14-EUR-003 (hereby cancelled)

Reference (a) permits principals to authorize the accelerated withdrawal of students from school 20 or less instructional days prior to the end of a semester. This policy recognizes that due to military necessity, families are occasionally required to move prior to the end of the school year and that children should not be penalized for this. The 20-day limit provides reasonable flexibility without compromising academic standards or placing the student in an untenable position in regard to mastery of curriculum content. This provision was never intended to apply to, or be extended for, the convenience of family travel, visits, or other discretionary reasons. The policy therefore requires verification of the date of sponsor’s departure, i.e., Permanent Change of Station (PCS) or other official orders, to school officials in order to receive consideration for full academic credit. Students who withdraw prior to the 20-day limit receive a "withdrawal" grade rather than a final grade.

The accelerated withdrawal dates for SY 2015-2016 are as follows:

- Most DoDDS-E Schools: December 17, 2015 (First Semester) and May 19, 2016 (End of SY). Students must be in school all day on the last school day prior to the accelerated withdrawal date (December 16 and May 18 respectively).

- AFNORTH, Bahrain, Geilenkirchen, Kleine Brogel, and SHAPE Schools: See individual school calendars. Students must be in school all day on the last school day prior to the accelerated withdrawal date.

You should be confident of my complete support should you be questioned or challenged in the enforcement of this policy. A school procedure for parents and staff should be published or highlighted in school handbooks - especially at the high school level. Questions or concerns may be addressed to Mr. Harvey Gerry, Chief of Staff.

Joan C. Islas
Interim Director, DoDDS-Europe