Team,

DoD has re-evaluated its budgetary situation in light of the enactment of an appropriations bill for the Department. I have been officially notified that the Department can reduce the number of proposed civilian furlough days to no more than 14 days versus the 22 days as originally planned for 12 month employees. In light of that decision, we will delay issuing proposed notices of furlough to DoDEA employees until about early to mid-May, and proposed furloughs would not begin until mid to late June. We are anticipating receiving additional information about how a proposed furlough will affect DoDEA schools very shortly. I realize that this continuing uncertainty for the school level creates great anxiety among our employees, students, families and commands. As soon as I know something, I will let you know.

Unfortunately, given the current DoD budgetary circumstances, DoD is still forced to propose a furlough for most of our civilian workforce for up to 14 days in order to execute a balanced reduction in the DoD budget that both meets sequestration targets and minimizes the adverse effects on our mission. I recognize that any proposed furlough will result in disruption to both your personal life and professional responsibilities. I want to assure you that all DoDEA leaders remain steadfast in their efforts to minimize the hardships created by any proposed furlough for our employees. We will work through the challenges, together. When we look back on these difficult times, I am confident that we will do so with great pride because we did our best, and we performed magnificently.

We still hope that Congress will pass a deficit reduction package that the President can sign that would permit a de-triggering of sequestration. If that happens, DoD would move to end furlough plans.

Take care.

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