



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
S.H.A.P.E. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
AMERICAN MIDDLE SCHOOL
S.H.A.P.E., BELGIUM



Dear Parents & Sponsors,

Welcome to SHAPE American Middle School, whether you are returning or new to SHAPE. We are known as GLADIATORS. As we move into the start of the school year, with lots of preparations to be done, I look forward to meeting all of you and working together to make this a great year.

Our staff is excited to start off a new school year and continues to create an identity for our Middle school. While you may not be part of the teaching staff, you are just as important to your children's education. Your children receive the best education when we work as a team. It is parents' enthusiasm, support, and involvement, combined with our staff's ability to teach what our students need to learn, that inspires children to do their best. I am challenging SHAPE American Middle school to receive a Blue Ribbon School award after our five year initial start. Together we can achieve great things!

There are exciting times ahead: meeting new teachers, taking new courses, making new friends, participating in activities, and much more... and we at SHAPE American Middle School look forward to sharing and being a part of this. I encourage you to become an active member of our school by volunteering in your child's classroom (there is an approval process in place for this), joining our PTSO, participating in our School Advisory Committee (we are currently looking for parents to join), help plan and organize activities and develop strong relationships with our staff.

This year we will focus on Continuous School Improvement (CSI) and educational strategies to provide the best learning environment. We need your involvement in this process and invite you to become a member of our SAC.

SHAPE American Middle School will be an outstanding school, and we have many reasons to celebrate. We are planning an enjoyable and rewarding school year, and look forward to working with each one of you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions, or comments. Thank you for your partnership!

Respectfully,

Mario Vanheuckelom Ed.D.
Principal SHAPE American Middle School
Engage, Learn, and Lead.