



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
KOREA DISTRICT  
UNIT 15549  
APO AP 96205-5549**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DoDDS Korea Announces Teacher of the Year

DoDDS Korea is pleased to announce Mr. Chad Casciani as the 2009 District Teacher of the Year. Mr. Casciani joined DoDDS in August of 2000 and accepted his first assignment at Seoul American Elementary School where he worked in two separate positions as an Early Childhood Educator from 2000-2004 and as Literacy Facilitator from 2004-2006. In the fall of 2006, he transferred to Daegu American School (DAS) as the school Literacy Facilitator and currently teaches Kindergarten. For the 2008-2009 school year, Chad will return to his previous position as Literacy Facilitator.

“Chad is an excellent representative and we are proud of his accomplishments as an educator. He is passionate about his work in education and we are honored to have him serve in this capacity,” commented Korea District Superintendent, Mr. Sam Menniti.

Born in Monongahela, Pennsylvania, Chad later received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary and Early Childhood Education from California University of Pennsylvania and his Master of Arts Degree in Educational Technology from Michigan State University. Prior to joining DoDDS, Mr. Casciani taught for two years in a suburb of Pittsburgh.

When asked about his work with students and the community, Mr. Casciani stated, “I am very involved with students, parents, and the DAS community. All students who enter my classroom COUNT! I work with 26 students daily and describe my classroom as student centered. A visitor to my classroom would see students actively engaged in various structured, multi-leveled ‘learning centers’ simultaneously throughout the day. I have created a classroom environment where proven, researched based instructional strategies meet the unique and individual needs of the children in my classroom. For the past two school years I have served as one of the Continuous School Improvement co-chairs at DAS and have overseen the work of the faculty in obtaining engagement in an organized, continuous process that focuses on enhanced learning for all students. I have led our teachers and stakeholders in the development of the school profile and school improvement plans, along with analyzing data as the plan has been implemented.”

Mr. Casciani has also served in two separate FEA leadership positions. For three years, he served as Faculty Representative Spokesperson of Seoul American Elementary School and he currently serves as the Vice President of the Teacher’s Education Association of Korea.

Mr. Casciani also pointed out how much he respects his fellow educators by stating, “I absolutely enjoy teaching and working with my fellow DoDDS Korea colleagues every day. I am much honored to be Korea’s District Teacher of the Year.”