



Department of Defense Education Activity  
**Pacific East District**  
Kinnick High School  
PSC 473 Box 95  
FPO AP 96349



**SAC Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026**  
**Kinnick High School Information Center**  
**1500 - 1630**

**1. Meeting Norms**

Elected Members:

**TEACHERS:**

- Mark Aleckson
- Tavia Heyer
- Nicole Reuss – Chairperson Nomination
- VACANT – Ms. Angelita Benitez – Teacher Nomination

**PARENTS:**

- Brooke DeWolfe- Vice-Chairperson Nomination
- Dr. Lashaunda Norman – Secretary

Parents Attendees: Stephanie DeLeo, Sarah Kline, Kendra Harvey

**2. Presentation of EOY report** – the meeting opened at 3PM by SAC Chairperson, Ms. Reuss.

**3. Reports/Updates:**

- a. Principal/Assistant Principal
  - Kinnick is the first high school in the Pacific to receive the AVID Site of Distinction, which is a program for students who have the potential to succeed in rigorous courses but need academic and organizational support to achieve college readiness and success. There is an entrance requirement.
  - Kudos to the sponsors and student participants for their accomplishments: Harvard Model Congress, Creative Expressions, Robotics Team, Air Rifle Team (Nationals), Far East Jazz and Modern Music, On Fire Awards
- b. SLO
  - CFAY G. Washington ship will support Class of 2026 picture April 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:45-9:45AM.
  - Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> is the scheduled IAC meeting for Principals and SAC Chairs with Commander Hopkins at 1500.
  - Road closure adjacent to Kinnick HS (commissary to food court) will extend from Feb. – Sept. 2026
  - Please attend Ombudsman and Town Hall meetings to find out important information about CFAY and also a forum for misconceptions to be dispelled.

**4. Old Business - Items discussed:**

SLO:

- a. CAPT SOBOL is in favor of maintaining the name of Nile C Kinnick HS, although it is a new building located behind Yokosuka MS versus same location.

PRINCIPAL:

- b. School Action Plan was discussed in detail to inform the community.
- c. New school will be finished by Oct. 2026, and Spring 2027 must be outfitted for opening SY 27-28.
- d. Brigg's Bay sports complex is open for certain sporting events while final components are being finished.
- e. Ms. Hurst provided explanation for few home games during Fall 2025 sports.
- f. SY25-26 Meeting Dates: Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 19, Mar. 19, Apr. 16, and May 21.

## 5. New Business

- a. Vote for SAC nominees: SAC Chairperson and SAC Vice-Chairperson and need a teacher rep for two-year term.
  - CONGRATULATIONS Ms. Nicole Reuss -SAC Chairperson, Ms. Brooke DeWolfe - SAC Vice-Chairperson, and Ms. Angelita Benitez -Teacher Rep for being voted in for two-year terms on Kinnick's School Advisory Committee (SAC).
- b. Parent and Student Education on College Prep and Planning (i.e., scholarship advertisements and locations, FAFSA info., FAQs, transcripts, Post-911/GI Bill/Yellow Ribbon, Summer opportunities, internships, College Fair with multiple schools participating, ongoing support for students and parents beyond College Board and online searches)
  - Ms. Benitez, Kinnick School Counselor, provided a presentation that addressed each of the above concerns. The info. provided can be viewed using this link: [Counselor Brief - 15 JAN 26](#)
    - SchoolLinks (found within ClassLink on Chromebook) is the digital tool that counselors use and monitor in Grades 6-12 to prepare students to be college and career ready. In addition, all the counselors are available to meet with parents and students anytime throughout the year by request.
    - SCHOLARSHIPS: Kinnick webpage under the counselor's page contains a list of current scholarships with links to all information and there are third party scholarships matched to the students within SchoolLinks. Scholarships, especially locally advertised, are also placed in their Google Classroom in which parents can access through their children's login or email invitation.
    - Summer Job Opportunities: SLO, Mr. Schmid, informed parents that CYP offers opportunities for teens as long as the federal government approves the funding, as well as Red Cross has a youth club that meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays that is starting a partnership with the Yokosuka Branch Medical Health facility for students that are interested in health fields.
- c. Graduation potential locations and source of funding (i.e., DoDEA sponsored or least expensive location if fundraising is required by students)
  - Up to COVID, the performing arts center was the venue off base. The pandemic forced all events on base. Kinnick has the problem of being the largest school in the Pacific without space, especially indoor space that could hold graduation, which is why Kinnick HS graduated on Berkley Field the past few years. The performing arts will be available for Class of 2027.
  - Yokosuka Arena (1.6km from here) is the proposed venue for Class of 2026 but cannot be reserved on the Japanese side until Feb. 5 @ 10AM. Without using MWR resources at a high cost to have a nice graduation for students, students will have to graduate with two different ceremonies in Benny Decker and won't have the opportunity to graduate with their peers. Thus, the requirement for non-appropriate funding (NAF) through fundraising.
    - Ms. Hurst explained that appropriated funds of DoDEA cannot be used to pay for graduation venues that are not on school property.
- d. Far East Sports
  - Boys' basketball will be held at Kinnick H, Girls' Basketball will be in Okinawa, Wrestling Girls will be held in Okinawa and boys will be in Korea, and Cheerleading will be in Yokota Feb. 2-3.

## 6. Open Forum

- a. Parent: Why are school sponsors requiring all correspondence to be through social media?
  - Communication is constantly evolving; however, school academic and extra-curricular programs can post within their Google chat information to share with peers and parents. Ms. Hurst will also talk to school sponsors about effective communication with students and parents.

## 7. Closing – the meeting adjourned at 4:17PM

- a. Next meeting – Thursday, March 19, 2026