



Diana G. Mizell

Diana Mizell serves as the School Liaison Officer, Marine Corps Community Services, Marine Corps Base Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan.

Ms. Mizell spent 9 years with the Okinawa District Department of Defense Dependent Schools, as a Special Education Paraprofessional, Case Study Committee Technician, Registrar and Administrative Office Manager. For the past four school years she has served as an elected official on the School Advisory Committee at Kadena High School, serving as the Chairperson for school years 06-07 and 07-08 and most recently as the committee Secretary for school year 08-09. She has been through the National Accreditation Process as a DoDDS employee at the elementary school level and as a parent at the high school level. Diana has been involved in the Adopt-a-School, Drug/Alcohol Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), Red Ribbon Week Celebration, Home-School Partnership, Academic Assistance and Military Using Math (MUM) programs in addition to numerous other school/community events.

Diana arrived on Okinawa in 1998 and has raised 3 children in DoDDS Okinawa schools. She has served as a representative at the Okinawa District Activities Council (ODAC), Pacific Theatre Education Council (PTEC) study and has also been involved with hosting Japanese counterpart schools. In 2002 Diana and her husband were one of 5 original parents to initiate and organize the beginning of DoDDS Okinawa Parent Committee sponsoring high school baseball and softball at the Varsity/Jr Varsity levels, which partnership successfully led to both sports being funded by DoDDS Okinawa.

As a spouse of a military member with a high deployment rate Diana is familiar with the challenges of “single” parenthood and the assistance required by spouses of those highly deployed members. As a daughter of a military member and mother whose first language was not English, she is aware of the issues and concerns that affect military spouses whose first language is not English trying to communicate with teachers, counselors and school administrators. Diana herself is a “DoDDS Product” and knows the issues and impacts of changing schools often. She has spent 9 years as an employee and 11 years as a parent on several committees researching issues and resolving them to ensure that the outcome would assist students to their highest level of success. Sometimes those issues affect a large student body population; sometimes they affect just one student; both equally significant.