



German American National Congress, Inc. Chicago South and South Suburban

German American Heritage Center
25249 South Center Road, Frankfort, IL 60423
815-464-1514 ~ www.dankchicagosouth.org

August 2009

Willkommen! Welcome to a new year of the DANK Chicago South German Language School! We are proud and excited to offer a new year of Saturday morning German language classes and we are looking forward to teaching your children! In order to make this a successful year, we have outlined a few important items.

Attached you will find several documents including registration forms, school calendar and other important information. In an effort to be more eco-friendly, most of our communications will be conducted via email. It is always good practice to reply that you have received the emails. Also please keep us up-to-date with your current or best email address for prompt and accessible communication.

School Location and Building Rules:

- The first day of school is September 26, 2009. The last day is May 1st 2010.
- Classes are every Saturday from 9am to 12noon except holidays (see attached calendar)
- The school is located in the Zion Lutheran Church, 17100 S. 69th Avenue in Tinley Park. Please use the wooden double door entrance accessible from the south parking lot, close to the stop sign.
- Please make sure your child arrives on time and comes prepared for class each Saturday. A separate backpack for only German School is highly recommended. Your child's teacher will inform you of any specific supplies needed for class.
- Room 15 will be the "front desk" area, a gathering area for parents waiting for class to end. No child will be released without a parent or designated adult present.

Holidays:

- As the year goes on, we will be alerting you to various outside cultural or educational events or resources we may come across. If you know of such events, please let us know so we can share them with everyone.
- Some in-school holidays will include Skt. Martinstag, Skt. Nikolaustag, Advent, Fasching and Easter (Ostern). Your child's teacher will inform you of any special projects as time draws near.
- Every year we gather for an Adventskaffee in December and end-of-year program at the DANK Club House in Frankfort. Families are welcome to celebrate as children perform a small program. More details will follow.
- Attached you will also find a schedule for the upcoming school year. We also encourage families to attend and participate as members of the DANK organization. As part of your membership, you will receive a club newsletter highlighting upcoming events and other news.
- We are also participating in the Frankfort Fall Festival Parade and ask you to accompany your child(ren) in the parade on Sunday, September 6th. We are meeting in the Borg Warner parking lot at 12:45pm

Volunteers--We are always looking for volunteers to help in various capacities:

- organization of the holiday activities, Adventskaffee and end of year school program
- assist at the "front desk" during class time
- assist teachers with various projects as needed
- sign up at the "front desk" or email your availability and talents or interests to the School Directors

Curriculum: Curriculum is based on the collaboration of all the DANK Schools. We want to offer a uniform program based on the success of over 40 years of DANK Schools in the Chicagoland area. We also strive to provide your child with the best qualified teachers that are dynamic, engaging and who love teaching German. Our curriculum is structured yet allows children of no German knowledge as well as children with German knowledge a challenging learning experience.

Tuition: Our tuition is based in accordance with all DANK Schools in the Chicago Metro area. This allows us to appropriately compensate our teachers for their time and dedication. This year our tuition of \$400.00 is based on full year enrollment of 3-hour classes for 28 weeks. We also offer discounted tuition of \$375 for 2nd child.

Membership: DANK is a national organization and membership is required of at least one family member. If you are not a member, an application is enclosed. The membership fee is \$30 per year for head of household or \$40 for family, children under 18 are free. Please make this check payable to DANK for your membership dues and return with your school registration packet.

Early Bird Registration:

We are offering Early-Bird Registration to expedite the enrollment process and simplify the first day of school. Please complete and return the following by September 18th.

- Student Registration Form
- Tuition Check payable to "DANK Chicago South German School"
- Application for Membership (only if non-member)
- Membership check for \$30 (or \$40 for family) payable to "DANK"
- Please mail packet to Marianne Dietz at 8633 W. 144th Street, Orland Park, IL 60462.

We look forward to a successful year!

Any questions or concerns, please contact Marianne Dietz or Anita Walthier

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Marianne Dietz (708) 403-9693 or dietz04@comcast.net

Anita Walthier (708) 636-3074 or awalthier@sbcglobal.net

Co-Directors of DANK Chicago South German School

For more information about DANK Chapter South and Suburban, please see www.dankchicagosouth.

DANK CHICAGO SOUTH SCHOOL POLICIES

v. 7.19.09

Drop-Off and Pick-Up: Parents should come to the classroom to drop off and pick up all children. Please show the proper respect to our child's teachers and classmates – it is much better to arrive early than late. In case of an emergency, or if you will be late to pick up your child, or someone other than parents or emergency contact will be picking up your child, please contact your child's teacher at her number.

Absence: If your child will be absent for class, please notify your teacher as soon as you know, and no later than 8:00 am on the day of class.

Severe Weather: If we cancel class because of a snowstorm or other severe weather – we will call you by 8:00am.

School Conduct: We are asked by Zion Lutheran Church of obvious respect to the building. This includes no running, horseplay, yelling in hallways.

Schulladen (School Store): Every third week we will be running a "Schulladen" for a short period of time at the end of the school day. The students earn "Schuleuro" (special school Euro bills) as incentives for various teacher designated activities, for example: good behavior, or excellence in participation or achievement. With these Shuleuro, they can purchase small items or typically German candies. The students are required to use German conversation to communicate with the "shopkeepers" (teachers and volunteers, see below). Donations of Schulladen items are welcome. Please contact Marianne Dietz, Anita Walthier or your teacher about donations.

Parent Volunteers: We are looking for adult (parent or grandparent) volunteers to help with different projects – to man our "front desk" during class time, or help with crafts, to run the Schulladen at the end of every 3rd class (German speakers needed for this one). Does someone play guitar? Or piano? The more parental involvement we have for such tasks, the more the teachers can focus on teaching. We will have a sign-up sheet out on the first day, and may occasionally ask for help during the session.

We welcome any guest speakers you may know (parents, grandparents, relatives, friends) to share their experiences with German culture and history, appropriate to the age group.

**DANK Chapter Chicago South
Saturday Morning German Language School**

Classes take place Zion Lutheran Church 171st Street and 68th Ave., Tinley Park
Enter through wooden doors on south side of building from the big parking lot.

Adventskaffee (Christmas/St. Nikolaus program) tentatively Sunday December 9 3-5pm
at the German-American Heritage Center 25249 Center Road Frankfort 60423

The school children perform song(s) or poem(s) they have practiced for the event. German Christmas carols are sung, baked treats are shared, a Christmas craft is made, and a special visitor comes with gifts for all. School families and the whole DANK South club are invited to join us. A small donation is requested, students enter free.

Tentative End of School program May 10 10am to noon in the Zion church building – room TBA The school children share their knowledge, families are welcome to mingle.

You will be informed of any other events or family included assemblies as they come up.

DANK South Chapter events/activities take place

at the German-American Heritage Center 25249 Center Road Frankfort 60423

Details will be available through DANK South chapter mailings, flyers will be provided in the parent room. Also, check the website – www.dankchicagosouth.org.

School Contacts

School Coordinator

Daina Tricou

Phone 708-614-1336

Cel 708-259-0110

dainat@aol.com

Alternate contact for administration questions

Karen Krause

Phone 708-364-1128

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