

- The School Year through Facebook - A Chronicle of My Year at Zama American High School



Charles Levie: Mathematics Teacher

School Year: 2013-2014

First day of school... First faculty meeting...
The beginning of a good year at Zama.



August 21, 2013

**The Joy of Freshmen ☺ First week of school down...
Now for the long weekend...**



August 30, 2013

Great football game tonight...
Zama 21 - Yokota 20



August 30, 2013



Girls Volleyball at Zama
tonight... A good night...

September 10, 2013

Typhoon coming tomorrow... But it did not stop the Zama Cheerleaders from their Saturday Car Wash.



September 14, 2013

A Modern Freshman's Desk in Class... volley ball shoes, iPhone, pencil case, pencils, sweater and skirt... all color coordinated ☺



September 19, 2013



A fantastic football game tonight against my former school, Kinnick. It was great seeing some of my old students again... This was perhaps the "high" point of the game..

September 20, 2013

Lunch Time in the Media Center: Three hour and a half blocks down and one more to go... The students relax.



September 26, 2013

Zama's JROTC at the beginning of a rainy night of football at Atsugi.



October 4, 2013

Colors of Freshmen Feet...
The days of white sneakers are no more 😊



October 8, 2013

Major General James C. Boozer (That's two stars for the non-John Wayne fans.) visited Zama American High School and my classroom today. He is the commander of US Army Japan, and he talked to my algebra students about their lives as Zama students. They told him they were going to beat the Air Force students at Yokota this Friday. Let's hope...



October 10, 2013

Spirit Week at Zama: Our school guidance counselor celebrating after our Homecoming Parade on base... A Great day for Zama.....



October 17, 2013

Homecoming Pep Rally today - A great success... Fantastic job Karen Kayir. Homecoming Album coming soon...



October 18, 2013

Some great Algebra students leading the JV Football team to a victory over Masawa for Homecoming.....



October 20, 2013

A Great Fall Festival At Zama today Enjoyed by old and young...



October 26, 2013



The Math Department took a field trip into Tokyo near Shinjuku Saturday night to see the Robot Restaurant. Unbelievable - A fun math night 😊

November 3, 2013



The Lady Trojans are flying high at the Pacific Far East Championship games being hosted by Zama...

November 5, 2013

I just want to say how proud I am of the Zama's Girls Volleyball Team. They finished 2nd in the Pacific Far East hosted here at Zama. They are obviously a great group of athletes, but much more importantly, they are a family of sisters. On the court, in the classroom, or just walking in the halls, it is obvious how much they care for each other.

My favorite photo of them that I "never" took would have been of them lounging in the hallway in the early morning doing homework together. They are a great group of young women who brought pride to themselves, their families, and their school. Thank you for a great season...



November 8, 2013

Tech Passes: Zama HS has a policy that provides teachers with the latitude to allow students to use technology during a class. At times during a lesson, when students are not actively interacting with anyone, they may ask permission to use the Orange Tech Passes.

At first I must admit I was a little apprehensive, but I have found that this actually limits distractions and helps the kids to focus on their assignments. Of course if they abuse it, they go on "Tech Pass Probation."



November 14, 2013

Last night our National Honor Society inducted the new members. This is always a joyous occasion for both students and parents. Here the NHS president begins the ceremony by lighting the first candle.



November 15, 2013



Zama kicked off the basketball season tonight against Kinnick of Yokosuka... It's going to be a fun winter!

November 26, 2013

A Chilling Algebra Class Today ☺



December 3, 2013



The varsity boys were home again... An entertaining night at Zama...

December 11, 2013

Winter Concert on base tonight - Students from the high school and middle school, along with some of the Army Brass Band, and even singers from a Japanese high school joined in the celebration. The auditorium was packed. A good night at Zama...



December 13, 2013

This afternoon the Zama Drama Department put on the play Grease. The students were so good...
A huge success...



December 15, 2013

"The Tale of Two Hoodies" : Some of my studious freshmen are sporting their new Class of 2017 hoodies, while I am wearing a Christmas present from a dear student from my first high school teaching position.



January 8 , 2014

Freshmen - Pretty in Pink

Members of the Class of 2017 in their Class Hoodies...



January 9 , 2014

A beautiful morning on Camp Zama today...



January 12 , 2014



Another fun night of Zama
Boys Basketball...

January 15 , 2014

I asked my Calculus students to copy their homework, and voilà...



January 16 , 2014

Relieving stress prior to the 1st exam of the semester ☺



January 17 , 2014



The Zama Girls played a very physical game and defeated CAJ (Christian Academy in Japan) tonight. The crowd thoroughly enjoyed the "battle."

January 17 , 2014

How well-hydrated freshmen survive the day ☺



January 21 , 2014



A tough night at Yokota for both the varsity and JV boys. The young men did fight hard... I am proud of them all...

January 28 , 2014

The Four Class Hoodies of Zama American High School

Freshmen to Seniors from left to right



January 29, 2014

Super Bowl "Monday" in Japan: Sunday evening's game occurs during 1st period Monday in Zama. Students in Japan have many great experiences, but they do sacrifice a lot. The Iconic Super Bowl is something they "needed" to see... They felt at home...



February 3, 2014

Spirit Week at Zama HS: Today is Pajama Day, and here are two of my spirited freshmen, Spider-Man and Superman 😊



February 4, 2014



Spirit Week At Zama: Today is Wacky-Tacky Day. For my Japanese friends, this is impossible to translate. Let's just say that the students wear the most colorful and crazy clothes they can find 😊

February 5, 2014

Zama Girls' Basketball last home game tonight Senior Night. A fun night for all...



February 6, 2014

Dr. Linda L. Curtis, DoDEA Pacific Director, visited my Algebra I class today. The freshmen asked her questions, and she seemed to enjoy the interaction. A good day...



February 7, 2014

We also had our end of Winter Sports Pep Rally.
Let's just say the students had fun 😊



February 7, 2014

Senior Night for Boys Basketball

The students played well...



February 11, 2014

The Youngest Trojan... His big brother plays JV, his bigger brother plays varsity. and his biggest brother graduated last year and now goes to Purdue... I think he was on the phone trying to get a date for the prom. ☺



February 11, 2014

Today during seminar we celebrated Valentine's Day at school... Various groups sponsored fund raisers to deliver candy/flowers to students. One group delivered the "Singing Valentine."
It was really cute!



February 13, 2014



On Presidents' Day what could be better than going to school and watching the Girls' Far East Division I Basketball Tournament? The only thing better would be to see my former school, Kinnick of Yokosuka, get a victory... Two of my former freshmen are now juniors and starting guards for Kinnick...

February 17, 2014

Energetic Freshmen - Both scholars and athletes ☺



February 18, 2014

The Varsity Cheerleaders held their end-of-season banquet tonight. It was fun to see the mostly freshmen squad celebrating a terrific showing... Proud of them all...



February 20, 2014

New Artificial Turf for Zama HS... Just in time for soccer 😊



March 2 -, 2014

Freshmen Boys - After yesterday acquiring a piece of Zama's "almost" installed artificial turf, my young algebra students and JV football players could not get over how soft it felt. They said they could not wait to rub faces in it.... Then they did... And then class began ☺
A fun way to end a week...



March 7, 2014

The Tomodachi (Friendship) Bowl - A football game between the US high school all stars and the Japanese school all stars... It was held on a beautiful Sunday afternoon at Naval Air Facility Atsugi. The former Prime Minister of Japan even attended...



March 9, 2014

Two Great Students and Siblings of JROTC



March 22, 2014

Students from Zama's Student Council with their advisor at the PX raising a little money on a Sunday afternoon... A hard working group of students, not to mention their teacher ☺



March 23, 2014

A Seminar Birthday Celebration: All you need is a quart of ice cream, a frozen cheesecake, five spoons, and of course, five good friends 😊



March 24, 2014

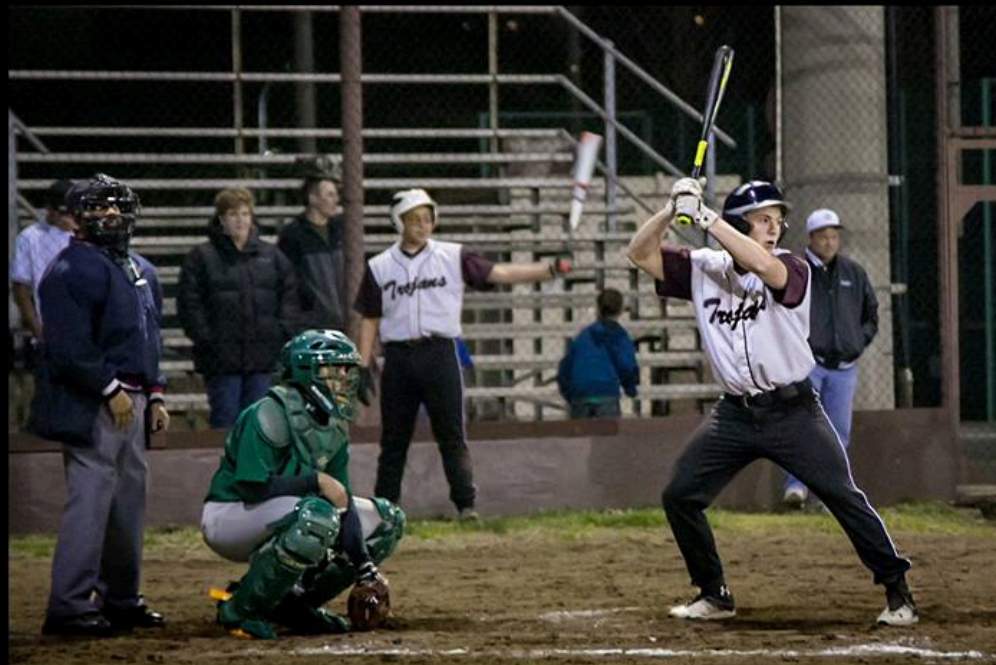
Zama's New Field and Stands... My A4 Algebra I students became the first students to walk on Zama's newly installed and almost completed artificial turf. Even though it was a little rainy, the students relished in being Number 1. A big thanks to the Japanese workers who allowed us on the field!



March 27, 2014



Softball and Baseball
tonight at Zama: Two
great math students, who
just happen to be brother
and sister, made Zama
proud...



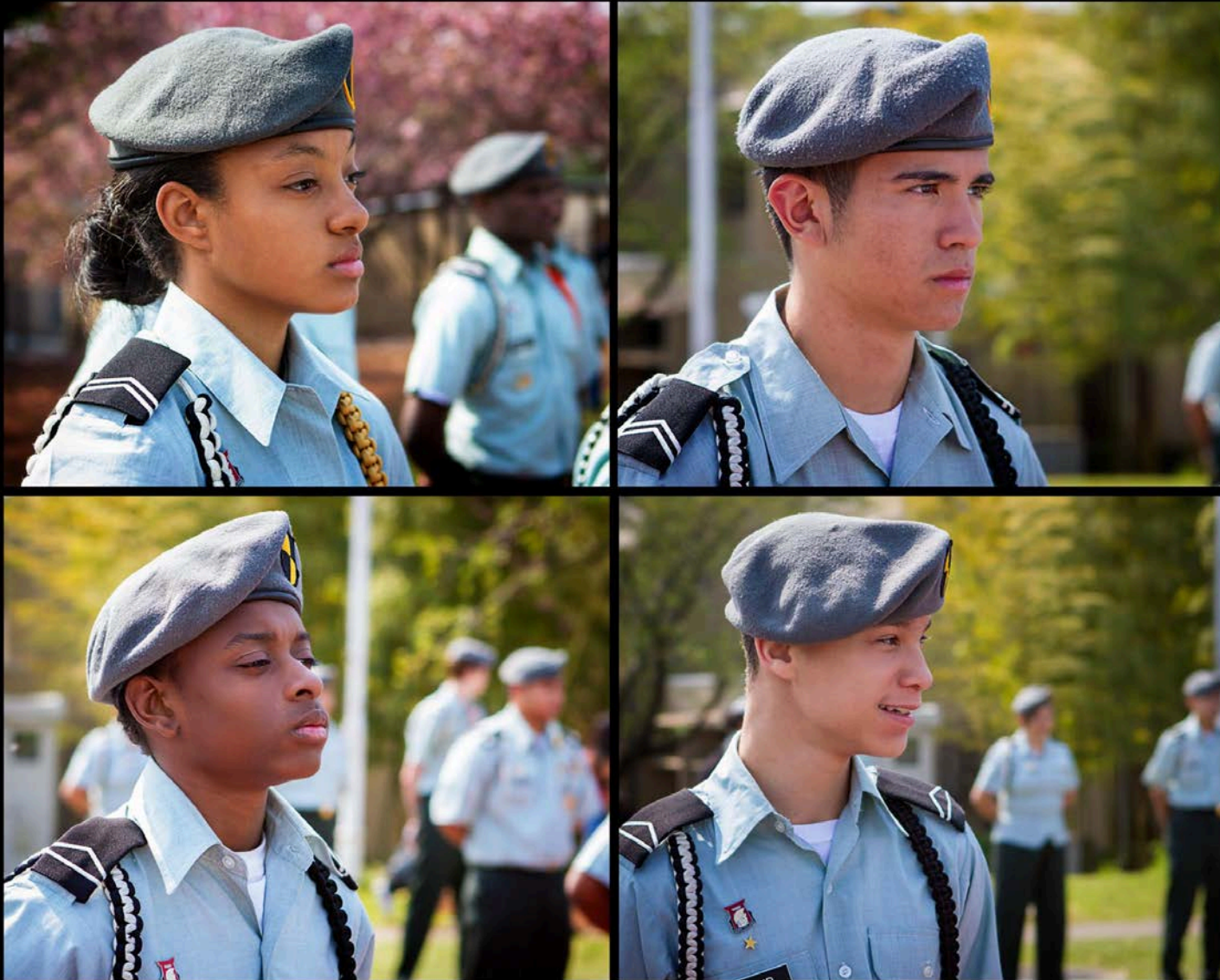
March 28, 2014

Zama HS is surrounded by a ring of Sakura (Cherry Blossoms)...
A beautiful time of the year in Japan...



March 31, 2014

**JROTC Promotion Ceremony on Zama's new field today:
My freshmen algebra students looked sharp on this beautiful day...**



April 23, 2014

DoDDS Girls Soccer Tournament at Zama: A great way to initiate our new field... Our girls looked strong...



April 24, 2014

Zama's New Field – Beautiful weather and the Girls' Soccer tournament served well to showcase Zama High's new artificial turf field. Oh, the girls of Kinnick are shown defeating the team from Sasebo... An exciting game!



April 25, 2014

During Algebra class today the topic of crying came up. Don't ask me how!!! After the guys admitted they cried at the end of sad movies, but wiped away the tears quickly, someone mentioned the YouTube video containing a series of clips showing returning service members surprising their children. All the students admitted they cried during this.

One girl then raised her hand and said that while she was in elementary school her dad was deployed for a long time. One day during a class she felt a tap on her shoulder. When she turned around, it was her father. She said all she could do when she saw him was cry. As she told the story, several of her classmates began to tear up a little. Me too...



The life of a military child, and also a military spouse, is not an easy one. Constantly moving from place to place, enrolling in new schools, and worrying about their parents in far away places is a lot for these young students to bear. However, it is amazing how well they do it. I am so proud of all of them...

April 30, 2014

Freshmen Awards Ceremony: Our two Assistant Principals distributed third quarter academic awards today during seminar. "My" freshmen did themselves and their families proud..



May 1, 2014

Math Department Plus Dinner at the Outback in Ebina... It was great to get together outside of school and just talk. The Outback in Japan is similar r to that of the US - but perhaps a little healthier - smaller steak and more veggies ☺



May 2, 2014

Lunch on our new field 😊



May 7, 2014

The New Flower Children of Zama ☺
Oh, both Lady Trojans are great students and varsity athletes..



May 9, 2014

Only in DoDDS... While in seminar today, I was listening to two students talking. After a while, I realized I was missing something. The girl was speaking to the boy in pure Japanese, while the boy was responding solely in English. They were communicating perfectly, while I was missing half the conversation. This may have been their point ☺



May 13, 2014

A Student PCS's (Permanent Change of Station): One of the difficult parts of being a DoDDS's student is the frequent changing of schools. Today was our "centered" student's last day at Zama. After an unscientific survey of my algebra class, we determined that only about 30% of incoming freshmen at Zama remain until their graduation day. Today we bid farewell to a great algebra student...



May 20, 2014

Baseball Far East Tournament at Zama began today.
First game, Zama looked good: 15-0, I think 😊



May 22, 2014

Tropical Day: The last Spirit Week of the year, and my freshmen showed why the Class of '17 shines...



May 27, 2014

Dress Like a Teacher Day: A couple of my senior calculus students are dressing for their future ☺



May 28, 2014

For their final exam the drama class had to organize, direct, and act in a play for the student body. I first thought I should show the actors, but I think a photo of the audience give a better sense of just how good the play was. The drama students did a fantastic job...



May 29, 2014

Zama Field Day Today... A great celebration of the academic year at Zama American High School! For me the high point was when the freshmen (on the right) beat the juniors in the Tug-of-War



May 30, 2014

Zama Seniors - Beware... Only one week until graduation, and your guidance counselor is a little stressed 😊 Make sure to have all your paperwork in as soon as possible.



May 30, 2014

The Slightly Illegal Opening of the New Bleachers: My first period algebra class "forced" me to promise that I would take a photo of them first on the new bleachers as soon as they opened. Well with only a couple of days of school left, the cones/pipes were still up. So this morning my young freshmen performed a clandestine operation.

We crossed the field, approached the bleachers, removed the obstacle out of sight, took our assigned seats, snapped the photo quickly, replaced the cones, and returned to class. I am happy to announce we suffered no casualties I am also proud to announce that Zama's A1 Algebra class was the first to occupy the new bleachers



June 4, 2014

I tried to find the one photo that captures the unique essence of graduations in DoDDS's schools. The image I selected is of one of my great students and her dad.



June 7, 2014

The face of a young graduate pondering her dreams...



June 7, 2014

Zama American High School Graduation today -
We sent a great group of young adults on their way...



June 7, 2014