Good evening Falcon Families!

Coming back from Spring Break, hopefully everyone feels ready to power through the final eight weeks of school, despite the non-traditional methods and circumstances. We started the week sharing the love--some of the Saratoga students put together this “We Miss You” video to the staff and some of the staff put together this “Staff Lip Dub” for the students. In addition, we shared with Senior students and their families a survey to learn what graduation options they preferred. It is our intention to do something to celebrate the graduation of our Seniors; we just don’t yet know when or how. Throughout the rest of the week, teachers and students continued to interact online based on the initial criteria and expectations when started on March 23.

On Wednesday, the details for Phase 2 of our Remote Learning plan was shared. Beginning Monday, April 20, the instructional schedule will change to the following modified four-day a week distance learning schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:15</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15-9:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>9:30-10:30</td>
<td>Per 1</td>
<td>Per 2</td>
<td>Per 1</td>
<td>Per 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Per 3</td>
<td>Per 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-11:45</td>
<td>Per 3</td>
<td>Per 4</td>
<td>Per 3</td>
<td>Per 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45-12:45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>12:45-1:45</td>
<td>Per 5</td>
<td>Per 6</td>
<td>Per 5</td>
<td>Per 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45-2:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>2:00-3:00</td>
<td>Per 7</td>
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</table>

This schedule is intended to respond to the feedback received from students, parents, and teachers, standardize time for students to access classes and office hours with teachers, create time for students to engage with the course work, and accommodate for teachers to collaborate and improve upon their distance learning effectiveness.

Next week, Superintendent Grove is organizing a Grading Advisory Group to help identify the ideal grading strategy for our district. By the end of next week, teachers, students, and families will have more information about how end of semester grades will be represented.

As always, I hope you and your family are doing well and staying healthy. Please continue to protect yourself and others from contracting this virus by sheltering-in-place, social distancing, and washing your hands. Sooner than later, we will be back together.

Best wishes,

Greg Louie, Principal
Senior Athlete Shoutouts
The Spirit Commission is recognizing the seniors in Spring Sports on Instagram. This week has been Softball. Next week will be Swimming. See the posts on TOGASPIRIT on Instagram.

Local Eats
Thank you for all of you who have participated in our Local Eats contest by ordering take-out or delivery of local restaurants. Please obey the county "shelter-in-place" directive and only order take-out or have the food delivered. Take the picture and send your pictures to outreachshs@gmail.com for another chance of a $25 gift card to a local restaurant. Drawing will be Thursday, 4/23. Winner will be notified and send a gift card.

Commit Day
The Senior Class office would like to honor the hard work and accomplishment of committing to a four year or two year college. If you are interested in participating, submit an entry to Instagram.com/shs2020decisions.

Welcome New Student Leaders
After a lengthy process of nominations, elections, and interviews, we would like to welcome our new student leaders. This includes new ASB officers, new class officers, and new commissions of Dance, Homecoming/Spirit, Outreach, and Rally. We look forward to their leadership in 2020-2021. (here is the list of students)

Club Officer Applications
Several clubs are taking club officer applications such as Chinese Officer Club (here), French Officer Club (here), Astronomy Officer Club (here), Benefit Commissioner Application (here), and Link Crew, to name a few. Students should check the school website.

Club Exit Forms
Each club needs to fill out an “EXIT FORM” (here) now if you would to continue to your club in the 2020-2021 school year. The EXIT FORM will serve as an exit ticket and are due May 1st. Send to one of the Clubs Commissioners, Prosper Chiu (prosper.chiu@gmail.com) or Erica Lee (ericaharin@gmail.com).

SHS Chess Tournament Fundraiser, April 18
The Saratoga High School Chess club is hosting an online chess tournament to help fundraise for medical supplies to donate to the VA Health Care System. Here's the sign up form. This tournament will take place on Saturday, April 18 at 2pm. Speaking of which, here are instructions for how to join the chess tournament on chess.com. If you don’t have a chess.com...
account, make one immediately and play as many chess games as possible because it may reject you from the tournament with the message “Played too few games.”

Due to popular demand for simuls, IM Andrew Hong used a random number generator to select 10 lucky players to play against him in the simuls. Check your inbox to see if you have been selected. The simuls will start at 5pm after the tournament.

The Saratoga High School Foundation is collecting the donations and all donations will go toward medical supplies to donate to the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. Here are the Directions for Donating to the SHS Chess Club Fundraiser. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated!

Green Team Presentation, April 22, 3pm

Our Green Team usually hosts an annual Earth Week event at school where we have an entire week of educational and recreational activities promoting sustainability such as a professional Speaker Panel or an Arts and Crafts booth. This year, however, due to the corona virus situation, we are instead going to host a single ZOOM live-streamed presentation made by our very own Green Team officers on Wednesday, April 22 at 3pm! The ZOOM Link will be on the Saratoga High School 2019-2020 Facebook Group, the SHS Green Team Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/toqagreenteam/), and in the Falcon Headlines section of our webpage.. In the live-stream, we'll be presenting on the 50th Earth Day and how the world has changed since the 1st Earth Day and other small environmental-related anecdotes.

SHS Cheer Fundraiser, April 25 and 26

On April 25 and 26, SHS Cheer is having a virtual fundraiser through Kendra Scott online. 20% of all sales will go back to Saratoga Cheer using promo code GIVEBACK7058. This is perfect timing for Mother’s Day gifts! Additional information can be found here.

Cheerleading Information Meeting, April 30

Interested in cheering for SHS next year? Male and female students wanted, no experience necessary. There is an informational meeting Thursday, 4/30 at 6pm on a Google Meet. Virtual tryouts will be Tuesday-Thursday (5/12-5/14) at 5:45 on Google Meet. Email coachcmiller@lgsuhsd.org and follow @saratogacheer on instagram for more info.
**Yearbook Sales Update**

Because of the shutdown of schools in Santa Clara County, yearbooks will be mailed in mid to late May or possibly later if there are delays at the printing plant, to each student who ordered one. In other words, there will be NO in-person distribution this spring. Yearbooks will instead be sent to whatever address the school has on file for your student.

To get a book, you must order it online at the [Saratoga High Webstore](#) before May 1. The cost is $100. There are roughly 200 copies of the yearbook still available and 550 students don't yet have a yearbook, so the sooner you order, the better your chances of securing a yearbook for your student.

Thank you for supporting the 32-student yearbook staff and editors Kiran Chandrasekher, Neda Raziat, and Callia Yuan. They are working hard under difficult circumstances to finish the yearbook.

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**US Biology Olympiad Success!!**

Congratulations to Rohan Kumar and Michael Tang for achieving semifinalist status in the US Biology Olympiad. They scored in the top 10% out of the 5,244 students nationwide who took the Biology Open Exam.

Congratulations to the Saratoga Team A & B for placing 4th and 6th in the state for the TEAMS engineering competition. The teams competed with essays, multiple choice, and design/build components centered around the theme of "Engineering in the Wild". Team A included Preston Fu, Rohan Kumar, Oliver Ye, Christine Zhang, Andrew Li, Enoch Luk, Jeffrey Xu, and Alan Zu. Team B included Jeffrey Hu, Isaac Sun, Alex Wang, Tiffany Wang, and Henry Weng.

**Tri-M Club Performances**

Our Tri-M club has continued playing music for senior homes despite the shelter in place order. We recently had members record themselves playing music and sent a compiled video to the Sunnyview retirement community in Cupertino. Going forward, we will continue with the videos and start live video calls where members can play from their homes. Tri-M has also donated over 150 face masks to the retirement home for their staff and residents. M-SET also provided us with face shields they designed and 3D printed to donate to Sunnyview.

**National Economics Challenge Success!!**

One of our Economics Club's teams, Falcon J1, won the David Ricardo division State Finals in the National Economics Challenge yesterday, and will be going on behalf of California teams in the National Semifinals in one month. Team Captain Marcus Kuo, Vicky Bai, Anirudh Balepur, and Jason Lin are all extremely excited for this opportunity, and look forward to representing both SHS and California!
The National Economics Challenge was put into a virtual format this year, and the students dedicated hours of their day to compete against the top teams in the state via Zoom. They adapted to the online format seamlessly. Their scores beat out 5 other teams to win their division and get the chance to represent California in the nationals! Saratoga has two other teams from the Economics Club that have also qualified for the state competition in the Adam Smith division as well as The Personal Finance Challenge event happening tomorrow.

Most of these students are self-studying in their free time or have taken Econ at Saratoga. Ms. Wu, the club advisor who watches the students demonstrate their knowledge, and cheers them on at the competitions claimed, “I truly believe that some of these kids could be the ones who help to save our economy with their knowledge and problem-solving in a few years.”

**Silicon Valley Youth Mask Project**

For the past five years, Silicon Valley Youth, a group of high schoolers, have been teaching classes and taking their proceeds to fund projects in local school districts. Now, as the coronavirus situation has unfolded, SVY is taking an effort to support the community and also donate supplies to those in need. So far, SVY has donated $10,000 to purchase iPads for East Palo Alto students, offered a series of free shelter in place classes, and initiated a community mask project.

We've enlisted our staff to make homemade masks (using cloth, filters, and a UV light to kill any germs) as well as taken the initiative to purchase some surgical masks with our funds that we have been handing out to elderly and teachers in the community for the past couple days. We've donated over 400 home-made masks, but are behind on making production because of the overwhelming demand and a lack of hands, especially those who have sewing machines -- if you know someone or are interested in volunteering, please visit the following link: [https://tinyurl.com/mask-project](https://tinyurl.com/mask-project) or email us at svyouth1@gmail.com!

**Connecting with Senior Citizens**

Want to help members of our Senior Citizen community? If you would like to connect and talk to Senior Citizens amidst the social isolation via Facetime or if you know a Senior Citizen in isolation who can be helped, please contact Samika Agarwal at samika7agarwal@gmail.com.

**Wellness Center Offerings**

With our new schedule next week, here are the Wellness Center offerings all on [this GHO](https):

- 8:30 - 9:15: Connect on this [GHO](https)
- 10:30 to 10:45 on M,T,Th, & F --> Wellness Practice such as Mindfulness Meditation
- 11:45 to 12:45: --> Wellness Activity
- Students can email [Marina Barnes](mailto:Marina.Barnes) to schedule a time to connect within school hours and up till 5:00pm Monday to Thursday.
Mindful Self-Compassion Program for Teens

The Wellness Center, in collaboration with CASSY, are starting a group based on “Making Friends with Yourself: A Mindful Self-Compassion for Teens (MSCT)” Program. This program is evidence based to help teens build resilience; especially through this unprecedented time. You can learn more about the program from Dr. Karen Bluth’s article on UC Berkeley’s Greater Good Magazine.

The main goal of this group is to provide a forum for students to come together as we are all feeling a bit isolated. We certainly need to maintain our physical distance, but this does not mean we need to be socially distant. We’re hoping a group will enable students to hear what fellow students are experiencing which may help all of us feel a bit more connected.

Dates for this program are the following Tuesdays: April 28th, May 5th, May 12th, May 19th, May 26th, and possibly June 2nd from 3:00pm - 4:00pm. Our expectation is students will attend all meetings because consistency is important as tools and activities build from one week to the next. Also, starting on May 5th, the group will be closed so that connections can be cultivated and deepened. Please email Marina Barnes to see if this group is a good fit for your student. If your student is definitely interested, please fill out the Parent Permission Form for participation.

In the meantime, please take 10 minutes here or there with your student to practice yoga in the comforts of your home with our community teacher, Angela Liu: Yoga Wed SHS

School Closure Guidance Counselor FAQ

Guidance counselors regularly update an FAQ during this school closure period. Check it out!

Color Guard Invitation

Do you like to dance or do gymnastics? Sign up for Fall Color Guard and/or Winter Guard at Saratoga High School next year. No experience necessary. Want to know more about Guard? Check out one of our Fall shows here and two of our Winter shows here and here! Contact Mr. Ford at aford@lgsuhsd.org for more questions or to sign up!

Online Security Recs from Director of Instructional Technology

Here are some FREE & manageable steps to make your online experience more secure in this new era:

1. Run Google Security on all Gmail accounts. The wizard will walk you through what will need your attention.
2. Free Antivirus for your home computers: https://home.sophos.com/login
3. Turn on 2-step verification for all accounts (if offered), especially banking, credit cards and your school email. We can enable for you, please submit an AkitaBox.
4. Verify your personal email accounts have not been sold or compromised via haveibeenpwned.com/ https://haveibeenpwned.com/ This is recommended to do monthly. If your email is on the breach site, change the password immediately!
5. If you are worried about any links sent to you in email, check it at one of these two locations: virustotal.com, https://monitor.firefox.com/
6. Change Passwords often all accounts, especially banking, credit cards, email. Your Google email account will need to be reset every 180 days. & use a password manager, see best of breed here: https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-password-managers
7. Use different email accounts for different needs- One for work, one for social media, one for family, one for professional memberships.