Good evening Falcon Families!

After a week of Phase 2 distance learning, I hope our students found this new schedule appropriately rigorous, relevant, and supportive. I appreciate how difficult and traumatic this ordeal has been for our students, staff, and families and we will continue to tinker and make adjustments to create the best possible teaching and learning experience under the circumstances.

On Tuesday, some of our students, staff, and parents from both LG and Saratoga met with Superintendent Grove to discuss a plan for end of semester grades. Not wanting to rush to a decision, Superintendent Grove and the Grading Advisory Group met for nearly four hours to discuss and identify the pros and cons of the various alternatives. I suspect sooner than later, families and staff will be notified of the final decision. On Wednesday, the SHS Administrators came together (virtually) to record a Student Connections video designed to remind and inform students who and how to contact an SHS Guidance Counselor, Administrator, or CASSY Therapist if they are feeling alone or sad during the school closure and shelter-in-place order. On Thursday, we resumed our Site Bond Committee meetings and presented the recommendations from our Engineering classroom (SO1) modernization and baseball facility modernization stakeholder groups. Both projects are focusing on improving flexibility, usability, safety, and equity. After thorough discussions, the Site Bond Committee supported the recommendation to budget at least $2.6 million to renovate the engineering lab. Similarly, the Site Bond Committee wants to support the recommendation of the baseball facility stakeholder group, but needs to know more about how the Measure E funds will be allocated before supporting the recommendation. The goal is to present to the LGSUHSD Board at the May 19 Board meeting. On Friday, I presented to the Saratoga Rotary Club, singing the praises of our students and staff, describing what we did before the school closure and what we are doing now to support our students academically and social-emotionally.

Next week, as we close out the month of April, I will be working with the teachers to begin building the 2020-21 Master Schedule based on the students’ course requests and our School Site Council will be convening on Thursday to do a final review of the 2020-21 Single Plan for Student Achievement.

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. Hopefully, if the science permits it, we will receive news that the shelter-in-place order is lifted. Sooner than later, we will be back together.

Best wishes,

Greg Louie, Principal
Senior and Class Recognition
When the Shelter in Place restrictions are lifted, we hope you recognize the messages of unity and TOGAterness we feel as a community.

Senior Commit Day Celebration
The Senior Class created an Instagram account to post classmates’ commitment to college, work, and gap years. Even if you don’t have Instagram, you can access the account and submit an entry by direct messaging the account, Facebook messaging Claire Smerdon or any class officer, or by emailing Claire at smec2005@lgsstudent.org. The link is www.instagram.com/shs2020decisions/.

Senior Athlete and Drama Shoutouts
The Spirit Commission is recognizing the seniors in Spring Activities on Instagram. This week was swimming and boys golf. Next week will be Dance and Boys Volleyball. See the posts on TOGASPIRIT on Instagram.

Saratoga’s Got Talent
This year we are trying something new! All of the talent shows, including Saratoga Idol, are now all combined into a single talent show called Saratoga's Got Talent! Even though we are in quarantine at home, we can still have an amazing show for STUDENTS and STAFF to show off their talents. We encourage both students and staff to sign up and think outside of the box when it comes to these talents. It will be a virtual event and participants will submit videos. There’s more information if you click on the link, so if you're interested sign up!

Local Eats: Home Edition
This week, Outreach Commission received several submissions (photographs) and Allison Tan won the $25 gift card.

Next week, the Outreach Commission will be hosting a Home Edition where we want pictures of students cooking a dish in the kitchen or a picture of the final dish. All post authors will be entered into a drawing in two weeks for a $25 iTunes gift card.
MAP Speaker Series: MAPping The Future
On Thursday, April 30 from 7pm-8:30pm, the Media Arts Program (MAP) will be hosting a Zoom panel called “MAPping The Future,” in which current MAP seniors will highlight their experiences being a part of the program and how their involvement in MAP has shaped their plans for life beyond high school. This event is open to all SHS parents and students! Please RSVP to this fantastic event.

Navigating Remote Learning: A Webinar for LGSUHSD Families
Parents: Please save the date for Wednesday, May 6 at 7 pm to join a customized webinar from Stanford’s own Challenge Success experts: “Navigating Remote Learning: A Webinar for LGSUHSD Families.”

Many families are concerned about the impact that remote learning will have on their child’s academic journey and what role they should play along the way. Join us for a 30-45-minute webinar with Challenge Success to explore practical tips and guidelines for what families can do to best support student well-being and engagement with learning right now. There will be time for Q&A at the end. Please register at this link:

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
There is an informational meeting Thursday, 4/30 at 6pm. 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.
2019-20 Yearbook: Last Week to order!

To receive a yearbook, families must order online at the [Saratoga High Webstore](https://example.com) before May 1. The cost is $100. 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. There will be NO in-person distribution.

AP Testing Updates

Email Address: Use Personal Email: College Board will be communicating directly with students taking AP exams by using the email address a student provided on their College Board account. College Board strongly urges students to use a personal email address rather than a school email (@lgsstudent.org).

Students can verify what email address they listed on their College Board account by going to [myap.collegeboard.org](https://example.com) and clicking their profile in the top right hand corner of the screen and going to Account Settings. Students can scroll down to verify the email address listed is the one they want to use to receive their AP exam e-ticket. To change the email, click Update.

The SHS Guidance Office has contacted students who are using their school email address urging them to change the email address on their College Board account. Next week, College Board will send an email to students with preliminary instructions on the login process.

General Technical Information for online AP Exams: The online AP Exam is optimized for use in the latest versions of Chrome (preferred), Firefox, Safari, and Microsoft Edge. The online exam won't be compatible with Internet Explorer 11. Before the exam, students should ensure they have access to one of the optimized browsers for the exam.

AP Exam Prep Session Week of May 4th: During the final days before exams, AP online classes and review sessions will focus on simulating the exam experience and reviewing sample exam questions. Here’s the link to [AP Exam Prep Sessions on YouTube](https://example.com).

Accommodated Students: Here are highlights for students who have approved accommodations:

- Students who have received approval for their accommodations don’t need to submit any further requests. Their approvals will apply to this year’s AP Exams.
- Extended time will be provided through the online exam for students approved for this accommodation.

Here is more information regarding [Accommodations for 2020 AP Exams](https://example.com). Here’s the [link to all of the details from the College Board](https://example.com).

If you have questions regarding AP exams, contact Kathy Sheridan (ksheridan@lgsuhsd.org).
TOGALINK
Two of the students (Matthew Wang and Vignav Ramesh) have also been working with Saratoga City Council to create a platform that allows members of the community to help individuals who may be self-quarantining and unable to obtain groceries etc. Their platform incorporates an integrated map and a discussion platform to encourage volunteer efforts and strengthen Saratoga community spirit! Their website is currently live at https://togalink.org/.

Administrative Professionals Week
In honor of Administrative Professionals Week, we'd like to recognize the outstanding efforts of our amazing Office Staff. During this unpredictable and unstable time of COVID-19, they work tirelessly behind the scenes to bring stability and consistency to our school. With 3/4’s of the Administrative Team new this year, we really rely on Pola-Michelle Alas, Julia Peck, Anna Ybarra, Mandy Armes, Kathy Sheridan, Sharon Fong, Janet (Verson) Yowell, and Robert Wise to keep us in line. Thank You!

Tournament of Champions Success!!
The Tournament Of Champions is a nationally acclaimed tournament our kids work very hard to get to each year. Obviously, given the current climate, we were not able to send our qualifying squad to the University of Kentucky this year to compete, BUT we were able to compete in both speech and debate remotely.

Selina Chen came away as the National Champion in Informative! Adhit Sankaran and Ronak Pai competed in the Gold Public Forum competition, and broke to the Octo-Finals, top 32 in the country, with a 6-3 record. Siva Sambasivam and Neil Shah competed in the Silver Public Forum, and went 4-3, JUST missing elimination rounds. Connie Liang, Harshini Velchamy, and Anouk Yeh all competed in speech, in Oratory, Oratory, and Program Oratorical Interp, respectively. They all had a great showing.

LA Hacks Success!!
Recently, five students from Saratoga High participated in a virtual 2-day college-level hackathon - LA Hacks <https://lahacks.com/> organized by UCLA, where 690+ students participated. Spoiler Alert, but Saratoga High won first place!

The students who participated were Matthew Wang (Grade 12), Vignav Ramesh (Grade 10), Mason Wang (Grade 9), Howard Huang (Grade 10), Tony Jiang (Grade 12). Their Project - Archiscape (https://archiscape.tech/) and (https://devpost.com/software/archiscape). Archiscape is a deep neural network (DNN) based progressive web application (PWA) aimed at revolutionizing the fields of smart infrastructure, urban planning, and home design by allowing construction workers and architects to convert 2D floorplan images to 3D models and virtual tours.
Wellness Center Offerings

Would you like your student to gain some tools so they can be happier with who they are and to increase their toolkit for resiliency during this unprecedented time? Invite them to join our online group this Tuesday from 3:00 - 4:00pm. Please email Marina Barnes for the Zoom Link.

CASSY is offering a weekly online newsletter for families to gain ideas on how to create some quality time together. We invite the whole family to be involved in this week's activity which is the Creative Expression Collage. Hop onto the Online Wellness GHO if your student would like to do this with their friends.

Schedule for Mon, Tues, Th, & Fri on this Online Wellness GHO:

- 8:30 - 9:15 --> Drop-In's
- 10:30 to 10:45 --> Wellness Practice such as Mindfulness Meditation
- 11:45 to 12:45: --> Wellness Activity: Creative Expression Collage

Wed's from 11:30am to 12:00pm --> Yoga with Angela Liu, at this Yoga GHO.

Students can email Marina Barnes to schedule a time to connect within school hours and up to 5:00pm Monday to Thursday.

School Closure Guidance Counselor FAQ

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