Good afternoon!

The SHS Class of 2021 is wrapping up this season's family giving tree event. Over 250 gifts have been donated by families from Saratoga High, Argonaut Elementary, Foothill Elementary and Saratoga Elementary! Local families in need will have a happier holiday thanks to the generosity of our community.

Also this week, staff participated in the final AM Collaboration meeting to focus on WASC goals and action plans. A draft of our Self-Study Report will be sent to the WASC Visiting Team soon and then they will be on campus March 22-25 to validate our findings. On Thursday, we hosted a small team of staff and students from Evergreen Valley High School so that they could learn more about our rolling block schedule, the pedagogical practices of our teachers, and the experiences of our students. Last night, the Winter Concert series kicked off with the Winter Band Concert in the McAfee. Next week, our Winter Concerts will showcase our Jazz band, Choir, and Orchestra.

Tonight, our Men’s Basketball teams host Los Gatos High School, with the Freshmen at 4pm, JV at 5:30pm, and Varsity at 7pm. In addition, our drama program hosts ComedySportz event at 7pm.

Here’s an overview for the rest of this week and next week:

**Saturday, December 7:**
- Women’s JV Basketball at Half Moon Bay High School
- Coed Varsity Wrestling at Half Moon Bay Tournament
- Winter Formal, 7:30pm

**Monday, December 9: (BLUE Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (2:15pm-5pm)
- Women’s Basketball at Oceana High School, JV 4:30pm/ V 6pm

**Tuesday, December 10: (RED Day)**
- Tutoring Center opens (3:45pm-5pm)
- Women’s Soccer vs. Christopher High School, 3:30pm
**Wednesday, December 11: (BLUE Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (2:15pm-5pm)
- Men’s JV Basketball at Mountain View JV Tournament
- Men’s Varsity Basketball at Los Gatos Tournament

**Thursday, December 12: (RED Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (3:45pm-5pm)
- Men’s JV Basketball at Mountain View JV Tournament
- Men’s Varsity Basketball at Los Gatos Tournament
- Women’s Varsity Soccer vs. Scotts Valley HS, 3:30pm
- Women’s Varsity Basketball vs. Evergreen Valley HS, 5pm

**Friday, December 13: (BLUE Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (2:15pm-5pm)
- Men’s JV Basketball at Mountain View JV Tournament
- Men’s Varsity Basketball at Los Gatos Tournament
- CoEd JV Wrestling at Webber Lawson 2nd Man Tournament

**Saturday, December 14:**
- Women’s Varsity Basketball, SCVAL vs. BVAL Tournament
- CoEd JV Wrestling at Webber Lawson 2nd Man Tournament
- Women’s Varsity Soccer at Prospect High School, 11am

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**Robotics Update**

On November 17, two of our FTC teams competed at a qualification tournament at Sequoia High School in Redwood City. CuttleFish won the INSPIRE award, the highest award a team can get at an FTC competition. JellyFish walked away as a first runner up INSPIRE award. In fact, we swept the most coveted awards at the competition. These awards automatically advance both CuttleFish and JellyFish to NorCal regional championship at the end of February.

Here is the description of the INSPIRE award: “This formally judged award is given to the team that truly embodied the ‘challenge’ of the FTC program. The team that receives this award is chosen by the judges as having best represented a ‘role-model’ FTC Team. This Team is a top contender for all other judging categories and is a strong competitor on the field. The Inspire Award Winner is an inspiration to other teams, acting with Gracious Professionalism™ both on and off the playing field. This team understands how to communicate their experiences and knowledge to other teams, sponsors, and the judges. Working as a unit, this team will have demonstrated success in accomplishing the task of creating a working and competitive robot.”

In addition, our remaining two FTC teams, BettaFish and LionFish (both rookie teams) competed in their first qualification tournament at Burlingame High School on November 24. With strategy and perseverance, as alliance partners, they made it to the finals of a highly competitive tournament with 30 teams coming together from various cities and states. We are very proud of these young roboticist, future scientists, researchers, engineers and entrepreneurs.
The Saratoga Falcon to Receive 2002 Crown Award

The Saratoga Falcon, the official newspaper of Saratoga High School is a 2020 Crown Award finalist from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. A total of 1,145 digital, newspapers, magazines, and yearbooks published during the 2018-19 academic year were considered for the 2020 Crown Awards. In March, at the 96th Columbia Scholastic Press Association spring convention on the Columbia University campus, we will find out if they received the Gold or Silver Crown.

Bell Schedule Survey

This year, work is being done to revise our current bell schedule. Your feedback and insight is essential to the process. If you already completed the survey that was sent to you a week or so ago, thank you. If you have not yet completed the brief survey, please take a minute to share your insights and perspectives. Here are the two surveys:

- Parents: Bell Schedule Survey 2019 - Parents/Community
- Students: Bell Schedule Survey 2019 Students

If you cannot finish the survey, due to not understanding some of what is being asked, please send an email to Greg Louie, Principal (glouie@lgsuhsd.org).

Attendance for the Month of November

For the months of August, September and October, our Freshmen recorded the best attendance of our four classes, but for the month of November it is our Sophomores who are the new attendance leaders with a 98.00% attendance rate. Our Juniors barely missed 1st place by 0.04%, with 97.96%, our Freshmen are in third place at 97.49% and our Seniors have a 95.93% attendance rate. December is a short 14-day month and we appreciate all of the students who attend school regularly.

Budget Advisory Committee membership vacancy

The LGUSHSD Budget Advisory Committee is looking for representation from the Saratoga High School community. The next BAC meeting is at the District Office on Monday, December 9 from 3pm-5pm. For more information, please contact Principal Greg Louie at 408-359-4204.

SAVE THE DATE: December 12: Adolescent Substance Use & Abuse: A Counseling Perspective

Learn about LGSUHSD’s substance use support partnership for students & their families provided through Adolescent Counseling Services (ACS).

Senior Clinicians will be sharing information about their contract with the district, current adolescent substance use in the Bay Area, the adolescent developmental trajectory, warning signs of drug use problems, how parents can support their teens (and themselves!) during this time, and other resources available to families. There will be time for Q&A following the presentation. Here is a copy of the flyer. Please signup online through Signup Genius so we can set up appropriately.
Yearbook Ads Deadline: December 13
Parents: The priority deadline for yearbook ads for your 2020 graduate is December 13. Ads will continue to be accepted until January 17, but at a higher price. The website for submitting ads is yearbookforever.com. All ad sales help support the school’s journalism program. Here is a brochure with more information.

Advanced Drama Performance, December 13
On Friday December 13th, the 6th period Advanced Drama class will be performing a free reading of the play Fortinbras: a humorous sequel that explores what happens after Shakespeare's famous play, Hamlet. Directed by Eman Ahmad and Assistant Directed by Marly Feigin, the story follows the newly crowned king of Denmark as he deals with all of the ghosts left behind in the castle, literally and figuratively. Not familiar with Hamlet? Don't worry, because our 3rd period Advanced Drama students will be performing a recap, The 15-Minute Hamlet, immediately before the show. Both performances start at 7pm in the Drama Center; no tickets necessary!

SAVE THE DATE: BOOKMOBILE, December 19
Immediately following finals on Wednesday, December 19, the Saratoga Library will have its bookmobile in the quad. Stop by and take home some books to read over vacation. For more information, please check out the flyer.

Yearbook Sales
To order a copy of the 2020 Talisman yearbook, please bring a check for $100 to the Activities Office. The check should be made out to Saratoga High. If your student already has an ASB package, they automatically get a yearbook. Please order your yearbook now to ensure your student a copy when the books are distributed in late May. Only those who preorder a book are guaranteed to get a copy of the Talisman during distribution.

Pick up and Drop Off Reminders
When dropping off or picking up your students, especially in the wet weather, please be considerate of our neighbors. The Saratoga Parent Nursery School parking lot is not intended for Saratoga High School use. Please do not park in their space, which is reserved for their students and families.

Similarly, please abide by all rules of the road. For example, please do not stop in painted red zones, make u-turns in undesignated areas, block resident driveways, etc. We appreciate your cooperation.

TEDxSaratogaHighSchool, March 15, 2020
The TEDxSaratogaHighSchool event will be on Sunday, March 15th. For this year’s theme, “It Starts With Us,” we are looking for speakers who are taking initiative to promote change in their communities. Please fill out the TEDxSaratogaHighSchool Speakers form if you are interested in being a speaker or have a nomination. This is a big part of making the event happen so all efforts are appreciated!
AP Bulletin in Guidance Office or On Line

The 2019-2020 Bulletin for AP Students and Parents is now available. It contains information on ordering deadlines, test security, the May 2020 exam schedule, what to bring on exam day, and College Board contact information. The paper copy of the Bulletin is available for students or parents to pick up in the Guidance Office or you can download an online version of the Bulletin for AP Students and Parents.

PSAT Results from Oct 19th in AERIES

The College Board provided us with the results of the October 19, 2019 PSAT exam and test results may be viewed online in AERIES via your parent or student portal account.

To log on to AERIES, select "Aeries" under Quick Links on the Saratoga HS home page. After logging on to the Aeries system, navigate to Test Scores > College Entrance Tests > PSAT. Later in December, College Board will add the PSAT results to students' College Board accounts.

Finals Schedule, December 16-19

Here is a copy of the Fall Finals Schedule

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<th>12/16</th>
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<th>12/18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Per 1</td>
<td>8:15-8:48</td>
<td>Per. 5</td>
<td>Per. 2</td>
<td>Per. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per 3</td>
<td>8:53-9:26</td>
<td>8:15-10:15</td>
<td>8:15-10:15</td>
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<td>Per 5</td>
<td>9:31-10:04</td>
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<td>Per 7</td>
<td>10:09-10:42</td>
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<td>Break</td>
<td>10:42-10:52</td>
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<td>Per 2</td>
<td>10:57-11:30</td>
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<td>Per 4</td>
<td>11:35-12:08</td>
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<td>Per 6</td>
<td>12:13-12:45</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
<td>12:45-1:20</td>
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<td>1:25-3:25</td>
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<td>Per. 7</td>
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‘TOGA ATHLETICS

Here are the results of this past week. If your sport is not here, please send scores, stats, and narrative to Greg Louie at glouie@lgsuhsd.org with the email title “For Friday Letter.”

Winter Sports Updates

More information to come. If you have news about a winter sport, please send details to Greg Louie at glouie@lgsuhsd.org with the email title “For Friday Letter: ‘Toga Athletics.”
Men's Cross Country State Finals Update
On November 30, two of our Men's Cross Country athletes competed at the California State Cross Country Championships in Fresno. Harry Dance, our CCS Champion came in 25th place and Shivam Verma finished 30th among a field of 217 runners in Division III. These two young men ran an amazing race. They started at approximately 40-50 place at the first mile made a huge push in the second and third mile to close down on the leaders.

When you see them at school on Monday, make sure you congratulate them. They did the team, the school and their families proud! GO TOGA!

Tutoring Center Now Open After School
Our Tutoring Center is now open, Monday through Thursday until 5pm. We have a couple of community volunteer tutors signed up to help with math and science and volunteer extraordinaire, Sheeba Garg volunteered to open the facility until we officially hire someone. Here is the schedule for the remainder of this semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/9: 2:15pm-5pm Tutors: Jean Su (Math); Tsing Bardin (Math/Physics)</td>
<td>12/10: 3:45pm-5pm Tutor: Tsing Bardin (Math/Physics)</td>
<td>12/11: 2:15pm-5pm Tutor: Jean Su (Math)</td>
<td>12/12: 3:45pm-5pm Tutor: Jean Su (Math)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/16: 3:30pm-5pm Tutor: Jean Su (Math)</td>
<td>12/17: 1pm-3pm</td>
<td>12/18: 1pm-3pm</td>
<td>12/19: CLOSED</td>
</tr>
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FALCON’S NEST CAFE
Falcon's Nest special for the week of December 9th is “CHOP STICKS”. We'll be serving Mandarin Orange Chicken Monday, Wednesday and Friday and Teriyaki Chicken Tuesday and Thursday, $4.50 each. We'll also be serving veggie Chow Mein, $2.50 and Egg Rolls, $2.00.

The themed salad bar is "ASIAN". A large salad is $5.00 and small is $4.00. Add a cup of diced chicken for $.75.

Thank you and I hope you have a phenomenal weekend!!

Sincerely,

Greg Louie, Principal