Happy Valentine’s Day!!!

This week is the end of our 4th grading period. ¾ through the year, our students have worked tremendously hard to learn the lessons, complete the assignments, and manage their schedules with the variety of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities that fill their days and weeks! Our students are simply some of the most amazing young adults.

Speaking of amazing, tonight and tomorrow is Bombay in the Bay! In addition, today our varsity wrestling team competes at the SCVAL Finals, our women’s soccer teams celebrate the Senior game when they host Mountain View, our men’s soccer teams travel to Milpitas High School, and our men’s and women’s basketball teams celebrate their Senior Night when they battle Lynbrook tonight in the gym.

Next week, during Winter Break, the regular season for our Winter Sports will conclude and we will host CCS playoffs for Men’s and Women’s Basketball. Details will be shared next week.

When we return on February 24, our Spring sports take off and we begin our 5th marking period. Here’s an overview of the next two weeks:

**Saturday, February 15:**
- Junior Class Fundraiser, 5pm-9pm (Chipotle: 1645 Saratoga Ave)
- Bombay in the Bay, 6pm-9pm (McAfee)

**Monday, February 17:**
- Women’s Basketball at Los Altos (JV 5:30pm/ V 7:00pm)
- Men’s Basketball at Fremont (JV 5:30pm/ V 7:00pm)

**Tuesday, February 18:**
- Men’s Varsity Volleyball at Homestead (7pm)

**Wednesday, February 19:**
- Men’s Soccer vs. Fremont (3:30pm) (Senior Game)
- Women’s Soccer at Los Altos (3:30pm)

**Friday/Saturday, February 21/22:**
- CCS Playoffs for Basketball begins

**Monday, February 24: (BLUE Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (2:15pm-5pm)
- Men’s Golf vs. Los Gatos, 3:30pm

**Tuesday, February 25: (RED Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (3:45pm-5pm)
- Men’s JV Tennis vs. St. Francis, 2:45pm
- Men’s V Tennis at St. Francis, 2:45pm
- Men’s JV Baseball vs. Branham, 3:30pm
- Men’s V Baseball at Branham, 3:30pm

**Wednesday, February 26: (BLUE Day)**
- Tutoring Center open (2:15pm-5pm)
- Men’s Golf vs. Monta Vista, 3:30pm
- Men’s Volleyball at Lynbrook (JV 5:30pm/ V 6:45pm)
Thursday, February 27: (RED Day)

- Tutoring Center open (3:45pm-5pm)
- Men’s JV Baseball vs. Prospect, 3:30pm
- Men’s V Baseball at Prospect, 3:30pm
- Men’s Golf vs. Gunn High School, 3:30pm
- Women’s Softball at Prospect, 4pm
- School Site Council meeting, 4pm (Trimble Conference Room)
- Site Bond Committee meeting, 5pm (Trimble Conference Room)
- Booster President’s meeting, 6pm (Trimble Conference Room)

Friday, February 28: (BLUE Day)

- Men’s Swimming at Monta Vista, 3:45pm
- Women’s Swimming at Monta Vista, 3:45pm
- Men’s Volleyball vs. Los Gatos (JV 5:30pm/ V 6:45pm)

Saturday, February 29

- Men’s Varsity Baseball vs. Sobrato, 12pm
- Men’s JV Baseball at Sobrato, 12pm

IN OTHER NEWS...

SHS TV February 14 Episode

Here is the most recent episode of the SHS TV Broadcast for February 14. Here is also a video to learn more about SHSTV!

Parent Volunteers Needed: Saratoga High School Career Day

We need many parent volunteers to help host our SHS/PTSO sponsored 2020 Career Day on Monday, March 2nd and Tuesday, March 3rd from 8:30am to 11am. This is a really great event for our students to listen to speakers in career fields of their interest. With your help, it will run smoothly. Please consider signing up here: SHS/PTSO Career Day

Junior Class Fundraiser: Chipotle (Saturday, Feb 15)

On Saturday, take the whole family out to dinner and support our Junior Class by participating in their Chipotle fundraiser (1645 Saratoga Ave) from 5-9pm. Please tell the cashier you are from Saratoga High School.

Santa Cruz County Poetry Out Loud

Three Saratoga students (Eva Ji (11), Anouk Yeh (10), and Isaiah Chung (11) advanced to the county level competition for Poetry Out Loud. There were 13 students from the county performing, and the competition was robust this year with Anouk Yeh taking a close second place!

Saratoga’s History Bowl Success

The Saratoga History Bowl team competed last weekend. The Varsity team made it to the semi’s and the JV team took 2nd place. They are now preparing for Nationals in Washington, D.C. in April.
Science Bowl Success

The regional competition was held at Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC) on Saturday, February 8th. Thirty-five teams competed with schools represented from the greater Bay Area. Saratoga sent two teams:

- Team A: Rohan Kumar (11th), Jeffrey Xu (12th), Enoch Luk (11th), Nilay Mishra (9th) and Akshar Sarvesh (11th)
- Team B: Ethan Zuo (10th), Anthony Wang (9th), Adam Xu (9th), Jeffrey Hu (10th), and Samuel Wong (11th)

Team A placed first in their bracket (6 wins, 0 losses) and Team B placed third (3 wins, 3 losses) in theirs. After lunch, Team A competed in the playoffs and finished 2nd after beating Lynbrook HS and Stanford Online HS.

We are very proud of the students! They worked hard all year, practicing 1-2 times a week after 6th period in Ms. Lee’s classroom and they're already excited about next year.

NFF Scholar Athlete Award Winner: George Bian

On Friday, March 13, our ASB President, varsity tight end, and Class of 2020 graduate, George Bian will be recognized by the Northern California chapter as 1 of 24 recipients for the 2020 Scholar-Athlete award at the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame Awards dinner in Burlingame. In addition, George was invited to speak at this prestigious event due to his excellence in the classroom and on the gridiron. Congratulations George!

Volunteers NEEDED: Vasona Boat Launch, March 14

The Vasona Boat Launch and set-up will run Saturday, March 14th. Two shifts have been created: 9:00am-1:00pm and 1:00pm-5:00pm. (lunch will be provided!). Saratoga students will need to sign up for the volunteer opportunities on their website just as they would for a course at:

http://www.lgsrecreation.org/about-us/volunteer-opportunities/

This ensures that they have the insurance liability waiver on file for each student.

Alternative to Saturday School: Treasure ‘Toga

Saturday School is assigned to students for missing detention, behavioral problems, or other disciplinary reasons. Saturday School is four hours long, beginning at 8am until 12pm. However, starting last Saturday, February 8th, we will offer a 2-hour alternative called “Treasure Toga” where students do light service around the school or in the community for two hours. Space will be limited and this program will only run once a month. To participate, instructions will be included on the Saturday School notification. Our purpose is to offer a choice for our students to give back to the school community.
Donating to Saratoga High School

Saratoga High School is blessed with the generosity of our families and community. Without your fantastic donations, many of our programs, clubs, athletics, and extra-curricular activities would be negatively impacted. Dana Steinke, one of our amazing students, took the initiative to centralize all of the programs accepting donations on behalf of Saratoga High School’s various parent groups. To learn more about the various organizations, here is the link: https://sites.google.com/view/shsdonations/home.

Sources of Strength

Thanks to the SHS Foundation, the Common Roots ASB Club is hosting a two day training for invited staff and students on February 25th (staff) and 26th (students and staff). Over 100 students involved will attend on Wednesday the 26th. For more information on the Sources of Strength program and how our school has become leaders in supporting student wellness please visit the SOS website.

SOS Mission: Our mission is to provide the highest quality evidence-based prevention for suicide, violence, bullying and substance abuse by training, supporting, and empowering both peer leaders and caring adults to impact their world through the power of connection, hope, help and strength.

Vision: We believe that many strengths are more powerful than one, and our united goal is to activate and mobilize these strengths in ways that positively change individuals and communities.

Parent Teas: March 12

It’s a busy time of year, but the SHS Administrators want to connect. Our next Parent Tea will be March 12 from 10:30-11:30am in the Community Room (near Cafeteria). This is intended to be a casual conversation to help build community and help demystify high school for our parents. Please join us and bring your questions!

SAVE THE DATE: “LIKE” showing, March 19

Saratoga High School, the SHS PTSO, and Redwood Middle School invite you to a showing of “LIKE,” a documentary about the impact of social media on the lives of our students and how the brain is affected by the technology. “The goal of the film is to inspire us to self-regulate. It’s not about blame. It’s about looking in the mirror and empowering ourselves to create balance in our lives and to learn to be there for each other.” Here is a link to the LIKE website and the LIKE movie trailer if you would like to learn more. The video is about 90 minutes, beginning at 7pm in the McAfee. After the showing, we will host a panel discussion, featuring some of our students, staff, and community members. We hope you will join us.
ASB, Class Elections, Leadership, and Link Crew
This week we held ASB elections for ASB offices. When we come back from Winter Break, we will be opening up Class elections for class offices. Voting for those offices will be on March 5 and March 6. We will then open up applications for the Leadership Class on March 7. Link Crew applications will be due April 13th. Both Leadership and Link Crew applications will be posted on the school website after Winter Break.

Yearbook Sales
To order a copy of the 2020 Talisman yearbook, families can now order online using our Saratoga High School webstore!! Please click here to access our webstore and order your yearbook. Families can also 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 a copy of the Talisman during distribution.

‘TOGA ATHLETICS

Winter Sports Updates
Here are the results of this past week. If your sport is not here, it is because I did not receive any details before sending this out. Please feel free to send scores, stats, and narrative to Greg Louie at glouie@lgsuhsd.org with the email title “For Friday Letter: ‘Toga Athletics.”

February 12:
  ● Men’s Junior Varsity Basketball beat Wilcox High School 46-29
  ● Men’s Varsity Soccer falls to Wilcox High School 5-2
February 11:
  ● Women’s Varsity Basketball beat Wilcox High School 54-46

Sports Booster 2020 Falcon Fun Run: March 15
The Falcon Fun Run is taking place on Sunday, March 15. The sports boosters are offering a pizza party to a group that has 12 or more participants (team, class, friend group etc) Come out and participate yourselves! Or come and cheer. The proceeds support SHS athletics. For more information here is the Falcon Fun Run flyer, the Falcon Fun Run Prize flyer, the Neighborhood Notification letter, and the Falcon Fun Run route map.
Tutoring Center Now Open After School

Our Tutoring Center is open Monday through Thursday until 5pm. Here is the schedule for next week.

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<tr>
<td>2/24/20: 2:15pm-5pm Supervisor: Ms. Barnes</td>
<td>2/25/20: 3:45pm-5pm Supervisor: Ms. Barnes</td>
<td>2/26/20: 2:15pm-5pm Supervisor: Ms. Barnes</td>
<td>2/27/20: 3:45pm-5pm Supervisor: Ms. Barnes Tsing Bardin (Math/Physics)</td>
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Wellness Center Happenings from Ms. Barnes

Students really enjoy de-stressing by engaging in artwork. Last semester, Mr. Louie took us to visit Pioneer High School’s Wellness Center. There, we learned about a simple art activity that was very popular so we decided to introduce this here. With the generous support of PTSO, we received the needed materials. Ivana Luu created this heart string on one of our side walls where the finished pieces are hung.

We also have a new addition to the Wellness Center. This is a good way to introduce our students to mindfulness: being present with one thing in our experience without judging it.

Hope you and your family can enjoy some R&R and down time during our week long break.

Thank you! I hope you enjoy a restful and enjoyable Winter Break!

Greg Louie, Principal