Good evening Falcon Families!

This past week was unlike any week I ever experienced. After the announcement of the Santa Clara County closing schools last Friday, my staff came in Monday, changing their Professional Development focus from their original plans to the more immediate need of preparing for distance learning. My teachers, like the fantastic professionals they are, collaborated with each other to better understand how to use Google Meet, Canvas, and other online resources. In a blink of an eye, our traditional view and practices related to teaching and learning were upended. For the remainder of the week, my entire staff balanced the suddenness of simultaneously preparing to teach in a non-traditional way with their personal commitments of caring for children, parents, siblings, and partners who were now mandated to be home. Like many families, they were homeschooling their children, shopping for parents or neighbors, trying to find a quiet place to put together lessons, lectures, and online activities, and finding out they did not have enough technology or bandwidth to go around!

Beginning Monday, all of our students and staff will try distance learning for the first time. For some of my teachers and students, the transition will be relatively smooth; for others, it will be a challenge that we will navigate together. Students should check their District email and Canvas accounts to find out what and how their teachers are planning to communicate the lessons, assignments, and coursework. If for some reason your student needs access to a computer, laptop, or tablet and internet access, please contact Traci Bonde, our Director of Instructional Technology at tbonde@lgsuhsd.org or 408-402-6334 as soon as possible so that we can assist your student.

If there is one thing that I am confident about, it is the willingness of my administrative team, classified members, and certificated staff to make the best of this new situation. When we can return to the normalcy of our lives is yet to be determined. What activities we can still host is a little unclear. This experience is truly historic. It is not isolated to a region of the globe and if we all do our part to not spread the virus, we may return to our lives as we knew it sooner than later.

Thank you for your patience and support. I hope you and your family remain healthy!

**IN OTHER NEWS...**

**Santa Clara County Library Services**
The Saratoga branch of the Santa Clara County library is closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To help you with library resources during this time, please use their vast online library at https://sccld.org/online-library. You can check out e-books, e-audiobooks, research articles, read newspapers and magazines in various languages and use their streaming services. They have apps available that work on all kinds of devices. You can sign up for free with Lynda.com, watch Great Courses, use the Rosetta App and many many more.

They also have additional online resources for students to use. Some examples: **Brainfuse – Online Tutoring.** The library subscribes to HelpNow by Brainfuse. It provides homework and writing assistance, live tutoring, and test prep services. Tutors are available
Monday through Sunday from 1-10 PM for one-on-one assistance in a wide variety of subjects. **College Admissions Test Prep Center** They have many databases for research and to write papers like: Academic Search Complete, AccessScience, Opposing Viewpoints, The Historical Archive of the New York Times (for primary sources). Check out the [complete list](http://student.sccl.org/) here. Check out all resources specifically for students here: [http://student.sccl.org/](http://student.sccl.org/)

**All students of Saratoga High School** (except those whose parents opted out) **have student cards to use online services:** Student accounts are created using the Student ID and school district initials in this format: S _ _ _ _ _ _ LGUSD  The pin number is the student’s birth month and birth day, for example May 1 is 0501. You can also use your regular library card for all of these services.

**History Day Success!!**
Saratoga students had an amazing showing at the Santa Clara County History Day Competition on Saturday, March 14 and will be advancing 14 entries to State! The competition was moved to a virtual format to allow students to compete while practicing social distancing. The California State Competition has also decided to go virtual, so our students get to advance to the next level without leaving their homes! If you’re in contact with them over the next few weeks, please offer your congratulations to the following students! Congratulations on their winning entries to:

**Historical Paper**
- Murals that Defined America: Public Murals from the Great Depression, Audrey Tang

**Group Documentary**
- Watergate: The Scandal that Broke America's Trust, Michael Burry, Daniel Izailevsky, Ryan Hsiao, Nirmak Tambe, and Andrew Xiao
- Brown v. Board: The First Step, Ani Balepur and Aarav Naveen
- Apollo 11 and the Space Race: The Key to Transcending Boundaries in the Celestial World, Hari Gopal, Isaac Chang, Gabriel Frederick, Prathik Pai, Samuel Wong

**Individual Documentary**
- Let's Dance: From Berry to Bowie, How Rock Changed America's Youth, Charlotte Shewchuk
- Fighting on Two Fronts: The 442 Regiment and the Fight Against Internment, Riya Jain

**Group Exhibit**
- Thrown Under the Bus: How Forced School Integration Derailed the Desegregation Movement, Tabitha Hulme, Nitya Marimuthu, Neeti Badve, and Nikhil Nair
- The Story That Split a Nation: The Legacy of Uncle Tom's Cabin, Hermione Bossolina, and Ankita Chatterjee

**Group Performance**
- Humanity in the Face of Apathy: Dorothea Dix and Asylum Reform, Marisa Kingsley, Amy Munson, and Samantha Yee
- How Jazz Broke Down Racial Barriers, Anthony Qin, Rohan Kumar, and Aaron Wong

**Individual Performance**
- Elizabeth Hamilton: How One Woman Revolutionized the Role of Women in American Society and Its Politics, Francesca Fernandes

**Group Website**
- Redefining Art with Abstract Expressionism, Tiffany Huang and Oliver Ye

**Individual Website**
- Breaking the Barrier of Nuclear Technology: The Atomic Bomb, Karen Lei