Friday Letter: May 8, 2020

Good evening Falcon Families!

What a week! This week students and teachers completed their sixth week of remote teaching and learning and many of the teachers worked with me to begin building the master schedule for next year! In addition, we hosted a couple of webinars for families in cooperation with CASSY on May 5 for the “Parenting During the Pandemic” webinar and in cooperation with Saratoga Alum Douglas Tsoi from Challenge Success on May 6 for the “Navigating Remote Learning” webinar. On Thursday, the Site Bond Committee met to review the Measure E Projects (here is a link to the May 7 Agenda) and to top it all off, today, with the help of Superintendent Grove, we received the good news from the Santa Clara County Public Health Department that we can host a Diploma Presentation activity for our Class of 2020 Seniors on June 1. More details are being shared with our Seniors and their families in a separate email.

Next week, our AP students take the first ever online Advanced Placement exams beginning on May 11. If you need, here is a quick link to the updated College Board AP Exam schedule. Also, if your student is taking an AP exam during a scheduled synchronous meeting, you do not need to call the attendance office; their absence from class will be excused. Also next week, on Wednesday, we will host a Class of 2020 Q&A meeting to discuss the Class of 2020 Celebration plans and on Thursday, our PTSO will host a General Meeting at 9am.

This weekend, I hope all of our mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and sisters are honored and celebrated for Mother’s Day!! 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. We will be back #TOGather.

Best wishes,

Greg Louie, Principal

ASB News & Updates

Looking for ways to represent the Saratoga Class of 2020? Here are three Facebook frames that were made by Helen Jarrett, one of our amazing Saratoga staff members and Nakul Nagaraj, one of our fantastic Saratoga Seniors!

- Made by Helen Jarrett:
  - http://www.facebook.com/profilepicframes/?selected_overlay_id=188439742180775
  - http://www.facebook.com/profilepicframes/?selected_overlay_id=559923938265275
- Made by Nakul Nagaraj:
  - https://www.facebook.com/profilepicframes/?selected_overlay_id=570190853605119

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. Here is the link.
Senior Athlete Shoutouts
The Spirit Commission is recognizing the seniors in Spring Activities on Instagram. Next week we are highlighting both Lacrosse teams. 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: Homestyle Version
For the last couple weeks the SHS outreach commission has been running “Local Eats.” This next week, instead of eating out, we are going to host “Local Eats: Home Edition.” The rules are simple! Send a picture of you making a meal for you or your family to outreachshs@gmail.com or any member of outreach commiss for a chance to win a gift card!

Trivia Nights
This week, we recognize this is the first week of AP’s however, we would like to continue to provide some fun and connection with each other. We will have two “Trivia Nights” on the school Facebook page on Tuesday and Thursday night at 7pm. Students need to join the Saratoga High School 2019-2020. It is a private page so if students are not on the page, they need to make a request to join. Parents and family members are welcome to look over their shoulders. The students who join in on the chat, will have their name drawn from a hat to win a two $25 Amazon gift card each night. ASB will draw the names and notify the winners and send the gift card through the snail mail.

IN OTHER NEWS...

SHS TV May 4 Episode
Here is the most recent episode of the SHS TV Broadcast for May 4.
Elizabeth Ding Awarded Gold Level Graduating Seniors Award

Elizabeth Ding was awarded the Gold level Graduating Seniors Award from the Program Development Committee of U.S. Figure Skating. The U.S. Figure Skating Graduating Seniors Award recognizes the hard work of student athletes who have participated in figure skating throughout high school; awards are given at the Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze level based on a skater’s level of competitive achievement in high school. Selection for this award speaks to a skater’s continued commitment to succeeding in their athletic and academic endeavors. Congratulations to Elizabeth Ding!

Astronomy Club Talk on YouTube, May 9

Karen Lei, Connor Galvin, and Anna Dymchenko will be representing the SHS Astronomy club in a talk (link HERE) this Saturday, May 9 at 7:45 pm to the San Jose Astronomy Association, an organization comprised of the general public with an interest in astronomy and astronomers, about our club radio telescope project. The talk is titled "A low-cost radio telescope project by Saratoga HS Astronomy Club", and it will be streamed over youtube live for anyone to watch.

AP Testing Updates, May 11-22

AP Exams begin Monday, May 11th. Please review the information provided by the College Board as needed. If you have questions regarding AP exams, contact Kathy Sheridan (ksheridan@lgsuhsd.org).

What to do if something goes wrong on test day. If your student accidentally closes the browser, the device crashes, or your home temporarily loses internet access, students can quickly click their exam e-ticket again to return to the exam. Your student should continue the exam, and if they feel at the end of the exam that the temporary disruption negatively impacted their performance, they can request approval to take the makeup exam at cb.org/requestmakeup. Students can also request a makeup exam if they have lost too much time due to a technical problem, can't connect to the exam, or experienced some other serious disruption. Students need to request a makeup exam within 48 hours of their testing time.

Helpful links BEFORE the exams:
- Exam schedule
- Course-Specific Exam Info (number of questions, question type, etc.).
- Exam ticket info - has some general eTicket info
- What students need on exam day.
- Demo Exam to Check Students' Technology
- How to find AP ID
- Reference Documents for Each Exam (formulae sheets, scoring rubrics, etc.)
- Open Book/Open Note Tips
- Exam Day Checklist
- Exam Submission Guidelines - outlines the methods for students to use when submitting their exam responses

Helpful Links for some students (not all):
- Accommodations
- World Languages
- Music Theory
Class of 2020 Q&A Meeting, May 13, 5pm
On Wednesday, May 13 at 5pm, the Saratoga Administration will host a Class of 2020 Q&A meeting to provide more specific details regarding the June 1 Diploma Presentation activity. Details will be emailed to Senior families next week.

Senior Cap and Gown Distribution, May 20, 10am-12pm
The Graduation Cap and Gowns will be distributed in front of the McAfee Center on Wednesday, May 20th between 10am and noon by time slots per last name. For those who have not ordered a purchased or loaner cap and gown, you may purchase one for $50.00 cash through our Herff Jones representative who will have extra cap and gowns for sale on site. Please come at the end, from 11:45-12:00 to purchase. We will be sending information and safety guidelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A-C</th>
<th>D-G</th>
<th>H-L</th>
<th>M-Q</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-C: 10:00-10:15</td>
<td>D-G: 10:15-10:30</td>
<td>H-L: 10:30-10:45</td>
<td>M-Q: 10:45-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-S: 11:00-11:15</td>
<td>T-V: 11:15-11:30</td>
<td>W-Z: 11:30-11:45</td>
<td>Cash Purchases: 11:45-12:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SMASH’N via YouTube, May 22, 6:30pm
MAP’s annual student showcase is moving from the McAfee to the Internet, dropping on YouTube at 6:30 on Friday, May 22. Tune in to the Media Arts Channel to see the impressive work MAP students have created both before and after the shelter-in-place order.

Auditions for Senior Speeches: Deadline: May 26 at noon
Fill out THIS form if you are interested in auditioning to be a speaker at our virtual graduation. Auditions are open to any seniors and can be given by yourself or with a partner.

Class of 2021: Private College Webinar Save The Date!
The guidance department will be hosting a Zoom webinar for incoming seniors and their parents to provide direction and guidance for students who are considering applying to private and out-of-state public colleges that require letters of recommendation for the 2020-21 admissions cycle. The webinar is set for Wednesday, May 27 from 1-2pm. The Zoom link will be forthcoming.

EconBowl 2020: May 30, 2020
On May 30th, more than 100 of the most talented high-school economists are going to virtually gather together at the Youth Economics Initiative's largest event of the year, EconBowl 2020, to showcase and apply their economic skills in a fun, fast-paced environment. Ultimately, our goal for this event is to expose students to the fascinating field of economics and give students the opportunity to connect with like-minded peers. The event will also offer cash prizes, with (at minimum, actual amounts depend on # of sponsors/grants) $150 for first place, $75 for second place, and $50 for third place! This is a great opportunity for SHS students.
School Item Return/Personal Item Collection Update
We continue to wait for guidelines from the County Public Health Officials to know when and how we can schedule students to retrieve personal items left in classrooms or lockers and return textbooks, uniforms, equipment, and anything else that was borrowed from the school. Once we receive clearance and finalize the details of our plan, we will notify families regarding the logistics and requirements. In the meantime, the soonest we hope to do anything will be the first week of June. Stay tuned for more updates.

Finals Week Schedule
As stated above, we are tentatively planning school item return and personal item collection this same week. More details regarding the last week of school will be shared, but here’s the general overview of Finals for the week of June 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 6/1</th>
<th>Tuesday 6/2</th>
<th>Wednesday 6/3</th>
<th>Thursday 6/4</th>
<th>Friday 6/5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:15</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>NO CLASSES</td>
<td>NO CLASSES</td>
<td>Teacher Workday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15-9:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Staff End of Year Wrap-up Activities</td>
<td>Staff End of Year Wrap-up Activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:30</td>
<td>Per 1</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Per 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45-11:45</td>
<td>Per 3</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-12:45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:45</td>
<td>Per 5</td>
<td>Staff End of Year Wrap-up Activities</td>
<td>Staff End of Year Wrap-up Activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45-2:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-3:00</td>
<td>Per 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Tutoring Center Reminder
AP's are just around the corner. The Tutoring Center is now offering online AP tutoring in Math and Physics with our community tutor Dr. Tsing Bardin.

Dr Bardin worked at Lockheed for 25 years as research physicist and taught Teacher Training classes in Math, and Physics at San Jose State and the City College of San Francisco. She has a lot of experience working with high school students as she tutored in the Palo Alto and Los Gatos/ Saratoga Districts.

Please email Marina Barnes to sign up for AP tutoring sessions with Dr. Bardin.