Good afternoon!

Saratoga High School never rests. Last Saturday, our CCS Men’s Water Polo team battled Stevenson High School at Santa Cruz High School during the 1st round of the tournament. Though the outcome was not what Toga fans wanted, our young men played hard to the very end. On Sunday, our Robotics program hosted the first FTC qualifier of the season. 28 schools from the Bay Area participated in the Skystone challenge and dozens of community members volunteered their time to judge and support the brilliant, youthful minds.

On Monday, while most of our staff and students recognized Veteran’s Day, our Women’s CCS tennis team hosted Santa Catalina High School, sweeping the 1st round 7-0 and earning a place in the 2nd round versus #5 Mt. View High School.

Tuesday afternoon, the Saratoga Staff convened in the afternoon to review the results of the California Healthy Kids Survey. During the all-staff collaboration meeting, teams of teachers were assigned some of the data and asked to consider responses to a number of questions as we continue to unpack the information and use it to help inform our actions to ensure students’ wellness and academic success. Earlier that day, our Women’s CCS tennis team defeated #5 Mt. View High School, earning the opportunity to play #4 Palo Alto High School on Thursday.

On Thursday, our Women’s CCS tennis team’s fantastic season concluded with a 7-0 loss to #4 Palo Alto High School. Per Mr. Safine, our young women competed well. Later that evening, our PTO hosted an informational workshop for families to learn about vaping. Deputy Russell Davis of the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s department made a fantastic presentation, sharing examples of the devices that he collected. If you missed it, a copy of his presentation can be found on our website under the Falcon Headlines.

Tonight, our #6 CCS football team travels to Monterey Peninsula College for the 1st round of the Division IV playoffs to battle #3 Carmel High School. Kickoff is at 7pm and we need a legion of Falcon fans to bring the support.

This coming week, the Fall Play, “Sense and Sensibility” opens with shows tomorrow night at 7:30pm and on Sunday at 2pm. Tickets are $10 and the show is well worth the price of admission! On Tuesday, the Board will participate in a Study Session regarding the future revision of our bell schedule, beginning at 5pm in the Los Gatos High School library. The November LGSUHSD Board meeting will convene after. On Wednesday, our Departments will meet after school and later that evening at 6:30pm, we are hosting our World Cafe for students, parents, staff, and community members to discuss some of the data found in our California Healthy Kids Survey. We look forward to great conversations regarding how to best support our students social-emotional health, growth mindset, and academic motivation. On Thursday, we will host our November School Site Council meeting, beginning at 4pm and Winter Season athletics tip off. Friday or Saturday, assuming things go well tonight, our CCS Football team will challenge either #7 Monte Vista Christian or #2 Branham High School. Also, if you missed the opening weekend of “Sense and Sensibility”, shows will be on November 22 and 23 at 7:30pm.
Here’s an overview for next week:

**Saturday, November 16:**
- CCS Cross Country at Crystal Springs
- Fall Play: Sense and Sensibility, 7:30pm, McAfee

**Sunday, November 17:**
- Fall Play: Sense and Sensibility, 2pm, McAfee

**Monday, November 18: (BLUE Day)**
- Mobile Fingerprinting Event for Volunteers, 6pm-8pm, SHS Community Room

**Tuesday, November 19: (RED Day)**
- Board Study Session: Bell Schedule, 5pm at Los Gatos High School Library

**Wednesday, November 20: (BLUE Day)**
- World Cafe Event: California Healthy Kids Survey Discussion, 6:30pm, SHS Library

**Thursday, November 21: (RED Day)**
- School Site Council meeting, 4pm
- Men’s Varsity Basketball vs. Aptos High School, 7pm

**Friday, November 22: (BLUE Day)**
- CCS Football game?
- Fall Play: Sense and Sensibility, 7:30pm, McAfee

**Saturday, November 23:**
- Women’s Basketball at Half Moon Bay High School, JV 9:30am/V 11am
- Men’s Varsity Basketball at Santa Cruz High School, 5pm
- Fall Play: Sense and Sensibility, 7:30pm, McAfee

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**IN OTHER NEWS...**

**Attendance for the Month of October**

Thank you again to the Freshmen class for recording the best average daily attendance for the month of October with an astounding 98.51% (down from 99.03%) attendance. Our Sophomores improved to 98.43% were not far behind at 98.34% and our Juniors dropped to 97.93% were less than 1% away at 98.02%. Our Seniors have room to improve with a dropped to 96.67% 96.78% attendance rate.

**SHS TV: November 15 Episode**

Here is the most recent episode of the SHS TV Broadcast for November 15.
Fall Play: “Sense and Sensibility”

Kate Hamill’s playful new adaptation of Jane Austen's beloved novel follows the fortunes (and misfortunes) of the Dashwood sisters - sensible Elinor and sensitive Marianne - after their father’s sudden death leaves them financially destitute and socially vulnerable. *Sense & Sensibility* examines our reactions, both reasonable and ridiculous, to societal pressures. When reputation is everything, how do you follow your heart? **Shows are November 16, 22 & 23 at 7:30 pm and November 17 at 2:00 pm** in the beautiful McAfee Center. All tickets are $10 and you can [Buy Tickets Now](#).

World Cafe Event: California Healthy Kids Survey, November 20

We invite all students, staff and parents to join us for our 2019-20 World Cafe event. This year’s conversations will be informed by the findings from the California Healthy Kids Survey students took last spring. We need your voice. It's happening this coming Wednesday from 6:30-8:30pm in the school library. Please sign up at the link below to help us be prepared for your attendance. [https://forms.gle/yXZZCcvh3LqsUUUc9](https://forms.gle/yXZZCcvh3LqsUUUc9)

Relay for Life and Turkey Trot, November 26

On November 26, 2019, during an extended lunch (from 11:50 a.m-12:40 p.m), Saratoga High School will be hosting a Relay for Life/Turkey Trot walk-a-thon at the Saratoga High track to spread awareness for cancer and fundraise for the American Cancer Society. Students and faculty members will learn about Relay for Life, visit different informational booths, participate in activities, enjoy delicious food from food trucks, and walk around the track to show their support for those battling cancer, survivors, and their families.

We are looking for volunteers to help run the event (such as distributing raffle tickets, managing activities, etc). If you are available, please fill sign up through [here](#).

We are also looking for prize donations for our raffle. If you would be willing to donate, please click [here](#). If you would like to donate directly to our team page on the official Relay for Life donation website, please click [here](#). Any amount is greatly appreciated. We hope that you will
Budget Advisory Committee membership vacancy

The LGUSHSD Budget Advisory Committee is looking for representation from the Saratoga High School community. If you are a parent/guardian who has an interest in helping the LGSUHSD explore cost saving opportunities, explore revenue enhancement opportunities, or propose approaches to improve budget related community awareness and support, the BAC needs you! 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.

Parents Volunteers Needed for Crossing Guard Roles

Thank you to the parents who assist the safe passage of our students. We still need more help. Please support our SHS students by serving as a morning crossing guard. Volunteers need to be fingerprinted. Helping students stay safe and helping drivers move orderly through the parking lot helps relieve the morning rush and brings calm to the beginning of the school day. If you can spare 30 minutes or so once a week, please use the link below to sign up. It's not only about traffic control--greeting the students in the morning is an important part of making them feel welcome on campus. We'll help anyone learn the ropes, and if you want to do it with a partner, it's all the more enjoyable! Sign up HERE.

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.

Internet and Online Safety Resources for Parents and Students

The following information is provided by the LGSUHSD IT department:

Student Internet Safety
Parents: Online Safety
Student Technology Support
COMING SOON: TEDxSaratogaHighSchool, January 18, 2020

We still need your help with speaker recommendations! The TEDxSaratogaHighSchool event will be on Saturday, January 18th. The TEDx event incorporates a group of individuals who are brought in to showcase ideas worth spreading. 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!

A NOTE FROM THE WELLNESS CENTER

Reflection from Ms. Barnes in the Wellness Center: There are quite a few Harvest Festivals in the Bay Area during the month of November. The main theme seems to be holiday shopping. According to vocabulary.com, “The harvest is the time when you reap what you sow.” Most of us do not grow our own food anymore. We can reap a different kind of harvest by reflecting on our personal “harvests” of the year.

For me, it is the culmination of many years of learning and more importantly, the practice of SEL skills that have brought me to serve as your Wellness Coordinator. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and so lucky to have the camaraderie and support of CASSY. I cannot imagine a better role where I get to connect with students and offer a listening ear; with the hope they will be heard and be seen. And if they can be heard and be seen for who they are, then my hope is they will begin to accept themselves more and more; and we begin to dissolve our ideas of who they should be and get to know who they really are.

I invite you to take a moment to reflect on what benefits you have reaped? You may consider extending this to the benefits your family and/or your community have reaped together.

‘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.”

Fall CCS Update

- Last Saturday, our CCS Men’s Water Polo team battled Stevenson High School at Santa Cruz High School during the 1st round of the tournament. Though the outcome was not what ‘Toga fans wanted, our young men played hard to the very end.
- On Monday, while most of our staff and students recognized Veteran’s Day, our Women’s CCS tennis team hosted Santa Catalina High School, sweeping the 1st round 7-0 and earning a place in the 2nd round versus #5 Mt. View High School.
- Tuesday afternoon, our Women’s CCS tennis team defeated #5 Mt. View High School, earning the opportunity to play #4 Palo Alto High School on Thursday.
- On Thursday, our Women’s CCS tennis team’s fantastic season concluded with a 7-0 loss to #4 Palo Alto High School. Per Mr. Safine, our young women competed well.
- Tonight, our #6 CCS football team travels to Monterey Peninsula College for the 1st round of the Division IV playoffs to battle #3 Carmel High School. Kickoff is at 7pm and we need a legion of Falcon fans to bring the support.
- On Saturday, our Men’s and Women’s CCS cross country teams compete at Crystal Springs.

**Winter Sports Tip-Off**
Practices for winter sports began last week and games are beginning next week.

**Thursday, November 21:**
- Men’s Varsity Basketball vs. Aptos High School, 7pm

**Saturday, November 23:**
- Women’s Basketball at Half Moon Bay High School, JV 9:30am/V 11am
- Men’s Varsity Basketball at Santa Cruz High School, 5pm

**FALCON’S NEST CAFE**

Falcons Nest Special for the week of November 18th is "BURGER BAR". Build a burger with a choice of American cheese, bacon, onion rings, lettuce, tomato, pickles, red onions, jalapeno's and assorted sauces for $4.50 each.

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

**HELP WANTED**

We're looking for a few students to work during lunch. You'll be paid with a free lunch. Please come by and see Pam Carlino for more details.

**Students, please make sure you have your ID cards.**

We no longer take verbal numbers. You won't be able to purchase food if you don't have your card. If you don't have an ID card, get one in the office. You can also take a picture of it with your phone.

Congratulations to all of our Fall athletes and coaches and to our teams who qualified for the CCS tournaments. We are very proud of your accomplishments. Thank you and I hope you have a great weekend!!

Sincerely,
Greg Louie, Principal