Good afternoon!

Midway through the 2nd grading period and a little past midway of the first semester, Saratoga High School is flying at top speed: Fall Athletics are ramping up for League Championship and CCS competition; Marching Band and Color Guard are dazzling audiences and wowing judges; teachers and students are making relevant connections to learning outcomes; Seniors are putting the final touches on their college applications, and teachers, counselors, and administrators are polishing their letters of recommendations!

This past week, some of our sophomores participated in the Daveyland activity in the gym on Monday; our amazing choir performed Tuesday night, featuring the music of Bach, Mozart, and Victoria; and Wednesday Juniors in our MAP program took their learning to San Francisco and visited Angel Island. It has been a fantastic start to the school year.

Today, Freshmen in our MAP program went down to Salinas for the Steinbeck trip. This morning, we recognized our 51 National Merit Scholars at our annual National Merit breakfast, which was catered by the Falcon's Nest Cafe. 51 National Merit Scholars is a school record.

Tonight, we have our Fall Preview and Senior Night performances and it’s a great time to see many of the Band/Orchestra/Color Guard students perform. The performances are for audiences of all ages. Here is the schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>Freshman Orchestra and Philharmonic Strings (10th-12th non-audition group)</td>
<td>McAfee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>String Orchestra and Saratoga Strings (the two audition ensembles)</td>
<td>McAfee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:05pm</td>
<td>Senior Recognition for all Band/Orchestra/Color Guard Seniors</td>
<td>Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25pm</td>
<td>Marching Band &amp; Color Guard Performance Finale</td>
<td>Stadium</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**There will also be a cookie reception to follow at the stadium entrance. Please join us.

Saturday, our Marching Band and Color Guard participate in their second competition of the season on October 19th at Dublin High School.
Next week, WASC Focus Group Leaders will meet on Monday and Wednesday to review the identified strengths and recommended areas of growth, All-Staff meet on Tuesday after school, and on Thursday, we welcome an International Delegation from China as they visit our campus and STEM classes. Here’s an overview for next week:

**Monday, October 21: (RED Day)**
- Women’s Varsity Tennis @ Mt. View, 4pm

**Tuesday, October 22: (BLUE Day)**
- All-Staff meeting, 2:20pm, Annex
- Men’s Water Polo at Fremont, V 3:00pm/ JV 4:00pm
- Men’s Cross Country, 3:15pm
- Women’s Field Hockey vs. Monta Vista, V 4pm/ JV 5:15pm
- Women’s Water Polo at Homestead, JV 5:45pm/ V 6:45pm

**Wednesday, October 23: (RED Day)**

**Thursday, October 24: (BLUE Day)**
- School Site Council Meeting, 4pm
- Women’s Water Polo vs. Los Altos at Monta Vista, V 3:30pm/ JV 4:45pm
- Women’s Varsity Tennis vs. Monta Vista, 4pm
- Women's JV Tennis at Monta Vista, 4pm
- Women’s Field Hockey at Palo Alto, V 4pm/ JV 5:15pm
- Women’s Volleyball vs. Cupertino, JV 5:30pm/ V 6:45pm
- Men’s Water Polo vs. Santa Clara at Monta Vista, JV 5:45pm/ V 6:45pm

**Friday, October 25: (RED Day)**
- Football at Los Altos, FS 4:30pm/V 7pm

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**IN OTHER NEWS...**

**Marching Band and Color Guard Update**

Last Saturday, at the Cupertino Tournament of Bands, the Saratoga HS Marching Band took first place in Visual Performance, tied for first place in General Effect, and first place Overall!! Tomorrow, the marching band and color guard will take the field at Dublin High School at 8:09pm! Come show your red pride and cheer on the Falcon Marching Band!

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**SHS TV: October 17 Episode**

SHS TV is back! Here is the most recent episode of the [SHS TV Broadcast for October 17](#).
COMING SOON! Trunk or Treat, October 31

This year Saratoga High School will be hosting our second annual Trunk-Or-Treat! The student body will line up their cars in the front parking lot at the high school, decorate their cars, and hand out candy to trick-or-treaters. There will be a bounce house and arts and crafts table for the whole community to enjoy! We are putting on this event for the neighborhoods within our community and invite our community to attend the event for a night of family fun. Donations of unopened bags of candy are also appreciated. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Activities Director, Mr. Matt Torrens at mtorrens@lgsuhsd.org.

Bicycle Safety Concerns

There are concerns about the safety and well-being of our students who bike to and from school. Too frequently, we are witnessing students bike on or off campus without a helmet. Please be advised that students can be cited if they are found off campus riding their bike without a helmet. In addition to the cost of the citation, the student would likely be mandated by the judge to a Saturday bike safety class. The Sheriff’s department is aware of our concern and prepared to ticket students, as needed.

Similarly, too often our bicyclists are unsafely biking through the parking lot or around pedestrians. To address these recent concerns, here are a few reminders:

- **All bikes must be walked while on campus.** In other words, if a student is riding to school, once the student enters the school (ie. parking lots, school sidewalks, hallways, etc.), the student must get off and walk their bike to the nearest bike rack. If the student is leaving school, the student must walk the bike to a city sidewalk or bike lane.
- **All bicyclists must wear a helmet.** The helmet should be buckled and safely worn.
- **All bicyclists must be able to hear.** Take your headphones or ear pods out of your ears so that you can hear traffic and pedestrians.
- **All bicycles should be locked to a bike rack.** Bike racks are available near the McAfee Center, near the gymnasium, and near Zappelli Court. We are looking at purchasing more bike racks and the possibility of building bike cages.

After School Tutoring Center Coordinator Position Posted on EdJoin

Do you know someone who is looking to work about 10 hours a week? We are trying to find someone to oversee our After School Tutoring Center Monday through Thursday from after school until 5pm. Duties include recruiting student and community tutors; encouraging students to use the tutoring center, as needed; maintaining records of when a student is using the Tutoring Center; and monitoring the space while it is open. For more information, please call Principal Louie at 408-359-4204 and to apply, please review the EdJoin posting for School Resource Aide-Academic Support Program.
Parents Volunteers Needed for Crossing Guard Roles

Thank you to the parents who assisted 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.

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.”

1st Grading Period Team GPAs

Here are the team GPAs for our Fall Sports. Great job to our Scholar-Athletes who represent our school competitively on the field, the court, and the pool. Not only are they winners in their respective sports, we appreciate their “Just Learn It” attitudes in our classrooms!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Varsity Football</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>F/S Football</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Varsity Cross Country</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>Men’s F/S Cross Country</td>
<td>3.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Varsity Water Polo</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>Men’s F/S Water Polo</td>
<td>3.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Varsity Cross Country</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>Women’s JV Cross Country</td>
<td>3.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Varsity Field Hockey</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>Women’s JV Field Hockey</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Varsity Golf</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>Women’s JV Tennis</td>
<td>3.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Varsity Volleyball</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>Women’s JV Volleyball</td>
<td>3.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Varsity Water Polo</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>Women’s JV Water Polo</td>
<td>3.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Saturday, October 12:

- Boys Varsity Water Polo beat Newark Memorial High School 12-10. The boys finished in 5th place after beating Newark Memorial 12-10. The first half was a defensive struggle with Saratoga clinging to a 4-3 lead. The second half featured more offense for both teams. Nima and Dylan were the difference with great saves in the cage. Eng Kwa and Marcus Kuo led the team with 3 goals each, Kendal Jarvis and Byron Jin scored 2 goals apiece, and Bryan Chu and Christopher Wu each chipped in 1 goal.
Boys Varsity Water Polo beat Gilroy High School 11-8. The boys beat Gilroy, 11-8. Down 2-4 after the first quarter, the team was able to battle back behind the great play of Nima and Dylan. The offense was able to create multiple opportunities, scoring 11 big goals. Marcus Kuo scored 4 goals, Eng Kwa scores 3 goals, Bryan Chu scored 2 goals, and Grant Chen and Kendal Jarvis scored 1 goal each.

Boys Varsity Water Polo falls to Sobrato High School 11-5. The team lost to Sobrato 5-11. Down 3-4 at half, the offense wasn’t able to generate enough goals as Sobrato pulled away with a 0-5 3rd quarter. The defense played well at times, with Nima and Dylan working hard to keep the game close. The offense was led by Eng Kwa with 3 goals, Marcus Kuo and Kendal Jarvis with 1 goal apiece.

Monday, October 14:
- Girls Varsity Golf falls to Palo Alto High School 190-229. Palo Alto beat Saratoga to clinch the league championship. Saratoga claimed 2nd place in the rugged De Anza Division. Savannah Lin shot 41 to pace the Falcons.

Tuesday, October 15:
- Girls Junior Varsity Tennis beat Mountain View High School 5-2. Great Job, Toga Ladies!!
- Girls Varsity Tennis falls to Mountain View High School 5-2. #4 singles: Catherine K. defeated Kayla 6-1, 6-0 and #3 doubles: Naisha A./Peixuan H. defeated Mandy/Olivia 6-2, 6-3
- Girls Varsity Water Polo falls to Los Gatos High School 12-7. In an exciting game, Saratoga fell to district rivals, Los Gatos. Offense was led by Thaila Morganstern (12) with 4 goals and defense by Sammy Mokhberi (12) with 8 saves and 2 steals.
- Girls Junior Varsity Water Polo falls to Los Gatos High School 4-1.
- Boys Junior Varsity Water Polo beat Cupertino High School 9-5. Li and Kwa scored three goals, Hao, Chen, and Keon scored a goal each.
- Boys Varsity Water Polo beat Cupertino High School 14-9. The game was a nailbiter all throughout the first half. Up 4-3 at the end of the first quarter, the score was tied 6-6 at halftime. The defense was a little shaky at times, but Nima Aminzadeh and Dylan Overby were able to come up with several key stops. The offense was led by Eng Kwa with 6 goals, Bryan Chu scored 3 goals, Kendal Jarvis and Christopher Wu scored 2 goals each, and Marcus Kuo scored 1 goal.
- Girls Varsity Golf falls to Mountain View High School 207-229. Saratoga lost to Mountain View, but secured 2nd place in the SCVAL. The Varsity golfers ended the season with a 7-3 record. Savannah Lin led the team with a 41 at Shoreline GC.
- Girls Varsity Volleyball falls to Lynbrook High School 3-0. Offense led by Risa C., and the defense kept the team in the game with Lauren H. and Jordyn S leading the pack.
- Girls Varsity Field Hockey defeats Homestead 2-0.

Thursday, October 17:
- Girls Varsity Field Hockey defeated Lynbrook 2-1. On Thursday, they played at Lynbrook and beat them 2 to 1. Goals today scored by Rima Christie and Viveca Ganti.
- Boys Varsity Water Polo falls to Harker High School 10-9. The boys lost a heartbreaker to Harker, 9-10. It was a tightly contested back and forth game where Harker would lead by a goal or two and then Saratoga would catch up. Unfortunately, the boys ran out of time but never gave up. Nima Aminzadeh played well in the cage, as he kept the team
close throughout the game. The offense was led by 4 big goals from Kendal Jarvis, 2 clever goals from Bryan Chu, and Marcus Kuo, Byron Jin, and Christopher Wu scored 1 goal each.

- Girls Junior Varsity Tennis falls to Los Gatos High School 4-3.
- Girls Varsity Tennis beat Los Gatos High School 4-3. What a day! It was a great win! #2 Alyssa P. defeated Maya K. 6-2, 6-4. #3 Varsha H. defeated Aubrey N. 6-4, 6-2. #4 Catherine K. won! (Continues her undefeated streak). #3 Naisha A. and Peixuan H. defeated Emily K. and Sophie B. 6-1, 6-2
- Girls Varsity Water Polo falls to Palo Alto High School 10-4. In a tough game, the SHS Varsity GWP team lost to Palo Alto High School. Morgan Bruun-Jensen (11) led the team's offense with 3 goals and Sammy Mokhberi (12) led on defense from the cage.
- Girls Junior Varsity Water Polo falls to Palo Alto High School 6-1. The JV Girls Water Polo Team lost to PALY this Thursday. Goalie Rosie Kline (9), led the team on offense to ensure a close match until the 4th quarter.

**FALCON'S NEST CAFE**

Falcon's Nest special for the week of October 21st is "POTATO-NACHO BAR". Build a baked potato or nachos with diced chicken, chili beans, cheddar cheese, broccoli, bacon bits, sour cream, green onions and jalapenos 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.

**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.

Thank you and I hope you enjoy a restful weekend!!

Sincerely,

Greg Louie, Principal