Good afternoon!

Believe it or not, we finished seven weeks of school already! The first grading period is in the books and report cards were delivered.

- The great news: 249 students (18.5% of our enrollment) earned straight A's!
- The good news: 1178 of our students (87.1% of our enrollment) earned C's or better.
- The bad news: 175 of our students (12.9% of our enrollment) earned at least one D or F.

For these students, letters to families have also been delivered and the Administration and Guidance teams will make time to check in with the students to discuss strategies, interventions, and support programs to ensure greater success.

The Admin Team has been busy visiting classrooms and observing on-track and probationary teachers. For example, Ms. Thomson’s AP Environmental Science students created bottle biospheres. The students demonstrated collaborative learning, ingenuity, creativity, and thoughtful engineering. Similarly, the students were challenged to think critically about how they could effectively support the two environments.

Next week, students will have a four day weekend and a three day school week, with the theme being, “It Starts with Hello.” Information will be shared during Tutorial and there will be games and activities during lunch. As is typical of Saratoga High School, a lot will be packed into the abbreviated week. Here’s an overview for next week’s events:

**Saturday, October 5:**
- F/S Football vs. Lincoln (Freshmen Team), 11am

**Monday, October 7: No School**
- Women’s Varsity Golf vs. Los Altos, 3:00pm

**Tuesday, October 8: No School**
- Cross Country at Crystal Springs, 3:15pm
- Men’s Water Polo vs. Lynbrook, V 3:30pm/ JV 4:45pm
- Women’s Varsity Golf at Gunn, 3:30pm
- Women’s Varsity Tennis vs. Palo Alto, 4pm
- Women’s JV Tennis at Palo Alto, 4pm
- Women’s Field Hockey vs. Palo Alto, V 4pm/ JV 5:15pm
- Women’s Volleyball vs. Milpitas, JV 5:30pm/V 6:45pm
- Women’s Water Polo vs. Homestead, JV 5:45pm/ V 6:45pm

**Wednesday, October 9: (RED Day)**
- Women’s Varsity Golf vs. Los Altos, 3:15pm

**Thursday, October 10: (BLUE Day)**
- PTSO Meeting/Parent Education Speaker Series, 8:30am, Cafeteria
- Women’s Varsity Tennis at Cupertino, 4pm
- Women’s JV Tennis vs. Cupertino, 4pm
- Women’s Field Hockey at Homestead, V 4pm/ JV 5:15pm
- Women’s Volleyball at Wilcox, JV 5:30pm/ V 6:45pm
- Men’s Water Polo vs. Milpitas, JV 5:45pm/ V 6:45pm
- MAP Speaker Series: “Women in Media Panel”, 6:30pm-8pm, MAP Annex

**Friday, October 11: (RED Day)**
- Football vs. Gunn, FS 4:30pm/ V 7pm

**Saturday, October 12**
- Marching Band/Color Guard Competition, 9:15pm, Cupertino High School

---

**IN OTHER NEWS...**

**It Starts with Hello Week, October 9-11**
In an effort to get students off of their phones and to interact with each other, ASB and the Outreach Commission is hosting a variety of activities during the week.

- **Wednesday, October 9th: Otter pops and Games in the quad.** ASB is providing Otter Pops to the first 300 students and games will include mini basketball hoop, table tennis, spike ball, and inflatable bowling ball.
- **Thursday, October 10th: Lunch with New Students to Saratoga High School in Student Center.** The Outreach Commission is organizing a luncheon for about 100 of our new students to Saratoga High School. The luncheon will be in the Student Center.
- **Friday, October 11th:** Staff vs Student volleyball games during lunch in the large gym. [Here](#) is the sign up list for those students interested.

**MAP 12 Capstone Projects Selected for All American HS Film Festival**
MAP-12 2019 Senior Capstone Projects “Up The Hill,” "whalefall," and "Jamais Vu," were all official selections at the All American High School Film Festival, and will be screening at the AMC Theater in Times Square on October 12th and October 13th.

**1st Grading Period Grades**
Fall 6-week report cards were sent today to all students and parents. Families are directed to see Canvas and speak with the teacher if they have questions. Parents of students receiving one or more grades of 'D' or 'F' received a copy of this letter.

**SHS TV October 3 Episode**
Here is the most recent episode of the [SHS TV Broadcast for October 3](#).
October Break: October 7-8, 2019
Students can enjoy a four day weekend after this coming week. Saratoga High School will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, October 7 and 8. Staff will be at an all-day collaboration meeting at Los Gatos on October 8 to focus on writing for the WASC Self-Study Report.

Last Chance for Yearbook Pictures Reminder: October 7
If your student missed out on taking their picture during Falcon Fest or on September 16 and wants to be in the yearbook, here is another chance to take a picture. On October 7, from 3pm-5pm, students can go to Now and Forever Studios (100 #C Cooper Court, Los Gatos). This is likely the final opportunity for any freshmen, sophomores, or juniors.

Jr. Falcon Cheer Camps, October 8 and 10, 5:45pm-7:45pm
The Saratoga Spirit Squad is hosting a Jr. Falcon cheer camp for younger students. The Camp is October 8 and 10 from 5:45pm-7:45pm with a performance during halftime at the Varsity football game on Friday, October 11. For more information, please contact Coach Miller at cmiller@lgsuhsd.org or visit the Jr. Falcon Cheer Camp Registration page.

PTSO Meeting/Parent Education Speaker Series: October 10, 2019
The General PTSO meeting is at 8:30am in the cafeteria, followed by the PTSO Parent Education Speaker Series at 9am, featuring Visual Performing Arts/Electives Department Chair, Michael Boitz.

MAP Boosters Speaker Series: "Women in Media Panel"
Come to the first Speakers Series event of the year! EVERYONE is invited. The event will feature three women in media who will be speaking about the unique routes they have taken in the film industry. Please come out and support these wonderful professionals and learn about their amazing and innovative career pathways! This free event is open to all SHS students and parents!
When: Thursday, October 10th, 2019
Time: 6:30PM-8PM
Where: MAP Annex

Senior Portraits Deadline: October 11
Coming up soon is the cutoff for senior portraits. Seniors need to have their portraits taken at the Now and Forever Studios (100 #C Cooper Court, Los Gatos) by October 11. Please call (408) 354-8660 to book an appointment if you have not yet taken your Senior Portrait.

SHS Marching Band and Color Guard Competition, October 12
Cheer on the SHS Marching Band and Color Guard as they enter their first competition of the season on October 12th at Cupertino High School. The Falcons will take the field at 9:15pm, but we encourage you to show up early to grab a good seat and catch some of our neighboring
schools (performance schedule found here). This is the most local show we do all season, so come hear some Timeless classics by Vivaldi, Saint-Saens, Gershwin, and Pink Floyd!

**Parents Volunteers Needed for Crossing Guard Roles**

Please consider helping SHS 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 consider using 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](#).

---

**‘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.”

**Cross Country Update**

The varsity boys came in 3rd in their league and 5th overall. The team is lead by Shivam Verma who came in 3rd, Harrison Dance who came in 4th, and Kole Tippetts, Niyanth Rao and Jonathan Zhao for our top five boys for Saratoga. Back on Saturday September 7, the Varsity boys cross country team went to RL Stevenson school in Pebble Beach to compete in the Stevenson Invitational and came in 3rd! The team consists of our top five athletes who ran a 1.6 mile relay over flat and hilly terrain. We just beat out Santa Teresa High School for 3rd. On September 8, the entire boys cross country team and some of our girls volunteered for the IRONMAN SANTA CRUZ 2019! ‘TOGA distance really represented! We received many compliments on our run aid station. The team was there from just before 5am until 6pm. Our own coach, Ian Tippetts competed in the Ironman and came in 23rd in his age group.

Monday, September 30:

- Girls Varsity Golf beat Los Gatos 215-216. The Saratoga High School Girls golf team did it again on Monday, beating the Los Gatos Wildcats 215 to 216. The match came down to the last stroke and Nikita Pawar calmly rolled in the winning putt. Savannah Lin was the low player as she shot her best round with a 38. Alice Lin and Sally Kim shot 45 while Savannah Lin had a 47, Nikita Pawar and Mita Kongetira had 53. Saratoga travels to Palo Alto to square off with undefeated Palo Alto on Tuesday.

Tuesday, October 1:

- Girls Varsity Golf falls to Palo Alto High School 188-227. Palo Alto showed their dominance in the SCVAL with a convincing win. The Falcons were led by Senior Sally Klim with a 42. Alice Lin and Jane Loo each shot 45 while Savannah Lin had a 47, Nikita Pawar and Mita Kongetira finished up the scoring with 48 and 49 respectively.
Girls Varsity Field Hockey beat Lynbrook High School 6-1. With the official season underway, Saratoga looked to start off on the right foot. Attacking right off the bat, Saratoga earned a penalty corner. Hannah Beine executed to perfection, giving Saratoga a one goal lead. Lynbrook responded quickly, scoring on a penalty corner of their own, to level the game. Sarah Rieken's effort in the attacking circle paid off, and gave Saratoga the one goal lead again. After 10 minutes of back and forth play, Veda Sethuraman put away another goal for the Falcons, giving them the cushion they needed. Hatrick hero Viveca Ganti put away 3 goals to help give Saratoga a convincing league opener win of 6-1.

Girls Junior Varsity Water Polo falls to Homestead High School 6-4.

Girls Varsity Water Polo falls to Homestead High School 13-4.

Boys Junior Varsity Water Polo beat Fremont 5-2. This was a quiet and calm game where the boys played strong defense and offense. Some boys still need to learn how to pressure pass and to shoot towards the corner of the goal instead of at the goalie. Saratoga scoring include one goal each for Tupitsyn, Jiang, and Mirpour. Kwan scored two goals.

Boys Varsity Water Polo beat Fremont 11-8. The boys won a tough game against Fremont. Jumping out to a quick start, the team lead 5-2 at the end of the 1st quarter. The defense relied heavily on Nima and Dylan as shots came early and often from all angles. They converted stops into great scoring opportunities. Eng Kwa led the team with 4 goals, Grant Chen and Marcus Kuo scored 3 goals each, and Bryan Chi scored 1 goal.

Thursday, October 3, 2019:

Girls Varsity Field Hockey beat Monta Vista 2-0. After a convincing win on Tuesday, Saratoga headed to Monta Vista for their second league game. Saratoga created many chances in the first half, but was unable to convert. As the second half began, Saratoga looked determined to get a result for their hard work. Sophomore Lauren VandeVort opened up the scoring for Saratoga. She then went on to provide an assist for Junior, Allison Ha, who put away the second goal.

Saratoga High School Girls Varsity Tennis beat Los Altos High School 4-3. This was a super close match! We had three matches that split sets, and were successful in all of them. Singles #1: Monica S. defeated Yuu 5-7, 6-4, 10-8; Singles #3: Alyssa P. defeated Hannah 6-2, 6-0; Singles #4: Juhi P. defeated 4-6, 6-0, 10-8; Doubles #2: Sanya K./Aindri P. defeated Maya/Maddie 2-6, 6-3, 10-7; Doubles #3: Naisha A./Peixuan H. defeated Sophia/Sofia 6-4, 6-4

Boys Varsity Water Polo beat Monta Vista High School 11-5. The team played a grinding half against Monta Vista. With the score 5-3 at half, the team pulled away with a big 6-2 second half to put it away 11-5. Nima Aminzadeh and Dylan Overby played great in the goal, coming up with key steals and some big time saves. The team showed a diversity in scoring with 6 people providing the offense. Marcus Kuo led the team in scoring with 4 goals, Grant Chen chipped in 3 big goals, and Eng Kwa, Bryan Chu, Kendal Jarvis, and Isaac Le each scored 1 goal.

Girls Junior Varsity Tennis falls to Los Altos High School 7-0. All players played hard today. It was a tough match!

Girls Junior Varsity Water Polo falls to Mountain View 7-5. In an exciting game, the Girls JV Water Polo Team fell to Mountain View despite a great comeback in the second half. Sumin Park (10) was the lead scorer and goalie Rosie Kline (9) led on defense.
Girls Varsity Water Polo falls to Mountain View 15-10. Despite a strong effort, Saratoga girls lost to Mountain View Thursday away.

WELLNESS CENTER

Saratoga High School is proud to host the Student Wellness Center for our students and staff. The Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District partners with CASSY (Counseling and Support Services for Youth) to provide a supportive environment for mental health wellness. The Student Wellness Center is in the middle of campus, just behind the Student Center in the 800 building. Students and staff can find support for academic stress, anxiety, sadness, peer conflict, and emotional regulation. Ms. Barnes serves as our “Wellness Coordinator” and our three CASSY Therapists (Ms. Espinosa, Ms. Lauterbach, and Ms. Vaez-Iravani) are available via drop-ins or referrals. To make a referral, please consult your student’s guidance counselor.

FALCON'S NEST CAFE

Falcon's Nest special for the week of October 9th is "BURRITO BAR". Build a burrito with diced chicken, beans, rice, cheddar cheese, corn, sour cream, and jalapenos for $4.00 each. Tortilla chips and salsa are included with the special.

Our themed salad bar is "SOUTHWEST". A large salad is $4.00 and small $3.00. Add a cup of diced chicken for $0.50.

Students, please make sure you have your ID cards.
We will no longer be taking 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.

Prices to Increase Beginning October 14
The cost of meals at the Falcon's Nest Cafe will be increasing slightly beginning October 14. Some of the items will increase by $0.50 and some of the items will increase by $1.00.

Thank you and I hope you enjoy a fun four-day weekend!!

Sincerely,

Greg Louie, Principal