

October 16, 2020

Warriors, the 1st Quarter of our fall semester ended last Friday, and yesterday all students' grades were visible in AERIES for parents/guardians. All of us realize nothing about the start of our school year has been typical. Everyone in our school district and every school district is trying as best they are able and with the tools they have or recently obtained to cope. I hope you have been watching the news and listened to what other school districts have been doing or not doing while trying to educate their students. We are fortunate. We had the technology infrastructure, and 1:1 devices in place years before they became a necessity not only for us, but for all students everywhere. FJUHSD is significantly ahead of the learning curve.

We also have teachers that have been working with the technology our students are using for the past five years. What changed, essentially last spring and continued into this year, is that the 1:1 Chromebooks, an additional tool for our teachers and instruction, became the primary tool along with Zoom. None of that was ever envisioned five years ago. I have seen our teachers, students, and families working and doing what as educators, we hope all life-long learners will achieve... application of their knowledge and experiences. These times are not easy for anyone, nor should we expect it to be so. There will be bumps and missteps as we move forward, but we will all figure it out. We need to focus upon today and recognize we are preparing for tomorrow and beyond. Tomorrow will come, and this time will have passed.

All students must keep moving ahead with their academic preparation, recognizing that right now instruction is different but the ultimate educational goals for which they are preparing have not diminished. Your teachers know this and while their classes do not look the same, the content they are teaching, and the goal of getting all their students to content mastery is the key, and important for all students' futures. All high school graduates, post pandemic must still be

prepared for what is becoming an increasingly complicated and competitive college and career market. This has not changed and the pandemic and its aftermath will only exacerbate this fact and likely create more "haves and have nots." We are all dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, a global crisis none of expected would be here now. Sure, like an earthquake we may have worried about a pandemic, but honestly we were far less prepared... We will get through this.

We are halfway through the semester, and since the Progress Reports in mid-September, student grades and attendance have significantly improved as we have all been making adjustments both as teachers and students beginning a school year in Virtual Distance Learning. Students! Our teachers, counselors, school and district staff, are here for you. Take advantage of the numerous resources and opportunities designed to support not only your academic but emotional needs. Warriors, we are halfway through the first semester and on November 2nd we will begin our Hybrid Instruction, with students in classrooms once again. This is the next step, as we continue to move forward and ultimately return to five-days a week onsite school return when it is safe to do so. We have the best students, parents, teachers, and staff. There is no place in education I would rather be right now. It is great to be a Warrior in the FJUHSD!

In one of the prior paragraphs I mentioned being prepared regarding earthquakes. Yesterday, the annual worldwide Great Shake-Out Day was observed. For those of us on the Troy High School site, we conducted our Drop and Cover drills. For all our students and families at home, I hope you did so as well. The Great Shake-Out is always on October 15th and the drill is officially held at 10:15am. We tend to move it a bit... © Now, is the time to make sure you have earthquake preparations completed with supplies on hand, along with a family reunification plan with "A" and "B" locations. Why? Because it is too late after the earthquake.

Here is the link to week's Troy Omnia Broadcast. They do a great job, and so far this episode may very well be my favorite. There is a little overlap with the *Warrior Weekly*, which is a good thing as it provides more details and student perspectives.

https://youtu.be/HV-SyACk7qw?t=9

| Hybrid Bell Schedule (Monday-Friday) Monday & Thursday: Cohort A In-Person/Cohorts B & C from Home Tuesday & Friday: Cohort B In-Person/Cohorts A & C from Home Wednesday: Cohorts A, B & C from Home | | | | | |
|--|------------|---|----------|-----|---------|
| Period | Start Time | | End Time | - | Minutes |
| Period 0 | 6:51 AM | - | 7:39 AM | - : | 48 |
| Passing | 7:39 AM | - | 7:47 AM | - : | 8 |
| Period 1 | 7:47 AM | - | 8:35 AM | - | 48 |
| Passing | 8:35 AM | - | 8:43 AM | - | 8 |
| Period 2 | 8:43 AM | - | 9:31 AM | - | 48 |
| Passing | 9:31 AM | - | 9:39 AM | - | 8 |
| Period 3 | 9:39 AM | - | 10:27 AM | - | 48 |
| Break | 10:27 AM | - | 10:42 AM | - | 15 |
| Passing | 10:42 AM | - | 10:50 AM | - | 8 |
| Period 4 | 10:50 AM | - | 11:38 AM | - | 48 |
| Passing | 11:38 AM | - | 11:46 AM | - | 8 |
| Period 5 | 11:46 AM | - | 12:34 PM | 22 | 48 |
| Passing | 12:34 PM | - | 12:42 PM | - | 8 |
| Period 6 | 12:42 PM | - | 1:30 PM | 2 | 48 |
| Lunch | 1:30 PM | - | 2:00 PM | - | 30 |
| Student Support | 2:00 PM | - | 2:30 PM | - | 30 |
| Teacher Preparation | 2:30 PM | - | 3:00 PM | - | 30 |

Current Troy 11th graders! I ran this story last week, but it bears repeating. This is an important message if you were signed up to take the PSAT NMSQT at Troy High School. At this time, the PSAT NMSQT at Troy HS on Saturday, October 17th, 2020, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, January 26th, 2021. This change was made once we knew for sure that we would not be in the Hybrid Instructional Model before October 17th. Juniors that registered for the October exam, are now registered for the January exam. Juniors that did not register for the October exam, but would like to now register for the January exam, can do so at this time on Total Registration: <u>https://user.totalregistration.net/PSAT/051009</u>

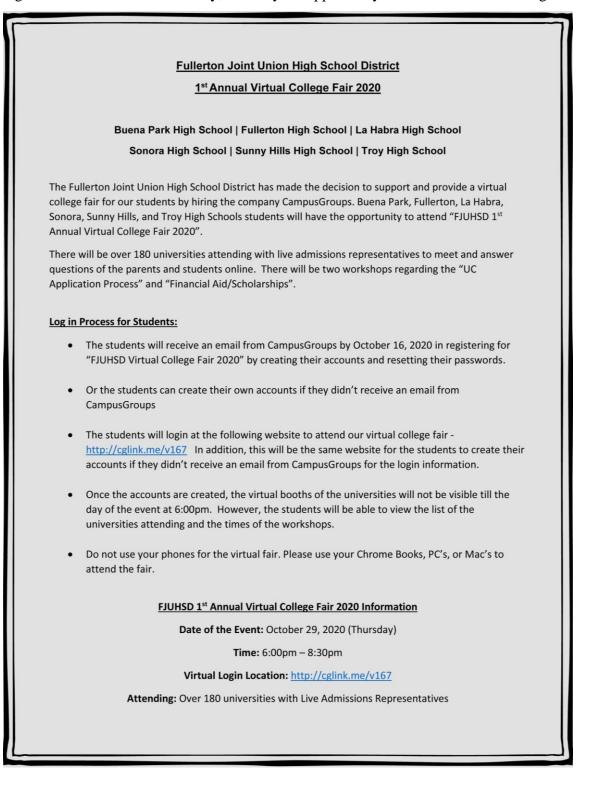
PSAT NMSQT Registration will end on Monday, October 26th, 2020. This year's sophomores will take the PSAT NMSQT as juniors in the fall of 2021.

Here is a timely story about high school seniors as they search for their perfect college for next year during the pandemic.

Troy senior, Alexis Hartman is one of the students featured in the article. \bigcirc

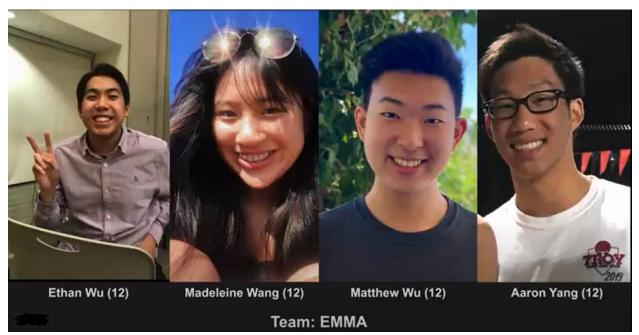
https://edsource.org/2020/college-recruiting-turns-virtual-during-pandemic/641255

Having read the aforementioned story, here is your opportunity to attend a Virtual College Fair!



From Boys' Golf Coach, Mr. Dave Bainter, "Last opportunity to sign-up for Boys Golf Tryouts... Please email Coach Bainter at dbainter@fjuhsd.org by no later than Wednesday, 10/21 if you would like to participate in the November tryouts." Ok, so if you are a golfer, being outside in the fresh air in a park like setting, doing one of the few things during a pandemic that remains largely normal...if you have not already contacted Mr. Bainter I don't know what to say.

This week, Troy Tech Coordinator, Ms. Laurie Downum-Bonnett shared another wonderful story of Troy students going "above and beyond." "*I am happy to share that we have a team of four Seniors who placed in the top 10 teams at "Xylem Reach 2020 High School Hackathon" Sept 24-27. I connected students to the event - Xylem has considered hosting interns in the past and visited Troy last year to network with me. They reached out in September.*



The team Aaron Yang, Madeleine Wang, Ethan Wu, and Matthew Wu competed under the team name EMMA. All 4 were invited to attend the virtual event at 9 am PST on Wednesday, October 14 where they found out how they placed. Our Troy Tech Seniors placed in the top 10 teams at the Xylem Reach 2020 High School Hackathon. The teams were honored at the company's global conference this morning. Xylem Inc. focuses on water technology and hosts events in an effort to interact with a younger generation, provide employees exposure to the next generation of the workforce, and inform students on what the company is doing to solve some of the planets greatest challenges, primarily around water scarcity." Here is their project submission video. <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j-d6FnFlBClJIWwX6lj6juh6Z3IpW0Y0/view?usp=sharing</u> Laurie Downum-Bonnett Troy Tech Coordinator Ldownum@fjuhsd.org

Last week I wrote about having a live Zoom meeting during lunchtime for a couple of Friday's as we prepare to go to the Hybrid Instructional Model. Depending on how this goes, who knows, these lunchtime events may become more common as we go through the year, especially as we approach key times/events in what has been anything but a typical school year. Today's upcoming lunchtime date is named "*Lunchtime with Luna & the Principal*," ⁽ⁱ⁾ and will be from 12:30—1:15pm. I will be able to answer questions about the Hybrid Model, cohorts, Bell schedules etc. during this time. Luna may not be as helpful. Yesterday, an invitation with the Zoom link was emailed out to our Warrior community. I am looking forward to it!⁽ⁱ⁾



Next week begins our *Pink Week* for Breast Cancer awareness. Beginning on Monday, there are virtual events each day with Monday being the Social Media Kickoff for the week. All students and staff will soon receive the links for the various virtual *Pink Week* events.



Here is an example of student usage of our Outdoor Classroom. This week our Science Olympiad held the last tryouts for our teams. Pictured above are students, socially distanced apart and being supervised by longtime Science Olympiad Coach, Mr. Dan Jundanian. We have some shade structure concepts in the works to provide cover over the student workstation area which will enable us to use the space year round. This space is nearing completion!

With the holidays approaching and all of us still in the middle of a pandemic, I know each of us are wondering how much longer can we seemingly function without anything looking normal? The Centers for Disease Control know we are getting impatient while we are working through this pandemic, so they have guidance for all of us as we enter the holiday season. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html

I encourage everyone to check out this CDC link! I think you will be pleasantly surprised at how much you can actually do safely. Of course we are not back to normal at all, but this guidance is not the seemingly total lockdown we have been going through since last March. Also, the CDC guidance are supplemental to our local and State Departments of Public Health guidelines. It is almost that time again! For incoming 8th graders looking to be part of the Troy Tech Magnet Program, here is the new flyer for the 2021-22 school year! Let all your family and friends with current 8th grade students know, in case Troy High School is their dream school! ©



#39 Top STEM High School in the Nation 2020, Newsweek

2021-2022 APPLICANTS: Here is the informational FLYER

https://www.fjuhsd.org/cms/lib/CA02000098/Centricity/Domain/235/Troy%20Tech%202020%2 0Flyer%20Final.pdf

Troy Tech/IB/Cambridge/Honors Testing for Current 8th Graders will be January 9, 23, and 30, 2021.

Laurie Downum-Bonnett

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Each week for the past month I keep hoping for the fall season to arrive and sometimes it looks like it has. Then we get hit with high 90-100 degree heat and we are in summertime.

Tomorrow, I think we are finally going to see the arrival of the fall season with highs in the 80's and lows in the 50's. We need the break and the cooler temperatures. Plus we are only a couple weeks from Halloween! My house is decorated and we are ready for fall! I would also like to



point out that decorating the house for Halloween is an accepted CDC holiday activity. BTW, Luna was no help. ⁽ⁱ⁾ It is a great time of year, so if you have the opportunity to so do, I strongly encourage taking the time to get outdoors in Southern California! Have a wonderful weekend and I will see everyone back here in our Virtual Distance Learning Classrooms on Monday! W.V. Mynster

