

January 12, 2018

Welcome back from Winter Break and best wishes for a happy start to 2018! I am excited to report that Troy has smoothly started the second half of the year with students and staff well rested and ready to continue what has already been a fantastic 2017-18 school year.

As I have written before, Troy students love to compete and we have competition teams in all kinds of things. Of course athletics is a given, and our teams are having an outstanding Winter season, with Freeway League play now occurring in all sports. Wrestling, Girls' Water Polo, Boys' and Girls' Basketball, and Boys' and Girls' Soccer are all playing well and contending for Freeway League Championships. Go Warriors!



Other competition teams have also been busy. Already, this year our defending national championship Science Olympiad team has won a few contests, with the most recent being taking 1st place at the Mira Loma Invitational. They are continuing to hone their skills and setting themselves up to be in a position to win a twelfth championship in 2018!

Last weekend our NJROTC marksmanship team took first place at Grossmont High School near San Diego. These teams have steadily improved under the guidance of Chief Kelly Fernandez. Congratulations on having a fantastic match!



Also in competition last weekend our NJROTC participated in the Orienteering NJROTC California State Championship held at Vasquez Rocks. It was an incredibly difficult course and more than half of other high schools' teams did not complete the course. It was a well prepared team from Troy that won the competition and won the NJROTC California State Championship!



Here is our NJROTC Orienteering team, and this is another picture of people on Vasquez Rocks, however I do not believe this was part of the competition course. ③

Our CyberPatriot teams are looking forward to Round 3 of the CyberPatriot competition to be held on January 20-21. Many of our teams are at the top of the national rankings, with nineteen of twenty of our Open teams and all thirteen of our NJROTC teams in contention to make the National Championships in April. Additionally, our feeder middle school Ladera Vista is tied with a school from Nevada for being the #1 nationally ranked middle school!



When students returned from Winter Break they may have noticed this new fencing and gates immediately behind the 500 building. While a few students have known what was happening, this is a project that has been championed by Science teacher, Mr. James Kirkpatrick. What is currently taking shape is an outdoor classroom that will include convertible desks/benches, a lab counter/storage, native plants and a water feature. It will be an awesome addition to our campus and something that will enhance our instructional / curricular opportunities for students and teachers. Thank you to Mr. Kirkpatrick for pushing for this project and thank you to Facilities and Construction Director, Mr. Todd Butcher, and Construction Managers, Mr. Alex Kang and Mr. Dale McCurry for helping us bring this project to life. Students under the direction of Mr. Kirkpatrick will also be earning service hours working on landscaping as we hopefully finish construction in late spring. ©

Speaking of construction, on Wednesday I had the pleasure to attend a groundbreaking ceremony at La Habra High School for their new Performing Arts Building. This is a huge project and will result in a state of the art theatre that will seat 600 people. The artist's drawings are available on the district website and it is something to behold. With the addition of this new theatre as well as the extensive renovation of the stadium that are about to begin, these are some great new additions to La Habra High School that will benefit students in our district for the next

50 plus years! Thank you to all the FJUHSD Board of Trustees and very importantly the voters that passed the bond that has made these district wide construction projects possible. We all know about our pool, but as we speak our gyms are undergoing massive renovations that will also render them to better meet the needs of our students and community for the next 50 years!



Yesterday I was fortunate to attend perhaps the most amazing soccer game I have ever seen. Five minutes into the game, our Girls' Soccer team was winning 1-0 against Sunny Hills. However, on a breakaway our goalie aggressively defended the play but also took out the attacking player. The official called a red card on our goalie which also resulted in a penalty kick for Sunny Hills, upon which they scored and the game was tied 1-1. Because of the red card against our player we had to finish the game with one less player so Sunny Hills had an advantage. That is when our team got mad and focused. In the next five minutes they scored two great looking goals and played the duration of the game on Sunny Hills' side of the field. Our team was excited and they earned this win! Congratulations on overcoming adversity and this fantastic 3-1 win!





Tickets are on sale for our Winter Stag Dance which will be held next Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. This is always a fun dance. Buy your tickets soon, there are no door sales and the longer you wait, will only cost you more money as the ticket prices go up between now and next Friday.

This weekend, we celebrate a holiday weekend in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It was his contributions to our nation as one of the most prominent leaders of the Civil Rights movement during the 1950's and 60s that have helped shaped our nation today. It was also the fight for civil rights that resulted in his death in 1968. Dr. King was hardly alone in fighting for this cause and the struggle continues as we look at the continued inequalities in our society. We should never forget that freedom isn't free and if we don't stand up for our rights they will be taken away or in some cases may result in rights never received. Especially this weekend, it is appropriate for all of us to reflect upon what it means to be an American and how we all play an important part to ensure equality for all citizens of this great country. This weekend we are going to have phenomenal weather with highs in the 80's, so being able to be outdoors is going to be at the top of the list. I intend to enjoy a drive in my classic car as automobiles are a relaxing stress reliever for me and I enjoy working on them. However, classics sometimes have issues and mine is no different. This became very apparent when my '57 Chevy had an electrical issue during Winter Break. There is nothing like getting stuck on the road with a classic car. Lots of people want to take a look and say nice things about the vehicle when at that moment you don't necessarily feel that appreciative of said vehicle...darn car.



My classic 1957 Chevrolet.

The offending parts, a faulty ignition module and coil.

Thank you to the Automobile Club of Southern California, as they got me home. I am sure I will have a more enjoyable drive this weekend. <sup>(C)</sup> I wish everyone a very enjoyable Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend! Rest, relax, get outside, and I will see everyone back here bright and early on Tuesday morning!

W. V. Mynster