

December 10, 2021

Warriors,

One week left until the end of the Fall Semester! Students, Final Exams begin next week, so here is my recommendation to you. It is not a terrible idea to spend a little time this weekend reviewing for your finals and / or finishing any work that needs to be turned into your teachers. Students, finish Warrior strong, be prepared for your Finals, and put this semester in the books!



We held the Elf Dance / Rally held today! After a one-year hiatus the actual full scale Elf Dance returned and it was awesome! Granted, due to pandemic restrictions we held this rally

outside, but we have held some great rallies in the Quad and I know this Elf Dance was one for the ages! Thank you to our ASB, and all our seniors for a truly memorable event!

# **COVID-19 Reminder for all Troy High School Students!**

In accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), CA Dept. of Public Health (CDPH), and Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA), we ask that you complete the Qualtrics survey each morning prior to arriving on campus. However, **please do not attend school** if you have experienced any COVID-related symptoms:

- Flu-like symptoms such as fever of 100.4 or greater
- Chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose that is not associated with a pre-existing condition or other chronic health condition.

Following the recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has issued guidance in support of full in-person instruction and to as much instructional time as possible. A link to that guidance is included at the bottom of this communication.

### Please note that masks will be required by all staff and students while indoors

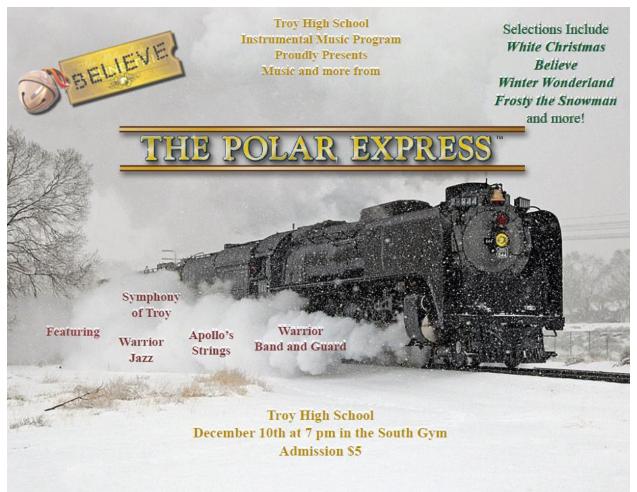
regardless of vaccinated status.As an extra precaution, FJUHSD is committed to continuingthe enhanced cleaning procedures established to ensure that our schools are clean, sanitized, andsafe. Additionally, using our thermal cameras, temperatures will continue to be taken eachmorning.CDPH COVID-19/K-12-Guidance

### Safety Procedures for attending school during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- All students and staff will complete a Qualtrics COVID Safety Survey each morning (the survey will be sent to your school email).
- To enter campus, students will show their green checkmark from the completed survey permitting them to be on campus.
- Students will walk through the thermo-imaging temperature cameras by either the Main Office or the North Gym and show their green Qualtrics survey checkmarks.
- Face coverings (masks) are required inside and are optional while outside.

 Last but not least, <u>if you have taken a COVID-19 test</u> and are still waiting for results, <u>please do not attend school until you receive the results of that test</u>, and then <u>only</u> <u>come to school if you are negative for COVID-19!</u>
Students! Here is some important news from our Guidance Department! <u>Thank you and GO WARRIORS!</u>

Don't miss our Troy Instrumental Music Program concert tonight! It will be held inside the South Gym at 7pm tonight. As this is an indoor event all spectators must be wearing face coverings in accordance with California and Orange County Departments of Public Health guidance on COVID. This will be an enjoyable event for all, and the price is not too bad either!

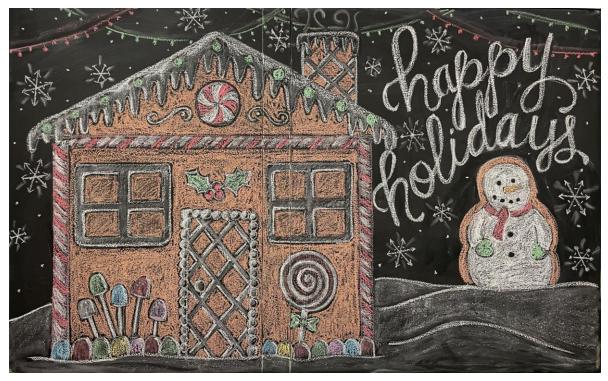


Thank you to our wonderful Special Education Staff for hosting their Annual Holiday Luncheon yesterday! They cooked two turkeys, ham, stuffing, cranberries, vegetables, rolls, dessert, all the fixings and the food was outstanding! This event has become a tradition at Troy, and this year marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event. This luncheon began as a way for our Special Education Staff to show their gratitude for all the other departments and school staff. I hope our Special Education Department know, that we are all very aware of the job they are doing, and how very much they mean to the rest of the Troy Staff, our students and our school. We are very grateful for all of our Special Education Staff!!!



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This is the live link that will take you to Tutor.com.



Troy Main Office Holiday Chalk Art, by Mrs. Shannon Cogswell.

To our Troy Students and Parents, I wrote this email to our staff this past Tuesday and I think you will enjoy the content. <sup>(c)</sup> Spoiler alert...the email ends fantastically, and Troy High School is as good or better than you think we are. Go, Warriors!

#### Dear Troy Family,

On December 6th, some media outlets ran a story on the Niche High School rankings in California. KTLA was one of the media outlets. As many of you know from my past writing on this topic, I have thoughts on the school ranking entities and their inability to differentiate apples and oranges in terms of schools. However, Niche is one of the school ranking entities that does a better job, and I think they are more fair in their rankings. That being said, here is a synopsis of Niche's just released data showing how Troy ranks for 2022. I used some of the ranking categories for Troy and other schools I listed below. There are many more categories for each school and all other ranked schools, which can be found on Niche.com.

Troy Family, before you even get into the rankings synopsis, you already knew that we have a great school! We were great before the pandemic, and while these past eighteen months have been some of the toughest in our lifetime in numerous ways and on virtually every front, we never quit. We never quit. We did not quit on ourselves, students, school, or our community.

We gave more than we have ever given to ensure our students have every opportunity and the support that we and an education are able to provide. Through Distance Learning, Hybrid, the return of athletics last spring, AP / IB testing, and through the summer, and first half of the school year we have persevered. The pandemic is not over and things are not normal, but we continue to move forward and we are providing the best education and environment to our students of which I am aware. Troy High School is a real comprehensive high school with a magnet program. We are the best school I know, and that we have continued to be recognized at the local, state, and national levels, is deserved. Remember, spring 2020 we received a WASC six-year clear accreditation, last spring, 2021 we again received the California Distinguished School award. Our school's environment, performance, and recognition is a direct reflection of the dedication, work, love, and care given by all of you, our students, our parents, our district, and our community, and that is put into Troy High School. We are who we are, because of all of you!

With gratitude,

Will

## 2022 Niche High School Rankings (State, National, County, Regional)

#### <u> Troy High School</u>

#### California:

#6 of 1,898 Best Public High Schools in California.

#3 of 1,807 Best Public High School Teachers in California.

#7 of 1,406 Best College Prep Public High Schools in California.

Other nearby schools:#15 Whitney High School, #29 Arcadia High School,

#30 Foothill High School, #37 Oxford Academy, (PLYUSD #74 Valencia High School,

#75 Yorba Linda High School, #150 El Dorado High School,

#### <u>#154 Esperanza High School.</u>

#### National:

#55 of 19,984 Best Public High Schools in America.

#59 of 19,722 Best Public HIgh School Teachers in America.

#36 of 17,219 Best College Prep Public High Schools in America.

#### Orange County:

#1 of 99 Best Public High Schools in Orange County.

#1 of 96 Best Public High School Teachers in Orange County.#2 of 77 Best College Prep Public High Schools in Orange County

#### Los Angeles Area

#2 of 688 Best Public High Schools in Los Angeles Area. #2 of 656 Best Public High Schools in Los Angeles Area. #2 of 534 Best College Prep Public High Schools in Los Angeles Area.



These are only a few examples of the many outstanding classroom doors that were decorated in our ASB Holiday Door Decorating contest. While I do not know which classrooms were the winners, I am certain it was not an easy decision. This was another wonderful example of the intense holiday spirit at Troy High School!

## Important news from our Troy Guidance Department for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders! October 2021 PSAT/NMSQT Score Release

For 10-11 grade students who took the October 2021 PSAT/NMSQT, your scores were released on December 7th. You provided your email address on your answer sheet on test day, so you'll receive an email notifying you of when your scores are available. The email will have a unique access code that will connect you to your scores online via your College Board account. If you haven't already done so, you'll be asked to set up a free College Board account before you can view your scores.

#### Once you access your scores, here are some resources for you:

Understanding Your PSAT/NMSQT Score Report
Video: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ie6WBDzjtGA&t=1s</u>

 Free, personalized SAT study from Khan Academy based on your test results: <u>https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/about/benefits/khan-academy-practice?SFMC\_cid=EM622714-&rid=47735503</u>

But wait, there is more Troy Guidance News! This news is for every student at Troy and pertains to the Spring Semester. From, our Troy Counselors;

Students will be able to view their spring semester courses on Aeries starting after-school on Monday, December 13th. School counselors will be available for students to fix a schedule error on Tuesday, December 14th from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. as well as Wednesday, December 14th and Thursday, December 16th from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. If a student has an incorrect course, a duplicate course, a missing course that they had fall semester, or a major error please have them see their school counselor during the available times. Students must see their counselor inperson so we may discuss the schedule fix with them.

Please remember many spring courses and class periods are at capacity. We cannot guarantee the order of classes will remain the same as the fall semester. Friday, December 17th is a non-student day dedicated to semester records. Counselors will not be available to meet with students on December 17th.



Troy's Third Annual Home for the Holidays Event featuring Troy Alumni is Wednesday, December 15 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in Troy's North Gym. Alumni will register at this link <u>https://forms.gle/KpQeYbE74Po1RgGE6</u> between now and December 13. **Purpose:** This event is for Troy Alumni to connect with current Troy students and to share about their current employment, research, and career experiences. The event is available to all Troy students but focused on Troy Tech Juniors who are considering internships next summer. **Participate:** Depending on the number of alumni participants registered, you will speak briefly to students seated as a group in the North Gym bleachers, wear clothing that represents your

university or corporation, and have the option to set up a display or make materials available to

students. The event concludes with pizza served by PTSA outside the gym doors for those that attend. (You can complete the form to update us about you even if you cannot attend the event.)



At Troy High School and buildings throughout the nation, our flag of the United States has been at half-mast all week to honor the legacy former U.S. Army veteran of WWII, U.S. Congressman, Senator, and Presidential candidate. Here is a copy of the proclamation from President Biden.

#### A Proclamation on the Death of Robert Joseph Dole

December 5, 2021 DEATH OF ROBERT JOSEPH DOLE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### A PROCLAMATION

As a mark of respect for Robert Joseph Dole, a statesman like few in our history and a war hero among the greatest of the Greatest Generation, I hereby order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff at the White House and upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sunset on December 9, 2021. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR



This week I received some outstanding news about an elite athlete attending Troy High School, senior Henry Tang! Henry's Dad shared the news that Henry has been invited to be on the U.S.A. Badminton Team for the Pan Am Cup 2022, after he finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at the U.S. National in Doubles. Henry is pictured above from the awards ceremony. The Pan Am Cup will be held in February, 2022 in Mexico. If he does well, he could represent the U.S.A in the Thomas Cup which will be held in Thailand in May, 2022! For all of us that have played badminton, I know the version of the game we play is in slooooow mooooootion compared to the version played by Henry and his competitors. Good luck in February, and know we are all very proud of you!



The Troy High School Choir Holiday Performance was last Friday night and it was basically sold out the moment it was scheduled. In front of a packed house, our choirs put on a holiday performance to remember! Not to put their holiday songs to rest, this week they have been performing caroling on campus. Thank you to our wonderful vocalist and to their outstanding Director, Mr. Mark Henson!



NJROTC and the Combat Radio Homeless Breakfast

Troy NJROTC leader, Lt. Chris Cecil shared some great news regarding our cadets and a community service event this past weekend. *"I'm honored to share that 5 of our cadets and their families volunteered at the annual Combat Radio Breakfast for Homeless Children this last Saturday. 150 children were bussed into the Salt Creek Grille in Valencia California. They were greeted by numerous characters from Star Wars, Disney (Troy Cadets), and even the Grinch. They were served breakfast and each received a present from Santa Claus! It was a* 

smaller event this year due to continuing COVID restrictions however we should be able to get back to hosting 800 children next year! Thank you for your continued support of our cadets and the program!"



Luna was ready for the Elf Dance / Rally today! Also in attendance at the Elf Dance and Rally were Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Sylvia Kaufman and the Grinch. I also observed Executive Director, Dr. Karl Zener and our Superintendent, Dr. McLaughlin witnessing the spectacle that is the Elf Dance! ③ I know everyone enjoyed the rally. Thank you to all the students, staff, and of course our senior Elf Dancers that continue to make this holiday rally the fun time for which it has become known!

Now it is study time! Finals are next week, and for students, at the end of the day Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> the Fall Semester is over! Teachers have the next day to turn in their final semester grades and then they too are on vacation and the Fall Semester is over! But let's not get ahead of ourselves. This weekend, get in the studying, perhaps some holiday movies, spend some time with family, and overall have a great weekend. I will see everyone back here on Monday morning!

W. V. Mynster