



December 11, 2015

It is the holiday season, and what better way to emphasize this season at Troy High School than having the annual Elf Dance! I have seen this event once already, and it does defy logic and understanding. Who could legitimately suggest we don't care about visual and performing arts at Troy High School? Nobody! I don't know of any school that needs less reason to start dancing, making videos, or dressing up. This is going to be a fun day! After the Elf Dance, back to class and studying—finals are next week!



Somebody needs to show this wayward elf back to class.

We are known to have some wonderful events at Troy, but on occasion there can be events that are not wonderful and we need to be prepared. On Wednesday we had an unpleasant

event when the Fullerton Police Department put our school and Acacia Elementary School into lockdown due to a serious threat in the community. Sometimes we know exactly why we are going into lockdown and sometimes we don't. We will always work to get information out to students, staff, and families ASAP, but know that our very first priority is student/faculty safety and securing the campus. This is why we have lockdown drills, and why we all take these drills very seriously. As the lockdown on Wednesday proceeded, I observed outstanding cooperation on behalf of the students and staff—even before Mr. Bletscher announced this was not a drill. In this lockdown, the Fullerton Police quickly resolved the situation and twenty minutes later, we were off lockdown and back to our routine. Our actions did not go unnoticed. On Thursday morning, I received an email from a parent regarding our response to the lockdown.

Good morning; I hope this finds you well.

I just wanted to send a quick note about the amazing staff and teachers you have at Troy high school.

I heard numerous stories about how quickly, how calmly, and how confidently all of your staff and teachers reacted upon getting the lockdown notice from the police department. There was one personal account that actually tugs at my heart strings. It is about Coach Silzer. About how quickly, confidently, and purposefully he locked up the exterior gates to the school, while sending his students/players to their safety first.

As a parent, I could not feel more confident and comfortable that my child's safety is of the utmost importance to the teachers and staff at Troy high school!

To quote my daughter, "it was odd because when we drill for this kind of thing, we're all pretty chill about it, but totally follow direction, but yesterday was so different, I saw focus and commitment in the teachers faces...like, there is no way anyone is getting into my classroom!!!" My sincerest THANK YOU to all the teachers and staff!

Sincerely,

Cynthia

Our parents, students, and I appreciate the fantastic response we all gave to this situation. I hope we never have to go through this again, but if we must we will respond appropriately. Thank you to everyone, for your dedication to our students, each other, and our school!

Troy Tech is one of the main engines that drive the academic performance of Troy High School. We are in final preparation for the Troy Tech testing which will occur next month. On Saturdays, January 9, 23, and 30, we will have our testing for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade prospective Troy Tech / Honors students. Families should arrive at 7:15 a.m. Bring a student photo ID and a parent to sign in. Testing areas include math and English. In preparation for testing and to further speed the pre-test process on Saturday morning, we encourage students to register online by visiting <a href="https://www.troyhigh.com/applicants">www.troyhigh.com/applicants</a>. This page also features our Troy Tech 30th Video, our informational flyer, FAQ's and more.

If the number of people on our Troy Tech tours is any indication, there have been large numbers of people on these tours and also at the information event held last week after school. Thank you to all students and staff that have participated in these Troy Tech tours and events as we seek the students that want to belong to this unique magnet program at Troy High School!

Winter sports are all in preseason and our teams are getting up to full speed. Some look like they are already there, but in reality there is a big difference in how a team plays at the beginning of the season vs. the end. For Girls' basketball, the season has started very well with a huge win in an invitational tournament last weekend! Go Warriors!



December 7-11<sup>th</sup> has been Computer Science Education Week in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District. At the Board meeting on Tuesday, our Board recognized the achievements of students and teachers from each of the high schools. From Troy High School,

teacher extraordinaire, Don Allen and stellar students, Victor Chen, Alannah Woodward, and Serris Lew were all recognized for their achievements in the Computer Science field!

Congratulations to everyone on their achievements thus far, and I cannot even imagine what new technology and or applications they are going to create in the future!



It is Friday! If you are looking for something fun to do this evening, our Instrumental Music groups are having their *Troy High Express Holiday Concert*. This event will be held in the North Gym and begins at 7:00pm. Our musicians sound great, and live music is always enjoyable, especially at this time of year. I hope everyone is able to enjoy the wonderful wintery weather we are going to have this weekend! It may be the perfect time to see some snow between the study sessions for final exams! Study, rest, and relax as much as possible! One week in the semester left and then we have a couple weeks to recharge before the beginning of the spring semester! Have a great weekend, and I will see everyone back here on Monday! W. Mynster



Troy High School Choir performing at Disneyland's Candlelight Celebration on December 6, 2015. This photo was taken by Mr. Lance Bletscher and reproduced with his permission.