



TROY HIGH SCHOOL WARRIOR WEEKLY



February 26, 2021

Warriors,

It has been a beautiful week in So Cal, we could not ask for better weather. I think it has been made all the better by the renewed activity of our athletes as they prepare for real athletic contest now that schools have been granted permission to move forward with competitions in additional sports! Girls Tennis and X-Country have been in competition and next week Water polo begins competitions followed by football the following week. Golf is also almost ready to go! In some cases it has been a year and a half since some teams' last competitions in the fall of 2019, so this is welcome news for our athletes that feared they may lose their entire season or lose a second season using baseball / softball / basketball / swim, as case examples.

I would like to thank all the parents, coaches, athletic directors, site and district administration, and our Superintendent for their tireless work on behalf of our athletes in preparation for the possibility of athletic competition again this year.

Troy's X-Country runners came out strong again on Wednesday vs. La Habra High School and had an excellent meet and both Boys' and Girls' won thus handing the overall victory

to Troy High School! Great win over the Highlanders for our X-Country teams!



On Monday we held our first Girls' Tennis match against Bolsa Grande High School. With all schools just coming out of the COVID-19 restrictions only varsity competed, and our Girls' Varsity won the match 11-7! Great job to our athletes on winning their first match of the year!



AVID PARENT NIGHT

Come to our virtual AVID Parent Night
on Zoom!

Monday, March 1st at 6PM

Meeting ID: 718 328 3410

Passcode: 325098

We hope to see you there!



For all parents with incoming 9th grade parents coming to Troy in the fall, and are interested in our AVID program, there is an important informational meeting this coming Monday night, March 1st at 6:00pm! We have a number of tremendous programs at Troy, and our AVID program is one of our best!

ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831



Singing Valentines

Spreading spirits of love and friendship, Vocal Ensemble members deliver heart-warming renditions of classic songs for their annual Singing Valentines fundraiser.

Compiled by Cathy Chen, NEWS EDITOR, article by Diya Patel, STAFF WRITER, cartoons by Pearl Yoon, CARTOON, graphics by Cassidy Chang, GRAPHICS EDITOR, and David Lee, GRAPHICS

M u s i c digital setting. members learned how to trust their own vocal ability and rely on their peers to assist them, Lee said. "In choir, you do not just sing alone, you have to sound good with other people," Lee said. "If we are practicing and need help on some parts of a song, we ask each other how to do it, so the event definitely brought us closer."

With an emphasis on audience engagement, Vocal Ensemble attempted to bring a festive atmosphere to their performance clips. The group hopes that their voices and song choices will help to set Valentine's Day mood, Lee said. "When we record ourselves, we try to record the videos while being lively and putting in all of our efforts," Lee said. "The songs are all the classic songs so we want our performances to lift students up and bring the Valentine spirit."

In continuation of their artistic endeavors during distance learning, Vocal Ensemble will perform along with Ladies First and Concert Choir in the district-wide virtual choir festival March 11.

Director Mark Henson instructed members to record and submit different segments of each song based on the students' vocal range. Henson and Vice President Namette Lee edited and compiled the clips into short videos for individual songs. In an effort to promote purchases, choir advertised the Valentines grams through the school website and their Instagram account. Henson posted a teaser clip that featured Vocal Ensemble's performance of "Heart and Soul" by Hoagy Carmichael. The animated video provided viewers with a brief overview of the event, a link to purchase the greetings and the price of the grams. During each rehearsal, Vocal Ensemble sings warm-up drills for their voices, practices rhythm patterns and reviews their song lists. While the transition to online school demanded many adjustments, Vocal Ensemble delivered a high-quality performance despite the challenges, Henson said. "I have tried to make our classes as close to a regular rehearsal period as it would be in person," Henson said. "Online school is different in that there are more steps involved in the preparation process, but students are able to complete everything as they would in person." Prior to COVID restrictions, the students sang as a group and adjusted their voices to fine-tune the performances. Through the

Caroling through Valentine's Day, Vocal Ensemble delivered virtual musical Valentines grams Feb. 12-14. Open to students and families, the Valentines grams included a greeting and a video of one of Vocal Ensemble's musical performances. The Vocal Music program board sold each gram for \$5 and all proceeds went towards entrance fees for future choir competitions and showcases. Vocal Ensemble provided customers with a choice of 12 songs including "Can't Help Falling in Love" by Elvis Presley, "Stand By Me" by Ben E. King and "True Love" by Bing Crosby. In previous years, Vocal Ensemble traveled to different classrooms on campus and performed the songs live for the recipients on Valentine's Day. Due to the barriers of online instruction, Vocal

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Looking for a new hobby? Learn about all the health benefits of growing a few plants during quarantine.

**FEATURE**

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Check out junior Anthony Kharat's innovative approach to provide support for healthcare workers at local hospitals.

**OPINION**

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As College Board announced new changes to the SAT, read up on our take of the pros and cons of standardized testing.



Our student writers for our school newspaper, *The Oracle* have another edition completed

which is being distributed today. They do a fantastic job and this is another wonderful edition by our students for our students, but can be enjoyed by everyone of any age. If you would like to check out their work *The Oracle* can be found on our school website at this address:

<https://www.fjuhsd.org/Page/3532>



For anyone that has ever seen or heard Troy's Choirs you know they are spectacular! Here is the flyer and announcement of their next show tomorrow! From our Vocal Music Director, Mr. Mark Henson; "*As you may know, each February the Troy choirs present a concert with LOVE as the theme. This year's concert LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING will be available virtually this Saturday, February 27 at 7pm. Just go to [vocal.troyhigh.com](https://www.fjuhsd.org/Page/3532) to view.*"

The Troy High School Red Cross Club normally is able to help our community with Blood Drives at the school site and high schools have been important in this regard for many years. With the pandemic, blood drives have been moved off school sites, but the need is still there for our communities. Our Red Cross Club advisor, is Troy IB Coordinator and Science Teacher, Ms. Charlotte Kirkpatrick, and she has these details to share on our next Troy sponsored Red Cross Blood Drive which will be held on March 19th at First Evangelical Church from 1:30pm-7:30pm. *"Blood supplies are always in need and now it is no different. Please join us and help us to help enrich our local community hospital's blood supplies. Your donation can help up to 3 individuals! We are open to all donors, students 16 + (with parent permission), teachers, parents, community members, etc. Your donation also helps support our Troy Red Cross Club scholarship opportunities.*

*Don't miss out on your chance to help out our local hospitals and **save up to 3 lives** by donating blood with the Troy High Red Cross Club!*

Severe winter weather in parts of the country is forcing blood drive cancellations, causing lifesaving blood donations to go uncollected. Please give blood now to help prevent delays in patient care."

Troy High School Community Drive at First Evangelical Church

2801 Brea Blvd, Fullerton CA 92835

Friday, March 19, 2021

01:30 PM - 07:30 PM

Sign up here: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=TROYfullerton>

Also, make your experience even better by using [Rapid Pass](#) the day of our drive to check in and get through the process more quickly.

All Covid safety precautions will be in place!

We look forward to seeing you at the drive! Make your appointment today!



Thanks!

Charlotte Kirkpatrick

I believe we are all aware there are few things in school that are easy. This is especially true during a global pandemic. At Troy High School we are fortunate in that we work with some of the finest students and families in the world. Troy High School has some amazing programs in our Troy Tech Magnet Program, International Baccalaureate, AVID, and Cambridge A Levels / AICE. Then you begin to look at our Performing Arts, Theatre, Dance, Vocal, Band /Orchestra, Athletics, NJROTC, Computer Science/Cyber and all the core content classes, Mathematics, Science, World Languages, Social Science, and Fine Arts, one realizes it takes an amazing teaching staff for this to school to be able to provide the level of instruction and guidance thereby helping our students achieve the school and careers of their dreams. Our school staff have proven they amazing and highly effective. I know I write about our school students and staff every week but once in a while I receive a letter an email that is heartwarming and gratifying. I have taken the name of the parent out of this communication, but I think the message is clear.

I am writing today regarding Will Fritz. Mr. Fritz is my daughter's freshman French instructor at Troy. Over the course of this year, I have had the pleasure of listening and observing Mr. Fritz's interaction with his class, firsthand. Obviously, this isn't something we as parents often get the chance to experience under normal circumstances. However, I have witnessed his interactions with my daughter, his class in general and many other students, both during class and during student support. Furthermore, in speaking to other students' parents, Mr. Fritz stands out.

William Fritz has been a blessing for these students during these crazy pandemic months of (an already potentially trying time) with these kids beginning at a new school with a full and pressing course load on top of the COVID complications. He is a resource, he is always supportive and positive all while demanding that the students push themselves to excel and work hard for positive results in their studies.

My daughter has been blessed this year with several exceptional teachers, but Mr. Fritz stands out among the best due to his commitment, his compassion attitude and his general grasp of being both a leader for these students as well as a resource.

I respectfully ask that you take the time to recognize his efforts as an exceptional teacher and Fullerton Union High School District employee, in a notable if not public manner. These

teachers need a pat on the back (at the very least) as I'm sure you will agree as you have seen their efforts firsthand.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

On the COVID-19 pandemic front, things are really starting to look good in terms of the various State of California pandemic tiers. There is the possibility that Orange County may be getting close to leaving the “Purple” tier and moving into the “Red” tier. We have to stay vigilant and keep wearing our masks and social distancing. The vaccines are here are beginning to become available to more and more people. I strongly encourage everyone to go on offense against COVID-19 with vaccination when able, instead of only playing defense. I will be following my own advice. ☺

With the improving pandemic conditions College Board has issued testing dates and options for students around the world who are planning to take the Advanced Placement Exams this year. In FJUHSD we will be holding the traditional in-person examinations in Administration 1 from May 3-7, 10-12, 14, & 17. We will be following all COVID-19 safety protocols and the exams will be held safely with six foot distances between students taking the examinations and masks being worn, and proper sanitation in all student testing areas.

There are two other exam administrations that include remote electronic options but even the ones that allow for electronic examinations do not necessarily offer all courses in that manner. As a district we are still looking carefully at the other electronic options that are available in Administration 2 which runs from May 18-21, 24-28. Keep in mind that this test window begins to run into other events and senior graduation events. There is one more AP testing administration, Administration 3 that runs from June 1-4, 7-11, but by then the school year is over, so in terms of feasibility or likelihood of students doing well on the examination, they begin to decrease.

Something else to recognize between the three College Board AP Testing Administrations, the only administration with which your teachers have any familiarity and the one administration with which students have been practicing the testing format is the in-person paper and pencil examinations in the Administration 1. I believe this is the best chance for a student to do well on the AP Exams. Here is another reason I believe students will do well in

Administration 1, the exam is totally different in both Administrations 2 & 3. In both subsequent testing administrations students taking the electronic version of the AP Exam, lose the ability to go back and forth between questions on the exam. This means that the first time a student looks at the question they need to answer that question at that time. The student cannot skip that question and go back later, which as we know all students do on a paper pencil exam and is a skill which helps a student gain confidence as they progress through an exam by answering the questions they know best first and then go to the questions with which they feel less confident after having initial success.

If I were a student and I am looking to do well as possible on the AP Examinations this year I would do two things. First, if you have not come back to Troy in cohorts A & B, I would consider doing so. There is benefit to being at school with other students and being able to talk about your classes as well as your teachers outside of class. Second, no matter which cohort you are in, I would take the in-person Administration 1 examination as that is the best option to obtain a 4-5 on the AP exam this year.



It is the weekend and we have all earned a couple days off. Get some much needed rest and relaxation! Enjoy our weather, have a BBQ, get in bike ride, walk, run, or hike. After a week sitting in front of a screen getting outside does a body good! Have a great weekend and I will see everyone back here on Monday!

W.V. Mynster