



# TROY HIGH SCHOOL WARRIOR WEEKLY



April 8, 2016

I hope everyone enjoyed Spring Break! We are now finishing our first week back in school, and it has been predictably busy. Our 2016-17 school year ends next month on May 26<sup>th</sup>, so while it may seem like there is still a significant portion of our year remaining, it will go very quickly! Key events on our calendar are: State Testing (SBAC/CAASPP Testing) begins next week. Remember, we will be on block schedule from April 11<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> we have our Prom! A week later, we will begin our first AP Exams and IB exams. This is followed by Senior Finals, the last day for their finals is May 23<sup>rd</sup>. That same week all the senior graduation activities begin, culminating with Graduation and Grad Night on May 26<sup>th</sup>! So there it is, the rest of our year in a paragraph. There are a few events I will expand upon later in this *Warrior Weekly*.



Congratulations to our Science Olympiad Team! Last Saturday, our team won their 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive California State Championship when they won the competition at Cal Tech. On

May 17<sup>th</sup> our Science Olympiad will leave for Wisconsin to go for their 11<sup>th</sup> National Championship and their 3<sup>rd</sup> National Championship in a row! Team members are: Klarisse Andre de St. Amant, Mike Bao, Patrick Yuankai Cai, Victor Chen, Milla Freeman, Kichael Kao, Tae Kim, Timothy Li, Alice Lin, Sharleen Loh, Kathy Lu, Austin Sun, Matthew Tran, Junyu Yang, Jared Zhao, Marcus Chan, Daniel Coleman, and Alexander Tsao. To keep our kids on track and fine tune their extraordinary abilities and knowledge, Troy Science Olympiad Coaches are: Kurt Wahl, Dan Jundanian, Tom Mosig, Kristen Chavez, and James Kirkpatrick. This is a well-oiled machine that has performed well all year. I like our chances! Go Warriors!



These are just a few clips from the hour long SPED/Theater Collaboration Play that was held on Tuesday and Thursday. The theme this year was Under the Sea, and followed a family on vacation, part of which was indeed spent under the sea! As can be seen in some of my photos, it was a full house and the response from the crowd for these performances was high energy and very supportive! All the students' performances were outstanding, and showed a significant amount of time they had dedicated to learning their lines and dance routines. Thank

you very much to Mr. Royce Watanabe and Mr. Joe Hufferd for organizing and rehearsing with our students for this great event!

Troy High School is a great school. We have fantastic students and we have programs of excellence. Our students prove how exceptional they have learned their academic content when they earn outstanding grades, when they do well on AP, IB, SAT, ACT, or PSAT exams. The State Exams (SBAC/CAASPP) in English, Math, and Science which replaced the STAR exams in California are also very important and are another independent measure by which students' academic growth and proficiency may be measured. These tests are also very important to Troy High School in part because we do very well upon them but also because when our school is recognized for doing exceptionally on these SBAC/CAASPP exams in Math and English it leads to articles in the press that tout our school and our fantastic programs. These SBAC/CAASPP scores are also part of the complex metrics used in school rankings compiled by organizations such as Niche, U.S. News and World Report, and Newsweek. However, for Troy's data to be included, we must test at least 95% of our students. These are the news and ranking organizations that compile the rankings seen by parents, students, and members of the community. These school ranking matter because parents use them the chose Troy as a school for their children. These tests are part of the formula that allows Troy High School to survive.

In addition, the State of California obtains funding from the federal government. The accountability report for school growth is the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) report which details school growth. This is part of the federal school growth requirement which was agreed upon by the State of California to accept federal dollars. Part of the agreement is that all schools are required to test a minimum of 95% of all eligible students to ensure all students are making growth both as an entire group but also specific subgroups of students thereby ensuring to the state and federal government that we are educating all our students and we are proving our school is able to make our growth targets in AYP.

The SBAC/CAASPP exam is simply another measure of growth for our students. It is aligned to the state curriculum in Math, English, and Science and it should continue to inspire and confirm the confidence students, parents and the community have placed in Troy High School for providing an outstanding college and career ready education for our students!



This week the award arrived in the mail at Troy for one of our students. It is a very nice award, made of engraved glass and I was careful when I unpackaged it from the box. The winner of this award by the Young Arts Foundation is 11<sup>th</sup> grader Mike Bao. The selection process is rigorous and Mike Bao is one of 819 emerging artist—Mike plays classical piano—from over 12,000 applicants to be recognized. Additionally Mike had the opportunity to perform in Los Angeles at the end of February as a result of winning this award, but declined. I suspect it was due to his being a member of our Science Olympiad team, and I think he had a competition that weekend. Congratulations Mr. Mike Bao!

Next week will be ASB elections for the 2016-17 school year! There are campaign posters throughout the school and it is going to be exciting to learn who will become our new ASB officers! The current ASB created an election video for the rally today which was quite informative regarding the candidates. Hopefully, our student body will have lots of difficult choices to ponder about their representation over the weekend and will then cast informed votes next week!

Yesterday we had some rain. It will likely happen again today, and when that occurs we allow students to eat in the halls so they may have shelter from the water. However, we also expect our students to clean up after themselves when they are done eating. It is all of our



responsibility to throw away our own trash. This is not the responsibility of our custodians or other staff members. They are not here to throw away the remnants of lunch and other trash that are left behind because students did not pick up after themselves. Students, while we have very much of which to be proud at Troy, the next couple of pictures are something of which we should not be proud. In the second picture, there was at least an attempt to place items in the trashcan, but it was overfilled. If the trashcan is full, why not use another trashcan?



I refuse to believe anyone would treat their own homes this way. Why would we do this to our school? Please take care of your school and treat fellow students and staff members with respect by doing your part to pick up your trash. Thank you.

This weekend our Troy's NJROTC Cyber Patriot team will leave for the Cyber Patriot Nationals in Baltimore, Maryland. This is a wonderful opportunity for Troy's two teams to demonstrate the skills they have learned as they ultimately are the people in the future that will make our computer networks safe from hackers. Both of these teams are amongst the best in the nation, and I think we have a good shot at a first National Championship in this field of cyber security!

I wish everyone a relaxing and restful weekend! I know we just returned from a week off, but sometimes it feels like another week is needed to return to speed. This has been a very busy week for all of us students and staff included! I know I will enjoy a nice evening at dinner

and then it is another busy weekend! Hopefully, everyone will have a chance to spend time with family and friends as it looks like it will be a rainy weekend. A movie at home and a fire in the fireplace might be a good option. If you need some motivation for a short return to winter, I have included some pictures of my Spring Break in Mammoth Lakes last week!



Have a wonderful weekend, and I will see everyone back here on Monday!

William V. Mynster, Ph.D.