



# TROY HIGH SCHOOL WARRIOR WEEKLY



January 8, 2021

*Sunrise at Troy, 1-8-21*

Warriors,

In December, we completed our fall semester of what was likely one of the most challenging periods in our lives. This week all of us returned to school and the beginning of the spring semester having taken time away from school. Hopefully we were able to achieve some much needed rest, relaxation, possibly able to shift our attention from the trials and tribulations we have been facing on a daily basis since March. We are hopeful for a New Year in 2021 that will bring the end to the pandemic and a return to a sense of “normalcy”.

As I had written in the last *Warrior Weekly* of 2020, there is “light at the end of the tunnel,” as the vaccines are here. More vaccines are being produced and are coming, but now the distribution hurdles need to be overcome, which I do believe will occur very soon. However, there are more challenges ahead before we get back to “normal” in our school and our lives. First, we are in a midst of a COVID-19 surge that is taxing our health care system. Our hospitals are filled with COVID-19 patients. Right now is probably the worst time in our lives to need emergency medical care due to the gigantic demand and burden on our hospitals and medical staff. Second, the California Stay at Home Order has been extended, in an effort to try and limit the number of people who are exposed to the virus, and our Board of Trustees moved FJUSHD schools temporarily out of hybrid, in an abundance of caution to help us deal with the COVID-19 surge. Hopefully these steps will have the desired effect, while all of us are waiting to get the vaccine. These are difficult times. We will get through them, but we must work together and must not be divided in our efforts. This takes me to my last point. We are hopeful 2021 will be

a much improved year. On Wednesday I watched, and I believe all Americans watched in disbelief and horror as a mob attacked Capital Police Officers, storming the U.S. Capital building and our U.S. Congress which was in session at that time. There are really no words that can fully convey my deep sadness, shock, and anger, seeing American citizens fighting with the police, and in the process injuring dozens and killing one officer who gave his life to protect our elected representatives who were doing the business for which we elected them to office. Our U.S. Congressional buildings have not been invaded and since 1814 when the British did so, and set them on fire. But at that time were at war then with a foreign country. What happened on January 6, 2021 was an attack on our country by a mob. Those involved in this attack and responsible will be held accountable. We believe in democracy and the Constitution upon which our democracy is based. We believe in rule of law, and if we don't like the laws there are mechanisms to change the laws. Mob rule is not one of those mechanisms. As an educator, former U.S. History teacher, and a proud American, I urge all of us to look within ourselves as people and Americans, values which unite, rather than divide us, and seeking love rather than hate. Martin Luther King Jr. expressed this best when he said, *"Darkness cannot drive out darkness and hate cannot drive out hate. Only the light can drive out darkness and only love can drive out hate."*

America, we must do better. I am willing to do my part. If we want 2021 and all the years thereafter to be the future we need and deserve, we all have to do our part to sustain the ongoing effort as described in our U.S. Constitution, moving forward and striving, *"...to form a more perfect union."*



It is important to keep up with the COVID-19 data both in FJUSHD and in the larger O.C. and State. I posted this in the last *Warrior Weekly*, and this information is still very valuable. The district data is available on the district website. Look for the COVID-19 dashboard. <https://www.fjuhsd.org/Page/4195> The State and county link is at this webpage

<https://covid19.ca.gov/state-dashboard/> to find the infection rates throughout various parts of California.

The Troy Tech Magnet Program is now accepting applications for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders who are currently in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Here is the link to the Troy's website for information and the Troy Tech application! <https://www.fjuhsd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=385> We are also offering additional events if there are further questions or if you may be seeking more info. The flyer below is the first of these events, and I believe prospective students/families will find this event very informative.



The flyer features a red and black background. At the top center is the Troy Tech logo, a circular emblem with 'TROY TECH' and a stylized 'T' and 'G'. Below the logo, the text 'FACEBOOK LIVE Q&A' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath, in smaller white text, it says 'WITH LAURIE DOWNUM-BONNETT, TROY TECH COORDINATOR & LANCE BLETSCHER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'. The date and time 'THURSDAY, JANUARY 14TH @ 9:00 AM' are displayed in large, bold, white letters. On the left side, in red text, it says 'Join us @thetroydifferece Facebook Page'. At the bottom left, a URL is provided: 'https://www.facebook.com/thetroydifference/?ref=page\_internal'. On the right side, there is a laptop displaying the Facebook page for 'The Troy Difference', which includes the page's profile picture, name, and a brief description.

**FACEBOOK LIVE Q&A**

WITH LAURIE DOWNUM-BONNETT, TROY TECH COORDINATOR  
& LANCE BLETSCHER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14TH @ 9:00 AM**

Join us  
@thetroydifferece  
Facebook Page

[https://www.facebook.com/thetroydifference/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/thetroydifference/?ref=page_internal)



We have many outstanding students at Troy High School, and this not unusual news. However, when news about this student that I am about to share hit my computer, I received three emails in about thirty seconds including two from the organization giving the recognition. This outstanding student's name is Nitin Sreekumar and the work he has done is amazing! This morning I received the most clear details and write up from our Troy IB Coordinator and Biology Teacher Ms. Charlotte Kirkpatrick, so here are her words. *"I am excited to share that one of our students has made it to the top 300 for the Regeneron Science Talent Search with his individual research he submitted! This is his research information:*

*Nitin Sreekumar, Age: 18*

*Troy High School, CA*

*Project Title: Variation in Gene Expression Reveals Genes Predictive of Overall Survival in the Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Subtype*

*The top 300 were chosen from a group of 1760 applications. Here is a summary of the students represented in the top 300 from Regeneron STS:*

*2021 Regeneron STS Scholars*

*Society for Science proudly announces the top 300 scholars in the Regeneron Science Talent Search 2021, the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. The Regeneron Science Talent Search provides students a national stage to present original research and celebrates the hard work and novel discoveries of young scientists who are bringing a fresh perspective to significant global challenges. The 300 scholars and their schools will be awarded \$2,000 each. The Regeneron Science Talent Search scholars were selected from 1,760 applications received from 611 high schools across 49 states. Scholars were chosen based on their exceptional research skills, commitment to academics, innovative thinking and promise as scientists and hail from 193 American and international high schools in 37 states, Puerto Rico and two additional countries.*

Troy Tech Coordinator, Ms. Laurie Downum-Bonnett also wrote, *"Nitin's research was completed in connection to his Troy Tech virtual summer 2020 internship at City of Hope...I was very impressed that three doctors from City of Hope made time for Troy Tech Interns to join their research in the midst of the pandemic."* I suspect the quality of Nitin's research was also very strong reason the medical doctors at the City of Hope wanted to keep mentoring somebody they hope will be a future colleague! Outstanding work, Nitin!

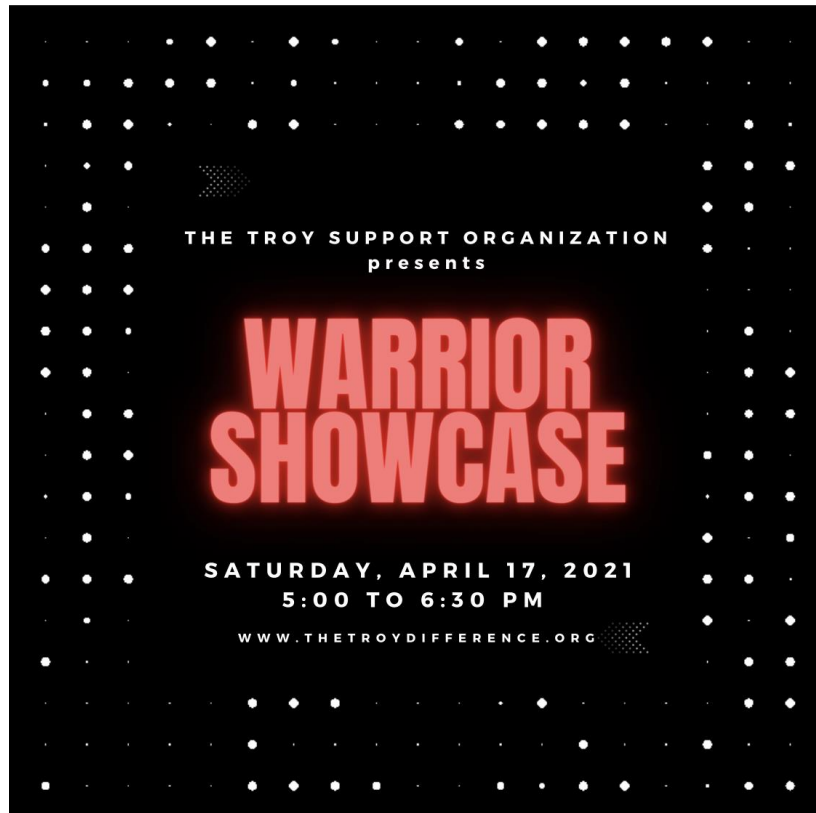


It is possible that even with Distance Learning, that you may have seen the North Parking lot. Currently the lot is largely blocked off with what is the beginning of our school solar power project. There are two main phases of the project that will have solar cells that provide both power to the school and shade to our cars. ☺ The first phase is in the North Parking lot and the second phase is in the Staff Parking lot. The entire project will take approximately two months, and there will never be more than one lot that will be closed. The South Student lot will always be available and either the Staff or North Student Parking lot will be available throughout the duration of the solar project.

I was very happy on Monday morning to welcome Troy's newest Assistant Principal, Ms. Camille An, to the Troy High School family! Already, she is making a positive impact and brings with her a wealth of knowledge earned through sixteen years in education as a History teacher, Social Science Department Chair, English Language Coach, and College and Career Coach in the Los Angeles Unified School District. She attended and earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master's Degrees from the University of Southern California and her Administrative Services credential next door at Cal State Fullerton. We are happy to have her on our team and when you have the opportunity, please take some time to speak with her and welcome her to Troy High School!

Each year our Troy Support Organization foundation raises money for additional expenditures a high performing high school such as Troy High School needs to fund endeavors such as additional computer labs and replacement of technology. For example where a normal school may have one or two computer labs, we have nine which are needed for our Troy Tech

Magnet Program, Cyber Security, Film and Media, and Mechatronics and Engineering. Expenses like this are well beyond what the State of California would fund. Therefore, I am happy to announce our Troy Gala fundraiser in April. Not knowing for sure when COVID-19 is going to end, means we are going to go Virtual, but I still believe it is going to be very cool. 😊



We have made it to the weekend and with refocusing on school and all the external noise, it has been quite the week. All of us have earned the right to take some time for ourselves and to rest, relax, and recharge in preparation for Monday. Perhaps a nice dinner, or a walk around the



neighborhood would be a great opportunity to wind down. Or, much like Donna and Luna perhaps give yourself a manicure. 😊 Have a great weekend and I will see everyone in our Virtual Distance Learning Troy High School on Monday!

W.V. Mynster