



Hi Everyone,

We are at the halfway point of the quarter. Next week, we will send progress reports to the families of those students who are earning below a 77 in any class. You can check your student's grade on PowerSchool at any time. Progress Reports include the grade, but also what might be contributing to a lower than expected performance. Parent teacher conferences will be coming up in about 2 weeks (more on that below). Sports have begun and the coming week we will have our first home competitions. If you have not yet done so, please subscribe to the YouTube channel [JohnBapstMHS](#). We are very close to the necessary 1000 subscribers that will allow us to live stream our games. Here are a couple of announcements as we settle into the weekend.

## **MISSION REVIEW**

This summer, as the school was in the throes of planning for our reopening, we received a letter and a petition asking for John Bapst to review and consider issues of diversity, equity, and justice within our handbook, policies and practices at school. I met with some of the students behind that effort in August and assured them that, after we have reopened, we would continue our efforts to be just and fair to all our constituents. Over the years we have listened and responded to the needs of members of our community, increasing the racial and ethnic diversity within our student body, changing our policies with regard to transgendered students, increasing our financial aid budget, reviewing and updating our curriculum and more. That work, of course, is never finished. I have recruited a group of over 20 board members, faculty, staff, and students to conduct a review of our mission statement. That group will have its first meeting in October. When that work is done, we will convene another group to review our handbook, policies, and practices in light of our mission. John Bapst is a great school. One of the ways we remain a great school is listening to the members of our community and evolving over time.

## UPCOMING EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

- **College Visits are beginning!** These are (virtual) visits from admissions professionals from different colleges. They must be scheduled in advance and are very helpful as seniors make their choices about where to apply. Seniors should check Naviance for the schedule and to sign up to attend.
- **We have some published authors attending John Bapst!** A number of our 12 grade English students have been published on a New York City based website. The website is called “Street Snippets.” Students get a very short sentence that was overheard on the streets of NYC. They then write a story that must begin with that line. All the students featured on the front page of the website are John Bapst students this month. [Read the stories here.](#)
- **10<sup>th</sup> Grade Homerooms have been changed!** 10<sup>th</sup> grade students should double check their schedules to see if their homerooms have been changed. These changes were made to allow 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to be in other homerooms with their friends.
- **If you would like to switch attendance days to be with friends.** Please inform your counselor. We will make these changes, as long as we can preserve the safe numbers of students in the school and in classrooms.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** will be on October 13 from 1 – 8 pm. These are via zoom and are by appointment only. Parents will be able to sign up for times using a web application that we have used in the past. Look for that link next week.

## LINKS

Lunch Order: <https://johnbapst.schoollunchchoice.com/index.php?login=not>

COVID Forms:

<https://www.johnbapst.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Daily-Screening-Questions-for-COVID-19.pdf>

Reopening Plan including COVID handbook changes:

<https://www.johnbapst.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/John-Bapst-Reopening-Plan-2020.pdf>

## **UPCOMING WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

M, T (Purple, White) – A-K in person; L-Z remote; P, W

W (periods 1-8) – **NO CLASSES** Wednesday – Teachers have a professional development day on Wednesday. There may be work in Schoology for students, but there will be no live classes and teachers attend a workshop on best practices for teaching in a hybrid environment.

Th, F (Purple, White) – L-Z in person; A-K remote P, W

I hope you have a great weekend!

**GO CRUSADERS!**

Dave

Dave Armistead

Associate Head of School