

9/27/17

Dear Islander Families,

At Coronado High School our fundamental commitment is supporting student safety and rights to learn in a positive campus culture. We are in the process of addressing student, staff, and family concerns about an incident which occurred at CHS last week, affirming that we hold all individuals--students and staff--accountable for their actions and the impacts of those actions on others. While keeping student safety and welfare at the center, we have the privilege as a learning institution to focus our aim on human growth and development, emphasizing that it is how we respond to our mistakes and failures and demonstrate character moving forward that defines us. As principal of our school, I take my responsibility for modeling, guiding, and supporting all students and staff seriously. While this work is most often grounded in research, policy, and experience, decision making is not simple; it is not perfect; and it is subject to the judgment of diverse shareholders, whose views I am always open to hearing and considering as we move forward.

Our work fostering a community with support, understanding, and empathy for all individuals is ongoing and requires commitment to asking difficult questions, taking risks, and feeling discomfort. It depends on a shared agreement that a community that endeavors to consider, represent, and value the voices of *all* individuals is a stronger one. Our plan to deepen our commitment to valuing each and every member of our community includes:

- Seeking to better understand the experiences of various CHS community members through open invitations for you to share and for us to listen and learn (call, email, meet with Ms. Moore).
- Research and trainings in restorative practices and cultural competency/proficiency with staff and students.
- An ongoing series of student and staff forums on issues around identity at CHS beginning with a voluntary opportunity for students and staff to meet and share concerns, questions, and ideas with Ms. Moore, as well as learn from others on Wednesday, October 4 at 7:45-8:30 AM in the Multi-Purpose Room. There will be ways to provide input in writing as well.
- A task force/committee forming from these initial dialogues and comprising students, families, and staff invested in learning, awareness, and sharing

and implementing ways in which our school can enrich its inclusivity and sense of belonging for all.

Last Thursday our students participated in **“All Together Islanders Day,”** an experience designed by student leaders and featuring assemblies with guest speaker Adam Lee Brooks. Students engaged in discussions and team-building exercises to raise awareness of other individuals’ experiences and get to know one another in classes. We appreciate the constructive and candid feedback we have gathered from students and staff regarding successes and areas of growth to consider in planning future similar events.

Tonight is a home football game and our first CHS Dance sponsored by the Senior Class! Students, please bring your student ID to the game and dance. Our football game is open to the public, but only CHS students will be admitted to the dance (beginning at 9 PM). There is a charge for the both the game and dance, so plan accordingly.

We want you to remind you to **be safe and healthy tonight**, be aware that we practice random breathalyzing at our dances to remind our students to make good choices before, during, and after events. When you are admitted to the dance, administrators will pull aside every seventh student or so to submit to random breathalyzing via the Passive Alcohol Sensor (PAS). It’s a quick preventive measure.

We also take our students’ rights to feel and be safe at our dances very seriously. “Grinding” is not permitted, and approaching someone in this manner or touching another person’s body inappropriately can constitute assault. We have every reason to expect that we will all respect one another and have a great time tonight! Go Islanders!!

Students had an opportunity to sign up for membership in clubs during our Club Week. **Please see this list of clubs** to learn where and when they meet on a regular basis. It’s not too late to join! <http://chs.coronadousd.net/students-parents/chs-clubs-1/>

Coronado High School students are invited to the **Our Lady of Peace College Fair**, featuring public and private universities from across the state and nation on Wednesday, October 11 from 6:30-8:30 at the OLP Event Center in San Diego: <http://chs.coronadousd.net/news/college-fair-for-chs-students-at-olp/>

PSAT Test at CHS: CHS is proud to offer the PSAT test for ALL 9th, 10th, and 11th graders on October 11 (Seniors will have the opportunity for a field trip/movie or Study Hall/College Essay workshop that morning--more information to follow next week). The PSAT serves as a practice test for the SAT, an indicator of which AP courses your student should consider, and an identifier of students for the National Merit Scholarship program. For more information see the College Board's website: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10>

Have a wonderful weekend!

Thank you,

Jenny

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