



CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL

December 4, 2020

Dear Capuchino Families,

Though Capuchino is a very special place, we have issues of inequity and exclusion to address. For instance, we as an institution continue to produce predictable patterns of achievement, which harm many of our students. Our staff is committed to combating this inequity. Last week, the San Bruno Community Foundation awarded us a grant in excess of \$24,000 to hold a staff summer equity retreat. We are grateful for the community's support. In addition, we have secured matching funds from the San Mateo Union High School District (SMUHSD) to build on this professional learning. Our summer equity retreat will provide an opportunity to reflect, examine implicit bias, learn more about anti-racism, situate our work within IB's approaches to teaching and learning, and to create a set of equity goals for the years to come. It is our belief that such an action will accelerate more equitable outcomes, but this will be enduring and ongoing work. I continue to believe that our school is uniquely positioned to create a system, culture, and climate that is inclusive and responsive for each of our students and staff.

Class of 2021

Last year, my heart ached for the Class of 2020 who did not get to participate in the important set of rituals we have for our high school seniors. This year, the Class of 2021 is experiencing prolonged challenges. That said, you are an incredible group who will be recognized, appreciated, and celebrated! As we gain more clarity on health and safety guidelines for the spring, we will be in communication with 12th graders and their families to seek input on possibilities for various activities. These are incredibly important community events and we want to ensure that what is planned reflects the desire and best thinking of those we will honor. Class of 2021, you rock!

On-Campus Learning Pods

If you or your student is finding it challenging to work from home, please contact Mr. Salvador Castillo (scastillo@smuhdsd.org). We have spaces available for students to join our on-campus learning pods. Our current learning location is situated within the upper gym, allowing desks to be spread in excess of county health guidelines, with appropriate ventilation. In addition, brunch and lunch are provided to all those who participate.

Winter Concert

Capuchino's Winter Concert will go live on Friday, December 18th. Please stay tuned to the daily bulletin for details and a link coming soon. The Winter Concert will showcase each of our musical groups. I used to be amazed by how Music Directors were able to get students to play in such unison, when in person, but seeing it over Zoom is a whole new thing! Though the circumstances are different, we are very excited for this student showcase.

Growth Fund Donations

If you are able, we hope you will consider donating to our school Growth Fund. Your donations will be used to support important school initiatives. Our fundraising goal is \$30,000. If you are able, we ask that each family donate \$200 per student, but of course any amount is greatly appreciated. The link to donate can be found [here](#).

Parent/Guardian Participation

One small benefit as a result of our current reality has been the increase in participation for our parent/guardian organizations. [Linked here](#) you will find information on each of the various groups. Monthly Zoom meeting links will always be shared in the school daily bulletin. If you are able, we would love you to drop into a Zoom meeting, listen in, and/or participate. Our community is so much stronger when we work together and are connected.

Final Assessment Schedule

Though in some cases they will look different because of distance learning, final assessments will continue to take place during the last week of the fall semester. [Linked here](#) you will find the full schedule.

In community

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Boise".

Jesse Boise
Principal