



CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL

February 3, 2021

Dear Capuchino Students & Families,

Yesterday was a big day at Capuchino. As many are aware, we have restarted our athletic conditioning program and opened Season 1 sports, allowable with the Purple Tier. In addition, yesterday we significantly ramped up our student testing protocols, testing 76 student-athletes onsite for Covid-19. As health conditions improve, we will expand social, extra-curricular, and athletic opportunities. As someone who lived for athletics in high school, these opportunities would have nourished my soul and given me purpose. At the same time, there is a great deal of inconsistency because we have not yet been allowed to open up other extracurricular and philanthropic student activities. In my mind, these are equally important. As conditions improve, we will work tirelessly to expand opportunities more equitably. You, our students, deserve it! When I arrived home last night, my wife Mega noted the smile on my face. She was right, it was great to see so many of you on campus in a safe manner.

WASC Report

Last week a visiting committee from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) conducted a review of our school performance as part of our normal accreditation process. This included a review of our comprehensive self-study report, student, staff, and parent/guardian focal groups, classroom observations, and numerous meetings. Below is a summary of their findings, along with the full report [linked here](#). Overall, the feedback was very positive and the identified areas for growth are all areas where we do have important improvements to make.

Strengths

- 1. The school is united in their efforts to be an IB school. The school's focus on being an IB school has limited the pull in different directions. The vision of implementing all school programs under the IB umbrella brings clarity for staff and for all stakeholders. The adoption of IBLP as the CHS SLOs as well as the focus on individual learner attributes (e.g., caring, communicators) has created a sense of unified purpose and community throughout the school. It was evident that staff is incorporating these SLOs into their practices. Students are also aware of the SLOs as expected outcomes from their teachers and school.*
- 2. The staff should be commended for their efforts and ingenuity in the distance learning model. Also, staff have found unique solutions and interventions to bridge the equity gap during distance learning.*
- 3. The new administration has brought a positive, supportive vision to the school and unified staff around a common vision.*
- 4. The Wellness Program, Mindfulness Space, and the MTSS have made a positive, significant impact in supporting students.*
- 5. The student opportunities for involvement are outstanding. Students reported being able to start clubs and engage in a variety of activities that extend their realm as well as affirm their identity.*
- 6. Teachers and support staff are supportive and genuinely care about their students.*

Areas for Growth

1. Continue to build the capacity to be a comprehensive IB school.
2. Students stressed a need to have more support and intervention around LGBTQ and gender issues, racial equity, and harassment.
3. Staff should continue to invest in the power of collaboration. The outcomes and expectations of collaborations need to be clear, results oriented, and vertically as well as horizontally aligned.

Class of 2021

[Linked here](#) are the slides from our Listening Circle with the Class of 2021 (1/26/21). During the meeting we discussed priorities and possibilities for graduation. We will convene again next month on Tuesday, 2/23 to further discuss graduation as well as other potential senior activities. Please monitor the Daily Bulletin for a forthcoming Zoom link. Based on student feedback, we'll change the format from a Zoom Webinar to a 'Meeting' to create a more informal structure that encourages dialogue. For parents/guardians, if you would like to help with graduation planning and/or support, please email Vicki Mahoney (vmahoney@smuhsd.org).

On-Campus Learning Pods

If you or your student is finding it challenging to participate in classes from home, please contact their [School Counselor](#). We have spaces available for students to join our on-campus learning pods. All student participants are required to complete a Covid-19 test prior to participation (demonstrating a negative test), with opportunities to enroll every three weeks. Brunch and lunch are provided to all those who participate.

Black History Month (February)



Monday marked the beginning of Black History Month. At Cap, the above banner will be present on our website homepage, linked to a variety of resources. As a community, let's make sure to highlight the importance of Black History Month during February and throughout the year. Certainly this goes hand-in-hand in moving towards a more culturally responsive and inclusive set of curriculum, along with school-wide activities.

Capuchino Covid Safety Plan

[Linked here](#) is a draft of our CHS Covid Safety Plan. We encourage members of our community to review and send feedback on this document by Monday, 2/8 to comments@smuhsd.org.

Capuchino HS GATE Parent Representative

Capuchino is looking for someone to be the GATE liaison between CHS and the SMUHS D GATE parent/guardian group. If you are interested, please contact Ella Yun: yun.gate.pg@gmail.com.

In community

Jesse Boise

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Principal