



PRINCIPAL'S 411

Santa Maria High School

{8-13-21}

Important Items and Reminders:

- Monday is collaboration early release, 1st pd starts at 7:40, please see collaboration schedule on school website @ santamariahighschool.org
- Remember to complete your mandated trainings for the new school year.
- Tablet distribution was on the calendar for next Wednesday. That date will not likely happen, but the tablets are in our warehouse. Once they are etched, sent to our site, and formatted they will be distributed. Getting tablets to our 9th graders as soon as possible is a priorities this next week. In the meantime, teachers with 9th graders need to avoid computer dependent lessons if everyone in their class does not have a device.

Athletics:

I am proud to report that all fall sports are in full swing as we begin interscholastic competitions next week. As most of you know, the athletic department is under new management this year with Dan Ellington as our new Athletic Director. We have hired an exciting roster of coaches and are anxious to see our students in action this fall. Please come out and catch a game.

Kudo's:

Kudos this week have to go to all the people who made opening day possible.

- Kudos to all the new teachers for joining our team, moving, adjusting, getting their keys and email, and completing their first couple of days as a Saint!
- Kudos to Kristie VanHorn and Monica Garcia for getting the meals and events put together during our welcome back days Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Thank you to our Maintenance & Operations team who made countless room and office moves this summer as we experienced a perfect storm of new positions, transfers, and relocations.
- Kudos to our tech team and our Tech TOSA who worked hard to get everyone moved, reconnected, and online.
- Kudos to the guidance team who made all the schedules work and orchestrated a smooth first day of school for approximately 3200 students. And just for good measure, put on our first Resource Fair at lunch yesterday and today.
- Kudos to the teachers who "brought it" yesterday and today!! The classrooms I visited were all super-positive and welcoming to our students who sat through their first full school days in approximately 17 months.
- And lastly, Kudos to the Ag Department and FFA students for providing our staff with a GREAT yearly kick off breakfast. This is such a great gesture to make sure everyone starts off their school year nourished and appreciated.

It has been a big week at SMHS. I am sure I am getting in trouble for leaving many others out who have contributed so much towards the beginning of this school year. As always, I appreciate notifications of

employees deserving mention on these weekly kudos. If you have someone in mind, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Message from Administration:

This week was as positive as we could have hoped for, I hope you all feel the same. There were a few things that didn't go ideally, but overall, it was a great week. The students seemed genuinely excited to be returning to campus and glad to be back with their peers. Our teachers and staff members were extremely enthusiastic and amazingly helpful with the large number of questions coming from our new students. It seems we are in a unique position to really do some great things at SMHS as all the key components are in place. We have an amazing staff, upgraded technology, a ton of new training and capabilities, resources that are unprecedented, and student body that seems to have a new appreciation for what SMHS can do for them. As we return, take your time getting back to the traditional curriculum and enjoy getting to know your kids. As the year returns more towards normalcy, we'll likely see that the time invested on relationships was well spent. With the school year officially started, we are even more optimistic that we can have the kind of year we and our students deserve. Have a great week everyone.

Sincerely,

SMHS Admin