

September 26, 2019

Dear 9th Grade Families,

This first month of school has flown by and it's hard to believe that it is almost October. It was great seeing many of you at Mini School. Thank you for introducing yourselves to me and for welcoming me to JBS! I'm so glad that you were able to meet with our teachers, who are building wonderful relationships with your children.

Now that your children are immersed in the high school experience, one of the changes that they can expect in 9th grade is how we report their progress. We will continue to have preliminary reports, but after these reports, they will receive official grades on their transcripts. It's important for students to fully understand the feedback that they receive from their teachers' preliminary reports and to use this feedback to guide their academic growth and improvement.

PRELIMS & FAMILY CONFERENCES

School will be closed for a long weekend on **October 10 and 11**. During these days, faculty members will assess their students and prepare detailed preliminary reports. These reports are then mailed to you for you to see how your children are progressing this year. The reports serve as the basis of the parent conferences with your children's advisors that will take place during late October and November. This marks an informal "half-way" point for the semester and gives students ample time to adjust their work efforts, if needed, and to increase their mastery of each subject.

As your children read through these assessments, please help them recognize their strengths and continue to encourage them in these areas. Please also help them understand the comments that may highlight areas for growth and that are written to help them find successful strategies to master the material in their classes. Teachers want their students to be successful – to build foundational knowledge and to be confident and engaged learners. These preliminary comments can help them find this success.

Advisors will contact you to set up a convenient time to meet in person to discuss these comments with you. Please anticipate a phone call or e-mail to arrange a time to visit campus to meet with the advisor. Advisors enjoy getting to know you as much as they have enjoyed getting to know your children.

PARENT/GUARDIAN VISITING DAY

If you enjoyed Mini School or weren't able to attend, Parent Visiting Day on Monday, **October 14** is an opportunity to see your children in action with their teachers. You can observe your children in real time, 1st through 4th periods (approximately 9 am to noon). If there is nice weather, parents are welcome to stay for an outdoor lunch with their students. If there is inclement weather, students will have regular lunch in the dining room and unfortunately, space won't allow us to accommodate parents.

With best regards,

[Julie Shimabukuro](#)

Principal, Grades 9 &10

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