

December 12, 2019

Dear 7th Grade Families,

Class Officers

Have you heard the news? The Class of 2025 has elected its class officers! During the common period on Wednesday, November 6, the candidates for office delivered a short speech, and then each member of the class cast a vote for president, vice president and secretary/treasurer. The newly elected 7th grade class officers are Story Kummer (president), Dylan Boekholt (vice president) and Sarah Ding (secretary/treasurer). These officers participated in the recent 7th grade community service orientation, and later in the year, they will help plan Dance Marathon, a school-wide event in February.

December Schedule

For 7th graders, the month of December is a bit out of the ordinary. On Wednesday, December 4, students attended an orientation in preparation for the required community service project on Thursday, December 19. On the 19th, as well as on December 16, 17 and 18, school will dismiss at 2:50 pm. However, students taking orchestra will have a 3 pm holiday program rehearsal on Monday, December 16 and Tuesday, December 17. On Wednesday, December 18, orchestra students will perform in the holiday program at 3:30 pm; this performance is primarily for Burroughs students, faculty, and staff. On Thursday, December 19, they will perform in the holiday program at 5:30 and 7:30 pm (dinner will be provided between performances); this show is primarily for families and JBS alums. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the holiday program, it includes some traditional Christmas music and imagery, but it is foremost an artful collaboration of our Fine Arts, Theatre and Music departments; we hope students and families of all beliefs, backgrounds and traditions will come out and enjoy this special performance. And remember, everyone is invited to the Winterlude – a community-wide gathering for cookies and cocoa in the Commons between 6:30 and 7:30 pm on the 19th.

Time to Relax

We will be on winter break from Friday, December 20 through Sunday, January 5. During that time, we hope students will plan to relax, spend time with family and friends, and do some of the things that they have been unable to do during the busy fall months. Homework will not be assigned to students over winter break, but in some courses, long-term projects have already begun and will be due by the end of the semester (Friday, January 17). Your child may choose to work on long-term projects over the break, but this is not our expectation.

End-of-Semester Expectations

As we approach the end of the semester, many teachers will complete units in their courses, so please don't be surprised if there is an increase in the number of tests and projects at that time. If students have trouble juggling those demands, they should plan to meet with their advisor and/or teachers to get help with planning and study strategies. On Tuesday, January 21, we will begin the second semester, and students will switch to their second-semester courses.

Parent/Guardian Meeting

Please note that we will have a meeting for the parents/guardians of all 7th grade students on Thursday, January 23 at 7 pm. More information about that meeting will come home soon.

Happy Holidays!

Julie Harris

Principal, Grades 7 & 8

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