

# OLIVE & GOLD NEWSLETTER

Don Your Mask | Mental Health | Yearbook and the Forge

## Message from the Principal

Dear Dons,

I need YOUR cooperation to make our community of DONS safer and able to return to in-person learning. Under current guidance, our County must be in the red tier (<7/100,000). **If we work together, we can achieve this by SPRING BREAK!**

SBHS has reported the highest number of students and staff who have been on campus and reported having COVID. We have had ZERO transmissions. That means that no one has gotten COVID as a result of someone on our campus having COVID. Yet, athletic pods have closed and staff and students have had to quarantine due to exposure.

Please help us on our path to returning to campus! We must all do our part if we are to say "Once a Don, Always a Don."

- Wear a mask whenever you leave your home.
- Physically distance! 6ft or more!
- Avoid gathering with people that are not part of your immediate household / family.

If you have any questions or feedback, please reach out: [esimmons@sbunified.org](mailto:esimmons@sbunified.org)

Thank you and much appreciation, Elise Simmons, principal



## The Return of Athletics

On Saturday, February 27th the SBHS Cross Country team will be the first team to compete in almost an entire year in a meet vs Dos Pueblos. We're excited to get sports safely back up and running! In the very near future tennis and golf will be right behind cross country.

Lastly, the California Department of Public Health did release updated guidelines for youth sports last week. We will now look to Santa Barbara County of Public Health and SBUnified for guidance as to how we safely move forward in hopes of having contests for those fall sports (football, waterpolo, and soccer) impacted by last week's announcement. More to come.

### ***WE NEED YOUR HELP - Complete the Survey!***

Your school needs you to complete this online survey to learn more about your opinions about it. This survey is an opportunity to communicate your perceptions about your child's school.

<https://wested.ugam-apps.com/wed/ts/Fiq4>



## Seniors! Class of 2021

Hooray! Our yearbook staff is able to extend the deadline for senior portraits to March 1st, as we are still taking portraits on campus.

If you attended your free on-campus portrait session, we will prioritize the ON-CAMPUS PHOTO for your senior portrait. Thank you to Alumni and Parent Lia Garcia for her amazing photographic skills!



**Seniors** - if you decide to forego the on-campus sessions, please select a portrait and submit: <https://forms.gle/zrGgpLYdQfKMcrB28>. Families - please be aware that the Google Form above is only accessible by students. Questions? Contact Miranda Jue at [mjue@sbunified.org](mailto:mjue@sbunified.org).

**Graduation Orders:** In the [Herff Jones](#) Senior Informational packet given to Seniors on Friday January 29th, the Early Bird Deadline has been extended to February 28th. If you order after this time, the price goes up! **We encourage all seniors to order a cap and gown as we prepare to have a graduation ceremony.** Even though we do not know what this graduation ceremony will look like, as we will be following the directives of Santa Barbara County Public Health guidelines, we will find a way to safely celebrate the Class of 2021.

## Student Announcements - Check it Out

Ever wonder what information students receive each week? Well, here is access to the [Student Announcements slide deck](#). Feel free to review it weekly as we add new information.

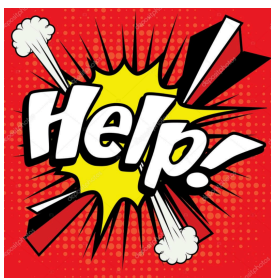


## Signs of Suicide Prevention Program, Cultivating a Healthy School Environment

During this challenging year, school staff are working to teach students about mental health and how to seek help if they are worried about themselves or a friend. The SOS Signs of Suicide program teaches students about this difficult topic and encourages them to seek help. Research has proven that by cultivating social and emotional health, connection to community resources, and responding particularly to students' unique needs, we can help make schools safer. Through the program, students learn:

- that depression is treatable, so they are encouraged to seek help
- how to identify depression and potential suicide risk in themselves or a friend
- to ACT (Acknowledge, Care and Tell a trusted adult) if concerned about themselves or a friend
- who they can turn to at school for help, if they need it

SBHS will be rolling this out to **our 9th graders on March 16th and 17th**. We will roll this out to our **12th graders on April 13th and 14th**. If you have any questions about SOS, please contact Dean Nate Mendoza, [nmendoza@sbunified.org](mailto:nmendoza@sbunified.org)



## Academic & Technology Support

### *PAPER Tutoring*

#### **FREE Tutoring for ALL!**

Did you know that SBUnified has contracted with Paper for free tutoring? The tutoring is available 24 hours a day, for all content areas, and bilingual tutors are available. If you haven't checked it out, please do so! Here is the login information: <https://app.paper.co>

### *Teacher Office Hours*

**Don't forget about these!** Be sure to contact your teacher if you are not sure when they are available. Every teacher is expected to have two times each week set aside to help YOU outside of class time.

### *Technology Support*

#### **Having issues with your iPad?**

Please have your student submit a tech ticket (email [support@sbunified.org](mailto:support@sbunified.org) through their school email address). You also may call the Tech Helpline: (805) 696-2700 or visit the SBUSD Office from 8am to 4pm.

## *Sunrise & Sunset Chats with Principal Simmons - Thursday, Feb. 25th!*

Would like to learn more about SBHS's safety plan and updates on the returning to in-person instruction? Please join the Principal and other staff in these monthly zoom meetings on Thursday, Feb. 25th!

#### **Sunrise Chat 7:45-8:30am**

<https://sbunified.zoom.us/j/91027974308>

#### **Sunset Chat 5:45-6:30pm**

<https://sbunified.zoom.us/j/92683699985>

## *The Forge, Delivered Straight to Your Door*

After a very successful semester covering school and local stories online, Santa Barbara High School's newspaper, The Forge, is excited to begin printing again. Because in-person distribution remains difficult, for the first time in its over 100-year history, the paper will be shipped straight to the doors of SBHS families. Teacher advisor, Mrs. Cloutier, and editors-in-chief Karissa Fields and Emerson Steady continue to lead a team of over 20 student writers who have been working tirelessly from the safety of their homes to make this edition possible. As important stories about the pandemic, racial justice, and local politics unfold, the Forge remains as committed as ever to its mission of informing the SBHS community and training students in journalism. The print edition will be delivered in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, all the newest stories can be found on their website [sbhsforge.com](http://sbhsforge.com)

## *Please Certify DAILY*

Parents/Guardians who have a child participating in one of our cohorts or pods, now have the ability to certify their student using the CrisisGo App. To do this, follow the directions in this [infographic](#).





### Submitting Photos for the Yearbook:

We have received SO many amazing photos to document students' time at home! Thank you for all of your support so far. If you would like to ensure that your student will be featured in the yearbook multiple times, please submit photos of their time at home here: <http://www.hjeshare.com/eShare/?code=sbhsdons>

### Did I already buy a yearbook?

Unless you purchased it online anytime after October 2020... probably not! We were not able to do the usual purchasing at Dons Derby this year. Books can be purchased at [yearbookordercenter.com](http://yearbookordercenter.com) (school code: **14273**). You may always email me directly to double-check ([mjue@sbunified.org](mailto:mjue@sbunified.org)).

### When is the deadline for senior dedications?

March 31st! It's coming up fast. You can purchase and design your senior dedication at the same place you order your yearbook (see above). On this site, it's referred to as a *Yearbook Ad*.



### Preparing for Next Year

For the past month, counselors have been hard at work meeting with all current 9-11th graders to help guide them through next year's course selection process. If you have any questions about the courses, please email your counselor.

**FUN Fact!** Did you know that all academies at SBHS no longer have an application process? This means that if incoming 9th grade students are interested in joining the Computer Science Academy, Multimedia, Art and Design Academy, or Visual Arts and Design Academy, all they need to do is sign up for one of the following courses: Exploring Computer Science OR Computational Art (CS Academy), MAT 105 - Intro to Media Arts (MAD), or VADA Free Hand Drawing (VADA). **If you are a current student, and would like to join one of the Academies, please reach out to your counselor.** Learn more about our academies by checking out [this slide deck](#)!

