

Dear High School Parents,

August 2021

We are very excited for the way we are able to begin our school year here at Santiam Christian! Every year we hold a Pursuit Retreat as an opportunity for high school students and faculty to begin the school year with a focus on Christ. It was inspired by the verse II Timothy 2:22 which says, *“Flee the evil desires of youth and **pursue** righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”* We have been praying that this retreat will be an amazing and life-changing experience for your student. Our theme for Pursuit this year is RE-ENTER. We are praying that God would move in the hearts of our campus and that students will be transformed by Him. Our speaker is Dylan Ferguson of Willamette Community Church in Albany. Dylan has a strong relationship with Santiam Christian and we are looking forward to how God will use Dylan to work in the hearts of your students!

On Tuesday, the first day of school, 9th – 11th grade students will get a chance to go through their full class schedule and meet all of their teachers. After a provided lunch with their class, they will participate in activities that will help them get to know Santiam Christian and each other better. School will dismiss at the normal time of 3:10. The seniors will spend the day at an off-campus retreat designed to teach them about leadership. Senior class advisor Mr. Ferguson will be sending specifics to the senior families about this part of Pursuit.

On Wednesday, September 8 the entire high school will spend the day down at Camp Harlow near Eugene. We plan to leave school on buses in the morning and return to campus around 6 pm (lunch will be provided). Students will participate in worship sessions with our speaker, small groups, free time (including swimming, mini golf, disc golf, ping pong) and team competitions. This year there will not be sports practices during free time – any scheduled practices will occur after we return to campus.

On Thursday and Friday, we will follow our normal block schedule – Thursday will be a RED day and Friday will be a BLACK day. On both days, lunch will be provided for all high school students and there will be fun activities sponsored by Student Council to help students and teachers to continue to get to know each other and deepen relationships.

Since lunch will be provided every day during the first week of high school, there will be a form included during Registration to let Mrs. Peterson know if your student has any dietary accommodations of which we should be aware.

Here is a summary of our plans for the first week for the High School:

- **Tuesday, September 7** – First Day of High School, 9th-11th will attend all class periods and have a special lunch with their grade. School begins at 8 am in the gym and dismisses at 3:10. Seniors will be at their off-campus “Senior Seminar.” No Dress Up theme today.
- **Wednesday, September 8** – Be at school by 8 am to load buses for worship and camp activities at Camp Harlow returning to SC at 6 pm. Dress Up Theme: Class Color (9th=pink 10th=yellow 11th=green 12th=blue)
- **Thursday, September 9** – RED day block schedule – lunch provided Dress Up Theme: Tropical
- **Friday, September 10** – BLACK day block schedule – lunch provided Dress Up Theme: School Spirit!

Please join us in praying that our students would know and be known by their classmates and teachers and for a deepening of their relationship with the Lord.

Thank you again!!

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