



Middle School Newsblatt

Innovative education of the whole child through German immersion.



January 8th, 2020

What a week we have had! I will be brief and simply welcome you all to the new calendar year. New Year's doesn't have much meaning to me. As an educator I wear my New Year's hat on the first day of school. But this New Year's did have more meaning to me than is typical. I am seeing the light at the end of the tunnel and the beginning of what is hopefully a better year for our country and our world. While I know it is not all rosy, nor that easy, I am choosing to be positive. Happy New Year and good health to you all.

~Elizabeth Zehnpfennig, Middle School Dean





Middle School Schedule and IRT Update

Just a reminder that the Incident Response Team in charge of our learning model schedule was meeting today and a new model could be released soon. Until then and for the month of January, the Middle School remains in Distance Learning.

Jan 4-29	Distance Learning	Distance Learning
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End of the Semester

The end of the semester is fast approaching with only a full week left of classes. We had no idea what this year was going to bring for us at the start of it. As we near the completion of what was undoubtedly the most difficult semester of school for many of us, I am in a reflective mindset. As we wrap up the first semester, it is a great time to check in with your child and see what lessons can be carried forward. This is a time for celebration of completion and a time for reflection. Having a growth mindset and reflecting on what worked and what didn't work, could make for a better second semester.

A reminder that PowerSchool is closed for parents while teachers finish up grades.

8th Grade Opportunities.

The transition from Middle School to High School is happening! Please read through these three opportunities that are happening soon for our 8th graders and their families.

High School Panel Night

All 8th graders and parents are welcome to join our **High School Panel Night** on Wednesday, January 13, at 7 PM via [Zoom](#). The panel will consist of former TCGIS students, who are current 10th-12th graders at Central, Mounds View, St. Anthony Village, Edison, and St. Louis Park High Schools. The panelists have been at their respective high schools during non-COVID times, as well, and will therefore be able to describe the many sides of "normal" high school life and answer any questions our 8th graders might have. So, bring your questions about academic rigor (AP, IB, honors), athletics, extracurricular clubs, music and theater, student events (i.e. homecoming), and so on. **Zoom link will also arrive in your email box on Monday of next week.**

*****Please submit questions for the panel with this [form](#).**

Saint Paul Central High School Virtual Open House

SPPS will have Virtual Open House for Central High, the home of our 9-12 German Immersion track, on February 4th, from 5-7pm. There will be an additional special meeting for TCGIS parents on one end of this time slot that is yet to be determined. During the main sessions, parents and students can meet with school admin and teachers. During our special session, parents can ask specific questions. As a reminder, TCGIS 8th graders get preferential enrollment. I am told that enrollments are due around March 5th. As soon as more information is available, I will forward it to you all. You can monitor the [Central High School](#) website for more information and Zoom Links.

TCGIS 8th Graders Virtual Visit of Paul Central High School

Next week Tuesday and Wednesday our 8th graders accompanied by Susann Schecker and I will visit the classroom of Herr Meyer at Central. We will sit in on an 11/12th grade class and have a question and answer session with the juniors and seniors about what it is like to continue to take German at Central High School. We will witness a real high school lesson and dive into the idea of the International Baccalaureate program.



