

Wow! It's amazing to believe that we're already at the end of the first quarter of the 2018-19 school year. It seems like just yesterday we were welcoming our new freshmen to their first day on campus. Time flies when you're having fun.

It's great to see so much school spirit on campus. We just finished a great homecoming week which included an amazing rally, fantastic student skits by grade level, a full house at our homecoming football win over Foothill, a quality band and color guard performance, and reunion visits and tours for the Class of 1968 and the Classes of 1970-79. We even had the opportunity to welcome back to our campus a sports celebrity: 2016 US Olympic Wrestling Coach and North High alumnus and NHS Athletics Hall of Fame member Bruce Burnett. What an honor!

The school year is off to a wonderful start. One example of this is our "Focus 22" campaign, where every 9<sup>th</sup> grader is asked to meet 3 goals: 1) 90% or better attendance, 2) Pass at least 5 classes at each grading period, and 3) Earn at least 5 "StarBucks" recognitions for strong effort and/or good behavior. For the first quarter of this year, I'm pleased to share that our 9<sup>th</sup> graders are doing great: 497 have maintained 90% or better attendance, there has been a 5% increase in students passing 5 or more classes, and over 2,000 "StarBucks" reward cards have been earned by students. We are proud of the increased success we're seeing with all of our students.

One highlight from this quarter is the success we've experienced starting a Fashion Merchandising program. Under the leadership of Mrs. Bradford, Mr. Chavez, Mrs. Sanchez and Mr. Crutcher, North High now has its own t-shirt production facility. Our art and graphic art students design logos for customers that are printed on shirts by our special education students using industry-standard equipment. Our business students are learning to manage the business side of the company. From idea, to design, to production to sales, our students are truly being "Prepared to Succeed" in a functioning business. If you need a custom t-shirt for a group event, don't hesitate to contact us at 399-3351, and leave a message for Mr. Chavez.

As we continue to move quickly toward Thanksgiving, Christmas, final exams and the end of the first semester, I want to encourage every student and parent to monitor attendance and academic progress carefully. Our Synergy Student Vue and Parent Vue apps help you do this easily. If you need an access code, please contact a counselor or our Kindra Holloway, our Parent Center representative. What gets monitored gets improved, and Synergy is a great resource for staying on top of grades and attendance.

We are anticipating a fantastic second quarter where our students are doing great! Keep up the great work, North High!