



February 26, 2024

Dear WSOC Families,

As we gear up for Re-Registration for the upcoming academic year, we are excited to share with you some of the anticipated changes and updates that will be taking place next year. These adjustments are aimed at enhancing the overall educational experience for our students and fostering a supportive learning environment.

**Program Changes:**

Increase in Grade 10 Exchanges: We are thrilled to announce an expansion in our Grade 10 exchange program, offering students more opportunities to immerse themselves in diverse cultures and broaden their global perspectives. This initiative reflects our commitment to providing enriching experiences beyond the classroom. After careful consideration and planning, we are reintroducing the CETYS program this year. This program offers unique educational opportunities for our students, fostering cross-cultural understanding and collaboration.

**Update Regarding Second World Language:**

We understand the importance of proficiency in a second language in today's interconnected world. As such, we are dedicated to enhancing our Spanish language program to ensure that students receive comprehensive instruction and support in developing their language skills.

Additionally, we have made the decision to concentrate on one world language rather than offering two options at this time. This decision was made after careful consideration of several factors. Firstly, focusing on one language allows us to allocate more resources and attention to ensuring the highest quality of instruction and support for our students. By concentrating our efforts, we can create a more robust language program with greater depth. Furthermore, narrowing our focus enables students to achieve a higher level of proficiency in their chosen language, better preparing them for success in an increasingly globalized world. We believe that this strategic shift will ultimately benefit our students by providing them with a more comprehensive and enriching language learning experience.

## **Faculty Changes:**

1. First Grade Teacher Search: We are currently in the process of searching for a highly qualified and experienced educator to join our first-grade team. We are committed to selecting an individual who aligns with our school's values and ethos, and who will contribute to the academic and personal growth of our students.

2. Hiring a New High School Spanish Teacher: Recognizing the importance of language education, we are pleased to announce that we will be welcoming a new Spanish teacher to our faculty. This addition will strengthen our language program and provide students with the resources they need to excel in Spanish language acquisition.

3. Middle School Resource Teacher: In our ongoing efforts to support the diverse needs of our students, we will be looking to augment our program with an additional middle school resource teacher. This dedicated professional will work closely with students, teachers, and parents to provide personalized support and guidance to ensure academic success.

4. Games Classes Update: During Mr. Brad's upcoming sabbatical, Mr. Storm will be stepping in to teach the Grades 1-8 Games classes. We are confident that Mr. Storm's expertise and passion for physical education will continue to inspire our students to lead active and healthy lifestyles.

5. Retirement News: After years of dedicated service, Lorri Valenzuela-Mier will be retiring. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Lorri for her commitment to our school community and wish her all the best in her future endeavors. We are actively seeking a qualified replacement to fill this important role and uphold the high standards of excellence set by Lorri.

We believe that these changes and updates will contribute to the continued growth and success of our school community. As always, we are grateful for your ongoing support and partnership in providing the best possible education for our students.

Warm regards,

Tom Corcoran

For the WSOC College of Teachers