



Heritage High School

101 American Ave. ~ Brentwood, CA 94513
925-634-0037



Carrie Wells – Principal
Gerri Leonardis, SLC-A Assistant Principal - Julene MacKinnon, SLC-B Assistant Principal
Hugh Bursch, SLC-C Assistant Principal – Chris Lonaker, SLC-D Assistant Principal

August 1, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the 2017 – 2018 school year! On behalf of the Heritage Counseling Department, we hope you had a wonderful summer and that your student is ready to start the school year. First and foremost, we are very fortunate to have five counselors on our staff. With our growing student body, we hope to provide more individualized attention to your student. The following are some recommendations to help your student have a successful school year.

To begin, we recommend you sign on to your Parent Portal account. The Parent Portal is a useful tool for monitoring your student's assignments and grades. Another very important tool to encourage your student to use is a daily planner. If your student is transitioning into high school, you may want to have your student ask their teachers for signatures to verify assignments, even if there is no homework. We also have weekly progress report forms in the SLC offices that you can provide your student on Thursday and Friday to verify grades.

An important part of a student's success at the high school level is being involved. We have fabulous theatre and music programs, numerous clubs and organizations, and many sports teams. We do many spirit activities throughout the year to unify the student body. When students are involved with their school, it is more likely their grades will be strong. Students tend to be more committed to who they are and what they want to get out of their education.

Below are some other grade specific areas you may want to make note of for your student:

- **Freshmen parents** – Be involved. Monitor homework and stay active in their high school choices. This is also a great time to start college visits, discuss goals and choices for your student's future.
- **Sophomore parents** – We will be doing a 4 year plan now that your student has had high school experiences. We encourage your student to take the PSAT in October as a sample of what they will need to know Junior and Senior year.
- **Junior parents** – This is a very important year. Please be sure your student takes the PSAT for National Merit Scholarship opportunities. Spring is a great time to take the SAT and/or the ACT. Use the results to study during the summer and revisit the test(s).
- **Seniors parents** – We highly recommend that your student revisits the college tests in the Fall to be able to improve on their scores should they wish. Also, the FAFSA is already open. Be sure to apply, even if you do not think you qualify.

We look forward to working with you and your student this year! We hope your student has a successful year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

The HHS Counseling Department