

Friday Reflection

9/20/19

I observed or participated in several significant events the past 7 days. At last week's Homecoming assembly, George Camargo was announced Homecoming King, and at halftime of the Homecoming Football Game, Mr. David Hughes announced Hannah Barajas as queen. George ran from the halftime ceremony to finish a closely contested competition with his Tiller teammates, finishing off the opponent with an interception to end the game. Following the game, a couple of hundred students celebrated at the Homecoming Dance held underneath our humanities building, rounding out a festive week.

One of the more significant events occurring this week was our School Site Council meeting. This group of elected representatives among students, faculty, parents, and staff met to consider our school's progress and direction. It was an opportunity to communicate goals for the year and make sure we are following California state laws. I am grateful for each volunteer who agreed to be part of the team. (Teachers: Mary Jo Rado, Susie Burgess, Angela Brown, Leeann Liana; Parents: Jim Palmer, Kim Keelin, Heidi Munoz, Tricia Van Haeren; Students: Kylie Pulsifer, Kyan Patel; Staff: Patty Lee)

The football team wasn't the only team to win in the last 7 days. Boys' Water Polo dominated their opponent Tuesday afternoon in an extremely lopsided victory that provided a great opportunity for everyone to play. Shortly after that win, Girls' Volleyball took on the second ranked team in their CIF division. What promised to be a close game never was, as our Tillers won decisively in three sets. The win was particularly impressive coming off their 1st place win in their own Tustin Tournament over the weekend. They are now 18-1 after winning last night as well, and face an important week in their league schedule next week.

Of all the great things happening this week, Tutorial caught my attention. We changed the format this year so that every student must attend a Tutorial. They have a choice on where to go, but the focus is on helping students catch up, improve or just get more support. Teachers have done a great job embracing the spirit of this time and I was inspired to see the extra instruction and learning occurring in classrooms across the school. We are in the time of the year where students are realizing they need help, and I am grateful we have structures in place to support them. (BTW – **We offer after school tutoring Monday through Thursday from 6th period to 4:30 pm.** Please encourage your child to take advantage of it!)

Finally, I attended the Kiwanis Breakfast this morning held monthly to celebrate one of our young men. (The Soroptimist celebrate one of our young ladies monthly as well.) This morning, William Carlen Jones was the Tiller student honored: an outstanding student who is actively involved in Model United Nations (MUN). He has also participated in summer internships at UCI engaged in real research that may someday address Alzheimer's. Will is a quality young man who represents a number of our students who do not just work hard during the school day, but are actively involved in exciting endeavors outside our gates.

Go Tillers!

Dr. Jon Tuin

Tustin High School Principal