



Family Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021

FOCUS	Assembly	Community Meeting	Passion Projects
★ Four out of the seven days a cycle, students stay in their Community Block rooms to catch up on homework, study for tests/quizzes, or engage and self-care to prepare for the remainder of their day. FOCUS is occasionally used for other activities, such as: ○ Making up tests and quizzes or getting extra help from a teacher ○ Guidance meetings with students ○ The #WhyYouMatter campaign photos. ○ Informal club meetings or collaborations	★ School assemblies by grade level have spanned a variety of topics, including: ○ Class updates from advisors in the auditorium ○ Class officers elections ○ Administration facilitated games in the cafeteria ○ Veterans Day ○ Performances by some of our music department ensembles.	★ Once a cycle for each grade level, our student Community Leaders facilitate relationship building, getting to know you, and other social emotional activities in the Community Meetings. Some content includes: ○ The #WhyYouMatter campaign introduction supported by SADD and PRISM ○ Self-reflections and sharing of student interests through creating fun visuals for all of the Community Block classrooms ○ Critical-thinking and community building games	★ The Passion Projects Pilot Program is off to a great start! Passion Projects meet once a cycle and is an optional enhancement to Community Block that students signed up for at the end of September. Approximately 20% of the student body is enrolled in the Passion Projects. See below for the topics/teachers! Tracie Ewing The Art of Being Crafty Amanda Pace The Boston Celtics Tim Murphy & Tom Sangermano Intro to Shop Jeff Daniels Recipe Swap Lee Russo Hooked On Crochet Matt Bencal Photography Fun Kristina Aste-Mayer Falcons Fly Writing Center Cheryl George Origami For All! Whitney McNeilly Calm & Creative Jeff Surette Support Our Troops
Kindness Week			
★ From October 18th - 22nd students and staff engaged in "Kindness Week" activities including random acts of kindness, viewing of a documentary about Colleen Ritzer by former DHS student, Sarah Roach, and a whole school picture (to the right). We have gathered feedback on Kindness week and hope to continue honoring Colleen's legacy with this structure in the future.	★ The official video of the "Love, Colleen" documentary has been published and is available for sharing. Here is the link to the scholarship website where the documentary can be found.		