Stefanie P. Phillips, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

May 6, 2019

Dear "Saint Nation,"

One of my favorite times of year as principal of Santa Ana High School is when we **WELCOME** our newest "Saints" to what many refer to as the "Flagship" school of Santa Ana Unified School District. Our newest "Saints" will have the distinction of being the 130<sup>th</sup> incoming freshmen class and I want to congratulate both students as well as their parents for being a part of the oldest school in Orange County. Although Santa Ana High School has both rich tradition and culture, what makes it really unique and special are the students that proudly occupy the seats every day.

Every summer, Santa Ana High School requires its incoming freshmen to participate in the "Way of the Saints" Institute, a 6-week program where we discuss our positive expectations, support systems, and opportunities that will be available to students and their families throughout their high school careers. The institute focuses on the characteristics of Acceptance of ALL, Integrity, Respect, and Responsibility. It also discusses topics such as bullying and depression, and includes how to overcome challenges and barriers that high school students may find themselves struggling with. Building this foundation for the next four years is critical to ensure a greater chance of success for our students.

Unless the student and their family communicates with us prior to the start of the Summer Institute and provides us rationale, we are strongly recommending ALL incoming freshmen participate. Most often, students who are NOT frontloaded with the proper messaging, support, valuable information, and coping strategies seem to struggle at Santa Ana High School, most.

We are really excited to meet our new "Saints" and to embark on yet another four years of "Proving What Is Possible" and creating even more examples of the opportunity and excellence that exists at Santa Ana High School on a daily basis.

Respectfully,

Jeff Bishop
Principal
Santa Ana High School
"Once a Saint, Always a Saint"

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