TIPS FOR FRESHMAN YEAR

• **Freshmen Orientation** – Friday, before school starts
• **Link Crew**: Leaders who buddy up with Freshman
• **Falcon Fest** – **always the week before school starts, typically Tuesday**
  - A packet will be mailed to your home approximately mid-July with LOTS of forms to fill out that your student must have ready by going online.
  - Students MUST pick up their own packets; no parents are allowed to, no exceptions!
• **Locker selection**
  - Must buy locks at SHS
  - Select a locker at Falcon Fest or any day thereafter
• **Changing Student Class Schedule** – “free choice” one day only before school can do it for any reason if there is “room” in the new class you are seeking; must wait in line outside Activities
• **Aeries – grading system**:  
  - Student needs own account; they get instructions in their Falcon Fest packets on how to set it up
  - Make sure not using yours since must register for classes in Feb 2016 this way
• **Canvas – class management system**:  
  - Student needs own account; Parents can now enroll too
  - Teachers using it for grading will upload once every 6 weeks to Aeries
• **Health Classes**:  
  - 6 hours volunteering required before end of semester
  - Any community service will do
  - If needing ideas look at SHS website under Guidance: College & Career tab
• **Driver’s Ed**: student should attend within 6 months of 15 ½ years  
  - They will either attend in First or Second semester when Health Class is offered
  - Make sure the closest one to this age is in their schedule of classes
  - Typically this is done by Guidance correctly but it’s worth checking
• **Activities Attendance**: extra credit for some classes is offered
• **PTSO Directories** – you want to be listed so people can find you
• **SHS Alumni Videos** – take a look!  
  - SHS Website -> Guidance -> SHS College Application Information -> SHS Alumni College Testimonials
• **Teen Brain**: It’s changing!  
  - Watch a fun 10 min video to help understand teenage mood swings, sleep and other teen behaviors
  - YouTube at: SciShow called “The Teenage Brain Explained”

Useful Web Addresses:

• SHS Website – www.saratogahigh.org
• Aeries – look on SHS website under “Academics”
• Canvas – look on SHS website under “Academics”
• Extra Curricular Activities – look on SHS website under “Student Life”
• PTSO Academic Presentations – look under SHS -> Community ->PTSO -> College Prep
• Clubs at SHS – look on SHS website under “Student Life” then “ASB/Clubs”
• Keyword/Glossary of Terms – SHS website under “Student Life”
• PTSO (Parent-Teacher-Student-Organization) look on SHS website under “Community”
• Boosters (Sports, Music, Drama, MAP, Speech and Debate) under “Community”

**Sick Days/Appointments** – call the office (408-867-3411) and hit #4

Questions?  Sandy Wu (PTSO President) - sandywu2004@yahoo.com  
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