

Timothy J. Seeley Head of School

## **George Stevens Academy January 2022 Report**

I hope you all had a pleasant holiday break. This report will be brief, coming as it does right on the heels of a vacation.

## **Covid-19 Update**

We continue to have 1-2 new cases a week. With our high vaccination rate, the number of students who must quarantine as close contacts remains quite small. This week we will be determining in what ways any of the changes to the SOP will affect our procedures. I was especially glad to see the change in the definition of an outbreak for schools, to something that makes much more sense to me.

## Other updates

We are in our last two weeks of the first semester. In our block schedule, that means full-credit classes are finishing up, and new ones will begin. I continue to think the move to a block schedule was a good one. Students have fewer classes to focus on, and teachers are working with fewer students at any one time, which means they can concentrate on each more.

At the change in the semester, students will also select new activities. We have two activities periods each week, each 30 minutes long. Students select a different enrichment option for each day. There are over 30 available, and they run from things like an ongoing trivia game, to learning embroidery, to a yoga session, to various clubs and student groups, working on crafts, learning American Sign Language, learning web development, and learning how to make a podcast in our nascent recording studio, and that is the period our math team, chess team, and student council meet. In addition, a student can choose to use the period in a staffed study hall, where they can do work and receive assistance on it.

Thank you for all you do for the children of your town.

Respectfully,

Timothy J. Seeley Head of School