



# WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal

December 22, 2016

Dear Parents,

Though December is a short month, it's a significant one in the life of our school. Time moves quickly leading up to the holidays, but our days have been full of opportunity, achievement, and celebration. In that spirit, I would like to share a few campus highlights before we take a well-deserved break for the holiday recess.

Last week, the sounds of our annual winter concerts filled our Performing Arts Center. On Wednesday evening, a large audience enjoyed a concert that showcased the talent and dedication of our student musicians. We are very pleased that ten of those students were selected to the Region II Band and Orchestra and one was named to the All-Eastern Orchestra, which is quite an accomplishment. On Friday evening, it was a full house for our annual chorus concert. The evening program was a wonderful celebration of the commitment of over 200 students, seven of whom have been invited to perform with the Region Chorus and two with the prestigious All-Eastern Chorus. On a similarly positive and forward-thinking note, we are excited to host our sending-district students at our inaugural holiday music festival for eighth-graders tomorrow morning.

The winter athletics season has begun, and our students continue to grow from these competitive experiences. We are very pleased that one of our fall student-athletes was named *Gymnast of the Year*. Positive results also came from the Rutgers Model UN Competition where seven students earned awards, ranging from *Outstanding Delegate* to *Best Position Paper* in early December. We also had a *Best Speaker* award winner at the Junior State of America Fall Conference. And students continue to thrive in a variety of areas, ranging from coding and engineering to service learning.

Before the annual holiday break begins, we want to thank you for your ongoing support. We are proud of our students and grateful for our school community. Last Friday night at our first home boys' basketball game, we witnessed firsthand the spirit and strength of this community when students, faculty, staff, alumni, and parents all came out to support Juan Carlos Cruz Night. It was one of the largest crowds to assemble in Gym 5/6 for an athletic competition.

You have our best wishes for peace and joy this holiday season.

Very truly yours,

George P. Alexis  
Principal