

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Families of the SJB Community,

Welcome back to the SJB Diversity & Equity for All Students Committee's Film Series! This month's featured film is *McFarland, USA*, which follows a California cross country team's journey to success. Based on a true story, the film highlights the relationship formed between the student-athletes at a predominantly Latino high school and their new coach, Jim White. To view a trailer for the film, click [here](#).

You and your family can celebrate the end of the second quarter this weekend with a Family Movie Night by streaming this movie on *Disney+* or renting it on *YouTube* or *Amazon*. The movie is recommended for children ages 10 and up (this approval and its explanation can be accessed [here](#)). After watching the movie, we recommend that you engage in the discussion questions found below, which may lead to important conversations about on-going issues in today's world. Finally, we ask that you complete [this form](#) to let us know what you thought about the experience.

***McFarland, USA* Discussion Questions**

1. When we immerse ourselves in someone else's life experiences, we can better empathize with them and be better friends and neighbors to them. When have you misunderstood or judged someone before you got to know them? Did your opinion of them change after getting to know them?
2. When Coach White's team protects his daughter Julie, they put themselves in danger to keep her safe. When Coach White decides to stay in McFarland, he had to give up his dream for a bigger house/paycheck. When/what have you sacrificed for someone else? When/what has someone else sacrificed for you?
3. While some may say that Coach White saved the members of the cross country team, others believe the opposite to be true. What do you think? How are the students the ones that save their coach?

Get your popcorn and snacks ready for another great Family Movie Night! We hope that you find this activity to be useful, reflective, and enjoyable for you and your family and want to congratulate you on a great first semester this school year!

Sincerely,



Biagio M. Arpino
Principal

Claire Gohn
Assistant Principal

Matthew Artigas
Assistant Principal

and the SJB Diversity & Equity for All Students Committee