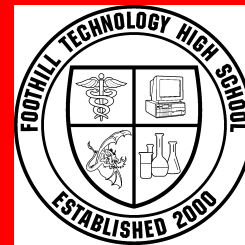




Counselors' Corner



December 2007

Volume 1, Issue 2

Foothill Technology High School
100 Day Road
Ventura, CA 93003

News from the Counseling Office

The deadline for applying to Cal State and UC schools has come and gone! Congratulations to all of our seniors who applied on time and especially to those who have already received admissions letters! We are excited to hear more favorable news from our students about the schools to which they are accepted over the next few months. If you missed the application deadline, there are a few schools within the Cal State system that accept late applications. Check the website for more information: www.csumentor.edu

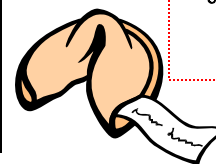
There are many private colleges and universities that are still accepting

applications for admission for the fall of 2008. Of course private schools cost much more than public universities, however they often have more to give in terms of financial aid. So, please don't let the cost dissuade you from applying.

The FAFSA is now available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov in order to apply for financial aid. The sooner you complete this form and submit it, the better your chances are of receiving aid. In addition to the FAFSA, some private colleges and universities require the CSS PROFILE. For more information, please refer to profileonline.collegeboard.com.

GROUP COUNSELING SERVICES:

Earlier in the year, we surveyed many of our students about being part of counseling groups that will focus on a variety of teen issues. Counseling groups are designed to be supportive arenas for talking about and resolving specific issues that may be affecting emotional health and day-to-day lives. Our first group, a Girl's Group, will be starting at the beginning of second semester. Parent permission is required in order to participate in a group. Please contact Ms. Freeman or Mrs. Hillis for more information.



*Our greatest glory is not in never falling but in rising every time we fall.
Confucius*

A Few words on Community Service

Many high schools across the country are incorporating a community service component into their graduation requirements. In other words, Foothill's community service requirement is no longer necessarily considered unique. In early November the counselors attended a meeting hosted by UCSB where admissions representatives informed us that community service involvement on a UC application is not considered a "significant" extra-curricular activity unless the student has earned approximately 100 community service

hours per year. While this may seem like a lot, in fact, if you were to complete four hours a week for 25 weeks of the year, you would accomplish this easily!

Mrs. Kapala maintains a list of approved community service organizations which can also be found on the Foothill website. If you are interested in working for a non-approved site, you must submit a proposal to Mrs. Kapala prior to beginning service at that site. Community service achievements are also recognized as a part of Senior Awards Night.

Foothill Technology High School

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.foothilltech.org

Go confidently in the
direction of your dreams. Live
the life you have imagined.
Henry David Thoreau



Grade 9 Counseling:

In their EDA classes, freshmen students have received presentations on high school graduation requirements, A-G college requirements, and different types of colleges. They are currently working on a College Research Project. Please see Mrs. Carr's website for more details on the presentations and assignments.

Assistant principals, LaSonja Temple and Jennifer Duston have been holding individual meetings with 9th grade students who had less than a 3.0 at the end of the first quarter with the goal of encouraging them to make Renaissance by the end of the semester. Freshmen are also being encouraged to study in the library after school and to make use of on-campus after school tutoring options.

Grade 11 Counseling:

PSAT scores for students who took the test in October have arrived. Juniors will be meeting with Mr. Boyd in Spirito Hall to get their scores and test booklets that they can use to prepare for taking the SAT in the spring of next year. Again, college GPA's are calculated on grades from sophomore and junior years so juniors need to keep their grades up, continue to take challenging coursework, and work on community service hours.

Juniors, now is the time to start researching colleges and planning college visits for the spring.

Grade 10 Counseling:

Counselors met with sophomore students in small groups on Monday, October 29th to review transcripts and to hand out the "Life after High School" counseling booklet. This invaluable publication offers information on everything from career exploration to choosing the right college and how to finance it. If you have not seen this booklet at home, please ask your sophomore about it!

On November 17th approximately 67 sophomores from FTTHS took the PLAN (pre-ACT) test. Congratulations to those students for "planning" ahead!

Grade 12 Counseling:

In October and early November counselors held three application workshops for seniors applying to Cal State, UC, and private colleges and universities. Seniors who attended were able to ask application questions and have counselors review completed applications and essays. Thank you to those who attended.

If you are still in the process of submitting applications to private colleges and universities, please remember to request teacher and counselor recommendations at least two weeks before the application deadlines.

Now that most applications have been sent off, seniors need to start applying for financial aid and completing the FAFSA and/or CSS PROFILE.

Are you struggling in Math? Need help in English?
On-site tutoring is available for you!!
Tues – Friday: 2:00 – 3:00 pm in Mr. Villano's Room

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Jan. 1 – 15th: Application deadline for many private colleges and universities.

January 2nd: FAFSA is available to complete online.

January 26th: SAT Reasoning and Subject tests. (Registration deadline: Dec. 26th)

February 9th: ACT test. (Registration deadline: January 4th)

March 1st: SAT Reasoning and Subject tests. (Reg. Deadline: Jan. 29th)

March 2nd: FAFSA filing deadline!

March 31st – April 4th: Spring Break (a great time for juniors to visit colleges!)

April 12th: ACT test. (Registration deadline: March 7th)