
November 5, 2017

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Dear Titan Community,

This week we will have an alternative schedule; please refer to the "[Events Calendar](#)" for specific daily schedules for the week. On Thursday, our 9th and 11th grade students will be completing the [California Healthy Kids Survey](#), a remarkably valuable data point for the school, district, and community. Communication about the survey was delivered by our district office staff. To avoid the loss of instructional time, students will complete the survey during one of the two FLEX periods scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 9. Schoology messages went out to the specific grade groups. Those in 10th and 12th grade will use FLEX as normal; however, some 11th grade teachers may be unavailable during the first FLEX to proctor the survey.

Please note: TitanTalk will not be published next weekend due to the shortened week and Veteran's Day weekend.

Final Day to Drop a Class-November 14 (All Grades)

The final day to drop a class and not have it appear on the transcript is November 14. If a student is going to drop a class, the student must consult with the counselor, teacher and the instructional supervisor of that department. Course drop forms can be picked up in the Counseling Office.

Second Progress Reporting (All Grades)

The second progress reporting period ends on November 9th.

Sophomore Conferences (10th Grade)

Beginning this week, counselors will be holding one-on-one Sophomore Conferences with each student. These meetings are expected to last approximately 30 minutes, and will be running through the end of January. Students can expect to receive call slips in the coming days for these meetings. Counselors are mindful about the impact of the appointments during class time, and we thank you in advance for your flexibility and support.

College Pathways Program (All grades)

The College Pathways at Gunn High School is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students who are motivated and prepared to pursue higher education. The program offers a variety of supports including Academic Support/Tutoring, Community guest

speakers, SAT/ACT preparation, and Support through college application and financial aid process.

Bi-monthly meetings are held during lunch or flex time for students in 9th-11th grade. Weekly workshops and individual meetings are offered for students in 12th grade who are navigating the college application and financial aid process.

Placement in the program is by invitation based on any of the following criteria:

- 1st generation college bound
- Low-income
- VTP participation
- Title I designation

Invitations are typically initiated by school counselor recommendation. Families may also complete an interest form and return to Gunn High School Counseling Office.

College and Career Corner (11th and 12th Grade)

For those that might be considering one of our local community colleges for next Fall, we're excited to tell you about a new program, the **De Anza College Promise**. This program is designed to benefit students **who need it the most: the lowest income students**, including many who are undocumented and those who are aging out of the foster youth system. The promise is simple: **Your first year of college is free if you qualify.**

You can find more information at www.deanza.edu/outreach/de-anza-college-promise.

We have received word that Foothill will also offer a similar program.

Common App: Nov. 14th (during Flex)

UC/CSU App:, Nov. 14th, Nov. 28th (all during Flex)

Mrs. Kirsch is now seeing juniors (book early for Nov/Dec) If you want your student to conduct the junior meeting without you, please let Mrs. Kirsch know. All scheduling of the junior appointments is through Mala at ghscollegeandcareercenter@gmail.com: leave your name, your student name and the best period for your student to miss a class. You will be contacted to confirm a date and time. On your scheduled date and time, please show up at the College and Career Center, no call slip goes out.

If you are a senior and still need assistance, send an e-mail to Mrs Kirsch to see what is possible. Oral interviewers are available now.

Save the date

Nov 7 6-8 pm at the AVATAR HOTEL will host a Financial Aid Night for New England colleges. (101 to Great America--it is near the IHOP)

Nov. 15 Financial Aid Presentation by Stanford University Carl Gottbrecht Assistant Director of Student Awards at 7:00 PM in the Gunn HS Library. Translation in Spanish and Mandarin will be available.

Jan 14 National Portfolio Review day in SF at Calif College of the Arts. See: portfolioday.net to get specific details. This should be done starting in sophomore year to be sure you understand what needs to be in the portfolio and to gain more info on the impact of this event in art school selection.

Feb -"Out of State Publics Info Night" will be held at Paly--more details coming.

Transcript Ordering (12th Grade)

For students applying through the Common App, transcripts do not need to be ordered through Parchment. If you have questions about ordering transcripts for schools *not* on the Common App, please see Ms. Douglas, our registrar.

College Visits (11th and 12th Grades)

Students interested in attending the college visits to Gunn, please plan accordingly as it will take at least 2 days of advanced planning by students. Please start with gaining permission from your teacher to attend a college rep visit, during their class. If your teacher indicates you have been granted the permission to attend the college rep visit, then sign-up for it in Family Connection. College Rep Visits can be found under the "college" tab, then click on "view all upcoming visits" to view the list and sign-up. We have adopted a new block schedule for college rep visits. The college rep visit will be 30 minutes long at the beginning of each class period; this means students return to class after the college rep visit. Mr. Lang in the College and Career Center will give every student a pass back to class after the college rep visits. If you need help with logging into your Family Connection account please send me, Mr. Lang, an email at llang@pausd.org.

If your plans include visiting college campuses, please take note of the [attendance procedures](#) should the visit require missing class time.

Applying Early: Remember to read the application rules carefully as some changes have happened. There are primary rules and *exceptions*. Always be sure to have more than one application fully done as if you do not catch that early as you hoped, you will have several other quality applications still in play.

Wellness Center Update (All grades)

Join us as we embark on a thankfulness challenge for the next few weeks of November alongside Source of Strengths monthly theme of gratitude. Students will be encouraged to consider three things they are thankful for each day, over the next two weeks. Consider extending this topic into family discussion as we can all benefit from considering areas of strength and positivity in our lives each day!

SELF (9th grade)

This week, students in SELF will focus once again on building community in their cohorts. After taking the California Healthy Kids Survey (see above), they'll do a quick round of celebrating successes and interests (HIPE), and then compete in teams to build the highest possible tower out of marshmallows and spaghetti.

Sources of Strength (All grades)

Sources of Strength will host a joint Gunn/Paly Parent Information Night in the Paly MAC on November 28 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Come hear students talk about the program and the ways it affects the school communities, as well as strategies you can use at home. Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gunn-paly-sources-of-strength-parent-night-2017-tickets-39560488486>

Please Support PiE

Thank you to all that have supported Partners in Education (PiE). The donations to PiE continue to support many programs at Gunn, including our guidance department. Your donations have made a difference for all students at Gunn.

Thanks for your support!

Mike Heffner
Assistant Principal
Gunn High School