



## GUNN'S WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

December 17, 2017

[Edición española](#)

[Mandarin Edition](#)

Dear Titan Community,

It's hard to believe that the first semester is nearing completion. Next week will be on an [alternative schedule](#), so please take note.

I am sure we are all looking forward to the break as a chance to hopefully engage with the people and in the activities we enjoy. For many of our 12th grade families, the topic of college admissions is extremely prevalent. A parent shared the following article with me from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, which may resonate. While seniors and their families may be immediately dealing with college admissions, I encourage us all to take a moment and read [Taming the Admissions Anxiety](#).

### **Second Semester Schedules (all grades)**

Schedules for second semester will be viewable in Infinite Campus on December 18 at 6pm. Students are encouraged to review their schedules for any errors. Should there be a need for a change, counselors are available for students this week.

The criteria for a schedule change is as follows:

- Graduation requirement missing from schedule (12th only)
- Course already taken (10th -12th)
- Prerequisite – do not meet course requirements (9th - 12th)
- Schedule has an error (same class listed twice, class omitted, or class requested not included) (9th - 12th)
- Schedule has a class which has been taken over the summer and needs to be dropped in the fall (9th-12th)

**NOTE:**

*We cannot accommodate schedule requests or changes based on teacher preference or learning style. We strongly believe that students benefit from learning from a variety of different teachers. (Gunn Course Catalog, p. 5)*

### **Wellness Center (All Grades)**

Holiday break is near! Students have shared their excitement with us about finishing up the semester and taking a much needed break. As a family, we would like to encourage you to enjoy the opportunity you have to reconnect over the next few weeks with the tips below.

## [Reconnecting with Your Teens During the Holidays](#)

Should anything arise over break where you are concerned about the safety of your student we encourage you to find support when needed. Below is some general safety and emergency information should you need it. If there is a mental health emergency please reach out to Uplift Family Services at [408-379-9085](tel:408-379-9085). You may also call 911, if you need more immediate assistance. You can also reach out through the crisis text line by texting hello to 741741. Wishing you all a safe break and holiday!

### **SELF** (9th Grade)

On behalf of the SELF mentors, we wish each of you a rejuvenating break. We look forward to seeing you next semester.

**Sources of Strength** (All Grades) Student Leaders continue to work on their projects for second semester, including the I Am Stronger campaign and Titan Pride week.

- The next meeting for Peer Leaders and Adult Advisors is Thursday, January 18 at lunch in N114.

If you are interested in finding out more about Sources of Strength, please visit the national website at [www.sourcesofstrength.org](http://www.sourcesofstrength.org) or follow the Gunn Sources of Strength Instagram account [@gunnsourcesofstrength](https://www.instagram.com/gunnsourcesofstrength).

### **College and Career Corner (11th and 12th grade)**

PSAT scores are in. Please take the time to carefully read your score. In addition, please share your scores with Mrs. Kirsch when you come in for junior conference (take note the INDEX number). Khan Academy offers SAT prep free as you prepare to take the SAT.

**Seniors:** Your early replies are coming in. Please let Mr. Lang know what the results were by sending a quick [e-mail](#). This gives us a general idea of how things worked out in the early pool.

### Save the Date

- Jan 14: National Portfolio Review day in San Francisco at California College of the Arts. See: [portfolioday.net](http://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.
- Jan 31: Summer Opportunities Night in the library at 7 PM-- there will be grab and go information and a small collection of booths.
- Feb 22: "Out of State Publics Info Night" will be held at Paly at 7 PM in the Media Arts building Atrium. Info on how to save money and why this is a real option.
- Mar 3: GAP Fair in Los Altos 12 to 3 at Los Altos High
- Apr 28: College Fair at the Cow Palace from 1:30-4:30
- May 3 College Fair at West Valley. all day and closes at 8.

### **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.

Titan Talk will resume in the new year (when we return from Winter Break). Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy finals week and break,

Mike Heffner  
Assistant Principal  
Gunn High School