

# Talon Talk

## Foothill High School Newsletter

John Dwyer, principal

October 15, 2011  
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*New "In This Issue" items (above) are marked with asterisks.*

### Quick Calendar

**Oct. 15** -- PSAT, 8 a.m., campus

### Friday Forum for Parents

Stay in the loop at Foothill by attending the fun and informative Friday Forums for parents every month.

This month's meeting will be held **Friday, Oct. 21** at 9 a.m. in room C-6.

Friday Forums are an informal way for parents to hear what's happening on campus while also sharing your thoughts and ideas about how to improve our school.

The forums are hosted by Principal John Dwyer and the three vice principals. The morning get-togethers start with a brief update from Mr. Dwyer before the floor is opened for parent feedback.

Topics at this month's Friday Forum include:

- Back-to-school night review
- Homework policy update
- Dress code

Friday Forums are typically held the third Friday of each month. Each forum lasts about an hour. The next forum will be Nov. 18.

We look forward to seeing lots of folks at the Friday Forum. Thank you to the [AABC](#) school booster club for providing light snacks and coffee.

### Assembly Bill & School Funding

Assembly Bill 165, rejected by the governor Oct. 9, clarifies a 1984 court ruling regarding the definition of free public education.

Click [here for a letter from Principal John Dwyer about AB 165](#).

### HIV/AIDS Program for Juniors & Seniors

Foothill juniors and seniors will watch a presentation about HIV/AIDS during the school day on **Wednesday, Oct. 19**.

The program, *Secrets*, is presented by Kaiser Permanente. It is in keeping with California law that requires HIV/AIDS prevention classes be taught in middle and high school.

a.m., C-6

**Oct. 22** -- [Foothill Band Review](#)

**Oct. 24** -- Winter sports info meeting, 7 p.m., large gym

**Oct. 25** -- UC application workshop, 2:45 p.m., B-1

**Oct. 27** -- CSU application workshop, 2:45 p.m., B-1

**Nov. 1** -- Deadline to submit senior ads

**Nov. 2-5** -- Fall play: *Twelve Angry Jurors*, 7 p.m., MPR

**Nov. 2** -- School boosters (AABC) meeting, 7 p.m., library

**Nov. 3** -- Grad Night & senior events meeting, 7 p.m., C-6

**Nov. 3** -- Deadline: Senior yearbook pictures

Click [here for more info about the program and state law.](#)

Questions? Contact Vice Principal Lori Vella at [lvella@pleasanton.k12.ca.us](mailto:lvella@pleasanton.k12.ca.us).

## Calling All Foothill Alumni

We're searching for Foothill's fabulous alumni who'd like to be involved with their alma mater by starting a new Foothill alumni association.

The alumni association would serve as a social network to help spread the word about important events, such as homecoming, reunions and fundraisers.

If you're a proud Foothill alumni and would like to be a founder of the alumni association, please drop a note to Principal John Dwyer at [jdwyer@pleasanton.k12.ca.us](mailto:jdwyer@pleasanton.k12.ca.us).

## Earn Big Bucks for the Band

Foothill's music program is taking part in Gene's Fine Foods' annual Our Kids Matter program that raises money for local schools.

The Gene's program is an easy way to raise money without spending one cent extra than you normally would. The band has the opportunity to get as much as \$1,000 to help improve Foothill's music program.

All you have to do is shop at Gene's and tell the cashier that you choose to support to the Foothill Band Boosters. Gene's will contribute the amount on your receipt to a running tally for the band until the end of the fundraiser on January 31.

Please note that it's important to specify that the credit should go toward the band boosters, as the Foothill Athletic Boosters is also taking part in the event.

The band has a number of instruments to buy this year, so the money would be incredibly helpful to help provide these much-needed instruments for band students.

Thank you for supporting Foothill's Band Boosters.

## Show Your Pride with Falcon Yard Signs

Show your Falcon pride with awesome yard signs being sold by the competition cheerleaders.

The 18-inch by 24-inch full-color signs read "Home of a Foothill Falcon Fan," complete with a bright yellow falcon. The sturdy weatherproof signs come complete with metal

## Quick Links

[Foothill High website:](#)

[Bulletin Board](#)  
[Events Calendar](#)

[Bell Schedules](#)

[Foothill Athletics](#)

[Foothill Band](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[District Newsletter](#)

[Career Center](#)

[Community Events](#)

[Sports Packet](#)

[Volunteer Clearance Form](#)

[MyNutriKids Lunch Program](#)

## **Foothill Named Top Math & Science High School**

Congratulations to Foothill's students and teachers for once again landing Foothill in a top national ranking.

Click [here to read which national magazine has ranked Foothill a top math and science high school](#).

## **Band & Colorguard Win Top Honors**

Foothill's band and colorguard brought home five first-place trophies from a regional competition.

Click [here for the story](#) on the Foothill website.

## **Falcon Football on TV**

Friday night's homecoming game against Granada will be broadcast on TV 30 through Video on Demand at [www.trivalleytv.org](http://www.trivalleytv.org). DVDs of the game may also be purchased through the website.

Money raised will be used to pay for competition fees throughout the year. Thank you for supporting Foothill's cheerleaders.

## **Dine Out to Help the Band**

Take a break from the kitchen [Monday, Oct. 17](#) to enjoy delicious Italian food at Amici's East Coast Pizzeria to support Foothill's award-winning band and colorguard.

This delectable fundraiser runs all day Oct. 17 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy lunch with friends or colleagues, then return in the evening for a relaxing meal with the family.

Click [here for the flier](#) to print and hand to your waiter or cashier to make sure the band gets its fair share -- an incredibly generous 25 percent of your meal purchase price. (Alcohol purchases not included.)

This offer is good at the Dublin location, 4640 Tassajara Road. The offer is good for dine-in or take-out. Offer does not apply to deliveries.

Thank you for supporting the band and colorguard.

## **Foothill Band Review**

The crisp, cool air can mean only one thing -- it's time for the 37th annual Foothill Band Review on [Saturday, Oct. 22](#).

The day starts at 8:30 a.m. with dozens of bands marching down Pleasanton's Main Street. The parade competition ends at 12:30 p.m. with awards given at the school stadium at 3 p.m. Concert competitions are held throughout the morning at Amador Valley High from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The spectacular field show competition starts at 4 p.m. at the Foothill stadium.

This is one of the largest and most prestigious reviews on the West Coast. The music and marching are dazzling. Our wonderful parents volunteer many hours to make this event a success. You won't want to miss it.

The parade and concerts are free. Admission to the field show is \$10.

Click [here for more info on this exceptional event](#).

## **Students: Get Community Service Hours**

The Foothill Band Review has plenty of opportunities for seniors to rack up the community service hours they need for graduation.

There are plenty of jobs to go around -- sales positions, snack bar, parking, general help and much, much more.

reach thousands of people. These are excellent ways to promote your business.

For more info, e-mail Terry Abbey at [tabbey@comcast.net](mailto:tabbey@comcast.net). You may also contact Terry, band review chairman, with other questions.

## **Band Cookie Dough Fundraiser**

Imagine the sweet smell of home-baked cookies wafting through your house, and all you had to do was put the delicious cookie dough in your oven.

Yes, folks, scrumptious homemade cookies can be yours with little effort, thanks to the band and colorguard's delectable cookie dough fundraiser.

You'll get a full 2-pound tub of cookie dough for a mere \$10 per container. The band gets \$4.50 from each purchase. Choose from chocolate chunk, peanut butter, oatmeal raisin, sugar, white chocolate macadamia nut and snickerdoodle. Each tub makes about 32 cookies. Cookie dough can be refrigerated for up to six months and frozen for up to a year.

Dough will be sold through [Monday, Oct. 17](#) with deliveries on Nov. 15.

Please e-mail Dawn Abbey at [dabbey@comcast.net](mailto:dabbey@comcast.net) to order your cookie dough today.

## **Winter Sports Meeting & Discount Sports Physicals**

### **Winter Sports Info Meeting**

Students interested in being on any winter sports teams must attend an information meeting on [Monday, Oct. 24](#) at 7 p.m. in the large gym. Parents should attend with their students.

This is the one time students and parents will get all the info they need about specific sports, tryouts and practice schedules. It is important that all athletes and their parents/guardians attend this meeting.

Winter sports include basketball, soccer and wrestling. Practice and tryouts for these sports start Nov. 7.

Students must have a complete physical and a signed physical release form before they are allowed to try out for a sport.

Get your physicals completed and your forms turned in as soon as possible. It takes several days for paperwork to be cleared so that students can try out for sports.

Physicals are given on a first-come, first-served basis from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on each date. No appointment necessary. This is a drop-in clinic. Click [here for more info](#).

Athletes must have their entire sports packet with them, and they must be accompanied by an adult. Click [here for the full sports packet](#) on the Foothill website.

## Peer Tutoring

Foothill's peer tutoring program is making its triumphant return for the current school year.

Student volunteer tutors are available daily to help students who are struggling with classes. Tutors will be in room D-28 each school day during lunch and after school. Tutors are able to help students with most mainstream subjects.

Students who need help may drop by for tutoring as needed. No appointment necessary.

Questions? Please contact teacher Bob Loew at [bloew@pleasanton.k12.ca.us](mailto:bloew@pleasanton.k12.ca.us).

## College Application Workshops

Seniors are encouraged to attend upcoming college application workshops to get hands-on help in filling out applications for both the University of California and California State University systems.

The UC workshop will be [Oct. 25](#), and the CSU workshop will be [Oct. 27](#). Each workshop will be held from 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in room B-1.

Students will get help from counselors in filling out applications. Students are encouraged to have already started their applications so that the workshop is more helpful and efficient.

## Practice SAT/ACT Results

Parents of students who took the practice SAT/ACT on campus Oct. 8 are reminded that test results will be available for review [Tuesday, Oct. 18](#) at 7 p.m. in the Foothill library.

Students and their parents must return to school Oct. 18 to get test results, analyze scores and learn how the SAT fits into the college admissions process.

The practice SAT/ACT was offered by Foothill's AABC school booster group and the Princeton Review test prep firm.

yearbook.

Senior ads are a time-honored tradition at Foothill. Parents can gush about how proud they are of their graduating seniors. You can even embarrass seniors with baby photos (nude on a bearskin rug is always good) or maybe a shot from those awkward middle school years. Parents create the ads online, so you get to do pretty much what you want -- within the limits of good taste.

Click [here for more info about how to submit and pay for senior ads online](#). **Deadline to submit ads is Nov. 1.** Get your ad done early so that you're not up at midnight on Halloween, munching on leftover candy and toiling feverishly to design a creative ad.

### **Senior Photos**

Seniors must have their photos taken no later than **Nov. 3** to be included in the yearbook.

Photos must be taken at Pro Image Studios in Dublin. The studio will provide the outfit needed for senior yearbook photos. There is a minimal charge for having a yearbook photo taken.

Click [here for the Pro Image website](#) or call 803-8200 to schedule a photo appointment.

### **Grad Night & Senior Events Meeting**

Graduation may seem like a long time from now, but it will be here before we know it. That's why our fabulous Grad Night and senior events committee will meet on **Thursday, Nov. 3** at 7 p.m. in room C-6. It's never too early to start planning for the exciting graduation events.

All senior parents are encouraged to attend Grad Night meetings to share ideas and sign up for key volunteer positions. We have plenty of volunteer jobs to go around.

### **Grad Night Tickets**

It's never too soon to buy a Grad Night ticket for the biggest graduation party of the year -- Grad Night 2012.

Grad Night is a safe and sober way for Foothill graduates to celebrate in a secure location. This year's event will be at Umigo Indoor Kart Racing in Livermore. Tickets are \$165 for this all-night party.

Click [here for more info and the forms you'll need to buy tickets](#).

### **Fall Play: Twelve Angry Jurors**

Enjoy a captivating stage play right on campus when Foothill's annual fall play opens **Wednesday, Nov. 2**.

The play will be performed nightly through **Saturday, Nov.**

## Career Center News

### College Visits on Campus

Foothill's career center is hosting several upcoming on-campus visits from prestigious colleges. Colleges visiting campus include CSU East Bay, Oct. 21; St. Mary's College, Oct. 24; Westmont College (Santa Barbara), Oct. 27; University of San Diego, Nov. 3 and University of Nevada, Reno, Nov. 16.

Drop by the career center to get details about upcoming college visits.

### Construction Career Awareness Day

Construction engineer, safety/compliance director and project accountant are among the many career opportunities you'll learn about at Construction Career Awareness Day on **Nov. 8** from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Click [here for more info on the career center page](#).

### Science, Math & Technology Program for Girls

Girls interested in science, math and/or technology are encouraged to join GetSet -- Girls Exploring Technology, Science and Engineering Together.

GetSet offers six hands-on, interactive workshops through the school year highlighting careers in science, math, engineering and technology. GetSet members also go on field trips, including at least one college visit.

Sign up in the career center or drop a note to Paula-Ann Cabading at [pcabading@pleasanton.k12.ca.us](mailto:pcabading@pleasanton.k12.ca.us)

### Volunteer Opportunities, Internships & Jobs

The career center has an extensive list of volunteer opportunities, internships and part-time jobs. Drop by the career center, located in the counseling office, to check out the many opportunities available to Foothill students. The list is updated frequently, so check often.

## Bon Appetit: Wine & Dine for Education

If you enjoy sampling an array of gourmet foods and sipping a selection of fine wines, then be sure to mark your calendar for **Saturday, Oct. 22**.

The annual *Bon Appetit: Toasts & Tastes of Fall* fundraising event for Pleasanton Partnerships in Education is back for its seventh spectacular year. This year's event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the CarrAmerica Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive, in Pleasanton.

This is not your typical stuffed-shirt fundraiser. You move at your own pace through a room bursting with enough

Tickets are \$65 each for this fabulous fall fundraiser. This is an adults-only event. You must be at least 21 to attend. Click [here to reserve your tickets](#) before they sell out.

*\* PPIE is a nonprofit foundation that uses its funds to enrich programs at various schools and award grants to students and teachers.*

## Drug & Alcohol Forum for Parents

Parents must stay ahead of the curve when it comes to knowing what's happening around town with drug and alcohol use among high school students.

Parents are invited to join in a high school drug and alcohol forum on [Wednesday, Oct. 26](#) at 7 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Students will share their firsthand experiences with parents and community agencies will offer information and guidance. Discussion will start with a recognition of the drug and alcohol issues our teens face in this community. We'll also discuss prevention strategies and resources to help parents and students.

Community info will be provided by representatives from the school district, city, police department, Mothers with a Purpose and Axis Community Health.

The event is free, but registration is requested to make sure enough handouts are available. Click [here to register through the school district's adult education department](#). Check that same page for other great parenting classes being offered this fall.

This event is hosted by the school district, the city, the Pleasanton PTA Council and Axis Community Health.

## Special eScrip Offer Extended

eScrip has extended the end date for its 10 percent cash back to schools to October 20. eScrip groups (booster groups) affiliated with registered eScrip users (that's you) will receive the 10 percent cash back automatically.

Foothill families that are not yet eScrip users are encouraged to sign for this no-cost benefit to schools. Click [here to learn how to sign up](#). If you are not yet an eScrip member, you can still help Foothill before the 10 percent offer expires. Here's how:

- Shop at Safeway and keep your receipt.
- Go to [backtoschools.escrip.com](http://backtoschools.escrip.com)
- Click on the blue box that says "Enter Receipts"
- Search for group (AABC ID # 144046752)
- Click "Accept" to agree to the program terms & conditions

If you've registered your Safeway Club card through eScrip, it may be time to renew your registration. It needs to be done once a year.

Click [here to go directly to the eScrip website](#). Once you have signed in, you'll see a renewal check box like the image here. Simply click on that box to renew your Safeway Club card. If you do not see the red check mark, that means your card has been renewed.

If you do not renew, your Safeway purchases will no longer benefit the school. Nearly 70 percent of registered Foothill families will have their Safeway card benefits expire if not renewed by Nov. 1.

While you are on the eScrip website, you can choose up to three groups to benefit from your purchases. It's a an easy, no-cost way to raise money for our school.

There are six Foothill groups with which you can register your Safeway card and other cards. Click [here for more info about eScrip](#), including a list of the six groups. (Note: GAPP = German-American Partnership Program)

If you registered for eScrip at walk-thru registration, you may still need to update your Safeway Card if you've chosen or want to choose more than one group to support.

If you have not yet registered with eScrip, please register and choose up to three groups to support. You can use the "My eScrip" feature to update your group selections at any time.

eScrip is a fantastic way to give back to our school without spending any extra money. The purchases you make with your registered charge cards or store loyalty cards will automatically give money back to Foothill's various booster groups or clubs.

## Mix-It-Up Day

Foothill's multicultural club will host Mix-It-Up Day on [Tuesday, Oct. 25](#) to encourage students to look beyond their regular lunch groups to reach out to new people.

After the students are sorted randomly into different table groups, they will play various games and get to know each other. Club organizers hope the event will help to create a more unified environment at our school.

[Mix-It-Up Day](#) is part of the national Teaching Tolerance project started a decade ago by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Talon Talk is a twice monthly online publication brought to you the 1st and 15th of each month by the Foothill Academic & Activities Booster Club in cooperation with school administration.

Go Falcons!

Zoe Francis  
Talon Talk editor

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