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Talon Talk

Foothill High School Newsletter

John Dwyer, principal

March 15, 2011
Office Phone 461-6600
Attendance Line 461-6686

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New "In This Issue" items (above) are marked with asterisks.

Friday Forum for Parents

The stress our students face, budget & staff issues and the survey for Foothill's accreditation will be among the topics discussed at this month's Friday Forum on [March 25](#) at 9 a.m. in room C-6. *(This is a change from the usual Friday Forum date due to the March 18 furlough day.)*

Friday Forums are a fun and informal way for parents to find out what's going on and coming up on campus. The forums are hosted by Principal John Dwyer and the three vice principals.

Mr. Dwyer will address specific topics, and then the floor is open to discussion. It's a great way to ask questions or address concerns regarding the school. Please limit discussions to broad school topics and not specific issues with your student.

The [AABC](#) (school booster group) will provide coffee and morning snacks.

Eat at Eddie Papa's Restaurant Today

Enjoy a delicious meal with friends, including fluffy cotton candy for dessert, and Foothill's Grad Night and senior activities committee will get a cool 20 percent of your meal purchase price.

Quick Calendar

March 15 -- Eddie Papa's restaurant fundraiser. Click [here for flier](#).

March 18 -- No school. Furlough day.

March 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 & 26 --

Spring musical: The Sound of Music, 7:30 p.m., Amador Theater

March 19 & 20 --

Athletic boosters' spring meat sale, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Foothill parking lot

March 25 -- Friday Forum for parents, 9 a.m., C-6

March 25 -- Laws of Life awards luncheon, 11:45 a.m., MPR

March 26 -- Winter Guard & Percussion Show, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Foothill

March 26 -- Lacrosse March Madness fundraiser, 5:30-11:30 p.m.

April 4-8 -- No school. Spring break.

Quick Links

[Foothill High web site:](#)
[Bulletin Board](#)

The Eddie Papa's fundraiser will be all day today -- **Tuesday, March 15** -- from noon until 9 p.m. That gives you plenty of time to enjoy lunch with friends or colleagues, then return in the evening for a meal with your entire family.

Click [here for the flier you must present](#) to ensure that Foothill gets its share of your meal purchase. This offer is good for lunch and dinner -- dine-in or take-out. (Alcohol purchases not included in this offer.)

This deal is good at the Pleasanton Eddie Papa's location only, 4889 Hopyard Road.

Today is Final Day for Foothill Survey

Today -- **Tuesday, March 15** -- is the deadline to take the survey that's part of Foothill's accreditation process.

Foothill parents, students and staff are strongly encouraged to complete a brief survey as part of the school's effort to maintain its [accreditation](#).

Foothill, currently accredited by the [Western Association of Schools and Colleges](#) (WASC), is in the process of getting its long-standing accreditation renewed. WASC works with the California Department of Education in an ongoing school improvement process for an in-depth look at what exists and what needs to be improved in regards to student learning and the school program.

Part of this process includes a brief survey to be completed by Foothill parents, students and staff. The survey results will be used to identify areas of strength and weakness as the school develops an action plan for growth and improvement.

Please [click here for the links for the parent, student and staff surveys](#).

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

[Events Calendar](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

[Foothill Athletics](#)

[Foothill Band](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[District Newsletter](#)

[Career Center](#)

[Community Events](#)

[InFlight School
Newspaper](#)

[Sports Physical
Release Form](#)

[Volunteer Clearance
Form](#)

[MyNutriKids Lunch
Program](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Senior Activities](#)

[SAT Test Dates](#)

[ACT Test Dates](#)

**Mr. Foothill
Crowned**

FABulous Spring Meat Sale This Weekend

Get your freezers cleared out and ready to stock up with delectable meats at the wildly popular Foothill Athletic Boosters' annual spring meat sale this weekend -- [Saturday, March 19](#) and [Sunday, March 20](#).

Take advantage of fantastic market prices to stock up on filet mignon, New York steak, rib eye, top sirloin, ground beef, sausage, ham, lamb, chicken and bacon. A butcher will be on site to cut meat to specifications. Prices will be set on sale dates based on the going market rate.

The meat sale will be held each day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in front of the high school. The sale is sanctioned by the Alameda County Health Department.

Be sure to buy enough meat to get you through the summer grilling season and to keep tummies full until the fall, when the next fabulous meat sale will be held.

Raffle

This year's meat sale will feature a fun raffle. Tickets are \$2 each or 30 tickets for \$20. Anyone who spends at least \$100 on meat will get one free raffle ticket. There will be three raffle prizes. Prizes have not yet been determined.

Volunteers

The boosters will need plenty of student and parent volunteers to help both days of the busy meat sale. Students who volunteer can get community service time. If you'd like to help, please drop a note to Jan Hope at jmhope@msn.com.

Spring Musical: The Sound of Music

Pleasanton's highly anticipated spring musical starts this Thursday as Foothill and Amador Valley's most talented

Hundreds of people crowded into the multipurpose room to see a dozen seniors vie for the coveted title of Mr. Foothill.

Click [here for the winner and more info](#) about this fun contest.

Vaccine Proof Due by May 2

All students must have a current whooping cough vaccine or booster before they'll be allowed to attend school in the fall.

Proof of vaccine is due to the Foothill health office no later than May 2.

Click [here for more info](#).

Thursday as Foothill and Amador Valley's most talented performers team up to present Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*.

This classic musical will be performed [Thursday, March 17](#); [Friday, March 18](#); [Saturday, March 19](#); [Thursday, March 24](#); [Friday, March 25](#) and [Saturday, March 26](#). All shows start at 7:30 p.m. at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road.

The musical will be performed by two separate casts. Click [here for the full cast list](#), including the dates each cast will perform. The # or % symbol next to the performer's name indicates in which cast they perform.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org. Click on "Buy Tickets" and scroll through list to find Sound of Music. Click on "Buy Now" and follow prompts to get tickets for the date(s) you prefer.

Lacrosse March Madness

Enjoy a sinfully delicious barbecue dinner and a relaxing evening with friends at the 6th annual Lacrosse March Madness event on [Saturday, March 26](#) from 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

This adults-only evening will feature a scrumptious meal catered by Red Smoke Grill, plus live music, dancing, blackjack, games, silent auction and a raffle. Come and mingle with other lacrosse parents and the lacrosse coaches.

Tickets are \$25 each or \$40 for two. You'll enjoy dinner, water or soda and a dessert. Beer, wine and game tickets are sold in advance for a discount or \$1 per ticket at the door.

March Madness will be held at the Becker residence. Safe rides home, provided by upperclassmen players, will be provided for \$5 per person.

This event is a fundraiser for the Foothill boys lacrosse program.

Please [click here for more info and the ticket order form](#).

New Computers for Foothill

Foothill students have been working on 35 brand new state-of-the-art iMac computers that were completely funded by the generous donations of many Foothill families.

Money from the [AABC](#) school booster group's Dollar-A-Day campaign was used to buy the new computers. The iMacs, located in room B-1, were formally donated to the school in a ceremony last Friday, though students have been using the machines for weeks. The computers are available to students in any class that books time to use the school's computer lab.

The new computers were dedicated to the memory of Jill Brierley, Foothill's tech specialist who died in September after a four-year battle with colorectal cancer. The lab will now be known as the Brierley Computer Lab.

Thank you to the many generous Foothill families who support our school through the annual Dollar-A-Day campaign. Your donations have a huge and positive impact on our students and the entire school.

Winter Guard, Percussion & Drum Major Competition

Foothill families are invited to drop by the school on [Saturday, March 26](#) for the annual Winter Guard, Percussion & Drum Major competition hosted by the Foothill band.

8 a.m. -- Drum major competition, football field
8:30 a.m. -- Percussion competition, large gym
2:50 p.m. -- Winter guard competition, large gym
6:10 p.m. -- Awards ceremony, large gym

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students (ages 6-18) and free for kids 5 and younger.

This annual event showcases the top talent in the region. This year's competition will feature 92 performances. The top finishers at Foothill's competition typically dominate the awards at the championship show in early April.

Proceeds from this full day of artistry, music and motion will benefit Foothill's music program.

School Calendar Set

The calendar for the 2011-12 school year has been set. The first day of school is [Tuesday, August 23](#) and the last day is [Friday, June 8](#).

Students are out of school two full weeks for winter break, Dec. 26 through Jan. 6. Spring break is the second full week of April, plus the Friday prior -- April 6-13.

Click [here for the full calendar](#) on the school district website.

Junior Prom & Senior Ball

The school year's biggest dances are just around the corner. The junior prom will be held [Saturday, April 30](#) and the senior ball will be held [Saturday, May 21](#). The senior ball will be followed by the after-the-ball breakfast at Foothill.

Tickets will be sold at school two weeks prior to each dance. Ticket prices have not yet been set.

Junior Prom

Saturday, April 30

7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

[Robert Livermore Community Center](#), Livermore

Senior Ball

Saturday, May 21

7 p.m. to midnight

Doors open at 7 p.m.

Dinner starts at 8 p.m.

[Scottish Rite Center](#), Oakland

Pictures: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the small gym

After-the-Ball Breakfast

Sunday, March 21

12:30 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Foothill multipurpose room

Free for all seniors

Honor the Best Teachers

Here's a prime opportunity for students and parents to nominate Foothill's outstanding teachers for special recognition through the 21st annual Excellence in Education Awards.

The deadline to nominate a teacher is 4 p.m. on [March 24](#). The awards are sponsored by the Pleasanton PTA Council.

Students and parents may nominate a special teacher, administrator or staff member. Previous honorees are eligible only if it has been five years since their past recognition.

Click [here for the nomination form](#). Click [here for a list of previous honorees](#).

Senior News

Grad Announcements March 22

Students who ordered graduation announcements should pick them up at school on [Tuesday, March 22](#). The announcements will be available in the outdoor quad during lunch.

Who's Going to Grad Night?

Students waiting to buy their Grad Night tickets until they know who else is going are in luck. The list of students who've already bought Grad Night tickets is posted on the window of the front office. Drop by to see who's already bought their tickets.

Don't be left out of the fun. Buy your Grad Night tickets for \$170 before the price goes up in mid-April. Click [here for info about how to buy your ticket](#).

Targeted Senior Newsletter

This is the time of year when there's a ton of info targeted specifically at seniors and their parent. In order to not bog down the newsletter with gobs of senior info, we're sending monthly e-mails specifically to senior parents.

Click [here for the March issue of the senior info Talon Talk](#).

If you did not get the senior info Talon Talk on March 1, it's easy to sign up. Simply scroll to the bottom of this e-mail and click on "Update Profile/Email Address." The system will verify that you're already on the list and will mail further instructions to you.

All you have to do is click on "Update your Profile" for a list of e-mail lists you can join. You should already be on the

Foothill community-at-large list for receiving the Talon Talk.

Please click "Graduation Year 2011" to sign up for the senior newsletters. The final step is to click on "Save Profile Changes" to make sure your updates are saved.

Remember, you can always find the latest senior news on the Senior Information pages on the Foothill website.

Scholarships

Seniors are encouraged to check the Foothill website regularly for the latest news about the many scholarships available for graduating seniors.

You can find scholarship info on the Career Center page on the website. Click [here to go directly to the scholarship page](#).

The Activities & Academic Booster Club is offering six \$500 scholarships for students going to a four-year college or two-year college/vocational training. The deadline to apply is [April 18](#). Click [here for more info](#) on the Foothill website.

The Foothill Athletic Boosters is offering four \$1,000 scholarships for Foothill athletes. The deadline to apply is [April 22](#). Click [here for more info on the Foothill sports website](#).

Parent Workshop: Building Resilience in Teens

Learn how to help your kids and teens get through the often demanding and stressful school years filled with academic, social and family demands.

Parents are invited to hear a free presentation about helping teens navigate life successfully in a presentation by Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, nationally renowned pediatrician specializing in adolescent medicine at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (PA).

Dr. Ginsburg, featured in the film *Race to Nowhere*, will speak [Thursday, March 31](#) at 7 p.m. at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. The evening's theme is "Building Resilience in Children and Teens."

Dr. Ginsburg will teach parents how to help their teens develop the skills needed to manage stress and avoid pitfalls such as drug abuse and eating disorders.

This presentation is hosted by the Pleasanton school district and the Pleasanton PTA Council.

Deadlines for Talon Talk article submissions are the 10th and 22nd of each month. Please include all pertinent info -- who, what, where, when, why and, if applicable, how much does it cost.

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

Go Falcons!

Zoe Francis
Talon Talk editor

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